

Livestock Slaughter



USDA
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Red Meat Production Down

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.44 billion pounds during March. This production was down 2 percent from the previous year.

March 1997 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays. March 1996 also contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays.

Beef production, at 1.97 billion pounds, was down 3 percent from the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.86 million head, down 1 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight was down 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,161 pounds.

Veal production totaled 28.0 million pounds, down 8 percent from a year earlier. Calf slaughter totaled 130,800 head, 10 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was up 5 pounds to 348 pounds.

Pork production, at 1.42 billion pounds, was unchanged from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.58 million head, 2 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year at 256 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production totaled 26.0 million pounds, down 4 percent from the previous record low set in 1979, 1987, and 1996. Sheep slaughter totaled 398,100 head, down 4 percent from a year ago. The average live weight was down 1 pound to 133 pounds.

January - March red meat production was 10.5 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent, veal was down 6 percent, pork was down 4 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 9 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States 1/

Class	: Mar 97 % of			: Jan - Mar 2/				
	: Mar : : 1996	: Feb : : 1997	: Mar : : 1997	: Mar : : 1996	: Feb : : 1997	: : : 1996	: : : 1997	: 97 as % : of 96
	:--- Million Pounds --		Percent	Million Pounds		Percent		
Beef	:2,035	1,921	1,968	97	102	6,303	6,112	97
Veal	: 30	27	28	92	104	91	85	94
Pork	:1,422	1,309	1,422	100	109	4,389	4,192	96
Lamb & Mutton	: 27	21	26	96	122	74	67	91
Total Red Meat	:3,514	3,277	3,444	98	105	10,857	10,456	96

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	: Mar 97 % of			: Jan - Mar 2/				
	: Mar : : 1996	: Feb : : 1997	: Mar : : 1997	: Mar : : 1996	: Feb : : 1997	: : : 1996	: : : 1997	: 97 as % : of 96
	: --- Million Pounds --		Percent	Million Pounds		Percent		
Beef	: 1,996	1,882	1,930	97	103	6,182	5,993	97
Veal	: 29	26	27	92	105	88	82	94
Pork	: 1,396	1,286	1,398	100	109	4,311	4,121	96
Lamb & Mutton	: 27	21	26	95	122	72	66	91
Total Red Meat	: 3,449	3,215	3,381	98	105	10,653	10,262	96

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	: Mar 97 % of :			Jan - Mar 2/			: 97 %	
		1996	1997	1997	Mar 1996	Feb 1997	1996		1997
Percent									
Cattle No.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	2,833.7	2,726.4	2,794.5	99	102	8,752.0	8,689.6	99
Other	:Thou:	69.6	70.3	67.5	97	96	219.6	216.8	99
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	2,903.4	2,796.7	2,862.0	99	102	8,971.6	8,906.5	99
Live Wt/Hd	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	1,179	1,166	1,164	99	100	1,185	1,165	98
Other	:Lbs :	1,009	1,010	1,017	101	101	1,011	1,012	100
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	1,174	1,162	1,161	99	100	1,180	1,161	98
Calves No.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	141.4	122.0	127.6	90	105	420.1	392.2	93
Other	:Thou:	3.9	3.6	3.2	80	87	11.7	10.8	93
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	145.3	125.7	130.8	90	104	431.8	403.0	93
Live Wt/Hd	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	342	346	347	101	100	343	345	100
Other	:Lbs :	412	404	407	99	101	418	404	97
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	343	348	348	102	100	346	347	100
Hogs No.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	7,548.6	6,835.8	7,437.5	99	109	23,183.8	21,883.1	94
Other	:Thou:	150.5	136.3	146.0	97	107	467.1	430.9	92
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	7,699.2	6,972.1	7,583.5	98	109	23,650.9	22,314.0	94
Live Wt/Hd	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	254	256	256	101	100	255	256	101
Other	:Lbs :	236	236	229	97	97	236	232	98
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	253	256	256	101	100	254	256	101
Sheep&Lambs No.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Thou:	402.8	317.0	385.9	96	122	1,107.7	996.4	90
Other	:Thou:	10.4	10.4	12.2	117	117	31.5	33.5	106
Comm'l. 3/	:Thou:	413.3	327.4	398.1	96	122	1,139.2	1,029.9	90
Live Wt/Hd	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fed. Insp.	:Lbs :	135	133	134	100	101	131	133	102
Other	:Lbs :	99	100	99	99	98	99	99	100
Comm'l. 3/	:Lbs :	134	132	133	99	100	130	132	102

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	Million Pounds		Mar 97 as % of 2/	
	Mar 1996	Feb 1997	Mar 1997	Mar 1996 : Feb 1997
	----- Million Pounds -----		--- Percent ---	
AL	11.2	10.3	10.0	89 97
AZ	27.4	23.9	25.8	94 108
AR	5.8	5.7	5.9	102 103
CA	84.8	76.9	84.1	99 109
CO	163.1	162.4	153.0	94 94
DE-MD	7.0	5.6	5.6	80 100
FL	4.3	3.8	3.5	80 91
GA	34.7	22.5	24.3	70 108
HI	1.3	1.2	1.4	106 111
ID	40.0	35.2	40.9	102 116
IL	204.1	188.6	211.5	104 112
IN	65.3	62.7	66.6	102 106
IA	509.1	397.8	435.7	86 110
KS	415.7	416.5	418.4	101 100
KY	45.9	36.0	41.0	89 114
LA	2.3	2.2	2.2	95 99
MI	88.9	76.0	84.3	95 111
MN	167.0	161.0	172.6	103 107
MS	22.8	22.2	24.7	108 111
MO	59.8	61.6	66.1	111 107
MT	1.1	1.2	1.1	96 91
NE	499.7	484.0	508.2	102 105
NV	.1	.1	.1	74 104
N ENG 3/	2.5	2.1	2.4	94 111
NJ	3.1	3.8	3.9	126 103
NM	1.9	1.3	1.3	70 98
NY	8.9	7.0	8.1	91 115
NC	137.3	138.1	145.4	106 105
ND	9.5	8.5	9.1	96 108
OH	27.2	26.0	25.3	93 97
OK	14.5	43.5	49.6	343 114
OR	3.1	3.0	3.2	103 106
PA	89.7	83.2	86.7	97 104
SC	13.4	12.9	13.0	97 101
SD	102.3	95.0	104.7	102 110
TN	15.9	15.4	15.7	99 101
TX	381.6	355.5	357.3	94 100
UT	32.2	26.5	33.3	103 126
VA	66.0	66.3	60.7	92 92
WA	55.5	47.7	47.9	86 101
WV	1.4	.9	1.1	75 118
WI	86.3	82.7	88.0	102 106
WY	.3	.4	.3	102 84
US	3,514.0	3,277.2	3,443.6	98 105

