



UKRAINE
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CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN UKRAINE GREW BY 32.5% IN FIRST QUARTER OF 2025

Growth in capital investment in Ukraine in January-March 2025 compared to the same period in 2024 slowed to 32.5% from 48.1% in the fourth quarter of 2024, according to the State Statistics Service.

According to the State Statistics Service, UAH 123.8 billion in capital investments were disbursed in the first quarter of this year.

“ *The main source of financing for capital investments in January-March 2025 remains the own funds of enterprises and organizations, which accounted for 77.1% of the total volume.* ”

The State Statistics Service specifies that the share of the state budget was 3.5%, the population's funds for housing construction – 6.5%, local budgets – 2.7%, bank and other borrowed funds – 4.7%, and foreign investors' funds – only 0.3%.

A significant share of capital investments was spent on machinery and equipment (36.8%), engineering structures (18.2%), and transport vehicles (10.7%) of all investments. According to the State Statistics Service, capital investments grew the most during the period in question in the transport, warehousing, postal, and courier services sectors, increasing 2.4 times to UAH 15.7 billion, in agriculture, increasing 46.9% to UAH 13.6 billion, and in industry, increasing 25% to UAH 48.7 billion.

In wholesale and retail trade, capital investment grew by 55.8% to UAH 11.3 billion, in legal and accounting activities – by 46.1% to UAH 0.46 billion, in information and telecommunications – by 42% to UAH 5.5 billion, in real estate transactions – 2.4 times, to UAH 3.7 billion.

HEADLINES

11 June 2025



IMPORTS TO UKRAINE GREW BY 13.8% IN FIVE MONTHS, EXPORTS REMAINED UNCHANGED



SUNFLOWER AND SOYBEANS ARE LEADERS IN THIS YEAR'S SOWING



DANBRED ENTERS UKRAINE: NEW FARM WILL RAISE UP TO 9,000 PIGLETS PER YEAR



GRAIN EXPORTS FROM UKRAINE IN 2024/25 MY REACHED 38.5 MLN TONS



TWO NEW GRAIN PROCESSING PLANTS BEING BUILT IN UKRAINE



UKRAINE EXPORTED ALMOST 100,000 TONS OF BIOETHANOL IN 2024

IMPORTS TO UKRAINE GREW BY 13.8% IN FIVE MONTHS, EXPORTS REMAINED UNCHANGED

Imports of goods to Ukraine in January-May 2025 reached \$31.3 billion, which is 13.8% more than in the same period of 2024, but exports remained at the same level as in the same period last year, at \$16.9 billion (\$16.8 billion in 2024), according to the State Customs Service of Ukraine.

“Taxable imports amounted to \$23.8 billion, accounting for 76% of total imports. The tax burden per 1 kg of taxable imports in January-May 2025 was \$0.51/kg,” according to a publication on the agency’s Telegram channel on Friday.

“*The leaders among importing countries have remained unchanged for the last three months: China – \$6.5 billion, Poland – \$2.9 billion, and Germany – \$2.6 billion.*”

For the second month in a row, the top three exporting countries are Poland (\$2 billion), Turkey (\$1.4 billion), and Italy (\$1 billion).

In the total volume of goods imported in January-May 2025, 68% were machinery, equipment, and transport—\$11.9 billion (with customs clearance of these goods, 75.6 billion UAH, or 29% of customs payments, were paid to the budget), chemical products – \$5.2 billion (UAH 41 billion and 15%, respectively), and fuel and energy – \$4 billion (UAH 72.6 billion and 27%).

The top three most exported goods from Ukraine traditionally included food products – \$9.7 billion, metals and metal products – \$1.9 billion, and machinery, equipment, and transport – \$1.5 billion.



OKKO INVESTS IN GREEN ENERGY: 950 MW OVER 5 YEARS

The OKKO Group, which includes the operator of the eponymous network of gas filling stations, Concern Galnaftogaz, plans to have approximately 600 MW of wind power capacity over the next five years, 200 MW in solar energy, and 150 MW in energy storage facilities (ESF), according to Vasyl Danylyak, CEO of OKKO GROUP and co-founder of GORO Mountain Resort.

“In the energy sector, we see ourselves in about five years with approximately 600 MW in wind, 200 MW in solar, and about 150 MW in batteries. We have already accomplished some of these goals,” he said during a Forbes Ukraine Business Breakfast broadcast on his YouTube channel.

He also added that in the agricultural sector, which is a very interesting business, the group sees its KPI (key performance indicator) as increasing efficiency per hectare.

