



Livestock Slaughter

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Record High Pork Production for December

December 2016 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

December 2017 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.40 billion pounds in December, up slightly from the 4.40 billion pounds produced in December 2016.

Beef production, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.58 million head, down 1 percent from December 2016. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,379 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.6 million pounds, 4 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 46,400 head, down 5 percent from December 2016. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from last year, at 245 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.23 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.5 million head, down slightly from December 2016. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.8 million pounds, was down 2 percent from December 2016. Sheep slaughter totaled 188,100 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, up 3 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2017 commercial red meat production was 52.0 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2016. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

| Type | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | December 2017 as % of | | January to December | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | December 2016 | November 2017 | 2016 | 2017 | 2017 as % of 2016 |
| | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (percent) | (percent) | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (percent) |
| Beef | 2,173.3 | 2,289.6 | 2,148.0 | 99 | 94 | 25,221.1 | 26,173.0 | 104 |
| Veal | 6.8 | 6.4 | 6.6 | 96 | 102 | 75.5 | 74.4 | 99 |
| Pork | 2,209.1 | 2,244.8 | 2,235.0 | 101 | 100 | 24,941.2 | 25,581.1 | 103 |
| Lamb and mutton | 13.1 | 12.4 | 12.8 | 98 | 103 | 150.2 | 145.0 | 97 |
| Total red meat | 4,402.3 | 4,553.2 | 4,402.3 | 100 | 97 | 50,387.9 | 51,973.5 | 103 |

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

| Type | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | December 2017 as % of | | January to December | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | December 2016 | November 2017 | 2016 | 2017 | 2017 as % of 2016 |
| | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (percent) | (percent) | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (percent) |
| Beef | 2,146.8 | 2,265.8 | 2,123.0 | 99 | 94 | 24,908.1 | 25,855.6 | 104 |
| Veal | 6.6 | 6.3 | 6.4 | 96 | 102 | 73.9 | 72.5 | 98 |
| Pork | 2,196.4 | 2,233.7 | 2,224.1 | 101 | 100 | 24,788.8 | 25,436.8 | 103 |
| Lamb and mutton | 12.1 | 11.4 | 11.8 | 97 | 103 | 138.0 | 132.4 | 96 |
| Total red meat | 4,362.0 | 4,517.1 | 4,365.3 | 100 | 97 | 49,908.8 | 51,497.2 | 103 |

Livestock Slaughter, Number of Head and Average Live Weight – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

| Species | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | December 2017 as % of 2016 | January to December | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| | | | | | 2016 | 2017 | 2017 as % of 2016 |
| | | | | (percent) | | | (percent) |
| Cattle | | | | | | | |
| Number of head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected 1,000 | 2,572.2 | 2,726.0 | 2,543.2 | 99 | 30,114.4 | 31,704.2 | 105 |
| Other 1,000 | 39.7 | 35.9 | 37.2 | 93 | 463.8 | 470.9 | 102 |
| Commercial 1,000 | 2,612.0 | 2,761.9 | 2,580.4 | 99 | 30,578.2 | 32,175.1 | 105 |
| Live weight per head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected .. pounds | 1,384 | 1,376 | 1,382 | 100 | 1,365 | 1,351 | 99 |
| Other pounds | 1,169 | 1,162 | 1,173 | 100 | 1,173 | 1,174 | 100 |
| Commercial pounds | 1,381 | 1,373 | 1,379 | 100 | 1,363 | 1,348 | 99 |
| Calves | | | | | | | |
| Number of head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected 1,000 | 48.1 | 41.7 | 45.6 | 95 | 479.9 | 503.3 | 105 |
| Other 1,000 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 97 | 7.7 | 9.0 | 116 |
| Commercial 1,000 | 48.9 | 42.4 | 46.4 | 95 | 487.7 | 512.2 | 105 |
| Live weight per head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected .. pounds | 238 | 258 | 242 | 102 | 264 | 248 | 94 |
| Other pounds | 384 | 391 | 399 | 104 | 384 | 391 | 102 |
| Commercial pounds | 240 | 260 | 245 | 102 | 266 | 250 | 94 |
| Hogs | | | | | | | |
| Number of head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected 1,000 | 10,398.0 | 10,486.6 | 10,400.3 | 100 | 117,388.0 | 120,516.6 | 103 |
| Other 1,000 | 69.1 | 61.3 | 60.8 | 88 | 831.9 | 791.3 | 95 |
| Commercial 1,000 | 10,467.1 | 10,547.9 | 10,461.1 | 100 | 118,219.9 | 121,307.9 | 103 |
| Live weight per head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected .. pounds | 283 | 286 | 286 | 101 | 282 | 283 | 100 |
| Other pounds | 252 | 249 | 244 | 97 | 251 | 250 | 100 |
| Commercial pounds | 283 | 286 | 286 | 101 | 282 | 282 | 100 |
| Sheep and lambs | | | | | | | |
| Number of head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected 1,000 | 178.9 | 167.3 | 170.1 | 95 | 2,009.6 | 1,936.6 | 96 |
| Other 1,000 | 18.1 | 20.6 | 18.0 | 99 | 228.3 | 241.8 | 106 |
| Commercial 1,000 | 197.0 | 188.0 | 188.1 | 95 | 2,237.8 | 2,178.4 | 97 |
| Live weight per head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected .. pounds | 135 | 136 | 138 | 102 | 137 | 136 | 100 |
| Other pounds | 108 | 99 | 111 | 103 | 110 | 108 | 98 |
| Commercial pounds | 133 | 132 | 136 | 102 | 134 | 133 | 99 |
| Goats | | | | | | | |
| Number of head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected 1,000 | 44.9 | 42.4 | 46.7 | 104 | 448.8 | 488.8 | 109 |
| Other 1,000 | 13.0 | 9.8 | 10.3 | 79 | 128.7 | 110.3 | 86 |
| Commercial 1,000 | 57.9 | 52.2 | 57.0 | 98 | 577.5 | 599.1 | 104 |
| Live weight per head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected .. pounds | 61 | 63 | 63 | 103 | 62 | 63 | 101 |
| Other pounds | 82 | 83 | 80 | 99 | 84 | 83 | 98 |
| Commercial pounds | 66 | 67 | 66 | 101 | 67 | 66 | 99 |
| Bison | | | | | | | |
| Number of head | | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected 1,000 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 3.4 | 87 | 52.6 | 51.8 | 99 |
| Other 1,000 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 78 | 8.1 | 5.8 | 72 |
| Commercial 1,000 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 3.8 | 86 | 60.6 | 57.7 | 95 |

