

Pig population as of December 2023

31.01.2024

 **1.5%**

 Increase in pig population
in December 2023 y/y

According to preliminary data, the population of pigs* in December 2023 was 9769.7 thousand heads showing an increase of 1.5% compared to the analogical period last year. The reduction in numbers occurred in one groups of pigs, in particular in the fattening pigs, where it was 2.1%.

At the beginning of December 2023, the pig population amounted to 9769.7 thousand heads and was higher by 145.4 thousand heads (by 1.5%) than the state recorded in the analogical period of 2022, and compared with the number of pigs in June 2023 –higher by 333 thousands heads, i.e. by 3.5%.

The population of pigs in December 2023 was 9769.7 thousand heads. In the structure of the herd increased the share of breeding sows by 0.6 pp. compared to December 2022.

Table 1. Pig population in December 2023

Specification	12 2023 in thousand heads	12 2022=100	06 2023=100
Pigs	9769.7	101.5	103.5
Piglets, less than 20 kg	2006.7	106.1	99.6
Pigs, from 20 kg to less than 50 kg	2835.7	101.7	98.8
Fattening pigs, 50 kg and over	4252.9	97.9	107.7
Breeding pigs 50 kg and over	674.4	111.9	112.3
of which: breeding sows	663.3	111.9	112.3
of which covered sows	456.5	112.8	108.2

The herd of sows for breeding increased compared to December 2022 by 70.7 thousand heads (by 11.9%) to the level of 663.3 thousand heads, including the number of covered sows increased by 51.7 (by 12.8%) to 456.5 thousand heads. Compared to June 2023, the number of sows for breeding increased by 72.7 thousand heads (by 12.3%), including covered sows increased by 34.6 thousand heads, i.e. by 8.2%.

*Preliminary generalised results of a representative survey of pig population and pig production comprising:

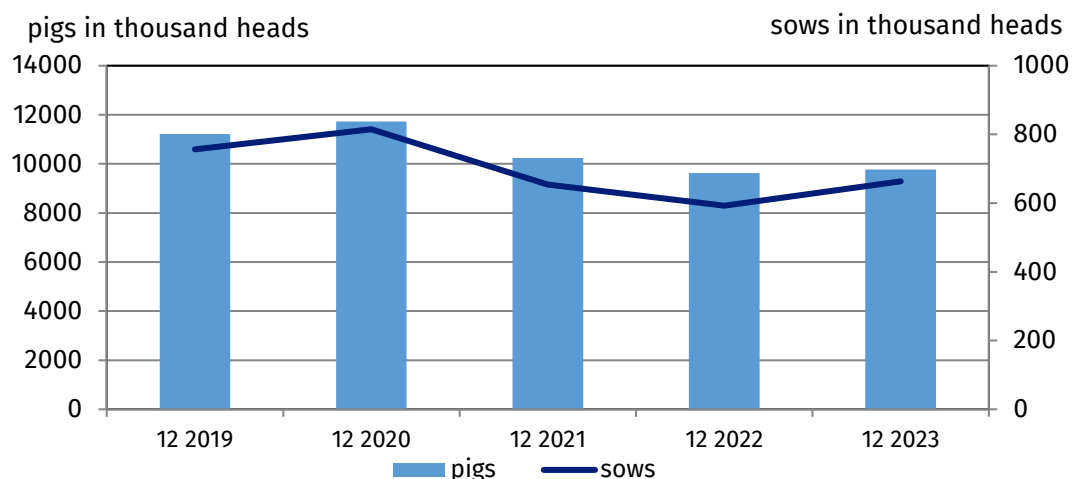
- all holdings of legal persons and unincorporated entities,
- selected individual holdings (30 thousand holdings - sample of approximately 2.0%).

In the structure of the total pig herd, the share of individual production-use groups in December 2023 was:

- piglets, less than 20 kg - 20.5%,
 - pigs, from 20 kg to less than 50 kg - 29.0%,
 - fattening pigs, 50 kg and over - 43.5%,
 - breeding pigs, 50 kg and over - 6.9%,
- of which:
- breeding sows in total - 6.8%,
 - of which covered sows - 4.7%.

