

Livestock Slaughter



USDA
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Red Meat and Pork Production Set Record Highs for March

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.02 billion pounds in March, up 8 percent from the 3.73 billion pounds produced in March 1998 and up 7 percent from the previous record high for March set in 1995.

March 1998 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.
March 1999 contained 23 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.05 million head, up 5 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,216 pounds.

Veal production totaled 20.0 million pounds, 12 percent below the previous record low for March set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 117 thousand head, down 8 percent from March 1998. The average live weight was 9 pounds below last year, at 286 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year and 6 percent higher than the previous record high for March set in 1995. Hog kill totaled 9.12 million head, 8 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 259 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 29.0 million pounds, was up 10 percent from March 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 423 thousand head, 10 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

January - March red meat production was 11.4 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was down 19 percent, pork up 4 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 2 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Mar 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Mar 99 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 1998	Feb 1999	1998	1999	99 as % of 98
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Beef	2,081	1,997	2,230	107	112	6,215	6,397	103
Veal	23	17	20	88	118	68	55	81
Pork	1,596	1,501	1,737	109	116	4,687	4,865	104
Lamb & Mutton	26	20	29	110	143	68	67	98
Total Red Meat	3,726	3,535	4,016	108	114	11,038	11,384	103

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 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Mar 99 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 1998	Feb 1999	1998	1999	99 as % of 98
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Beef	2,049	1,965	2,196	107	112	6,116	6,297	103
Veal	22	17	20	89	118	66	53	81
Pork	1,572	1,473	1,707	109	116	4,621	4,778	103
Lamb & Mutton	26	20	28	109	143	67	65	98
Total Red Meat	3,669	3,474	3,951	108	114	10,869	11,193	103

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 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Mar 99 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
					Mar 1998	Feb 1999	1998	1999	99 % of 98
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,838.3	2,665.2	2,990.2	105	112	8,506.1	8,558.9	101
Other	Thou	56.2	56.7	58.7	105	104	174.5	173.5	99
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,894.5	2,721.8	3,048.9	105	112	8,680.7	8,732.4	101
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,203	1,225	1,220	101	100	1,204	1,222	102
Other	Lbs	1,033	1,040	1,043	101	100	1,029	1,039	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,200	1,221	1,216	101	100	1,200	1,219	102
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	124.6	97.6	114.7	92	118	360.5	315.0	87
Other	Thou	2.5	2.1	2.2	87	105	7.7	6.8	88
Comm'l. ³	Thou	127.2	99.7	116.9	92	117	368.2	321.8	87
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	293	282	285	97	101	300	281	94
Other	Lbs	391	409	392	100	96	396	402	102
Comm'l.	Lbs	295	286	286	97	100	303	284	94
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,335.4	*7,746.2	8,945.1	107	115	24,378.6	25,064.0	103
Other	Thou	139.6	158.8	172.1	123	108	396.8	507.1	128
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,475.0	*7,905.0	9,117.2	108	115	24,775.4	25,571.2	103
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	257	259	259	101	100	258	259	100
Other	Lbs	233	239	239	102	100	231	240	104
Comm'l.	Lbs	257	259	259	101	100	258	259	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	376.6	*290.9	410.7	109	141	977.6	961.9	98
Other	Thou	9.4	8.3	12.4	132	149	26.5	28.5	107
Comm'l. ³	Thou	386.0	*299.1	423.0	110	141	1,004.1	990.4	99
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	139	136	138	100	101	138	137	99
Other	Lbs	96	95	102	107	107	96	100	104
Comm'l.	Lbs	138	135	137	99	101	137	135	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	Mar 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Mar 99 as % of ²	
				Mar 1998	Feb 1999
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	11.7	14.1	17.0	146	121
AZ	26.4	27.1	30.9	117	114
AR	5.9	5.2	6.3	107	122
CA	83.1	80.9	93.8	113	116
CO	155.1	171.1	181.5	117	106
DE-MD	6.5	5.7	6.8	104	119
FL	4.5	3.0	3.8	83	126
GA	24.3	19.8	25.0	103	126
HI	1.4	1.1	1.2	87	113
ID	42.5	39.8	45.9	108	115
IL	212.8	200.3	228.9	108	114
IN	105.8	96.4	110.0	104	114
IA	511.1	498.0	573.5	112	115
KS	465.1	461.9	513.6	110	111
KY	42.4	39.3	45.5	107	116
LA	2.1	1.7	1.7	83	103
MI	66.1	27.5	32.6	49	119
MN	165.6	159.7	184.8	112	116
MS	23.7	22.2	24.2	102	109
MO	65.4	65.0	74.1	113	114
MT	1.1	1.3	1.3	123	105
NE	553.1	531.8	586.2	106	110
NV		0.1	0.1	132	103
N ENG ³	1.7	1.6	1.8	106	115
NJ	4.4	4.0	4.9	110	122
NM	1.0	1.3	1.3	125	97
NY	5.7	3.8	4.4	78	118
NC	159.3	142.8	168.2	106	118
ND	7.4	1.8	2.2	30	123
OH	27.2	25.6	29.6	109	116
OK	68.4	68.6	77.9	114	114
OR	3.4	3.1	3.7	108	118
PA	94.2	89.0	101.2	107	114
SC	14.3	17.4	19.8	139	114
SD	84.1	*83.0	93.9	112	113
TN	18.6	16.4	21.8	117	133
TX	403.2	361.6	418.3	104	116
UT	35.9	37.1	43.4	121	117
VA	65.7	56.6	65.8	100	116
WA	54.3	51.1	54.2	100	106
WV	0.7	0.7	0.7	88	93
WI	100.2	96.7	113.8	114	118
WY	0.4	0.5	0.4	115	91
US	3,725.9	3,535.3	4,016.0	108	114

* Revised.

