



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

LIVESTOCK, DAIRY AND POULTRY



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Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States, for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head, totaled 11.9 million head on March 1, 2008. The inventory was two percent above March 1, 2007 but one percent below March 1, 2006. This is the second highest March 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.72 million, four percent above 2007 and nine percent above 2006. Net placements were 1.66 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 330,000, 600-699 pounds were 385,000, 700-799 pounds were 533,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 475,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.78 million, four percent above 2007 and 11 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 head during February, 20 percent below 2007 and 18 percent below 2006.

CATTLE ON FEED: U.S. Cattle Placed on Feed, by Weight Groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, February 2007, January and February 2008

Month		Less than 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
<i>1,000 head</i>						
February	2007	325	334	505	495	1,659
January	2008	400	467	525	395	1,787
February	2008	330	385	553	475	1,723

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED, 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, AND UNITED STATES

State	Number on feed February 1		Placed during February 1		Marketed during February		Other disappearance during February		Number on feed March 1	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<i>1,000 head</i>										
AZ	334	373	24	36	28	30	1	2	329	377
CA	540	555	60	60	67	63	3	7	530	545
CO	1,040	1,090	140	155	160	190	10	5	1,010	1,050
ID	255	235	39	39	43	38	1	1	250	235
IA	530	570	64	62	63	69	1	3	530	560
KS	2,430	2,430	395	390	380	400	25	10	2,420	2,410
NE	2,540	2,510	360	350	380	360	10	10	2,510	2,490
NM	135	160	14	15	18	14	1	1	130	160
OK	350	350	59	45	58	48	1	2	350	350
SD	230	230	43	47	41	40	2	2	230	235
TX	2,800	2,930	390	440	385	440	15	10	2,790	2,920
WA	177	153	25	30	31	30	1	2	170	151
Oth. Sts.	365	375	46	54	57	54	4	5	350	370
U.S.	11,726	11,966	1,659	1,723	1,711	1,776	75	60	11,599	11,853

CHICKENS AND EGGS

UNITED STATES HOG AND PIGS

FLORIDA

Table eggs production in Florida during February was 226 million eggs, five percent below the previous month. Total egg production was 235 million eggs compared to 249 million eggs the previous month.

UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.13 billion during February 2008, up three percent from last year. Production included 6.05 billion table eggs, and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2008 averaged 343 million, down two percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 2,075 eggs, up four percent from February 2007.

All layers in the U.S. on March 1, 2008, totaled 343 million, down two percent from last year. The 343 million layers consisted of 282 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.84 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2008, averaged 72.3 eggs per 100 layers, up one percent from March 1, 2007.

LAYERS AND EGGS: Selected States and U.S., February 2008

Selected States	Avg. layers on hand	Egg production	Rate of lay
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Millions</i>	
Alabama	9,535	172	62.2
Arkansas	14,536	258	61.2
California	18,523	371	71.5
Florida	10,876	235	74.5
Georgia	19,442	378	67.0
Indiana	24,474	517	72.8
Iowa	53,570	1,115	71.8
Maine	4,215	90	73.6
Maryland	2,624	54	70.1
Michigan	9,184	206	77.3
Minnesota	10,199	221	74.7
Mississippi	6,376	120	64.9
Missouri	6,740	150	76.8
Nebraska	9,979	223	77.1
New York	4,031	92	78.7
North Carolina	12,757	248	67.0
Ohio	26,190	548	72.1
Pennsylvania	21,835	497	78.5
South Carolina	4,583	87	65.4
Texas	19,034	399	72.3
Virginia	3,160	57	62.2
Washington	5,424	120	76.3
Other States	46,079	1,036	70.5
United States	343,366	7,125	71.6

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2008 was 65.9 million head. This was up seven percent from March 1, 2007, but down two percent from December 1, 2007.

Breeding inventory, at 6.14 million head, was up less than one percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.8 million head, was up seven percent from last year, but down two percent from last quarter.

The December 2007-February 2008 pig crop, at 28.1 million head, was up six percent from 2007 and up nine percent from 2006. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.05 million head, up five percent from 2007 and up seven percent from 2006. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.21 for the December 2007-February 2008 period, compared to 9.09 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.30 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 3.05 million sows farrow during the March-May 2008 quarter, up slightly from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, and up four percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for June-August 2008, at 3.04 million sows, are down two percent from 2007 but up four percent from 2006. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 40 percent of the total U. S. hog inventory, up from 39 percent last year.

