

Title: NI Beef Industry Key Performance Indicators December 2021 Snapshot (week 35-39)

Source: Livestock and Meat Commission (NI)

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Market Information Department



Finished Cattle Prices (p/kg)	December 2020	December 2021	%	Change
Average Prime Cattle Price	366.3	393.5	+7.4%	
Average Cow Price	244.6	272.6	+11.4%	
Average R3 Steer Price (NI)	376.2	404.2	+7.4%	
Average R3 Steer Price (ROI)	338.3	364.2	+7.7%	
Average R3 Steer Price (GB)	377.6	415.4	+10.0%	
NI Throughput				
Total Clean Slaughterings (Head)	32,398	32,379	-0.1%	
Total Cow Slaughterings (Head)	11,686	11,118	-4.9%	
Average Clean Carcase Weight (kg)	346.0	349.8	+1.1%	
Average Cow Carcase Weight (kg)	308.8	309.2	+0.1%	
Trade (Head)				
Live Imports for Direct Slaughter	1,466	1,231	-16.0%	
Live Exports for Direct Slaughter	476	268	-43.7%	
Availability (Head)				
No. Cattle on the Ground*	408,162	416,597	+2.1%	
Beef Sired	371,764	379,285	+2.0%	
Dairy Sired (Male Only)	36,398	37,312	+2.5%	
Calf Births Registrations (Head)				
Calf Births	24,677	24,132	-2.2%	
Beef Sired	19,170	19,816	+3.4%	
Dairy Sired (Male Only)	5,507	4,316	-21.6%	
Euro / Stg Exchange Rate (€ / £)				
	90.6	84.9	-6.3%	
* Aged between 12-30 mths (Beef + Dairy Male Only)				
All NI Figures Unless Otherwise Stated				



Key trends

The average **NI prime cattle price** was 393.5p/kg up 27.2p/kg or 7.4 per cent from December 2020. The average NI cow price increased by 28p/kg in December this year compared to the same period last year.

Across the regions the R3 steer price increased by 28p/kg in NI, the equivalent of 25.9p/kg in ROI and a 37.8p/kg increase in GB when compared to the same period in 2020.

NI prime cattle throughput marginally decreased to 32,379 head with cow throughput decreasing by 568 head in December 2021 compared to the same period last year. The average carcase weight for prime cattle increased by 3.8kg while the average cow carcase weight increased by 0.4kg in December 2021 from December 2020.

Imports for direct slaughter were back 16 per cent in December 2021 compared to the same period in 2020. Exports for direct slaughter totalled 268 head in December 2021, back 43.7 per cent from the same period in 2020.

Number of cattle on the ground aged 12-30 months in December 2021 was up just over two per cent head from December 2020 to total 416,597 head. Beef sired cattle numbers increased by two per cent while dairy male cattle numbers increased by 2.5 per cent.

Calf registrations in December 2021 were back 2.2 per cent when compared to same period in 2020. However beef sired calf registrations increased by 3.4 per cent from December 2020 levels while dairy male calf registrations decreased by 21.6 per cent.

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