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.
 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.
 3/ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

Commercial Cattle Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 1996 and 1997 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	---- 1,000 Head ----		--- 1,000 Pounds ---		---- Pounds ----	
AL	17.9	15.4	18,327	15,947	1,023	1,032
AZ	40.4	37.7	44,319	42,013	1,096	1,115
AR	2.7	2.6	2,276	2,483	838	952
CA	77.9	81.6	95,969	101,471	1,233	1,244
CO	201.7	191.4	245,400	228,002	1,217	1,191
DE-MD	3.2	3.2	3,900	3,879	1,216	1,213
FL						
GA						
HI	1.4	1.7	1,457	1,645	1,025	988
ID	56.0	55.9	66,677	67,979	1,191	1,216
IL	90.6	86.0	107,390	100,907	1,185	1,173
IN	5.2	3.7	5,325	3,772	1,024	1,019
IA	128.7	86.9	154,376	104,147	1,200	1,199
KS	555.0	579.7	648,477	656,638	1,168	1,133
KY	6.1	4.7	6,102	4,599	1,007	988
LA	2.6	2.7	2,016	2,223	773	818
MI	41.7	43.1	51,699	52,324	1,238	1,213
MN	88.4	97.0	112,427	121,083	1,272	1,248
MS						
MO	17.4	11.7	20,173	12,930	1,158	1,101
MT	1.2	1.2	1,395	1,369	1,170	1,143
NE	560.4	581.2	681,164	696,770	1,216	1,199
NV	.1	.1	131	93	1,091	1,022
N ENG 2/	2.5	2.7	2,773	2,928	1,113	1,094
NJ	1.8	1.9	2,144	2,250	1,190	1,156
NM	3.0	2.3	2,889	2,212	958	953
NY	6.0	7.1	6,583	7,713	1,092	1,081
NC	14.8	16.0	14,984	16,675	1,012	1,041
ND						
OH	11.5	13.3	12,871	14,905	1,124	1,122
OK	4.0	4.3	3,856	4,093	968	944
OR	1.4	1.3	1,944	1,702	1,346	1,310
PA	79.2	74.7	98,280	91,888	1,240	1,229
SC						
SD	20.4	22.2	26,264	25,580	1,289	1,154
TN						
TX	555.0	520.6	606,591	568,772	1,093	1,093
UT						
VA	2.4	3.5	2,399	3,496	1,005	988
WA	75.8	65.8	91,312	79,972	1,205	1,215
WV	1.1	.9	1,025	730	898	841
WI	118.2	122.9	144,402	150,054	1,221	1,221
WY	.4	.4	442	472	1,083	1,096
US 3/	2,903.4	2,861.9	3,409,950	3,322,656	1,174	1,161

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,
March 1996 and 1997 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	--- 1,000 Head --		-- 1,000 Pounds --		--- Pounds ---	
AL						
AZ						
AR	.1	.1	38	59	380	415
CA	23.9	16.3	8,575	5,702	359	351
CO						
DE-MD	1.3	.6	555	278	427	443
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	10.7	10.3	4,271	4,187	400	405
IN						
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	2.4	1.9	1,104	877	456	460
MI	7.0	6.0	1,298	1,410	186	233
MN						
MS						
MO	.2	.2	69	68	351	362
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG 2/	6.4	5.7	1,331	1,167	208	203
NJ						
NM						
NY	23.6	23.1	7,394	5,567	313	241
NC						
ND						
OH	4.2	4.2	1,803	1,993	428	470
OK	.1	.1	69	55	479	499
OR						
PA	15.8	15.0	6,081	5,964	385	399
SC						
SD						
TN						
TX	4.4	2.3	1,912	1,141	432	488
UT						
VA	.1	.1	42	41	311	308
WA						
WV						
WI	15.5	15.8	6,393	6,204	411	393
WY						
US 3/	145.3	130.8	49,795	45,543	343	348

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,
March 1996 and 1997 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	--- 1,000 Head ---		--- 1,000 Pounds ---		--- Pounds ---	
AL	9.5	8.9	3,969	3,579	417	401
AZ	.9	.9	224	209	243	224
AR	16.7	15.7	6,855	6,786	410	432
CA	165.3	159.6	35,837	34,272	217	215
CO	3.5	3.0	806	629	230	212
DE-MD	25.0	17.4	5,839	4,158	234	239
FL	11.4	9.4	2,575	1,939	226	207
GA						
HI	3.5	3.2	670	643	194	201
ID						
IL	711.5	769.7	185,041	200,330	260	260
IN	325.8	332.5	80,289	83,291	246	251
IA	2,243.7	1,966.0	567,146	506,172	253	257
KS						
KY	226.7	202.0	57,680	51,579	254	255
LA	4.4	3.9	995	832	228	213
MI						
MN	579.9	572.5	142,641	144,992	246	253
MS						
MO	267.1	310.8	67,445	79,161	252	255
MT	1.7	1.7	399	365	234	220
NE	469.2	487.0	115,950	124,420	247	255
NV	.1	.1	26	24	217	225
N ENG 2/	2.1	1.4	453	329	216	237
NJ						
NM	.2	.2	38	43	216	213
NY	3.9	3.0	703	565	181	186
NC	706.7	748.2	174,172	183,612	246	245
ND	6.3	3.7	1,494	887	237	241
OH	103.7	86.7	26,644	22,365	257	258
OK	66.1	229.2	17,388	63,260	263	276
OR	12.2	14.0	3,097	3,539	253	252
PA	185.9	184.1	44,356	44,025	239	239
SC						
SD	462.9	494.7	120,814	124,723	261	252
TN						
TX	30.1	29.6	9,895	9,507	329	321
UT						
VA	344.5	320.0	86,659	78,623	252	246
WA						
WV	1.1	.7	381	248	353	332
WI	30.1	31.0	12,420	12,528	413	404
WY	.3	.2	84	60	248	242
US 3/	7,699.2	7,583.5	1,949,625	1,938,143	253	256

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,
March 1996 and 1997 1/

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	--- 1,000 Head --		--- 1,000 Pounds --		--- Pounds ---	
AL	.0	.1	6	9	118	78
AZ	.1	.1	15	11	99	118
AR	.0	.1	4	5	117	105
CA						
CO	157.1	161.4	22,294	22,889	142	142
DE-MD						
FL						
GA	.1	.2	11	19	84	85
HI						
ID	.3	.4	32	56	106	132
IL						
IN						
IA						
KS	.2	.1	20	15	125	120
KY	.9	.8	116	109	131	141
LA	.5	.3	47	36	103	103
MI	20.7	19.1	2,594	2,332	126	122
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT	.1	.1	11	18	118	124
NE	.1	.1	12	14	85	100
NV						
N ENG 2/	2.7	2.3	344	221	128	96
NJ	10.3	8.6	907	732	88	86
NM	4.0	3.8	485	416	122	111
NY	5.7	6.5	563	538	99	82
NC	.2	.3	20	19	95	70
ND	.1	.1	10	9	116	116
OH	1.1	1.2	117	135	109	109
OK						
OR	.3	.3	35	45	115	136
PA	6.9	7.7	698	762	102	99
SC						
SD	20.4	18.7	2,783	2,520	136	135
TN						
TX						
UT						
VA	1.4	1.3	147	129	102	102
WA						
WV						
WI	.5	.5	63	60	116	111
WY	.1	.1	11	10	130	146
US 3/	413.3	398.1	55,247	52,946	134	133