HOGS AND PIGS: Inventory number, sows farrowing and pig crop, 2007-08, United States

	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
	<i>1,000 head</i>		
MARCH 1 INVENTORY:			
All hogs and pigs	61,860	65,909	107
Kept for breeding	6,110	6,138	100
Market	56,749	59,770	107
MARKET HOGS AND PIGS			
BY WEIGHT GROUPS:			
Under 60 pounds	20,381	21,897	107
60 - 119 pounds	13,356	14,291	107
120 - 179 pounds	11,679	12,443	107
180 pounds	10,334	11,140	108
SOWS FARROWING:			
December ^{1/} -February	2,905	3,051	105
March-May	3,033	3,047	100
December ^{1/} -May	5,938	6,098	103
June-August	3,114	3,037	98
September-November	3,099		
June-November	6,213		
PIG CROP:			
December ^{1/} -February	26,396	28,094	106
March-May	27,896		
June-August	28,875		
September-November	28,696		

^{1/} December preceeding year.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

The February hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 4,774,000, was slightly below a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on March 1, at 4,116,000, was five percent above a year ago.

UNITED STATES

Broiler-type chicks hatched during February 2008 totaled 777 million, up seven percent from February 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 679 million on March 1, 2008, up two percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.43 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2008, up five percent from February 2007.

Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2008 totaled 37.5 million, up two percent from February 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 36.5 million on March 1, 2008, down five percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 280,000 during February 2008, up 69 percent from February 2007.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES

Item	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
	-- Thousands --		
EGG-TYPE:			
Eggs in incubators: Mar 1	33,468	36,531	95
Chicks hatched during Feb	36,766	37,549	102
Pullets hatched during Feb for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ^{1/}	166	280	169
	2,947	2,872	97
BROILER-TYPE:			
Eggs in incubators Mar 1	663,815	679,081	102
Chicks hatched during Feb	723,753	777,197	107
Pullets hatched during Feb for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ^{2/}	7,071	7,426	105
	64,056	65,407	102

^{1/}2008 includes pullet chicks hatched Aug 2006 through Jul 2007.

^{2/}2008 includes pullet chicks hatched Nov 2006 through Jul 2007.

MILK PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 185 million pounds of milk during February 2008, up one percent from the previous February. Production per cow in February of 1,490 pounds was five percent above last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in February totaled 124,000, five percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 13.9 billion pounds, up 6.0 percent from February 2007. January revised production at 14.7 billion pounds, was up 2.7 percent from January 2007. The January revision represented an increase of 40 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,653 pounds for February, 69 pounds above February 2007.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.42 million head, 136,000 head more than February 2007, and 9,000 head more than January 2008.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND U.S.

Month and year	Milk cows	Monthly milk production	
		Per cow	Monthly Total
	<i>Thous.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Mil. Lbs.</i>
FLORIDA:			
February 2007	130	1,415	184
January 2008	124	1,450	180
February 2008	124	1,490	185
23 MAJOR STATES:			
February 2007	8,286	1,584	13,125
January 2008	8,413	1,746	14,688
February 2008	8,422	1,653	13,919
UNITED STATES:			
February 2007	9,136	1,567	14,321
January 2008	9,240	1,725	15,941
February 2008	9,248	1,634	15,107

MILK PRODUCTION BY QUARTERS, UNITED STATES

Month	Milk cows ^{1/}		Milk per cow ^{2/}		Milk Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Mil. Lbs.</i>	
Jan-Mar	9,091	9,138	5,010	5,040	45,550	46,058
Apr-Jun	9,128	9,138	5,142	5,189	46,936	47,419
Jul-Sep	9,113	9,159	4,904	5,034	44,691	46,110
Oct-Dec	9,116	9,198	4,895	5,003	44,619	46,015
Annual Total	9,112	9,158	19,951	20,267	181,796	185,602

^{1/} Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/} Excludes milk fed to calves.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for February 2008 was 6.7 million pounds, eight percent above the same month last year. Commercial production of red meat in the United States for February at 3.97 billion pounds was ten percent above 2007.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER AND RED MEAT PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND UNITED STATES

Source and kind	February 2007	January 2008	February 2008	Year to date 2007	Year to date 2008
FLORIDA					
HOGS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	7	8	8	14	16
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	1,055	1,103	1,009	2,119	2,112
SHEEP AND LAMBS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	9	7	6	14	13
Red meat production (million pounds)	6.2	8.2	6.7	12.9	14.9
UNITED STATES					
CATTLE:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	2,561	2,899	2,643	5,360	5,542
Total liveweight (million pounds)	3,250	3,728	3,383	6,846	7,111
Average liveweight (pounds)	1,274	1,291	1,285	1,282	1,288
Beef production (million pounds)	1,953	2,232	2,039	4,118	4,271
CALVES:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	67	72	69	141	141
Total liveweight (million pounds)	20	19	19	44	38
Average liveweight (pounds)	308	269	272	316	271
Veal production (million pounds)	12	11	11	26	22
HOGS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8,117	10,557	9,378	17,483	19,935
Total liveweight (million pounds)	2,184	2,875	2,535	4,719	5,410
Average liveweight (pounds)	269	273	271	270	272
Pork production (million pounds)	1,636	2,158	1,903	3,534	4,061
SHEEP AND LAMBS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	205	213	211	420	425
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	29	30	30	59	60
LAMB AND MUTTON:					
	14	15	15	29	30
Red meat production (million pounds)	3,615	4,415	3,968	7,708	8,384