

MARKET NEWS for pig meat



Market analysis

25 March 2024

Week 13

MARKET SITUATION

Europe: Legs and other cuts are being traded at unchanged prices.

UK: Sales are stable.

Markets outside Europe: an increasing demand for bellies .

China: Very quiet trading continues. **Other Asian markets:** An uplift in demand.

Slaughtering in Denmark

Weekly slaughtering figures for pigs and sows as reported to the Danish Classification Control Service. The figures exclude culled pigs.

	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Weeks 1-11 2024:23
Carcass weight >110 kg	15,889	13,451	12,078	+63.3%
Carcass weight <110 kg	290,312	289,589	287,380	-10.8%
Total	306,201	303,040	299,458	-8.4%

USA

Futures

Chicago (\$ per 100 lbs carcass weight)	Lean Hog			Pork Cutout		
	22/3	15/3	Change	22/3	15/3	Change
2024						
Apr	84.58	86.93	-2.35	92.43	93.15	-0.72
May	90.40	93.18	-2.78	97.73	99.28	-1.55
Jun	99.70	102.48	-2.78	106.65	106.43	0.22
Jul	102.08	104.50	-2.42	109.90	109.43	0.47
Aug	101.48	103.43	-1.95	110.30	109.80	0.50
Oct	86.43	86.75	-0.32	102.10	101.60	0.50
Dec	77.75	77.45	0.30	92.00	92.00	0.00
2025						
Feb	80.75	80.15	0.60	94.83	94.83	0.00
Apr	84.15	83.60	0.55	100.68	100.68	0.00
May	88.55	88.05	0.50	107.28	107.28	0.00
Jun	93.63	93.20	0.43	109.88	110.00	-0.12
Jul	93.78	93.30	0.48	111.63	111.75	-0.12

Conversion factors:

1 lb = 0.4536 kg

1 \$ = DKK
6.8910



EU

African Swine Fever

According to the EU Commission's reporting system for the outbreak of disease, outbreaks of ASF have been reported for the following countries, plus Serbia, Ukraine, Moldova, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo and North Macedonia.

Countries	Period		Year to date		2023		2022	
	2 March-17 March		1 Jan - 17 March		Pigs	Wild boar	Pigs	Wild boar
Estonia				4	2	53		57
Latvia		44		184	8	730	6	913
Lithuania		20		131	3	439	16	302
Poland		87		420	30	2,744	14	2,152
Italy		65		388	17	1,047	4	277
Ukraine		1	4	6	37	9	7	2
Czech Republic		1		2		56		1
Romania	3	10	22	83	740	292	329	465
Hungary		19		122		407		550
Bulgaria		3		197	3	322	2	387
Slovakia		19		48		546	5	550
Serbia	1	16	22	51	991	213	107	146
Moldova	1	3	1	4	19	6	14	3
Montenegro				1				
Bosnia-Herzegovina	5	5	16	35	1,508	22		
Croatia		12		29	1,124	11		
North Macedonia			3	29	15	41	30	9
Kosovo					9	4		
Belgium								
Germany		1		44	1	899	3	1,628
Sweden						60		
Greece			2	9	6	2		
Albania				2				
Total	10	306	70	1,789	4,513	7,903	537	7,442



CHINA

Losses replaced by positive earnings for pig production

Price rises for finishers in March combined with lower feed prices mean that Chinese pig producers are posting positive earnings once again.

According to calculations from China's National Reform and Development Commission (NRDC), Chinese pig producers posted, on average, positive earnings of around 100 yuan per pig in the second week of March.

This comes after Chinese pig producers – as with American pig producers – experienced an extended period of negative earnings.



CHINA/PANAMA

China gives the green light to pig meat imports from slaughtering plant in Panama

According to Pig333, which refers to information from Panama's Ministry of Agriculture, China has opened its market to pig meat imports from a pig slaughterhouse in Panama.

According to the authorities in Panama, approval follows a three-year long process. The slaughterhouse is located in the province of Los Santos.