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

[Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton. Totals and percentages based on unrounded data.]

| State | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | December 2017 as % of 2016 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (million pounds) | (percent) |
| Alabama | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 116 |
| Alaska | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 26 |
| Arizona | 43.7 | 40.4 | 36.4 | 83 |
| Arkansas | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 114 |
| California | 126.2 | 127.5 | 121.9 | 97 |
| Colorado | 189.7 | 197.1 | 183.2 | 97 |
| Delaware-Maryland | 2.9 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 97 |
| Florida | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 104 |
| Georgia | 13.0 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 102 |
| Hawaii | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 97 |
| Idaho | 5.2 | 21.0 | 19.6 | 375 |
| Illinois | 298.1 | 295.9 | 282.5 | 95 |
| Indiana | 159.6 | 159.0 | 159.5 | 100 |
| Iowa | 621.2 | 644.0 | 642.0 | 103 |
| Kansas | 468.7 | 514.1 | 482.4 | 103 |
| Kentucky | 51.0 | 49.0 | 46.0 | 90 |
| Louisiana | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 76 |
| Michigan | 39.3 | 74.2 | 72.6 | 185 |
| Minnesota | 224.2 | 235.2 | 248.6 | 111 |
| Mississippi | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 93 |
| Missouri | 175.3 | 171.5 | 174.0 | 99 |
| Montana | 1.1 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 109 |
| Nebraska | 680.2 | 711.2 | 675.8 | 99 |
| Nevada | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 76 |
| New England ¹ | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 91 |
| New Jersey | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 102 |
| New Mexico | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 116 |
| New York | 3.7 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 89 |
| North Carolina | 232.5 | 219.4 | 223.0 | 96 |
| North Dakota | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 90 |
| Ohio | 21.8 | 19.4 | 18.6 | 85 |
| Oklahoma | 101.2 | 99.9 | 96.8 | 96 |
| Oregon | 5.0 | 5.6 | 4.5 | 91 |
| Pennsylvania | 130.9 | 109.9 | 116.5 | 89 |
| South Carolina | 9.7 | 9.6 | 9.3 | 95 |
| South Dakota | 114.7 | 127.3 | 129.3 | 113 |
| Tennessee | 22.0 | 26.2 | 24.3 | 110 |
| Texas | 376.5 | 383.9 | 347.9 | 92 |
| Utah | 39.4 | 47.3 | 43.2 | 109 |
| Virginia | 51.7 | 46.5 | 41.3 | 80 |
| Washington | 77.0 | 80.2 | 72.7 | 94 |
| West Virginia | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 99 |
| Wisconsin | 103.3 | 103.4 | 96.9 | 94 |
| Wyoming | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 95 |
| United States | 4,402.3 | 4,553.2 | 4,402.3 | 100 |

