

# Livestock Slaughter



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

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## Red Meat Production Up Beef and Pork Production Continues to Break Records

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.52 billion pounds during February. This production was up 10 percent above the previous record high for February set in 1995.

February 1996 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. February 1995 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

**Beef production** totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous record high set in February 1977. Head kill totaled 2.93 million, up 13 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from last year at 1,177 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 30.0 million pounds. This production was up 27 percent from a year earlier. Calf slaughter totaled 142,500, up 34 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight was down 27 pounds to 355 pounds.

**Pork production, at** 1.42 billion pounds was up 5 percent from the previous record set in February 1995. Hog kill totaled 7.66 million head, 5 percent above a year earlier. The average live weight decreased 1 pound to 254 pounds

**Lamb and mutton production, at** 24.0 million pounds, remained unchanged from February 1995. Slaughter totaled 363,500 head, down 3 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight remained unchanged at 128 pounds.

**January - February** red meat production was 7.34 million pounds, up 8 percent from the comparable period a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was up 12 percent, veal was up 18 percent, pork was up 4 percent but lamb and mutton was down 3 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States 1/

Class	: Feb 96 % of			: Jan - Feb 2/				
	: Feb : 1995	: Jan : 1996	: Feb : 1996	: Feb : 1995	: Jan : 1996	: : 1995 : 1996	: : 1995 : 1996	: : 96 as % of 95
	: --- Million Pounds --			Percent		Million Pounds		Percent
Beef	: 1,811	*2,220	2,048	113	92	3,821	4,267	112
Veal	: 24	30	30	127	98	51	60	118
Pork	: 1,354	1,550	1,417	105	91	2,854	2,968	104
Lamb & Mutton	: 24	23	24	100	105	48	47	97
Total Red Meat	: 3,213	*3,823	3,519	110	92	6,774	7,342	108

\* Revised.

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production: United States 1/

Class	: Feb 96 % of			: Jan - Feb 2/				
	: Feb : 1995	: Jan : 1996	: Feb : 1996	: Feb : 1995	: Jan : 1996	: : 1995 : 1996	: : 1995 : 1996	: : 96 as % of 95
	: --- Million Pounds --			Percent		Million Pounds		Percent
Beef	: 1,779	*2,177	2,009	113	92	3,751	4,186	112
Veal	: 23	29	29	126	98	50	58	118
Pork	: 1,326	1,523	1,391	105	91	2,792	2,915	104
Lamb & Mutton	: 23	22	23	100	105	47	45	97
Total Red Meat	: 3,151	*3,752	3,453	110	92	6,639	7,205	109

\* Revised.

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

Livestock Slaughter: Number and Average Weights, United States 1/

Species	Unit	Number			Feb 96 % of		Jan - Feb 2/		
		1995	1996	1996	Feb 1995	Jan 1996	1995	1996	% of 95
Percent									
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	2,529.6*	3,062.9	2,855.4	113	93	5,332.0	5,918.3	111
Other	:Thou:	56.5	77.1	70.8	125	92	125.0	147.8	118
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	2,586.1*	3,139.9	2,926.2	113	93	5,457.0	6,066.1	111
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	1,187	*1,197	1,181	99	98	1,190	1,190	100
Other	:Lbs :	1,039	1,012	1,006	97	99	1,034	1,009	98
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	1,184	*1,192	1,177	99	99	1,186	1,185	100
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	103.7	139.9	138.8	134	99	224.9	278.8	124
Other	:Thou:	2.5	3.9	3.7	149	96	5.1	7.6	148
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	106.2	143.8	142.5	134	99	230.0	286.3	124
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	382	356	352	92	99	382	354	92
Other	:Lbs :	398	419	415	104	99	410	417	102
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	382	359	355	93	99	383	357	93
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	7,157.0	8,129.0	7,506.2	105	92	15,039.1	15,635.2	104
Other	:Thou:	169.5	162.3	155.1	91	96	378.1	317.3	84
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	7,326.5	8,291.2	7,661.2	105	92	15,417.2	15,952.5	103
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	256	257	254	99	98	257	256	99
Other	:Lbs :	234	236	234	100	99	235	235	100
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	255	257	254	99	99	256	256	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	363.0	351.6	353.2	97	100	735.8	704.8	96
Other	:Thou:	12.3	11.5	10.4	84	90	25.5	21.9	86
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	375.3	363.2	363.5	97	100	761.3	726.7	95
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	129	127	129	99	101	128	128	99
Other	:Lbs :	100	97	100	100	103	99	99	100
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	128	126	128	100	102	128	127	99

\* Revised.

1/ Excludes slaughter on farms.

2/ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

3/ Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding.

Commercial Red Meat Production: By State and United States 1/

State	1,000 Pounds		Percent		
	Feb 1995	Jan 1996	Feb 1996	Feb 96 as % of Jan 1996	
AL	5,804	*12,228	10,328	178	84
AZ	21,171	27,637	27,903	132	101
AR	6,493	6,518	6,944	107	107
CA	75,658	92,598	84,169	111	91
CO	144,656	179,141	167,004	115	93
DE-MD	5,707	6,838	6,550	115	96
FL	3,202	4,194	3,689	115	88
GA	35,376	38,369	34,500	98	90
HI	970	1,256	1,299	134	103
ID	36,930	45,122	40,192	109	89
IL	196,673	220,999	205,497	104	93
IN	52,128	75,829	72,214	139	95
IA	533,693	560,385	511,254	96	91
KS	387,197	467,976	428,624	111	92
KY	46,253	52,937	44,131	95	83
LA	2,169	2,272	2,342	108	103
MI	77,479	94,958	84,488	109	89
MN	160,944	179,484	172,297	107	96
MS	24,224	24,217	21,814	90	90
MO	48,357	63,846	58,977	122	92
MT	1,335	1,895	1,664	125	88
NE	425,467	546,557	498,882	117	91
NV	66	119	95	143	79
N ENG 2/	2,444	3,116	2,561	105	82
NJ	2,620	2,992	2,804	107	94
NM	1,744	1,764	1,725	99	98
NY	7,414	9,316	8,512	115	91
NC	96,200	148,505	132,879	138	89
ND	8,996	12,496	10,759	120	86
OH	28,542	30,700	29,206	102	95
OK	4,231	9,427	13,733	325	146
OR	2,611	3,408	3,082	118	90
PA	82,405	97,705	93,007	113	95
SC	13,821	14,791	13,165	95	89
SD	99,055	111,347	106,989	108	96
TN	15,681	18,043	15,733	100	87
TX	335,127	390,323	358,768	107	92
UT	34,309	35,848	34,186	100	95
VA	64,452	73,121	60,270	94	82
WA	45,001	60,415	56,778	126	94
WV	1,157	1,737	1,534	133	88
WI	74,491	92,191	87,709	118	95
WY	372	483	418	112	86
US	3,212,627	*3,823,106	3,518,678	110	92

\* Revised.

