



Livestock Slaughter

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Record High Red Meat, Beef, and Pork Production in March

March 2019 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

March 2020 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 5.00 billion pounds in March, up 13 percent from the 4.43 billion pounds produced in March 2019.

Beef production, at 2.41 billion pounds, was 14 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.92 million head, up 10 percent from March 2019. The average live weight was up 29 pounds from the previous year, at 1,368 pounds.

Veal production totaled 5.8 million pounds, slightly above March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 43,200 head, down 6 percent from March 2019. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from last year, at 232 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.57 billion pounds, up 12 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.9 million head, up 11 percent from March 2019. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 288 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.2 million pounds, was down 6 percent from March 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 187,500 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 6 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2020 commercial red meat production was 14.4 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2019.

Accumulated beef production was up 8 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 9 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	March 2020 as % of		January to March		
				March 2019	February 2020	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,117.1	2,130.7	2,410.8	114	113	6,413.9	6,929.1	108
Veal	5.8	5.1	5.8	100	113	18.4	17.3	94
Pork	2,297.0	2,306.2	2,566.5	112	111	6,838.2	7,426.0	109
Lamb and mutton	13.0	10.7	12.2	94	114	36.7	34.8	95
Total red meat	4,432.9	4,452.7	4,995.3	113	112	13,307.3	14,407.2	108

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	March 2020 as % of		January to March		
				March 2019	February 2020	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,090.0	2,104.1	2,379.2	114	113	6,329.6	6,840.1	108
Veal	5.6	5.0	5.6	100	113	18.0	16.9	94
Pork	2,286.4	2,296.8	2,555.2	112	111	6,806.4	7,395.2	109
Lamb and mutton	12.1	9.7	11.3	93	116	33.6	31.8	95
Total red meat	4,394.2	4,415.7	4,951.3	113	112	13,187.6	14,284.0	108

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	March 2020 as % of 2019	January to March		
					2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,609.4	2,539.1	2,874.6	110	7,811.4	8,267.9	106
Other 1,000	39.4	39.0	47.1	120	123.1	131.3	107
Commercial 1,000	2,648.7	2,578.0	2,921.7	110	7,934.5	8,399.1	106
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,341	1,379	1,371	102	1,354	1,376	102
Other pounds	1,196	1,195	1,183	99	1,194	1,191	100
Commercial pounds	1,339	1,376	1,368	102	1,351	1,373	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	45.1	39.1	42.5	94	146.1	130.8	90
Other 1,000	0.7	0.6	0.7	106	2.0	2.1	105
Commercial 1,000	45.8	39.7	43.2	94	148.1	132.9	90
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	217	222	230	106	215	224	105
Other pounds	368	363	365	99	363	360	99
Commercial pounds	219	224	232	106	217	227	105
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,667.1	10,670.1	11,882.8	111	31,702.4	34,313.3	108
Other 1,000	55.8	51.6	59.2	106	167.1	164.9	99
Commercial 1,000	10,722.9	10,721.7	11,942.0	111	31,869.5	34,478.2	108
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	287	288	288	100	287	289	100
Other pounds	259	249	262	101	261	256	98
Commercial pounds	287	288	288	100	287	289	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	170.3	142.6	165.0	97	482.1	468.9	97
Other 1,000	20.1	21.6	22.5	112	64.3	65.0	101
Commercial 1,000	190.4	164.3	187.5	98	546.3	533.9	98
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	142	136	136	96	139	135	97
Other pounds	95	95	92	97	99	95	96
Commercial pounds	137	130	131	96	134	130	97
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	41.0	37.6	44.3	108	120.5	125.1	104
Other 1,000	8.9	8.7	8.8	98	26.3	26.5	101
Commercial 1,000	49.9	46.2	53.0	106	146.8	151.6	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	65	65	65	99	65	65	99
Other pounds	82	91	84	102	82	84	102
Commercial pounds	68	70	68	100	68	68	100
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.5	4.4	5.8	129	13.2	15.2	115
Other 1,000	0.6	0.5	1.0	167	1.7	2.1	125
Commercial 1,000	5.1	4.9	6.8	133	14.9	17.3	116