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: December 2016 and 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| State | Number slaughtered | | Total live weight | | Average live weight | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 2016 (1,000 head) | 2017 (1,000 head) | 2016 (1,000 pounds) | 2017 (1,000 pounds) | 2016 (pounds) | 2017 (pounds) |
| Alabama | 0.4 | 0.4 | 399 | 371 | 1,071 | 1,058 |
| Alaska | 0.3 | (Y) | 396 | (X) | 1,586 | (X) |
| Arizona | 51.7 | 43.6 | 72,268 | 60,459 | 1,401 | 1,388 |
| Arkansas | 0.3 | 0.4 | 358 | 422 | 1,045 | 973 |
| California | 109.5 | 113.4 | 147,873 | 151,600 | 1,361 | 1,346 |
| Colorado | 204.9 | 198.7 | 292,973 | 282,049 | 1,431 | 1,421 |
| Delaware-Maryland | 3.0 | 2.9 | 4,055 | 3,858 | 1,352 | 1,323 |
| Florida | 3.6 | 3.7 | 4,144 | 4,313 | 1,152 | 1,180 |
| Georgia | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Hawaii | 0.8 | 1.0 | 949 | 1,142 | 1,201 | 1,196 |
| Idaho | 4.1 | 26.7 | 4,864 | 33,368 | 1,263 | 1,267 |
| Illinois | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Indiana | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2,834 | 2,819 | 1,106 | 1,107 |
| Iowa | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Kansas | 524.7 | 537.0 | 727,572 | 744,776 | 1,387 | 1,387 |
| Kentucky | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1,705 | 1,541 | 1,004 | 1,070 |
| Louisiana | 0.5 | 0.3 | 386 | 268 | 809 | 777 |
| Michigan | 42.3 | 40.7 | 59,338 | 57,634 | 1,412 | 1,425 |
| Minnesota | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Mississippi | 0.2 | 0.2 | 193 | 135 | 896 | 821 |
| Missouri | 3.8 | 3.5 | 4,366 | 4,065 | 1,160 | 1,153 |
| Montana | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1,588 | 1,660 | 1,132 | 1,141 |
| Nebraska | 606.6 | 593.5 | 879,607 | 862,883 | 1,451 | 1,455 |
| Nevada | 0.1 | 0.1 | 108 | 84 | 1,056 | 1,022 |
| New England ¹ | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2,489 | 2,349 | 1,125 | 1,177 |
| New Jersey | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3,133 | 3,406 | 1,091 | 1,095 |
| New Mexico | 0.3 | 0.4 | 333 | 456 | 1,016 | 1,167 |
| New York | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3,705 | 3,719 | 1,203 | 1,220 |
| North Carolina | 5.5 | 5.0 | 6,717 | 6,079 | 1,231 | 1,233 |
| North Dakota | 0.6 | 0.6 | 821 | 756 | 1,318 | 1,306 |
| Ohio | 4.5 | 4.3 | 5,175 | 4,976 | 1,158 | 1,166 |
| Oklahoma | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2,344 | 2,365 | 1,003 | 990 |
| Oregon | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Pennsylvania | 90.2 | 84.5 | 109,948 | 104,335 | 1,222 | 1,238 |
| South Carolina | 14.3 | 13.7 | 17,456 | 16,844 | 1,229 | 1,239 |
| South Dakota | (D) | 32.2 | (D) | 46,253 | (D) | 1,444 |
| Tennessee | 6.1 | 5.4 | 5,570 | 4,985 | 937 | 945 |
| Texas | 458.7 | 430.1 | 611,176 | 565,030 | 1,336 | 1,317 |
| Utah | 46.1 | 50.8 | 63,644 | 69,530 | 1,383 | 1,370 |
| Virginia | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1,337 | 1,297 | 1,065 | 1,089 |
| Washington | 90.7 | 85.9 | 126,857 | 119,614 | 1,403 | 1,397 |
| West Virginia | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1,015 | 1,007 | 961 | 990 |
| Wisconsin | 115.1 | 106.8 | 159,994 | 148,790 | 1,398 | 1,402 |
| Wyoming | 0.6 | 0.5 | 655 | 588 | 1,057 | 1,099 |
| United States | 2,612.0 | 2,580.4 | 3,599,748 | 3,551,278 | 1,381 | 1,379 |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: December 2016 and 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| State | Number slaughtered | | Total live weight | | Average live weight | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 2016 (1,000 head) | 2017 (1,000 head) | 2016 (1,000 pounds) | 2017 (1,000 pounds) | 2016 (pounds) | 2017 (pounds) |
| Alabama | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Alaska | (D) | (Y) | (D) | (X) | (D) | (X) |
| Arizona | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Arkansas | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| California | 11.2 | 5.8 | 1,032 | 641 | 93 | 113 |
| Colorado | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Delaware-Maryland | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Florida | 0.1 | 0.1 | 22 | 30 | 380 | 458 |
| Georgia | 0.1 | 0.1 | 46 | 61 | 472 | 480 |
| Hawaii | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Idaho | 1.7 | 2.6 | 135 | 231 | 81 | 87 |
| Illinois | 0.1 | 0.1 | 18 | 21 | 350 | 377 |
| Indiana | 0.4 | (D) | 116 | (D) | 293 | (D) |
| Iowa | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Kansas | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Kentucky | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Louisiana | (Y) | (D) | (X) | (D) | (X) | (D) |
| Michigan | 0.1 | 0.1 | 31 | 30 | 300 | 300 |
| Minnesota | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Mississippi | (D) | (Y) | (D) | (X) | (D) | (X) |
| Missouri | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Montana | (D) | (Y) | (D) | (X) | (D) | (X) |
| Nebraska | (D) | (Y) | (D) | (X) | (D) | (X) |