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

2/ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

Commercial Cattle Slaughter: By State and United States,  
February 1995 and 1996 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	---- 1,000 Head ----		--- 1,000 Pounds ---		---- Pounds ----	
AL	6.3	16.6	6,478	17,220	1,021	1,039
AZ	31.0	40.8	35,468	44,616	1,143	1,093
AR	2.3	2.7	2,208	2,218	973	836
CA	71.8	77.3	87,717	95,277	1,222	1,232
CO	179.0	206.0	219,852	254,839	1,228	1,237
DE-MD	2.8	3.1	3,480	3,798	1,235	1,213
FL						
GA						
HI	1.0	1.5	965	1,477	1,001	982
ID						
IL	81.7	91.6	97,259	108,965	1,190	1,189
IN	5.5	6.2	5,740	6,412	1,045	1,028
IA	128.5	138.6	156,066	165,747	1,214	1,196
KS	516.2	566.7	607,335	663,646	1,177	1,171
KY	5.4	5.8	5,648	5,725	1,051	993
LA	2.1	2.5	1,769	2,021	858	801
MI						
MN	83.9	93.7	109,557	118,884	1,306	1,269
MS						
MO	12.1	19.8	13,188	21,424	1,087	1,083
MT	1.6	2.0	1,813	2,382	1,167	1,202
NE	474.4	560.6	581,751	683,119	1,226	1,218
NV	.1	.1	73	119	1,058	1,127
N ENG 2/	2.4	2.7	2,594	2,830	1,070	1,062
NJ	1.7	1.8	1,936	2,140	1,139	1,176
NM	3.1	2.9	2,946	2,768	946	953
NY	5.4	6.2	5,786	6,538	1,081	1,053
NC	11.3	14.7	11,439	14,392	1,009	978
ND						
OH	11.0	13.5	12,541	14,934	1,141	1,110
OK	3.4	4.0	3,448	3,754	1,024	937
OR	1.3	1.3	1,622	1,675	1,209	1,313
PA	74.2	85.4	91,583	104,377	1,234	1,223
SC						
SD	18.1	21.4	20,496	26,395	1,135	1,231
TN						
TX	484.5	523.4	532,212	573,824	1,099	1,096
UT						
VA	1.5	2.0	1,504	2,165	983	1,057
WA	61.0	77.2	74,615	90,974	1,224	1,178
WV	1.0	1.2	999	1,099	953	884
WI	102.6	122.3	126,668	148,729	1,235	1,216
WY	.4	.5	481	568	1,166	1,172
US 3/	2,586.1	2,926.2	3,061,659	3,443,285	1,184	1,177

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

2/ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial Calf Slaughter: By State and United States,  
February 1995 and 1996 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	--- 1,000 Head --		-- 1,000 Pounds --		--- Pounds ---	
AL						
AZ						
AR						
CA	11.8	24.4	3,774	8,577	320	352
CO						
DE-MD	.5	1.4	233	600	467	438
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	9.0	10.6	3,694	4,352	410	410
IN						
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	1.8	2.1	783	963	436	459
MI	5.9	8.3	1,670	1,650	285	198
MN						
MS						
MO	.2	.2	67	78	410	407
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG 2/	4.7	5.8	1,222	1,245	260	214
NJ	2.7	3.1	1,149	1,236	428	393
NM						
NY	17.1	21.7	6,736	7,705	393	355
NC	.1	.1	32	28	326	322
ND						
OH	6.7	4.1	3,353	2,004	499	492
OK	.1	.2	35	79	458	460
OR						
PA	11.5	16.6	4,673	6,777	405	408
SC						
SD						
TN						
TX	3.6	2.4	1,029	1,238	282	516
UT						
VA						
WA	1.9	3.3	771	1,257	414	383
WV						
WI	14.9	16.0	6,030	6,454	405	403
WY						
US 3/	106.2	142.5	40,581	50,563	382	355

- 1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.  
2/ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.  
3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial Hog Slaughter: By State and United States,  
February 1995 and 1996 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	---- 1,000 Head ---		--- 1,000 Pounds ---		--- Pounds ---	
AL	9.7	8.8	3,846	3,644	396	416
AZ	.8	.9	204	218	242	240
AR	21.6	20.6	8,640	8,530	400	413
CA	140.9	168.3	31,550	36,359	224	216
CO	3.9	3.7	987	939	254	250
DE-MD	20.6	22.6	4,870	5,319	236	236
FL	6.7	8.4	1,093	1,724	164	206
GA						
HI	3.0	3.5	590	663	196	192
ID						
IL	707.9	717.6	184,599	186,255	261	260
IN	254.1	363.5	62,460	89,623	246	247
IA	2,339.1	2,206.0	601,684	558,726	257	253
KS						
KY	231.5	222.8	58,703	56,556	254	254
LA	5.2	4.8	1,204	1,117	234	231
MI						
MN	552.5	588.7	135,692	145,396	246	247
MS						
MO						
MT	2.1	1.8	506	430	246	241
NE	444.0	492.1	110,135	121,679	248	247
NV	.1	.2	23	31	201	189
N ENG 2/	2.5	2.5	544	543	220	218
NJ						
NM	.3	.2	69	46	212	212
NY	4.0	4.2	824	746	208	176
NC	517.1	687.0	130,990	172,194	253	251
ND	5.2	7.2	1,200	1,703	229	236
OH	110.0	107.5	28,117	27,628	256	257
OK	11.9	58.6	4,222	16,561	354	283
OR	9.9	13.3	2,419	3,277	245	246
PA	165.6	182.8	40,745	43,833	246	240
SC						
SD	474.5	490.6	120,458	129,616	254	264
TN						
TX	27.8	31.1	9,552	10,118	344	326
UT						
VA	338.4	315.1	84,858	79,082	251	251
WA						
WV	1.3	1.1	487	399	379	364
WI	27.8	28.4	10,851	11,474	390	404
WY	.5	.4	121	110	250	271
US 3/	7,326.5	7,661.2	1,871,122	1,946,270	255	254

