



Livestock Slaughter

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Pork Production at Record Monthly High for December

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in December, up slightly from the 3.86 billion pounds produced in December 2002.

Beef production, at 1.97 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from December 2002. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,244 pounds.

Veal production totaled 19.0 million pounds, 6 percent above December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 97,500 head, down 1 percent from December 2002. The average live weight was 17 pounds above last year, at 322 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.87 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.35 million head, 8 percent above December 2002. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 18.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from December 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 262,000 head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 4 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2003 commercial red meat production was 46.5 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

December 2002 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

December 2003 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Dec 03 % of		Jan - Dec ²		
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003	2002	2003	03 as % of 02
	<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	2,107	*1,778	1,973	94	111	27,091	26,215	97
Veal	18.0	15.2	19.0	106	125	195.9	191.8	98
Pork	1,715	1,715	1,866	109	109	19,664	19,912	101
Lamb & Mutton	18.5	16.3	18.0	97	111	218.1	199.4	91
Total Red Meat	3,858	*3,525	3,876	100	110	47,169	46,518	99

* 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	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Dec 03 % of		Jan - Dec ²		
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003	2002	2003	03 as % of 02
	<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	2,075	*1,751	1,943	94	111	26,714	25,854	97
Veal	17.4	*14.7	18.5	106	125	189.5	185.4	98
Pork	1,694	1,699	1,848	109	109	19,437	19,703	101
Lamb & Mutton	17.8	15.6	17.2	97	110	208.7	190.8	91
Total Red Meat	3,804	*3,481	3,826	101	110	46,549	45,933	99

* 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	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Dec 03 % of		Jan - Dec ²		
					Dec 2002	Nov 2003	2002	2003	03 % of 02
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,718.8	2,379.6	2,618.1	96	110	35,120.3	34,863.4	99
Other	Thou	53.0	46.2	50.1	95	108	614.4	590.2	96
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,771.8	2,425.8	2,668.2	96	110	35,734.6	35,453.7	99
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,268	1,239	1,247	98	101	1,253	1,234	98
Other	Lbs	1,087	1,080	1,088	100	101	1,087	1,093	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,265	1,236	1,244	98	101	1,251	1,231	98
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	95.8	76.2	95.3	99	125	1,019.2	976.3	96
Other	Thou	2.4	1.9	2.2	93	119	26.1	25.4	97
Comm'l. ³	Thou	98.2	78.0	97.5	99	125	1,045.4	1,001.7	96
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	303	317	320	106	102	310	316	102
Other	Lbs	415	413	408	98	99	411	414	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	305	321	322	106	100	312	317	102
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,534.1	*8,490.2	9,237.0	108	109	98,914.8	99,535.0	101
Other	Thou	123.3	91.0	109.6	89	121	1,347.9	1,242.2	92
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,657.4	*8,581.2	9,346.6	108	109	100,262.6	100,777.1	101
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	268	270	269	100	100	265	267	100
Other	Lbs	228	235	228	100	97	231	232	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	268	269	269	101	100	265	266	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	262.3	222.8	245.9	94	110	3,092.3	2,805.2	91
Other	Thou	16.4	13.6	16.1	98	119	194.0	169.0	87
Comm'l. ³	Thou	278.7	236.3	262.0	94	111	3,286.3	2,974.2	91
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	136	139	140	103	100	135	136	100
Other	Lbs	97	104	100	103	96	100	104	104
Comm'l.	Lbs	133	138	137	103	100	133	134	100

* 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	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Dec 03 as % of ²	
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	3.4	3.3	3.4	100	102
AK		0.1			
AZ	36.3	28.9	31.3	86	108
AR	6.6	5.6	7.6	116	136
CA	120.5	*109.8	123.7	103	113
CO	160.9	*125.3	140.6	87	112
DE-MD	3.0	2.5	2.7	93	110
FL	5.8	5.1	6.0	104	116
GA	19.2	15.7	15.9	83	101
HI	1.0	0.8	0.9	92	110
ID	50.6	42.4	42.6	84	101
IL	220.1	*202.2	207.2	94	102
IN	119.6	*121.6	135.5	113	111
IA	528.1	*567.9	606.2	115	107
KS	454.1	*387.4	438.6	97	113
KY	39.8	46.2	47.3	119	102
LA	1.3	1.2	1.2	93	101
MI	34.1	28.5	32.8	96	115
MN	202.3	191.6	209.6	104	109
MS	25.5	24.3	26.9	106	111
MO	39.8	37.8	41.6	105	110
MT	1.7	1.4	1.6	96	113
NE	597.4	*489.3	555.5	93	114
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	97	90
N ENG ³	1.9	1.7	1.8	93	103
NJ	5.8	4.3	5.1	89	120
NM	0.8	1.0	1.0	118	98
NY	4.0	3.6	4.0	101	111
NC	183.7	186.0	194.8	106	105
ND	3.0	2.5	2.8	94	114
OH	27.6	26.5	29.4	107	111
OK	86.7	*83.8	90.1	104	108
OR	3.4	3.1	3.3	97	107
PA	110.9	97.1	110.6	100	114
SC	20.9	19.4	21.4	102	110
SD	73.6	80.6	98.8	134	122
TN	20.5	19.1	20.0	98	105
TX	369.6	*326.5	357.2	97	109
UT	39.8	27.6	32.7	82	118
VA	68.8	65.8	74.9	109	114
WA	51.7	44.6	43.9	85	99
WV	0.9	0.8	0.8	91	98
WI	113.3	*91.1	104.0	92	114
WY	0.5	0.5	0.6	103	122
US	3,858.2	*3,524.7	3,876.0	100	110

