10 May 2021

Poultrymeat and pigmeat production up

Animal production – 1st quarter 2021

In Q1 2021, the total meat production increased by 2.2%, y-o-y, to 113 329 tonnes, of which the production of poultrymeat rose the most (42 189 tonnes, +4.4%). The production of pigmeat reached 53 248 tonnes (+2.3%) and that of beef 17 834 tonnes (−3.0%). Compared to Q1 2020, agricultural producer prices of cattle for slaughter declined by 2.6% and those of pigs for slaughter even by 30.5% while prices of chicken for slaughter slightly increased (+1.9%). The direct milk collection decreased, y-o-y, to 754 224 thous. litres (−4.2%). Agricultural producers sold milk on average for 8.78 CZK per litre; i.e. by 1.2% less, y-o-y.

*“The situation in meat production in Q1 was relatively favourable. Poultrymeat and pigmeat production rose. Less beef was produced, year-on-year. However, the number of poultry, especially ducks, went significantly down due to avian influenza. The steep decline in slaughter pig prices continued.,”* Radek Matějka, Director of the Agricultural and Forestry, Industrial, Construction, and Energy Statistics Department, says.

# Slaughtering and meat production

In total 58.0 thous. head of cattle were slaughtered in abattoirs in Q1 2021, i.e. by 2.2% less, y‑o‑y; of which 24.1 thous. head were bulls (−0.7%), 24.9 thous. head were cows (−4.8%) and 6.9 thous. head were heifers (+0.2%). Production of beef decreased, y-o-y, to 17 843 tonnes (−3.0%).

Slaughtering of pigs in Q1 2021 grew, y-o-y, to 571.2 thous. head (+1.8%). The pigmeat production reached 53 248 tonnes (+2.3%).

According to the statistical survey of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, the amount of poultry slaughtered in Q1 2021 accounted for 64 951 tonnes, which represents 42 189 tonnes of poultrymeat produced (+4.4%).

# Cattle, pig and poultry numbers

According to the Livestock survey, the number of cattle kept in the Czech Republic at the end of Q1 2021 was 1 406.4 thous. head, i.e. by 0.2% more that on the same date in 2020. Year-on-year stable numbers were recorded also in particular categories: cattle aged up to 1 year (+0.1%), dairy cows (−0.3%), other cows (+0.5%); there was slight increase in the number of fattening bulls (+3.6%) and, on the contrary, slight decrease in the number of mated heifers (−1.4%).

The number of pigs reached 1 518.4 thous. head and was slightly higher, y-o-y (+1.3%). The number of fattening pigs rose as well (+1.4%), out of which in the category over 110 kg the most (+8.1%). The number of sows increased as well to 90.5 thous. head (+3.2%).

The number of poultry at the end of Q1 were down, y-o-y, by 1.8% and accounted for 23 808.5 thous. head; out of which there were 8 148.6 thous. hens (−4.2%) and 11 374.7 thous. broilers (−2.9%). Measures against the spread of avian influenza contributed significantly to declined poultry numbers, especially those of ducks (−23.9%).

# Agricultural producer prices of cattle, pigs and chicken for slaughter

Agricultural producer prices of cattle for slaughter declined, y-o-y, by 2.6%; of which those of bulls for slaughter remained almost at the same level (−0.4%), those of cows for slaughter went down by 4.9%, and those of heifers for slaughter dropped by 4.5%. The average price of bulls for slaughter was 45.69 CZK per kg in live weight or 83.15 CZK per kg in slaughter weight.

As for prices of pigs for slaughter, the y-o-y plummet persisted also in Q1 2021 (−30.5%) and resulted to average price 25.30 CZK per kg in live weight or 32.89 CZK per kg in slaughter weight. The producers sold pigs for by 1.88 CZK per kg of carcass weight less than in Q4 2020.

On the contrary, the prices of chicken for slaughter went slightly up, y-o-y (+1.9%). The producers sold chicken for slaughter of the first quality class on average for 23.26 CZK per kg in live weight.

# Cross border movements – live animals and meat

According to preliminary results of cross border movements[[1]](#footnote-1)) in Q1 2021, the turnover expressed in the number of animals rose, y-o-y, for live cattle and pigs while it went down for live poultry.

Exports of live cattle amounted to 54.8 thous. head (+15.1%), of which 17.1 thous. head (+8.2%) were intended for slaughter and 35.1 thous. head (+24.0%) for further rearing. Exports of calves went up by 8.8% and those of young cattle by 57.9%, y-o-y. In both categories, exports were by 5.8 thous. head higher than in Q1 2020. Although exports of live cattle distinctly prevailed over their imports, the number of bulls for slaughter imported increased by one third. Live cattle were imported from Slovakia and Hungary; they were exported to Austria, Germany (cattle for slaughter in case of both countries), and Turkey (cattle for further rearing). Spain was the main destination for calves.