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

2/ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter: By State and United States,  
February 1995 and 1996 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	--- 1,000 Head --		-- 1,000 Pounds --		--- Pounds ---	
AL						
AZ						
AR						
CA						
CO	122.5	138.1	16,923	17,749	138	129
DE-MD						
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID	.4	.3	38	31	100	108
IL						
IN						
IA						
KS	.2	.1	19	15	115	123
KY	.7	.6	79	74	120	123
LA	.6	.5	64	62	109	114
MI						
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT	.1	.1	16	15	116	114
NE	.1	.1	9	11	107	112
NV						
N ENG 2/	1.7	1.9	175	215	101	112
NJ	12.3	9.6	1,123	931	92	97
NM	4.1	4.1	440	492	108	120
NY	2.6	2.6	271	299	106	114
NC	.2	.2	13	13	77	80
ND		.1	5	9	109	124
OH	.8	.9	88	108	110	114
OK	.1	.1	19	10	131	125
OR	.4	.3	46	36	116	119
PA	4.9	4.5	504	408	102	91
SC						
SD	20.9	20.1	2,732	2,690	131	134
TN						
TX						
UT	2.9	2.7	308	305	108	111
VA	1.6	1.8	182	190	112	106
WA						
WV						
WI	.5	.7	59	79	118	119
WY	.1	.1	11	13	111	127
US 3/	375.3	363.5	48,063	46,529	128	128

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

2/ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Classification of Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection:  
United States

Item	: Feb	: Jan	: Feb	: Jan - Feb 1/	: Feb	: Jan	: Feb	: Jan - Feb 1/		
	:1995	:1996	:1996	: 1995 : 1996	:1995	:1996	:1996	: 1995 : 1996		
	:----- 1,000 Head -----					:----- Percent of Total -----				
Class 2/										
Cattle										
Steers	:1,257	1,509	1,393	2,657	2,902	49.7	49.3	48.8	49.8	49.0
Heifers	: 742	894	856	1,542	1,751	29.3	29.2	30.0	28.9	29.6
Dairy Cows	: 243	*276	263	520	*540	9.6	9.0	9.2	9.8	9.1
Other Cows	: 236	*331	291	510	*622	9.3	10.8	10.2	9.6	10.5
Bulls & Stags	: 51	*53	51	103	*104	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.8
Total 1/	:2,530	3,063	2,855	5,332	5,918	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	:6,806	7,766	7,157	14,288	14,923	95.1	95.5	95.3	95.0	95.4
Sows	: 279	305	292	604	597	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.8
Stags & Boars	: 72	58	58	147	116	1.0	.7	.8	1.0	.7
Total 1/	:7,157	8,129	7,506	15,039	15,635	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	: 19	21	20	40	42	5.2	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.9
Lambs & Yrlings	: 344	331	333	696	663	94.8	94.0	94.2	94.5	94.1
Total 1/	: 363	352	353	736	705	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Dressed Weight 3/										
	:----- Pounds -----									
Cattle 4/										
Steers 4/	: 707	*715	707	707	711					
Heifers 4/	: 766	779	770	768	775					
All Cows 4/	: 704	718	709	703	714					
Bulls & Stags 4/	: 539	*535	533	538	534					
Calves & Vealers	: 854	851	841	852	846					
Hogs										
Barrow Gilts 5/	: 226	214	212	225	213					
Sows 5/	: 186	188	186	186	187					
Stags & Boars 5/	: 181	184	181	181	183					
Sheep	: 291	293	289	293	291					
Mature Sheep 6/	: 214	216	224	217	220					
Lamb & Yrlings 6/	: 64	63	66	64	65					
	: 59	59	57	59	58					
	: 64	63	67	64	65					

- \* Revised.
- 1/ Total and percentages based on unrounded data.
- 2/ Species totals and classification reported by meat inspectors, Inspection Operations, FSIS.
- 3/ Based on packer reports.
- 4/ Included in cattle average dressed weight.
- 5/ Included in hog average dressed weight.
- 6/ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,  
February 1996

Standard :		Cattle					: Calves	
Federal	:						:	
Regions	: Total	:	:	: Dairy	: Other	: Bulls &	: Total	
1/	: 2/	: Steers	: Heifers	: Cows	: Cows	: Stags	: 2/	
: 1,000 Head								
1	: 2.5	.2	.2	1.6	.1	.2	3/	
2	: 7.8	1.2	.4	5.4	.1	.6	30.6	
3	: 89.2	37.6	7.4	31.8	10.5	2.1	3/	
4	: 79.6	2.2	3.4	28.7	38.3	7.1	23.5	
5	: 341.9	140.3	56.8	93.3	40.8	10.6	3/	
6	: 524.4	282.4	148.7	10.7	70.9	11.7	3/	
7	: 1,274.4	671.2	496.1	27.7	69.9	9.5	52.5	
8	: 284.3	132.9	96.4	7.6	42.2	5.2		
9	: 4/						3/	
10	: 251.5	125.4	46.9	56.4	18.7	4.2	32.1	
US 2/	: 2,855.4	1,393.5	856.3	263.1	291.5	51.1	138.8	
:		Hogs			:	Sheep		
:	: Total	: Barrows	:	: Stags &	: Total	: Mature	: Lambs &	
:	: 2/	: & Gilts	: Sows	: Boars	: 2/	: Sheep	: Yearlings	
: 1,000 Head								
1	: 6/				1.8	1.1	.8	
2	: 6/				11.9	2.4	9.5	
3	: 532.3	517.6	14.4	.4	5/			
4	: 1,177.3	1,107.4	68.6	1.3	5/			
5	: 6/				49.8	5.1	44.7	
6	: 2,124.2	1,994.4	108.8	21.0	5/			
7	: 6/				67.1	8.3	58.8	
8	: 3,481.6	3,347.1	99.6	34.9	5/			
9	: 6/				5/			
10	: 190.7	190.0	.6	.1	222.5	3.5	219.0	
US 2/	: 7,506.2	7,156.5	292.1	57.6	353.2	20.4	332.8	

