



Livestock Slaughter

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Pork Production at Record Monthly High for March

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.95 billion pounds in March, up 6 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in March 2003.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.87 million head, up 4 percent from March 2003. The average live weight was down 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,217 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.2 million pounds, 14 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 76,900 head, down 10 percent from March 2003. The average live weight was 15 pounds below last year, at 308 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the previous year, and set a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 9.04 million head, 11 percent above March 2003. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 22.1 million pounds, was up 22 percent from March 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 306,800 head, 17 percent above last year. The average live weight was 144 pounds, up 6 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2004 commercial red meat production was 11.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 7 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

March 2003 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

March 2004 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Mar 04 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004	2003	2004	04 as % of 03
	<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	2,048	1,803	2,109	103	117	6,282	5,836	93
Veal	16.5	14.5	14.2	86	98	50.1	44.7	89
Pork	1,623	1,571	1,801	111	115	4,898	5,130	105
Lamb & Mutton	18.1	14.8	22.1	122	149	49.2	52.4	106
Total Red Meat	3,706	3,403	3,946	106	116	11,279	11,064	98

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 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Mar 04 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004	2003	2004	04 as % of 03
	<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	2,018	1,775	2,077	103	117	6,186	5,746	93
Veal	16.0	14.1	13.8	86	98	48.6	43.5	89
Pork	1,606	1,557	1,785	111	115	4,846	5,085	105
Lamb & Mutton	17.6	14.1	21.5	122	153	47.3	50.4	107
Total Red Meat	3,657	3,360	3,897	107	116	11,128	10,925	98

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 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Mar 04 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
					Mar 2003	Feb 2004	2003	2004	04 % of 03
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,724.5	*2,380.9	2,820.8	104	118	8,193.8	7,728.3	94
Other	Thou	49.4	46.2	50.4	102	109	157.1	146.8	93
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,773.9	*2,427.1	2,871.2	104	118	8,350.9	7,875.1	94
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,236	1,235	1,219	99	99	1,256	1,234	98
Other	Lbs	1,097	1,104	1,098	100	100	1,094	1,100	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,234	1,233	1,217	99	99	1,255	1,232	98
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	83.0	*70.1	75.2	91	107	255.8	222.7	87
Other	Thou	2.0	1.5	1.7	88	117	5.9	4.8	81
Comm'l. ³	Thou	85.0	*71.6	76.9	90	107	261.7	227.5	87
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	318	334	306	97	92	317	324	103
Other	Lbs	408	419	423	104	101	426	422	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	323	336	308	96	92	319	327	102
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,068.7	7,804.5	8,942.0	111	115	24,348.7	25,449.9	105
Other	Thou	99.6	81.7	96.7	97	118	305.0	264.2	87
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,168.3	7,886.1	9,038.7	111	115	24,653.8	25,714.1	104
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	268	268	268	100	100	268	268	100
Other	Lbs	240	236	233	97	99	236	234	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	268	268	268	100	100	267	268	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	251.6	199.1	294.8	117	148	689.7	701.2	102
Other	Thou	11.1	13.9	12.0	108	86	38.5	37.9	99
Comm'l. ³	Thou	262.7	213.0	306.8	117	144	728.2	739.1	101
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	139	141	145	104	103	137	143	105
Other	Lbs	109	108	108	99	100	105	106	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	138	139	144	104	104	135	141	105

* 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 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Mar 04 as % of ²	
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	3.5	3.0	3.1	91	104
AK					
AZ	33.1	25.7	31.6	95	123
AR	6.2	5.4	5.4	88	101
CA	114.8	105.6	122.9	107	116
CO	157.9	145.0	170.8	108	118
DE-MD	2.7	2.5	3.0	113	121
FL	5.6	4.4	4.9	88	111
GA	20.7	11.3	11.0	53	98
HI	0.9	0.8	0.9	102	116
ID	47.3	35.7	43.8	93	123
IL	201.6	194.7	237.2	118	122
IN	116.3	111.5	128.2	110	115
IA	519.4	500.2	579.9	112	116
KS	446.1	414.9	492.9	110	119
KY	36.0	40.3	42.7	119	106
LA	1.3	1.3	1.2	97	97
MI	32.7	28.0	33.2	102	118
MN	191.0	174.0	202.5	106	116
MS	23.6	23.5	24.4	103	104
MO	35.2	32.4	37.9	108	117
MT	1.1	1.1	1.2	103	109
NE	559.7	483.3	555.3	99	115
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	129	148
N ENG ³	1.4	0.8	1.0	76	129
NJ	4.5	3.6	4.3	97	119
NM	1.2	0.7	0.8	68	111
NY	3.4	2.9	3.6	105	125
NC	176.4	166.1	192.7	109	116
ND	2.5	2.3	2.9	117	127
OH	26.5	25.5	27.7	104	109
OK	78.5	83.1	93.5	119	113
OR	3.7	3.1	3.7	102	122
PA	105.4	96.9	105.7	100	109
SC	19.8	19.3	21.7	110	113
SD	80.7	74.0	77.7	96	105
TN	19.6	19.7	22.4	114	114
TX	368.7	341.3	406.9	110	119
UT	40.1	30.7	33.0	82	108
VA	61.9	56.9	69.8	113	123
WA	45.3	35.5	36.6	81	103
WV	0.5	0.6	0.5	92	84
WI	108.9	95.1	106.7	98	112
WY	0.5	0.5	0.5	87	101
US	3,706.1	3,403.4	3,946.2	106	116