“We thought about the public capital market for our core business, retail. This is not possible now because the fuel business has become unfashionable and toxic for capital markets, banks, and MFIs. But if we are talking about other businesses, then most likely it will not be classic public capital markets, but perhaps specialized large funds operating in certain areas. This is more realistic,” said the CEO of OKKO.

KNUBA CREATES CONCRETE FROM WASTE FOR 3D PRINTING OF BUILDINGS

Scientists from the Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture (KNUCA), together with partners, have launched an international project to create new concrete mixtures using waste, in particular, destroyed structures, for construction using 3D printing and traditional methods, according to the KNUCA press service.

The release states that as part of the project “Development of new approaches and construction materials for the restoration of Ukraine’s damaged infrastructure with consideration for environmental sustainability,” researchers are developing a concrete mixture with the addition of materials resulting from the destruction of buildings and other industrial and agricultural waste.

The restoration of housing in Ukraine requires the introduction of universal technologies for rapid construction that allow for the construction of sustainable and affordable buildings even in conditions of limited resources. Due to the war, many buildings in Ukraine have been destroyed. The remains of concrete structures can be effectively recycled and used for the construction of new housing. Compared to traditional construction methods, 3D printing of buildings can ensure faster construction rates, significantly reduce human resource use, and save materials and energy.

The project is co-funded by the US Office of Naval Research and the US National Science Foundation (NSF). The research is being conducted as part of the multilateral partnership initiative “International Multilateral Partnership for Ensuring the Sustainability of the Education and Science System in Ukraine (IMPRESS-U), launched by the Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) of the US National Science Foundation with the participation of researchers from Stony Brook University in the US and the Jan and Jędrzej Sniadecki University of Technology in Bydgoszcz, Poland.

UKRAINIAN-CHINESE BUSINESS DIALOGUE FOR PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, together with the Belt and Road Trade and Investment Promotion Center in Ukraine, organized a bilateral business event.

The event, held on May 22, 2025, brought together hundreds of representatives of Ukrainian and Chinese companies interested in establishing direct cooperation at the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

“China remains Ukraine’s main trading partner. Despite the distance, complex logistics, and tensions, cooperation between companies continues. This is because many sectors of the Ukrainian economy need affordable Chinese imports. And the Chinese market needs Ukrainian products. I hope that the business dialogue will be a prelude to deeper mutual understanding at all levels,” said Gennady Chizhikov, President of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, during the opening of the forum.

The Chinese delegation included representatives of 11 Chinese companies. Among them were manufacturers of building materials and thermal insulation solutions; packaging and food equipment; consumer electronics and household goods; pharmaceutical products, electric vehicles, rehabilitation equipment, and prosthetics; companies providing logistics, tourism, consulting services, green energy, and agricultural technology.

Business representatives took part in B2B negotiations with potential partners. Chinese entrepreneurs expressed interest in investment activities in most sectors of Ukraine’s economy.

Interfax-Ukraine is the information partner of the forum.



NOVA POSHTA SPEEDS UP DELIVERY IN BALTICS WITH NEW HUB IN KAUNAS

Nova Poshta, Ukraine’s leading express delivery company, has opened a new sorting hub in Kaunas after two years of operating in Lithuania and opening more than 650 service points in the country, according to a press release on Monday.

“Kaunas is one of the key logistics hubs in the EU. The city’s convenient location at the intersection of major transport corridors allows us to build efficient routes for both domestic and international shipments,” said Svitlana Knyzhka, CEO of Nova Post in Lithuania, in the release.

It is noted that the hub handles over 1,000 shipments daily, operates 24/7, and provides delivery throughout Lithuania, as well as to Ukraine and other European Union countries. Its launch has made it possible to speed up delivery to Latvia by one day and to Estonia by two days.

The logistics hub also houses a Nova Poshta cargo department, where you can send and receive documents, parcels, and cargo weighing up to 1,000 kg.

“This year, we also plan to launch fulfillment based at the hub in Kaunas. This will open up new opportunities for our business customers: they will be able to store goods, process orders quickly, and deliver them fast both in Lithuania and across Europe, including Ukraine,” said Knyzhka.

LOUVRE HOTELS HAS OPENED ITS FIRST HOTEL IN UKRAINE — TULIP RESIDENCES LVIV

The international hotel chain Louvre Hotels Group has opened its first hotel in Ukraine — Tulip Residences Lviv (24a Panasa Myrnoho Street), according to a correspondent from Interfax-Ukraine.

