



Hybu Cig Cymru
Meat Promotion Wales

Little Book of Meat Facts

Compendium of Welsh Red Meat
and Livestock Industry Statistics 2022



meatpromotion.wales

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Hybu Cig Cymru – Meat Promotion Wales (HCC) is the industry led organisation responsible for the development, promotion and marketing of Welsh red meat.

Development within the Industry

HCC undertakes research and development, dissemination of information and training relevant to each part of the supply chain, to ensure the Welsh red meat industry is in a position to improve quality, increase cost-effectiveness and add value to Welsh red meat products across the whole supply chain.

Market Development

HCC is active in many important markets worldwide: developing and strengthening business opportunities for Welsh red meat exporters. At home HCC works with retailers, independents and food service operators, undertaking regular promotional programmes for Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef.

Communicating

HCC ensures that information regarding developments relating to Welsh red meat are made known to stakeholders and consumers.

For more information on any of the above topics, please visit the website at **meatpromotion.wales** or contact HCC on **01970 625050** or by email at **info@meatpromotion.wales**

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Notes and abbreviations

Where dates are written, for example, as 2020/21, this implies the financial year from April 2020 to March 2021. Volume data is shown in tonnes, carcase weight equivalent, unless otherwise specified.

Kantar data for 2021 is for the 52-week period ending 26 December 2021. The Kantar data was reported at the end of May 2022 and is subject to revision.

Data obtained from both Defra and HMRC (HM Revenue & Customs) for 2021 was reported at the end of May 2022 and is subject to revision.

North East Wales: Denbighshire, Flintshire, Conwy, Wrexham

North West Wales: Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd

South Wales: Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Bridgend, Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Monmouthshire, Newport

Figures in the tables do not always add up to the totals shown because of rounding.

AHDB Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board

APP All Pig Price

BCMS British Cattle Movement Service

DAPP Deadweight Average Pig Prices

DARDNI Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Northern Ireland

Defra Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

EFS Expenditure and Food Survey

EU European Union

FSA Food Standards Agency

GBU GB Livestock Units

GVA Gross Value Added

Ha Hectare

HCC Meat Promotion Wales

IAAS Institute of Auctioneers and Appraisers in Scotland

LAA Livestock Auctioneers Association

LFA Less Favoured Area

RPA Rural Payments Agency

SQQ Standard Quality Quotation

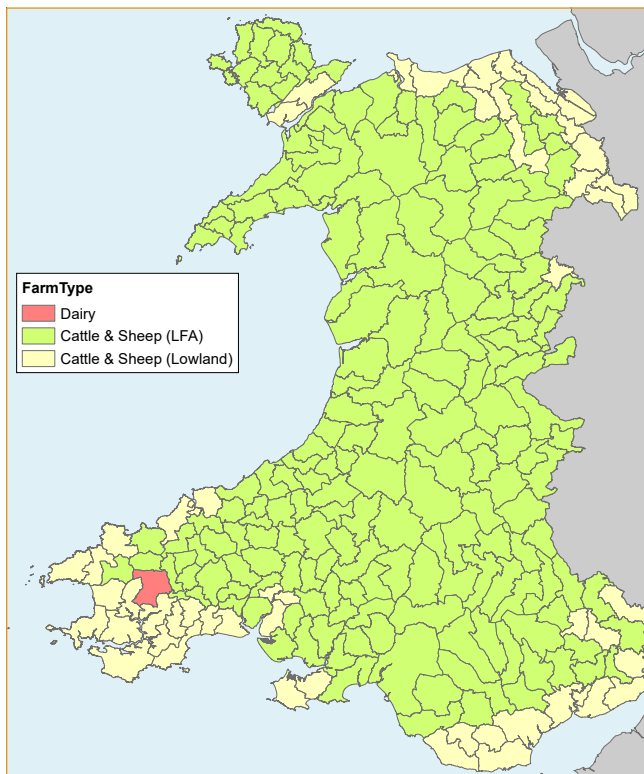
SPP Standard Pig Price

- = none

na= not available

Section 1 – General Information

Figure 1.1 Most common farm types in Wales, by region, June 2021



Source: GI Services Branch, DEPC, Aberystwyth © Crown copyright

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.1 Human population and land area by Welsh region and by UK country, 2020

	Human population (000 head)	Land area (sq km)
Carmarthenshire	190	2,372
Ceredigion	73	1,790
North East Wales	508	2,910
North West Wales	196	3,262
Pembrokeshire	127	1,619
Powys	133	5,196
South Wales	1,944	3,630
Wales	3,170	20,780
England	56,550	130,281
Scotland	5,466	77,925
Northern Ireland	1,896	13,576
United Kingdom	67,081	242,562

Note: Data for 2021 was not available at the time of publication.

Source: Welsh Government

Table 1.2 Agricultural holdings by size (hectares) by UK country, 2021

	Wales	England	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Number of holdings (000)	37	105	48	26
Total area (000 ha)	1,784	8,976	5,641	1,036
Average area (ha)	48	85	117	40
% of total numbers				
<20 ha	54.8	40.9	63.1	43.5
20-49.9 ha	17.5	19.5	11.7	32.4
50-99.9 ha	13.8	16.0	7.3	16.0
>100 ha	14.0	23.6	17.9	8.1
% of total area on holdings with 100 hectares and over:				
	60.6	75.4	88.2	35.7

Source: Agriculture in the United Kingdom 2021, Defra

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.3 Welsh holdings by farm type, June 2021

	Holdings (number)	Share of total (%)
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	6,320	17.0
Cattle and sheep (lowland)	1,169	3.2
Dairy	1,441	3.9
Mixed (a)	416	1.1
Cereals	335	0.9
Specialist pigs or poultry	163	0.4
Horticulture	154	0.4
General cropping	85	0.2
Other types (b)	146	0.4
Very small (c)	14,379	38.8
Dormant holdings	12,469	33.6
Total number of holdings	37,077	

(a) Combination of cropping with various types of livestock

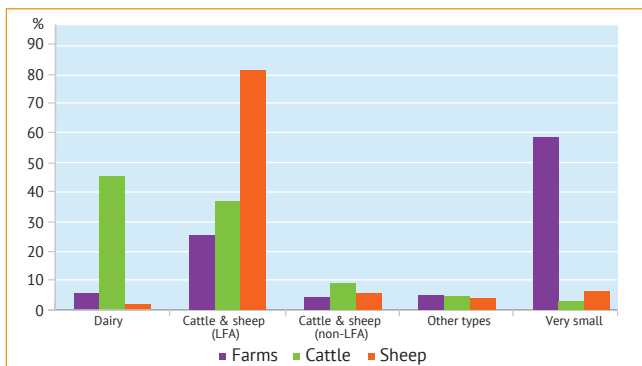
(b) Mainly grass and forage or specialist horses

(c) Holdings with small amounts of agricultural activity are grouped together irrespective of farm type.

Note: Numbers may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Welsh Government

Figure 1.2 Distribution of farms, cattle and sheep by farm type 2021



Source: Welsh Government

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.4 Value of Welsh agricultural output, 2020 (p)

	Value (£ million)	Share of total value %
Milk & milk products	513	30.2
Finished cattle & calves	344	20.3
Finished sheep & lambs	268	15.8
Poultry & eggs	121	7.1
Store cattle & sheep sales	124	7.3
Finished pigs	8	0.5
Total cereal	27	1.6
Horticulture & potatoes	64	3.8
Other products	16	0.9
Capital formation in livestock (a)	66	3.9
Other agricultural activities	144	8.5
Total Wales	1,695	
United Kingdom	27,118	

(a) Investment in buildings, work physically undertaken by the farmer and the value of the physical increase in breeding livestock

(p) Provisional.

