10 May 2023

**Decline in meat production continued**

Animal production – 1st quarter 2023

**The meat production continued to decrease in Q1 2023, by 2.8%, year-on-year. The largest drop was observed in pigmeat (−4.9%); the production of poultrymeat fell by 1.4%. Beef production remained almost unchanged (+0.1%). Agricultural producer prices of animals for slaughter rose, y-o-y, but the pace of their growth declined.**

*„Meat production still declines since the beginning of 2022. In Q1 2023, pigmeat production declined the most due to, among other factors, lower numbers of fattening pigs at the beginning of the quarter,"* Radek Matějka, Director of the Agricultural and Forestry, Industrial, Construction, and Energy Statistics Department of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), said.

# Meat production and milk collection

In Q1 2023, the production of beef was 17 446 tonnes, i.e. almost unchanged (+0.1%), y-o-y. In total 56.2 thous. head of cattle (i.e. by 0.3% more) were slaughtered. Slaughtering of bulls, however, went down by 3.4%, whereas slaughtering of cows rose by 2.9%. The pigmeat production amounted to 50 138 tonnes (−4.9%). Slaughtering of pigs fell, y-o-y, to 541.2 thous. head (−3.2) and% their average weight also decreased by 2.5 kg. The poultrymeat production reached 40 931 tonnes (−1.4%). In total 781 658 thousand litres of milk (+1.4%) were collected from domestic producers in Q1 2023.

# Agricultural producer prices

Agricultural producer prices of cattle for slaughter were higher by 16.2%, y-o-y. The average price of bulls for slaughter was 58.14 CZK per kg in live weight or 105.82 CZK per kg in carcass weight, i.e. by 0.52 CZK more than in Q4 2022.

Prices of pigs for slaughter, due to low comparison basis, rose by 51.3%, y-o-y. Agricultural producers sold pigs on average for 38.70 CZK per kg in live weight or for 50.31 CZK per kg in carcass weight; i.e. by 1.32 CZK per kg in carcass weight more than in Q4 2022.

The prices of chicken for slaughter increased as well (+29.3%, y-o-y). Chicken for slaughter of the first quality class were sold on average for 30.60 CZK per kg in live weight, i.e. by 0.43 CZK more than in Q4 2022.

Agricultural producer prices of milk grew by 31.6%, y-o-y. The average price of Q-quality milk reached 13.17 CZK per litre, i.e. by 0.53 CZK more than in Q4 2022.

*„The pace of the growth of agricultural producer prices of animals for slaughter and milk is gradually slowing. Compared with Q4 2022, average prices of milk and of slaughter pigs and chicken for slaughter increased only slightly. Prices of bulls for slaughter grew even only negligibly,”* Markéta Fiedlerová from the Agricultural and Forestry Statistics Unit of the Czech Statistical Office, *c*ommented on price developments.

More detailed information on meat production in Q1 2023 can be found in [the supplementary information to the News Release on Animal production](https://www.czso.cz/documents/11350/191257295/azem051023_komentar.docx/24816794-3b72-4eda-9989-21668379e55d).

Notes:

*Published data are final.*

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

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: 25 April 2023

Related outcomes: [Livestock slaughtering - March 2023](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/livestock-slaughtering-march-2023)

*Date of the next News Release publication: 8 August 2023*

*Text was not edited for language.*

**Annexes:**

Supplementary information

Table 1 Meat production and milk collection (quarterly)

Chart 1 Beef – production and average agricultural producer price (base indices)

Chart 2 Pigmeat – production and average agricultural producer price (base indices)

Chart 3 Poultrymeat – production and average agricultural producer price (base indices)