

Cattle population as of December 2023

31.01.2024


0,2%
 decrease in cattle population in December y/y

Cattle population¹ in December 2023 reached 6,435.5 thousand heads and was lower by 0.2% in comparison to December of last year. The decrease in the total number of cattle herd resulted from a decrease in the population of all heard age groups except cattle 2 years or over.

In December 2023, **the cattle** population was **6,435.5** thousand heads and was by 12.8 thousand heads (0.2%) lower than a year earlier, while in comparison to the number of the heads in June 2023, the population was by 75.8 thousand heads higher (1.2%).

Table 1. Cattle population in December 2023

Specification	12.2023 in thousand heads	12.2022=100	06.2023=100
Cattle	6,435.5	99.8	101.2
Calves less than 1 years old	1,919.8	99.5	103.5
Young cattle 1-2 years old uncomplete	1,665.8	98.1	99.7
Cattle 2 years old and over	2,849.9	101.0	100.6
of which cows	2,203.9	101.5	101.7

The number of **calves of age less than 1 years old** has decreased in comparison to the number in December 2022 by 0.5% and increased compared to June 2023 by 3.5% to the level of **1,919.8** thousand heads.

The stock **of young cattle aged 1-2 years uncomplete** decreased by 1.9% compared to the previous year, while compared to June 2023, it decreased by 0.3% and reached the level of **1,665.8** thousand heads.

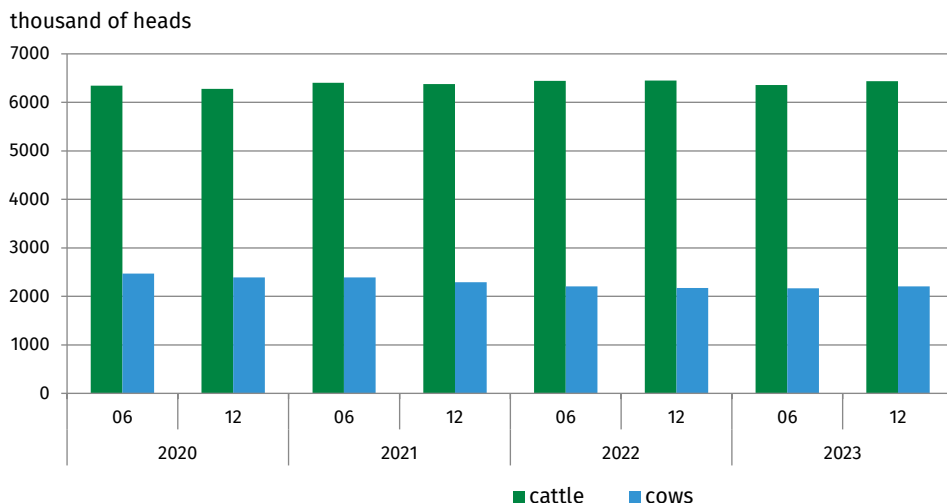
The number **of cattle aged 2 years and over** increased by 1.0% compared to December 2022 population and compared to June 2023 increased by 0.6%, reaching the level of **2,849.9** thousand heads.

The **cow population** in comparison to December 2022 and to June 2023, increased respectively by 32.1 thousand heads (by 1.5%) and by 37.9 thousand heads (by 1.7%), reaching the level of **2,203.9** thousand heads.

The population of cattle in December 2023 was 6,435.5 thousand heads. In the structure of the herd, the biggest change concerned the share of cows - an increase by 0.6 pp. compared to December 2022.

¹ Data from the Animal Identification and Registration System (IRZ) of the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture; cattle population by herd location.

Figure 1. Cattle population, of which cows, 2020-2023



In the structure of the total cattle stock, the share of individual age-utility groups in December 2023 was:

- calves less than 1 year old – 29.8%,
- young cattle 1-2 years old for breeding and slaughter– 25.9%,
- cows – 34.2%,
- other cattle 2 years old and over for breeding and slaughter – 10%.

Compared to the structure of the cattle population in December 2022 the share of calves decreased by 0.1 p.p., the share of cattle aged 1-2 years uncompleted decreased by 0.5 pp., the share of other cattle aged 2 years and over for breeding and slaughter by 0.03 p.p., while the share of cows increased by 0.6 pp. during the examined period.

According to preliminary data on foreign trade in the period from June 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023, import of cattle amounted to about 128.3 thousand heads and decreased by 1.1% compared to the same period of 2022. Cattle export amounted to 26.1 thousand heads compared to the same period last year.

In December 2023, the **average procurement price of cattle** for slaughter was PLN 9.86/kg and was by 9.7% lower than the price recorded in the analogical period of 2022.

The average **milk procurement price** in December this year (PLN 211.51 per 100 l) was by 23.2% lower than the price recorded in the same month of 2022.

The largest share in the national cattle population was in the following voivodeships: Mazowieckie (18.8%), Wielkopolskie (17.9%) and Podlaskie (16.4%). In Dolnośląskie, Lubuskie, Podkarpackie and Zachodniopomorskie voivodeships the share of domestic cattle population did not reach 2.0%.

Additional table on cattle 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”.

In the structure of the cattle herd, the largest share is the number of cows (34.2%)

Prepared by:
Agriculture and Environment Department
Deputy Director Marta Wojciechowska
Phone: (+48 22) 608 31 28

Issued by:
**The Spokesperson for the President
of Statistics Poland**

Karolina Banaszek
Phone: (+48) 695 255 011

Press Office

Phone: (+48 22) 608 38 04

e-mail: obslugaprasowa@stat.gov.pl

-  www.stat.gov.pl
-  [@GUS_STAT](https://twitter.com/GUS_STAT)
-  [@GlownyUrzadStatystyczny](https://www.facebook.com/GlownyUrzadStatystyczny)
-  [gus_stat](https://www.instagram.com/gus_stat)
-  [glownyurządstatystycznygus](https://www.youtube.com/glownyurządstatystycznygus)
-  [glownyurządstatystyczny](https://www.linkedin.com/company/glownyurządstatystyczny)

Related information

[Livestock in 2022](#)

Data available in databases

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

Terms used in official statistics

[Cattle](#)