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	:Jan - Mar 1/					:Jan - Mar 1/					
	: Mar	: Feb	: Mar	: Jan - Mar 1/	: Mar	: Feb	: Mar	: Jan - Mar 1/	: Mar	: Feb	: Mar
	:1996	:1997	:1997	: 1996	: 1997	:1996	:1997	:1997	: 1996	: 1997	: 1997
	:----- 1,000 Head -----					:----- Percent of Total -----					
Class 2/	:										
Cattle	:										
Steers	:1,400	1,283	1,337	4,302	4,080	49.4	47.1	47.9	49.2	47.0	
Heifers	: 858	890	888	2,608	2,784	30.3	32.6	31.8	29.8	32.0	
All Cows	: 523	505	514	1,684	1,672	18.5	18.5	18.4	19.2	19.2	
Dairy Cows	: 243	246	242	782	784	8.6	9.0	8.7	8.9	9.0	
Other Cows	: 280	259	272	902	888	9.9	9.5	9.7	10.3	10.2	
Bulls & Stags	: 53	48	55	157	154	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.8	
Total 1/	:2,834	2,726	2,794	8,752	8,690	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Hogs	:										
Barrows & Gilts	:7,193	6,565	7,153	22,116	21,026	95.3	96.0	96.2	95.4	96.1	
Sows	: 297	222	236	894	708	3.9	3.2	3.2	3.9	3.2	
Stags & Boars	: 59	49	49	174	149	.8	.7	.7	.8	.7	
Total 1/	:7,549	6,836	7,438	23,184	21,883	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Sheep	:										
Mature Sheep	: 22	16	19	63	50	5.4	5.1	4.8	5.7	5.0	
Lambs & Yrlings	: 381	301	367	1,044	946	94.6	94.9	95.2	94.3	95.0	
Total 1/	: 403	317	386	1,108	996	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Average Dressed	:										
Weight 3/	:										
	:----- Pounds -----										
Cattle	: 708	694	694	710	693						
Steers 4/	: 767	753	749	772	753						
Heifers 4/	: 712	697	693	713	696						
All Cows 4/	: 532	528	536	533	530						
Bulls & Stags4/	: 847	846	850	847	845						
Calves & Vealers	: 212	214	215	213	213						
Hogs	: 185	189	188	186	189						
Barrow Gilts 5/	: 181	185	185	182	185						
Sows 5/	: 290	285	284	291	285						
Stags & Boars5/	: 224	207	211	221	210						
Sheep	: 67	66	66	65	66						
Mature Sheep6/	: 60	60	59	59	59						
Lamb & Yrlngs6/	: 67	66	67	66	66						

- 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,
March 1997

		Cattle						Calves	
Standard:		1,000 Head						1,000 Head	
Federal	Regions	Total	Steers	Heifers	All	Dairy	Other	Bulls & Stags	Total
1/	2/								2/
1	:	2.5	.2	.2	1.8	1.8		.2	3/
2	:	4/							36.5
3	:	87.4	37.5	7.0	40.3	31.0	9.3	2.5	3/
4	:	4/							18.8
5	:	424.7	142.1	63.2	199.4	120.1	79.3	20.0	44.7
6	:	521.7	271.7	169.1	66.8	12.6	54.2	14.1	3/
7	:	1,248.7	658.0	496.9	86.1	14.7	71.4	7.7	3.1
8	:	268.4	115.2	108.9	39.8	6.3	33.5	4.4	.0
9	:	119.9	59.3	7.0	50.1	40.3	9.9	3.4	3/
10	:	121.2	53.1	35.6	29.7	15.6	14.1	2.9	24.6
US 2/	:	2,794.5	1,337.2	888.0	514.0	242.4	271.6	55.3	127.6

		Hogs				Sheep		
Standard:		1,000 Head				1,000 Head		
Total	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings		
2/				2/				
1	:	1.2	1.1		2.2	.3	1.9	
2	:	6/			15.1	2.3	12.8	
3	:	6/			5/			
4	:	1,692.2	1,619.5	71.7	1.0	5/		
5	:	6/			54.5	5.9	48.7	
6	:	2,276.0	2,150.4	110.3	15.3	5/		
7	:	6/			71.3	6.4	64.9	
8	:	3,288.5	3,202.7	53.1	32.7	5/		
9	:	6/			5/			
10	:	179.6	179.1	.5	242.8	3.7	239.2	
US 2/	:	7,437.5	7,152.8	235.6	49.1	385.9	18.6	367.3

- 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, 6-7 and 9-10 combined for calves to avoid disclosing individual operations.
- 4/ Regions 2-3 and 4-5 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 2-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-10 combined for hogs to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,
January - March 1997 *

Standard: Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
	1/ 2/	3/ 4/	5/ 6/	All	Dairy	Other	7/ 8/	9/ 10/
	1,000 Head							
1	7.7	.9	.6	5.4	5.3	.1	.7	3/
2	4/							99.8
3	270.6	104.4	22.3	135.7	103.8	31.9	8.2	3/
4	4/							62.9
5	1,287.3	400.0	185.3	646.9	392.0	254.9	55.0	134.0
6	1,638.0	830.5	552.6	215.4	38.7	176.7	39.5	3/
7	3,839.9	1,993.4	1,544.2	280.0	46.5	233.6	22.3	12.8
8	877.3	387.8	341.1	137.0	18.2	118.8	11.4	.0
9	370.1	183.0	20.0	158.6	134.1	24.5	8.6	3/
10	398.7	179.8	118.1	92.7	45.4	47.3	8.1	82.7
US	8,689.6	4,079.8	2,784.2	1,671.7	783.9	887.8	153.9	392.2
	Hogs							Sheep
	Total	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	1/ 2/	3/ 4/	5/ 6/	7/ 8/	9/ 10/	11/ 12/	13/ 14/	
	1,000 Head							
1	3.8	3.7	.1		4.1	1.0	3.1	
2	6/				31.7	6.2	25.5	
3	6/				5/			
4	5,137.9	4,905.0	229.0	3.9	5/			
5	6/				151.0	16.5	134.5	
6	6,510.3	6,150.3	315.9	44.2	5/			
7	6/				187.5	16.3	171.2	
8	9,689.1	9,426.9	161.3	100.8	5/			
9	6/				5/			
10	541.9	540.5	1.3	.1	622.1	10.1	612.1	
US	21,883.1	21,026.4	707.7	149.0	996.4	50.1	946.3	