* 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,
December 2002 and 2003 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<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	0.5	0.4	392	341	850	830
AK		0.1		62		998
AZ	47.1	40.1	63,017	54,951	1,339	1,369
AR	1.2	1.3	1,024	1,153	825	874
CA	111.4	112.6	143,180	142,252	1,286	1,264
CO	187.5	172.3	244,091	216,308	1,302	1,255
DE-MD	3.1	3.0	3,920	3,838	1,264	1,265
FL	8.4	8.2	8,985	8,923	1,068	1,091
GA	27.0	22.0	32,247	26,315	1,193	1,197
HI	0.8	0.7	858	803	1,028	1,073
ID	67.3	56.2	84,438	69,795	1,255	1,242
IL	71.2	71.5	90,131	88,701	1,265	1,241
IN	3.6	3.9	3,810	4,093	1,052	1,050
IA	52.8	79.5	68,326	98,877	1,294	1,244
KS	560.5	557.5	703,793	686,304	1,256	1,231
KY	1.8	1.8	1,495	1,562	850	864
LA	1.1	1.1	913	911	818	840
MI	37.6	37.7	52,100	49,980	1,386	1,327
MN	71.9	67.7	97,440	91,027	1,355	1,344
MS ²						
MO	8.2	7.9	10,372	10,412	1,265	1,316
MT	2.0	2.0	2,344	2,260	1,163	1,153
NE	592.6	555.4	778,460	713,094	1,314	1,284
NV	0.1	0.1	86	82	1,035	1,047
N ENG ³	2.0	2.0	2,104	2,066	1,068	1,031
NJ	2.5	2.3	2,928	2,665	1,187	1,146
NM	1.6	2.0	1,489	1,810	908	900
NY	4.6	4.7	4,844	5,014	1,062	1,058
NC	18.5	18.7	19,003	19,703	1,030	1,053
ND	1.3	0.9	1,501	958	1,146	1,120
OH	10.8	9.9	12,276	11,662	1,133	1,180
OK	3.4	2.8	3,393	2,862	986	1,006
OR	1.1	1.2	1,396	1,340	1,220	1,153
PA	85.8	81.1	108,691	103,027	1,266	1,271
SC						
SD						
TN	1.4	1.4	1,239	1,231	879	883
TX	489.8	474.3	582,969	566,870	1,190	1,195
UT	49.2	42.8	62,024	51,057	1,262	1,193
VA	0.7	0.9	733	913	1,043	995
WA	66.8	58.0	84,696	72,260	1,268	1,247
WV	1.3	1.3	1,241	1,174	921	891
WI	143.3	133.4	189,175	171,239	1,320	1,284
WY	0.7	0.7	827	815	1,176	1,168
US ⁴	2,771.8	2,668.2	3,506,036	3,320,134	1,265	1,244

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

² Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

³ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁴ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. States with no data printed are still included in the US total.

**Commercial Calf Slaughter: By State and United States,
December 2002 and 2003 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<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						
AK						
AZ						
AR						
CA	11.9	10.6	1,663	2,351	140	222
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.1	34	21	309	288
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	9.0	9.1	4,055	4,105	451	450
IN	0.8	1.0	97	126	125	130
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.9	0.8	449	401	485	497
MI	1.7	2.6	772	1,136	443	441
MN						
MS ²						
MO	0.1	0.1	31	16	360	292
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ³	2.8	2.7	317	315	114	116
NJ	10.9	11.2	5,050	4,252	464	381
NM						
NY	15.9	14.5	1,589	1,397	100	96
NC	0.1	0.1	54	62	388	470
ND						
OH	4.6	6.8	1,895	2,917	414	432
OK	0.1	0.1	62	43	470	457
OR						
PA	18.1	19.4	5,921	6,296	328	324
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	58	45	411	446
TX	3.2	2.1	1,126	1,135	352	549
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	13.1	13.7	5,935	6,193	452	453
WY						
US ⁴	98.2	97.5	29,998	31,427	305	322

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

² Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

³ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁴ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. States with no data printed are still included in the US total.

**Commercial Hog Slaughter: By State and United States,
December 2002 and 2003 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<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	9.9	4,869	4,995	526	507
AK						
AZ	0.1	0.1	22	32	243	258
AR						
CA	228.2	236.4	54,252	57,281	238	242
CO	1.1	1.0	256	253	227	260
DE-MD	1.9	1.8	527	485	280	270
FL	9.1	13.7	1,559	2,381	171	174
GA	15.0	14.8	3,688	3,594	245	243
HI	3.1	2.9	652	587	210	201
ID						
IL	797.5	720.8	216,302	199,971	271	277
IN	595.0	665.9	155,644	176,127	262	264
IA	2,432.2	2,703.6	651,849	731,635	268	271
KS	26.3	27.2	8,803	8,959	335	329
KY	196.0	232.7	52,232	61,870	266	266
LA	3.0	2.6	555	488	183	185
MI	10.5	11.1	3,874	4,330	369	391
MN	775.3	825.7	204,907	219,541	264	266
MS ²						
MO	176.4	185.8				
MT	1.4	1.5	322	356	238	243
NE	610.4	614.1	163,255	165,276	267	269
NV						
N ENG ³	2.7	2.4	708	584	267	243
NJ	11.4	12.2	995	1,101	87	90
NM	0.1	0.1	25	20	211	211
NY	3.4	3.3	599	717	177	215
NC	895.7	965.5	230,910	245,485	258	254
ND	13.9	14.6	3,186	3,409	229	234
OH	104.6	109.7	27,899	29,901	267	272
OK	399.5	425.2	113,740	119,188	285	280
OR	15.8	15.9	4,156	4,072	262	257
PA	258.8	281.5	64,636	71,150	250	253
SC						
SD	333.1	467.1	86,945	123,398	261	264
TN	62.1	60.3	29,628	29,063	477	482
TX	41.0	35.4	11,930	10,449	291	295
UT	5.3	5.3	1,025	1,199	192	228
VA	349.4	385.3	91,123	98,740	261	256
WA	1.7	1.8	441	465	252	254
WV	0.9	0.9	256	222	274	250
WI	31.5	39.3	13,415	16,999	426	433
WY	0.3	0.3	70	97	237	281
US ⁴	8,657.4	9,346.6	2,316,087	2,513,068	268	269

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

² Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

³ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁴ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. States with no data printed are still included in the US total.

**Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter: By State and United States,
December 2002 and 2003 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<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						
AK						
AZ	0.1	0.1	6	5	95	78
AR						
CA						
CO						
DE-MD	3.0	2.5	331	291	111	117
FL						
GA	0.8	0.5	86	60	111	122
HI						
ID	0.4	0.4	44	40	120	113
IL	12.2	17.7	1,618	2,478	133	140
IN	4.0	2.7	455	286	113	106
IA	40.0	38.1	5,929	5,747	148	151
KS	0.1	0.2	10	20	121	84
KY	0.9	1.0	110	112	122	117
LA	0.1	0.1	8	6	79	73
MI	17.0	18.2	2,038	2,188	120	120
MN	0.3	0.4	36	43	109	110
MS ²						
MO	0.6	0.6	64	44	104	80
MT	0.4	0.4	53	51	127	125
NE	0.1	0.1	10	8	127	122
NV	0.1	0.1	10	9	131	101
N ENG ³	2.6	2.5	258	245	101	97
NJ	10.0	10.2	983	978	98	96
NM	2.5	2.0	273	206	110	102
NY	3.4	3.8	302	328	89	87
NC		0.4		41		101
ND		0.1		8		140
OH	1.0	0.9	105	97	102	111
OK	0.1	0.1	4	12	80	123
OR	1.1	1.2	119	161	111	130
PA	7.2	6.2	775	672	107	108
SC						
SD	1.2	1.3	146	153	120	120
TN	0.5	0.6	42	41	78	74
TX	29.4	33.4	3,482	4,413	118	132
UT	3.1	3.1	382	393	124	128
VA						
WA	0.9	0.3	105	37	119	134
WV						
WI	1.1	1.3	150	174	134	139
WY	0.1	0.1	15	16	134	125
US ⁴	278.7	262.0	37,145	35,954	133	137

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

² Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

³ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁴ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. States with no data printed are still included in the US total.