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 1998 and 1999 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	18.4	25.6	20,006	32,226	1,086	1,258
AZ	38.2	43.0	42,561	49,660	1,116	1,155
AR	1.7	2.2	1,760	1,871	1,007	859
CA	82.7	86.1	100,636	109,700	1,217	1,275
CO	188.6	217.3	230,727	268,002	1,223	1,233
DE-MD	3.3	3.3	3,955	4,031	1,216	1,211
FL	4.3	4.7	4,388	4,678	1,010	1,002
GA	30.5	33.2	34,574	37,401	1,135	1,125
HI	1.7	1.5	1,721	1,395	1,031	938
ID	57.2	62.2	71,590	77,304	1,251	1,243
IL	85.5	79.2	104,781	96,718	1,226	1,221
IN	3.6	3.9	3,746	4,108	1,049	1,049
IA	81.0	74.4	100,667	90,216	1,243	1,213
KS	624.6	670.3	726,320	799,090	1,163	1,192
KY	2.9	1.7	2,903	1,361	1,000	818
LA	2.2	2.2	1,834	1,579	832	712
MI	27.6	35.2	35,462	49,036	1,286	1,395
MN	54.4	55.7	72,965	76,422	1,341	1,373
MS	1.1	0.6	986	551	928	874
MO	5.5	8.3	6,213	10,039	1,127	1,211
MT	1.2	1.4	1,335	1,568	1,156	1,125
NE	594.6	619.3	748,300	781,442	1,258	1,262
NV	0.1	0.1	62	81	1,061	1,045
N ENG ²	2.0	2.0	2,231	2,166	1,094	1,106
NJ	2.0	2.0	2,233	2,185	1,118	1,087
NM	1.7	2.4	1,622	2,163	973	887
NY	7.5	5.3	8,248	5,835	1,107	1,102
NC	12.8	13.9	13,479	14,663	1,052	1,058
ND						
OH	12.0	11.4	13,443	12,917	1,125	1,135
OK	2.7	3.7	2,595	3,653	957	989
OR	1.1	1.3	1,370	1,716	1,231	1,332
PA	78.9	83.2	100,620	103,708	1,275	1,247
SC						
SD	19.7	24.9	26,093	34,785	1,325	1,397
TN	1.5	2.5	1,501	1,985	1,017	803
TX	565.0	572.2	639,023	657,618	1,131	1,149
UT	47.0	56.3	56,216	68,205	1,195	1,212
VA	1.8	1.8	1,793	1,771	988	990
WA	72.9	72.2	90,297	89,400	1,239	1,239
WV	0.9	0.9	876	802	944	882
WI	133.2	147.5	168,314	190,000	1,264	1,288
WY	0.5	0.5	520	556	1,148	1,165
US ³	2,894.5	3,048.9	3,472,734	3,707,708	1,200	1,216

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 1998 and 1999 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL						
AZ						
AR						
CA	15.6	15.8	2,310	2,124	148	135
CO						
DE-MD	0.3	0.1	148	28	431	289
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	11.2	11.2	4,698	4,673	420	417
IN	7.6	9.7	2,975	2,473	392	255
IA						
KS						
KY	0.1	0.1	27	28	390	428
LA	1.5	1.1	874	504	565	452
MI	5.3	4.2	1,537	1,137	292	268
MN						
MS	0.1	0.1	49	43	444	391
MO	0.2	0.2	67	80	355	348
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	4.7	4.1	566	493	119	120
NJ	9.9	10.7	4,203	4,632	424	434
NM						
NY	20.5	16.2	1,812	1,402	88	87
NC						
ND						
OH	4.7	4.0	2,073	1,786	445	446
OK	0.1	0.1	39	37	474	412
OR						
PA	16.5	16.5	5,924	5,344	358	324
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	22	24	295	316
TX	2.8	2.0	1,199	1,008	430	498
UT						
VA	0.1	0.1	24	20	224	302
WA						
WV						
WI	19.9	15.9	7,552	6,613	380	415
WY						
US ³	127.2	116.9	37,563	33,482	295	286

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 1998 and 1999 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	9.3	7.8	3,731	3,338	400	426
AZ	0.9	0.7	172	142	187	198
AR						
CA	168.5	203.5	36,217	43,454	215	214
CO	3.5	2.2	731	564	208	261
DE-MD	21.9	24.3	5,345	5,698	244	235
FL	14.8	9.8	3,023	1,855	204	190
GA	26.5	21.8	7,317	6,173	276	283
HI	3.0	3.0	606	612	202	203
ID						
IL	752.3	847.4	196,844	224,085	262	264
IN	542.7	554.4	136,136	141,105	251	254
IA	2,353.1	2,689.8	609,601	700,047	259	260
KS	35.3	36.5	10,409	10,665	295	292
KY	211.4	230.8	54,634	60,204	258	261
LA	4.1	4.2	914	893	222	215
MI		10.4		3,675		352
MN	669.1	754.7	171,834	195,573	257	259
MS						
MO	326.0	359.8	82,525	92,168	253	256
MT	1.9	2.2	391	502	209	227
NE	524.1	582.0	133,757	151,047	255	260
NV						
N ENG ²	1.4	1.9	348	496	246	261
NJ	6.3	8.1	656	791	104	98
NM	0.3	0.2	53	39	212	213
NY	3.3	3.7	620	672	187	180
NC	846.1	886.9	204,715	215,702	242	243
ND	3.9	8.9	928	2,199	240	248
OH	100.5	115.7	25,763	29,804	256	258
OK	332.5	378.6	89,174	101,421	268	268
OR	16.4	16.8	4,253	4,345	260	259
PA	200.5	225.8	48,298	55,099	241	244
SC						
SD	359.7	392.2	94,790	103,105	264	263
TN	62.3	72.6	27,201	31,634	437	436
TX	31.1	30.4	9,312	10,071	300	331
UT	1.6	3.9	298	708	192	183
VA	355.3	350.3	86,551	86,421	244	247
WA						
WV	0.7	1.0	225	345	319	341
WI	31.4	40.8	13,458	16,489	429	404
WY	0.4	0.6	111	155	255	249
US ³	8,475.0	9,117.2	2,174,664	2,362,520	257	259

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 1998 and 1999¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL						
AZ	0.1	0.1	11	14	122	128
AR						
CA						
CO	133.7	151.8	19,892	22,411	149	148
DE-MD						
FL						
GA	0.1	0.5	16	59	140	120
HI						
ID	0.3	0.3	29	40	109	126
IL						
IN	2.6	3.3	254	339	98	103
IA	58.9	60.9	8,497	9,085	144	149
KS	0.1	0.2	16	26	119	121
KY	0.5	0.6	87	79	179	123
LA	0.4	0.5	49	53	114	110
MI	17.6	21.4	2,276	2,771	129	130
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT	0.1	0.1	16	19	131	131
NE	0.1	0.2	11	19	104	108
NV						
N ENG ²	1.3	2.7	135	269	101	98
NJ	6.1	10.7	609	933	100	87
NM	3.7	3.6	447	426	121	119
NY	2.3	5.0	257	489	109	97
NC	0.2	0.3	17	24	98	95
ND	0.1	0.1	8	7	125	125
OH	0.4	0.7	49	67	112	98
OK	0.1	0.1	12	15	123	117
OR	0.3	0.5	41	69	128	130
PA	6.1	7.7	608	803	100	105
SC						
SD	15.8	0.2	2,147	32	136	131
TN	0.1	0.3	12	28	101	89
TX	43.2	60.3	5,746	7,849	133	130
UT	2.3	3.0	277	362	121	120
VA	1.4	1.1	139	103	101	98
WA	0.1	0.1	11	13	114	101
WV						
WI	0.5	0.6	63	73	118	127
WY	0.1	0.1	10	12	115	133
US ³	386.0	423.0	53,078	57,820	138	137