Note: Numbers may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Welsh Government, *Agriculture in the United Kingdom 2021*, Defra

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.5 Contribution of agriculture to the regional UK economies, 2021 (p)

	Agricultural gross value added (GVA) at basic prices (£ million)	Total income from farming (£ million)
Wales	602	394
England	8,410	4,223
Scotland	n/a	n/a
Northern Ireland	716	501
United Kingdom	11,222	5,998

(p) Provisional

Note: England data based on commercial holdings only, and derived from other UK economic data

Source: Welsh Government, DAERA, Defra

Table 1.6 Farm business income by country and type of farm

(At current prices)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
	(£000/farm)		
Wales:			
Dairy	46.5	50.5	60.0
Grazing livestock (LFA)	19.0	22.5	30.0
Grazing livestock (lowland)	17.0	16.5	23.0
England:			
Dairy	79.5	85.0	92.5
Grazing livestock (LFA)	15.5	23.0	33.5
Grazing livestock (lowland)	12.5	9.5	18.5
Specialist pigs	29.5	37.5	48.0
Scotland:			
Dairy	68.0	51.0	99.5
Grazing livestock (LFA)	16.0	15.5	20.5
Northern Ireland:			
Dairy	58.0	52.0	63.0
Grazing livestock (LFA)	14.5	15.0	20.5

Source: Agriculture in the United Kingdom 2021, Defra

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.7 Direct payments to farmers in the UK

	2019	2020	2021 (p)
	(£ million)		
Basic/Single Payment Scheme	2,808	2,778	2,825
Agri-environment schemes	360	433	355
LFA support schemes	51	30	31
Animal disease compensation	26	25	27
Other (a)	13	31	12

(a) Includes various one off payments, Advisory Services, and New Entrants.

(p) Provisional

Source: *Agriculture in the United Kingdom 2021*, Defra

Table 1.8 Principal grants and subsidies in Wales

	2019	2020	2021
	(£ million)		
Basic Payment Scheme	233.4	240.0	234.1
Glastir Advanced	15.1	11.1	17.2
Glastir Entry	15.7	16.6	9.2
Glastir Commons	5.3	5.3	5.3
Glastir Woodland	2.6	0.9	2.4
Glastir Organic	3.7	3.6	3.4
Glastir Small Grants	2.2	1.1	1.9

Note: Payments are made on a continuous basis and as such are always subject to revision.

Source: *Welsh Government*

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.9 Number and throughputs of all Welsh abattoirs

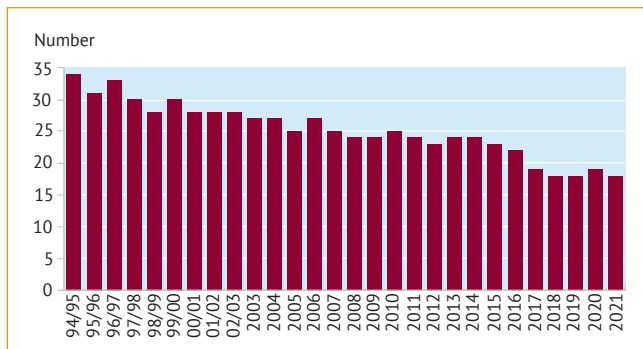
GB Livestock Units*	Abattoirs (number)		Throughputs (%)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
0-1,000	3	2	0.1	0.1
1,001-10,000	10	10	5.7	6.6
10,001-30,000	2	2	4.6	6.3
30,001-100,000	1	1	11.2	10.9
100,001 and over	3	3	78.4	76.2
Total	19	18		

* GB Livestock Unit = 1 cattle beast = 5 sheep = 2 pigs

Note: Numbers may not total 100%, due to rounding.

Source: HCC

Figure 1.3 Changes in Welsh abattoir numbers*

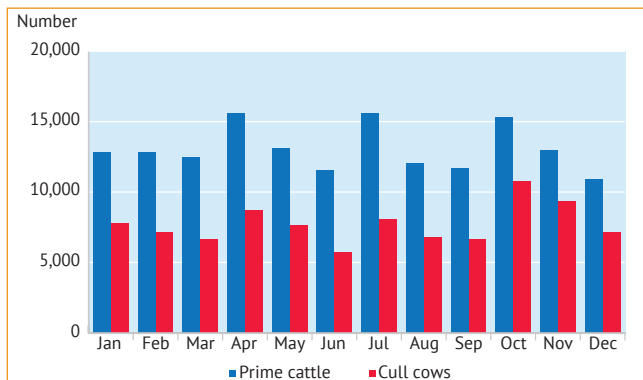


* Figures for 2004-2021 are for calendar years; previous figures relate to year ended March.

Source: HCC

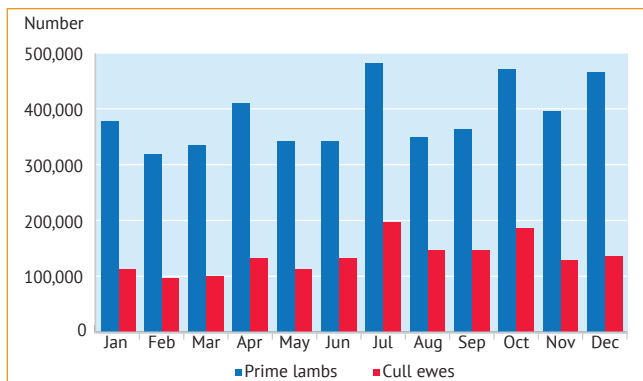
Section 1 – General Information

Figure 1.4 Monthly livestock auction market throughputs, cattle, England and Wales, 2021



Source: AHDB, LAA

Figure 1.5 Monthly livestock auction market throughputs, sheep, England and Wales, 2021



Source: AHDB, LAA

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.10 Auction markets by size of finished stock throughput in Wales, 2021

GB Livestock Units*	Number of markets	Total marketings (GBU)	Average throughput (GBU)	Share of throughput (%)
1-5,000	6	20,541	3,424	6
5,001-10,000	4	28,229	7,057	8
10,001-15,000	5	58,531	11,706	17
15,001-30,000	3	59,064	19,688	18
30,001 and over	4	170,651	42,663	51
Total	22	337,016	15,319	100

* GB Livestock Unit = 1 cattle beast = 5 sheep = 2 pigs

Source: AHDB, LAA

Table 1.11 Auction market throughputs of finished stock by GB country, 2021

(head)	Wales	England	Scotland	GB
Total prime cattle	8,649	148,307	14,459	171,415
Cull cows	9,404	82,945	27,312	119,661
Total prime sheep	1,173,514	3,474,891	941,548	5,589,953
Cull ewes	421,299	1,203,646	353,551	1,978,496
Clean pigs	0	37,505	0	37,505
Cull sows	0	8,210	0	8,210

Source: AHDB, LAA, IAAS

Section 1 – General Information

Table 1.12 Abattoirs in Wales slaughtering cattle, sheep and pigs, March 2022

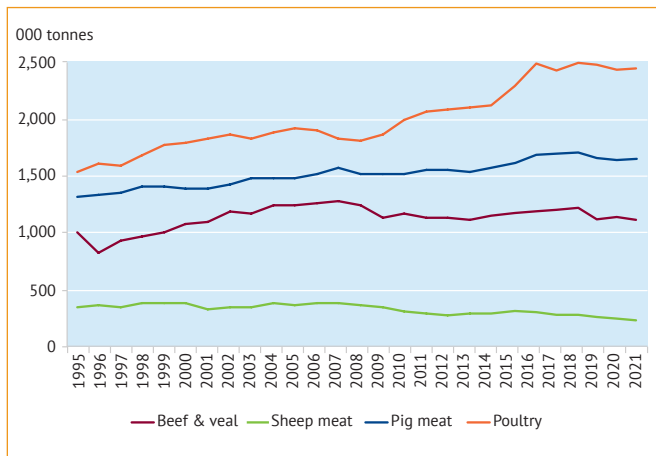
Trading Name	Location	Species Slaughtering		
Cig Calon Cymru Cyf	Cross Hands	Cattle		
Cig Eryri Snowdonia Meats Cyf	Blaenau Ffestiniog	Cattle	Sheep	
Cig Oen Caron	Tregaron	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
CJ & AJ Butler Ltd T/A Hugh Phillips Gower Butcher	Swansea	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Conwy Valley Meats Ltd	Llanrwst	Cattle	Sheep	
D & J Thomas	Wrexham	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
D T Havard, Caerphilly abattoir	Caerphilly	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Dunbia (Wales)	Llanybydder		Sheep	
Euro Farm Wales	Haverfordwest	Cattle		
Farmers Fresh (Wales) Ltd	Wrexham		Sheep	
G R Evans & Co	Corwen	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Jones Brothers	Wrexham	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
M K (Wales) Ltd	Maesteg	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
N S James	Raglan		Sheep	Pigs
Randall Parker Foods Ltd	Llanidloes		Sheep	
St Merryn Meats (Kepak Group Ltd)	Merthyr Tydfil	Cattle	Sheep	
W J George Butchers Ltd	Brecon	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs

Plants listed in alphabetical order.