**Classification of Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection:
United States**

Item	Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec ¹		Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec ¹	
	2002	2003	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2003	2002	2003
	<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>Percent of Total</i>				
Class ²										
Cattle										
Steers	1,291	1,100	1,255	17,523	17,179	47.5	46.2	47.9	49.9	49.3
Heifers	889	736	800	11,342	11,078	32.7	30.9	30.5	32.3	31.8
All Cows	496	493	517	5,658	5,981	18.2	20.7	19.7	16.1	17.2
Dairy Cows	234	231	244	2,607	2,857	8.6	9.7	9.3	7.4	8.2
Other Cows	262	262	273	3,051	3,124	9.6	11.0	10.4	8.7	9.0
Bulls & Stags	42	51	47	598	624	1.5	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.8
Total ¹	2,719	2,380	2,618	35,120	34,863	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,254	8,230	8,940	95,459	96,109	96.7	96.9	96.8	96.5	96.6
Sows	260	*241	277	3,185	3,175	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.2
Stags & Boars	21	*18	20	271	251	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Total ¹	8,534	*8,490	9,237	98,915	99,535	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	13	11	11	148	143	5.1	5.1	4.7	4.8	5.1
Lambs & Yrlngs	249	211	234	2,944	2,662	94.9	94.9	95.3	95.2	94.9
Total ¹	262	223	246	3,092	2,805	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	768	740	747	765	746					
Steers ⁴	835	807	810	823	803					
Heifers ⁴	764	735	738	753	732					
All Cows ⁴	585	583	592	590	590					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	892	872	876	912	904					
Calves & Vealers	188	196	200	190	194					
Hogs	199	201	201	197	199					
Barrow Gilts ⁵	196	197	197	193	195					
Sows ⁵	314	318	316	317	315					
Stags & Boars ⁵	239	243	245	235	240					
Sheep	68	70	70	68	68					
Mature Sheep ⁶	62	68	65	63	66					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	68	70	71	68	68					

* 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,
December 2003¹**

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	1.7	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.9		0.2	2.7
2	6.8	1.7	0.4	4.2	3.2	1.0	0.5	25.7
3	84.1	26.8	7.1	47.1	35.4	11.8	3.1	19.5
4	61.9	1.3	0.4	51.7	20.8	30.9	8.5	1.8
5	304.7	105.6	48.2	143.1	92.8	50.3	7.8	32.9
6	474.1	251.5	138.1	72.3	10.2	62.1	12.3	1.8
7	1,191.5	627.3	475.8	82.1	1.7	80.4	6.2	
8	227.5	126.9	82.8	15.8	4.5	11.2	2.1	
9	152.3	69.4	8.6	71.3	63.9	7.5	3.1	10.1
10	113.5	43.9	38.0	28.4	11.1	17.3	3.2	0.8
US ²	2,618.1	1,254.6	799.5	516.9	244.4	272.5	47.0	95.3
	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	2.0	2.0			2.3	0.3	2.0	
2	15.3	14.9	0.4	0.1	12.6	1.5	11.1	
3	667.8	665.7	2.0		9.0	0.5	8.4	
4	1,476.3	1,393.4	81.1	1.8	2.7	0.9	1.8	
5	2,335.0	2,223.6	108.6	2.8	35.8	3.5	32.3	
6	472.6	442.8	29.8		31.1	1.9	29.2	
7	3,522.3	3,463.7	43.5	15.1	38.6		38.6	
8	483.7	471.7	11.9		73.1	2.0	71.1	
9	227.7	227.6	0.1		39.3	0.6	38.8	
10	34.5	34.4	0.1		1.4	0.1	1.2	
US ²	9,237.0	8,939.7	277.5	19.8	245.9	11.5	234.4	

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 - December 2003 * 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	18.3	3.7	2.3	10.0	9.6	0.4	2.2	27.3
2	79.3	19.5	3.9	49.8	39.1	10.7	6.2	243.0
3	1,088.0	444.5	86.1	519.2	390.0	129.2	38.1	190.7
4	839.0	16.9	3.7	694.8	251.8	443.0	123.5	22.9
5	3,873.2	1,537.2	542.2	1,681.1	1,088.3	592.8	112.8	332.3
6	6,498.1	3,306.2	2,202.1	845.4	135.4	710.1	144.5	20.2
7	15,770.5	8,592.2	6,273.5	825.8	20.4	805.4	79.0	0.4
8	3,219.7	1,608.5	1,411.1	172.1	49.8	122.3	28.0	0.1
9	1,926.1	929.1	106.7	844.5	730.7	113.9	45.7	128.6
10	1,551.3	721.6	446.6	338.9	142.3	196.6	44.2	10.7
US ²	34,863.4	17,179.5	11,078.1	5,981.7	2,857.3	3,124.4	624.1	976.3
	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	20.6	20.3	0.2	0.1	22.3	5.3	17.0	
2	134.2	130.4	2.9	0.9	135.3	18.7	116.6	
3	6,609.1	6,588.6	19.7	0.8	114.2	9.4	104.8	
4	16,145.4	15,170.7	956.1	18.7	29.1	11.3	17.9	
5	25,675.6	24,388.1	1,251.3	36.2	391.5	46.4	345.0	
6	5,117.5	4,839.9	267.5	10.0	360.9	19.7	341.2	
7	38,314.4	37,573.3	557.6	183.4	421.6	0.4	421.1	
8	4,764.9	4,648.7	116.1	0.2	778.5	22.1	756.3	
9	2,382.3	2,380.6	1.3	0.4	531.1	5.8	525.2	
10	371.0	368.8	1.9	0.3	20.8	3.9	16.9	
US ²	99,535.0	96,109.3	3,174.7	250.9	2,805.2	143.2	2,662.0	

