

## MARKET WATCH

# Beef & Pork January 2024

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### BEEF Monthly Market Watch

### Meat Board Of Namibia

#### **December 2023 Review**

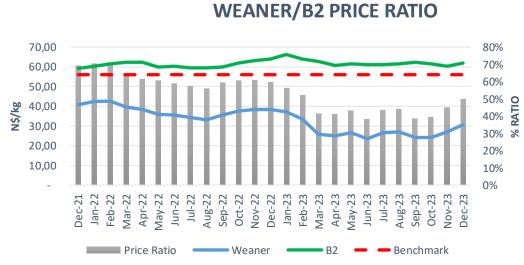
During the month of December, live exports increased 57.46% from the 15 902 heads exported during the previous month. Live cattle, which are predominantly weaners, were exported to countries South Africa, Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Live exports are 15.64% lower than a year ago. In total, 151 808 cattle were exported during the 2023 year, which is 8.73% more than what was exported in 2022. Weaner prices increased by N\$3.58/kg from the November price level of N\$27.11/kg to N\$30.6/kg in December. nVCF weaner prices also noted an increase in Tollies prices specifically, increasing by 33.87%. At the time of the publication, export abattoirs have slaughtered 48.15% more than what was slaughtered during 2022. This excludes December data for NCA abattoirs. It is expected that slaughter will increase in 2024.



Weaner auction prices have followed a continuous downward trend since January 2023, with prices dropping from the January high of N\$37.12/kg to the lowest price received this year in June N\$23.48/kg. Prices have notably picked up in both the sVCF and nVCF, with sVCF prices increasing by 13.20% on a month-to-month basis. sVCF prices are expected to trend between N\$27.00/kg and N\$30.00/kg during January 2024.

Despite the price increase, the recorded December price remains 19.60% lower than they were a year ago. nVCF recorded increases in Tollies prices by 33.87% while Heifer prices, declined by 5.22% on a month-to-month basis.





The Weaner/B2 price ratio increased by 5 percentage points during December 2023. This is 14 percentage points lower than the benchmark ratio of 64%. This is due to an increase in weaner auction prices.

Based on historical trends, the increase in weaner and B2 prices during the next few months is expected to influence the Weaner/B2 price ratio. This increase implies that should this trend be sustained it will be less profitable to grow weaners to slaughter weight, and more profitable to export weaners

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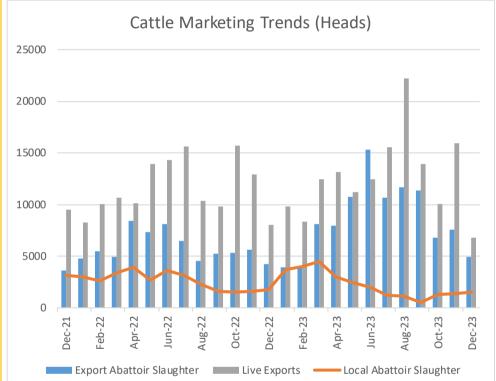
## BEEF Monthly Market Watch

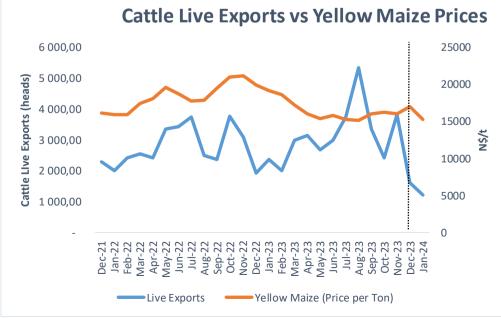
Producer Prices (Excl. Vat) - N\$/kg							
Month	Dec-22	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	∆ y/y %	Jan-23
Weaner Auction Price	38.17	24.11	24.24	27.11	30.69	-19.60	28.00
Slaughter Oxen Auction Price	32.68	29.49	29.28	29.54	30.16	-7.71	28.14
Class B2 (NAM)	64.05	62.40	61.57	60.40	61.71	-3.65	61.26
Class B2 (RMAA)	57.14	47.92	47.63	48.19	49.82	-12.81	48.56
All-Grade Carcass Price	62.07	60.24	61.31	59.99	56.45	-9.05	57.09

Cattle marketing is known to slow down during the festive season, a seasonal recurrence where slaughter and live exports drop due to reduced activity. December recorded a 57.46% in live exports from the 15 902 heads recorded in November. 95% of cattle, predominantly weaners, were exported to South Africa, 4% to Angola and the remaining 1% were split between Botswana and Zimbabwe. Majority of cattle exported to South Africa went to feedlots, whereas exports to the rest of SADC were exported for farming (breeding) purposes.

