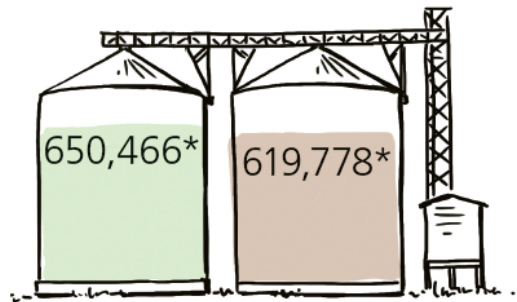




## Infographic: Swiss pig market – FAQs (frequently asked questions)

### Available feed

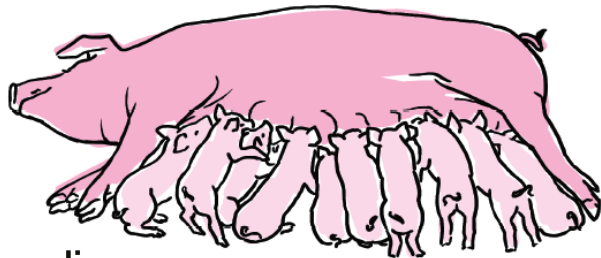
converted into tonnes of standard feed



Swiss Imports Figures for 2017\*

### Breeding sows and piglets

No. (estimated)



**Breeding sows**

115,924

#### How is the feed quantity calculated?

The available feed is based on the Swiss feed balance, as calculated by Agristat (the statistical service of the Swiss Farmers' Union).

Agristat first calculates the total quantity of feed available. Individual feed types are then assigned to the various animal categories, using factors defined for each animal category and feed type. Each year, these factors are checked for plausibility using a wide variety of indirect evidence (compound feed sales, livestock statistics, animal performance, feed properties, etc.). The factors for the category "pigs", for example, are a kind of formula which must reflect the requirements of this species. The resultant feed quantity expressed in energy terms (terajoules) is converted back into tonnes on the basis of a standard feed mixture. The resultant feed quantity relates to the requirements of all animals in the porcine genus (not just fattening pigs).

#### The graphic gives a total of around 116,000 breeding sows for 2018, while the figure given by the SFSO is around 112,000. How are such differences to be explained?

In the SFSO statistics, structural agricultural data is adjusted using an additional validation method (spot checks, further statistical adjustments, etc.), which means that certain values may ultimately be somewhat higher or lower. As a result of the calculation method and consistent presentation of different types of structural data for the infographic, some of the information is based on structural data prior to SFSO validation.

The need for revision of the data base is continuously assessed.

#### How are piglet numbers calculated?

The total number of piglets for fattening in is based on the number of pigs slaughtered in that year. To determine piglet births, a conversion factor of 1.15 is used, taking into account piglet losses at birth and during fattening.

Accordingly, it is possible that a small number of piglets included in the statistics were in fact born in the previous year, and that some piglets born in the actual year will only appear in the statistics for the following year.

**The figures given for livestock and farms in the infographic differ from the basic data in the Agriculture Report**

**<https://www.agrarbericht.ch/de/politik/direktzahlungen/produktionssystembeitraege>**. Why is this?

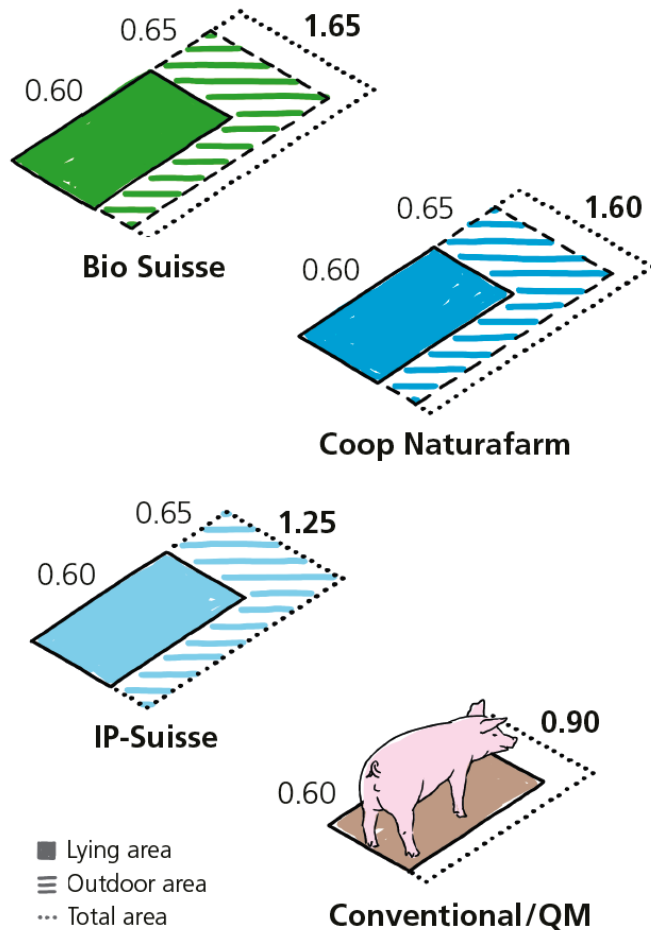
The basic data published in the relevant section of the Agriculture Report relates to farms eligible for subsidies, i.e. all pig farms which receive direct payments and could potentially participate in the animal welfare programmes.