- 1/ States included in regions are as follows: 1- CT, ME, NH, VT, MA, & RI; 2- NY & NJ; 3- DE-MD, PA, WV, & VA; 4- AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, & TN; 5- IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, & WI; 6- AR, LA, NM, OK, & TX; 7- IA, KS, MO, & NE; 8- CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, & WY; 9- AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10- ID, OR, & WA.
- 2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.
- 3/ Regions 1-2, 3-4, 5-7 and 9-10 combined for calves to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 4/ Regions 9-10 combined for cattle to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 5/ Regions 3-5, 6-7 and 8-10 combined for sheep to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 6/ Regions 1-3, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-10 combined for hogs to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,  
January - February 1996 \*

Standard :		Cattle						: Calves
Federal :								
Regions	Total	:	:	Dairy	Other	Bulls &	Total	
1/	2/	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Cows	Stags	2/	
1,000 Head								
1	5.2	.6	.5	3.4	.2	.5	3/	
2	16.8	2.7	.9	11.6	.3	1.3	63.3	
3	180.0	74.4	14.7	65.7	21.4	3.8	3/	
4	168.5	4.2	6.9	58.1	84.7	14.7	47.5	
5	696.6	283.4	114.7	191.3	86.5	20.7	3/	
6	1,086.1	584.7	307.8	23.8	145.3	24.5	3/	
7	2,648.6	1,415.1	1,012.3	57.9	144.8	18.6	107.1	
8	593.3	278.6	196.3	14.2	93.8	10.4		
9	4/						3/	
10	523.1	258.2	96.5	113.7	45.1	9.6	60.9	
US	5,918.3	2,902.0	1,750.6	539.6	622.2	104.0	278.8	
		Hogs			:	Sheep		
		Total	Barrows	:	Total	Mature	Lambs &	
		2/	& Gilts	Sows	Stags &	2/	Yearlings	
		:	:	:	Boars	:	:	
1,000 Head								
1	6/				3.8	2.1	1.7	
2	6/				24.5	5.5	19.1	
3	1,142.3	1,114.0	27.7	.6	5/			
4	2,507.8	2,357.5	147.6	2.6	5/			
5	6/				103.0	11.0	92.0	
6	4,381.6	4,112.8	226.1	42.7	5/			
7	6/				133.4	15.2	118.2	
8	7,211.8	6,948.1	194.2	69.5	5/			
9	6/				5/			
10	391.8	390.3	1.3	.2	440.1	7.7	432.3	
US	15,635.2	14,922.7	597.0	115.5	704.8	41.5	663.3	

\* Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

- 1/ States included in regions are as follows: 1- CT, ME, NH, VT, MA, & RI; 2-NY & NJ; 3- DE-MD, PA, WV, & VA; 4- AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, & TN; 5- IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, & WI; 6- AR, LA, NM, OK, & TX; 7- IA, KS, MO, & NE; 8- CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, & WY; 9- AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10- ID, OR, & WA.
- 2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.
- 3/ Region 1-2, 3-4, 5-7 and 9-10 combined for calves to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 4/ Regions 9-10 combined for cattle to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 5/ Regions 3-5, 6-7 and 8-10 combined for sheep to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 6/ Regions 1-3, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-10 combined for hogs to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: By State and United States,  
February 1996 1/

State	Cattle						Calves
	Total 2/	Steers	Heifers	Dairy Cows	Other Cows	Bulls & Stags	Total 2/
	1,000 Head						
AL	15.1			5.8	8.5	.8	
AZ	40.3	38.4	1.8				
AR	1.9	.4	.2	.1	1.2	.1	
CA	76.9	22.3	5.9	41.6	5.1	2.0	24.3
CO	205.2	111.8	74.8	.6	17.6	.5	
DE-MD	3.1	2.3	.5	.2		.1	1.4
FL							
GA							
HI	1.5	.2	.2	.5	.5	.1	
ID							
IL	87.8	49.7	30.5	3.8	2.9	1.0	10.5
IN							
IA	137.1	63.4	44.4	20.9	5.2	3.3	
KS	562.0	335.9	224.3	.3	1.2	.2	
KY	4.3	.8	3.0	.2	.3	.1	
LA							
MI							8.2
MN	90.0	32.1	16.3	14.9	22.1	4.6	
MS							
MO	16.8	1.3	.7	2.3	11.7	.9	
MT	1.4	.6	.3	.1	.3	.1	
NE	558.4	270.6	226.8	4.2	51.8	5.1	
NV	.1	.1					
N ENG	2.5	.2	.2	1.6	.1	.2	5.8
NJ	1.8	.6	.1	.8	.1	.2	
NM	2.5	.4	.3	1.1	.5	.1	
NY	6.0	.6	.4	4.6		.4	21.7
NC	13.3	.2	.1	7.2	3.9	2.1	
ND							
OH	3.4	.3	.3	2.0	.4	.4	3.9
OK	1.0		.1	.4	.4	.1	
OR	1.0	.5	.1	.1	.1	.1	
PA	85.0	35.2	6.8	31.0	10.1	1.9	16.6
SC							
SD	19.3	.1	.1	2.0	15.0	2.1	
TN							
TX	518.6	281.5	148.1	9.0	68.6	11.3	1.7
UT							
VA							
WA	77.2	35.8	28.9	6.6	5.5	.4	3.3
WV	.1						
WI	117.8	37.4	7.5	56.3	12.6	4.0	16.0
WY							
US 3/	2,855.4	1,393.5	856.3	263.1	291.5	51.1	138.8

1/ Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: By State and United States,  
February 1996 1/

