

EVOLUTION OF SOW PRODUCTIVITY IN A BRAZILIAN FARM DURING THE LAST 20 YEARS

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OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY: To analyse the evolution of sow productivity data in the last 20 years in a large swine herd from Brazil

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Analysis of key performance indicators from a large Brazilian swine herd (5,200 reproductive sows), collected since the origin of the farm (1995), registered with PigCHAMP® software and monitored by PigCHAMP Pro Europa (Spain). Data were analysed using the statistical process control chart with Minitab package software (v.16).

Data collected:

- Total born per farrowing (TB)
- Born alive (BA) & stillborn (SB)
- Weaned piglets per litter (WP)
- Farrowing rate (FR)
- Pre-weaning mortality (PWM)
- Weaned piglets per sow and year (WSY)
- Individual body weight (BW) at birth and at weaning

RESULTS

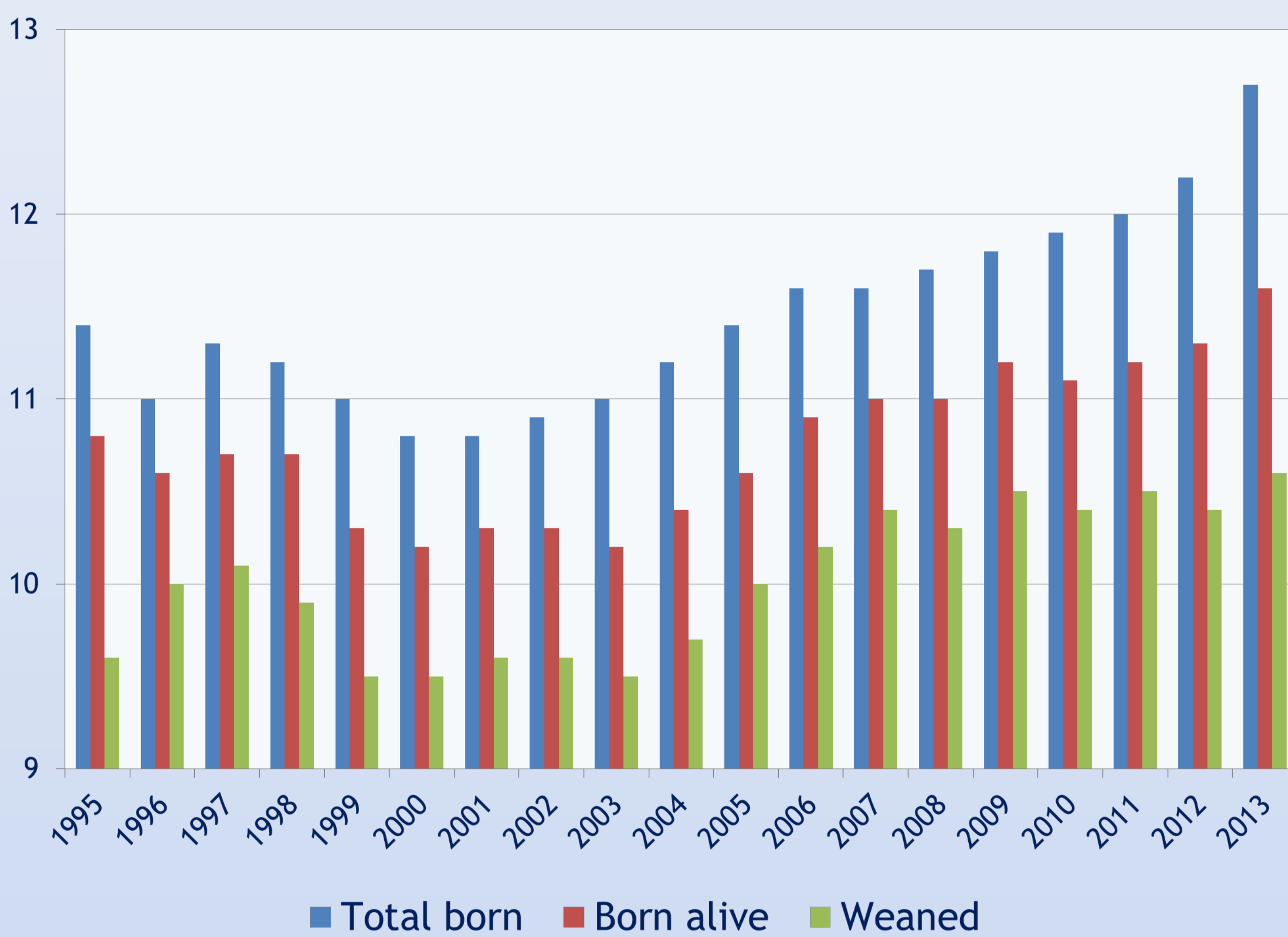


Figure 1- Evolution of number of total born, born alive and weaned piglets per litter in 1995 to 2013

