



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released April 19, 2018, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Record High Pork Production for March

March 2017 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2018 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.52 billion pounds in March, down slightly from the 4.54 billion pounds produced in March 2017.

Beef production, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.70 million head, down 2 percent from March 2017. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,358 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.1 million pounds, 6 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 43,700 head, down 3 percent from March 2017. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from last year, at 240 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.30 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up slightly from March 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was up 3 percent from March 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 201,600 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, unchanged from March a year ago.

January to March 2018 commercial red meat production was 13.2 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2017.

Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up slightly, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 3 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2017	February 2018	March 2018	March 2018 as % of		January to March		
				March 2017	February 2018	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,249.7	1,983.4	2,203.5	98	111	6,302.9	6,464.9	103
Veal	6.4	5.8	6.1	94	105	18.4	18.5	100
Pork	2,267.6	2,058.0	2,297.1	101	112	6,409.9	6,645.1	104
Lamb and mutton	13.7	11.8	14.2	103	120	37.2	38.4	103
Total red meat	4,537.5	4,058.9	4,520.8	100	111	12,768.3	13,166.9	103

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2017	February 2018	March 2018	March 2018 as % of		January to March		
				March 2017	February 2018	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,220.2	1,956.4	2,174.7	98	111	6,216.7	6,379.5	103
Veal	6.3	5.6	5.9	94	105	18.0	18.0	101
Pork	2,254.6	2,047.1	2,285.2	101	112	6,373.0	6,611.0	104
Lamb and mutton	12.7	10.8	13.3	104	123	34.5	35.8	104
Total red meat	4,493.8	4,019.9	4,479.1	100	111	12,642.2	13,044.3	103

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	March 2017	February 2018	March 2018	March 2018 as % of 2017	January to March		
					2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,725.5	2,378.2	2,660.5	98	7,588.2	7,752.5	102
Other 1,000	42.8	39.0	41.4	97	126.1	124.1	98
Commercial 1,000	2,768.3	2,417.1	2,701.9	98	7,714.3	7,876.6	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,352	1,370	1,360	101	1,363	1,370	101
Other pounds	1,198	1,209	1,210	101	1,193	1,200	101
Commercial pounds	1,350	1,368	1,358	101	1,360	1,367	101
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	44.3	40.4	43.0	97	129.8	131.8	102
Other 1,000	0.7	0.7	0.7	98	2.0	2.1	103
Commercial 1,000	45.0	41.1	43.7	97	131.8	133.9	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	244	240	237	97	238	236	99
Other pounds	407	387	375	92	402	385	96
Commercial pounds	247	242	240	97	241	239	99
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,611.2	9,578.1	10,660.7	100	29,980.2	30,891.6	103
Other 1,000	69.9	58.2	63.9	91	197.6	183.4	93
Commercial 1,000	10,681.0	9,636.3	10,724.6	100	30,177.8	31,075.0	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	284	286	287	101	284	286	101
Other pounds	256	256	255	100	257	255	99
Commercial pounds	284	286	286	101	284	286	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	177.3	146.0	185.2	104	483.8	493.2	102
Other 1,000	19.0	18.7	16.4	86	49.3	49.5	100
Commercial 1,000	196.3	164.8	201.6	103	533.1	542.6	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	143	148	142	100	143	145	101
Other pounds	112	105	112	100	110	109	99
Commercial pounds	140	143	140	100	140	141	101
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	36.8	35.3	42.4	115	105.9	117.2	111
Other 1,000	8.8	7.5	7.5	85	26.4	22.1	84
Commercial 1,000	45.5	42.7	49.9	110	132.3	139.3	105
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	62	65	63	102	62	64	103
Other pounds	85	80	80	94	81	81	99
Commercial pounds	66	67	66	99	66	67	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.8	3.7	4.6	97	13.1	12.2	93
Other 1,000	1.2	0.4	1.0	84	2.4	1.9	80
Commercial 1,000	6.0	4.1	5.6	94	15.5	14.1	91