State	Hogs				Sheep		
	Total 2/	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total 2/	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings
	1,000 Head						
AL	7.1	.1	5.7	1.3			
AZ							
AR	20.0	11.3	8.7				
CA	161.3	161.1	.2				
CO	3.2	3.0	.2		138.1	.1	138.0
DE-MD	22.5	22.2	.3	.1			
FL							
GA							
HI	3.5	3.4					
ID					.1		.1
IL	688.7	618.3	52.3	18.1			
IN	359.0	358.8	.1				
IA	2,202.9	2,125.1	42.9	34.8			
KS							
KY	221.7	213.5	8.2		.6	.4	.2
LA							
MI							
MN	585.4	585.4					
MS							
MO							
MT	1.4	1.3	.1		.1		.1
NE	490.2	490.1					
NV	.2	.2					
N ENG	2.1	2.1			1.8	1.1	.8
NJ					9.3	1.8	7.5
NM					3.6	2.9	.7
NY	4.0	3.9	.1		2.6	.6	2.0
NC	667.6	660.7	6.9				
ND	6.8	6.8					
OH	92.1	83.5	8.6		.1		.1
OK	56.2	50.7	5.5				
OR	13.1	12.9	.2		.2		.1
PA	182.3	180.7	1.4	.2	4.5	.4	4.0
SC							
SD	489.3	439.1	50.2		20.0		20.0
TN							
TX	13.9	6.7	7.0	.1			
UT					2.5	2.3	.3
VA	314.4	302.0	12.3		1.7	.1	1.6
WA							
WV							
WI	22.7	.5	22.1	.1			
WY							
US 3/	7,506.2	7,156.5	292.1	57.6	353.2	20.4	332.8

1/ Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

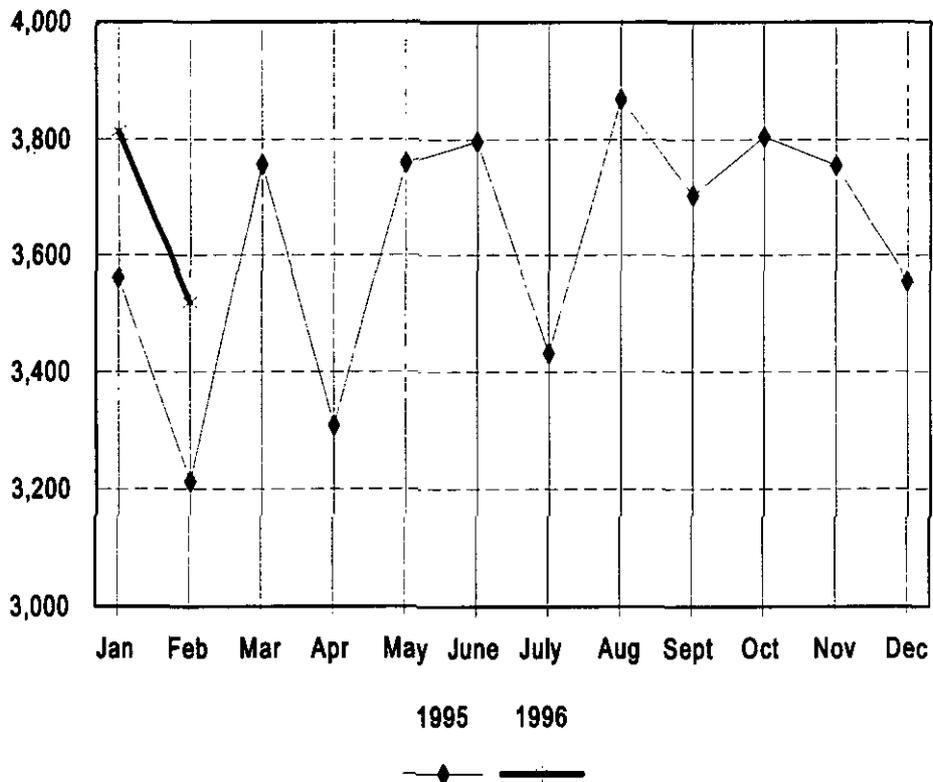
3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter by Species, United States

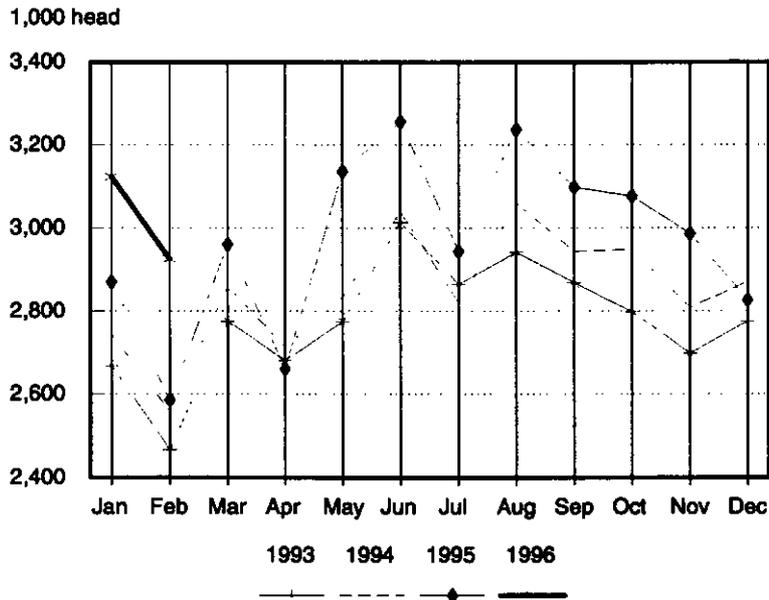
Species	1995		1996		Jan - Feb	
	Feb	Jan	Feb	Jan	1995	1996
	Percent					
Cattle	97.8	97.5	97.6	97.7	97.7	97.6
Calves	97.7	97.3	97.4	97.8	97.8	97.4
Hogs	97.7	98.0	98.0	97.5	97.5	98.0
Sheep	96.7	96.8	97.2	96.7	96.7	97.0

