

Methodological notes

1. Data source

*) **Provisional data** on the total slaughtering of animals and poultry are obtained by adding data from two sources:

- the monthly statistical survey for the specialized industrial units (slaughter houses) which provides data on the production of meat from animals and poultry (number of slaughtered heads, live weight and carcass weight), according to the European Parliament and Council Regulation no. 1165/2008/EC on statistics regarding livestock and meat, published in the OJ no. 321 from 1.12.2008. The statistical survey is exhaustive (the data are collected from approximately 250 economic units) and addresses to all enterprises in the whole country that have as main or secondary activity "The production and preservation of meat", class 1011 and "The processing and preservation of poultry meat" class 1012 according to CANE Rev. 2 classification;

- the estimations of the slaughtering outside slaughter houses (number of slaughtered animals and live weight; for obtaining the carcass weight, an average coefficient provided by the slaughter houses has been used), realized by the experts of the county agricultural departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Final data are obtained from:

- the statistical survey *"Livestock existent at December 1 2014 and animal production in 2014"*. The objective of this statistical survey is to obtain statistical data that are necessary for ensuring the compatibility of the agricultural statistical system (in the animal sector) with the statistical systems that are utilised in the European Union, according to the European Parliament and Council Regulation no. 1165/2008/EC on statistics regarding livestock and meat, published in the OJL no. 321 from 1.12.2008.

The statistical survey is exhaustive for the agricultural holdings with legal status and a sample type survey for the individual agricultural holdings. The sample was established based on the Statistical Registry of the Agricultural Holdings and covered approximately 50000 agricultural holdings from which around 3000 agricultural holdings with legal status.

2. Concepts and definitions:

The term „carcass"

a) For cattle, the carcass weight means the weight of the whole body of a slaughtered animal after removing the skin, blood and internal organs, without a head, udder, tail, kidney fat and legs (separated at the level of the metacarpal and metatarsal joints).

b) For pigs, the carcass weight means the weight of the body of the slaughtered animal, whole or split in half along the spine backbone, after bleeding, without internal organs, hair, hoofs, tongue, lard and diaphragm.

c) For sheep, the carcass weight means the weight of the body of the slaughtered animal, after bleeding and peeling of the skin, without internal organs, head and legs (separated at the level of the metacarpal and metatarsal joints). The kidneys and the kidney fat are included in the carcass.

d) For poultry, the carcass weight means the weight of slaughtered bird, after bleeding, without feathers, fluff and internal organs (intestines, liver, gizzard and heart) and without head, neck and claws.

The average carcass weight: represents the ratio between the carcass weight and the number of slaughtered animals, per species.