Source: HCC

Section 1 – General Information

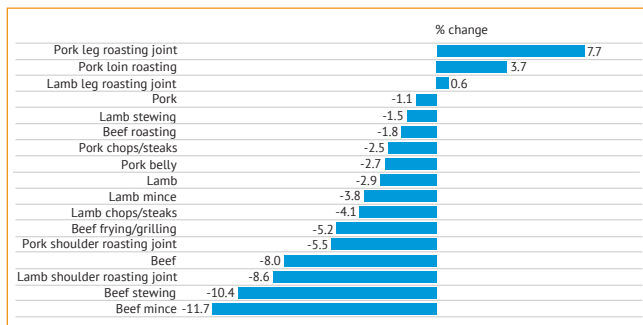
Figure 1.6 Changes in total UK meat consumption



Source: Defra, IHS Maritime & Trade – Global Trade Atlas®/HMRC, AHDB

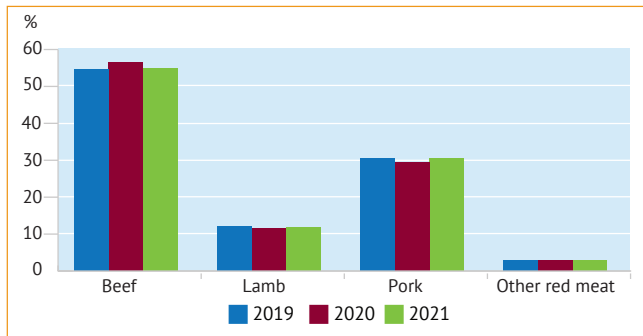
Section 1 – General Information

Figure 1.7 Changes in red meat purchases by product in GB, 2021



Source: Kantar

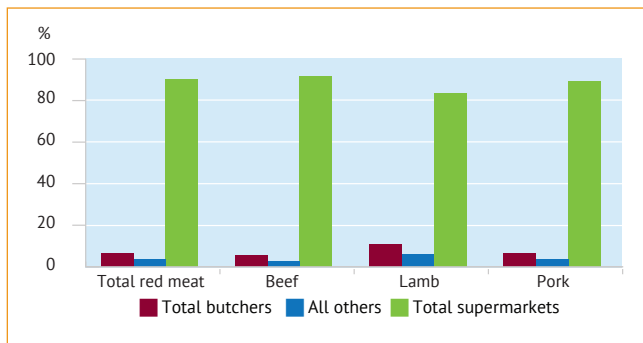
Figure 1.8 Comparison of retail market share by red meat type in GB



Source: Kantar

Section 1 – General Information

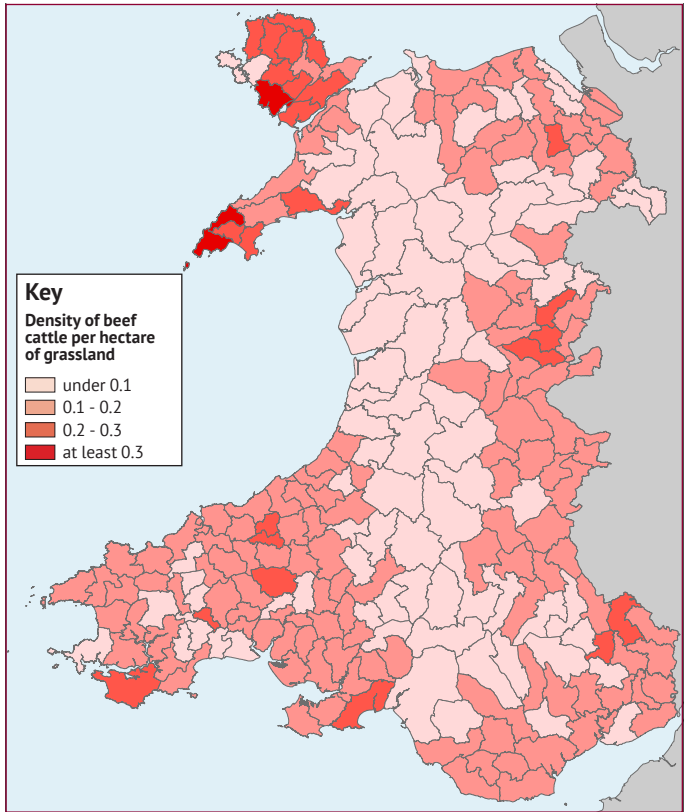
Figure 1.9 Retailer volume share of total red meat trade in GB, 2021



Source: Kantar

Section 2 – Cattle

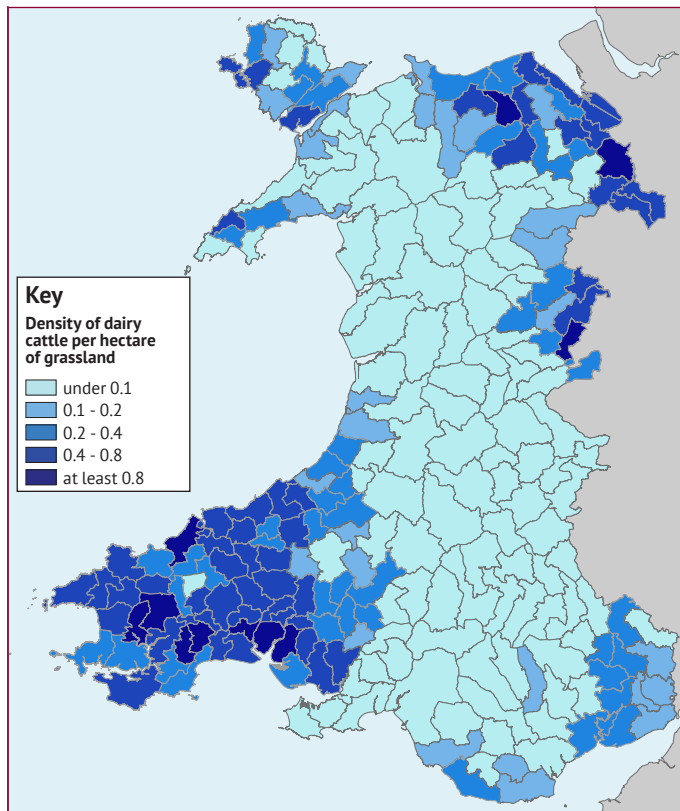
Figure 2.1 Beef cattle density in Wales, June 2021



Source: GI Services Branch, DEPC, Aberystwyth © Crown copyright

Section 2 – Cattle

Figure 2.2 Dairy cattle density in Wales, June 2021



Source: GI Services Branch, DEPC, Aberystwyth © Crown copyright

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.1 Welsh cattle numbers by category

(000 head)	June 2019	June 2020	June 2021
Cattle aged 2 years or more	541	535	523
– Female dairy breeds	297	294	291
– Female non-dairy breeds	207	204	199
– Males	37	37	33
Cattle aged 1-2 years	258	258	262
– Female dairy breeds	73	71	74
– Female non-dairy breeds	90	92	93
– Males	95	94	95
Cattle under 1 year	321	330	344
– Female dairy breeds	73	76	83
– Female non-dairy breeds	114	117	118
– Males	134	137	142
Total cattle and calves	1,120	1,122	1,129

Source: Cattle Tracing System

Table 2.2 Changes in number of holdings in Wales with beef and dairy cows

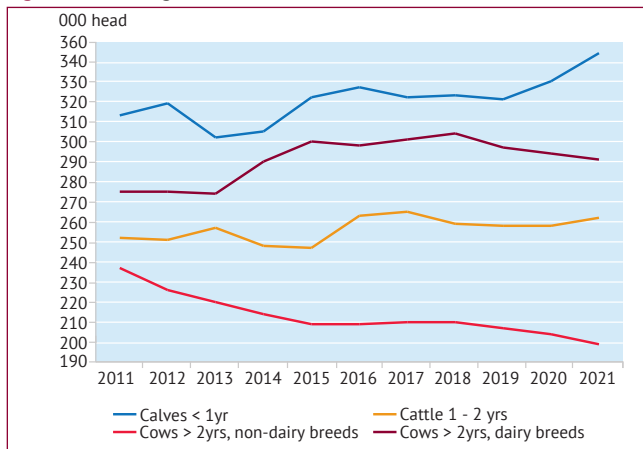
	June 2011	June 2021
Dairy females (a)	220,199	255,445
Number of dairy cow holdings	2,938	2,408
Average dairy herd size (head)	75	106
Beef females (a)	186,929	159,547
Number of beef cow holdings	8,467	6,927
Average beef size herd (head)	22	23
Total number of cattle and calf holdings	11,526	9,975