## U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

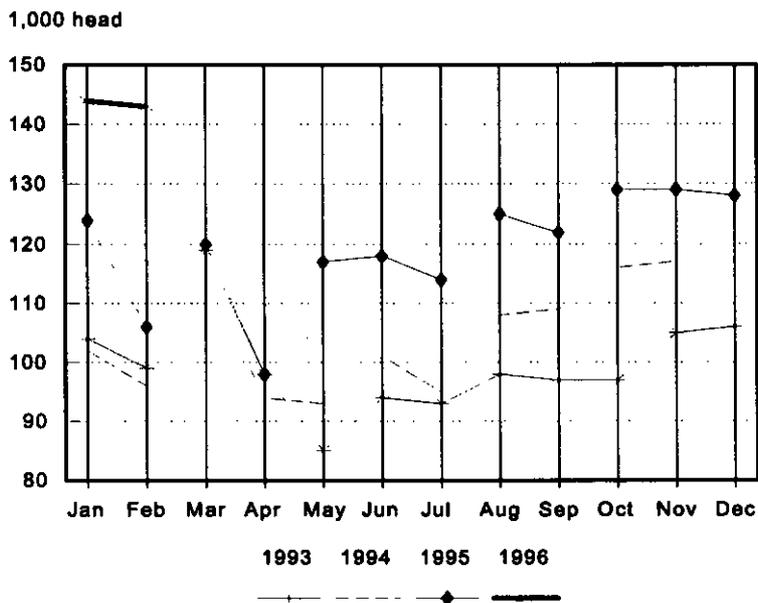
Million Pounds



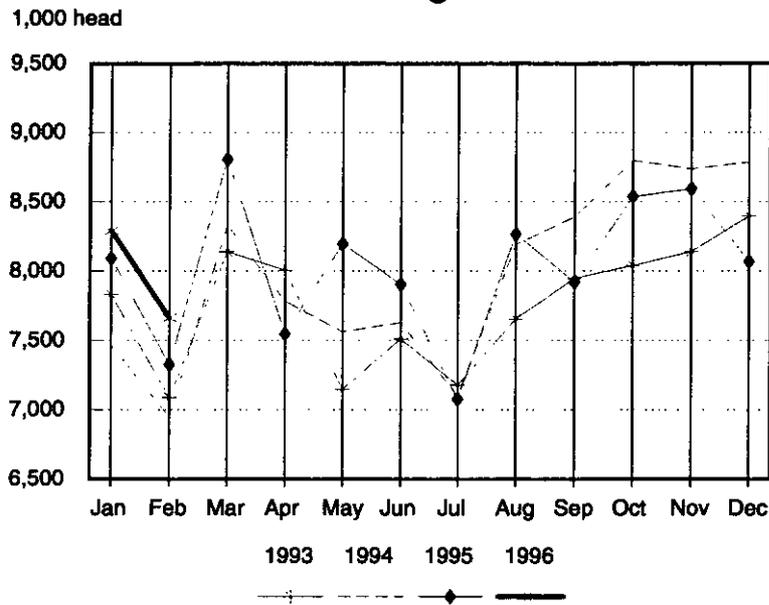
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



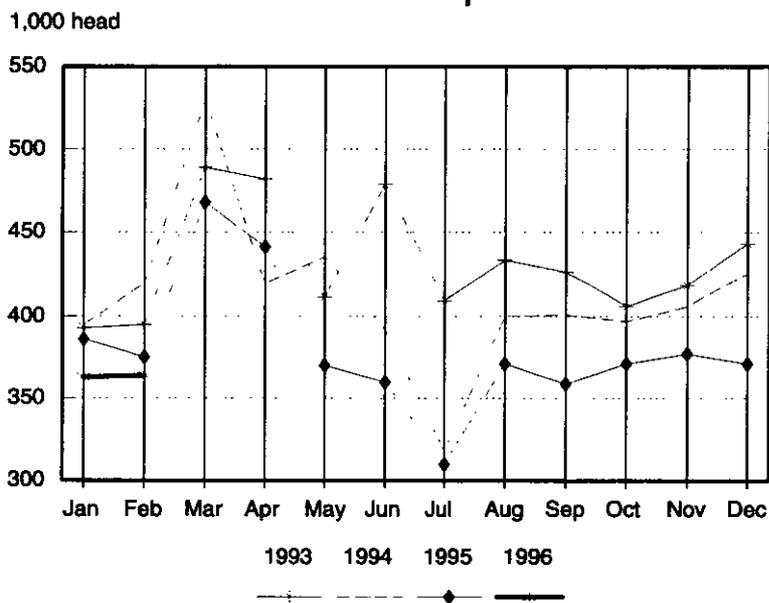
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



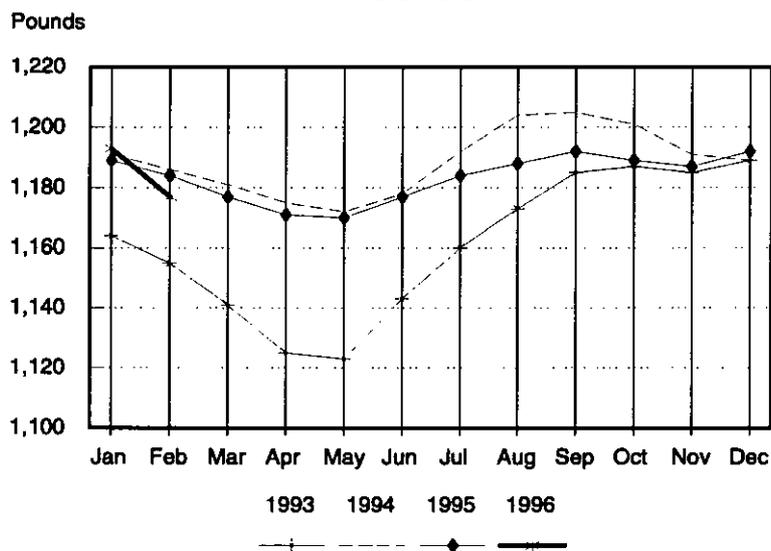
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



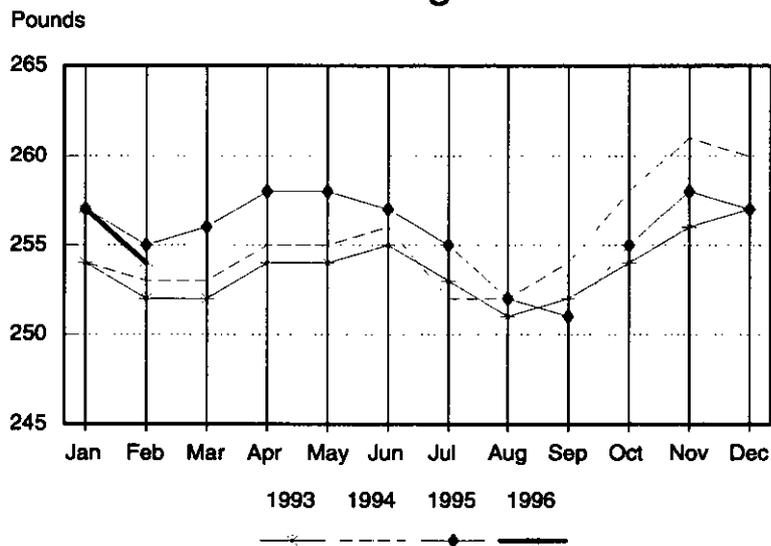
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