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	Mar 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Jan - Mar ¹		Mar 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Jan - Mar ¹	
	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
Class ²										
Cattle										
Steers	1,353	1,266	1,437	4,092	4,102	47.7	47.5	48.0	48.1	47.9
Heifers	978	925	1,011	2,807	2,908	34.5	34.7	33.8	33.0	34.0
All Cows	461	431	489	1,471	1,407	16.3	16.1	16.3	17.3	16.5
Dairy Cows	232	212	231	725	665	8.2	7.9	7.7	8.5	7.8
Other Cows	229	219	258	746	742	8.1	8.2	8.6	8.8	8.7
Bulls & Stags	46	43	54	136	142	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7
Total ¹	2,838	2,665	2,990	8,506	8,559	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,016	7,447	8,604	23,459	24,108	96.2	96.1	96.2	96.2	96.2
Sows	279	264	302	793	849	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4
Stags & Boars	40	35	39	127	107	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
Total ¹	8,335	7,746	8,945	24,379	25,064	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	16	13	19	48	45	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.9	4.6
Lambs & Yrlngs	360	*278	392	930	917	95.7	95.5	95.5	95.1	95.4
Total ¹	377	291	411	978	962	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Dressed Weight ³										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
Cattle										
Steers ⁴	725	741	738	723	739					
Heifers ⁴	779	798	792	780	796					
All Cows ⁴	720	738	734	720	735					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	564	567	571	556	568					
	873	868	893	869	877					
Calves & Vealers	181	173	175	185	172					
Hogs										
Barrow Gilts ⁵	189	191	192	190	191					
Sows ⁵	185	187	188	186	188					
Stags & Boars ⁵	294	293	295	294	294					
	231	224	228	227	225					
Sheep										
Mature Sheep ⁶	69	68	69	68	68					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	62	60	61	60	60					
	69	68	69	69	69					

* 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,
March 1999¹**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total ²	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	1.8	0.2	0.2	1.2	1.2		0.2	4.1
2	7.1	1.2	0.5	4.8	4.5	0.3	0.6	26.8
3	86.9	41.3	7.5	36.5	26.9	9.6	1.6	16.6
4	87.8	2.0	0.5	77.0	27.7	49.3	8.3	1.2
5	312.3	128.1	54.2	119.7	83.5	36.3	10.2	44.7
6	572.6	305.5	186.1	64.5	10.5	54.0	16.5	2.0
7	1,362.1	696.5	579.5	80.6	12.2	68.4	5.5	0.1
8	295.5	135.5	136.2	18.9	3.2	15.7	4.8	
9	129.9	65.5	7.6	53.6	46.4	7.2	3.2	17.1
10	134.3	60.9	38.5	32.1	15.1	17.0	2.7	1.8
US ²	2,990.2	1,436.7	1,010.7	489.0	231.0	258.0	53.8	114.7
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ²	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	1.5	1.4			2.6	0.4	2.2	
2	11.5	11.3	0.1		15.7	2.0	13.6	
3	599.8	597.0	2.7		11.2	0.8	10.5	
4	1,393.1	1,296.3	95.3	1.5	1.3	1.1	0.3	
5	2,248.1	2,126.7	111.9	9.5	46.3	4.7	41.6	
6	406.2	381.0	25.1	0.1	61.3	4.4	56.9	
7	3,650.6	3,584.4	38.3	27.9	61.0	1.9	59.0	
8	402.9	374.6	28.3		154.8	2.5	152.3	
9	200.4	200.1	0.2		55.8	0.6	55.2	
10	31.2	30.9	0.3		0.7	0.2	0.5	
US ²	8,945.1	8,603.8	302.2	39.1	410.7	18.5	392.2	

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- AK, ID, OR, & WA.

² Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,
January - March 1999 * ¹**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total ²	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	5.2	0.7	0.6	3.3	3.2	0.2	0.5	11.0
2	20.2	3.5	1.5	13.4	12.6	0.8	1.8	69.2
3	245.4	110.7	20.1	109.7	80.5	29.2	4.9	46.2
4	237.5	5.1	4.8	205.1	76.4	128.6	22.5	5.7
5	880.5	353.5	149.9	350.8	247.1	103.7	26.3	119.5
6	1,627.0	837.7	549.7	196.6	31.3	165.3	43.0	7.6
7	3,921.8	2,018.5	1,659.9	229.2	35.9	193.3	14.2	0.3
8	876.4	417.4	388.3	58.0	8.9	49.2	12.7	
9	362.8	180.0	25.8	149.2	128.8	20.4	7.8	49.2
10	382.1	174.7	107.0	92.2	40.8	51.4	8.2	6.3
US ²	8,558.9	4,101.7	2,907.7	1,407.5	665.5	742.0	141.9	315.0
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ²	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	4.2	4.1	0.1		4.9	1.2	3.7	
2	33.5	33.1	0.3	0.1	32.7	5.4	27.3	
3	1,691.3	1,683.9	7.3	0.1	26.6	2.1	24.5	
4	3,906.3	3,650.0	253.1	3.2	3.1	2.3	0.8	
5	6,262.0	5,918.4	317.5	26.1	114.1	11.6	102.5	
6	1,183.2	1,110.2	72.9	0.2	138.6	12.1	126.6	
7	10,161.4	9,965.5	118.5	77.3	148.8	2.3	146.5	
8	1,145.4	1,067.5	77.8		374.4	5.8	368.6	
9	589.3	588.8	0.5		117.2	1.5	115.7	
10	87.5	86.6	0.8	0.1	1.6	0.3	1.2	
US ²	25,064.0	24,108.0	848.8	107.2	961.9	44.6	917.3	

* 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- AK, ID, OR, & WA.

² Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 1999**

State	Cattle							Calves
	Total ¹	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
AL	24.5			23.9	4.7	19.2	0.6	
AZ	42.7	39.2	2.3	1.3	1.3			
AR	1.6	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.1	0.9	0.1	
CA	85.6	26.0	5.1	51.4	44.9	6.5	3.0	15.7
CO	216.5	105.7	110.1	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	
DE-MD	3.3	2.6	0.5	0.2	0.2			0.1
FL	4.7	1.0	0.1	3.3	1.1	2.2	0.3	
GA	31.5	0.2	0.1	27.4	5.3	22.1	3.8	
HI	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.2	0.7	0.1	
ID	61.1	29.3	9.4	20.6	8.3	12.3	1.7	
IL	75.7	39.0	36.6					11.1
IN	0.5	0.3	0.1					9.7
IA	72.8	25.6	26.8	19.3	7.7	11.6	0.9	
KS	666.4	370.5	294.6	1.1	0.1	1.0	0.1	
KY	0.5	0.3	0.1					
LA								
MI	33.0	23.9	0.3	8.6	6.4	2.2	0.1	4.2
MN	52.8	9.9	4.4	32.6	15.6	17.0	5.9	
MS								
MO	5.4	1.2	0.8	2.8	0.6	2.2	0.5	0.1
MT	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1		0.1	0.1	
NE	617.5	299.1	257.2	57.3	3.7	53.6	4.0	
NV	0.1							
N ENG ²	1.8	0.2	0.2	1.2	1.2		0.2	4.1
NJ	2.0	0.7	0.2	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.3	10.7
NM	2.1	0.3	0.2	1.4	1.2	0.2		
NY	5.1	0.5	0.3	4.0	3.8	0.2	0.3	16.1
NC	12.7	0.1	0.1	10.0	5.1	4.9	2.5	
ND								
OH	5.7	0.4	0.2	4.5	2.4	2.1	0.7	3.8
OK								
OR								
PA	82.8	38.6	6.9	35.8	26.5	9.3	1.5	16.5
SC								
SD	22.4	2.0	1.1	15.3	1.3	14.0	4.0	
TN	1.6	0.3	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.9	0.1	
TX	568.0	304.8	185.6	61.3	8.8	52.5	16.4	1.5
UT	55.5	27.4	24.6	2.8	1.3	1.5	0.6	
VA	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.3		0.1
WA	72.1	30.9	29.0	11.3	6.7	4.6	0.9	
WV	0.1							
WI	144.7	54.6	12.5	74.0	58.9	15.1	3.5	15.9
WY								
US ³	2,990.2	1,436.7	1,010.7	489.0	231.0	258.0	53.8	114.7

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

² N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT

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 1999**

State	Hogs				Sheep		
	Total ¹	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ¹	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
AL	6.5	0.1	5.2	1.2			
AZ							
AR							
CA	197.0	196.8	0.1				
CO	1.3	1.2	0.1		151.8		151.8
DE-MD	24.2	24.2					
FL	9.8	9.4	0.3				
GA	12.1	9.0	3.1				
HI	3.0	3.0					
ID					0.2		0.2
IL	809.8	734.9	65.8	9.1			
IN	546.2	546.2			2.9	1.6	1.2
IA	2,686.3	2,627.0	31.4	27.9	59.7	1.8	57.8
KS	31.7	25.1	6.5				
KY	229.2	222.0	6.9	0.3	0.6	0.6	
LA	0.1	0.1					
MI	8.6	3.3	5.2	0.1	21.1	2.6	18.5
MN	748.5	748.5					
MS							
MO	354.3	354.1	0.2				
MT	1.4	1.4			0.1		0.1
NE	578.3	578.2	0.1				
NV							
N ENG ²	1.5	1.4			2.6	0.4	2.2
NJ	8.1	8.0	0.1		10.7	1.4	9.3
NM					2.7	2.0	0.7
NY	3.4	3.3			5.0	0.6	4.4
NC	873.7	862.9	10.7	0.1	0.2		0.1
ND	8.5	8.4					
OH	102.7	93.2	9.4				
OK	374.0	366.8	7.2				
OR	16.6	16.4	0.2		0.4	0.1	0.3
PA	225.4	224.7	0.7		7.6	0.4	7.2
SC							
SD	388.9	360.9	28.1		0.2		0.2
TN	72.1	5.0	67.1		0.3	0.2	0.1
TX	15.1	8.2	6.9	0.1	58.4	2.3	56.1
UT					2.7	2.5	0.3
VA	350.0	348.2	1.8		1.0	0.1	0.9
WA					0.1		0.1
WV	0.2		0.1				
WI	32.3	0.6	31.4	0.3			
WY							
US ³	8,945.1	8,603.8	302.2	39.1	410.7	18.5	392.2

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

² N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT

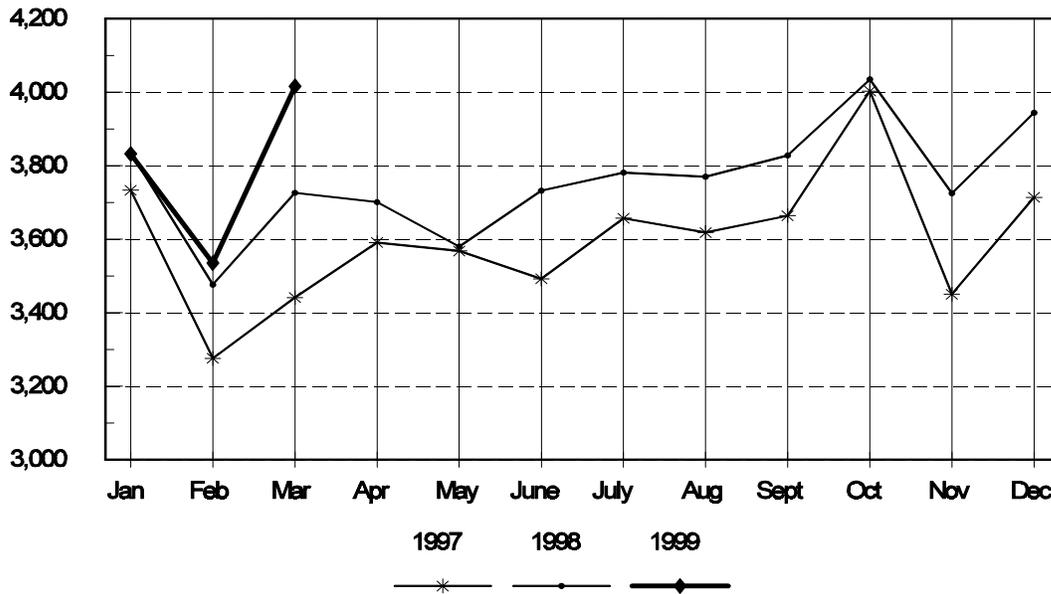
³ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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