“We see the potential of the Ukrainian market. This hotel is an example of the most modern solutions and meets the highest European standards. And this is not a one-time collaboration; we want to create new projects with our partners, primarily in Lviv,” said Arnaud Wink, Head of Global Development at Louvre Hotels Group.

According to Ivan Luny, managing partner of Burford Management&Consultancy, which provided technical support and launched the hotel, the project was implemented in full compliance with Tulip Residences requirements.

“We are confident in the quality of the solutions and technologies that have been used. This is the most modern mid-range hotel in the region in the short- and medium-term accommodation segment,” said Luny.



The 73-apartment hotel is part of the Kristal Plaza multifunctional complex. The project developer is Galician Construction Guild (GBG). Construction of the facility began in 2019, with a forced pause in the spring of 2022. In 2021, a franchise agreement was signed with Louvre Hotels Group. The office part, where the Lviv Bank is located, started working in 2024. Tulip Residences Lviv has 73 apartments with kitchenettes, several inclusive rooms, a Tulip Café Corner, a business space, a gym, and underground parking with a shelter. There’s a new city square nearby.

UKRAINE ROSE TO TOP 10 NET EXPORTERS OF PIG IRON, CONSUMPTION INCREASED BY 21%

According to the results of 2024, Ukraine produced 7.1 million tons of pig iron, of which 1.3 million tons were exported. Apparent consumption of pig iron increased to 5.8 million tons, which is 21% more than in 2023 (4.8 million tons).

“Ukraine rose to 10th place in the global ranking of net pig iron exporters with 3.4 million tons, while in 2023 it ranked 12th with 2.2 million tons.

Despite the positive dynamics in pig iron production and exports, Ukraine remains outside the top 20 steel exporters, a status it lost after 2021, when it exported 15.7 million tons of metal products and ranked 10th in the world.



SUNFLOWER AND SOYBEANS ARE LEADERS IN THIS YEAR'S SOWING

Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal says that 5.6 million hectares of spring cereals and legumes and 7.7 million hectares of industrial crops have been sown in Ukraine.

“Farmers are completing the fourth spring sowing during a full-scale war. 5.6 million hectares of spring grains and legumes have been sown. We have reached last year's level. The highest sowing rates are in the Poltava, Chernihiv, Vinnytsia, Cherkasy, and Sumy regions,” Shmyhal wrote on Telegram.

According to him, a distinctive feature of this season is an increase in the area under spring wheat, which currently stands at almost 220,000 hectares, due to demand from processing companies and exporters.

“In addition, 7.7 million hectares have been sown with industrial crops, mainly sunflowers (4.9 million hectares) and soybeans (2.3 million hectares),” the prime minister said.

Shmyhal stressed that the total area sown is sufficient to meet domestic food needs and develop export potential.

RYE BREAD WILL BECOME MORE EXPENSIVE DUE TO IMPORTED RYE, ACCORDING TO EXPERT

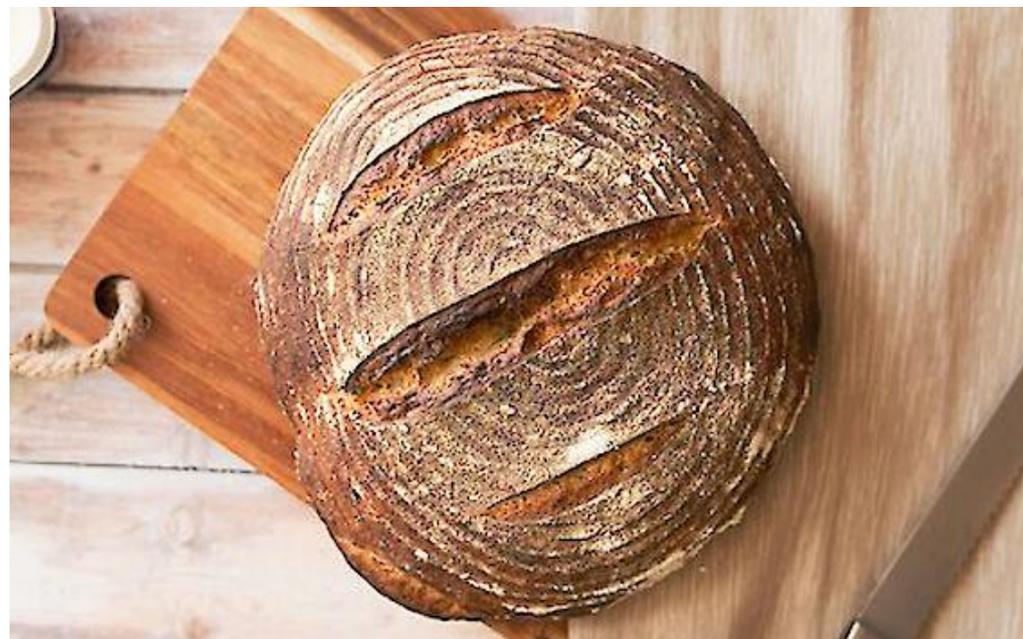
The rye deficit in the 2025/2026 season will be 100%, which will inevitably lead to an increase in the price of rye bread, said Rodion Rybchinsky, director of the Ukrainian Flour Millers Association, in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine.

