

## **DECEMBER AGRICULTURAL CENSUS REVISIONS 2003 TO 2005**

### **Note:**

1. All figures are rounded to the nearest 1000. Figures may not, therefore, add to totals.
2. Percentage figures have been rounded to the nearest 0.1%. They have been calculated using rounded figures and so small revisions may not show up in the fractional changes.
3. The results of the December agricultural sample census are produced from a sample of returns from approximately 12,000 main agricultural holdings, from a total of around 27,000. Since these results are based on a sample, the estimates are subject to a degree of statistical uncertainty.
4. This release of December Census results contains minor revisions for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005. These revisions have been made to correct an error in the programs used to estimate agricultural activity for non-responders for the June Census. This affects the December results as June values are used in estimating December values for holdings that are not sampled. Although most of these revisions are small, they are all in a downward direction.

### **Further information and other agricultural statistics can be obtained from:**

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Table 1 Estimated number of cattle (thousands)

	Previously published			Revised			Percentage change between published & revised		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<b>Dairy herd</b>									
Cows and heifers in milk	166	167	171	165	165	168	-0.6	-1.2	-1.8
Cows in calf but not in milk	35	33	33	35	33	33	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>Beef herd</b>									
Cows and heifers in milk	263	259	258	262	259	256	-0.4	0.0	-0.8
Cows in calf but not in milk	243	246	239	243	245	237	0.0	-0.4	-0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
<b>Heifers in calf for the first time</b>									
Dairy - 2 years and over	26	24	25	25	24	25	-3.8	0.0	0.0
- Under 2 years	19	18	17	19	18	17	0.0	0.0	0.0
Beef - 2 years and over	40	41	41	40	41	41	0.0	0.0	0.0
- Under 2 years	22	23	21	21	23	21	-4.5	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
<b>Bulls for service</b>									
2 years and over	17	17	17	17	17	17	0.0	0.0	0.0
Under 2 years	4	4	4	4	4	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Other cattle 2 years and over</b>									
Male	26	27	29	25	26	29	-3.8	-3.7	0.0
Female for breeding - dairy	7	8	8	7	8	8	0.0	0.0	0.0
- beef	23	17	18	23	17	17	0.0	0.0	-5.6
Female not for breeding	14	15	17	14	15	17	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-1.4</b>
<b>Other cattle 1 year and over but under 2 years</b>									
Male	213	215	202	212	214	201	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
Female for breeding - dairy	42	39	40	42	39	39	0.0	0.0	-2.5
- beef	54	52	54	54	52	53	0.0	0.0	-1.9
Female not for breeding	134	136	142	133	135	141	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
<b>Other cattle 6 months and over but under 1 year</b>									
Male	167	172	169	167	171	168	0.0	-0.6	-0.6
Female	169	174	176	168	173	175	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
<b>Other cattle under 6 months</b>									
Male	116	113	111	116	113	110	0.0	0.0	-0.9
Female	120	121	121	120	120	120	0.0	-0.8	-0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
<b>Total cattle</b>	<b>1,917</b>	<b>1,921</b>	<b>1,914</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>1,909</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.8</b>

**Table 2 Estimated number of sheep (thousands)**

	Previously published			Revised			Percentage change between published & revised		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<b>Sheep 1 year old or over</b>									
Ewes kept for breeding	2,550	2,513	2,467	2,541	2,494	2,438	-0.4	-0.8	-1.2
Shearling ewes put to ram	780	794	751	776	790	743	-0.5	-0.5	-1.1
Shearling ewes not put to ram	36	41	32	35	41	31	-2.8	0.0	-3.1
Rams kept for service	95	95	94	95	95	93	0.0	0.0	-1.1
Other sheep	116	148	124	116	147	123	0.0	-0.7	-0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,576</b>	<b>3,591</b>	<b>3,468</b>	<b>3,563</b>	<b>3,567</b>	<b>3,429</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
<b>Sheep under 1 year old</b>									
Ewe lambs put to ram	100	91	87	100	91	86	0.0	0.0	-1.1
Ewe lambs for future breeding	700	623	611	699	622	605	-0.1	-0.2	-1.0
Ram lambs intended for service	33	33	31	33	33	31	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other sheep and lambs	1,056	1,139	1,119	1,053	1,136	1,108	-0.3	-0.3	-1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,889</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>1,884</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>1,830</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
<b>Total sheep</b>	<b>5,466</b>	<b>5,477</b>	<b>5,316</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,448</b>	<b>5,259</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-1.1</b>