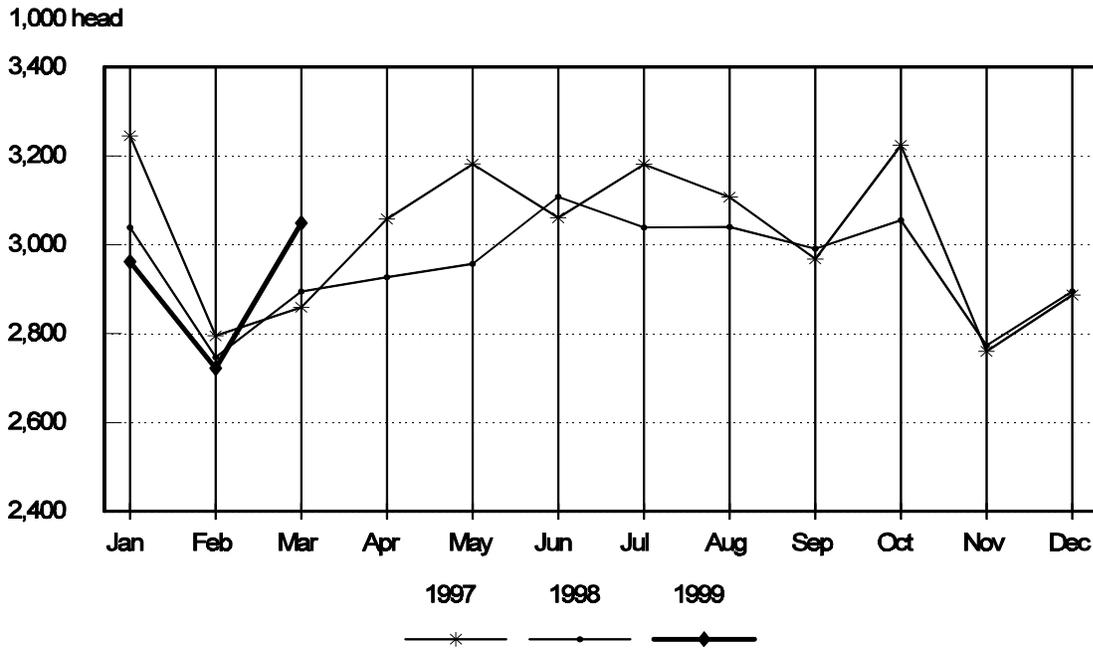
Species	Mar 1998	Feb 1999	Mar 1999	Jan - Mar	
				1998	1999
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.1	97.9	98.1	98.0	98.0
Calves	98.0	97.9	98.1	97.9	97.9
Hogs	98.4	98.0	98.1	98.4	98.0
Sheep	97.6	97.2	97.1	97.4	97.1

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

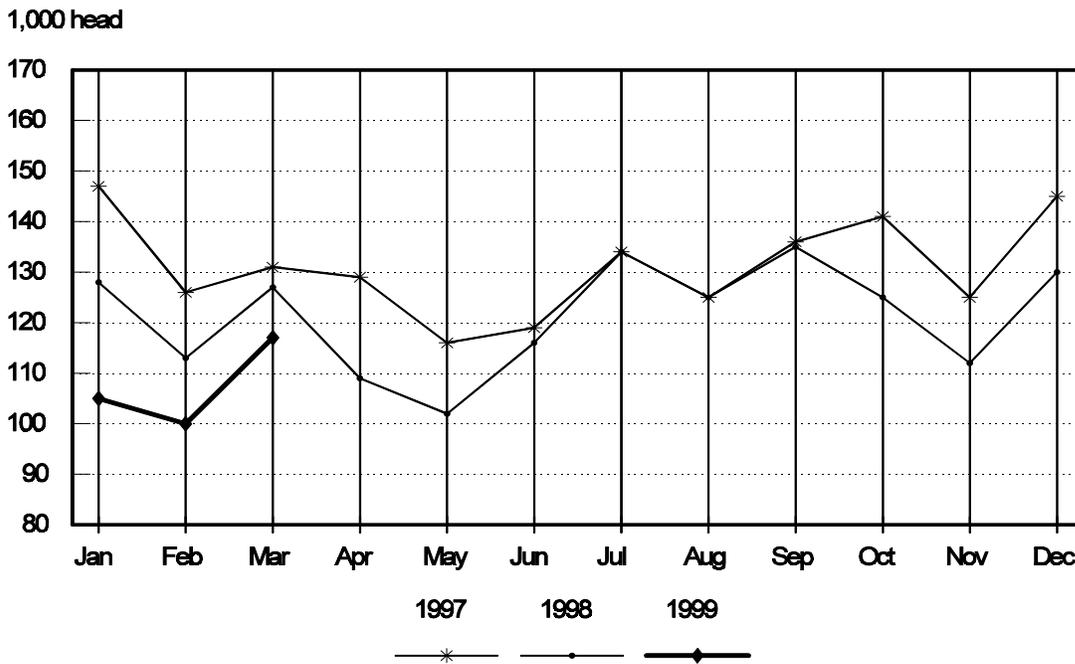
Million Pounds



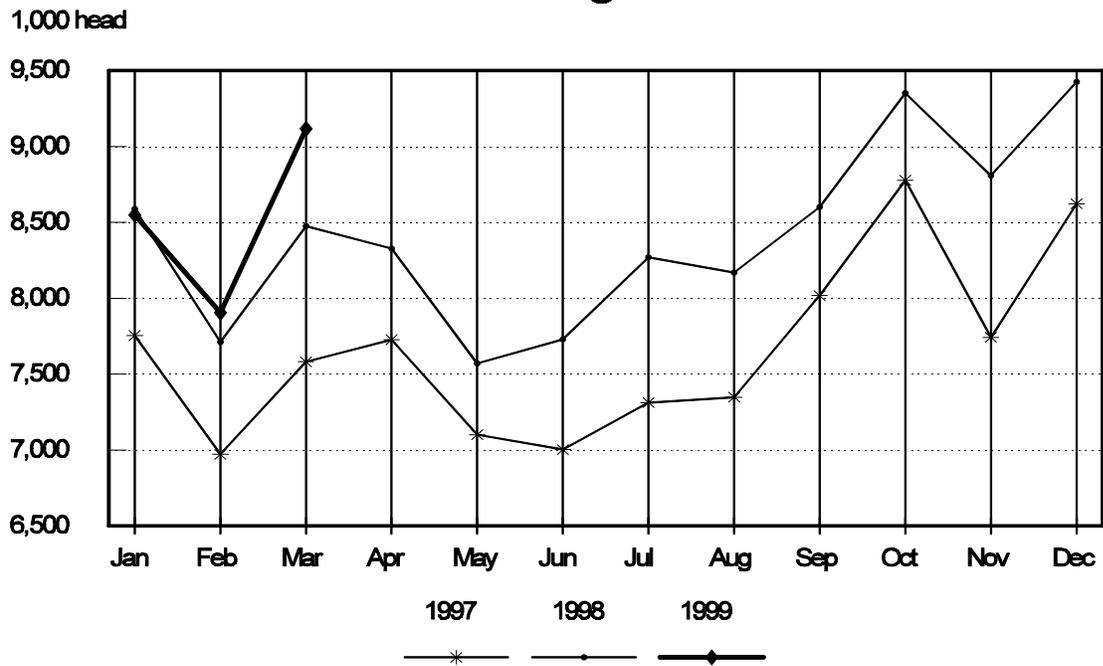
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