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	March 2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.0	0.5	0.9	90
Alaska	0.1	0.1	0.1	140
Arizona	36.2	37.2	40.3	111
Arkansas	0.3	0.3	0.5	136
California	129.6	139.2	153.2	118
Colorado	171.6	171.8	194.2	113
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.8	3.2	112
Florida	3.0	2.9	3.4	114
Georgia	14.6	12.8	15.3	105
Hawaii	0.8	0.8	0.9	108
Idaho	30.3	30.5	33.9	112
Illinois	278.7	279.6	316.9	114
Indiana	146.8	144.5	161.7	110
Iowa	721.0	731.1	806.1	112
Kansas	455.1	474.9	525.9	116
Kentucky	46.2	46.1	56.1	122
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	0.4	124
Michigan	84.3	92.8	104.0	123
Minnesota	245.4	232.7	251.5	102
Mississippi	0.6	0.5	0.6	106
Missouri	164.1	166.9	181.2	110
Montana	1.4	1.1	2.2	160
Nebraska	623.1	607.1	709.4	114
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	74
New England ¹	1.9	2.1	2.6	139
New Jersey	3.3	3.0	3.6	111
New Mexico	0.2	0.4	0.4	174
New York	2.9	2.8	3.2	109
North Carolina	227.1	229.0	248.0	109
North Dakota	0.8	0.6	0.7	87
Ohio	19.7	20.3	24.5	124
Oklahoma	98.4	109.1	121.0	123
Oregon	4.0	3.6	4.0	100
Pennsylvania	124.9	119.8	131.7	105
South Carolina	11.0	13.4	15.2	139
South Dakota	131.5	126.1	141.4	108
Tennessee	19.7	23.5	25.6	130
Texas	363.5	358.2	407.8	112
Utah	45.5	44.4	51.0	112
Virginia	37.9	47.4	52.8	139
Washington	75.2	72.4	85.7	114
West Virginia	0.6	0.5	0.9	159
Wisconsin	107.0	99.3	112.9	106
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	106
United States	4,432.9	4,452.7	4,995.3	113

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: March 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019 (1,000 head)	2020 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2020 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (pounds)	2020 (pounds)
Alabama	0.7	0.7	732	761	1,084	1,086
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	80	(X)	1,143
Arizona	43.8	47.6	58,501	65,866	1,337	1,387
Arkansas	0.4	0.6	386	588	921	930
California	125.4	144.2	161,831	193,719	1,298	1,351
Colorado	188.6	213.4	263,275	301,418	1,397	1,413
Delaware-Maryland	3.0	3.3	4,176	4,652	1,380	1,397
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.1	1.3	1,284	1,391	1,145	1,112
Idaho	41.7	45.2	53,414	59,336	1,294	1,324
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	2.7	3.3	3,148	3,875	1,172	1,175
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	537.2	596.4	707,446	811,253	1,317	1,361
Kentucky	3.3	3.6	3,448	3,792	1,064	1,051
Louisiana	0.4	0.6	349	491	788	832
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.4	0.5	342	423	869	883
Missouri	4.5	5.6	5,202	6,187	1,169	1,098
Montana	1.4	2.3	1,938	3,152	1,359	1,349
Nebraska	567.1	623.4	793,327	900,169	1,400	1,445
Nevada	0.1	0.1	147	109	1,117	1,102
New England ¹	2.0	2.9	2,381	3,459	1,189	1,174
New Jersey	3.3	4.3	3,631	4,789	1,114	1,117
New Mexico	0.3	0.7	275	701	1,039	1,067
New York	3.1	3.5	3,742	4,161	1,212	1,211
North Carolina	6.5	7.8	7,945	9,554	1,233	1,225
North Dakota	0.9	0.8	1,176	1,064	1,279	1,307
Ohio	5.1	6.9	6,683	9,039	1,303	1,307
Oklahoma	2.8	3.0	3,002	2,798	1,084	929
Oregon	1.3	1.3	1,460	1,507	1,129	1,162
Pennsylvania	92.6	93.9	113,987	115,464	1,236	1,235
South Carolina	17.0	22.6	21,166	29,539	1,251	1,314
South Dakota	39.1	44.8	56,704	64,761	1,458	1,453
Tennessee	1.0	3.0	1,074	2,960	1,038	1,004
Texas	461.0	504.0	595,637	658,341	1,296	1,310
Utah	55.0	60.7	73,014	81,598	1,330	1,347
Virginia	1.5	1.6	1,560	1,687	1,049	1,024
Washington	91.8	99.8	124,275	140,050	1,358	1,406
West Virginia	0.7	1.3	717	1,356	1,051	1,060
Wisconsin	119.4	121.3	164,573	169,220	1,386	1,403
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	533	558	1,122	1,120
United States	2,648.7	2,921.7	3,538,132	3,989,278	1,339	1,368