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 2017	February 2018	March 2018	March 2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.2	1.1	1.3	112
Alaska	0.1	0.1	0.1	93
Arizona	41.9	39.8	39.3	94
Arkansas	0.5	0.4	0.3	64
California	123.3	108.7	122.0	99
Colorado	200.1	167.4	184.9	92
Delaware-Maryland	3.2	2.9	3.2	100
Florida	3.0	2.4	2.6	85
Georgia	14.5	12.0	13.9	96
Hawaii	0.8	0.6	0.8	95
Idaho	5.5	21.6	25.0	457
Illinois	293.4	263.8	296.6	101
Indiana	166.0	138.3	164.4	99
Iowa	641.1	590.0	660.3	103
Kansas	476.2	418.0	471.4	99
Kentucky	48.8	43.3	48.7	100
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	0.4	100
Michigan	43.2	69.3	80.3	186
Minnesota	231.1	219.8	242.0	105
Mississippi	0.6	0.6	0.6	107
Missouri	180.6	158.9	181.7	101
Montana	2.5	1.0	2.0	80
Nebraska	707.1	608.1	673.5	95
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	85
New England ¹	1.9	1.7	1.9	98
New Jersey	3.2	3.0	3.3	102
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	0.3	114
New York	3.7	2.9	3.2	88
North Carolina	245.6	218.9	226.3	92
North Dakota	0.8	0.8	0.8	96
Ohio	23.2	19.0	21.1	91
Oklahoma	100.4	89.8	102.3	102
Oregon	5.5	5.0	4.6	83
Pennsylvania	127.1	114.8	128.2	101
South Carolina	10.2	8.9	9.2	90
South Dakota	132.6	118.8	134.5	101
Tennessee	22.8	20.0	22.5	98
Texas	396.1	340.9	379.9	96
Utah	39.9	39.4	42.9	107
Virginia	54.0	44.0	45.1	84
Washington	75.0	63.9	73.0	97
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	0.5	101
Wisconsin	109.1	97.8	105.5	97
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	101
United States	4,537.5	4,058.9	4,520.8	100

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: March 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama	0.8	0.7	834	708	1,112	1,038
Alaska	0.1	0.1	57	54	1,144	1,036
Arizona	52.5	47.7	69,849	64,929	1,333	1,364
Arkansas	0.6	0.4	564	354	1,000	954
California	118.5	120.5	155,909	163,413	1,327	1,366
Colorado	222.6	206.7	307,920	284,109	1,385	1,376
Delaware-Maryland	3.4	3.3	4,590	4,422	1,353	1,336
Florida	4.4	(D)	5,142	(D)	1,167	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.9	1.0	1,099	1,207	1,182	1,153
Idaho	4.3	32.9	5,218	43,741	1,271	1,349
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	2.6	2.6	2,883	2,987	1,106	1,152
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	554.3	542.1	735,936	726,790	1,328	1,341
Kentucky	1.8	2.1	1,805	2,318	1,024	1,082
Louisiana	0.5	0.5	418	409	831	868
Michigan	46.7	48.0	65,614	67,930	1,414	1,425
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.4	0.4	322	324	786	906
Missouri	3.6	4.5	4,168	5,253	1,162	1,169
Montana	2.7	2.4	3,725	2,843	1,365	1,204
Nebraska	650.0	601.1	919,049	853,043	1,415	1,421
Nevada	0.1	0.1	137	107	1,044	1,023
New England ¹	1.8	1.9	2,137	2,224	1,206	1,185
New Jersey	3.3	3.2	3,585	3,488	1,083	1,112
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	281	352	1,009	1,063
New York	3.1	3.2	3,720	3,856	1,225	1,226
North Carolina	6.1	6.3	7,499	7,780	1,229	1,239
North Dakota	1.0	0.9	1,265	1,234	1,316	1,306
Ohio	4.9	4.9	5,690	6,376	1,158	1,307
Oklahoma	2.3	2.5	2,469	2,855	1,052	1,145
Oregon	(D)	2.1	(D)	2,592	(D)	1,242
Pennsylvania	87.6	91.7	109,495	113,404	1,255	1,240
South Carolina	15.4	14.0	19,264	17,401	1,258	1,247
South Dakota	33.7	37.1	48,498	54,333	1,450	1,473
Tennessee	6.7	5.3	6,135	4,995	945	962
Texas	492.7	475.1	642,948	619,353	1,309	1,308
Utah	49.2	51.0	64,717	69,049	1,317	1,357
Virginia	1.3	1.6	1,408	1,654	1,076	1,038
Washington	92.2	87.2	124,575	120,557	1,354	1,387
West Virginia	0.6	0.6	607	619	1,054	1,059
Wisconsin	117.3	114.9	163,459	160,497	1,401	1,405
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	553	558	1,153	1,141
United States	2,768.3	2,701.9	3,728,850	3,660,705	1,350	1,358