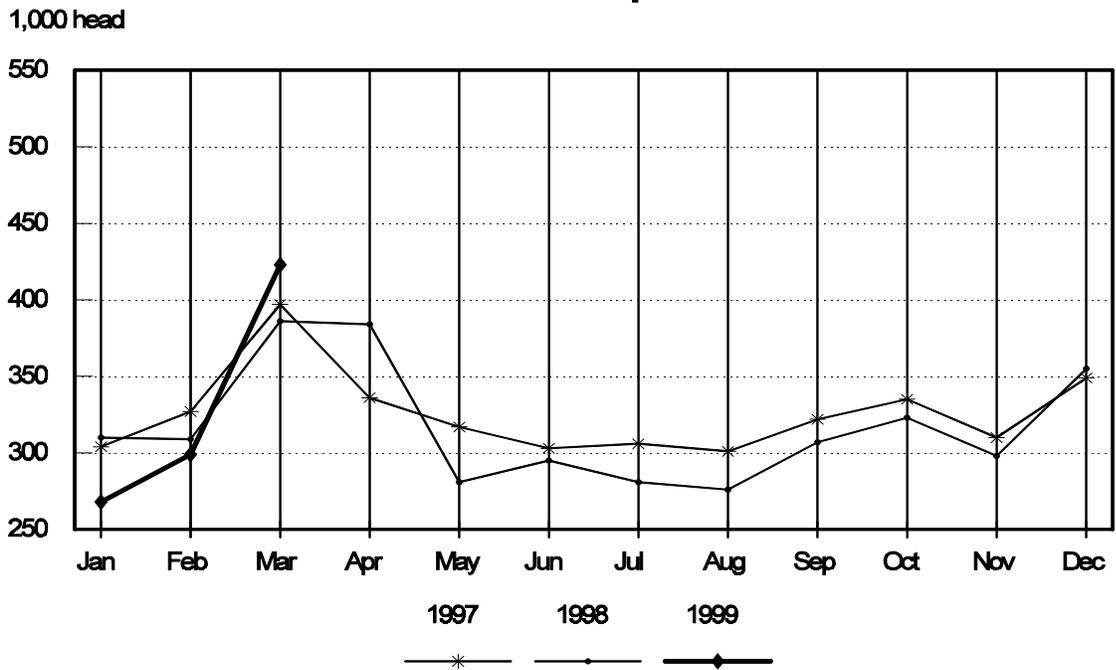
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



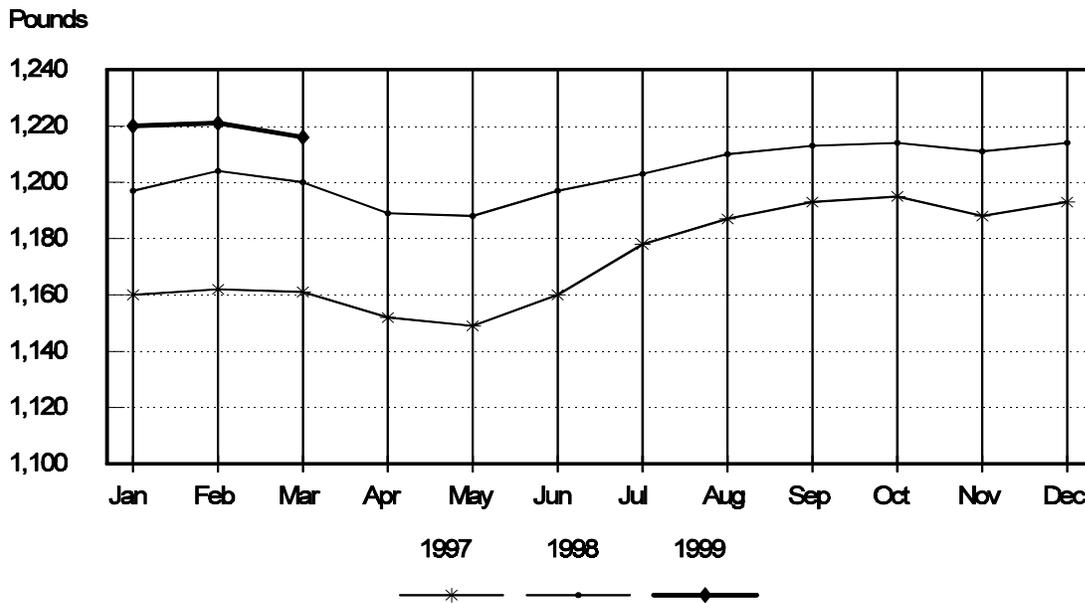
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



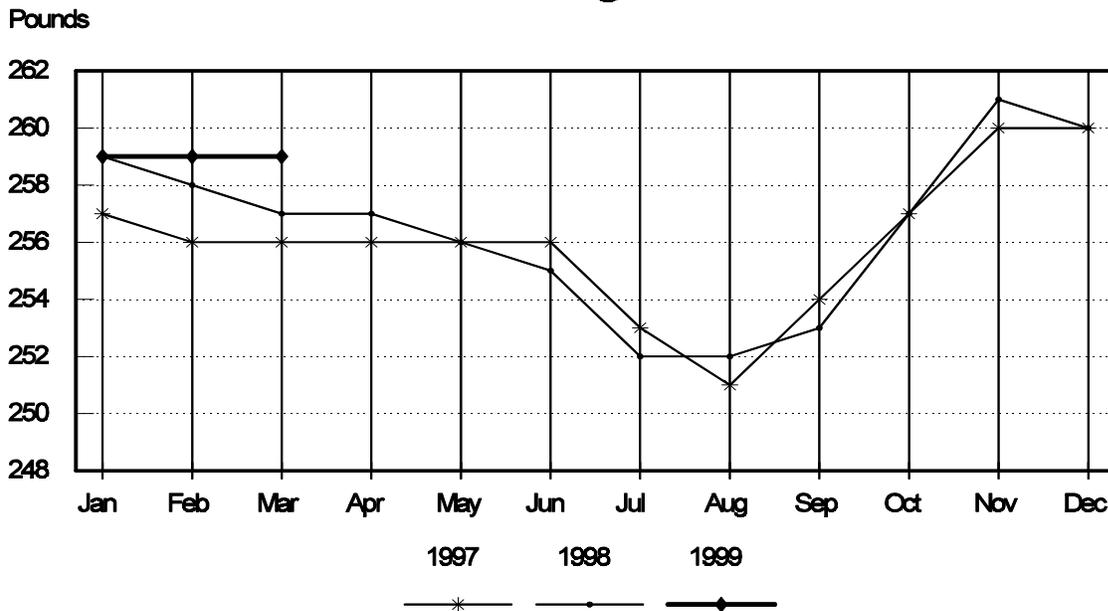
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