(a) Females aged 2 years or more that have calved

Source: Cattle Tracing System

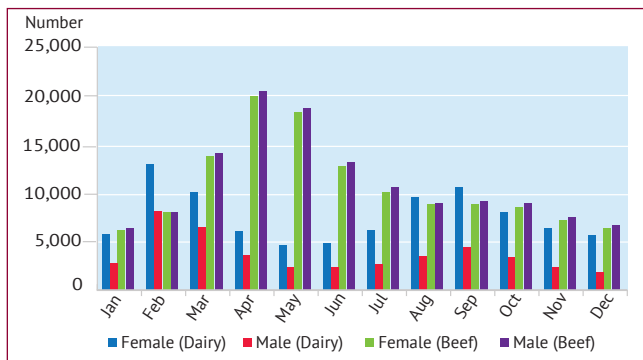
Section 2 – Cattle

Figure 2.3 Changes in cattle numbers in Wales



Source: Cattle Tracing System

Figure 2.4 Calf registrations on holdings in Wales, 2021



Source: Cattle Tracing System

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.3 Throughput of cattle and calves in Welsh abattoirs

	Slaughterings (000 head)	Production (000 tonnes)
2019	147.6	42.9
2020	160.2	52.1
2021	123.2	40.3
2021 by month:		
January	16.8	5.6
February	10.0	3.3
March	11.5	3.8
April	10.1	3.4
May	9.9	3.3
June	6.3	2.1
July	9.4	3.1
August	9.8	3.1
September	10.5	3.4
October	10.3	3.2
November	10.6	3.4
December	8.2	2.6

Source: Defra

Table 2.4 Total cattle slaughterings by UK country, 2021

Wales	England	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
(000 head)				
123	1,633	452	2,208	465

Source: Defra

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.5 Percentage distribution of prime cattle carcasses in GB by conformation and fat class, 2021

		Fat class Increasing fatness							
Conformation class Improving conformation		1	2	3	4L	4H	5L	5H	Overall
	E	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
	U+	0.1	1.0	1.8	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.5
	-U	0.1	1.6	5.9	5.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	13.6
	R	0.2	3.5	18.3	19.6	5.6	0.5	0.0	47.8
	O+	0.2	1.8	9.3	10.4	3.0	0.2	0.0	24.9
	-O	0.1	1.1	4.0	2.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	8.0
	P+	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4
	-P	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
	Overall	1.0	9.8	40.3	38.0	10.0	0.8	0.1	

Source: AHDB

Table 2.6 Number and throughputs of abattoirs in Wales slaughtering cattle*

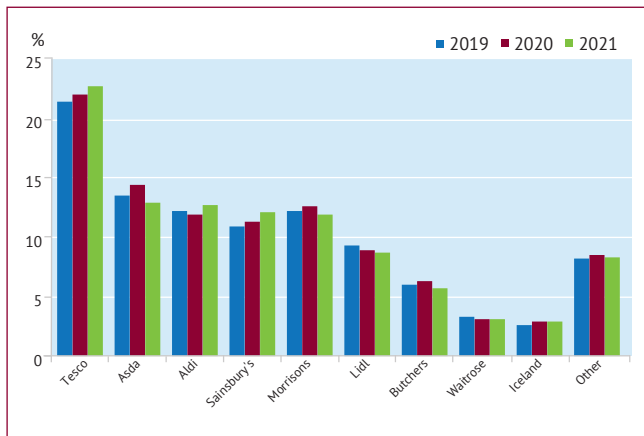
Annual throughput:	Abattoirs (number)		Throughputs (000 head)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
0-1,000	8	7	2.1	2.0
1,001-5,000	4	4	6.3	5.7
5,001 and over	3	3	133.9	127.3
Total	15	14	142.2	134.9

* Figures from Welsh Red Meat Levy returns

Source: HCC

Section 2 – Cattle

Figure 2.5 Retailer volume share of beef sales in GB 2019-2021



Source: Kantar

Table 2.7 Changes in beef purchases, expenditure and average price in Wales and GB, 2021

	Beef purchases (tonnes)	Beef purchases (% change)	Beef expenditure (£ million)	Beef expenditure (% change)	Beef average price (£/kg)	Beef average price (% change)
Wales	15,547	-5.8	127.6	0.1	8.2	6.8
GB	296,879	-8.0	2,373.1	-5.1	8.0	3.1

Source: Kantar

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.8 Volume and value of UK beef imports

	Fresh/frozen beef and veal		Offal	
	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)
2014	254.8	981.9	19.3	14.8
2015	269.7	1,032.6	16.8	16.8
2016	263.6	1,016.1	13.2	19.0
2017	274.7	1,073.9	9.1	15.7
2018	290.0	1,168.4	18.9	21.7
2019	251.0	991.7	20.2	17.9
2020	232.9	924.0	15.7	16.6
2021	241.3	1,064.0	13.0	22.5

Note: Volumes are shipped product weight.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Table 2.9 Volume and value of UK beef exports

	Fresh/frozen beef and veal		Offal	
	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)
2014	112.3	374.9	44.2	62.8
2015	100.5	342.2	47.7	60.8
2016	110.4	369.3	42.2	52.8
2017	105.6	405.1	40.1	56.5
2018	110.5	435.1	38.4	59.3
2019	135.8	464.2	48.7	70.8
2020	116.2	381.9	49.5	68.8
2021	102.9	364.1	26.6	47.2

Note: Volumes are shipped product weight.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.10 UK beef imports

		2019	2020	2021
		(000 tonnes, product weight)		
Total beef and veal		251.0	232.9	241.3
Of which from:	Irish Republic	192.1	186.5	189.3
	Poland	15.3	13.4	14.8
	Netherlands	17.0	13.0	13.2
	Germany	5.0	5.2	6.2
	Brazil	3.0	1.5	2.8
	Uruguay	2.6	1.3	2.7
	Spain	2.1	2.4	2.6
	Italy	2.7	1.6	2.1
	Belgium	2.6	2.4	1.9

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.11 UK beef exports

		2019	2020	2021
		(000 tonnes, product weight)		
Total beef and veal		135.8	116.2	102.9
Of which to:	Irish Republic	40.6	38.3	32.7
	France	11.6	9.7	16.8
	Netherlands	34.9	22.5	13.0
	Hong Kong	11.0	12.5	8.5
	Philippines	3.4	3.5	5.1
	South Africa	1.4	2.6	2.7
	Belgium	3.6	2.7	2.7
	Italy	6.2	4.1	2.1

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Table 2.12 UK monthly beef trade, 2021

	UK beef imports	UK beef exports
	(000 tonnes, product weight)	
January	14.4	4.6
February	12.6	6.9
March	15.9	5.5
April	16.3	7.1
May	15.2	8.5
June	20.9	9.7
July	19.8	9.6
August	21.0	8.9
September	28.5	8.3
October	22.6	10.1
November	21.5	10.3
December	23.3	10.4

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.13 Deadweight cattle prices in England and Wales*

	R4L steers	R4L young bulls	R4L heifers	-O4L cows
	(pence per kilogram deadweight)			
2019	344.8	325.3	343.5	241.7
2020	359.7	340.3	358.5	255.1
2021	404.7	394.1	404.1	288.9
2021 by month:				
January	382.0	360.5	381.1	260.0
February	382.0	370.2	381.6	269.5
March	392.9	381.3	392.7	283.4
April	406.3	398.6	406.6	293.0
May	404.3	396.1	404.1	296.5
June	397.2	387.3	396.7	302.0
July	407.5	397.8	407.6	310.8
August	415.1	401.8	415.1	314.7
September	419.8	407.4	419.2	305.8
October	420.1	404.5	418.0	290.2
November	423.2	404.6	421.3	281.0
December	420.5	396.9	417.8	279.9

* Prices collected from a sample of abattoirs slaughtering more than 20,000 cattle annually.

Source: AHDB

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.14 Liveweight cattle prices in England and Wales*

	Steers	Young bulls	Heifers	Cull cows
	(pence per kilogram liveweight)			
2019	178.5	171.2	193.0	105.0
2020	191.3	185.6	202.8	115.0
2021	222.3	211.4	232.5	130.3
2021 by month:				
January	205.7	193.8	215.5	121.8
February	208.8	198.4	218.0	124.9
March	212.5	203.7	222.0	133.3
April	220.2	213.8	228.4	138.0
May	217.0	208.7	225.1	136.5
June	221.9	209.3	229.6	141.4
July	223.6	211.6	231.8	141.8
August	228.6	216.5	243.0	138.4
September	228.4	218.3	241.9	132.3
October	229.5	216.6	243.2	120.0
November	233.5	220.4	247.1	120.0
December	240.6	222.1	251.9	123.8

* Prices collected from English and Welsh auction markets.