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

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

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: March 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	9.1	6.6	866	662	97	103
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	0.1	25	31	420	442
Georgia	0.1	0.2	66	71	461	449
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	1.9	2.0	158	164	81	81
Illinois	0.1	0.1	28	24	409	379
Indiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	30	33	300	302
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.3	0.2	39	44	150	188
New Jersey	2.0	1.8	751	687	375	377
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	5.3	7.3	633	745	122	102
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	26	27	391	378
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	10.0	10.8	2,019	1,847	203	172
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	8.5	8.2	3,598	3,441	424	418
South Carolina	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.2	0.2	98	88	455	444
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	(D)	19	(D)	359	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	5.1	4.8	2,319	2,246	452	473
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	45.0	43.7	11,030	10,416	247	240

(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 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama	2.9	3.5	1,092	1,443	375	410
Alaska	0.1	0.1	34	31	250	241
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	1.0	0.6	257	167	252	280
California	200.1	167.7	49,359	42,281	247	252
Colorado	1.6	1.4	423	355	260	257
Delaware-Maryland	1.5	1.6	395	461	272	284
Florida	5.3	3.7	777	632	147	170
Georgia	5.9	5.9	1,384	1,449	235	246
Hawaii	0.9	0.4	231	96	257	244
Idaho	14.1	14.0	3,617	3,725	258	266
Illinois	1,078.6	1,067.8	307,684	309,149	285	290
Indiana	779.5	763.5	216,728	215,367	278	282
Iowa	2,919.8	2,968.9	826,984	850,368	283	286
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.2	1.1	268	226	230	214
Michigan	17.6	183.5	6,942	54,809	395	299
Minnesota	971.4	1,004.8	263,930	277,532	272	276
Mississippi	(D)	3.1	(D)	558	(D)	181
Missouri	818.5	817.3	237,067	237,156	290	290
Montana	1.9	1.9	534	483	283	254
Nebraska	683.7	706.5	192,064	201,631	281	285
Nevada	0.1	0.1	18	16	256	269
New England ¹	2.7	2.4	755	638	280	268
New Jersey	8.6	9.4	877	937	102	100
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	64	42	272	270
New York	5.0	2.0	1,387	498	278	245
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.4	0.3	109	94	303	301
Ohio	92.5	76.8	25,204	21,954	273	286
Oklahoma	462.7	472.7	130,431	132,058	282	279
Oregon	15.4	14.4	3,967	3,815	258	265
Pennsylvania	300.7	293.7	81,762	80,256	272	273
South Carolina	(D)	2.5	(D)	640	(D)	251
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	63.0	66.6	29,470	29,848	468	449
Texas	26.4	22.2	6,410	5,487	243	247
Utah	4.9	4.4	998	764	204	174
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	1.1	1.0	300	256	281	265
West Virginia	0.7	0.6	189	176	277	282
Wisconsin	69.9	63.4	30,850	27,545	443	436
Wyoming	0.3	0.3	90	77	264	283
United States	10,681.0	10,724.6	3,031,575	3,071,345	284	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: March 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama	0.1	0.1	3	7	70	62
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	26.4	26.1	3,921	4,153	149	160
Colorado	77.1	75.6	12,850	13,037	167	173
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	4.5	282	408	97	90
Florida	1.4	1.1	80	63	58	60
Georgia	1.5	1.6	94	95	62	59
Hawaii	(D)	0.1	(D)	22	(D)	149
Idaho	0.2	0.1	21	18	135	161
Illinois	9.7	4.5	1,348	388	139	85
Indiana	3.2	3.8	375	437	117	115
Iowa	0.2	0.1	39	23	169	170
Kansas	0.4	0.5	34	45	87	95
Kentucky	1.3	1.5	147	184	109	126
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	25	24	68	68
Michigan	16.6	18.8	2,316	2,660	139	142
Minnesota	0.3	0.3	33	33	122	105
Mississippi	0.4	0.8	22	44	59	57
Missouri	1.0	1.0	90	88	92	91
Montana	0.4	0.4	49	57	126	127
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	0.1	0.1	9	15	128	168
New England ¹	2.5	2.9	268	265	106	92
New Jersey	11.4	13.8	883	1,048	78	76
New Mexico	0.5	0.7	72	110	150	152
New York	4.3	6.9	451	624	105	91
North Carolina	0.9	1.3	67	95	72	75
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	3.4	5.1	478	819	140	161
Oklahoma	0.3	0.5	29	52	112	112
Oregon	3.3	4.0	475	606	144	150
Pennsylvania	6.1	8.7	679	898	111	103
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	45	45	160	156
Tennessee	1.0	0.8	68	53	71	65
Texas	12.3	7.6	1,267	740	103	97
Utah	2.1	1.8	299	255	143	140
Virginia	0.5	0.8	36	61	80	74
Washington	1.0	1.1	146	157	140	138
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.2	1.8	182	298	152	164
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	10	16	145	137
United States	196.3	201.6	27,443	28,196	140	140