The data given in the infographic relate to all farms and pigs meeting the survey requirements of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO). The minimum requirements for farms are defined as follows:

- 1 hectare of utilised agricultural area (UAA) or
- 30 ares of specialty crop production or
- 8 breeding sows or
- 80 fattening pigs or
- 80 fattening pig places or
- 300 poultry.

## Housing

in m<sup>2</sup>



### Why is the blue and blue-shaded area shown for IP-Suisse smaller than the area for Bio Suisse? Aren't there many more IP-Suisse than organic farms?

The coloured areas indicate the specified minimum (indoor and outdoor) areas that must be provided, on average, for a fattening pig in a farm of a given type. An organically reared pig has 1.65 m<sup>2</sup> available, while an IP-Suisse pig has 1.25 m<sup>2</sup>. For a quality management (QM) pig, no outdoor area is specified. The green and blue areas thus represent, proportionally, the space available per fattening pig; the shaded area indicates the outdoor, and solid colours the indoor area. As regards the remaining area (the difference, shown in white, between the total area and the sum of the lying and outdoor areas) – 0.4 m<sup>2</sup> for Bio Suisse and 0.35 m<sup>2</sup> for Coop Naturafarm – farmers can determine themselves whether this is to be lying and/or run area. The specified areas relate to animals weighing from 60 to 110 kg.

### Pig housing requirements are based on legislation and guidelines.

Legislation:

- Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Ordinance (SR 455 and SR 455.1)
- Ordinance on Direct Payments to Agriculture (SR 910.13): <https://www.admin.ch/opc/de/classified-compilation/20130216/index.html>
- Ordinance on Organic Farming and the Labelling of Organically Produced Products and Foodstuffs (Organic Farming Ordinance, SR 910.18) <https://www.admin.ch/opc/en/classified-compilation/19970385/index.html>
- EAER Ordinance on Organic Farming (SR 910.181). Detailed provisions on livestock (including pig) production are given in Annex 5 (Art. 4a para. 1). <https://www.admin.ch/opc/en/classified-compilation/19970387/index.html>

Guidelines:

QM Swiss meat

- <http://www.qm-schweizerfleisch.ch/de/2011-09-27-13-10-15/qm-schweizer-fleisch>

Bio Suisse Guidelines: Section 5.4 Pigs (p.129 ff.)

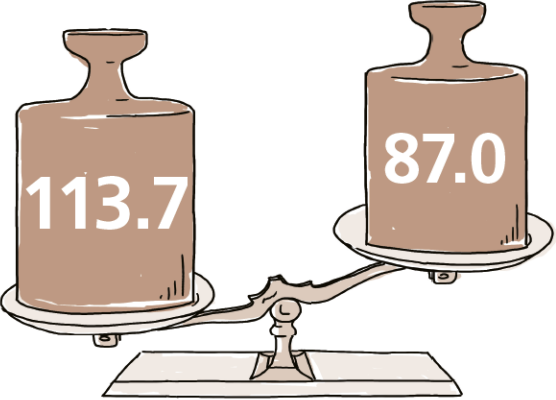
- [https://www.bio-suisse.ch/media/VundH/Regelwerk/2019/DE/rl\\_2019\\_1.1\\_d\\_teil\\_ii\\_30.11.2018.pdf](https://www.bio-suisse.ch/media/VundH/Regelwerk/2019/DE/rl_2019_1.1_d_teil_ii_30.11.2018.pdf)

Comparison of Organic Farming Ordinance and Bio Suisse Guidelines for livestock production:

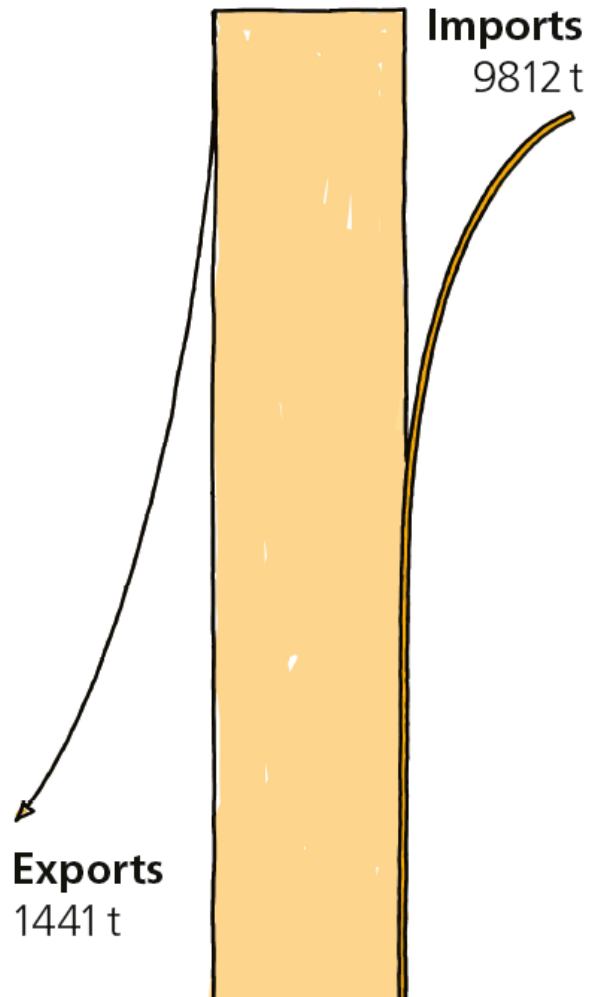
- <https://shop.fibl.org/chde/mwdownloads/download/link/id/117/>