* 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/ Regions 1-2, 3-4, 6-7 and 9-10 combined for calves to avoid disclosing individual operations.
4/ Regions 2-3 and 4-5 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 2-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-10 combined for hogs to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Federally Inspected Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 1997 1/

State	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	2/							2/
	1,000 Head							
AL	14.1			13.8	3.3	10.5	.3	
AZ	37.2	35.3	1.8					
AR	2.1	.3	.2	1.5	.1	1.4	.2	
CA	81.0	23.5	4.9	49.3	40.0	9.3	3.3	16.1
CO	190.7	94.7	87.1	8.7	.3	8.4	.2	
DE-MD	3.2	2.3	.6	.2	.2		.1	.6
FL								
GA								
HI	1.7	.4	.3	.8	.2	.6	.1	
ID	54.3	23.6	11.2	17.6	8.7	8.9	1.9	3.9
IL	82.4	45.4	30.6	5.4	3.1	2.3	1.0	10.3
IN								
IA	85.5	35.9	24.2	23.4	10.6	12.8	2.0	
KS	575.1	328.7	244.9	1.4	.2	1.2	.1	
KY								
LA								
MI	41.0	23.2	1.7	15.7	12.5	3.2	.3	6.0
MN	94.0	28.7	21.0	38.7	23.0	15.7	5.6	
MS								
MO	9.1	1.1	.5	6.6	.7	5.9	.8	
MT	.6	.2	.2	.1		.1	.1	
NE	579.0	292.3	227.2	54.7	3.3	51.4	4.8	
NV	.1	.1						
N ENG	2.5	.2	.2	1.8	1.8		.2	5.7
NJ	1.9	.6	.2	1.0	.7	.3	.2	
NM								
NY	6.9	.5	.3	5.6	5.6		.4	23.1
NC	14.6	.1	.1	11.4	6.1	5.3	3.0	
ND								
OH	4.2	.2	.3	3.5	3.3	.2	.2	4.1
OK								
OR	1.1	.7	.1	.2	.1	.1	.1	
PA	74.3	34.0	5.9	32.7	24.2	8.5	1.8	15.0
SC								
SD	20.1	.1	.1	18.0	1.9	16.1	1.9	
TN								
TX	516.1	271.1	168.7	62.5	10.8	51.7	13.8	1.9
UT								
VA								.1
WA	65.8	28.8	24.3	11.9	6.8	5.1	.8	
WV	.1							
WI	118.9	42.4	6.5	66.4	53.8	12.6	3.7	15.8
WY								
US 3/	2,794.5	1,337.2	888.0	514.0	242.4	271.6	55.3	127.6

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,
March 1997 1/

State	Hogs				Sheep		
	Total 2/	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total 2/	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings
	1,000 Head						
AL	7.6	.1	6.6	.8			
AZ							
AR	15.3	6.1	9.2		.1		
CA	153.2	153.0	.1				
CO	2.6	2.5	.1		161.3		161.3
DE-MD	17.4	17.2	.1				
FL							
GA							
HI	3.2	3.1	.1				
ID					.2		.2
IL	739.0	673.1	52.6	13.3			
IN	328.2	328.0	.2				
IA	1,963.3	1,900.6	30.0	32.7			
KS							
KY	201.4	193.9	7.5		.7	.5	.2
LA							
MI					18.8	2.0	16.8
MN	569.9	569.9					
MS							
MO	308.9	308.8	.1				
MT	1.4	1.3	.1		.1		.1
NE	485.6	485.5	.1				
NV	.1	.1					
N ENG	1.2	1.1			2.2	.3	1.9
NJ					8.6	1.5	7.1
NM							
NY	2.8	2.7			6.5	.8	5.7
NC	726.0	719.1	6.8	.1			
ND	3.5	3.5					
OH	74.9	67.5	7.3				
OK	226.1	221.1	5.1				
OR	13.9	13.7	.1		.2	.1	.1
PA	183.6	182.7	.9		7.7	.6	7.1
SC							
SD	493.5	478.0	15.5		18.5		18.5
TN							
TX	15.0	8.4	6.4	.2			
UT							
VA	319.7	317.5	2.2		1.0		.9
WA							
WV							
WI	25.8	.5	25.3	.1			
WY							
US 3/	7,437.5	7,152.8	235.6	49.1	385.9	18.6	367.3

1/ Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

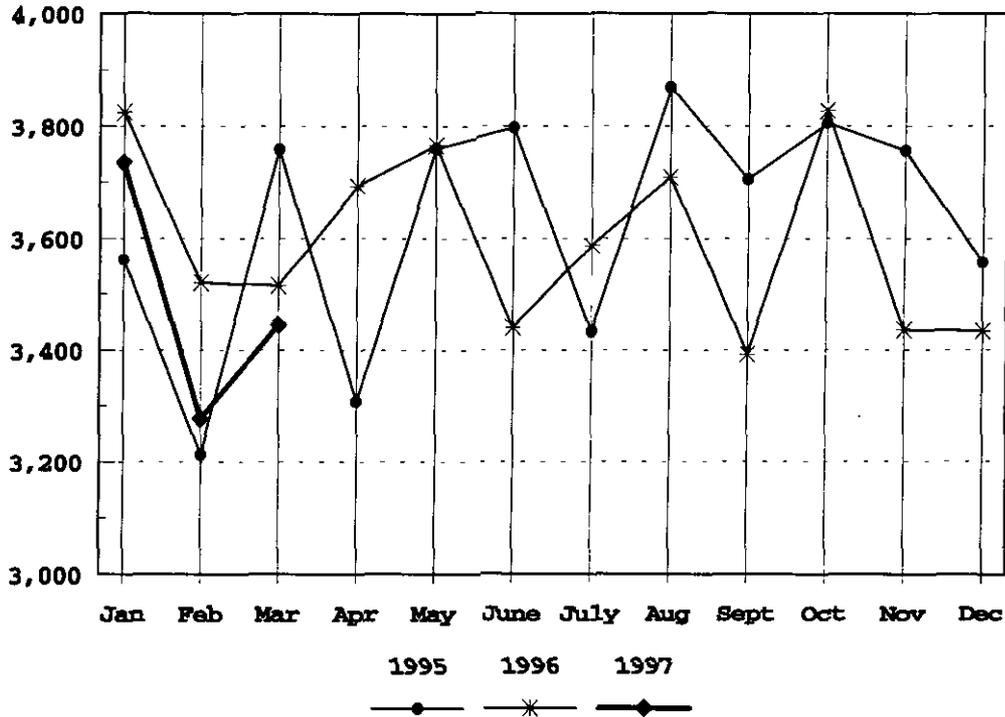
3/ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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