Source: AHDB, LAA

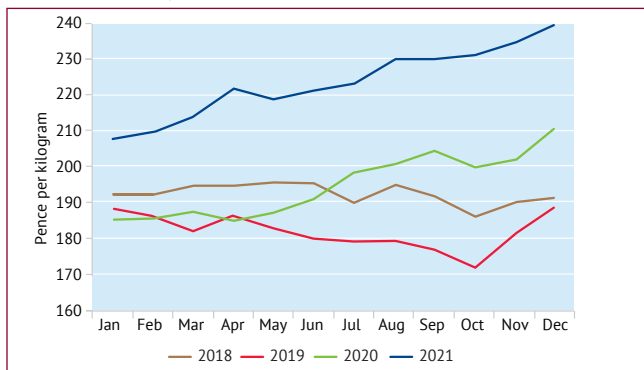
Table 2.15 Rearing calf prices in England and Wales

	Holstein / Friesian (X)	Hereford (X)		Continental (X)	
(£/head)	Bulls	Bulls	Heifers	Bulls	Heifers
2019	30.1	108.7	68.8	172.4	125.5
2020	37.4	133.0	89.6	203.4	158.2
2021	46.0	160.8	116.1	234.0	185.8

Source: AHDB, LAA

Section 2 – Cattle

Figure 2.6 Seasonality of prime cattle liveweight prices, England and Wales, 2018-2021



Source: AHDB, LAA

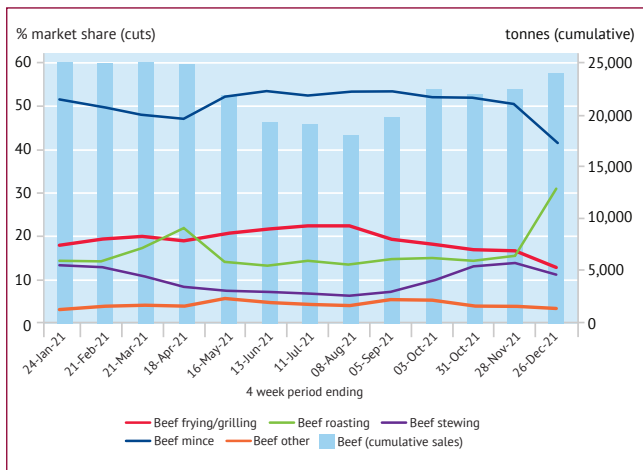
Table 2.16 Store cattle prices in England and Wales

(£/head)	Yearlings		18 months		2 years	
	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers
Friesian/Holstein X						
2019	356.8	332.5	533.9	449.2	663.7	593.0
2020	438.0	417.0	609.7	549.4	751.3	694.3
2021	510.9	499.5	713.0	650.9	890.0	804.6
Hereford X						
2019	585.2	435.9	708.4	568.8	849.2	698.5
2020	624.0	479.0	771.9	630.5	892.9	761.6
2021	728.1	583.6	890.4	743.2	1034.6	883.7
Continental X						
2019	812.7	699.9	883.0	784.3	969.1	869.6
2020	830.3	730.7	943.0	853.1	1,013.2	925.2
2021	944.1	836.5	1,064.0	964.3	1,163.7	1,060.0

Source: AHDB, LAA

Section 2 – Cattle

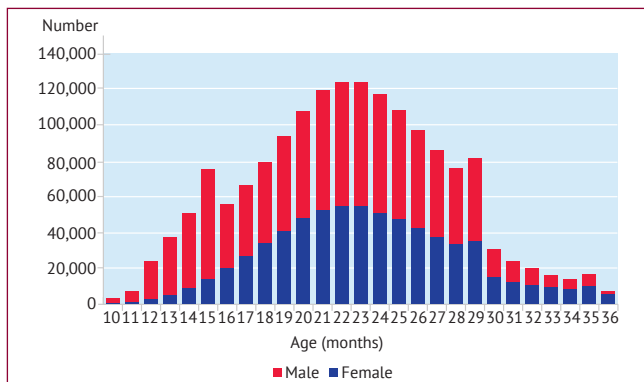
Figure 2.7 Seasonality of beef sales at GB retail by cut, 2021



Source: Kantar

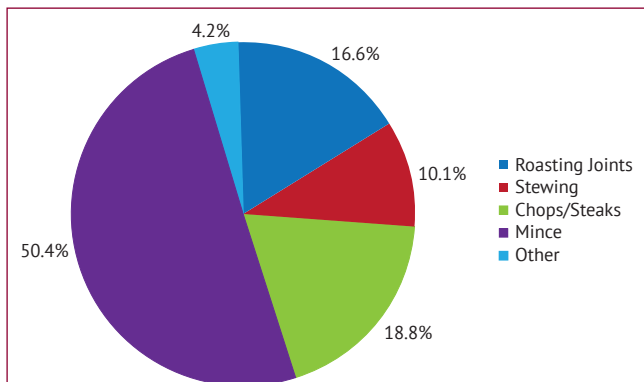
Section 2 – Cattle

Figure 2.8 Age profile of male and female prime cattle at GB abattoirs, 2021



Source: Cattle Tracing System

Figure 2.9 Retail beef cuts sold in GB by volume, 2021



Source: Kantar

Section 2 – Cattle

Table 2.17 Retail prices for selected beef cuts in Great Britain*

	Roasting Joint	Sirloin Steak	Fillet Steak	Standard Mince
	(pence per kilogram)			
2021 by month:				
January	890.7	1,597.2	2,861.4	430.0
February	971.3	1,581.4	2,876.7	419.0
March	671.3	1,597.2	2,890.3	419.0
April	999.1	1,597.2	2,890.2	419.0
May	1,003.2	1,613.6	2,915.5	386.5
June	1,001.8	1,660.6	2,933.8	386.4
July	975.8	1,660.6	2,970.3	386.4
August	975.8	1,702.7	2,970.3	393.6
September	905.3	1,702.8	2,759.5	393.6
October	1,027.4	1,757.3	2,992.0	303.0
November	939.2	1,788.2	2,992.0	353.1
December	872.8	1,788.2	2,992.0	372.5

* Prices obtained from a weekly survey of a number of supermarkets' websites each week, with the prices quoted above for the last week of each month (or the latest week available).

Source: AHDB

Table 2.18 UK beef and veal balance sheet*

	2019	2020	2021
	(000 tonnes)		
Production	914.5	932.1	888.0
Imports	381.7	376.9	357.3
Exports	174.3	152.7	133.4
Total consumption	1,121.9	1,156.2	1,111.9
Self sufficiency (%) **	81.5	80.6	79.9

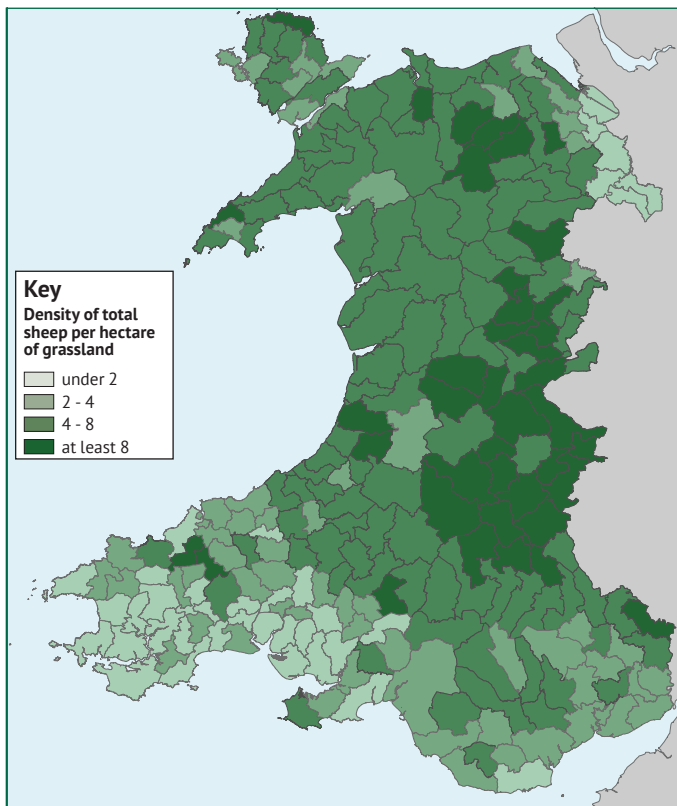
* Total supplies of meat available for consumption. All weights are carcase weight equivalent.