* 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,
December 2003**

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								
AK	0.1							
AZ	39.7	23.3	0.5	15.9	15.9			
AR	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	
CA	111.9	45.8	7.8	55.3	47.9	7.4	3.0	10.1
CO	171.8	105.4	65.8	0.5	0.5			
DE-MD	3.0	1.9	0.7	0.3	0.3			0.1
FL	8.2	0.2		7.5	1.1	6.4	0.5	
GA	21.3	0.1		18.7	1.7	17.0	2.6	
HI	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1		0.1	0.1	
ID	54.7	15.0	15.5	21.2	7.0	14.2	2.9	
IL	68.9	40.4	28.4					9.1
IN	0.2	0.1						1.0
IA	78.3	36.1	25.3	16.8		16.8		
KS	554.7	317.3	236.1	1.3		1.3		
KY	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1			
LA								
MI	35.8	19.7	11.8	4.1	4.1		0.1	2.5
MN	65.0	7.4	5.3	47.2	20.2	27.0	5.1	
MS								
MO	5.3	0.9	0.5	3.4	0.6	2.8	0.6	
MT	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1		0.1		
NE	553.2	273.1	213.9	60.6	1.1	59.5	5.6	
NV	0.1	0.1						
N ENG ²	1.7	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.9		0.2	2.7
NJ	2.3	1.0	0.1	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.3	11.2
NM	1.7			1.6	1.6			
NY	4.5	0.7	0.3	3.2	2.4	0.8	0.3	14.5
NC	18.2	0.2	0.1	14.2	7.0	7.2	3.8	0.1
ND								
OH	5.2	0.3	0.2	4.5	4.2	0.3	0.2	6.7
OK	0.5			0.5	0.2	0.3		
OR	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	
PA	80.8	24.7	6.3	46.7	35.0	11.7	3.0	19.4
SC								
SD								
TN	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
TX	471.2	251.2	137.9	70.0	8.4	61.6	12.2	1.8
UT	41.9	21.2	16.6	3.7	1.9	1.8	0.4	
VA	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1		0.1		
WA	57.9	28.5	22.3	6.8	3.8	3.0	0.2	
WV	0.1	0.1						
WI	129.6	37.6	2.3	87.4	64.4	23.0	2.3	13.6
WY								
US ³	2,618.1	1,254.6	799.5	516.9	244.4	272.5	47.0	95.3

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

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.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By State and United States,
December 2003**

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	9.0		7.2	1.7			
AK							
AZ							
AR							
CA	224.7	224.6	0.1				
CO	0.6	0.5	0.1				
DE-MD	1.8	1.7			2.5	0.1	2.4
FL	13.7	13.6	0.1				
GA							
HI	2.9	2.9					
ID					0.1		0.1
IL	704.3	647.6	55.2	1.5	15.8	0.1	15.6
IN	661.7	661.6			1.8	0.9	0.9
IA	2,701.8	2,650.9	35.8	15.1	37.9		37.9
KS							
KY	231.6	225.1	6.4		1.0	0.7	0.3
LA							
MI	9.3	3.4	5.9		17.9	2.4	15.5
MN	822.6	822.5			0.2		0.2
MS							
MO					0.6		0.5
MT	0.2	0.2			0.1		0.1
NE	613.0	613.0					
NV					0.1		0.1
N ENG ²	2.0	2.0			2.3	0.3	2.0
NJ	12.2	11.8	0.3	0.1	10.2	1.0	9.2
NM							
NY	3.1	3.1			2.5	0.6	1.9
NC	954.5	951.6	2.8		0.4		0.4
ND	13.8	13.8					
OH	103.3	88.0	14.5	0.9			
OK	423.7	418.1	5.6				
OR	15.7	15.6	0.1		1.1	0.1	1.0
PA	281.0	280.7	0.3		6.2	0.4	5.8
SC							
SD	466.0	454.5	11.5		1.2		1.2
TN	60.0	1.1	58.9		0.6		0.5
TX	30.4	23.0	7.4		31.1	1.9	29.1
UT	3.0	2.7	0.3		2.5	2.0	0.5
VA	384.9	383.2	1.7				
WA	1.6	1.6			0.1		0.1
WV	0.1	0.1					
WI	33.8	0.4	33.0	0.4	0.1		0.1
WY							
US ³	9,237.0	8,939.7	277.5	19.8	245.9	11.5	234.4

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

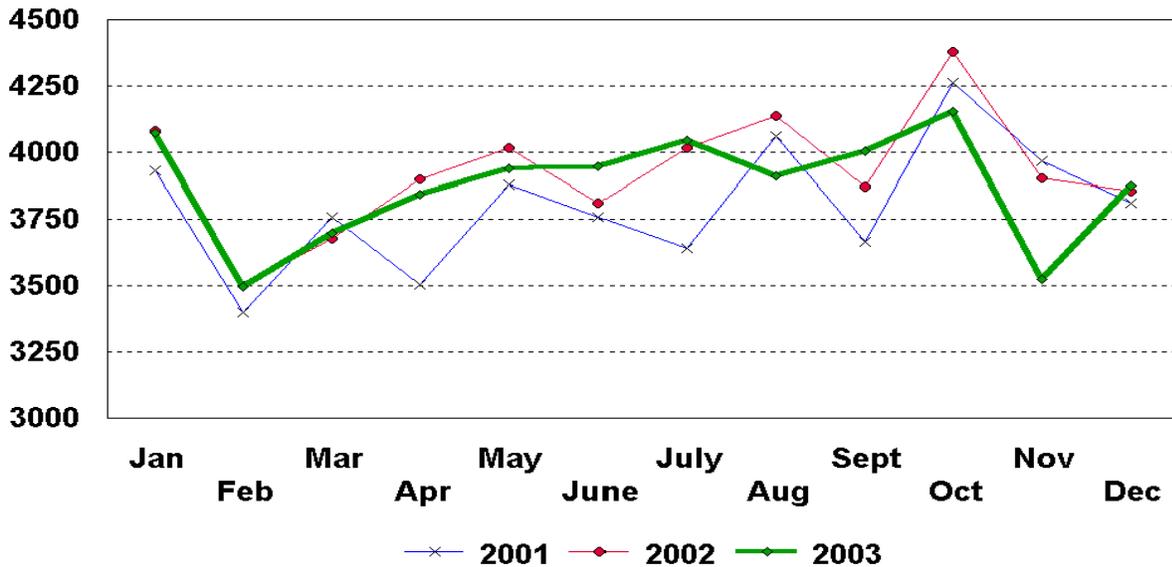
³ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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