“We can say with certainty that there will be a 100% rye shortage in the 2025/26 season. Already, Polish rye is being partially processed in Ukraine, and bakers are using Baltic rye flour. Unfortunately, this is our reality,” he said.

According to the head of the industry association, the reason for the rye shortage is the unwillingness of agricultural producers to sow the crop, as its yield is one-third lower than that of wheat—40 centners per hectare versus 60 centners per hectare, respectively.

In addition, the entire deficit was previously covered by Belarus, which led to a reduction in rye production in Ukraine—it was difficult for farmers to compete with supplies from Belarus. At the same time, rye is not a popular export crop. Demand for rye is only on the domestic market.

Rybchinsky pointed out that the current price of rye is more than competitive: while in 2024, 1 ton of rye cost 6-7 thousand hryvnia, as of May 2025, it costs 12-14 thousand hryvnia.



When asked whether the rye shortage would lead to higher prices for rye bread, the expert emphasized that prices would definitely rise. “Currently, the price of Ukrainian rye flour is 18,000 hryvnia per ton, and imported raw materials cost about 20,000 hryvnia, while last May, rye flour cost 10,000 hryvnia. It will not just be a rise in the price of rye bread—many bakery producers will simply stop baking it,” he stressed.

GRAIN EXPORTS FROM UKRAINE IN 2024/25 MY REACHED 38.5 MLN TONS

As of June 4, Ukraine had exported 38.505 million tons of grains and legumes since the beginning of the 2024-2025 marketing year (July-June), of which 202,000 tons were shipped this month, according to the press service of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food, citing data from the State Customs Service. were shipped this month, according to the press service of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food, citing data from the State Customs Service.

According to the report, as of June 7 last year, total shipments amounted to 47.734 million tons, including 802,000 tons in June.

At the same time, in terms of crops, since the beginning of the current season, 14.906 million tons of wheat (43,000 tons in June), 2.305 million tons of barley (no exports), 10,800 tons of rye (0), corn – 20.728 million tons (158 thousand tons).



UKRAINE EXPORTED ALMOST 100,000 TONS OF BIOETHANOL IN 2024

Ukraine exported 99,300 tons of bioethanol in 2024, with private producers accounting for 62% of this export, and three private bioethanol plants accounting for 38,100 tons. According to Nina Yuzhanina, a member of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Finance, Tax and Customs Policy, the key factors for the development of bioethanol production in Ukraine were the replacement of Russian methanol with Ukrainian bioethanol by oil and gas companies.

She noted that of the 17 bioethanol plants operating in Ukraine, with a production capacity of over 420,000 tons per year, 12 have been privatized in recent years.

According to her, the key factors for the development of bioethanol production in Ukraine were the replacement of Russian methanol with Ukrainian bioethanol by oil and gas companies; the supply of consolidated batches of bioethanol (min. 10,000 tons) to the EU market; logistical features of bioethanol exports by tankers to EU oil refineries with return delivery of gasoline to Ukraine; the abolition of quotas on bioethanol exports to the EU (as of today, the quota of 100,000 tons of ethyl alcohol per year has already been restored) and the introduction of a mandatory 5% bioethanol blend in gasoline in Ukraine.

As reported, the European Commission has approved quotas for Ukrainian agricultural products, which will be in effect from June 6 until the end of 2025 as part of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement. According to a document published on the EU website, by the end of 2025, Ukraine will be able to supply the EU market under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area in a 7/12 month regime (7 out of 12 months of the year) with wheat, flour, and meslin – 583,330 tons, corn – 379,167 thousand tons, barley – 204,167 thousand tons, poultry meat – 52,511 thousand tons, beef – 7 thousand tons, eggs – 3,500 tons, milk and cream – 5,833 tons, dry milk – 2,917 tons, butter – 1,750 tons.