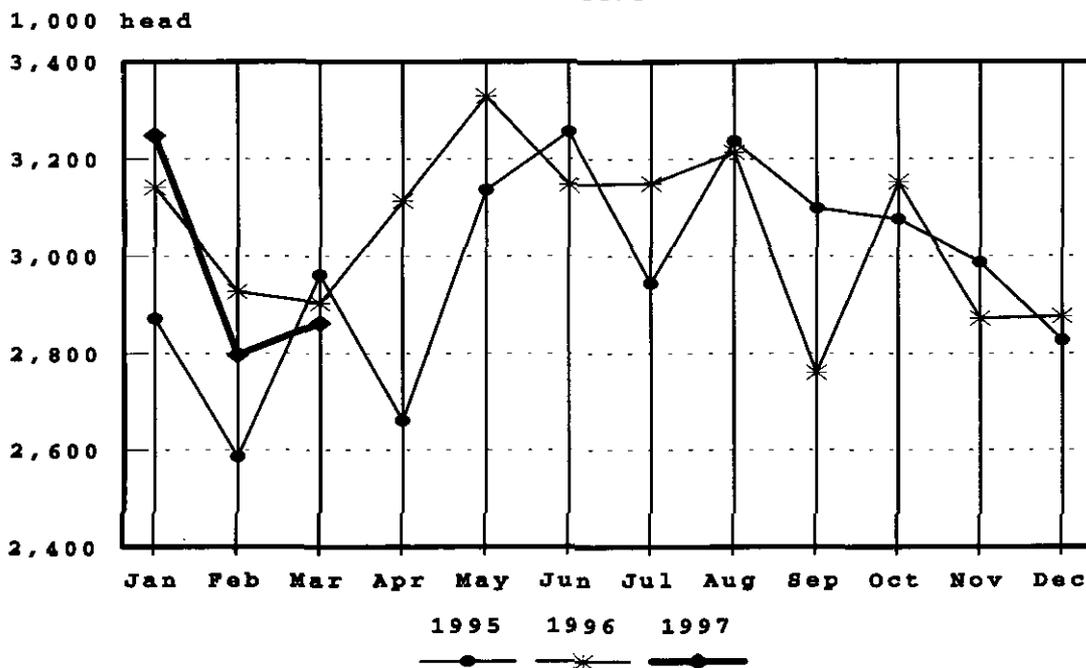
Species	Mar		Jan - Mar	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Percent			
Cattle	97.6	97.5	97.6	97.6
Calves	97.3	97.1	97.6	97.3
Hogs	98.0	98.0	98.1	98.1
Sheep	97.5	96.8	96.9	96.7

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

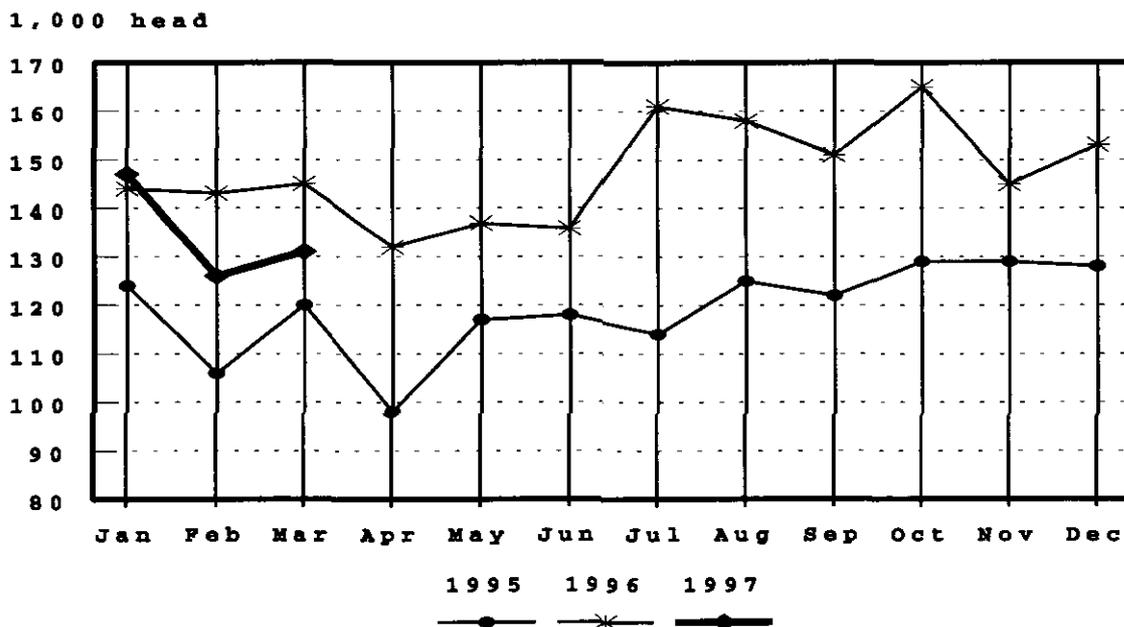
Million Pounds



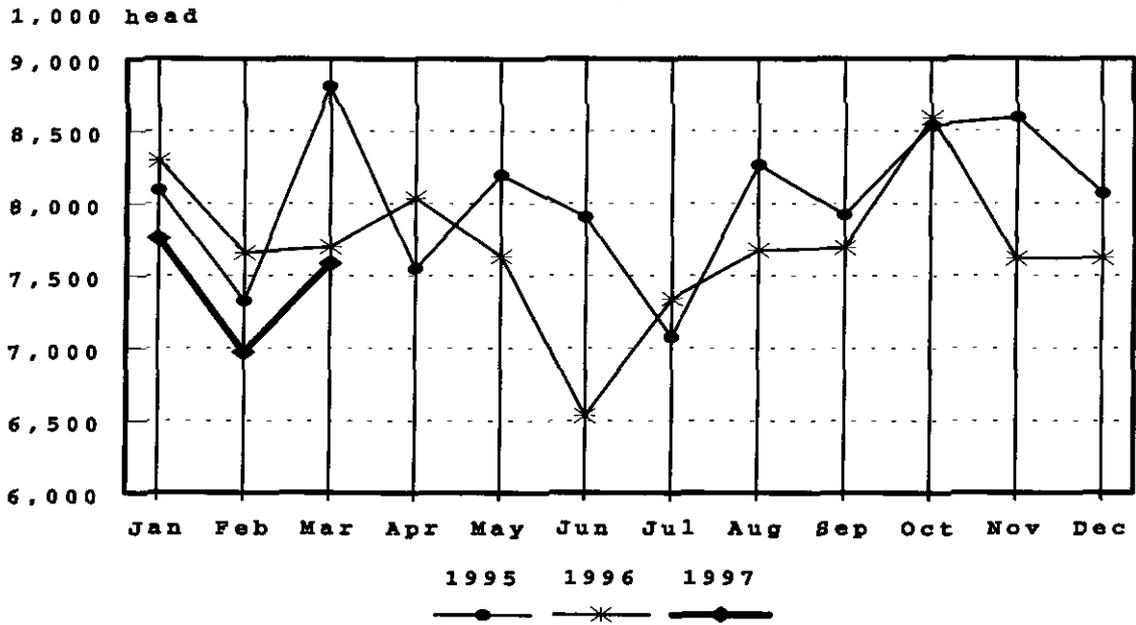
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