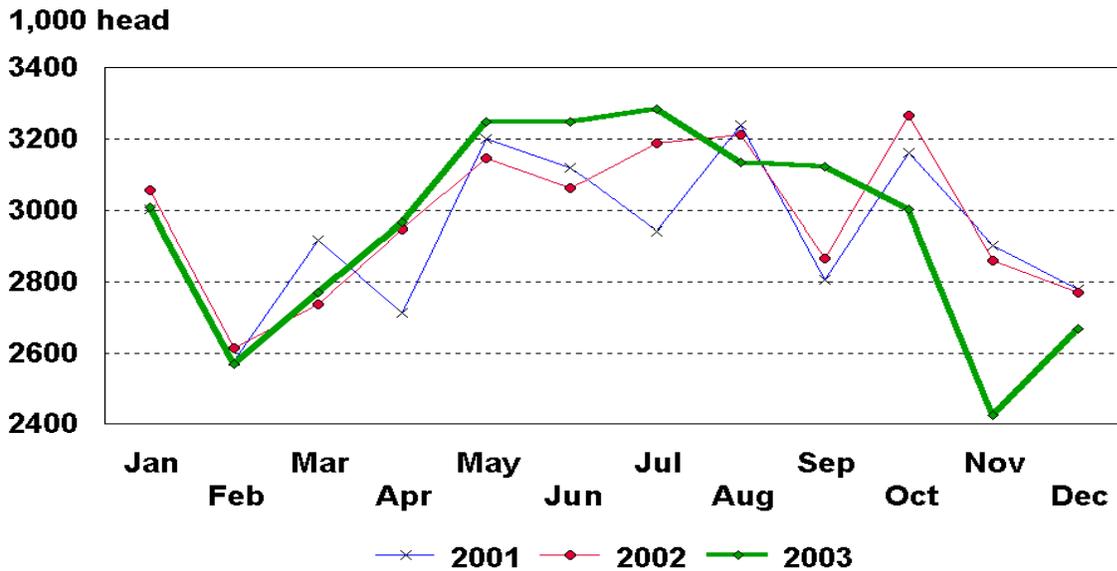
Species	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Jan - Dec	
				2002	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.3	98.3
Calves	97.5	97.6	97.7	97.5	97.5
Hogs	98.6	98.9	98.8	98.7	98.8
Sheep	94.1	94.3	93.9	94.1	94.3

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

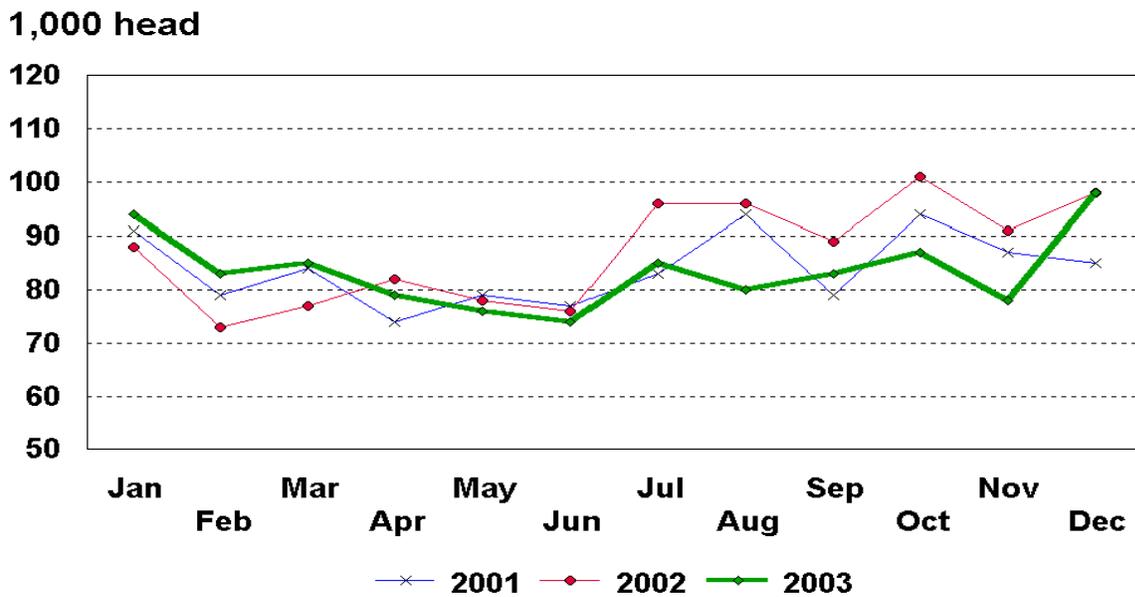
Million Pounds



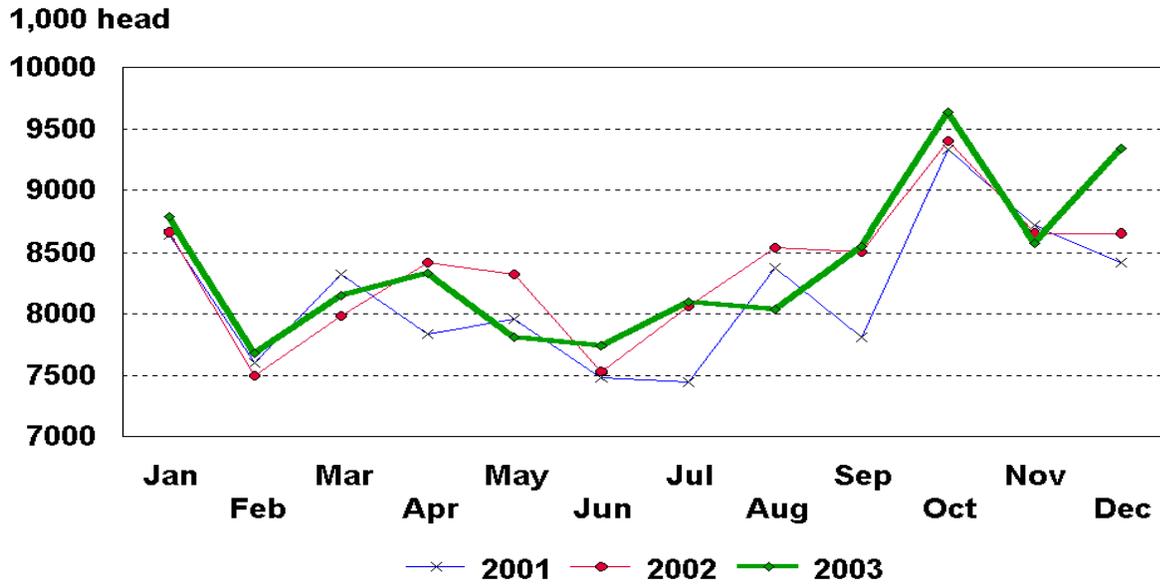
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