TWO NEW GRAIN PROCESSING PLANTS BEING BUILT IN UKRAINE

Two flour processing plants will be built in Ukraine in 2025 – flour will be produced in western Ukraine, and cereals in the Poltava region, according to an interview with [Interfax-Ukraine](#) by Rodion Rybchinsky, director of the Ukrainian Flour Millers Association.

“Currently, a plant for the production of hard wheat flour with a capacity of up to 150 tons per day is being built in western Ukraine, with further processing of pasta, and in the Poltava region, a cereal plant with a combined capacity of up to 100 tons per day is expected to be launched,” he said.

According to the head of the industry association, there are niches in the flour milling business that are worth paying attention to.

“When we talk about grain processing, we must remember that it is not just flour or cereals. There are also combined products: dry breakfasts, energy bars, starch, dry gluten, enzyme preparations based on grain processing products — a very wide range of processed products,” Rybchinsky emphasized, adding that the main priority in the construction of such a production facility is the availability of buyers.

According to him, the cost of building a mill or a cereal plant in Ukraine starts at \$3 million, but there are examples of businesses in Ukraine with a higher price tag of \$15 million. This amount includes the cost of equipment and buildings (fixed assets), excluding working capital, which can reach 50% of the project cost. After all, in order to launch an enterprise, it is necessary to purchase raw materials, actively enter the market, and anticipate marketing costs, etc.



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FLOUR EXPORTS TO EU UNDER THREAT DUE TO NEW TRADE QUOTAS

Flour and cereal producers are concerned about a reduction in flour exports to the European Union after the expiry of autonomous trade measures on June 6, as 75% of their exports currently go to the EU, Rodion Rybchinsky, director of the Ukrainian Flour Millers Association, said in an interview with [Interfax-Ukraine](#).

“Starting from June 6, we have the opportunity to supply a total of 583,300 tons of wheat and wheat flour to the EU market by the end of the year. But since the quota is combined, I am not sure that we will be able to fill it. It is much easier for wheat exporters to find buyers in the EU and fill their quota,” he said.

Rybchinsky added that the industry association continues to use all possible communication channels to convey to European officials the need to allocate a separate quota for Ukrainian flour for export to the EU or to remove it altogether.

The head of the Ukrainian Flour Millers Association stated that before the war, there were 678 enterprises specializing in grain processing in Ukraine, but in 2022, 192 enterprises were destroyed and remained in the occupied territories. As of the end of 2024, 88 enterprises have been restored.



At the same time, according to his information, exports of flour and cereals have fallen by 50% since the start of the war. Among the reasons, the expert cited a reduction in production and changes in logistics: whereas exports used to be mainly by sea, since the start of the war they have been forced to switch to road and rail transport, which are more expensive than sea transport.

Due to problems with transporting products across the Black Sea, container shipping has not yet been fully restored. As a result, the geography of grain processing product sales has changed significantly since the beginning of the war: 75% of products are exported to the European market, of which 55% go to EU countries, 15% to the Middle East, 4% to Africa, and 2% to Asia, according to the head of the Ukrainian Flour Millers Association.

UKRAINE DOUBLED DAIRY EXPORTS COMPARED TO IMPORTS

In 2024, Ukraine exported 118,000 tons of dairy products, which is almost twice as much as imports, which reached 60,000 tons, according to the infographic “Dairy Map of Ukraine” for 2024, prepared by the Association of Milk Producers (AMP).

“Despite military losses, targeted shelling and destruction, a forced new wave of closures and relocations of farms from war-torn regions, exhausting blackouts and record heat in June-September 2024, which caused more than 50% of industrial farms to experience a significant drop in milk yields, the Ukrainian dairy industry has demonstrated significant achievements,” the industry association said.

As of January 1, 2025, the number of cows in the industrial sector increased by 1% compared to the previous period. The top five regions in terms of industrial livestock numbers, which together account for 51% of the total industrial cow population in Ukraine, are Poltava (52,700 head), Cherkasy (44,000 head), Chernihiv (35,400 head), Kyiv (34,000 head), and Vinnytsia (31,500 head).

In addition, milk quality indicators have improved, with 55% of milk delivered for processing being extra grade and 25.3% being premium grade.

As for the average consumption of dairy products in Ukraine, analysts noted a 4% increase in 2024 to 209.3 kg/person compared to previous and pre-war years. Thus, despite the full-scale invasion, emigration, and reduced purchasing power, Ukrainians maintain stable demand for dairy products.