Coop Naturafarm Guidelines

- <https://www.coop.ch/de/labels/naturafarm/standards.html>

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|---|--|
|   | <p>IP-Suisse: Guidelines for livestock production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://www.ipsuisse.ch/produzenten/tierhaltung/#schweine">https://www.ipsuisse.ch/produzenten/tierhaltung/#schweine</a></li></ul>  |
|  <p><b>Liveweight</b><br/>in kg (whole animal)</p> <p><b>Cold carcass weight</b><br/>in kg</p> | <p><b>Why does the graphic mention both the cold and the hot carcass weight?</b></p> <p>The hot carcass weight is of great importance for the producer, as producer prices are based on the hot carcass weight in kilograms. The cold carcass weight is, however, important for subsequent processing steps, as it indicates the quantity actually available for processing (incl. by-products).</p> <p>A fattened pig shortly before slaughter weighs approx. 113 kg (liveweight). Waste materials (liver, kidneys, blood, intestines, etc.) removed in the course of slaughter account for around 21% of the liveweight (approx. 23.8 kg). The remaining 89.9 kg is the hot carcass weight – the value on which producer prices are based. As a result of cooling, the weight is reduced by another 2.5% (2.9 kg). The remaining 87.0 kg is the cold carcass weight.</p> |

**Domestic production**  
in tonnes of fresh meat equivalent  
176,628 t



**Where does the information on foreign trade come from?**

The meat industry association Proviande calculates imports and exports of pigmeat on the basis of all tariff lines exclusively comprising edible pigmeat, either unprocessed or processed (as a meat product or as an ingredient of a processed product). To ensure comparability between differently processed pigmeat products, conversion factors are used so that quantities can be reported as fresh meat equivalent values.

**Why are the foreign trade figures so low?**

Foreign trade plays a limited role in the Swiss pig market, which has a high degree of self-sufficiency (over 90%). Imports of pigmeat – within the tariff quota requested by the sector in order to meet total domestic demand – are thus low. In addition, the high level of border protection prevents large-scale imports outside the tariff quota.

Exports of pigmeat are also very low. The main reason is that the cost of pigmeat in Switzerland is high by international standards.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Per capita consumption abroad</b><br/>in kg per capita</p> <p><b>US</b> 21.1**</p> <p><b>Switzerland</b> 21.6</p> <p><b>China</b> 30.3*</p> <p><b>France</b> 32.0*</p> <p><b>Germany</b> 35.7</p> <p><b>Austria</b> 37.2*</p> <p>Figures for 2017* and 2016**</p> | <p><b>How are the big differences in per capita consumption between Switzerland and Germany or Austria to be explained? Are they due to higher prices or to differences in calculation models?</b></p> <p>No conclusive explanation can be provided here. According to experts, differences in consumer behaviour are essentially responsible for the clear difference of around 13 to 16 kg per capita; price, by contrast, has little influence on the quantity of pigmeat consumed.</p> <p>At the same time, methodological questions need to be taken into consideration in interpreting the consumption data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Swiss population estimates include not only the resident population but also tourists (based on overnight stays) and cross-border commuters; as a result, the total amount of pigmeat available is distributed among a larger number of people.</li> <li>○ Cross-border shopping (pigmeat imported from abroad) is not covered by the statistics.</li> </ul> <p><b>Surely consumption cannot be so much higher in Germany/Austria. Aren't these values given in kilograms of carcass weight?</b></p> <p>The values are taken from the food balance sheets prepared by the countries' statistical offices. In all cases, they are expressed in kilograms of ready-to-eat meat (fresh meat equivalent). The calculation of the values is comparable to that used in Switzerland:</p> $\text{Per capita consumption} = \frac{\text{Production} + \text{Imports} - \text{Exports} + \text{Initial stocks} - \text{Year-end stocks}}{\text{Average population}}$ <p>The factors used for the conversion of carcass weight to fresh meat equivalent may, however, vary between countries (according to the differing consumption requirements of the population).</p> <p><b>Are the international values for total meat consumption per capita?</b></p> <p>No, the values relate exclusively to per capita consumption of pigmeat, not total meat consumption.</p> |
|   | <p><b>Why are no distribution-level prices shown in the graphic?</b></p> <p>Distribution-level prices are not given, as these are sensitive business data.</p>   |