** Self-sufficiency is based upon production as a percentage of consumption

Source: AHDB, Defra, IHS Maritime & Trade – Global Trade Atlas®/HMRC.

Section 3 – Sheep

Figure 3.1 Sheep and lamb density in Wales, June 2021



Source: GI Services Branch, DEPC, Aberystwyth © Crown copyright

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.1 Sheep numbers in Wales by category

(000 head)	June 2019	June 2020	June 2021
Total sheep, over one year	4,893	4,481	4,817
Lambs under one year	4,640	4,508	4,648
Total sheep and lambs	9,534	8,989	9,464

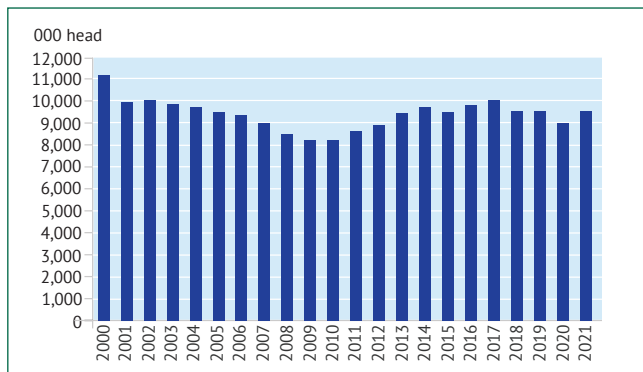
Source: Welsh Government

Table 3.2 Changes in number of holdings in Wales with sheep

	June 2011	June 2021
Number of sheep and lamb holdings	14,184	14,060
Average flock size (head)	608	673

Source: Welsh Government

Figure 3.2 Changes in total sheep and lamb numbers in Wales



Source: Welsh Government

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.3 Throughput of total sheep in Welsh abattoirs

	Slaughterings (000 head)	Production (000 tonnes)
2019	3,303.2	63.4
2020	3,215.2	62.1
2021	2,479.2	48.7
2021 by month:		
January	234.2	4.6
February	145.9	2.9
March	154.1	3.1
April	116.1	2.4
May	130.5	2.6
June	183.1	3.6
July	236.2	4.6
August	233.0	4.5
September	262.6	5.1
October	268.9	5.3
November	265.7	5.2
December	248.9	4.8

Source: Defra

Table 3.4 Total sheep slaughterings by UK country, 2021

Wales	England	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
(000 head)				
2,479	8,865	1,113	12,457	462

Source: Defra

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.5 Percentage distribution of lamb carcasses in GB by conformation and fat class, 2021

		Fat class Increasing fatness							
Conformation class Improving conformation		1	2	3L	3H	4L	4H	5	Overall
	E	0.0	0.6	1.9	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	3.3
	U	0.1	3.2	14.1	6.9	1.3	0.1	0.0	25.7
	R	0.4	11.4	31.1	13.3	2.2	0.2	0.0	58.7
	O	0.4	4.1	5.6	1.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	12.0
	P	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
	Overall	1.0	19.6	52.7	22.6	3.9	0.3	0.0	

Source: AHDB

Table 3.6 Number and throughputs of abattoirs in Wales slaughtering sheep*

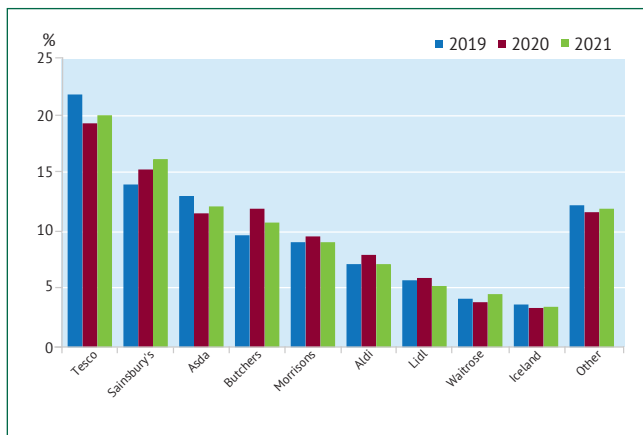
Annual throughput:	Abattoirs (number)		Throughputs (000 head)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
0-5,000	6	5	11.4	11.2
5,001-20,000	7	6	99.6	74.0
20,001-50,000	0	1	0.0	20.4
50,001 and over	4	4	2,879.3	2,369.2
Total	17	16	2,990.3	2,474.8

* Figures from Welsh Red Meat Levy returns

Source: HCC

Section 3 – Sheep

Figure 3.3 Retailer volume shares of lamb sales in GB, 2019-2021



Source: Kantar

Table 3.7 Changes in lamb purchases, expenditure and average price in Wales and GB, 2021

	Lamb purchases (tonnes)	Lamb purchases (% change)	Lamb expenditure (£ million)	Lamb expenditure (% change)	Lamb average price (£/kg)	Lamb average price (% change)
Wales	3,284	-3.3	34.3	3.9	10.4	6.7
GB	63,306	-2.9	661.6	1.4	10.5	4.5

Source: Kantar

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.8 Volume and value of UK sheep meat imports

	Fresh/frozen sheep meat		Offal	
	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)
2013	98.3	382.9	10.0	13.6
2014	92.5	407.4	9.8	14.1
2015	92.8	392.0	7.7	13.3
2016	89.6	345.1	8.5	16.0
2017	80.0	369.3	7.6	11.0
2018	77.6	373.3	8.8	14.2
2019	62.7	311.6	8.3	15.8
2020	57.1	308.9	5.9	13.7
2021	46.5	260.6	5.9	14.3

Note: Volumes are shipped product weight.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Table 3.9 Volume and value of UK sheep meat exports

	Fresh/frozen sheep meat		Offal	
	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)
2013	103.7	383.7	3.0	4.1
2014	102.0	380.0	3.0	4.4
2015	79.4	302.1	4.1	6.4
2016	78.1	327.1	6.5	9.1
2017	89.8	385.1	5.7	9.4
2018	83.2	367.6	5.2	8.9
2019	95.1	399.4	5.8	8.7
2020	87.5	436.4	5.4	8.9
2021	70.0	438.3	2.9	5.5

Note: Volumes are shipped product weight.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.10 UK sheep meat imports

		2019	2020	2021
		(000 tonnes, product weight)		
Total sheep meat		62.7	57.1	46.5
Of which from:	New Zealand	39.0	37.8	31.1
	Australia	7.1	8.5	9.1
	Irish Republic	9.3	5.7	2.4
	Netherlands	2.5	1.5	1.0
	Spain	1.6	0.7	0.6

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Table 3.11 UK sheep meat exports

		2019	2020	2021
		(000 tonnes, product weight)		
Total sheep meat		95.0	87.5	70.0
Of which to:	France	37.4	33.4	36.4
	Germany	19.4	15.5	12.8
	Belgium	8.5	7.5	6.2
	Irish Republic	10.9	11.3	4.0
	Netherlands	6.4	3.5	2.3
	Hong Kong	1.8	2.7	2.2
	Italy	4.2	5.3	1.9

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.12 UK monthly sheep meat trade, 2021

	UK sheep meat imports	UK sheep meat exports
	(000 tonnes, product weight)	
January	4.0	3.6
February	2.9	4.6
March	7.6	6.1
April	4.4	5.3
May	4.8	4.9
June	4.2	4.6
July	4.2	6.2
August	3.5	6.3
September	2.5	6.5
October	2.2	7.0
November	2.6	7.2
December	3.9	7.8

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.13 Deadweight sheep prices in GB*

	Standard Quality Quotation (SQQ)	
	R3L	All grades
	(pence per kilogram deadweight)	
2019	415.6	415.8
2020	474.8	475.1
2021	575.4	576.9
2021 by month:		
January	543.7	543.3
February	600.7	599.0
March	631.5	628.5
April	656.3	652.0
May	663.7	662.6
June	633.8	637.3
July	546.5	547.9
August	523.5	526.7
September	513.9	514.4
October	523.2	523.3
November	590.5	589.3
December	621.7	620.1

* Prices collected from a sample of GB abattoirs. Standard Quality Quotation includes animals weighing 12-21.5kg dw. Old season prices are recorded until the third Monday in May, and new season prices for the remainder of the year.