| Nevada | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| New England ¹ | 0.3 | 0.2 | 71 | 43 | 257 | 183 |
| New Jersey | 2.1 | 2.0 | 796 | 758 | 377 | 379 |
| New Mexico | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| New York | 5.4 | 7.0 | 624 | 843 | 116 | 121 |
| North Carolina | 0.1 | 0.1 | 44 | 22 | 435 | 335 |
| North Dakota | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Ohio | 12.1 | 13.5 | 2,395 | 2,193 | 200 | 163 |
| Oklahoma | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Oregon | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Pennsylvania | 8.4 | 8.3 | 3,606 | 3,507 | 430 | 426 |
| South Carolina | (Y) | (D) | (X) | (D) | (X) | (D) |
| South Dakota | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Tennessee | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Texas | 0.2 | 0.2 | 73 | 99 | 440 | 449 |
| Utah | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Virginia | 0.1 | 0.1 | 26 | 19 | 393 | 296 |
| Washington | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| West Virginia | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Wisconsin | 5.2 | 5.0 | 2,404 | 2,418 | 460 | 488 |
| Wyoming | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| United States | 48.9 | 46.4 | 11,683 | 11,264 | 240 | 245 |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: December 2016 and 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| State | Number slaughtered | | Total live weight | | Average live weight | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 2016 (1,000 head) | 2017 (1,000 head) | 2016 (1,000 pounds) | 2017 (1,000 pounds) | 2016 (pounds) | 2017 (pounds) |
| Alabama | 2.7 | 3.3 | 1,092 | 1,357 | 402 | 410 |
| Alaska | 0.2 | 0.2 | 42 | 44 | 263 | 286 |
| Arizona | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Arkansas | 0.7 | 0.8 | 180 | 201 | 254 | 261 |
| California | 233.4 | 201.4 | 58,910 | 50,958 | 253 | 253 |
| Colorado | 1.7 | 1.6 | 407 | 384 | 242 | 238 |
| Delaware-Maryland | 1.8 | 1.9 | 474 | 474 | 260 | 256 |
| Florida | 4.2 | 4.6 | 572 | 611 | 138 | 133 |
| Georgia | 6.0 | 6.1 | 1,438 | 1,461 | 241 | 240 |
| Hawaii | 1.1 | 0.5 | 273 | 114 | 247 | 243 |
| Idaho | 13.3 | 13.9 | 3,528 | 3,700 | 265 | 267 |
| Illinois | 1,087.8 | 1,021.0 | 308,505 | 293,429 | 284 | 287 |
| Indiana | 759.3 | 743.9 | 209,315 | 209,322 | 276 | 282 |
| Iowa | 2,829.1 | 2,878.4 | 797,399 | 824,675 | 282 | 287 |
| Kansas | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Kentucky | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Louisiana | 1.5 | 1.2 | 236 | 188 | 160 | 155 |
| Michigan | 17.5 | 172.6 | 6,851 | 52,163 | 392 | 302 |
| Minnesota | 954.9 | 1,052.6 | 258,100 | 290,459 | 270 | 276 |
| Mississippi | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Missouri | 792.8 | 786.7 | 230,260 | 228,306 | 291 | 290 |
| Montana | 0.9 | 1.2 | 211 | 267 | 224 | 230 |
| Nebraska | 675.2 | 672.1 | 187,232 | 189,741 | 277 | 282 |
| Nevada | 0.1 | 0.1 | 23 | 14 | 263 | 270 |
| New England ¹ | 3.1 | 3.1 | 849 | 784 | 274 | 253 |
| New Jersey | 10.4 | 10.1 | 948 | 895 | 91 | 89 |
| New Mexico | 0.2 | 0.2 | 51 | 47 | 285 | 285 |
| New York | 4.9 | 2.4 | 1,253 | 541 | 254 | 224 |
| North Carolina | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| North Dakota | 0.5 | 0.4 | 143 | 112 | 295 | 303 |
| Ohio | 84.3 | 66.6 | 23,609 | 19,689 | 281 | 296 |
| Oklahoma | 484.8 | 449.5 | 131,858 | 125,236 | 272 | 279 |
| Oregon | 13.1 | 10.4 | 3,471 | 2,773 | 265 | 266 |
| Pennsylvania | 313.9 | 266.8 | 85,093 | 72,010 | 271 | 270 |
| South Carolina | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| South Dakota | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Tennessee | 62.6 | 72.2 | 29,030 | 32,735 | 464 | 454 |
| Texas | 31.3 | 25.5 | 8,078 | 6,272 | 258 | 246 |
| Utah | 4.2 | 4.3 | 786 | 738 | 188 | 173 |
| Virginia | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Washington | 1.0 | 0.8 | 259 | 211 | 272 | 274 |
| West Virginia | 0.7 | 0.7 | 204 | 206 | 300 | 303 |
| Wisconsin | 57.6 | 56.8 | 25,169 | 24,721 | 438 | 436 |
| Wyoming | 0.3 | 0.3 | 68 | 82 | 260 | 315 |
| United States | 10,467.1 | 10,461.1 | 2,956,117 | 2,990,493 | 283 | 286 |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: December 2016 and 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| State | Number slaughtered | | Total live weight | | Average live weight | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 2016 (1,000 head) | 2017 (1,000 head) | 2016 (1,000 pounds) | 2017 (1,000 pounds) | 2016 (pounds) | 2017 (pounds) |
| Alabama | (Y) | 0.1 | (X) | 5 | (X) | 55 |
| Alaska | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Arizona | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Arkansas | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| California | 24.4 | 25.1 | 3,489 | 3,593 | 143 | 144 |
| Colorado | 75.1 | 70.2 | 11,796 | 11,455 | 157 | 163 |
| Delaware-Maryland | 3.2 | 4.2 | 297 | 389 | 93 | 92 |
| Florida | 1.1 | 1.0 | 69 | 61 | 63 | 60 |