(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: March 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019 (1,000 head)	2020 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2020 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (pounds)	2020 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	8.3	4.5	826	575	101	133
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	0.1	24	34	393	403
Georgia	0.1	0.1	57	43	435	462
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	4.3	3.7	344	342	81	93
Illinois	0.1	0.1	31	33	408	423
Indiana	0.4	0.5	111	158	303	333
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	30	(X)	493
Kentucky	(D)	0.1	(D)	18	(D)	337
Louisiana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	34	40	308	400
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.2	0.3	43	78	210	253
New Jersey	1.8	1.7	667	636	379	369
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	7.2	8.4	679	711	96	85
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	23	30	364	380
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	9.9	9.1	1,418	1,537	144	169
Oklahoma	(Y)	0.1	(X)	16	(X)	310
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	8.5	8.6	3,524	3,689	417	429
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.2	0.2	94	77	409	417
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	0.1	(D)	17	(D)	279
Washington	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	4.3	3.7	1,941	1,685	458	454
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	45.8	43.2	9,967	9,958	219	232

(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: March 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	2.1	1.7	849	688	398	404
Alaska	0.1	0.1	30	36	260	268
Arizona	0.2	0.1	40	40	259	278
Arkansas	0.6	0.6	158	158	272	266
California	195.2	225.9	51,921	58,553	266	259
Colorado	1.3	1.6	335	374	264	240
Delaware-Maryland	1.4	1.5	373	417	271	270
Florida	4.4	4.8	736	655	166	135
Georgia	5.7	6.0	1,416	1,458	247	244
Hawaii	0.3	0.3	81	80	257	277
Idaho	13.8	15.2	3,885	4,081	281	268
Illinois	1,034.6	1,156.6	296,172	334,248	286	289
Indiana	691.3	759.6	192,415	212,836	278	280
Iowa	3,267.7	3,629.3	933,966	1,037,924	286	286
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.8	0.7	180	168	237	252
Michigan	218.8	284.6	64,020	83,757	293	294
Minnesota	1,031.6	1,066.3	284,431	295,159	276	277
Mississippi	2.7	2.4	466	447	170	184
Missouri	733.9	809.7	214,824	237,229	293	293
Montana	1.1	1.5	297	420	282	289
Nebraska	655.3	724.0	188,207	208,594	287	288
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	2.0	2.4	550	674	269	282
New Jersey	8.7	4.3	850	476	97	110
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	51	50	260	254
New York	1.8	1.7	433	458	246	269
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	71	55	303	305
Ohio	72.5	89.0	20,339	24,924	281	280
Oklahoma	460.3	534.0	127,522	156,289	277	293
Oregon	13.8	13.8	3,872	3,725	281	269
Pennsylvania	272.3	303.3	76,133	83,760	280	276
South Carolina	2.0	2.4	501	581	245	245
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	63.6	79.4	28,656	36,258	451	457
Texas	26.0	24.3	5,629	5,365	216	221
Utah	4.5	3.8	875	721	197	193
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	0.8	2.1	201	528	260	251
West Virginia	0.6	0.7	166	203	260	295
Wisconsin	63.3	73.5	27,347	31,960	434	436
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	57	68	275	286
United States	10,722.9	11,942.0	3,075,000	3,436,611	287	288

