

Cattle population as of December 2024

30.01.2025

 **1.2%**

decrease in cattle population in December y/y

Cattle population¹ in December 2024 reached **6 190.9** thousand heads and was lower by 1.2% in comparison to December of last year. The decrease in the number of cattle herd occurred in all age groups except cattle 1-2 years.

In December 2024, **the cattle** population was **6 190.9** thousand heads and was by 76.5 thousand heads (1.2%) lower than a year earlier, while in comparison to the number of the heads in June 2024, the population was by 144.9 thousand heads lower (2.3%).

Table 1. Cattle population in December 2024

Specification	12 2024 in thousand heads	12 2023=100	06 2024=100
Cattle	6 190.9	98.8	97.7
Calves less than 1 years old	1 849.1	99.2	98.3
Young cattle 1-2 years old uncomplete	1 626.6	107.2	99.1
Cattle 2 years old and over	2 715.2	94.1	96.5
of which:			
heifers	456.5	139.1	149.3
cows	2 101.2	87.7	90.0

The number of **calves of age less than 1 years old** has decreased in comparison to the number in December 2023 by 0.8% and compared to June 2024 by 1.7% to the level of **1 849.1** thousand heads.

The stock of **young cattle aged 1-2 years uncomplete** increased by 7.2% compared to the previous year, while compared to June 2024, it decreased by 0.9% and reached the level of **1 626.6** thousand heads.

The number of **cattle aged 2 years and over** decreased by 5.9% compared to December 2023 population and compared to June 2024 increased by 3.5%, reaching the level of **2 715.2** thousand heads.

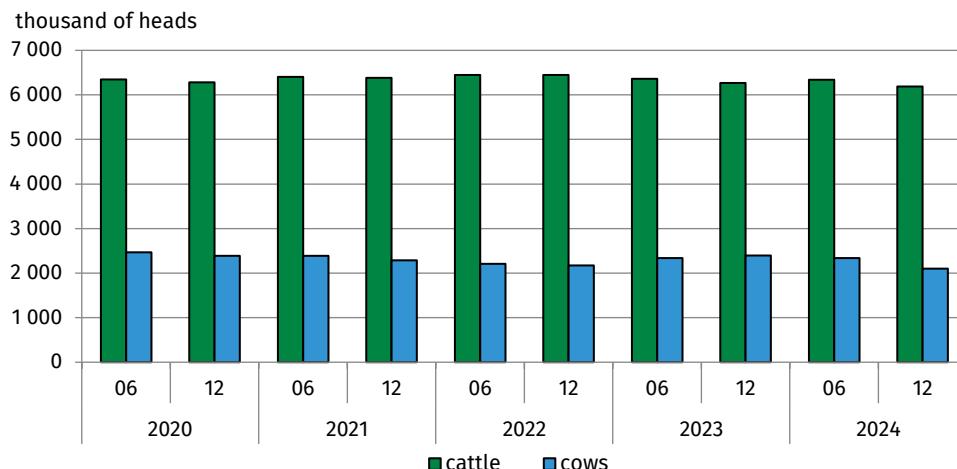
The population of cattle in December 2024 was **6 190.9** thousand heads. In the structure of the herd, the biggest change concerned the share of cows - an decrease by 4.3 pp compared to December 2023

¹ Data from the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture; cattle population by herd location.

The **cow population** in comparison to December 2023 and to June 2024, decreased respectively by 294.6 thousand heads (by 12.3%) and by 234.4 thousand heads (by 10.0%), reaching the level of **2 101.2** thousand heads.

The number of heifers **aged 2 years and over** has increased in comparison to the number in December 2023 by 39.1% (by over 128 thousand heads) and compared to June 2024 increased by 49.3% (by over 151 thousand heads), reaching the level of **456.5** thousand heads.

Figure 1. Cattle population, of which cows, 2020-2024



In the structure of the total cattle stock, the share of individual age-utility groups in December 2024 was:

- calves less than 1 year old – 29.9%,
- young cattle 1-2 years old for breeding and slaughter – 26.3%,
- cows – 33.9%,
- other cattle 2 years old and over for breeding and slaughter – 9.9%.

In the structure of the cattle herd, the largest share is the number of cows (33.9%)

Compared to the structure of the cattle population in December 2023 the share of cattle aged 1-2 years and other breeding and slaughter cattle aged 2 years and more increased by 2.1 pp and the number of calves by 0.1 pp, and the share of the cow population decreased by 4.3 pp during the examined period.

According to preliminary data on foreign trade in the period from June 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024, import of cattle amounted to about 127.8 thousand heads and decreased by 8.2% compared to the same period of 2023. Cattle export amounted to 24.6 thousand heads compared to the same period last year.

In December 2024, the **average procurement price of cattle** for slaughter was PLN 11.8/kg and was by 19.9% higher than the price recorded in the analogical period of 2023.

The average **milk procurement price** in December this year (PLN 259.1 per 100 l) was by 22.5% higher than the price recorded in the same month of 2023.

The largest share in the national cattle population was in the following voivodeships: Wielkopolskie (19.2%), Mazowieckie (18.3%) and Podlaskie (16.5%). 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".

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

Issued by:
Press Office
Mobile: (+48) 695 255 032
Phone: (+48 22) 608 38 04, (+48 22) 449 41 45.
(+48 22) 608 30 09
e-mail: obslugaprasowa@stat.gov.pl

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Related information

[Livestock in 2023](#)

Data available in databases

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

Terms used in official statistics

[Cattle](#)