| Georgia | 1.5 | 1.5 | 109 | 98 | 74 | 66 |
| Hawaii | 0.3 | (D) | 38 | (D) | 145 | (D) |
| Idaho | 0.2 | 0.2 | 25 | 26 | 120 | 134 |
| Illinois | (D) | 4.9 | (D) | 464 | (D) | 94 |
| Indiana | 3.6 | 3.7 | 411 | 434 | 114 | 119 |
| Iowa | 0.3 | 0.2 | 46 | 33 | 151 | 163 |
| Kansas | 0.5 | 0.4 | 42 | 40 | 86 | 94 |
| Kentucky | 1.4 | 1.1 | 169 | 133 | 124 | 123 |
| Louisiana | 0.5 | 0.3 | 32 | 18 | 68 | 54 |
| Michigan | 17.0 | 19.8 | 2,298 | 2,910 | 135 | 147 |
| Minnesota | 0.4 | 0.4 | 46 | 41 | 110 | 107 |
| Mississippi | 0.2 | 0.5 | 11 | 30 | 60 | 60 |
| Missouri | 0.9 | 0.8 | 80 | 75 | 88 | 91 |
| Montana | 0.4 | 0.4 | 51 | 49 | 120 | 116 |
| Nebraska | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Nevada | 0.1 | 0.1 | 7 | 8 | 101 | 123 |
| New England ¹ | 3.5 | 2.7 | 324 | 254 | 92 | 93 |
| New Jersey | 12.6 | 11.9 | 978 | 930 | 77 | 78 |
| New Mexico | 0.5 | 0.5 | 78 | 77 | 150 | 145 |
| New York | 6.5 | 6.4 | 636 | 645 | 98 | 101 |
| North Carolina | 1.6 | 1.1 | 112 | 76 | 71 | 70 |
| North Dakota | (Y) | (Y) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Ohio | 3.4 | 3.3 | 430 | 444 | 125 | 134 |
| Oklahoma | 0.2 | 0.5 | 24 | 44 | 118 | 93 |
| Oregon | 2.6 | 3.0 | 350 | 419 | 136 | 141 |
| Pennsylvania | 6.4 | 6.8 | 673 | 714 | 105 | 106 |
| South Carolina | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| South Dakota | 0.3 | 0.4 | 47 | 57 | 161 | 160 |
| Tennessee | 0.9 | 0.9 | 66 | 71 | 71 | 76 |
| Texas | 8.3 | 7.9 | 868 | 855 | 104 | 108 |
| Utah | 2.0 | 1.6 | 286 | 219 | 146 | 136 |
| Virginia | 0.6 | 0.7 | 50 | 48 | 86 | 72 |
| Washington | 1.2 | 1.5 | 156 | 209 | 132 | 137 |
| West Virginia | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) |
| Wisconsin | 1.1 | 1.8 | 143 | 285 | 129 | 155 |
| Wyoming | 0.1 | 0.1 | 9 | 12 | 132 | 144 |
| United States | 197.0 | 188.1 | 26,125 | 25,484 | 133 | 136 |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection, by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| Class | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | January to December | | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | January to December | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | 2016 | 2017 | | | | 2016 | 2017 |
| | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (percent of total) | (percent of total) | (percent of total) | (percent of total) | (percent of total) |
| Cattle | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers | 1,357.8 | 1,368.4 | 1,284.7 | 16,494.5 | 16,770.6 | 52.8 | 50.2 | 50.5 | 54.8 | 52.9 |
| Heifers | 692.3 | 804.8 | 735.9 | 7,698.0 | 8,611.1 | 26.9 | 29.5 | 28.9 | 25.6 | 27.2 |
| All cows | 483.5 | 508.2 | 481.2 | 5,428.2 | 5,772.4 | 18.8 | 18.6 | 18.9 | 18.0 | 18.2 |
| Dairy cows | 253.0 | 243.7 | 247.3 | 2,885.7 | 2,988.4 | 9.8 | 8.9 | 9.7 | 9.6 | 9.4 |
| Other cows | 230.5 | 264.4 | 233.9 | 2,542.5 | 2,784.0 | 9.0 | 9.7 | 9.2 | 8.4 | 8.8 |
| Bulls | 38.6 | 44.6 | 41.5 | 493.8 | 550.2 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 |
| Total | 2,572.2 | 2,726.0 | 2,543.2 | 30,114.4 | 31,704.2 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Calves and vealers | 48.1 | 41.7 | 45.6 | 479.9 | 503.3 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Hogs | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | 10,126.1 | 10,204.8 | 10,126.2 | 114,184.0 | 117,195.1 | 97.4 | 97.3 | 97.4 | 97.3 | 97.2 |
| Sows | 242.9 | 249.7 | 241.4 | 2,884.6 | 2,951.7 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.4 |
| Boars | 28.9 | 32.0 | 32.7 | 319.4 | 369.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Total | 10,398.0 | 10,486.6 | 10,400.3 | 117,388.0 | 120,516.6 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Sheep | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mature sheep | 8.9 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 108.1 | 101.6 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.2 |
| Lambs and yearlings | 169.9 | 159.3 | 162.3 | 1,901.5 | 1,835.0 | 95.0 | 95.2 | 95.4 | 94.6 | 94.8 |
| Total | 178.9 | 167.3 | 170.1 | 2,009.6 | 1,936.6 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Federally Inspected Slaughter, Average Dressed Weight, by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| Class | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | January to December | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|----------|
| | | | | 2016 | 2017 |
| | (pounds) | (pounds) | (pounds) | (pounds) | (pounds) |
| Cattle | 836 | 833 | 837 | 829 | 817 |
| Steers ¹ | 905 | 903 | 903 | 891 | 877 |
| Heifers ¹ | 838 | 837 | 843 | 822 | 812 |
| All cows ¹ | 638 | 633 | 643 | 643 | 642 |
| Bulls ¹ | 876 | 874 | 878 | 901 | 896 |
| Calves and vealers | 139 | 151 | 141 | 155 | 145 |
| Hogs | 211 | 213 | 214 | 211 | 211 |
| Barrows and gilts ² | 209 | 211 | 212 | 209 | 209 |
| Sows ² | 308 | 307 | 306 | 310 | 308 |
| Boars ² | 200 | 195 | 198 | 206 | 201 |
| Sheep | 68 | 68 | 69 | 69 | 68 |
| Mature sheep ³ | 67 | 66 | 65 | 67 | 67 |
| Lambs and yearlings ³ | 68 | 68 | 70 | 69 | 68 |