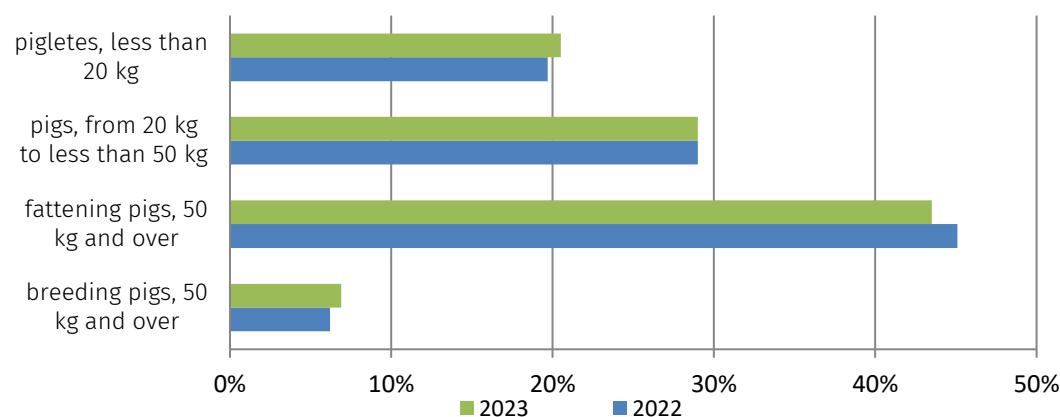
The largest share in the herd structure was the population of fattening pigs - 43.5%

Figure 1. Pigs and sows population in December 2019-2023



Compared to the structure of the pig population recorded at the beginning of December 2022, the proportion of piglets was increased by 0.9 pp., breeding sows by 0.6 pp., pigs for breeding (by 0.6 pp.) and covered sows (by 0.5 pp.) in 2023. However, the share of fattening pigs decreased (by 1.6 pp.), and the share of pigs weighing from 20 kg to 50 kg was the same as in the same period of the previous year.

Figure 2. Pig population structure in December 2022 and 2023



In the period from January to December 2023 (according to preliminary data) imports of live pigs amounted to 6851.7 thousand heads and was by 6.7% higher than in the analogical period of the previous year, including imports of piglets and pigs weighing from 20 kg to 50 kg increased by 9.0%. The average weight of one imported pig during this period was 33.7 kg compared to 35.5 kg in 2022.

From January 1 to November 30, pig import increased by 6.7% compared to the analogical period of the previous year

The largest shares in the national pig population were in the following voivodeships: Wielkopolskie (28.7%), Mazowieckie (13.6%), Kujawsko-pomorskie (10.4%), Łódzkie (10.3%), and Pomorskie (8.3%). The lowest shares were in voivodeships: Lubuskie (1.0%), Podkarpackie (1.0%) and Małopolskie (1.3%).

In December 2023, the procurement **price of pigs for slaughter** (PLN 7.46 per kg) was by 4.3% lower than the previous month, and year-on-year it decreased by 5.2%, the price of **potatoes** averaged PLN 111.11 per dt and was higher both month-on-monthly - by 44.0% and year-on-year - by 12.9%. The procurement price of **wheat** in December 2023 (PLN 86.79 per dt), decreased compared to the previous month (by 1.3%), decreased year-on-year (by 40.8%), for **rye** one had to pay PLN 63.70 per dt, i.e. by 0.1% less than in November 2023, and compared to December 2022, a decrease of 44.8%.

African swine fever (ASF) continues to be at risk. In 2023, the General Veterinary Inspectorate registered 30 outbreaks of ASF in pigs, the disease affected 8505 animals.

Additional table on pig population by voivodeships in Excel file.

In case of quoting Statistics Poland data, please provide information: "Source of data: Statistics Poland", and in case of publishing calculations made on data published by Statistics Poland, please include the following disclaimer: "Own study based on figures from Statistics Poland".

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Related information

[Livestock in 2022](#)

Data available in databases

[BDL: Pigs population \(half-yearly data\)](#)

Terms used in official statistics

[Pigs](#)