

Title: NI Beef Industry Key Performance Indicators December 2022 Snapshot (week 36-39)

Source: Livestock and Meat Commission (NI)

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Market Information Department



Finished Cattle Prices (p/kg)	December 2021	December 2022	% Change
Average Prime Cattle Price	393.6	435.4	+10.6%
Average Cow Price	273.1	320.7	+17.4%
Average R3 Steer Price (NI)	404.7	448.2	+10.7%
Average R3 Steer Price (ROI)	365.1	448.2	+22.8%
Average R3 Steer Price (GB)	414.6	451.4	+8.9%
NI Throughput			
Total Clean Slaughterings (Head)	25,451	23,903	-6.1%
Total Cow Slaughterings (Head)	8,441	8,948	+6.0%
Average Clean Carcase Weight (kg)	350.6	338.5	-3.4%
Average Cow Carcase Weight (kg)	309.4	298.0	-3.7%
Trade (Head)			
Live Imports for Direct Slaughter	903	1,228	+36.0%
Live Exports for Direct Slaughter	204	108	-47.1%
Availability (Head)			
No. Cattle on the Ground*	416,597	409,391	-1.7%
Beef Sired	379,285	375,756	-0.9%
Dairy Sired (Male Only)	37,312	33,635	-9.9%
Calf Births Registrations (Head)			
Calf Births	24,132	22,577	-6.4%
Beef Sired	19,816	19,123	-3.5%
Dairy Sired (Male Only)	4,316	3,454	-20.0%
Euro / Stg Exchange Rate (€ / £)			
	84.9	87.0	+2.5%

* Aged between 12-30 mths (Beef + Dairy Male Only)

All NI Figures Unless Otherwise Stated

Key trends



The average NI prime cattle price was up 41.8p/kg to 435.4p/kg in December 2022. This was a 10.6 per cent increase from December 2021.



The average NI cow price increased by 47.6p/kg in December this year.



Across the regions the R3 steer price increased by 43.5p/kg in NI, the equivalent of 83.1p/kg in ROI and 36.8p/kg in GB when compared to the same period last year.



NI prime cattle throughput declined by 1,548 head in December 2022 with 23,903 prime cattle processed locally. Cow throughput increased by 507 head, up six per cent from December 2021. Average carcase weights were back by 12.1kg for prime cattle and were back 11.4kg for cows.



Imports for direct slaughter increased by 36.1 per cent compared to December 2021 levels. Exports for direct slaughter totalled 108 head in December 2022, back 96 head or 47.1 per cent from December 2021.



Number of cattle on the ground aged 12-30 months for beef production in December 2022 was back 1.7 per cent from December 2021 to total 409,391 head. Beef sired cattle numbers decreased almost one per cent while dairy male cattle numbers decreased by just under 10 per cent.



Calf registrations in December 2022 were back 1,555 head or 6.4 per cent when compared to the same period in 2021. Beef sired calf registrations declined by 3.5 per cent from December 2021 levels while dairy male calf registrations were back by 20 per cent or 862 head.

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