¹ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

² Included in hog average dressed weight.

³ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: December 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| Standard federal regions ¹ | Cattle | | | | | | Calves | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
| | Total | Steers | Heifers | Cows | | | Bulls | Total | |
| | | | | All | Dairy | Other | | | |
| | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | |
| 1 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| 2 | 6.1 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 9.0 | |
| 3 | 87.1 | 28.2 | 2.2 | 52.6 | 41.5 | 11.1 | 4.1 | 8.6 | |
| 4 | 51.7 | 3.4 | 0.8 | 41.2 | 12.4 | 28.8 | 6.3 | 0.3 | |
| 5 | 259.4 | 119.4 | 30.1 | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | 18.9 | |
| 6 | 429.0 | 216.4 | 122.6 | 82.9 | 24.4 | 58.5 | 7.2 | 0.1 | |
| 7 | 1,156.2 | 653.2 | 440.8 | 53.3 | 4.5 | 48.8 | 8.9 | 0.1 | |
| 8 | 279.5 | 156.6 | 96.6 | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | (Y) | |
| 9 | 157.5 | 60.9 | 13.7 | 79.9 | 67.5 | 12.5 | 2.9 | 5.6 | |
| 10 | 115.1 | 44.3 | 27.4 | 41.4 | 20.4 | 21.0 | 2.1 | 2.9 | |
| United States | 2,543.2 | 1,284.7 | 735.9 | 481.2 | 247.3 | 233.9 | 41.5 | 45.6 | |
| | Hogs | | | | Sheep | | | | |
| | Total | Barrows and gilts | Sows | Boars | Total | Mature sheep | Lambs and yearlings | | |
| | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | | |
| 1 | 2.7 | 2.7 | (Y) | (Y) | 2.6 | 0.1 | 2.5 | | |
| 2 | 12.3 | 12.2 | 0.1 | (Y) | 17.7 | 1.4 | 16.3 | | |
| 3 | 454.9 | 453.7 | 1.1 | (Y) | 12.4 | 0.9 | 11.5 | | |
| 4 | (D) | (D) | 78.3 | 8.7 | 6.3 | 0.8 | 5.5 | | |
| 5 | 3,088.4 | 2,973.1 | 110.1 | 5.1 | 28.5 | 2.1 | 26.5 | | |
| 6 | 471.5 | 471.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 2.9 | 0.4 | 2.5 | | |
| 7 | 4,349.8 | 4,280.3 | 51.0 | 18.5 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 1.0 | | |
| 8 | (D) | (D) | 0.6 | (Y) | 71.5 | 1.2 | 70.4 | | |
| 9 | 196.6 | 196.5 | 0.1 | (Y) | 23.7 | 0.7 | 23.0 | | |
| 10 | 24.8 | 24.7 | (Y) | (Y) | 3.4 | 0.2 | 3.1 | | |
| United States | 10,400.3 | 10,126.2 | 241.4 | 32.7 | 170.1 | 7.8 | 162.3 | | |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8- Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to December 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