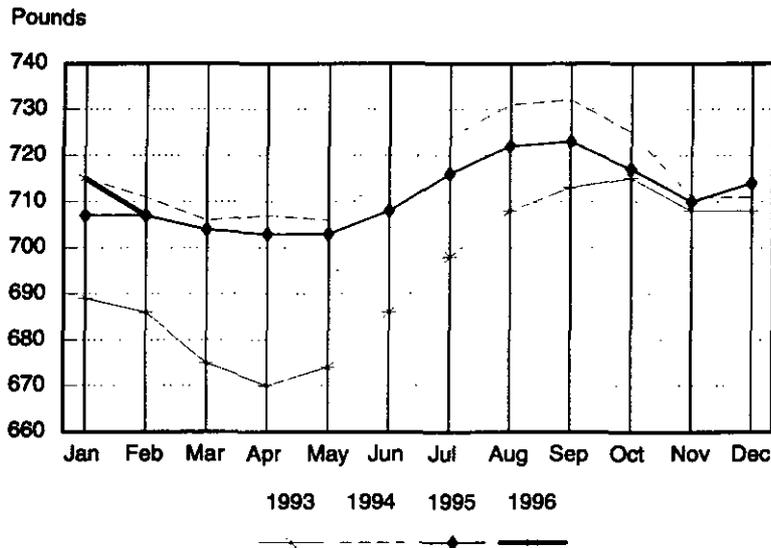
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



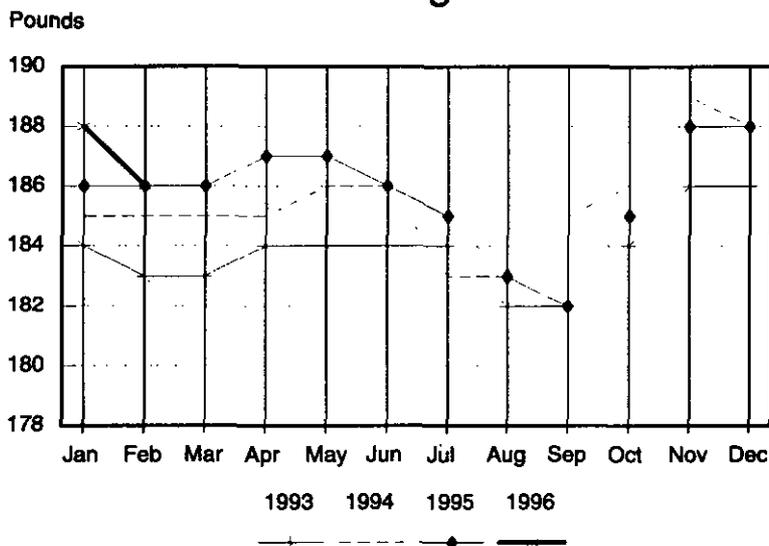
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



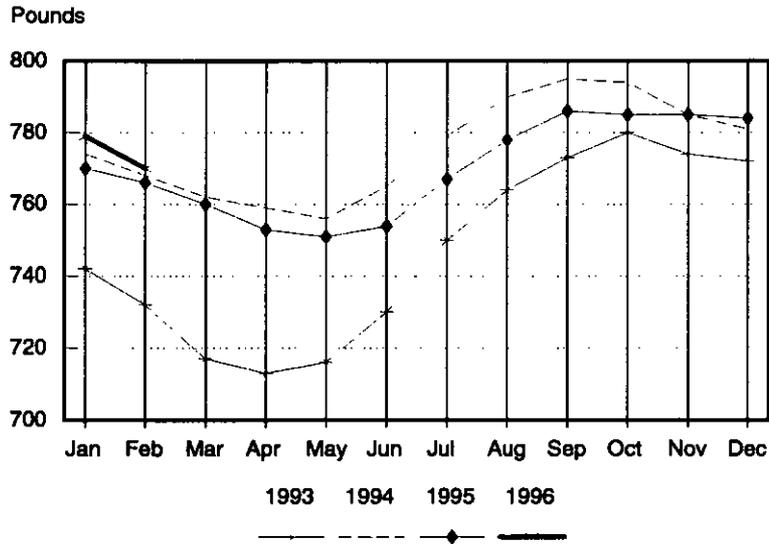
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



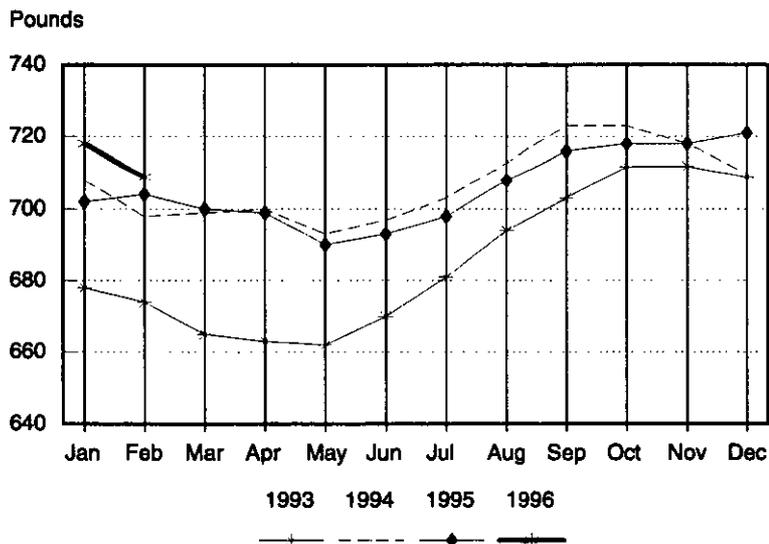
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