Figure 2- Evolution of individual and litter BW in 1995 to 2013

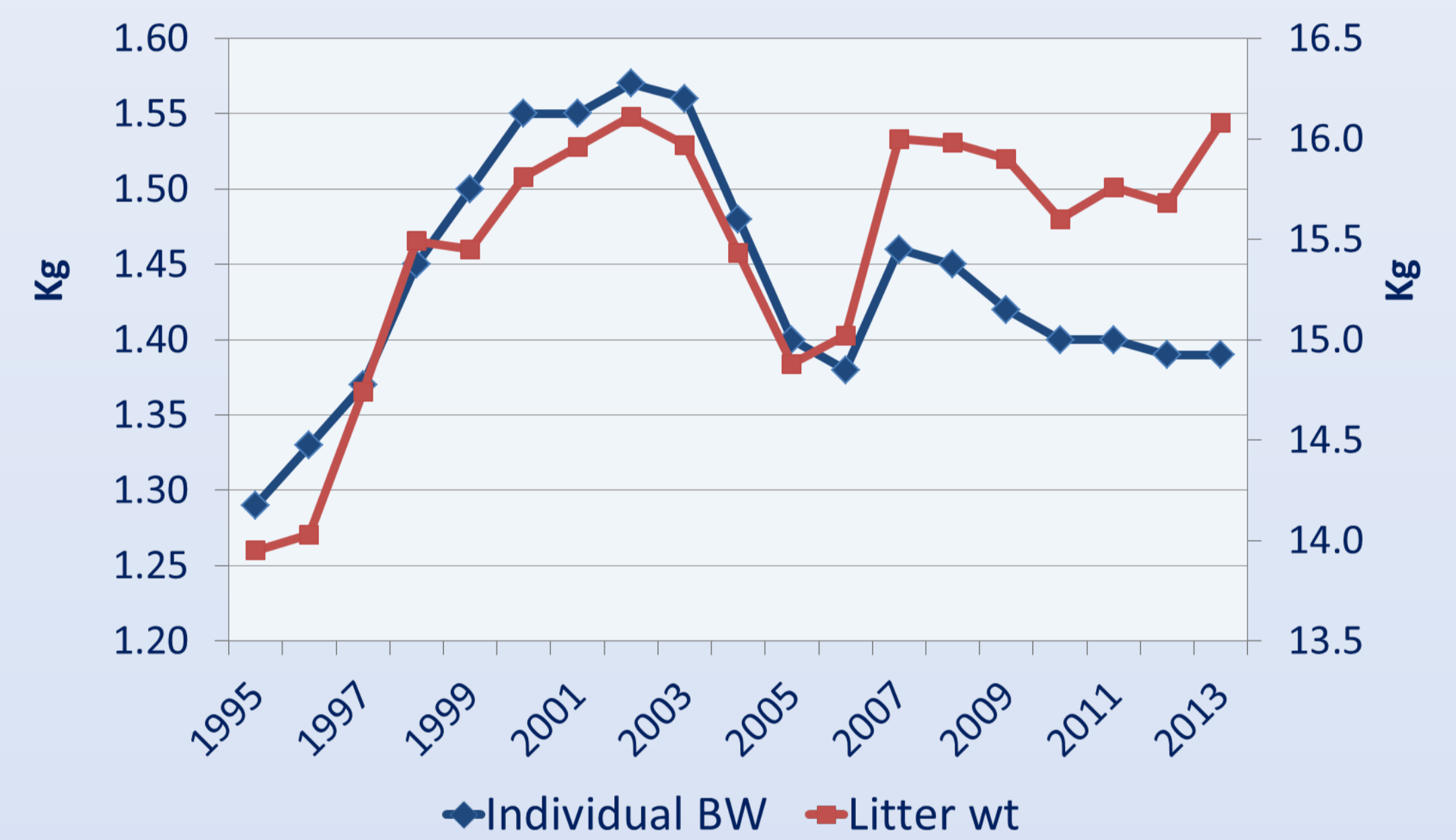
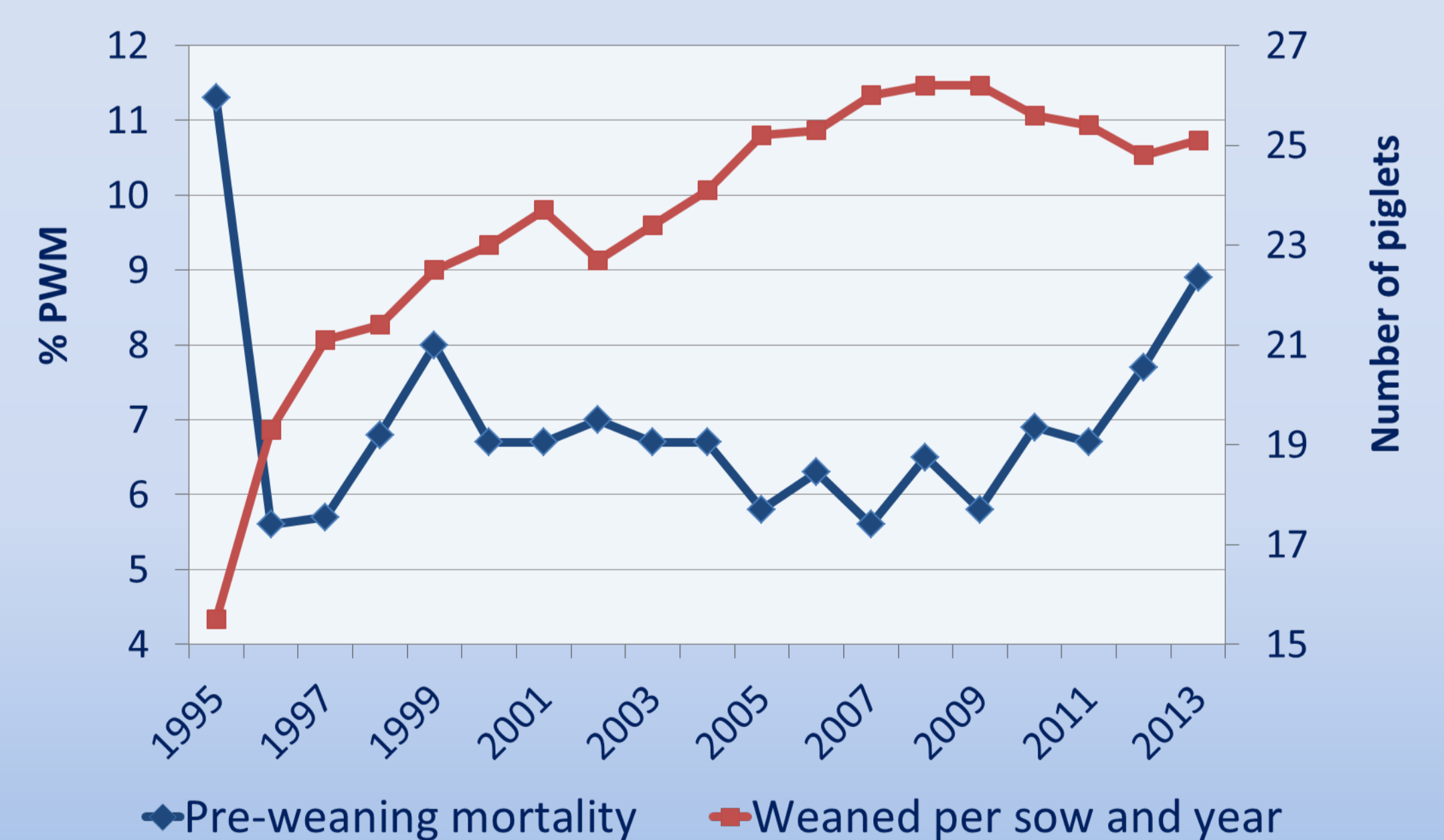


Figure 3- Evolution of pre-weaning mortality (PWM) and number of piglets weaned per sow and year in 1995 to 2013



CONCLUSION

Improvement of sow productivity (TB, BA and FR) in last 20 years is clear. Improvement in TB is the main cause of the increase of BA in these last years, because the ratio between them has been kept almost exact through this time. Consequently, litter weight at birth is also higher nowadays, but individual weight of newborns has been kept constant.