

Title: NI Beef Industry Key Performance Indicators December 2020 Snapshot (week 36-40)

Source: Livestock and Meat Commission (NI)
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Market Information Department



Finished Cattle Prices (p/kg)	December 2019	December 2020	% Change
Average Prime Cattle Price	330.7	367.1	+11.0%
Average Cow Price	228.9	248.1	+8.4%
Average R3 Steer Price (NI)	340.4	377.2	+10.8%
Average R3 Steer Price (ROI)	298.9	341.0	+14.1%
Average R3 Steer Price (GB)	337.9	376.6	+11.5%
NI Throughput			
Total Clean Processed (head)	29,186	30,286	+3.8%
Total Cow Processed (head)	9,106	10,230	+12.3%
Average Clean Carcase Weight (kg)	342.0	346.9	+1.4%
Average Cow Carcase Weight (kg)	308.9	313.6	+1.5%
Trade (Head)			
Live Imports for Direct Slaughter	1,807	987	-45.4%
Live Exports for Direct Slaughter	209	431	+106.2%
Availability (Head)			
No. Cattle on the Ground*	394,511	408,162	+3.5%
Beef Sired	360,652	371,764	+3.1%
Dairy Sired (Male Only)	33,859	36,398	+7.5%
Calf Births Registrations (Head)			
Calf Births	22,890	24,677	+7.8%
Beef Sired	16,697	19,170	+14.8%
Dairy Sired (Male Only)	6,193	5,507	-11.1%
Euro / Stg Exchange Rate (€ / £)			
	84.7	90.6	+7.0%

* Aged between 12-30 mths (Beef + Dairy Male Only)
All NI Figures Unless Otherwise Stated

Key trends



The average **NI prime cattle price** increased by 36.4p/kg to 367.1p/kg in December 2020. This was up 11 per cent from December 2019.



The average **NI cow price** was up 19.2p/kg in December this year.



The **R3 steer price** increased by 36.8p/kg in NI, by the equivalent of just over 42p/kg in ROI and by 38.7p/kg in GB during December 2020 when compared to the same period last year.



NI prime cattle throughput increased by 1,100 head in December 2020 with 30,286 prime cattle processed locally. Cow throughput also increased to 10,230 head, up 12.3 per cent from December 2019. Average carcase weights increased by almost 5kg for prime cattle and 4.7kg for cows.



Imports of cattle for direct slaughter were back 820 head in December 2020 compared to the same period in 2019 with total exports for direct slaughter up 222 head over the same period.



Number of beef sired cattle on the ground aged 12-30 months in December 2020 were up by 13,651 head from December 2019 to total 408,162 head. Beef sired cattle numbers were up over 3 per cent while dairy male cattle numbers were up 7.5 per cent.



Calf registrations in December 2020 increased by 7.8 per cent when compared to same period in 2019. Beef sired calf registrations were up 14.8 per cent from December 2019 levels while dairy male calf registrations were back by just over 11 per cent.

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