(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 Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: March 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019 (1,000 head)	2020 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2020 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (pounds)	2020 (pounds)
Alabama	0.1	0.1	4	4	70	65
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.4	0.2	47	28	130	134
Arkansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	7	(X)	138
California	27.8	25.1	4,415	3,857	159	154
Colorado	67.2	59.2	10,984	9,683	164	164
Delaware-Maryland	2.3	2.7	212	253	93	94
Florida	1.5	2.2	83	127	57	59
Georgia	1.8	2.0	127	131	70	64
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	9	7	101	135
Idaho	(Y)	0.1	(X)	12	(X)	131
Illinois	4.0	3.9	384	282	97	72
Indiana	3.8	5.4	439	618	114	115
Iowa	0.1	0.1	17	16	169	152
Kansas	0.4	0.4	28	31	79	87
Kentucky	1.3	1.5	152	177	122	120
Louisiana	0.3	0.4	22	25	64	62
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.4	0.4	39	37	98	97
Mississippi	0.9	1.3	53	78	62	62
Missouri	0.9	1.0	71	78	79	81
Montana	0.3	0.3	49	47	140	138
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(Y)	0.1	(X)	9	(X)	130
New England ¹	2.5	3.2	258	299	101	94
New Jersey	12.4	12.8	976	993	79	78
New Mexico	0.7	0.5	105	73	149	140
New York	4.2	4.2	423	447	102	107
North Carolina	1.1	2.7	79	185	73	69
North Dakota	0.1	(Y)	8	(X)	147	(X)
Ohio	4.9	5.8	801	938	163	163
Oklahoma	0.6	1.4	74	121	115	87
Oregon	3.5	4.3	496	617	144	143
Pennsylvania	6.3	7.3	654	791	104	109
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	39	39	151	145
Tennessee	0.8	(D)	49	(D)	58	(D)
Texas	13.5	15.6	1,058	1,284	78	82
Utah	1.6	2.2	225	298	137	138
Virginia	0.7	0.8	51	55	74	71
Washington	1.1	0.9	145	121	138	138
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	4.6	0.8	763	112	168	144
Wyoming	0.1	(Y)	7	(X)	145	(X)
United States	190.4	187.5	26,014	24,482	137	131

(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	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	January to March		March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	January to March	
				2019	2020				2019	2020
	(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	1,221.8	1,237.8	1,377.6	3,732.9	3,965.3	46.8	48.8	47.9	47.8	48.0
Heifers	797.2	747.3	900.6	2,357.9	2,518.5	30.6	29.4	31.3	30.2	30.5
All cows	550.4	517.6	557.6	1,610.6	1,668.8	21.1	20.4	19.4	20.6	20.2
Dairy cows	302.4	266.1	288.0	879.8	852.6	11.6	10.5	10.0	11.3	10.3
Other cows	248.0	251.5	269.6	730.9	816.2	9.5	9.9	9.4	9.4	9.9
Bulls	39.9	36.3	38.9	109.9	115.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Total	2,609.4	2,539.1	2,874.6	7,811.4	8,267.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	45.1	39.1	42.5	146.1	130.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,384.9	10,393.1	11,568.5	30,858.2	33,408.5	97.4	97.4	97.4	97.3	97.4
Sows	249.1	248.2	283.1	748.5	814.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4
Boars	33.1	28.8	31.2	95.6	90.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	10,667.1	10,670.1	11,882.8	31,702.4	34,313.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	8.3	8.1	8.8	23.5	25.9	4.9	5.7	5.3	4.9	5.5
Lambs and yearlings	162.0	134.5	156.2	458.6	443.0	95.1	94.3	94.7	95.1	94.5
Total	170.3	142.6	165.0	482.1	468.9	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	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	January to March	
				2019	2020
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	803	831	830	812	829
Steers ¹	867	901	897	878	901
Heifers ¹	807	832	831	817	832
All cows ¹	648	656	656	648	651
Bulls ¹	881	870	868	876	866
Calves and vealers	125	128	133	124	130
Hogs	214	215	215	215	216
Barrows and gilts ²	212	213	213	213	214
Sows ²	303	304	304	302	304
Boars ²	185	190	193	183	192
Sheep	71	68	68	70	68
Mature sheep ³	66	66	65	65	66
Lambs and yearlings ³	71	68	68	70	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: March 2020