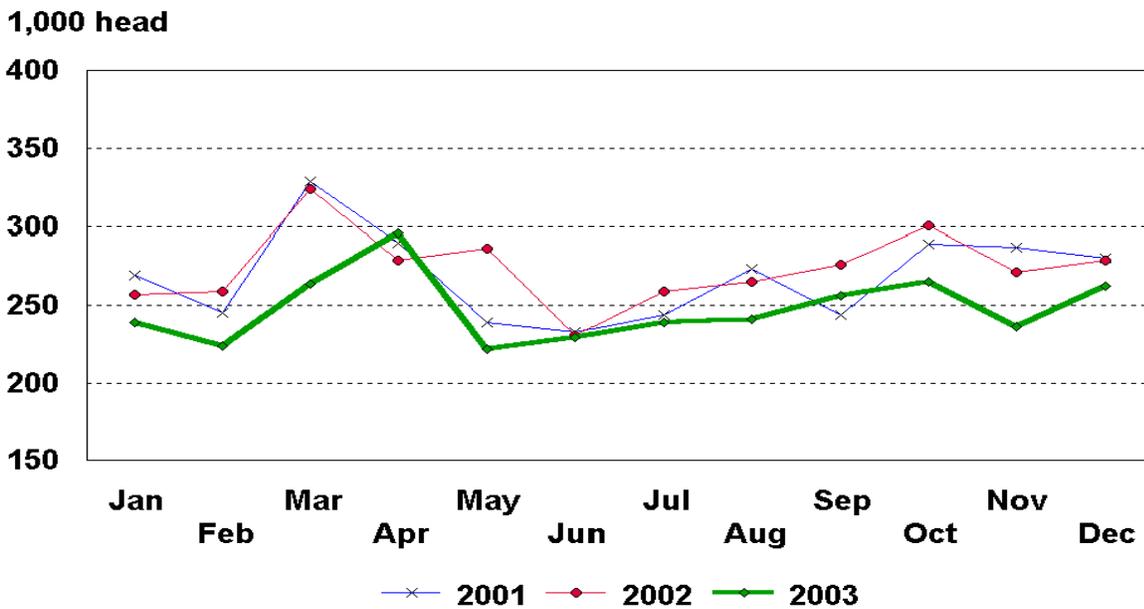
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



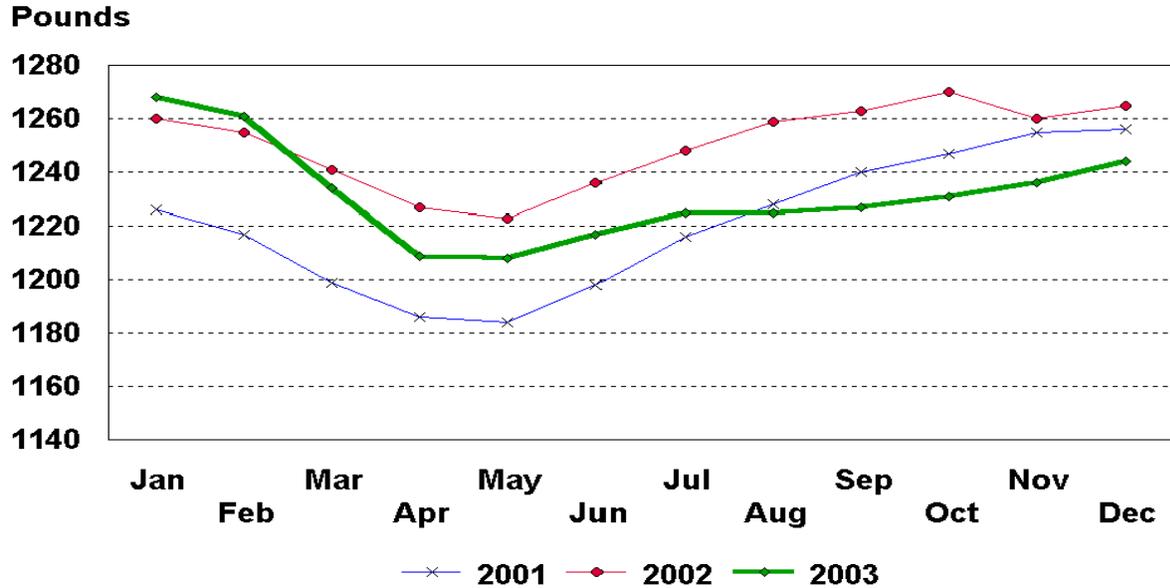
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



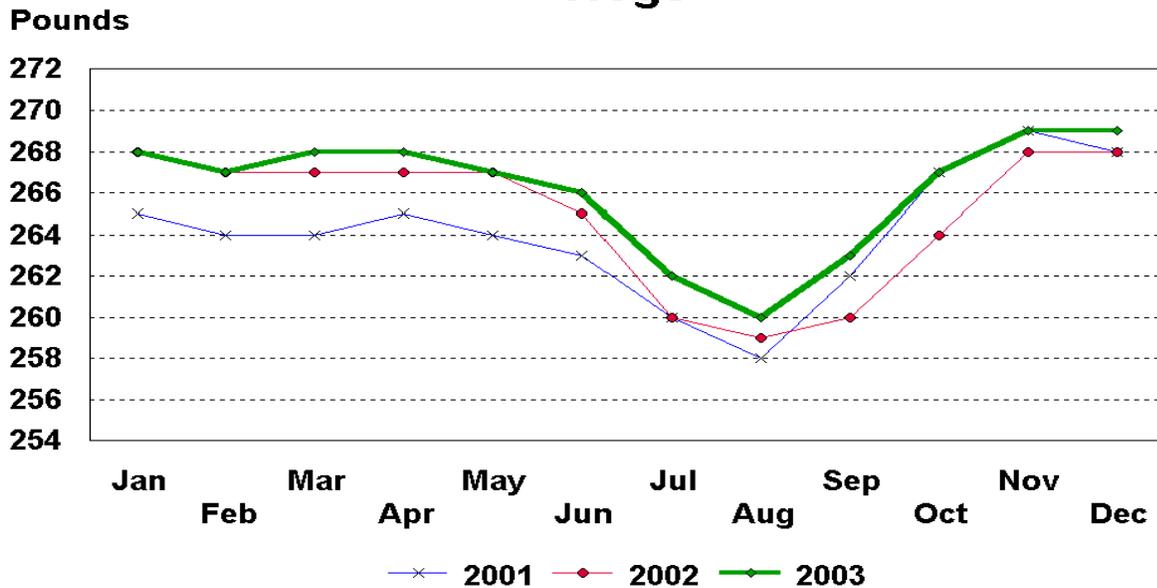
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