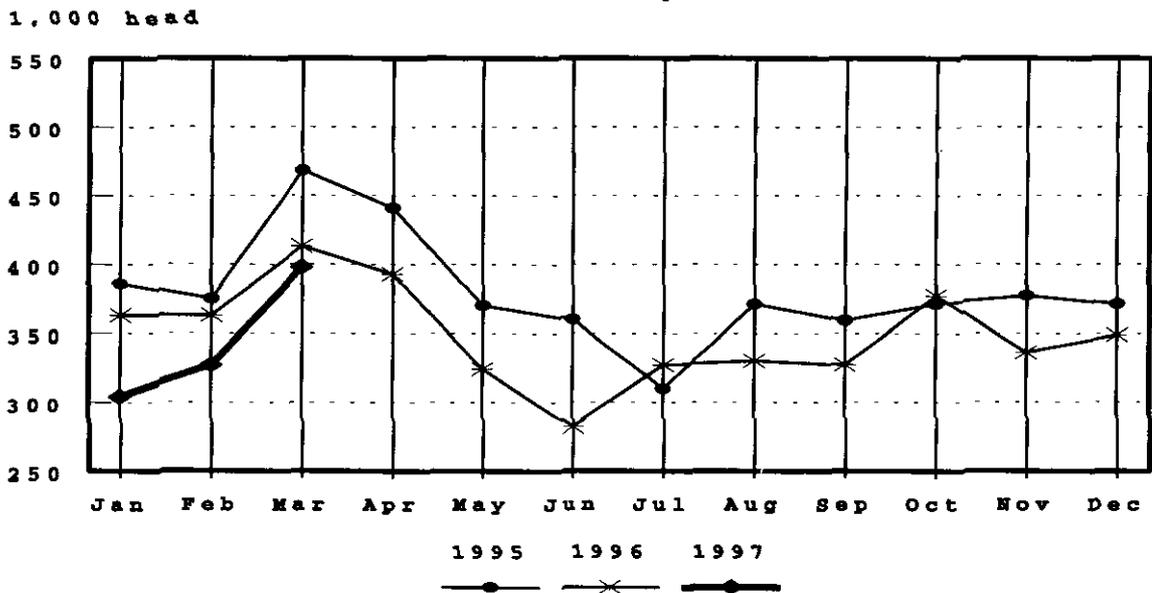
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



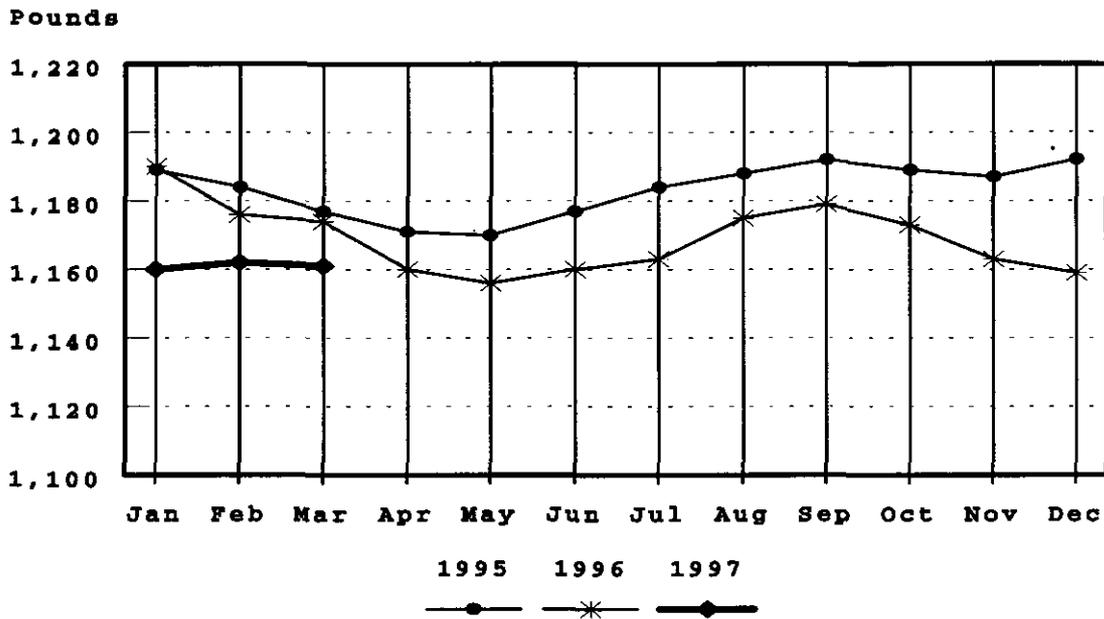
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



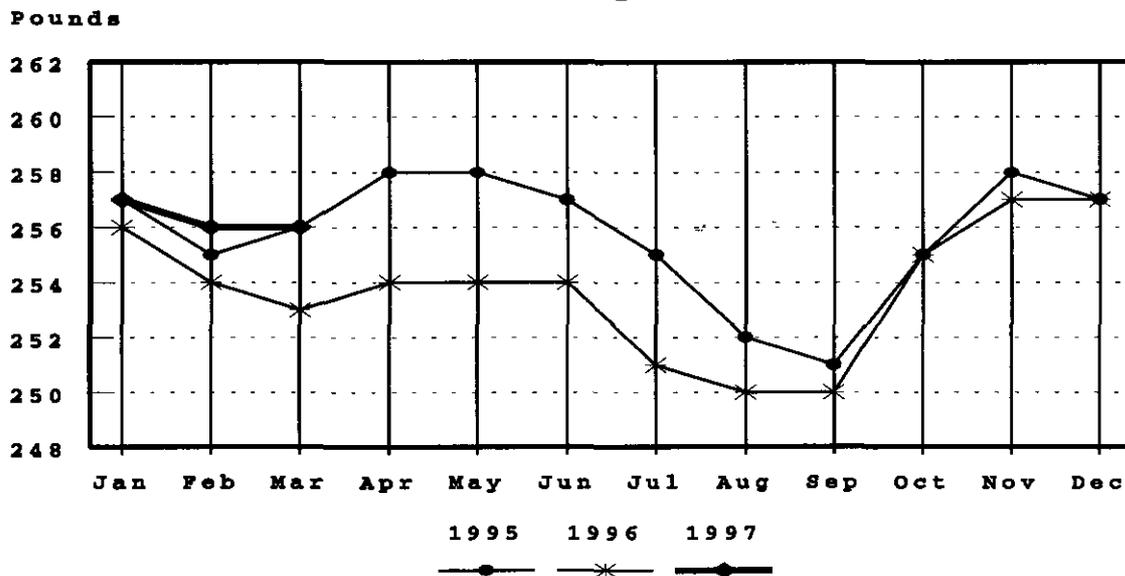
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



