



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released June 21, 2018, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Record High Red Meat and Pork Production for May

May 2017 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

May 2018 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.50 billion pounds in May, up 5 percent from the 4.28 billion pounds produced in May 2017.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.91 million head, up 6 percent from May 2017. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,315 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.4 million pounds, 1 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 46,400 head, up 18 percent from May 2017. The average live weight was down 38 pounds from last year, at 237 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.17 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.2 million head, up 3 percent from May 2017. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.4 million pounds, was up 14 percent from May 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 196,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 6 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2018 commercial red meat production was 21.9 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

This page intentionally left blank.

Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States	4
Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States.....	4
Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States.....	5
Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States	6
Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: May 2017 and 2018	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: May 2017 and 2018.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: May 2017 and 2018.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: May 2017 and 2018.....	10
Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States	11
Federally Inspected Slaughter Average Dressed Weight by Class – United States	11
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: May 2018	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to May 2018.....	13
Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States.....	13
Statistical Methodology	14
Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates	15
Information Contacts	16

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	May 2018 as % of		January to May		
				May 2017	April 2018	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,163.4	2,116.4	2,306.9	107	109	10,429.6	10,888.1	104
Veal	6.3	6.1	6.4	101	105	30.5	30.9	101
Pork	2,095.9	2,141.7	2,174.4	104	102	10,494.1	10,961.2	104
Lamb and mutton	11.8	12.4	13.4	114	108	60.5	64.3	106
Total red meat	4,277.5	4,276.6	4,501.1	105	105	21,014.7	21,944.5	104

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	May 2018 as % of		January to May		
				May 2017	April 2018	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,135.7	2,089.4	2,279.8	107	109	10,289.2	10,748.6	104
Veal	6.1	5.9	6.2	101	105	29.8	30.2	101
Pork	2,083.8	2,131.4	2,164.0	104	102	10,433.7	10,906.4	105
Lamb and mutton	10.5	11.5	12.5	118	108	55.5	59.8	108
Total red meat	4,236.2	4,238.3	4,462.5	105	105	20,808.2	21,745.0	105

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	May 2018 as % of 2017	January to May		
					2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,713.0	2,599.1	2,868.0	106	12,726.3	13,219.6	104
Other 1,000	40.8	38.9	39.5	97	205.1	202.5	99
Commercial 1,000	2,753.8	2,638.0	2,907.5	106	12,931.4	13,422.1	104
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,309	1,336	1,317	101	1,344	1,352	101
Other pounds	1,181	1,206	1,191	101	1,190	1,199	101
Commercial pounds	1,307	1,334	1,315	101	1,342	1,350	101
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	38.5	42.1	45.7	119	206.6	219.6	106
Other 1,000	0.8	0.7	0.7	81	3.5	3.4	99
Commercial 1,000	39.3	42.8	46.4	118	210.1	223.1	106
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	273	242	236	86	248	237	96
Other pounds	394	394	366	93	396	383	97
Commercial pounds	275	245	237	86	250	240	96
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,886.4	9,938.5	10,162.5	103	49,148.6	50,992.6	104
Other 1,000	65.7	54.0	55.2	84	324.2	292.6	90
Commercial 1,000	9,952.1	9,992.5	10,217.7	103	49,472.8	51,285.2	104
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	282	287	285	101	284	286	101
Other pounds	253	260	258	102	256	256	100
Commercial pounds	282	287	285	101	284	286	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	157.1	163.3	177.8	113	797.0	834.3	105
Other 1,000	23.7	17.7	19.0	80	96.6	86.2	89
Commercial 1,000	180.8	181.0	196.8	109	893.6	920.4	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	134	141	140	105	139	143	103
Other pounds	114	103	106	93	108	107	99
Commercial pounds	131	137	137	104	136	140	103
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	45.1	38.6	45.8	101	189.1	201.5	107
Other 1,000	8.5	7.6	7.0	82	42.9	36.8	86
Commercial 1,000	53.6	46.2	52.8	98	232.0	238.3	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	62	64	63	102	62	64	103
Other pounds	80	84	83	104	81	82	100
Commercial pounds	65	67	66	101	66	67	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.8	4.2	4.7	99	21.9	21.1	96
Other 1,000	0.4	0.3	0.4	89	3.2	2.6	81
Commercial 1,000	5.2	4.5	5.1	98	25.1	23.7	94