(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 2017	February 2018	March 2018	January to March		March 2017	February 2018	March 2018	January to March	
				2017	2018				2017	2018
	(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	1,413.3	1,176.7	1,327.7	3,927.6	3,887.6	51.9	49.5	49.9	51.8	50.1
Heifers	764.1	684.3	754.4	2,094.7	2,186.3	28.0	28.8	28.4	27.6	28.2
All cows	502.2	481.0	533.1	1,445.8	1,558.3	18.4	20.2	20.0	19.1	20.1
Dairy cows	271.1	260.6	286.9	793.4	837.3	9.9	11.0	10.8	10.5	10.8
Other cows	231.1	220.4	246.2	652.4	721.0	8.5	9.3	9.3	8.6	9.3
Bulls	45.9	36.2	45.3	120.2	120.3	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.6
Total	2,725.5	2,378.2	2,660.5	7,588.2	7,752.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	44.3	40.4	43.0	129.8	131.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,307.7	9,312.7	10,372.3	29,146.7	30,043.4	97.1	97.2	97.3	97.2	97.3
Sows	272.1	236.6	257.5	749.3	756.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.4
Boars	31.3	28.8	30.9	84.2	91.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	10,611.2	9,578.1	10,660.7	29,980.2	30,891.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	7.7	6.6	8.5	22.7	22.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.6
Lambs and yearlings	169.6	139.5	176.7	461.0	470.7	95.6	95.5	95.4	95.3	95.4
Total	177.3	146.0	185.2	483.8	493.2	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 2017	February 2018	March 2018	January to March	
				2017	2018
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	816	825	819	821	825
Steers ¹	872	885	878	882	885
Heifers ¹	814	830	820	821	828
All cows ¹	656	664	666	650	662
Bulls ¹	890	893	901	885	896
Calves and vealers	143	140	139	139	138
Hogs	213	214	214	213	214
Barrows and gilts ²	210	212	212	210	212
Sows ²	309	305	304	308	304
Boars ²	207	194	196	205	193
Sheep	72	74	72	71	73
Mature sheep ³	69	67	67	68	68
Lambs and yearlings ³	72	74	72	72	73