| Standard federal regions ¹ | Cattle | | | | | | | Calves |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | Total | Steers | Heifers | Cows | | | Bulls | Total |
| | | | | All | Dairy | Other | | |
| (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) |
| 1 | 20.2 | 8.7 | 5.0 | 4.1 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
| 2 | 74.3 | 20.9 | 12.2 | 32.4 | 29.5 | 2.9 | 8.8 | 82.8 |
| 3 | 1,046.2 | 350.4 | 30.4 | 615.1 | 486.7 | 128.5 | 50.2 | 101.8 |
| 4 | 646.3 | 51.9 | 11.1 | 504.4 | 139.1 | 365.4 | 78.8 | 3.3 |
| 5 | 3,224.9 | 1,540.2 | 343.5 | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | 185.7 |
| 6 | 5,621.8 | 3,019.1 | 1,432.7 | 1,075.5 | 338.9 | 736.6 | 94.5 | 1.2 |
| 7 | 14,301.1 | 8,347.3 | 5,153.4 | 681.8 | 58.6 | 623.2 | 118.5 | 0.4 |
| 8 | 3,534.7 | 2,049.9 | 1,150.2 | (D) | (D) | (D) | (D) | 0.1 |
| 9 | 1,903.3 | 777.0 | 150.9 | 938.3 | 802.6 | 135.8 | 37.0 | 94.0 |
| 10 | 1,331.5 | 605.1 | 321.8 | 381.5 | 228.5 | 153.0 | 23.1 | 31.0 |
| United States | 31,704.2 | 16,770.6 | 8,611.1 | 5,772.4 | 2,988.4 | 2,784.0 | 550.2 | 503.3 |
| | Hogs | | | | Sheep | | | |
| | Total | Barrows and gilts | Sows | Boars | Total | Mature sheep | Lambs and yearlings | |
| | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) | (1,000 head) |
| 1 | 34.3 | 33.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 34.0 | 1.4 | 32.6 | |
| 2 | 146.6 | 145.1 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 193.1 | 17.0 | 176.1 | |
| 3 | 5,915.0 | 5,902.5 | 11.8 | 0.7 | 138.5 | 13.5 | 125.0 | |
| 4 | (D) | (D) | 836.2 | 101.9 | 78.0 | 10.9 | 67.1 | |
| 5 | 34,834.7 | 33,371.0 | 1,407.4 | 56.3 | 343.1 | 25.7 | 317.4 | |
| 6 | 5,669.7 | 5,666.2 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 37.7 | 4.5 | 33.2 | |
| 7 | 50,362.7 | 49,473.5 | 681.1 | 208.1 | 14.0 | 0.7 | 13.3 | |
| 8 | (D) | (D) | 10.3 | 0.4 | 769.6 | 17.8 | 751.9 | |
| 9 | 2,355.7 | 2,354.8 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 285.0 | 7.5 | 277.5 | |
| 10 | 335.4 | 334.8 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 43.5 | 2.6 | 40.9 | |
| United States | 120,516.6 | 117,195.1 | 2,951.7 | 369.8 | 1,936.6 | 101.6 | 1,835.0 | |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8 - Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Federally Inspected Slaughter, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

| Species | December 2016 | November 2017 | December 2017 | January to December | |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------|
| | | | | 2016 | 2017 |
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Cattle | 98.5 | 98.7 | 98.6 | 98.5 | 98.5 |
| Calves | 98.4 | 98.2 | 98.4 | 98.4 | 98.3 |
| Hogs | 99.3 | 99.4 | 99.4 | 99.3 | 99.3 |
| Sheep | 90.8 | 89.0 | 90.4 | 89.8 | 88.9 |

Statistical Methodology

Data Sources: Primary data for the *Livestock Slaughter* publication are obtained from electronic reports completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide daily counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants, in addition to total live and dressed weights. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates.