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	May 2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.2	1.0	1.1	99
Alaska	0.1	0.1	0.1	86
Arizona	35.9	36.3	39.7	111
Arkansas	0.5	0.4	0.4	72
California	117.5	110.2	120.7	103
Colorado	181.5	173.9	195.1	107
Delaware-Maryland	3.4	3.1	3.4	100
Florida	2.6	2.7	2.8	109
Georgia	13.5	12.3	13.2	98
Hawaii	0.7	0.6	0.7	101
Idaho	5.3	24.4	26.5	497
Illinois	280.3	272.2	284.1	101
Indiana	156.7	151.9	150.4	96
Iowa	588.2	630.5	646.3	110
Kansas	447.2	453.4	514.0	115
Kentucky	44.6	45.9	43.8	98
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	0.4	94
Michigan	41.0	79.3	80.8	197
Minnesota	221.3	222.7	231.2	104
Mississippi	0.5	0.5	0.6	122
Missouri	172.2	166.2	165.6	96
Montana	2.8	1.5	2.0	72
Nebraska	680.5	635.6	677.2	100
Nevada	0.2	0.1	0.1	86
New England ¹	2.1	1.9	2.1	101
New Jersey	3.7	3.3	3.8	104
New Mexico	0.2	0.3	0.3	132
New York	4.0	3.3	3.6	91
North Carolina	213.9	206.0	209.6	98
North Dakota	0.7	0.7	0.6	86
Ohio	21.7	19.0	20.3	94
Oklahoma	102.6	103.8	98.7	96
Oregon	5.9	3.6	4.3	73
Pennsylvania	126.5	121.6	125.3	99
South Carolina	10.2	9.7	10.3	100
South Dakota	122.0	121.3	125.4	103
Tennessee	21.3	17.7	20.6	97
Texas	383.3	385.6	407.3	106
Utah	44.1	41.6	46.1	105
Virginia	38.9	41.6	45.0	115
Washington	75.2	68.6	76.4	102
West Virginia	0.5	0.6	0.5	98
Wisconsin	102.4	100.9	100.4	98
Wyoming	0.3	0.3	0.3	109
United States	4,277.5	4,276.6	4,501.1	105

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

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

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	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	0.6	0.7	622	683	1,019	1,016
Alaska	0.1	0.1	90	81	1,251	1,089
Arizona	45.6	49.3	59,865	65,703	1,315	1,334
Arkansas	0.6	0.4	583	423	1,001	990
California	111.9	115.2	148,873	155,505	1,340	1,359
Colorado	216.2	232.5	283,515	303,095	1,313	1,305
Delaware-Maryland	3.7	3.5	4,866	4,793	1,333	1,359
Florida	3.8	(D)	4,416	(D)	1,179	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.8	1.0	939	1,127	1,162	1,129
Idaho	4.2	35.4	5,139	46,240	1,286	1,321
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	2.7	2.9	2,958	3,346	1,106	1,151
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	542.4	609.0	696,980	798,352	1,285	1,311
Kentucky	1.6	2.5	1,705	2,624	1,082	1,071
Louisiana	0.6	0.6	472	461	821	830
Michigan	43.8	49.3	60,803	68,724	1,394	1,401
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.3	0.4	277	335	813	829
Missouri	3.9	3.6	4,203	4,160	1,091	1,160
Montana	3.0	2.4	4,113	2,946	1,370	1,212
Nebraska	668.1	660.0	890,142	885,993	1,334	1,344
Nevada	0.2	0.2	180	151	1,054	985
New England ¹	2.0	2.1	2,319	2,516	1,190	1,180
New Jersey	3.8	3.9	4,156	4,358	1,104	1,121
New Mexico	0.3	0.4	290	404	1,063	1,106
New York	3.4	3.7	4,135	4,432	1,214	1,211
North Carolina	6.0	6.5	7,384	7,997	1,236	1,236
North Dakota	0.9	0.8	1,130	977	1,312	1,288
Ohio	4.3	4.8	4,874	6,252	1,145	1,299
Oklahoma	2.7	2.2	2,801	2,306	1,046	1,066
Oregon	(D)	1.5	(D)	1,677	(D)	1,122
Pennsylvania	87.5	93.9	107,464	114,885	1,232	1,227
South Carolina	15.5	15.6	19,318	19,423	1,256	1,254
South Dakota	34.8	30.4	49,072	43,196	1,420	1,422
Tennessee	6.8	1.3	6,311	1,372	960	1,065
Texas	486.7	519.7	622,667	662,361	1,283	1,278
Utah	54.4	56.5	71,553	73,724	1,317	1,308
Virginia	0.9	1.1	1,029	1,242	1,102	1,099
Washington	95.6	93.4	124,806	125,631	1,308	1,348
West Virginia	0.5	0.6	589	623	1,114	1,104
Wisconsin	110.0	109.4	152,472	150,981	1,394	1,389
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	398	443	1,068	1,063
United States	2,753.8	2,907.5	3,591,109	3,816,509	1,307	1,315

