

**Documentation of statistics for
Cattle 2016**

1 Introduction

The herd of cattle shows the total number of cattle in Denmark. One of the most important purposes of conducting cattle surveys are to provide a basis for forecasts of cattle for slaughter. The surveys are used in connection with different economic and environment calculation and analyses. The herd of cattle has been estimated after different methods since 1946.

2 Statistical presentation

The herd of cattle is public every quarter in Stat Bank Denmark as: **the total number of cattle** in Denmark. The number of cattle is divided into male and female animals according to their age. Cows are divided into dairy cows and cows kept for suckling. The data is divided among geographically into province. The information is collected from registers. The survey is carried out quarterly on the last day in every quarter.

2.1 Data description

The herd of cattle statistics shows the total number of cattle in Denmark. The survey is carried out quarterly on the last day in the quarter. Information is collected from two registers: the Central Register of Livestock and the Register of Cattle, where all cattle are registered with an individual number. The number of cattle is divided into male and female animals according to their age. Cows are divided into dairy cows and cows kept for suckling. The data are distributed geography into provinces.

2.2 Classification system

The herd of cattle is divided into three main groups: Bulls and steer, Heifer and Cows. Below there the herd of cattle is divided by sex in male - and female cattle. Then furthermore in these sub groups:

Bulls and bullocks

- Bulls and bullocks calves not over 1/2 year
- Bulls and bullocks calves aged 1/2 - 1 year
- Bulls and bullocks calves total
- Bulls and bullocks, 1-2 year
- Bulls and bullocks, 2 year or more
- Bulls and bullocks, total

Heifers

- Heifers calves not over 1/2 year
- Heifers calves 1/2-1 year
- Heifers calves total
- Heifer, 1-2 year, in calf
- Heifer, 1-2 year, total
- Heifer, 2 year or more, in calf
- Heifer, 2 year or more, total
- Heifer, total

Cows

- Dairy cows
- Cows kept for suckling

All data are divided into follow geographically:

- Region Hovedstaden; Landsdel København and Nordsjælland samt Landsdel Bornholm
- Region Sjælland
- Region Syddanmark; Landsdel Fyn and Landsdel Sydjylland
- Region Midtjylland; Landsdel Østjylland and Landsdel Vestjylland
- Region Nordjylland

Regions are divided into special agricultural provinces. It is chosen to show results for the provinces “København by, København omegn and Nordsjælland” as one province. Likewise is the provinces “landsdelene Østsjælland og Vestsjælland” considered as one province being identical with the region “Sjælland”. Region “Nordjylland is not divided into provinces.

2.3 Sector coverage

Agricultural sector.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

CHR number: CHR number is the number, which the holding is registered in The Ministry of the Environment and Food Ministry's Central Animal Husbandry Register. Every single cattle has a unique ID-number in CHR.

The Central Animal Husbandry Register (CHR): CHR is the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration's database for the registration of herds and livestock. CHR was established in 1993. Read more about this on the website of the Ministry of the Environment and Food.

Heifer in calf: Heifer in calf is heifer declare in calf and heifers, which have been inseminate for more than 3 month after day of the survey.

Cattle: Cattle are defined as bovine animal, which means domestic animals of the species *Bos Taurus* and *Bubalus bubalus*, including hybrids like Beefalo.

Cattle database: The cattle database is a central database of cattle that contains data which are reported by the cattle users or transferred from among others. Cattle breeding associations, dairies, slaughterhouses, DAKA, ear-brand manufacturers and practicing veterinarians.

2.5 Statistical unit

The units are number of bovine animals.

2.6 Statistical population

All cattle in Denmark (this is the same as all cattle recorded in the Central Register of Livestock Farms on the reference date). It is a full-scale census.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics covers the period from first quarter 2008 and forward. Older data are describe in item: "Comparability over Time".

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

The unit of measure is number of cattle.

2.11 Reference period

The surveys are carried out quarterly on the last day in the quarter (the 31 of March, the 30 of June, the 30 of September and the 31 of December).

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

These statistics are published quarterly.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Law on Statistics Denmark §8 secures the legal base for collecting the data.

The statistic falls under EU Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics.

2.14 Cost and burden

There is no response burden as the data are collected via registers (existing sources). The registers are administrated by Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark and SEGES.

2.15 Comment

Other information is available please contact Statistic Denmark.

3 Statistical processing

Information is collected from two registers: the Central Register of Livestock and the Register of Cattle. In the Central Register of Livestock every single animal is registered with an individual number, birthday and sex and so on. These data are linked with data from the Register of Cattle about whether the heifers are with calf or not. When all data are validated, they are grouped by type, age and geography and so on.

3.1 Source data

Information is collected from registers.

- The Central Register of Livestock , which is administrated by the Ministry of Environment and Food
- The Register of Cattle, which are owned and administrated by SEGES.

The Central Register of Livestock (CHR) has a variety of applications, where the main thing is veterinary, as help to health programs. Therefore the control with the information in the register is very high. In the register every single animal has an unit number (CKR number) which consists of a livestock number and an individual number inside the livestock. The register consists of information on among others birthdays, sex and used fore example dairy cattle and beef cattle.

The register is continuously updated by the farmer through the Register of Cattle about the increase- and/or departure of animals to the farm and information about supplier and buyer of the cattle. Furthermore the resignation of cattle for slaughtering are verified by the slaughterhouses and the dead cattle by the incinerating plant. More information about CHR can be find on Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark see <https://chr.fvst.dk>.

