

April Livestock Slaughter

Iowa: Commercial red meat production in Iowa during April 2005 totaled 534.0 million pounds, down 4 percent from April 2004. There were 2.43 million hogs slaughtered in April 2005, down 4 percent from the same month last year. The average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 273 pounds, up 4 pounds from last year.

United States: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in April, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in April 2004.

Beef production, at 1.89 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, down 5 percent from April 2004. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from the previous year, at 1,220 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 7 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 61,600 head, down 13 percent from April 2004. The average live weight was 23 pounds above last year, at 353 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.44 million head, 2 percent below April 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

April 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. April 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States¹

Kind	Million pounds		Percent		Million pounds		2005 as % of 2004	
	Apr. 2004	Mar. 2005	Apr. 2005	Apr. 2005 as % of Apr. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jan - April ² 2005		
Beef	1,956	2,043	1,890	97	93	7,794	7,617	98
Veal	13.9	13.3	13.0	93	98	58.5	51.7	88
Pork	1,725	1,803	1,704	99	94	6,856	6,840	100
Lamb & mutton	17.5	19.5	15.5	89	80	70.0	64.6	92
Total red meat	3,713	3,879	3,622	98	93	14,778	14,573	99

¹Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter. ²Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

2004 Meat Animals Production and Value

Area	Cattle and Calves			Hogs and Pigs			Sheep and Lambs		
	Production	Value per Head	Value of Production	Production	Value per Head	Value of Production	Production	Value per Head	Value of Production
Iowa	1,611,439	900	1,329,170	7,195,890	110	3,264,479	31,403	147	28,324
U.S.	41,501,303	916	34,887,821	26,678,197	102	13,071,677	464,503	130	412,333

April Milk Production

Iowa: Milk production in Iowa in April totaled 325 million pounds, down 2.1 percent from April 2004. The average number of milk cows, 187 thousand head, was 8,000 head below April 2004. Production per cow averaged 1,740 pounds, forty pounds higher than production levels one year ago.

United States: Milk production in the 23 major States during April totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from April 2004. March revised production, at 13.8 billion pounds, was up 2.9 percent from March 2004. The March revision represented a decrease of 0.1

percent or 20 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,679 pounds for April, 43 pounds above April 2004.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.11million head, 44,000 head more than April 2004, and 12,000 head more than March 2005.

April Milk Cows and Milk Production

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		05 as % 04
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	1,000 head		Pounds		Million pounds		Percent
California	1,716	1,751	1,790	1,820	3,072	3,187	3.7
Illinois	108	105	1,580	1,605	171	169	-1.2
Iowa	195	187	1,700	1,740	332	325	-2.1
Minnesota	465	455	1,480	1,520	688	692	0.6
Missouri	124	119	1,370	1,350	170	161	-5.3
Wisconsin	1,242	1,233	1,485	1,535	1,844	1,893	2.7
23 State Total³	8,063	8,107	1,636	1,679	13,194	13,612	3.2

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves. ³ The 20 States are Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.