(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: May 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	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	8.3	7.2	783	742	96	105
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	(Y)	0.1	(X)	38	(X)	408
Georgia	0.1	0.1	67	62	467	491
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	1.7	2.5	128	200	77	82
Illinois	0.1	0.1	34	32	426	369
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	35	36	296	312
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	57	41	207	184
New Jersey	2.1	2.0	788	733	371	372
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	3.3	7.2	491	835	151	117
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	53	34	446	386
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	6.9	12.7	1,687	2,024	247	161
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	8.4	8.1	3,592	3,385	430	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	107	88	431	426
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	(D)	22	(D)	307	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	5.3	4.9	2,484	2,379	467	491
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	39.3	46.4	10,736	10,944	275	237

(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: May 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	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	3.1	2.9	1,226	1,182	393	408
Alaska	0.2	0.1	39	27	253	249
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	0.9	0.5	226	147	249	270
California	192.5	174.6	46,591	44,463	242	255
Colorado	1.7	1.6	391	386	226	246
Delaware-Maryland	1.6	1.5	394	366	239	239
Florida	4.8	3.7	637	498	133	135
Georgia	6.0	5.0	1,426	1,238	239	248
Hawaii	0.9	0.4	246	103	261	255
Idaho	13.7	13.9	3,494	3,723	255	267
Illinois	993.5	1,006.1	284,346	288,313	286	287
Indiana	736.9	714.7	204,612	196,687	278	275
Iowa	2,676.6	2,912.2	757,315	830,563	283	285
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.0	0.8	210	175	207	229
Michigan	17.4	184.8	6,816	54,380	392	294
Minnesota	938.7	968.3	253,582	264,328	270	273
Mississippi	(D)	3.3	(D)	553	(D)	167
Missouri	782.9	739.6	225,880	216,488	289	293
Montana	1.8	1.4	510	365	281	258
Nebraska	646.0	626.4	180,317	177,270	279	283
Nevada	0.2	0.2	48	41	264	269
New England ¹	3.1	2.9	807	765	263	263
New Jersey	8.7	8.6	881	836	101	98
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	48	46	259	282
New York	5.4	2.3	1,438	548	266	234
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.3	0.2	89	70	291	289
Ohio	87.1	72.9	23,993	20,838	276	286
Oklahoma	480.7	452.4	133,208	127,972	277	283
Oregon	15.3	15.0	3,898	4,004	255	267
Pennsylvania	301.7	279.8	81,614	75,172	271	269
South Carolina	(D)	2.9	(D)	733	(D)	251
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	58.8	64.9	27,034	29,570	460	456
Texas	28.3	22.7	6,942	5,637	245	249
Utah	5.1	5.4	979	999	193	187
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	0.9	1.1	257	287	280	257
West Virginia	0.6	0.5	190	153	300	295
Wisconsin	64.8	61.1	28,982	27,272	448	448
Wyoming	0.3	0.2	77	66	275	279
United States	9,952.1	10,217.7	2,806,095	2,908,253	282	285