VITAGRO IS INVESTING UAH 1.65 BLN IN NEW INDUSTRIAL PARK

The Vitagro group of companies plans to begin the first phase of construction work on the new ABC Hub industrial park in the Khmelnytskyi region in the second half of 2025, with production lines expected to be launched by the end of 2028, according to a press release from Vitagro.

According to the group’s press release, the 11-hectare IP will house enterprises for the processing of agricultural raw materials, food production, packaging, as well as warehousing complexes, research centers, laboratories, logistics infrastructure, and commercial facilities.

As reported, the Ukrainian government registered the ABC Hub industrial park at a meeting on Wednesday, and the initiative to create the park came from the private manufacturing and commercial enterprise Budzalizobeton, which is part of the Vitagro group of companies.

The group reports that the total investment in the project is estimated at UAH 1.65 billion.

“At the first stage, the Vitagro group will invest UAH 127 million of its own funds in preparatory and land works, design, connection to networks, and infrastructure preparation of the territory. In the future, Vitagro plans to invest about \$35 million in ABC Hub,” the press release says.



FORUM “BREAD INDUSTRY – 2025”: DETAILED PROGRAM AVAILABLE

In just one week, 25 leading experts and more than 200 industry representatives will discuss current issues in the production, marketing, and distribution of flour, cereals, bakery products, and pasta, as well as share their experiences in implementing technological innovations, adapting to the market, and building effective relationships with retailers and HoReCa.

We are already counting down the days until the start of Bread Industry 2025!

On June 12–13, Uman will become a meeting point for ideas, experience, and new opportunities for everyone who works with bread, flour, technologies, and sales markets.

The forum brings together over 200 participants — managers and owners of bread factories, confectionery enterprises, and bakeries; manufacturers of flour, flour products, cereals, pasta, and other grain processing enterprises; representatives of retail, suppliers of packaging, raw materials, ingredients, equipment, and technologies; government officials, and other participants from the agro-industrial and related sectors.

The program offers a concentration of practical knowledge and breakthrough solutions. On stage are top experts from the baking, flour milling, machine building, HoReCa, and retail industries. Instead of general phrases, there will be clear insights, case studies, and tools that are already working in Ukraine and beyond.

And also:

- a specialized exhibition featuring equipment, ingredients, and innovations;
- master classes on baking bread, from the first kneading to the fragrant crust;
- live communication, networking, and real contacts for business development;
- and even an excursion to Sofiyivka and the Rebbe Nachman Synagogue after the official part is over.

Registration is ongoing, but time is running out. Don't put off your decision — discover new opportunities with Bread Industry 2025.

REGISTER

Organizers: All-Ukrainian Bakers Association, Union of Flour Millers of Ukraine, AgroMarketing Agency

General partner — Lesaffre Ukraine

Quality control partner — SocTrade

Special partner — Uni Blend

Banquet partner — Bistro Pekarya Uman

Official information partner — Interfax-Ukraine

Official information and analytical partner of the forum — Experts Club

Venue: Uman National University of Horticulture (1 Institutskaya St., Uman, Cherkasy region)

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

Participation in the conference for one delegate

Conference materials

Coffee breaks, lunches, and all events included in the conference program

Field trips and excursions as part of the conference

Attendance at the banquet and networking

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Participation as a sponsor or partner of the conference

Placement of a banner in the conference hall, in the lobby in front of the conference hall

Placement of an exhibition space in the lobby in front of the conference hall

Inclusion of advertising and souvenir products of the company in the participant's package

For questions regarding participation, advertising, and presentations, please contact the event coordinators:

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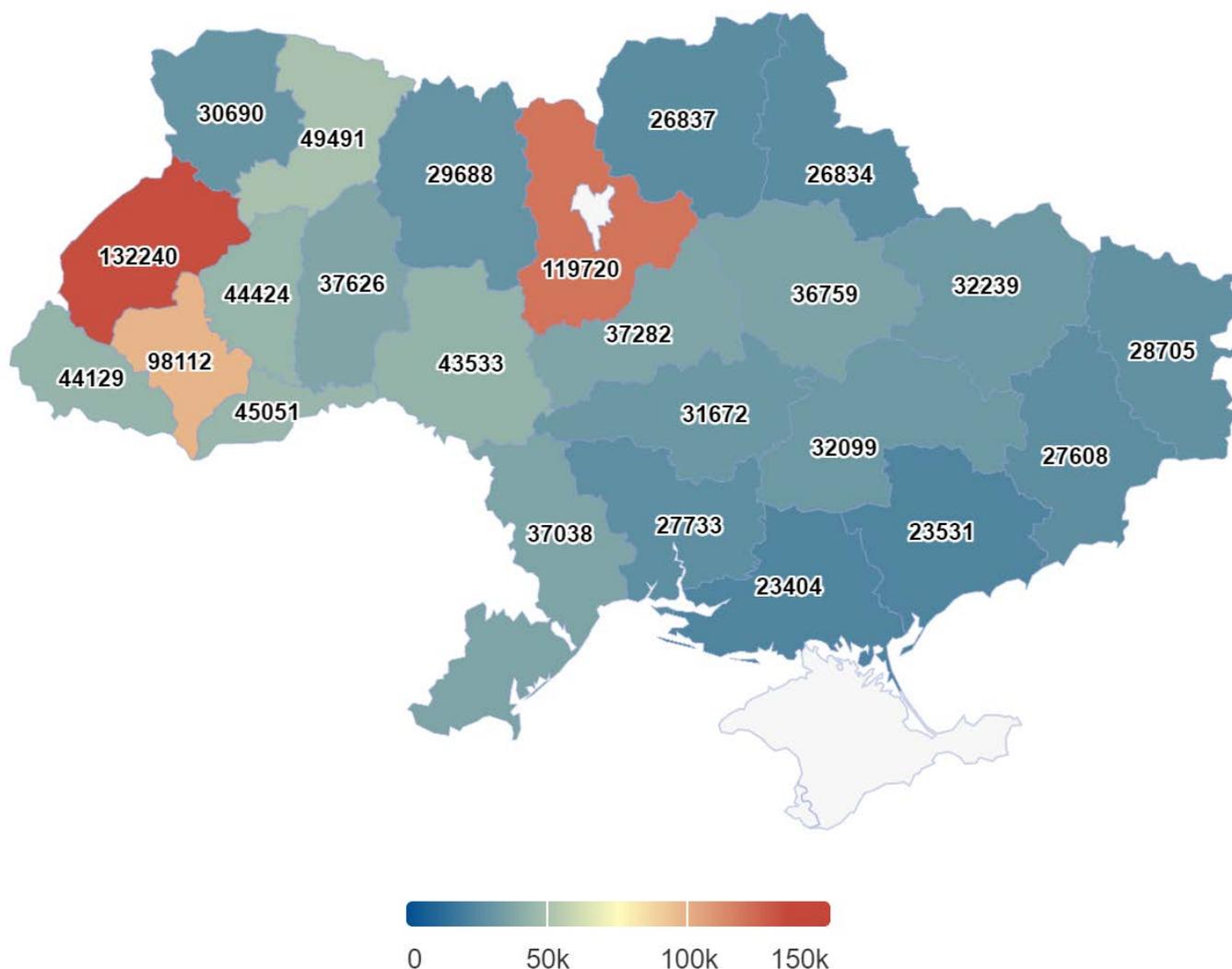
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AVERAGE PRICE PER HECTARE OF LAND IN 2023, UAH



CHINA MAY OPEN ITS MARKET TO UKRAINIAN FLOUR IN 2025

The State Service for Food Safety is making efforts to open the Chinese market to Ukrainian flour in 2025, according to Vadym Chaikovsky, Deputy Head of the State Service for Food Safety and Chief Phytosanitary Inspector of Ukraine.

“We plan to sign protocols with our Chinese colleagues this year to open the market for Ukrainian wheat flour,” he said at the Agro Ukraine Summit in Kyiv on Friday.

He recalled that the State Service initiated procedures to promote the supply of wheat, millet, and sorghum from Ukraine to the Chinese market and is systematically working to open this market for Ukrainian peas.

Chaikovsky added that the phytosanitary authorities of both countries are currently preparing to launch a service such as video inspection of crops from the fields of enterprises that intend to supply products to China in the 2025/2026 season.

The chief phytosanitary inspector called on export-oriented enterprises to promptly contact the regional offices of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection to conduct phytosanitary inspections of their fields.

DANBRED ENTERS UKRAINE: NEW FARM WILL RAISE UP TO 9,000 PIGLETS PER YEAR

The Vitagro group of companies and leading Danish genetic company DanBred have signed an agreement to establish a breeding farm for pigs in the Khmelnytskyi region, the company's press service reported.

According to the report, the Vitagro group of companies began the project to build a new farm in cooperation with DanBred in 2023. The farm is designed to accommodate 1,000 sows at a time and will be able to raise up to 9,000 piglets and up to 250 boars annually. The first offspring are expected in November-December 2025, and sales on the Ukrainian market will start in early 2026.

