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Slightly fewer cattle, significantly fewer pigs

As of 1 June 2022, 1.84 million cattle and 2.63 million pigs were kept in Austria

Vienna, 2022-08-24 – As of 1 June 2022, a total of 1 842 200 cattle was kept in Austria. This represents a decline of 0.2 % or 4 200 animals compared to the previous year, as Statistics Austria reports. During the same period, the pig population fell by 3.7 % to 2 633 200 animals.

More cattle aged one to under two years

Note: Due to methodological adjustments in the calculation of the type of use of the cattle (slaughter or production and breeding cattle, dairy or other cows), the stocks of the corresponding animal categories are only partially comparable with the previous year's result.

Compared to 1 June 2021, the number of **young cattle aged under one year** decreased by 0.6 % to 592 200 animals (see table 1). In detail, the stock of calves for slaughter fell by 73.7 % to 38 800, while that of other calves and young cattle rose by 23.4 % to 553 400 animals.

The number of **cattle aged one to under two years** increased by 2.2 % to 421 900 animals compared to the previous year. While the number of male cattle (+3.9 % to 160 000) and heifers for production and breeding (+13.8 % to 197 500) recorded increases, that of heifers for slaughter fell by 24.4 % to 64 400.

The stock of at least **two-year-old cattle** declined by 1.1 % to 828 000 animals compared to 2021. Except for dairy cows, which rose by 3.4 % to 549 100 and bulls and oxen (+0.5 % to 18 700 animals), the numbers in all other categories decreased. The stock of other cows fell by 12.5 % to 160 600, that of heifers for production and breeding by 0.2 % to 86 500 and heifers for slaughter dropped by 25.4 % to 13 200 animals.

With a total of 53 600, the number of **cattle holdings** on the reference day decreased by 1.5 % compared to 2021. The average livestock density was 34 animals per holding.

Number of pigs declined in all main categories

The number of **piglets and young pigs** fell by 3.6 % to 1.37 million and that of **pigs for breeding** by 4.3 % to 224 200. The stock of **pigs for fattening** decreased by 3.7 % to a total of 1.04 million animals (see table 2).

Compared to the previous year, population declines were recorded in all other categories apart from breeding boars. On 1 June 2022, a stock of 628 100 piglets (-5.9 %) and 737 600 young pigs (-1.5 %) was determined. Within the group of pigs for breeding, the number of covered breeding sows decreased by 4.2 % to 152 100 and that of not covered sows by 5.2 % to 67 100. The stock of breeding boars rose to 5 000 (+2.9 %). Within pigs for fattening, the number of animals weighing 50 to less than 80 kg fell to 514 300 animals (-2.6 %), that of animals weighing 80 to less than 110 kg to 415 600 (-4.0 %) and that of pigs weighing more than 110 kg to 113 500 (-7.2 %).

The share of Austrian federal provinces most relevant for pig production (Upper Austria, Lower Austria and Styria) remained constant at 93.7 % of the total stock.

For detailed results and further information, please refer to our [website](#).

Table 1: Number of cattle on 1 June 2022

Category	01.06.2021	01.06.2022	Change in %
Cattle in total	1 846 419	1 842 174	-0.2
Young cattle under 1 year old	596 065	592 212	-0.6
Young cattle 1 up to under 2 years old	412 703	421 922	+2.2
Cattle 2 years and older	837 651	828 040	-1.1
Holdings with cattle	54 376	53 561	-1.5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Bovine livestock, Agrarmarkt Austria, Rinderzucht Austria, Consumer Health Information System.

Table 2: Number of pigs on 1 June 2022

Category	01.06.2021	01.06.2022	Change in %
Pigs in total	2 734 380	2 633 223	-3.7
Piglets and young pigs below 50 kg live weight	1 416 723	1 365 736	-3.6
Pigs for fattening, 50 kg live weight and above	1 083 332	1 043 310	-3.7
Pigs for breeding, 50 kg live weight and above	234 325	224 177	-4.3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Pig livestock, Consumer Health Information System.

Information on methodology: These statistics are based on Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics; implemented under Ordinance Federal Law Gazette II No. 163/2012 (available in German only) issued by the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

The **bovine livestock** was determined through an evaluation of the central cattle database pursued by Agrarmarkt Austria in combination with data from Rinderzucht Austria. The detailed processing was carried out by Statistics Austria.

Since 2012, the number of **pigs** for the reference day 1 June is calculated using a regression model, based on data from the Consumer Health Information System, instead of a sample survey conducted directly at holdings as in previous years.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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