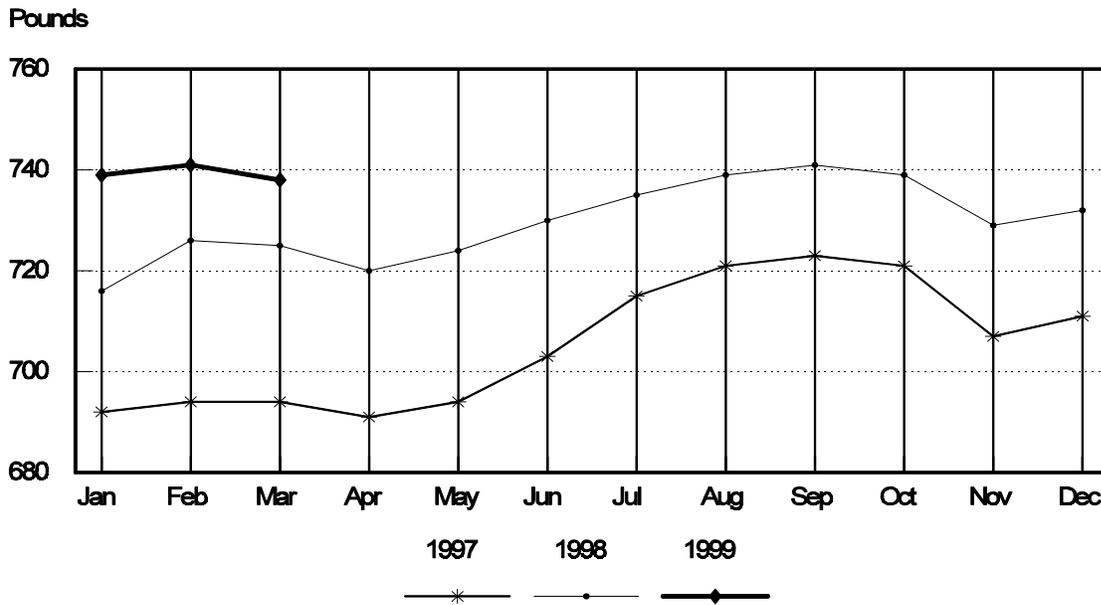
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



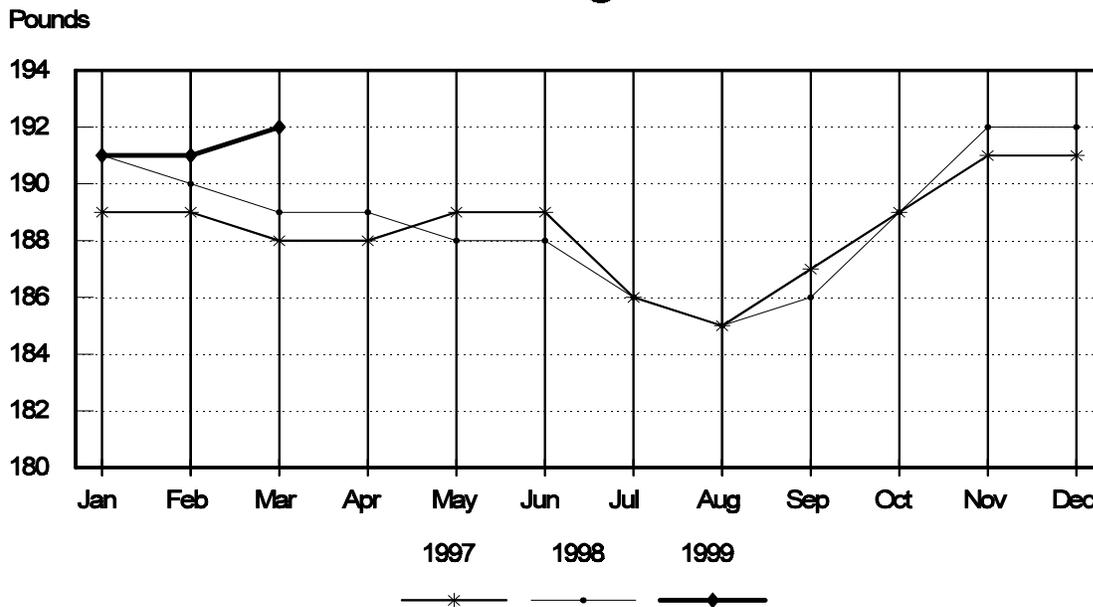
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



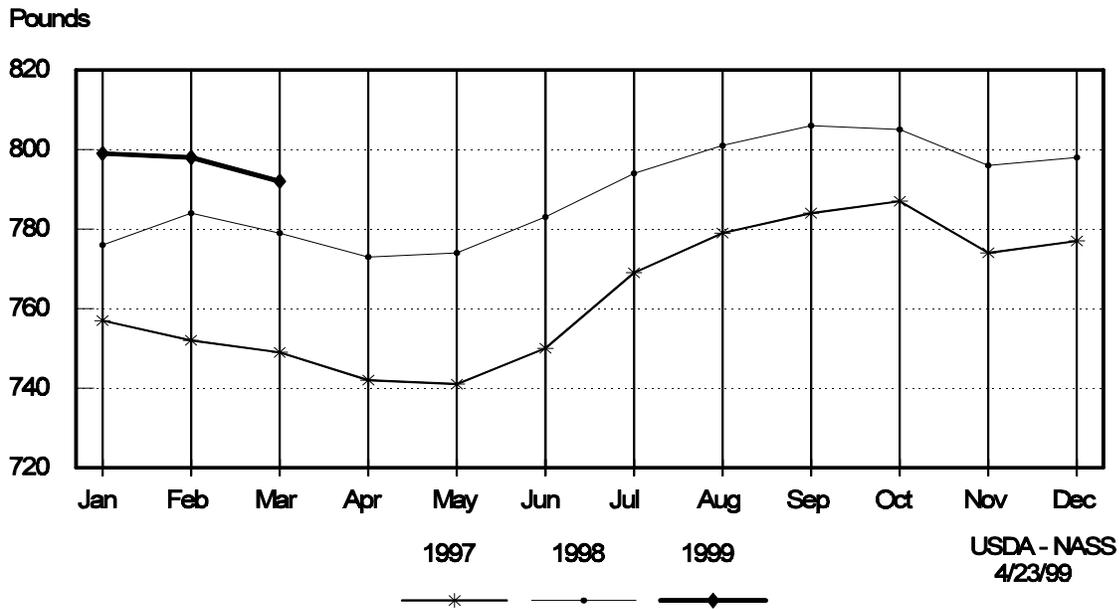
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