Export abattoirs have also recorded declines during the month of December due to holiday closures. December saw a 34.50% drop in the number of cattle slaughtered at export abattoirs at the time of this publication. Although slaughter dropped on a month-to-month basis, it is 37.14% higher than it was two years ago and 16.24% higher than it was a year ago.

Cattle slaughtered at export abattoirs are expected to increase during 2024, due to the Resumption of slaughter at Rundu abattoir.





SAFEX Feed prices for Yellow Maize have continuously trended under N\$5000/ton, with December prices increasing by 6% from the N\$3834.32/kg prices recorded in November. Planting processes have started in the southern hemisphere, with an increased supply being expected to put pressure on prices during 2024, due to increased production in Russia, Ukraine and the EU. In South Africa however, below average rainfall is delaying the planting progress, and may affect available supply.

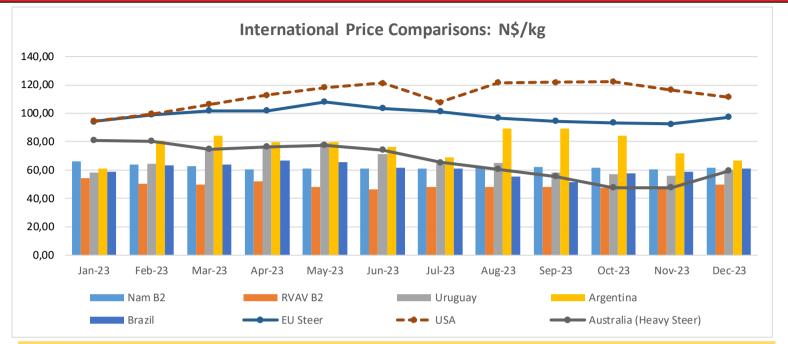


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## BEEF Monthly Market Watch

**Meat Board** 

**Of Namibia** 



US prices witnessed an 8.98% decline to N\$111.32/kg from the October high of N\$122.30/kg. This decline was caused by increase d supply pressures caused by drought and a decline in consumer demand over the past few months. December experienced slow sales at foodservice providers and an increase in inventories caused by larger cattle being supplied to the market. Notably there has also been a shift in market demand, as consumers favour more chicken. Beef prices are expected to remain low during the first quarter of 2024.

EU prices have jumped to N\$97.18/kg from the N\$92.60/kg recorded in November. This 4.95% increase is a result of the demand for Irish cattle, which normally peaks in December. Slaughter in Ireland was up 7.1% in December compared to a year ago. Current prices are 4.91% higher than they were a year ago, although may be attributed by the change in exchange rates.

Australian prices have increased by 24.23% from the low price recorded in November of N\$47.83/kg to N\$59.42/kg, but remain significantly lower than the price levels recorded in 2022. Downward price pressures were influenced by drought prospects. There has been an improvement in rainfall in various areas, however El Nino conditions are still expected to worsen over the coming months.

South America on the other hand saw an increases in prices in Uruguay and Brazil by 8% and 3.40% respectively while prices in Argentina fell by			Seasonal Indicators		Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24		
7% on a month-to-month basis. Cattle availability in Uruguay has improved which has influenced the demand for cattle and thus is reflected in the improved prices. Similarly, slaughter in Brazil has also increased which has improved exports, especially to China. Increased demand from export markets has contributed to improved prices.				Livestock Exports						
				Local Abattoir Slaughter Export Abattoir Slaughter NAM B2 Carcass Price						
Argentina however continues to face hurdles caused by unfavourable weather conditions and continuous changes to government policy.			Weaner	Price						
			Decline		Growth	Steady				
Beef Producer Prices: Beef Market – Namibia (N\$/kg)										
	Dec-23	%∆m/m	% ∆ y/y		Nov-23	Oct-23		Sep-23		
Class A	56.55	-10.56	-13.74		63.32	62.59		62.43		
Class AB	61.48	-1.90	-5.20		62.67	62	62.19		40	
Class B	62.14	0.86	-3.16		61.61	61	61.87		55	
Class C	59.81	1.22	-1.22		60.55	60	60.24		58.74	

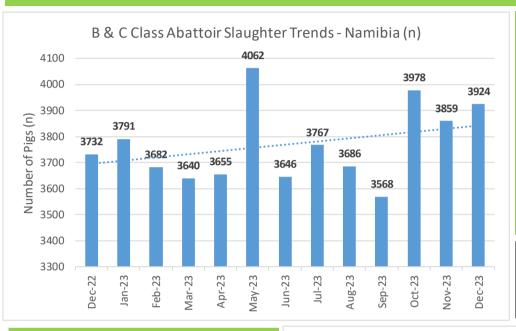
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## Pork Monthly Market Watch

#### **December 2023 Review**

3 924 pigs were slaughtered during December, growing 1.68% on a month-to-month basis from the previous number of 3 859 heads slaughtered in November. Mariental Abattoir slaughtered 69.62%, whereas Haloli abattoir slaughtered 28.90%. The remaining 1.4% were slaughtered by other abattoirs.