(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: May 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	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	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	26.2	30.4	3,680	4,683	141	154
Colorado	48.9	58.4	8,336	10,307	170	177
Delaware-Maryland	4.0	5.2	365	467	91	90
Florida	1.3	1.4	75	83	59	59
Georgia	2.1	2.4	130	150	61	63
Hawaii	(D)	0.1	(D)	21	(D)	141
Idaho	0.2	0.1	23	18	137	157
Illinois	5.0	5.4	456	492	91	91
Indiana	4.0	4.5	464	528	117	118
Iowa	0.2	0.1	29	23	173	171
Kansas	0.4	0.6	34	48	92	87
Kentucky	1.3	1.8	166	217	129	121
Louisiana	0.3	0.4	17	27	57	64
Michigan	19.3	17.5	2,759	2,624	143	150
Minnesota	0.3	0.4	31	35	119	92
Mississippi	0.6	1.4	37	82	63	60
Missouri	1.0	1.1	77	87	79	81
Montana	0.6	0.4	76	48	129	121
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	0.2	0.1	23	23	150	167
New England ¹	3.6	2.9	365	283	101	98
New Jersey	13.9	16.2	1,080	1,265	78	78
New Mexico	0.5	0.9	80	134	152	151
New York	5.7	5.4	620	572	109	106
North Carolina	1.6	1.4	105	96	65	68
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	3.3	5.1	443	791	135	156
Oklahoma	0.4	0.5	47	60	129	110
Oregon	3.5	4.2	511	603	145	145
Pennsylvania	7.0	7.6	768	812	110	107
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	56	51	163	166
Tennessee	1.5	1.1	94	64	65	57
Texas	14.9	9.9	1,580	868	106	88
Utah	2.0	1.7	299	233	148	139
Virginia	0.7	1.0	52	76	77	77
Washington	1.5	1.3	212	184	139	137
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	2.4	3.2	363	539	151	167
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	8	6	168	128
United States	180.8	196.8	23,720	26,889	131	137

(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	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	January to May		May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	January to May	
				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	1,526.2	1,365.7	1,545.9	6,785.4	6,799.2	56.3	52.5	53.9	53.3	51.4
Heifers	667.6	694.6	758.3	3,372.0	3,639.1	24.6	26.7	26.4	26.5	27.5
All cows	468.9	493.3	513.0	2,354.4	2,564.6	17.3	19.0	17.9	18.5	19.4
Dairy cows	237.2	248.9	245.1	1,258.7	1,331.3	8.7	9.6	8.5	9.9	10.1
Other cows	231.7	244.4	267.9	1,095.7	1,233.4	8.5	9.4	9.3	8.6	9.3
Bulls	50.3	45.4	50.9	214.5	216.6	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6
Total	2,713.0	2,599.1	2,868.0	12,726.3	13,219.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	38.5	42.1	45.7	206.6	219.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,600.6	9,664.5	9,869.9	47,768.1	49,577.8	97.1	97.2	97.1	97.2	97.2
Sows	254.5	244.5	260.3	1,236.9	1,261.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5
Boars	31.4	29.4	32.3	143.7	153.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	9,886.4	9,938.5	10,162.5	49,148.6	50,992.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9.8	9.6	9.5	41.7	41.6	6.3	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.0
Lambs and yearlings	147.2	153.7	168.3	755.2	792.7	93.7	94.1	94.6	94.8	95.0
Total	157.1	163.3	177.8	797.0	834.3	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	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	January to May	
				2017	2018
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	789	806	797	810	815
Steers ¹	836	860	848	865	872
Heifers ¹	771	798	786	806	814
All cows ¹	647	658	647	650	659
Bulls ¹	907	893	900	894	896
Calves and vealers	161	142	137	145	138
Hogs	211	215	213	212	214
Barrows and gilts ²	208	212	211	210	212
Sows ²	310	305	308	308	305
Boars ²	202	198	201	204	196
Sheep	67	71	70	70	72
Mature sheep ³	70	67	68	68	68
Lambs and yearlings ³	67	71	70	70	72