USA

Pig producers lost an average of \$32 per pig in 2023 – but improvements are on the way

Calculations from Iowa State University show that American pig producers (with both sows and finishers) lost on average \$32 per pig in 2023.

In July and August 2023, earnings were close to zero, but for the other 10 months of the year, calculations show that producers incurred substantial losses.

2024 also started with losses of \$41 and \$24 per pig in the first two months.

U.S. pig prices and pig futures, however, have risen solidly since January. Increasing futures prices for finishers – combined with lower feed prices – indicate positive earnings for American pig producers for April-October 2024.

UKRAINE

Fall in imports of fresh/frozen pig meat in 2023

Ukraine's imports of fresh/frozen pig meat fell sharply in 2023.

The fall was driven by several factors but should primarily be seen as a direct consequence of sharply rising prices for imported pig meat from the EU from spring 2023.

The rising prices for imported pig meat – combined with the squeeze on household incomes – meant that consumption in the Ukrainian market switched from pig meat to less expensive poultry.

With Ukrainian trading statistics as the source, the tables below show Ukraine's imports of fresh/frozen pig meat (product code 0203) compared to the two previous years.

As can be seen, imports of pig meat from the EU took a dive in 2023. However, increasing quantities were imported from Germany as a result of Germany gaining access to the Ukrainian market in 2023.

In contrast to EU countries, increasing quantities of pig meat were imported from Canada in 2023.

0203				
Fresh/frozen pig meat				
Tonnes	Jan-Dec 2021	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2023	% change 2023:2022
Denmark	21,173	17,918	4,021	-77.6
Holland	5,244	11,509	2,775	-75.9
Canada	2,236	393	2,125	440.7
Poland	6,978	9,032	1,096	-87.9
Germany		7	957	13571.4
Spain	2,358	2,359	849	-64.0
Belgium	2,237	3,294	772	-76.6
France	380	1,385	298	-78.5
Others	39	1,037	96	-90.7
Total	40,645	46,934	12,989	-72.3

According to the latest country report for Ukraine from the USDA, Ukrainian pig meat production fell from 680,000 tonnes in 2022 to 660,000 tonnes in 2023. The USDA expects Ukrainian production to amount to 670,000 tonnes in 2024.

As regards pig meat imports, the USDA expects them to remain unchanged in 2024.



EU

Pig meat exports fell by 19 per cent in 2023

With the EU Commission as the source, the charts below show EU exports of pig meat by categories, importers and exporters for 2023 compared to 2022.

Exports are stated in product weight and include the UK as a third market country.

According to categories

Tonnes	Jan-Dec 2023	Jan-Dec 2022	% change 23:22
Live pigs	58,678	55,450	6
Fresh/frozen	1,995,284	2,798,314	-29
Bacon	227,532	234,315	-3
Processed	441,545	477,338	-7
By-products	1,344,716	1,447,152	-7
Total	4,067,755	5,012,569	-19

Importers of pig meat from EU

Tonnes	Jan-Dec 2023	Jan-Dec 2022	% change 23:22
China	1,145,890	1,514,003	-24
UK	866,746	856,764	1
Japan	317,280	402,992	-21
Philippines	281,767	402,721	-30
South Korea	223,965	284,861	-21
Vietnam	117,647	87,989	34
USA	91,389	119,349	-23
Australia	74,041	120,351	-38
Ivory Coast	79,368	99,867	-21
Serbia	71,882	79,621	-10
Hong Kong	64,679	74,927	-14
Others	733,101	969,124	-24
EU-27	4,067,755	5,012,569	-19

Exporters of pig meat from EU

Tonnes	Jan-Dec 2023	Jan-Dec 2022	% change 23:22
Spain	1,278,268	1,575,460	-19
Holland	698,647	836,230	-16
Denmark	596,560	856,996	-30
Germany	327,000	390,697	-16
France	256,445	294,345	-13
Poland	233,382	294,969	-21
Ireland	211,857	245,817	-14
Belgium	131,082	126,574	4
Italy	94,318	97,852	-4
Austria	50,028	58,826	-15
Others	190,168	234,803	-19
EU-27	4,067,755	5,012,569	-19