The number of slaughtered pigs increased during the month of December by 1.68% from the 3 859 slaughtered during November 2023. This is 5.14% more than what was slaughtered during the same month last year. In total, for 2023, 45 292 pigs were slaughtered at local abattoirs, which is 2.24% less than what was slaughtered during 2022.

**Meat Board** 

**Of Namibia** 

2023 has also noted live exports of pigs during months May and December, which totaled 198 pig being exported to Angola only.

Local Slaughter of Pigs – (n)					
Dec-22	Dec-23	% <u>∆</u> m/m	% ∆у/у		
3 732	3 924	1.68	5.14		

Nam Pork Ceiling Price v RMAA Price (N\$/kg) 60,00 50.00 40,00 N\$∕/kg 30,00 20,00 10,00 Aug-23 Jan-23 Apr-23 Sep-23 Jul-23 Oct-23 Jun-23 23 Dec-22 23 Jar-23 May-23 Vov-23 Dec--ep-Calculated Pork Ceiling Price Nam Price Fixed RMAA PRICE ····· Poly. (Calculated Pork Ceiling Price)

······ Poly. (RMAA PRICE)

SAFEX Feed Prices: N\$/tonne							
	Dec-23	%∆m/m	% Δ y/y	Nov-23	Oct-23	Sep-23	
Sunflower	9 278.13	2.29	-17.21	9 070.82	8 841.64	8 956.48	
Soya Beans	9 153.76	-2.28	-14.58	9 367.32	9 254.05	9 554.19	

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The Pork Ceiling Price has been fixed to N\$51.03/kg as a mitigation strategy to counter the negative effects of the dwindling RMAA pork price, the current benchmark price for Namibia's pork ceiling price calculation.

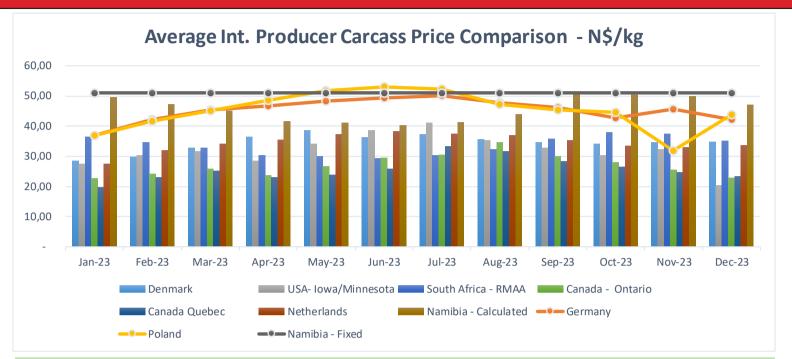
The Calculated pork ceiling price recorded a decline from the previous month of November by N\$2.08/kg. The December calculated price is 7.76% lower than the N\$51.03/kg recorded during the same month last year.

South African pork prices similarly have dropped from the N\$37.47/kg recorded in November to N\$35.11/kg in December. This is 7.51% lower than the price recorded in December 2022.

The expectations were for prices to trend a little higher during the festive season due to seasonal demand and then ease post festive, however prices trended lower and are expected to continue on that path over the following months.



## Pork Meat Board Monthly Market Watch



## NAMIBIA PORK TRADE SNAPSHOT

Pork Tails

78 000

Top Product Imported (kgs)

DECEMBER 2023

504 795 Import Volume (kg) Germany (87.58%) Spain (9.73%) China (2.07%) Netherland (0.62%) Import Countries

9 280 Export Volume (kg) Botswana (9%) RSA (91%)

**Export Countries** 

### Processed Pork Products (Cooked)

5 930

Top Product Exported (kgs)

Pork Offal remained the biggest imported product during December, with over 255 tonnes being imported. This is 0.78% more than what imported during was November. Pork neck bones, pork tails and pork hocks and knuckles appear to be the most imported product during the month of which in total made up 37.64% of total imports. Pork offal made up 64% of total pork imports for the year ending 2023, followed by pork cuts which accounted for 19.60% of total imports, and processed pork which took up 14.65%.

#### 4000000 3500000 3000000 mported Pork kgs 2500000 2000000 1500000 1000000 500000 0 Bacon Cooked Pork & Pork Carcasses Pork Cuts Pork Offal uncooked processed pork Product Type

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### 2023 YTD Pork Imports by Product Type