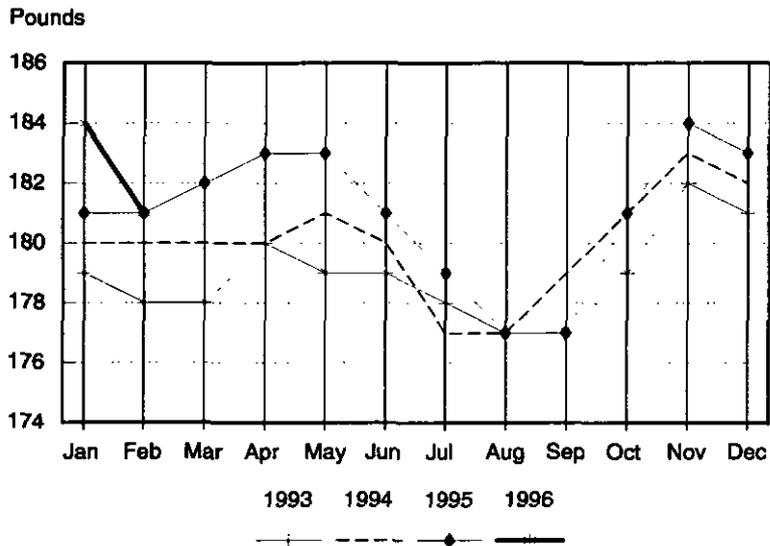
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



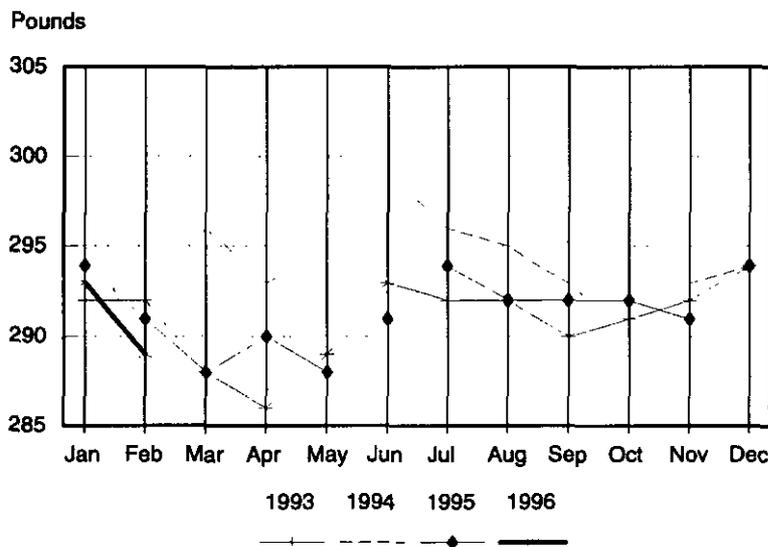
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Barrows and Gilts



## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Sows



## **Livestock Slaughter Estimates**

**Data Sources:** Primary data for the commercial livestock slaughter estimates are obtained from the **Weekly Livestock Slaughter Report (LS-149)** questionnaires completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide actual counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates. Over 95 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. The LS-149 forms collect number of head slaughtered daily under FI by species and class as well as head kill after condemnation and total live and dressed weights.

Approximately 1,200 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection and 2,000 plants under State inspection. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see *Types of Plants*, page 22). To prevent duplication in reporting between NFI and FI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data and are less than one-half of 1 percent. Revisions for the previous month and the year-to-date totals are noted in each monthly release by an (\*) or a footnote. Final data are published in the annual summary.

**Procedures and Reliability:** Individual inspectors may be contacted by telephone if the **Weekly Livestock Slaughter Report** questionnaire is not received by NASS in time for summarization. This assures that all plants slaughtering a large number of head or several species are accounted for each week.

All head kill data are tabulated on a weekly basis approximately two weeks after the kill week. A computer edit compares each plant's data with the historical data for that plant. The edit provides a missing reports listing for follow-up telephone contact and imputes missing weight data. In addition, data are checked for unusual values for species, class, head kill, and pattern of kill generally, based on each plant's past operating profile.

Usually, if no form is received by mail, data for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species are imputed. Imputation of live and dressed weight data may also be necessary on partially completed forms for any plant. The imputation is also based on the data history of each respective plant and represents the recent operating characteristics until final data are tabulated. Imputed head kill for missing plants usually is less than 1 percent of the U.S. head kill totals. Imputation for live and dressed weight data for cattle is about 15 percent and for hogs about 10 percent. The imputation for calves and sheep is more frequent and variable.

Head kill for FI slaughter before condemnation is for the actual days of the survey month, while head kill after condemnation and live and dressed weight data are for full weeks only. Average live and dressed weight and dressing percentages by State are compared with the previous week as an additional check. Fluctuations are frequently the result of plants permanently or temporarily closing and a shift in the kind of animal reported.

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

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

Generally, no data are published if less than three plants operate for a species in a State or if one plant has 60 percent or more of the total commercial slaughter for a species. These data are included in U.S. totals. A review of the reported data is made annually.

#### **Types of Plants**

There are generally **four types** of slaughtering plants.

- (1) **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.
- (2) **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.
- (3) **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.
- (4) **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.

## Terms and Definitions

**Commercial Production:** Includes slaughter and meat production in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

**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:** Is 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.

**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.

**Live Weight:** The gross weight of a live animal when received at the slaughter plant.

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

**Red Meat:** Red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. It is derived using the number of head times average dressed weight for FI and NFI separately. FI head kill must be adjusted for condemnations using the factor derived from the FSIS inspection reports.

The FI meat production formula is  $(\text{FI head kill}) \times (1 - \text{condemnation factor}) \times (\text{average dressed weight}) = \text{FI red meat production}$ . The condemnation factor is the number of animals condemned as a percentage of the total kill. It has been fairly stable for the last ten years; running about 1.547 head per 100 head for calves, .359 per 100 for cattle, .336 per 100 for hogs and .500 per 100 for sheep. 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.

**Wholesome Meat Act:** Legislation that specifies that all meat produced for sale in the U.S. must be inspected; and further, meat that is transported interstate must be inspected in compliance with federal (USDA) standards.

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The next "**Livestock Slaughter**" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on April 19, 1996.

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