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: May 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	1.9	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
2	7.5	2.1	1.4	3.4	3.2	0.2	0.7	9.2
3	97.4	35.0	2.3	55.1	43.5	11.5	5.0	8.5
4	53.0	3.4	1.4	41.0	11.4	29.7	7.2	0.3
5	280.6	138.7	(D)	104.1	66.8	37.3	(D)	18.0
6	518.1	271.1	138.7	99.0	24.3	74.7	9.3	0.1
7	1,297.4	779.2	445.6	61.3	4.6	56.7	11.3	(Y)
8	317.4	194.8	(D)	25.0	5.3	19.8	(D)	(Y)
9	165.0	70.5	14.6	76.3	59.3	17.0	3.6	6.9
10	129.8	50.4	28.5	47.5	26.5	21.0	3.5	2.5
United States	2,868.0	1,545.9	758.3	513.0	245.1	267.9	50.9	45.7
	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	2.6	2.5	0.1	(Y)	2.8	0.2	2.6	
2	10.8	10.7	(Y)	(Y)	21.2	1.8	19.3	
3	489.2	488.1	(D)	(D)	14.6	1.3	13.3	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	9.5	1.3	8.2	
5	2,983.5	2,855.0	123.3	5.3	30.0	2.2	27.8	
6	471.2	471.1	0.1	(Y)	4.9	0.7	4.1	
7	4,293.3	4,208.1	65.5	19.7	1.5	(Y)	1.4	
8	(D)	(D)	0.7	(Y)	59.8	1.2	58.5	
9	171.5	171.4	0.1	(Y)	29.3	0.6	28.7	
10	29.8	29.7	0.1	(Y)	4.4	0.1	4.3	
United States	10,162.5	9,869.9	260.3	32.3	177.8	9.5	168.3	

(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 May 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	8.6	3.6	2.2	1.8	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.1
2	31.9	8.5	6.0	14.7	13.9	0.8	2.7	43.9
3	464.2	160.7	10.8	272.9	217.9	55.0	19.8	42.4
4	259.3	18.0	5.7	203.0	65.1	137.9	32.6	1.5
5	1,353.4	643.8	(D)	529.6	343.6	186.0	(D)	85.2
6	2,367.1	1,230.3	625.4	466.5	145.0	321.5	44.8	0.4
7	5,858.7	3,366.7	2,145.2	303.5	25.5	277.9	43.4	0.2
8	1,460.8	799.1	(D)	145.1	39.4	105.6	(D)	(Y)
9	813.7	336.0	66.2	396.5	339.3	57.2	15.0	31.8
10	602.0	232.7	125.7	231.1	140.5	90.5	12.5	13.1
United States	13,219.6	6,799.2	3,639.1	2,564.6	1,331.3	1,233.4	216.6	219.6
	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	11.5	11.2	0.2	0.1	13.0	0.4	12.5	
2	53.0	52.6	0.3	0.1	87.3	7.1	80.2	
3	2,403.4	2,398.2	(D)	(D)	65.5	6.9	58.6	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	35.4	5.2	30.2	
5	14,990.0	14,361.7	604.2	24.2	140.4	9.0	131.4	
6	2,417.8	2,416.9	0.7	0.1	17.4	2.5	14.8	
7	21,438.3	21,035.5	311.7	91.1	6.0	0.2	5.7	
8	(D)	(D)	3.8	0.2	325.8	6.4	319.4	
9	865.1	864.8	0.2	0.1	123.6	2.7	120.9	
10	143.9	143.7	0.2	0.1	19.9	1.1	18.8	
United States	50,992.6	49,577.8	1,261.7	153.1	834.3	41.6	792.7	

(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	May 2017	April 2018	May 2018	January to May	
				2017	2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.5	98.5	98.6	98.4	98.5
Calves	97.9	98.4	98.6	98.4	98.5
Hogs	99.3	99.5	99.5	99.3	99.4
Sheep	86.9	90.2	90.4	89.2	90.6

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) 690-8632
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.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.