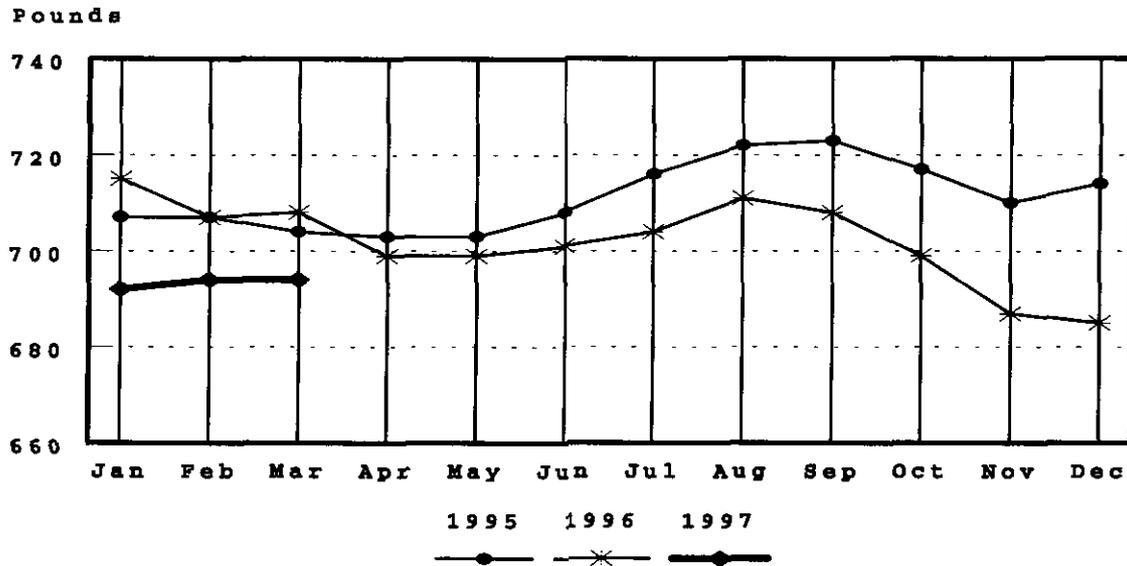
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



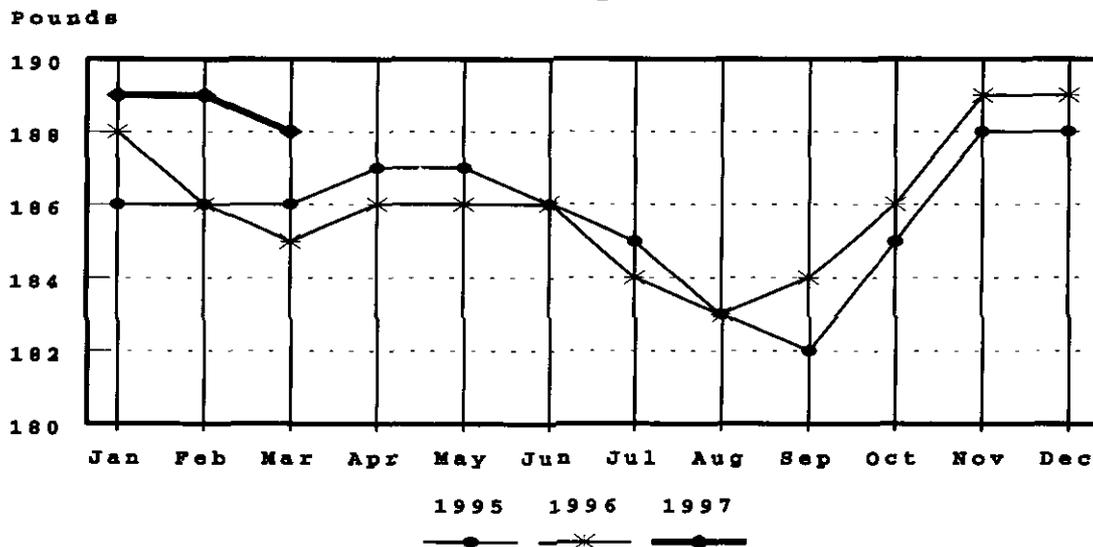
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



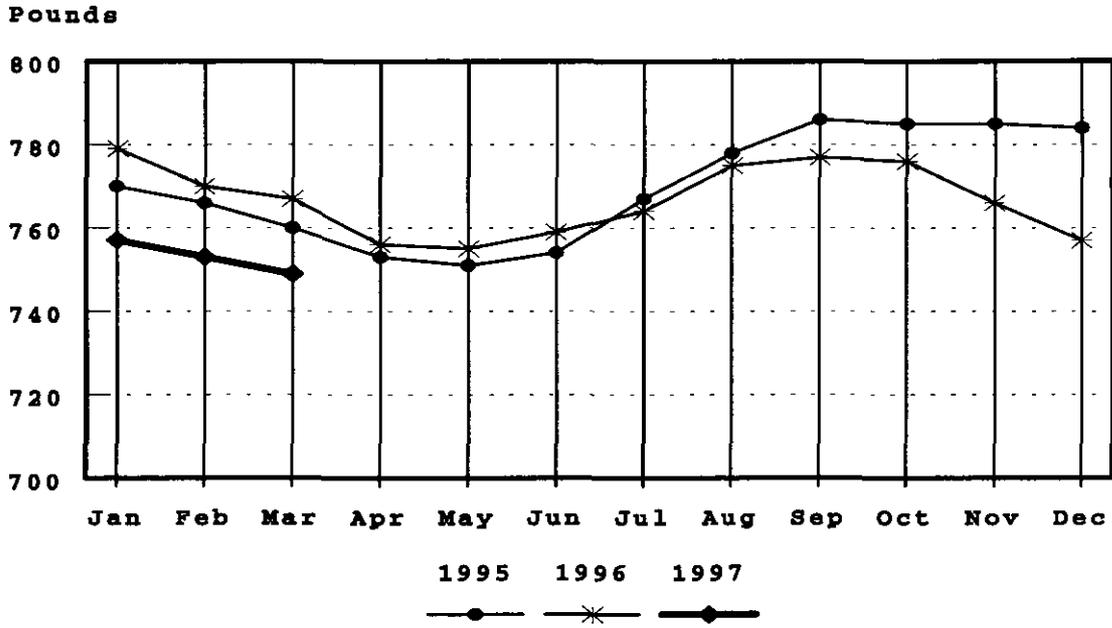
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