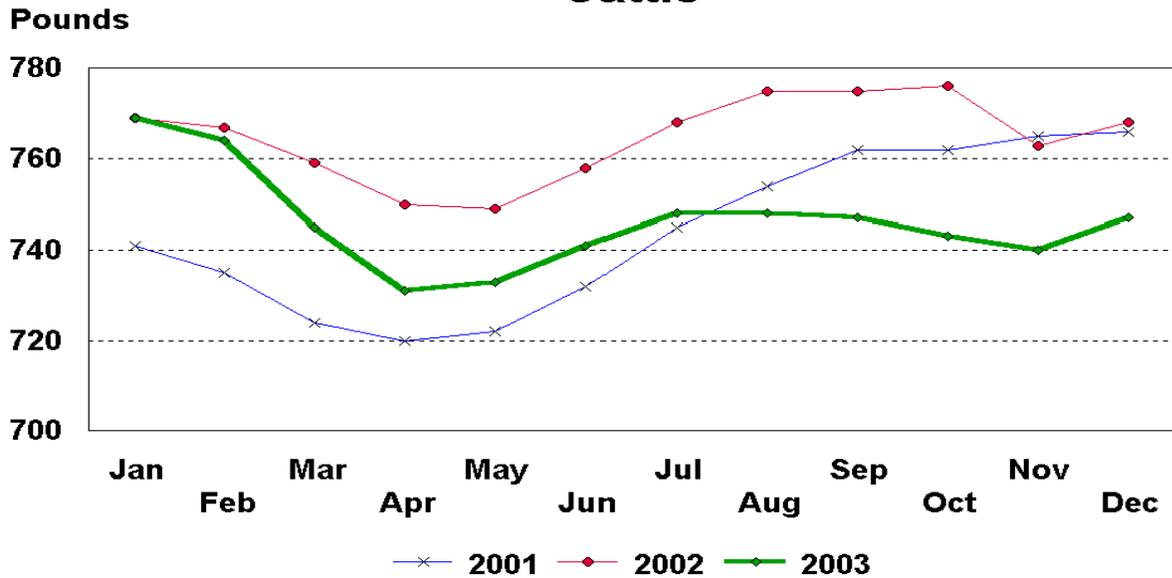
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



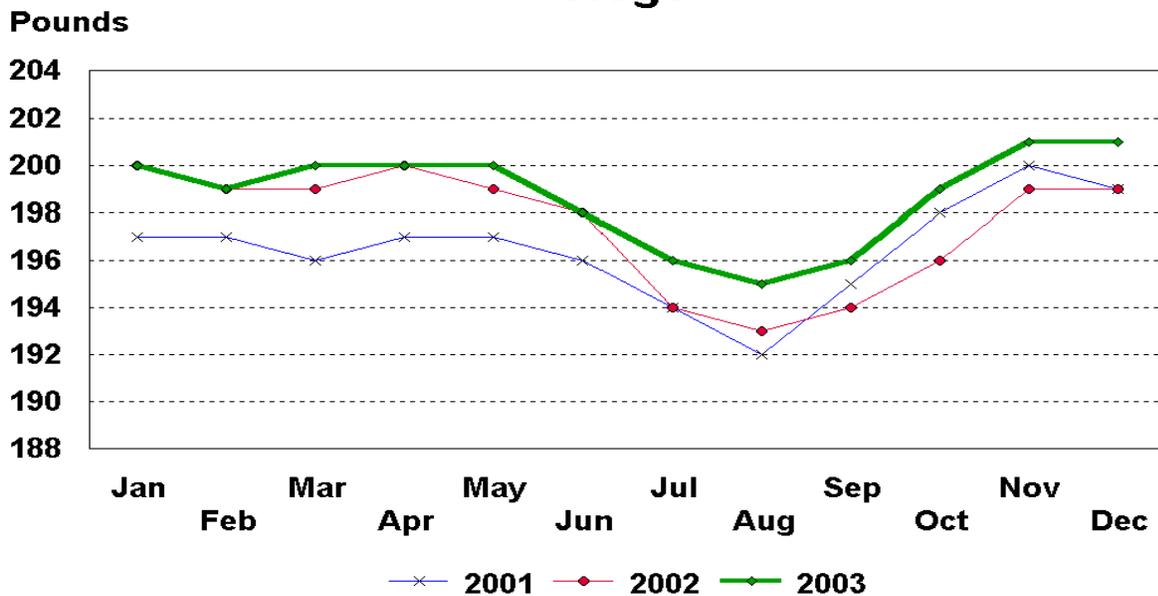
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



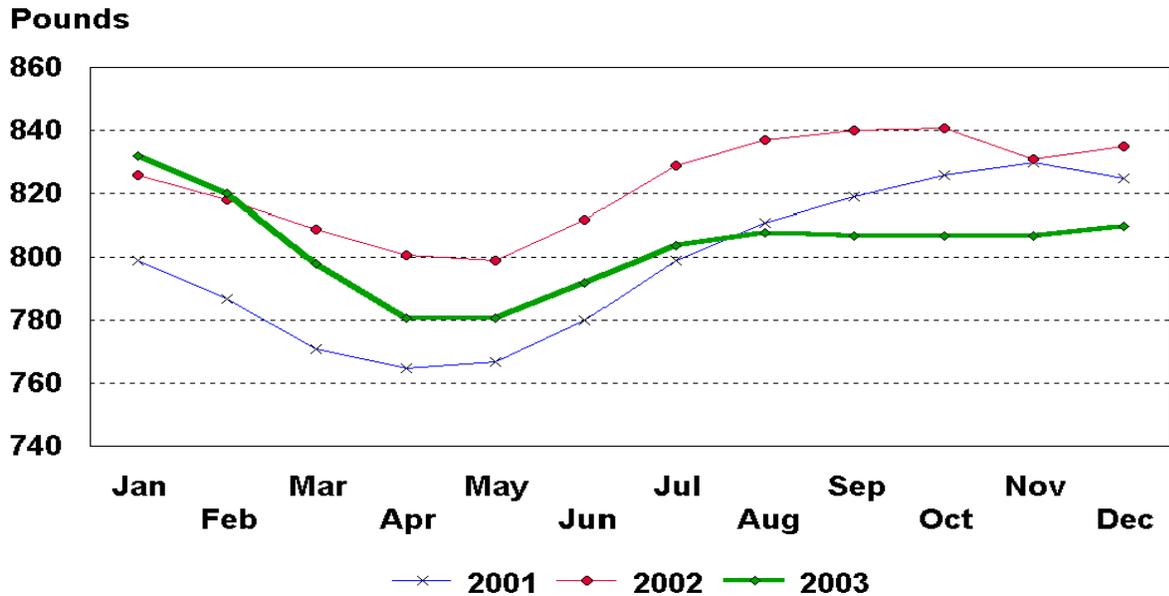
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