The farm will breed purebred pigs of the Yorkshire (DanBred Yorkshire), Duroc (DanBred Duroc), and Landrace (DanBred Landrace) breeds. In addition, the main hybrids of DanBred breeds and Duroc boars will be bred. This will ensure the entire DanBred genetics line in Ukraine, and in the future, Duroc breeding material will also become available.

The first two batches of animals have already been delivered to Ukraine and will be delivered to the new farm in early June. The third batch of animals will arrive in Ukraine at the end of June.

“Our pig breeding division has been working with Danish genetics for over 10 years, but now this work will reach a new level, as we will be able to breed this genetics here in Ukraine together with our foreign partners,” said Ivan

Varvarchin, project manager at the Vitagro group of companies.

In his opinion, the successful signing of the agreement also indicates that world-renowned companies are actively exploring promising sectors of Ukraine's economy and, despite the risks, are ready to invest in Ukraine if they see reliable partners here.

“This step is, first, decisive in the development of our strategy and, second, reflects our desire to invest in the development of our Ukrainian business even during the war. We see potential in Ukrainian pig farming and are confident that the industry will experience rapid growth,” commented Stefan Derks, Regional Director of DanBred in Europe.

Oksana Yurchenko, president of the Ukrainian Pig Breeders Association, emphasized that the arrival of companies such as DanBred in Ukraine signals that Ukraine is attractive to foreign investors.

“In addition, our pig farming has long since become a high-tech business that understands the value of global advances in genetics and actively uses them in its work,” she added.

DanBred is a supplier of genetics and service solutions for professional producers. In 2024, DanBred reported annual revenue of EUR 147.2 million and EBITDA of EUR 8.2 million, with pre-tax profit of EUR 6 million. At the end of 2024, DanBred had local breeding farms in 20 countries around the world, which now include Ukraine. DanBred was founded by the Danish Agriculture and Food Council, an organization that has been professionally developing Danish pig genetics for more than 120 years.

The Vitagro Group is one of Ukraine's largest industrial groups with assets in the agricultural, energy, processing, construction, and chemical industries. It was founded in 1998 and has been operating since then. It owns enterprises in the Khmelnytskyi, Rivne, Volyn, Ivano-Frankivsk, and Kyiv regions. It cultivates about 90,000 hectares of land and is also involved in animal husbandry, horticulture, renewable energy, fertilizer and feed production, construction, and building materials manufacturing. During the full-scale invasion, the group built and launched five processing plants. Vitagro's head office is located in Khmelnytskyi.

According to the Unified State Register of Legal Entities and Individual Entrepreneurs, the ultimate beneficiary of the investment company Vitagro is People's Deputy Serhiy Labazuk (parliamentary faction "For the Future").

RETAIL TRADE IN UKRAINE GREW BY 5.1% IN FIRST QUARTER

The turnover of retail trade in Ukraine in January-March 2025 increased by 5.1% compared to the same period in 2024, according to the State Statistics Service (Derzhstat).

According to its data, in nominal terms, retail trade turnover in January-March of this year amounted to UAH 577.932 billion.

Retail trade turnover in March compared to February of this year increased by 11.5%, and in annual terms compared to March 2024, by 5.3%.



Derzhstat specifies that the turnover of retail trade enterprises (legal entities) in the first quarter of 2025 compared to January-March 2024 increased by 4.8% and amounted to UAH 400.757 billion.

At the same time, in March compared to February this year, the retail turnover of enterprises increased by 11.6%, and by March 2024 – by 4.9%.

According to the statistics office, Ukraine's retail trade turnover in 2024 grew by 11.5%, amounting to UAH 2.172 trillion in nominal terms.

This digest is a mutual project of the Interfax-Ukraine News Agency and the Open4business.com.ua. Maksim Urakin is a project director of the Biweekly news digest of Open4business.com.ua.

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Open4Business is a platform created to help foreign businesses to search for opportunities and expand to Ukrainian market.

The platform and related organizations provide a holistic set of services needed to successfully penetrate the Ukrainian starting from establishing foreign trade relations with local companies and up to establishing a subsidiary or acquiring a company in Ukraine.



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The List of Main Services:

- Market information and market intelligence
- Searching trade partners and organizing fact finding trips
- Governmental relations
- PR campaigns
- Full range of M&A services
- Production outsourcing project management
- Legal advisory services including licencing and certification, etc. (together with associated companies).

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