The Register of Cattle is a comprehensive system which mainly serves the farmer in the daily work. Normally the farmer reports information to the Register of Cattle, and then relevant information is transformed automatic to CHR. The Register of Cattle thus updates CHR.

From the Register of Cattle information is received about the heifers age and about whether it is in calf (pregnancy).

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data is collected quarterly.

3.3 Data collection

Data comes from administrative registers.

3.4 Data validation

The register data undergo a validation. Along with the data from CHR is a specification on the number of: Bulls and bullocks and also heifers distributed over groups on ages; dairy cows, cows kept for suckling, total cows and total cattle. After data compilation the estimated data are compared with the specification besides the data are also compare with last years data and recent quarter.

3.5 Data compilation

The herd of cattle is divided into male and female animals according to their age. Cows are divided into dairy cows and cows kept for suckling. The herd of cattle is classified to 12 sub-groups. The herd of cattle is divided geographically by province. There are 11 sub-groups.

3.6 Adjustment

There is no corrections of data.

4 Relevance

The cattle survey is of great interest to EU, the Ministry of Environment and Food, The Danish Association of Slaughterhouses and others farmer's organizations, but also students and interested people in general. The most important purposes of cattle surveys are to provide a basis base for forecasts of cattle for slaughter. The statistics are used in financially and environment studies.

There are no examination of the uses satisfaction, but the impression is, that most users are satisfied with the statistics.

4.1 User Needs

The cattle survey is of great interest to EU, the Ministry of Environment and Food, The Danish Association of Slaughterhouses and others farmer's organizations, but also students and interested people in general. The most important purposes of cattle surveys are to provide a basis base for forecasts of cattle for slaughter. The statistics are used in financially and environment studies.

4.2 User Satisfaction

There are no examination of the uses satisfaction, but the impression is, that most users are satisfied with the statistics.

4.3 Data completeness rate

All data are public. This statistics affected by demands from EU in 1165/2008. Two time a year figures are submitted to the statistical office of EU, Euro stat. This includes special aggregates, not published nationally.

5 Accuracy and reliability

It is a full-scale census. The greatest margin of uncertainty is linked to updating and matching the different registers.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The information is reliable and provides a good base for preparing forecasts.

5.2 Sampling error

The number is based on a complete enumeration, hence the coefficient of variation is zero.

5.3 Non-sampling error

It is a full-scale census. The greatest margin of uncertainty is linked to updating and matching the different registers.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

The general assessment is that the quality of the statistics are high, because the quality of the registers is high. Because it is a compulsory register, where all cattle have to be registered.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

Only final figures are published.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The survey results are published quarterly. About 3 weeks after the survey day. The punctuality is high, with delays happening very rarely.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The survey results are published quarterly. About 3 weeks after the survey day. Only finally figures are published.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

7 Comparability

The survey is comparable from 2008 onwards, and there is a high degree of comparability with previous surveys. Furthermore there is high degree of comparability with other European countries, especially the EU countries.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

Two time a year figures are submitted to the statistical office of EU, Euro stat. This includes special aggregates, not published nationally.

Data for all EU countries can be found in the Euro stat database.

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/home> The statistics are produced following the principles of an EU regulation, so the results are comparable.

7.2 Comparability over time

From 2008 the population is all cattle in Denmark (this is the same as all cattle recorded in the Central Register of Livestock Farms on the reference date). It is a full-scale census.

Sample before 2010: The sample covers all farms drawn from the Register of Agricultural Statistics where at the same time could be found in the general livestock register. A ratio estimation is carried out.

In 1980 heifers were divided into two groups: heifers in calf and heifers not in calf. In 1976 calves were further divided into semi-annual groups. In 1974 the census method and the census groups were changed to comply with EC directives. The census groups were supplemented by an age classification, and cows were divided into dairy cows and cows kept for suckling. In 1946 the survey was extended to include all Denmark, compared to only rural municipalities previously.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

Every year Agricultural and Horticultural Survey is done and the number of cattle is estimated on the same level. But there are some difference: the Agricultural and Horticultural Survey is an estimate and it only included farms of at least 5,0 hectares. See the Quality Declaration for Agricultural and Horticultural Survey for more information.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Not relevant for these statistics.

8 Accessibility and clarity

New figures are published in January and July in news letter News from Statistics Denmark, and all figures can be found in the Statbank: KVAEG5.

See subject pages [Livestock](#)

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.4 News release

The figures are published in news release, NYT from Statistics Denmark: [Kvægbestanden](#).

8.5 Publications

Data are public in Statistical Yearbook and Statistical Ten-Year review.

8.6 On-line database

New quarterly figures are published in Statbank [Kvægbestanden](#).

8.7 Micro-data access

There is no micro-data access.

8.8 Other

Two times a year Denmark must deliver data to Euro stat. There are delivered some aggregated data, which are not public national.

For figures for all countries in EU see [Eurostats databank](#).

The figures between the countries can be compared as the figures are produced after the same instructions and principles.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

In the compilation of the herd of cattle, the [confidentiality policy of Statistics Denmark](#) is followed.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

These statistics are not published on a level of detail that necessitates confidentiality. In the compilation of the herd of cattle, the confidentiality policy of Statistics Denmark is followed: [Datafortrolighedspolitik](#).

8.11 Documentation on methodology

Published in *Stikprøveundersøgelser i Danmarks Statistik* (Sample surveys conducted by Statistics Denmark) covering the period before December 2000.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics are in the division of Food Industries. The person responsible is Mona Larsen, tel. +45 39 17 33 99, e-mail: mla@dst.dk

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