[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	2.7	1.0	(D)	0.8	0.3	0.4	(D)	0.3	
2	7.7	2.2	1.9	3.3	3.0	0.3	0.4	10.1	
3	97.0	32.0	3.3	58.3	47.3	11.0	3.4	8.9	
4	67.3	4.3	1.5	53.1	15.3	37.9	8.4	0.2	
5	287.6	133.5	(D)	112.2	67.3	44.9	(D)	13.3	
6	502.7	244.1	163.2	87.5	31.4	56.1	8.0	0.1	
7	1,254.8	676.7	510.3	62.1	8.5	53.6	5.8	0.1	
8	316.5	153.9	124.3	37.2	8.9	28.4	1.1	(Y)	
9	192.6	82.2	22.2	85.9	72.8	13.1	2.2	4.3	
10	145.8	47.7	38.4	57.2	33.3	23.9	2.5	5.2	
United States	2,874.6	1,377.6	900.6	557.6	288.0	269.6	38.9	42.5	
	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	2.1	2.1	(Y)	(Y)	2.9	0.2	2.7		
2	6.0	6.0	(Y)	(Y)	16.6	1.9	14.7		
3	542.6	541.5	(D)	(D)	11.3	1.0	10.3		
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	10.6	1.1	9.5		
5	3,404.8	3,265.9	133.3	5.6	27.8	1.7	26.1		
6	552.3	552.2	0.1	(Y)	4.5	0.3	4.2		
7	5,177.5	5,089.8	68.7	19.0	1.1	(Y)	1.1		
8	(D)	(D)	0.8	(Y)	61.1	1.9	59.2		
9	223.6	223.6	(Y)	(Y)	24.4	0.5	23.8		
10	30.9	30.8	0.1	(Y)	4.7	0.2	4.5		
United States	11,882.8	11,568.5	283.1	31.2	165.0	8.8	156.2		

(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 March 2020

[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	7.0	2.8	(D)	1.5	0.7	0.7	(D)	0.9
2	20.8	5.5	4.8	9.3	8.6	0.6	1.2	31.9
3	288.3	89.8	8.9	179.6	144.7	34.9	9.9	25.4
4	191.3	10.3	4.1	153.3	44.6	108.8	23.6	0.7
5	848.2	385.7	(D)	337.7	202.8	134.9	(D)	45.1
6	1,431.8	679.1	466.5	262.6	91.5	171.1	23.7	0.3
7	3,592.7	1,971.9	1,419.8	181.9	22.1	159.8	19.1	0.2
8	907.6	445.2	344.9	115.3	25.5	89.8	2.2	(Y)
9	563.3	240.4	58.4	257.7	217.4	40.3	6.9	12.7
10	416.9	134.6	105.1	170.0	94.8	75.2	7.1	13.5
United States	8,267.9	3,965.3	2,518.5	1,668.8	852.6	816.2	115.3	130.8
	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	6.3	6.2	0.1	(Y)	8.0	0.4	7.6	
2	26.9	26.7	0.1	(Y)	47.4	5.6	41.8	
3	1,566.7	1,563.9	(D)	(D)	32.8	3.7	29.1	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	27.7	3.1	24.7	
5	9,821.3	9,427.2	379.1	15.0	81.2	5.0	76.1	
6	1,562.5	1,562.3	0.2	(Y)	11.1	0.7	10.4	
7	14,928.8	14,678.5	194.3	55.9	3.1	(Y)	3.1	
8	(D)	(D)	1.9	0.1	180.8	5.0	175.8	
9	678.0	677.8	0.1	(Y)	64.4	1.8	62.6	
10	87.8	87.6	0.2	(Y)	12.5	0.6	11.9	
United States	34,313.3	33,408.5	814.4	90.4	468.9	25.9	443.0	

(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 Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020	January to March	
				2019	2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.5	98.5	98.4	98.4	98.4
Calves	98.5	98.4	98.3	98.6	98.4
Hogs	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
Sheep	89.4	86.8	88.0	88.2	87.8

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@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-0585
Heidi Lanouette – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106

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: 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 www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@usda.gov.

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