Source: AHDB

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.14 Liveweight sheep prices in Wales*

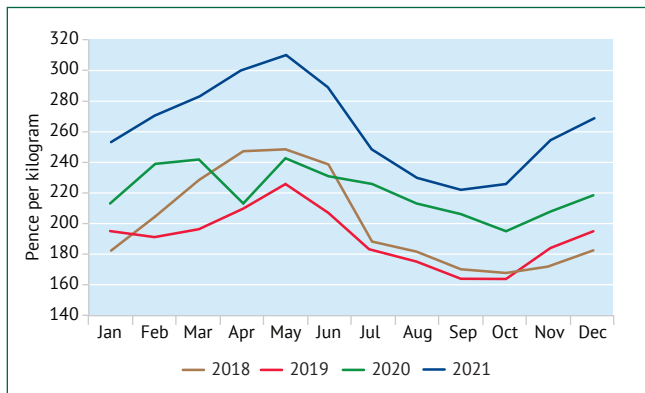
	SQQ Sheep (pence per kilogram liveweight)	Ewes (£ per head)
2019	187.5	54.4
2020	215.5	62.9
2021	259.0	76.2
2021 by month:		
January	252.6	73.2
February	271.6	71.7
March	283.2	86.6
April	300.5	91.2
May	309.1	90.2
June	290.7	85.9
July	249.8	77.7
August	230.8	69.0
September	222.4	63.0
October	228.5	58.6
November	258.4	68.3
December	268.1	81.6

* Prices collected from Welsh auction markets. Standard Quality Quotation includes animals weighing 25.5-45.5 kg lw. Combined prices were reported until third Monday in May. New season prices reported for the remainder of the year.

Source: AHDB, LAA

Section 3 – Sheep

Figure 3.4 Seasonality of lamb liveweight prices, Wales, 2018-2021



Source AHDB, LAA

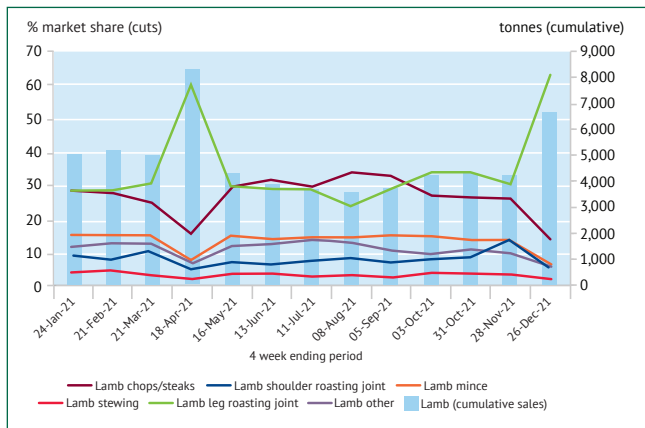
Table 3.15 Store sheep prices in England and Wales

(£/head)	Old season lambs	New season lambs
2019	62.9	56.4
2020	72.8	68.0
2021	89.7	80.6

Source AHDB, LAA

Section 3 – Sheep

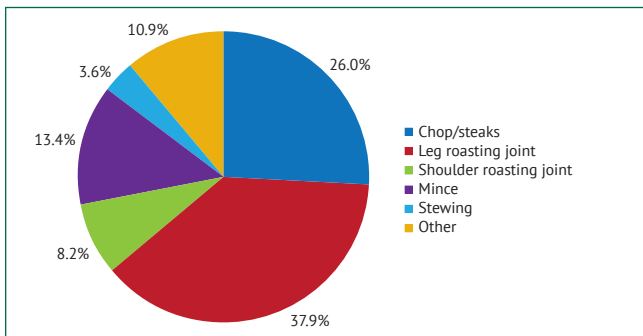
Figure 3.5 Seasonality of lamb sales at GB retail by cut, 2021



Source: Kantar

Section 3 – Sheep

Figure 3.6 Retail lamb cuts sold in GB by volume, 2021



Source: Kantar

Figure 3.7 Percentage of lambs meeting target specification by weight range in GB, 2021

Old season lambs			New season lambs	
13.0	2.2	<12kg	9.5	0.4
84.8			90.0	
33.1	4.5	12-15.9kg	42.9	3.2
62.5			53.9	
57.7	18.5	16-19.9kg	74.8	13.1
23.8			12.1	
50.5	43.3	20+kg	64.9	32.8
6.2			2.4	
Overall				
62.7	25.0			
12.3				

Target sector – E, U, or R conformation. 1, 2 or 3L fatness
 Too fat – 3H or fatter but of adequate conformation
 Poor conformation – O conformation or worse

Source: AHDB

Section 3 – Sheep

Table 3.16 Retail prices for selected lamb cuts in Great Britain*

	Whole leg	Shoulder (bone-in)	Chops	Standard Diced
	(pence per kilogram)			
2021 by month:				
January	1,068.6	799.3	1,260.3	1,320.8
February	1,047.4	781.9	1,214.8	1,379.5
March	984.0	756.0	1,214.8	1,437.6
April	1,129.7	789.9	1,214.8	1,266.3
May	1,129.7	840.5	1,242.9	1,266.3
June	1,108.4	844.0	1,230.9	1,351.6
July	1,135.6	824.5	1,230.9	1,351.6
August	1,145.1	824.5	1,233.7	1,366.6
September	1,062.4	805.0	1,247.4	1,268.8
October	1,135.8	854.7	1,253.1	1,249.4
November	1,080.7	854.7	1,253.1	1,346.1
December	1,020.1	901.3	1,345.0	1,461.4

* Prices obtained from a weekly survey of a number of supermarkets' websites each week, with the prices quoted above for the last week of each month (or the latest week available).

Source: AHDB

Table 3.17 UK sheep meat balance sheet*

	2019	2020	2021
	(000 tonnes)		
Production	307.5	296.1	267.0
Imports	76.0	69.5	55.0
Exports	98.6	91.9	71.5
Total consumption	284.8	273.7	250.5
Self sufficiency (%) **	108.0	108.2	106.6

* Total supplies of meat available for consumption. All weights are carcase weight equivalent.

** Self-sufficiency is based upon production as a percentage of consumption.

Source: AHDB, Defra, IHS Maritime & Trade – Global Trade Atlas®/HMRC, ONS.

Section 4 – Pigs

Table 4.1 Pig numbers in Wales by category

(000 head)	2019	2020	2021
Breeding pigs	3.3	3.0	3.0
Fattening pigs	21.1	25.5	24.2
Total pigs	24.4	28.4	27.2

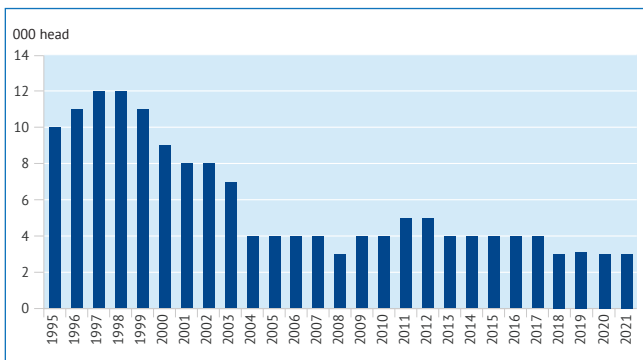
Source: Welsh Government

Table 4.2 Changes in number of holdings in Wales with pigs

	June 2011	June 2021
Number of pig holdings	1,167	1,348
Average herd size (head)	22	20

Source: Welsh Government

Figure 4.1 Changes in breeding pig numbers in Wales



Source: Welsh Government

Section 4 – Pigs

Table 4.3 Throughput of pigs in Welsh abattoirs

	Slaughterings (000 head)	Production (000 tonnes)
2019	28.4	2.4
2020	27.9	2.4
2021	28.0	2.5
2021 by month:		
January	1.7	0.2
February	2.1	0.2
March	2.3	0.2
April	1.9	0.2
May	2.3	0.2
June	2.3	0.2
July	2.3	0.2
August	2.6	0.2
September	2.5	0.2
October	2.6	0.2
November	2.6	0.2
December	2.8	0.3

Source: Defra

Table 4.4 Total pig slaughterings by UK country, 2021

Wales	England	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland
(000 head)				
28	9,112	293	9,433	1,946