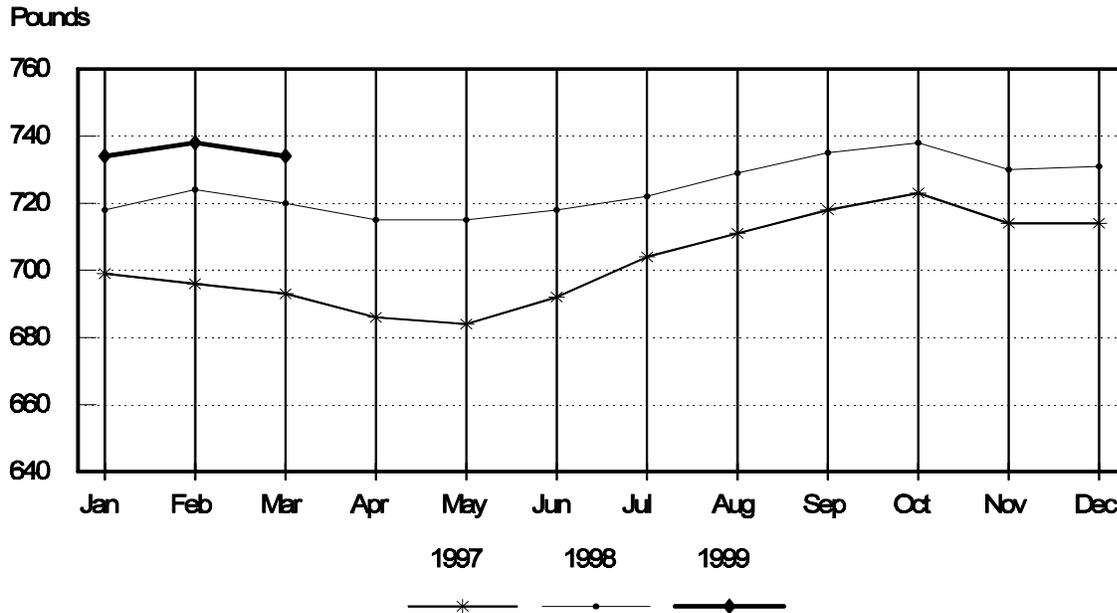
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



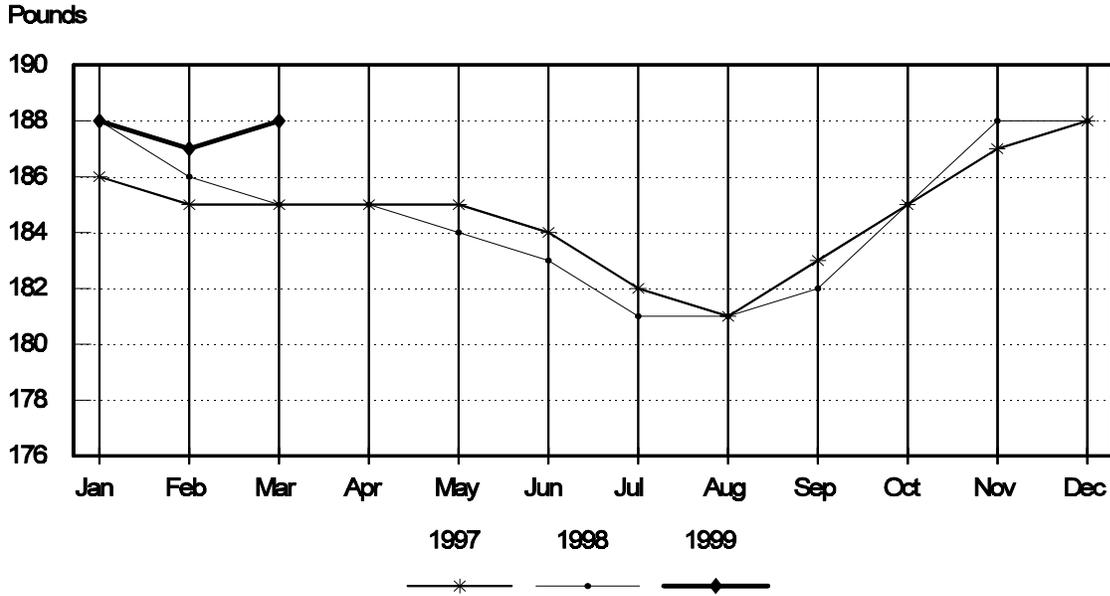
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



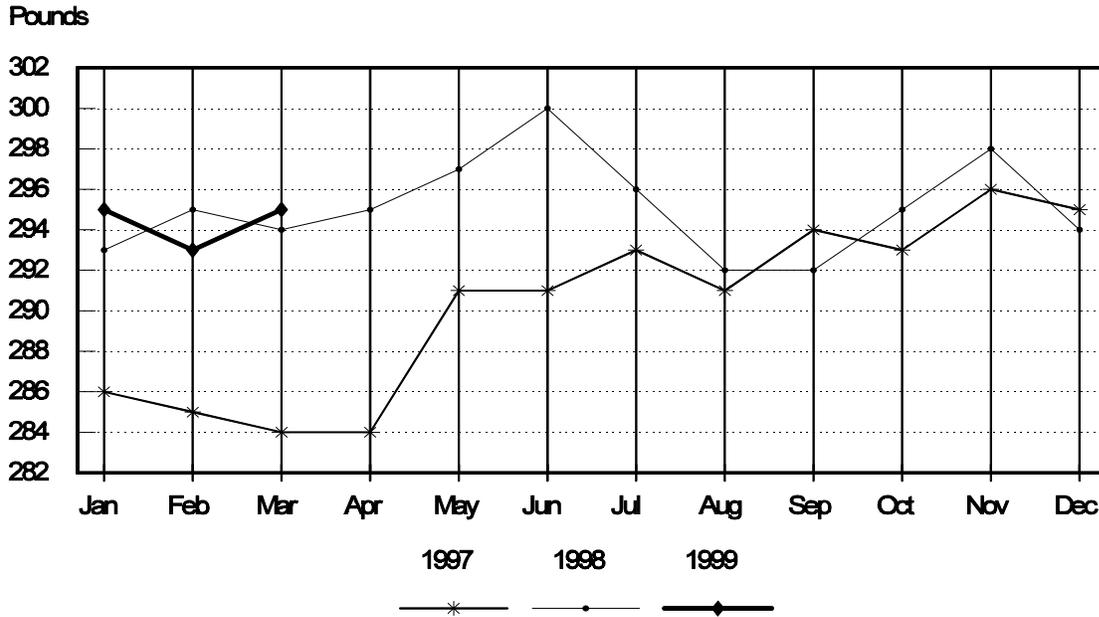
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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 2,400 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 1.75 head per 100 head for calves, .49 per 100 for cattle, .32 per 100 for hogs and .28 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 May 21, 1999.

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