There are approximately 800 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,900 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 15). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

Revision Policy: Number of head slaughtered, live weights, and dressed weights are subject to revision the following month after the monthly release. Annual totals are published in the slaughter summary each April which includes any revisions made to current and previous year's published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports received from slaughter plants and are usually less than one-half of one percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year's data after the publication of the annual summary in April.

Procedures and Reliability: The livestock slaughter data is obtained electronically on a daily basis and summarized approximately two weeks after the week of slaughter. A computer program compares each plant's data with the historical data for that plant. Data are checked for unusual values for head kill, patterns of kill, average weights, and dressing percent, based on each plant's past operating profile. In addition, the computer program provides a listing of missing reports for follow-up contact with FSIS. Average live and dressed weights and dressing percentages by State are compared with the previous weeks as an additional check. Fluctuations are frequently the result of plants permanently or temporarily closing and a shift in the species reported.

The FSIS District Veterinary Medical Specialists (DVMS) are contacted by e-mail or telephone for missing or potentially erroneous slaughter data. This assures that plants slaughtering a large number of head or several species are accounted for each week. Any corrections FSIS makes to the slaughter data are included in the summary.

Computer imputation may be necessary for incomplete reports. The imputation of live and dressed weights is based on the current week reported data of plants of similar size and location. Imputation for live and dressed weight data for cattle and hogs is less than 10 percent and 7 percent, respectively. The imputation for calves and sheep is more frequent and variable. If no data is received electronically or by other means, for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species, data are imputed. The imputation of head for any plant is based on the historical data for that particular plant. The imputation of head slaughtered is rare but when necessary, the imputed head kill for missing plants usually is less than 1 percent of the United States head kill totals.

FI data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release. These weekly totals are published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) in **Livestock, Meat, Wool Market News**, Weekly Summary, and statistics are also available on the NASS website. NFI data are summarized monthly only.

Livestock slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications and mistakes in reporting, recording and processing the data. These errors are minimized through rigid quality controls in the computer edit program and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

No data are published when an individual plant's data could be divulged. If not published, as indicated with a (D), these data are still included in United States and region totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine the publishable data.

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates

Average Live Weight: The weight of the whole animal, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Commercial Production: Includes slaughter and meat production in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms. Based on packers' dressed weights.

Custom-Exempt Plants: Plants that do not sell meat but operate on a custom basis only are custom-exempt. The animals and meat are not inspected, but the facilities must meet health standards. These are considered NFI plants and head kill is included in NFI totals.

Dressed Weight: The weight of a chilled animal carcass. Beef with kidney knob in; veal with hide off; lamb and mutton with pluck out; pork with leaf fat and kidneys out, jowls on and head off.

Dressing Percent: Usually expressed as a percentage yield of chilled carcass in relation to the weight of the live animal on hoof. For example, a live hog that weighed 200 pounds on hoof and yielded a carcass weighing 140 pounds would have a dressing percentage of 70.

Federally Inspected (FI) Plants: Plants that transport meat interstate must employ federal inspectors to assure compliance with USDA standards. Any state whose commercial plants operate entirely under federal inspection may still have custom-exempt establishments for which NFI estimates are made.

Food and Meat Inspection: Includes examination, checking, or testing of a carcass and/or meat against established government standards and involves checking the facility for cleanliness, health of animals, or parts of animals and quality of the meat produced.

Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) Plants: Plants which sell and transport only intrastate. State inspectors assure compliance with individual state standards for these NFI plants. Mobile slaughtering units are excluded and are considered farm slaughter.

Number of Head: Includes post-mortem condemnations.

Plant, Slaughter: An establishment where animals are killed and butchered.

Red Meat: Red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter excluding condemnation and is comprised of beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. The FI red meat production is equal to the total carcass weight after slaughter. The NFI meat production formula is $(\text{NFI head kill}) \times (\text{live weight}) \times (\text{FI dressing percentage}) = \text{NFI red meat production}$.

Slaughter: Killing and butchering of animals primarily for food.

Slaughter, Farm: Animals slaughtered on farms primarily for home consumption. Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments, but includes mobile slaughtering on farms. These estimates appear only in the annual slaughter release.

Talmedge-Aiken (TA) Plants: Slaughter plants in which USDA is responsible for inspection. However, federal inspection is carried out by State employees. These plants are considered to be federally inspected.

Total Live Weight: The total weight of live animals, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Wholesome Meat Act: Legislation that specifies that all meat produced for sale in the United States must be inspected. Meat that is transported interstate must be inspected in compliance with Federal (USDA) Standards.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch | (202) 720-3570 |
| Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section | (202) 690-2424 |
| Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter | (202) 720-3240 |
| Donnie Fike – Dairy Products | (202) 690-3236 |
| Heidi Gleich – Cattle, Cattle on Feed | (202) 720-3040 |
| Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows | (202) 720-3278 |
| Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs | (202) 720-3106 |
| Vacant – Sheep and Goats | (202) 720-8784 |

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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United States Department of Agriculture

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