Cross border movements of live pigs noticed an increased year-on-year surplus which was caused by declined imports and increased exports; the same was observed also for both important categories – piglets and pigs for slaughter – separately. In total 22.4 thous. piglets (−5.6%) were imported and 44.0 thous. head (+5.8%) were exported during Q1 2021. Exports of fattened pigs for slaughter increased to 75,8 thous. head (+14.1%), their imports were negligible. Live pigs came from Denmark, Germany, and Slovakia; they were exported mainly to Slovakia, Hungary, Germany, and Poland.

The y-o-y turnover of cross border movements for the commodity day-old poultry juveniles decreased by one fifth; in total 21.8 million head (−19.3%) were exported and 0.8 million head (−58.6%) were imported. However, the number of day-old chicks of both breeding and meat types utilizable for standard needs of domestic farming did not distinctly change. Exports of chicken and hens for slaughter increased to 4 222 tonnes (+26.2%). Germany, Hungary, and Slovakia remained to be partners for imports of live poultry; exports were directed to Slovakia, Poland, Germany, and Romania.

Negative balance of cross border movements of goods1) in the commodity meat improved, y-o-y, for all three meat types, out of them for poultrymeat the most.

In total 7 923 tonnes (−18.4%) of beef were imported and its exports declined to 2 652 tonnes (−27.7%). Imported beef came mostly from Poland, the Netherlands, and Germany. Exports were directed above all to Slovakia, Poland, and the Netherlands.

Imports of pigmeat slightly decreased to 67 266 tonnes (−1.4%) and its exports went up to 8 561 tonnes (+5.1%). Pigmeat was imported traditionally from Germany and Spain but also Poland and Belgium; it was exported mostly to Slovakia.

Imports of poultrymeat accounted for 25 275 tonnes (−13.1%) and its exports rose to 3 998 tonnes (+15.6%). More than one half of the imported poultrymeat came from Poland; the share of imports from Hungary increased. Exports went to Slovakia, Germany, and Austria.

# Milk collection and agricultural producer prices of milk

According to the statistical survey of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, in total 754 224 thousand litres of milk (−4.2%) were collected from domestic producers in Q1 2021, of which 653 762 thousand litres (−0.3%) were purchased by dairies.

Agricultural producer prices of milk slightly declined, y-o-y (−1.2%). The average price of Q-quality milk was 8.78 CZK per litre.

# Cross border movements – milk and milk products

During the considered period, 64.8 thous. tonnes (−4.5%) of milk and milk products were imported and 258.2 thous. tonnes (−7.6%) were exported. A significant surplus of cross border movements of goods1) in the commodity milk and milk products went down, y-o-y, mainly due to decreased exports of milk and cream (−11.5%), which represent the most important part of this trade. The deficit in cross border movements of cheese and curd went slightly down to −9 420 tonnes. The surplus in cross border movements of acidified milk products decreased to 5 523 tonnes. The balance of whey changed, y-o-y, from negative to positive (+4 565 tonnes). Milk and milk products were imported the most from Germany, Poland, and Slovakia. Their exports were directed above all to Germany, Slovakia, and Italy.

*Notes:*

*Published data are final, except statistics of cross border movements of goods.*

Responsible head: Radek Matějka, Director of Agricultural and Forestry, Industrial, Construction and Energy Statistics Department, phone (+420) 736 168 543, e‑mail radek.matejka@czso.cz

[Contact person: Renata Vodičková, Head of Agricultural and Forestry Statistics Unit, phone (+420) 703 824 173, e-mail renata.vodickova@czso.cz](mailto:renata.vodickova@czso.cz)

Data source: Statistical survey of the CZSO on livestock slaughtering (Zem 1-12) and Livestock Survey (Zem 1-01)

Public Database of the CZSO: Prices of Agriculture (table Agricultural Producer Price Indices and table Average Agricultural Price)

Database of the CZSO - Cross Border Movements of Goods

Outcomes of statistical surveys of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic on milk collection (Mlék(MZe) 6-12, Odbyt(MZe) 6-12), and on poultry purchase (Drůb(MZe) 4-12)

End of data collection: 30 April 2021

Related outcomes: Livestock Slaughtering: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/livestock-slaughtering-march-2021>

Livestock Survey: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/livestock-survey-2021>

*Date of the next News Release publication: 9 August 2021*

*Text was not edited for language.*

**Annexes:**

Table 1 Meat production and milk collection

Chart 1 Beef – production and average agricultural producer price

Chart 2 Pigmeat – production and average agricultural producer price

Chart 3 Poultrymeat – production and average agricultural producer price

Chart 4 Milk – collection and average agricultural producer price

1. *)* *Intrastat does not include individual trading operations carried out by persons who are not registered for VAT as well as reporting units below the applicable thresholds of CZK 12 million a year for both flows are not under reporting duty for Intrastat.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)