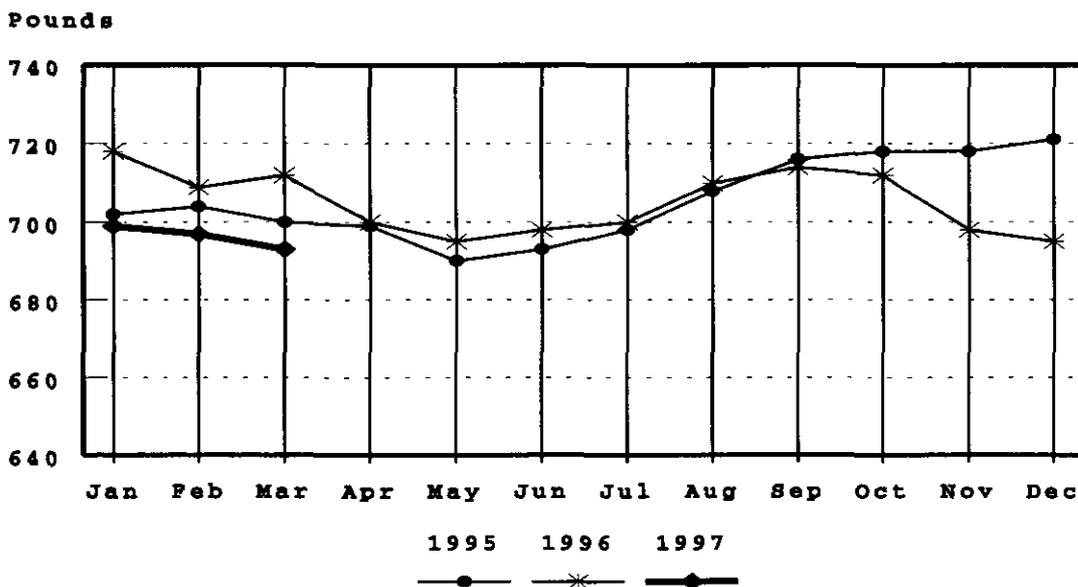
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



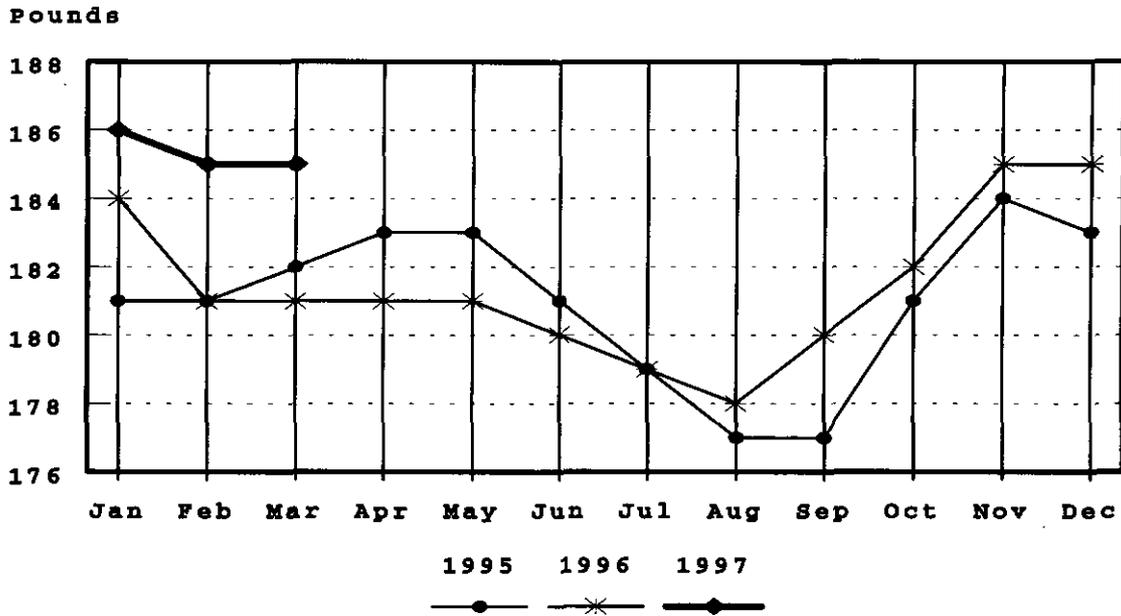
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



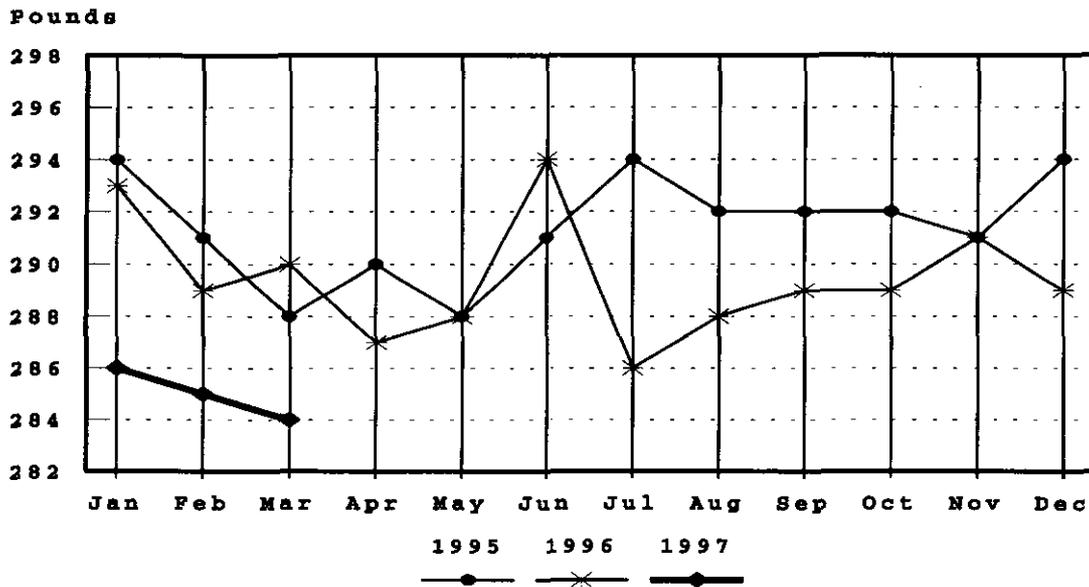
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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 1,000 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection and 2,500 plants under State inspection. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmadge-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 3:00 p.m. ET on May 23, 1997.

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