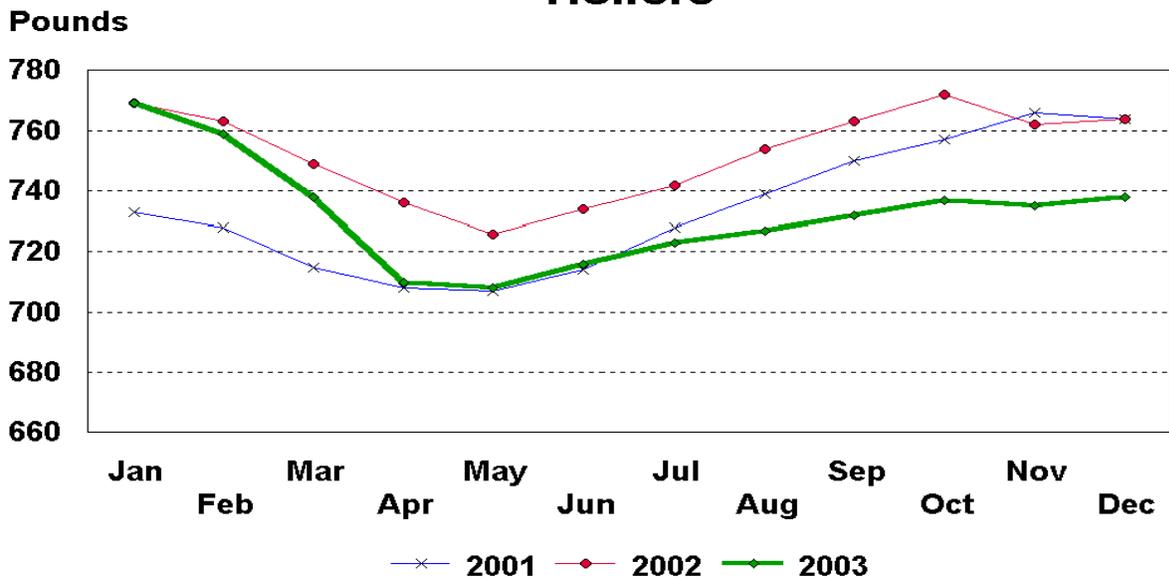
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



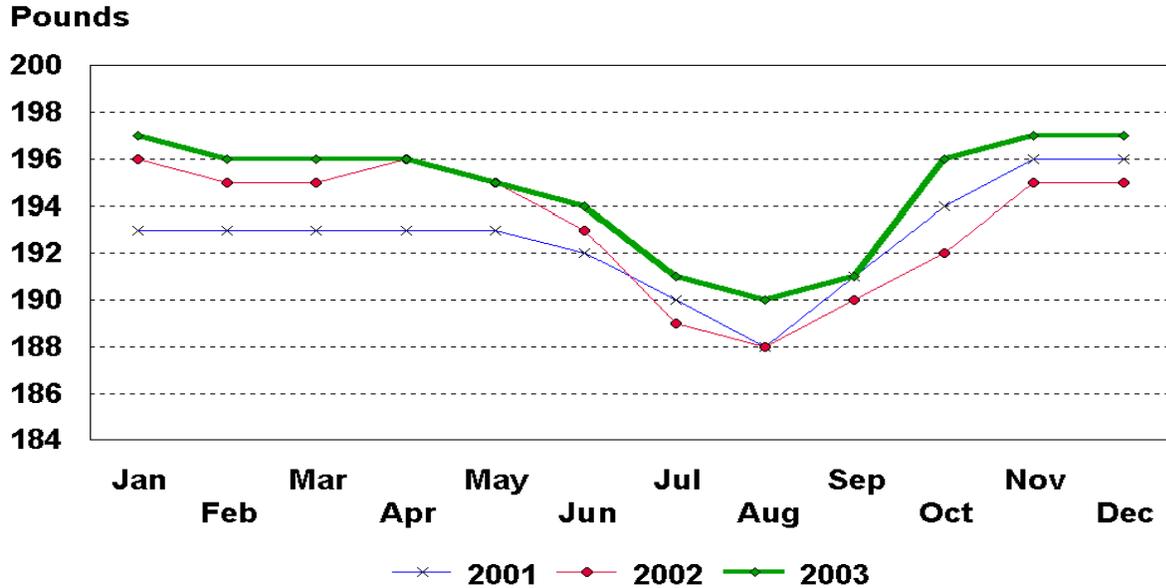
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



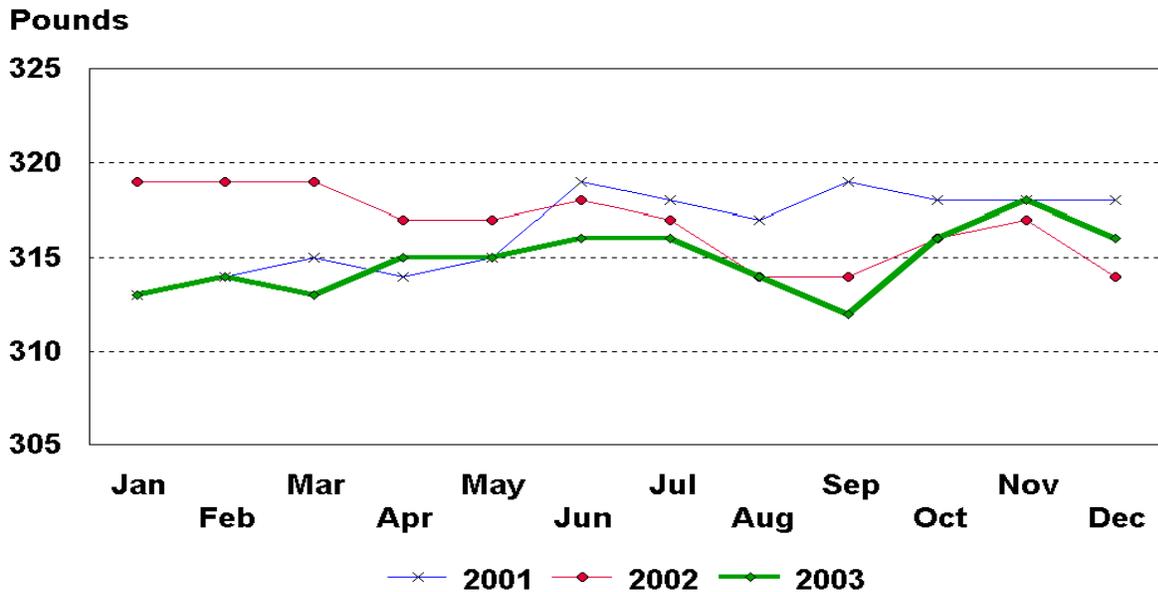
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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.

Slightly under 900 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection and over 2,300 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 10 percent and for hogs about 3 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 five years; running about 1.90 head per 100 head for calves, .5 per 100 for cattle, .40 per 100 for hogs and .20 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 8:30 a.m. on February 20, 2004.

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