Source: Defra

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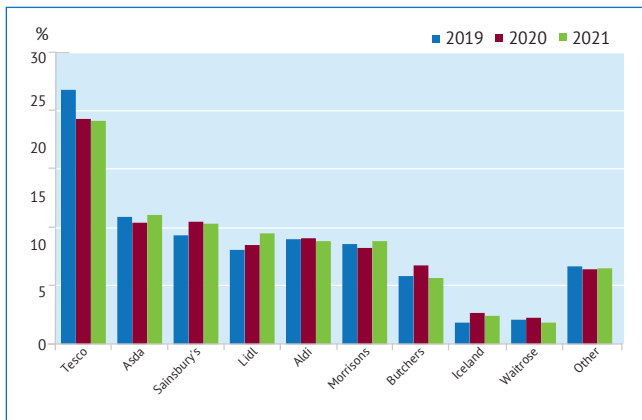
Table 4.5 Numbers and throughputs of abattoirs in Wales slaughtering pigs*

Annual throughput:	Abattoirs (number)		Throughputs (000 head)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
0-1,000	5	3	1.8	0.9
1,001 and over	6	7	25.7	27.7
Total	11	10	27.5	28.6

* Figures from Welsh Red Meat Levy returns

Source: HCC

Figure 4.2 Retailer volume shares of pork sales in GB, 2019-2021



Source: Kantar

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Table 4.6 Changes in pork purchases, expenditure and average price in Wales and GB, 2021

	Pork purchases (tonnes)	Pork purchases (% change)	Pork expenditure (£ million)	Pork expenditure (% change)	Pork average price (£/kg)	Pork average price (% change)
Wales	8,915	-0.5	44.0	-0.9	4.9	-1.2
GB	165,890	-1.1	821.9	-1.5	5.0	-0.5

Source: Kantar

Table 4.7 Volume and value of UK pig meat imports

	Fresh/frozen		Offal		Processed*
	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)
2013	351.8	739.8	14.6	13.7	490.2
2014	358.1	699.4	11.0	11.2	504.4
2015	371.8	613.4	12.4	11.3	514.0
2016	439.9	778.2	16.0	14.3	515.1
2017	467.0	943.9	18.1	17.8	512.6
2018	457.8	854.4	15.5	15.6	511.3
2019	447.9	951.1	17.1	18.4	451.6
2020	367.2	843.8	17.2	18.1	409.2
2021	320.1	657.3	15.3	17.8	393.2

* Includes bacon, sausage, hams and canned pig meat.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

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Table 4.8 Volume and value of UK pig meat exports

	Fresh/frozen		Offal		Processed*
	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)	(£ million)	(000 tonnes)
2013	180.7	218.1	41.6	26.1	36.4
2014	181.7	209.2	45.1	35.0	38.3
2015	187.1	197.4	58.9	38.5	38.3
2016	206.1	252.3	77.0	64.4	35.4
2017	216.0	293.6	81.5	79.7	37.2
2018	217.8	291.8	88.4	79.1	40.3
2019	244.5	391.8	94.2	93.0	39.7
2020	258.4	420.3	106.0	121.5	33.3
2021	192.7	338.8	128.5	146.7	28.3

* Includes bacon, sausage, hams and canned pig meat.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Table 4.9 UK pig meat imports

		2019	2020	2021
		(000 tonnes, product weight)		
Total pork		447.9	367.2	320.1
Of which from:	Denmark	133.9	121.2	99.7
	Germany	97.7	97.9	97.2
	Netherlands	45.4	29	29.3
	Spain	38.9	25.3	23.2
	Belgium	33.4	22.5	22.7
	France	21.9	18.8	17.5
	Irish Republic	46.0	29.8	14.4
Bacon		193.2	162.9	102.8
Of which from:	Netherlands	92.9	82.0	84.5
	Denmark	53.0	49.0	52.5

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

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Table 4.10 UK pig meat exports

		2019	2020	2021
		(000 tonnes, product weight)		
Fresh/Frozen Pork		244.5	258.4	192.7
Of which to:	China	81.4	121.0	83.2
	Irish Republic	34.1	27.4	18.2
	Germany	34.1	33.8	17.1
	France	2.8	3.7	14.6
	Philippines	3.4	2.3	13.8
	United States	9.8	6.2	7.1
Bacon		19.1	13.2	10.3
Of which to:	Irish Republic	12.6	10.8	7.6

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Table 4.11 UK monthly pork trade, 2021

	UK pork imports	UK pork exports
	(000 tonnes, product weight)	
January	18.3	8.8
February	23.1	16.3
March	26.9	20.4
April	24.8	18.3
May	25.6	18.0
June	27.4	15.9
July	24.9	14.0
August	27.5	15.2
September	27.8	14.2
October	28.8	13.5
November	31.1	17.6
December	27.5	16.9

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

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Table 4.12 Deadweight pig prices in GB

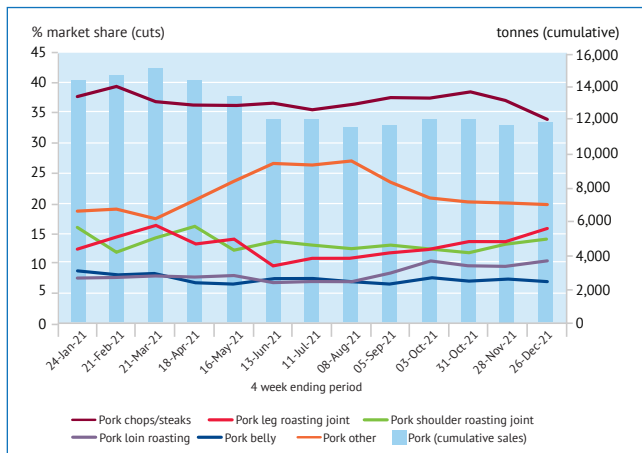
	SPP (EU Spec)	APP (EU Spec)
	(pence per kilogram deadweight)	
2019	148.4	151.9
2020	161.0	164.1
2021	148.3	153.1
2021 by month:		
January	143.2	147.3
February	139.2	143.0
March	139.8	144.3
April	144.1	147.8
May	151.0	154.5
June	156.4	160.2
July	160.3	164.7
August	159.8	164.6
September	155.2	160.8
October	147.8	153.8
November	144.6	150.1
December	142.0	148.4

EU specification excludes flare fat, kidney and diaphragm, the UK specification includes these parts.

Source: AHDB

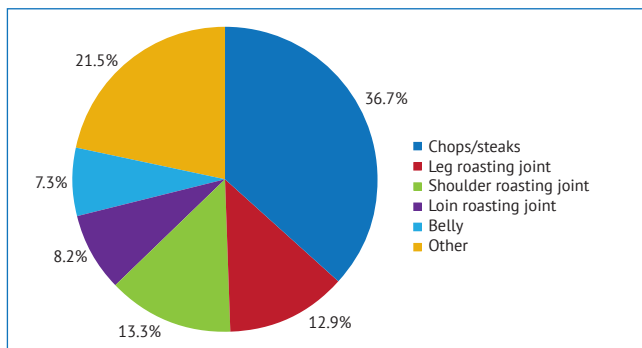
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Figure 4.3 Seasonality of pork sales at GB retail by cut, 2021



Source: Kantar

Figure 4.4 Retail pork cuts sold in GB by volume, 2021



Source: Kantar

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Table 4.13 Retail prices for selected pig meat cuts in Great Britain*

	Leg (boneless)	Loin steaks	Chops	Lean Mince
	(pence per kilogram)			
2021 by month:				
January	431.9	515.3	515.0	528.8
February	421.6	504.6	518.5	528.5
March	431.9	504.6	518.5	479.1
April	422.2	503.6	518.5	484.2
May	431.9	503.6	511.3	484.2
June	434.7	501.5	517.6	475.0
July	414.7	530.5	503.2	483.3
August	414.7	533.0	506.9	497.8
September	434.7	565.3	526.6	499.7
October	416.8	552.7	512.6	484.9
November	436.8	559.4	530.5	484.9
December	432.0	575.1	530.5	484.9

* Prices obtained from a weekly survey of a number of supermarkets' websites each week, with the prices quoted above for the last week of each month (or the latest week available).

Source: AHDB

Table 4.14 UK pork balance sheet*

	2019	2020	2021
	(000 tonnes)		
Production	957.4	984.3	1,022.3
Imports	982.4	891.8	791.3
Exports	291.3	300.3	221.4
Total consumption	1,648.6	1,575.9	1,592.2
Self sufficiency **	58.1%	62.5%	64.2%

* Total supplies of meat available for consumption. All weights are carcase weight equivalent.

** Self-sufficiency is based upon production as a percentage of consumption.

Source: AHDB, Defra, IHS Maritime & Trade – Global Trade Atlas®/HMRC, Statistics Germany, Agentia Tributaria, CSO Ireland, ONS.



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