**Table 3 Estimated number of pigs (thousands)**

	Previously published			Revised			Percentage change between published & revised		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<b>Breeding herd</b>									
Sows in pig	34.2	33.6	32.0	34.2	33.5	31.7	0.0	-0.3	-0.9
Gilts in pig	4.2	7.4	3.7	4.2	7.4	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other sows for breeding	10.4	7.0	6.6	10.4	6.9	6.6	0.0	-1.4	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Barren sows for fattening	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Gilts 50kg and over, not in pig but expected to be used for breeding	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Boars being used for service	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>All other pigs</b>									
110kg liveweight and over	6.4	5.2	9.9	6.4	5.1	9.8	0.0	-1.9	-1.0
80kg and under 110kg liveweight	56.2	81.0	78.8	56.1	80.5	78.4	-0.2	-0.6	-0.5
50kg and under 80kg liveweight	99.3	94.3	89.5	99.0	93.8	89.7	-0.3	-0.5	0.2
20kg and under 50kg liveweight	128.7	122.6	131.4	128.5	122.5	131.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Under 20kg liveweight	131.3	132.4	134.3	131.3	131.7	133.8	0.0	-0.5	-0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>421.9</b>	<b>435.4</b>	<b>443.8</b>	<b>421.3</b>	<b>433.7</b>	<b>443.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Total pigs</b>	<b>477.6</b>	<b>492.0</b>	<b>494.5</b>	<b>476.9</b>	<b>490.1</b>	<b>493.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

**Table 4 Estimated number of poultry (thousands)**

	Previously published			Revised			Percentage change between published & revised		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<b>Fowls for producing eggs for eating</b>									
Pullets & hens in the laying flock:									
- Hens in first laying season	2,888	2,714	2,979	2,888	2,709	2,973	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
- Moulded hens	27	32	30	27	32	30	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pullets being reared for laying	948	1,090	945	948	1,090	944	0.0	0.0	-0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,864</b>	<b>3,836</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>3,864</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>3,947</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Fowls for breeding</b>									
Breeding hens	1,320	1,236	1,302	1,320	1,235	1,302	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Cocks	108	46	118	108	46	118	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,427</b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,427</b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Other poultry (turkeys, broilers and other table birds, ducks, geese, guinea fowl)</b>	<b>9,582</b>	<b>9,307</b>	<b>9,268</b>	<b>9,564</b>	<b>9,282</b>	<b>9,265</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total poultry</b>	<b>14,874</b>	<b>14,425</b>	<b>14,642</b>	<b>14,855</b>	<b>14,394</b>	<b>14,631</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>

**Table 5 Estimated farm labour (thousands)**

	Previously published			Revised			Percentage change between published & revised		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<b>Occupiers</b>									
- full time	10.8	10.7	10.5	10.8	10.7	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
- half time or more	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
- less than half time	5.3	5.7	5.8	5.3	5.7	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Spouses</b>									
- full time	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
- half time or more	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- less than half time	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total occupiers and spouses</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Regular staff</b>									
Males - full-time	12.2	11.7	10.9	12.2	11.7	10.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
- part-time	3.5	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Females - full-time	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- part-time	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total regular staff</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Casual and seasonal staff</b>									
Males	2.4	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.7	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Females	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Table 6 Estimated crops and grass area, hay and silage production**

	Previously published			Revised			Percentage change between published & revised		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<b>Crops and grass sown by 1 December (thousand hectares)</b>									
Wheat	104	93	97	103	93	96	-1.0	0.0	-1.0
Barley	59	56	56	59	56	55	0.0	0.0	-1.8
Oats	6	5	7	6	5	7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Oilseed rape	37	35	35	37	35	35	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grass sown	59	52	59	59	52	59	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Grass cut (thousand hectares)</b>									
For hay	53	42	50	53	42	50	0.0	0.0	0.0
For silage / haylage	293	304	293	293	304	293	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Production (thousand tonnes)</b>									
Hay	322	262	308	321	263	308	-0.3	0.4	0.0
Grass silage / haylage	6,477	6,464	6,303	6,472	6,456	6,295	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Arable silage	374	450	395	372	447	393	-0.5	-0.7	-0.5