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 2018

[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	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
2	6.2	1.7	1.3	2.8	2.7	0.1	0.5	9.1
3	94.4	31.5	2.4	56.6	45.5	11.1	3.9	8.6
4	53.4	4.0	1.1	41.0	14.6	26.4	7.2	0.3
5	280.6	130.4	(D)	110.8	72.5	38.3	(D)	15.8
6	473.5	239.8	127.0	96.7	33.1	63.7	10.0	0.1
7	1,167.7	656.8	443.3	59.2	5.7	53.5	8.4	(Y)
8	292.7	149.1	(D)	33.6	9.8	23.8	(D)	(Y)
9	168.6	68.3	14.0	83.7	71.1	12.6	2.7	6.4
10	121.7	45.4	25.6	48.3	31.7	16.6	2.5	2.4
United States	2,660.5	1,327.7	754.4	533.1	286.9	246.2	45.3	43.0
	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)	2.8	0.1	2.7	
2	11.3	11.3	(Y)	(Y)	20.2	1.5	18.7	
3	502.7	501.6	(D)	(D)	14.8	1.2	13.6	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	6.8	1.1	5.7	
5	3,133.2	3,005.1	123.7	4.4	28.9	1.8	27.1	
6	489.1	488.9	0.2	(Y)	4.0	0.5	3.4	
7	4,507.2	4,429.4	59.7	18.1	1.3	(Y)	1.2	
8	(D)	(D)	0.7	(Y)	77.2	1.4	75.8	
9	164.3	164.3	(Y)	(Y)	24.8	0.6	24.2	
10	29.1	29.1	(Y)	(Y)	4.4	0.2	4.3	
United States	10,660.7	10,372.3	257.5	30.9	185.2	8.5	176.7	

(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 2018

[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	4.9	2.2	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6
2	18.0	4.8	3.6	8.3	7.8	0.5	1.3	26.6
3	275.3	92.9	6.3	165.5	132.4	33.1	10.6	25.5
4	157.5	11.2	3.3	124.4	42.5	81.9	18.6	0.9
5	809.4	379.9	(D)	322.5	209.9	112.6	(D)	51.4
6	1,366.3	691.4	370.0	278.9	95.5	183.4	26.0	0.3
7	3,408.6	1,916.1	1,287.8	181.1	15.9	165.2	23.6	0.1
8	860.2	447.8	(D)	90.5	27.2	63.3	(D)	(Y)
9	496.5	202.2	39.1	247.4	219.0	28.3	7.8	18.6
10	355.8	139.1	71.9	138.7	86.5	52.2	6.0	7.8
United States	7,752.5	3,887.6	2,186.3	1,558.3	837.3	721.0	120.3	131.8
	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	6.7	6.5	0.1	(Y)	7.3	0.2	7.1	
2	33.3	33.0	0.2	0.1	46.4	3.7	42.7	
3	1,447.4	1,444.3	(D)	(D)	36.8	3.4	33.4	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	18.3	2.6	15.7	
5	9,086.6	8,710.3	362.4	14.0	81.9	4.9	77.0	
6	1,455.6	1,455.1	0.4	0.1	9.2	1.4	7.8	
7	12,932.6	12,696.3	182.8	53.5	3.3	0.1	3.1	
8	(D)	(D)	2.2	0.1	208.1	3.9	204.2	
9	540.3	540.1	0.1	0.1	69.9	1.4	68.5	
10	87.2	87.0	0.1	(Y)	12.0	0.8	11.2	
United States	30,891.6	30,043.4	756.8	91.4	493.2	22.5	470.7	

(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 2017	February 2018	March 2018	January to March	
				2017	2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.5	98.4	98.5	98.4	98.4
Calves	98.4	98.3	98.4	98.5	98.4
Hogs	99.3	99.4	99.4	99.3	99.4
Sheep	90.3	88.6	91.9	90.7	90.9

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
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-0585
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

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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USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting
Tuesday, April 24, 2018

University of Chicago – Gleacher Center
450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60611
312-464-8787

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2018 Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php). Or contact Tina Hall (NASS) at 202-720-3896 or at tina.hall@nass.usda.gov or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or at patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov.

The Data Users' Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss developments and trends. For registration details or additional information about the Industry Outlook Conference, see the conference page on the LMIC website (<http://lmic.info/page/meetings>) or contact James Robb at 303-716-9933.