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 2003 and 2004 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<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	0.1	0.1	67	58	1,203	983
AZ	42.3	40.8	56,935	53,219	1,346	1,304
AR	1.3	1.2	1,087	1,159	850	955
CA	109.7	111.8	140,228	146,062	1,278	1,306
CO	194.4	205.9	242,880	254,046	1,250	1,234
DE-MD	2.9	3.4	3,673	4,363	1,260	1,271
FL	7.5	6.9	8,591	7,546	1,150	1,091
GA	30.7	14.0	36,495	16,993	1,190	1,211
HI	0.8	0.9	884	1,004	1,059	1,101
ID	61.4	57.4	77,811	71,688	1,268	1,250
IL						
IN						
IA						
KS	582.3	653.9	694,098	767,077	1,192	1,173
KY	1.6	1.7	1,408	1,458	873	874
LA	1.1	1.1	1,021	979	914	863
MI	36.8	38.2	50,622	49,444	1,375	1,295
MN	63.1	56.9	88,289	80,515	1,398	1,415
MS	0.2	0.2	202	179	996	829
MO						
MT	1.4	1.4	1,588	1,619	1,169	1,153
NE	579.2	576.1	739,682	722,846	1,277	1,255
NV	0.1	0.1	93	129	1,015	1,043
N ENG ²	1.5	1.1	1,657	1,106	1,078	1,028
NJ	2.3	2.2	2,650	2,552	1,158	1,172
NM	2.4	1.4	2,224	1,373	935	977
NY	4.3	3.9	4,780	4,422	1,102	1,132
NC	18.2	19.4	19,555	19,923	1,074	1,029
ND						
OH	11.2	9.0	12,585	10,109	1,124	1,129
OK	3.1	2.9	3,198	3,125	1,041	1,095
OR	1.4	1.2	1,478	1,286	1,084	1,067
PA	87.6	78.9	111,994	92,864	1,278	1,177
SC						
SD						
TN	1.5	1.5	1,362	1,314	905	893
TX	494.5	555.3	579,023	645,728	1,171	1,163
UT	51.9	44.1	63,180	51,413	1,216	1,167
VA	1.3	1.3	1,264	1,322	947	999
WA	60.7	49.8	74,229	59,040	1,224	1,184
WV	0.8	0.7	762	675	1,002	918
WI	139.2	126.5	179,575	168,067	1,291	1,328
WY	0.6	0.5	749	604	1,219	1,152
US ³	2,773.9	2,871.2	3,421,834	3,493,209	1,234	1,217

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. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Commercial Calf Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 2003 and 2004 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<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	11.2	9.6	1,607	1,690	143	176
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.1	32	23	372	348
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	8.4	6.7	3,827	2,952	453	444
IN	0.8	0.3	97	44	124	137
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.8	0.6	389	329	489	510
MI	2.4	2.2	1,102	965	451	441
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	2.2	0.9	271	177	124	205
NJ	8.2	9.5	3,748	3,168	457	335
NM						
NY	12.6	14.2	1,175	1,455	93	102
NC	0.1	0.1	42	64	396	460
ND						
OH	5.2	5.4	2,121	2,228	411	416
OK	0.1	0.2	48	70	467	443
OR						
PA	15.4	14.3	5,680	4,781	369	335
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	64	62	504	594
TX	1.9	1.6	1,018	961	547	608
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	12.2	9.5	5,461	4,306	448	454
WY						
US ³	85.0	76.9	27,426	23,707	323	308

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. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Commercial Hog Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 2003 and 2004 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<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	9.6	10.0	4,900	4,732	510	471
AK						
AZ	0.3	0.8	75	155	237	200
AR						
CA	193.7	219.9	46,487	54,489	240	248
CO	1.0	1.1	262	253	265	236
DE-MD	1.5	1.5	411	401	283	272
FL	8.8	8.5	1,669	1,598	190	187
GA	12.0	13.9	3,015	3,388	251	244
HI	2.3	2.3	512	450	218	197
ID						
IL	680.4	820.4	187,665	225,568	276	275
IN	577.1	636.0	150,899	166,242	261	261
IA	2,373.9	2,591.3	634,621	695,459	267	268
KS	27.6	31.9	8,828	10,968	319	344
KY	176.4	211.6	46,926	55,958	266	264
LA	2.2	2.4	517	529	237	225
MI	9.4	10.5	3,480	3,924	369	373
MN	736.4	817.9	194,270	216,358	264	265
MS						
MO	154.8	169.7				
MT	1.0	1.1	227	268	229	237
NE	561.7	579.8	149,663	154,123	266	266
NV						
N ENG ²	1.8	1.5	458	357	257	234
NJ	7.5	8.4	758	907	101	108
NM	0.2	0.2	42	33	212	210
NY	2.2	2.3	433	527	197	225
NC	864.6	954.0	221,148	242,770	256	254
ND	11.6	13.9	2,653	3,313	229	238
OH	97.9	108.3	26,117	28,846	267	266
OK	366.4	432.7	102,552	120,858	280	279
OR	16.9	18.7	4,418	4,771	262	255
PA	225.9	252.5	56,500	62,949	250	249
SC						
SD	373.8	366.9	98,474	95,762	263	261
TN	58.7	67.8	28,319	31,987	483	472
TX	37.2	33.8	10,959	9,478	294	281
UT	3.5	4.0	698	884	199	219
VA	312.5	358.8	81,280	91,838	260	256
WA	1.4	1.7	349	427	253	254
WV	0.5	0.6	134	146	260	257
WI	39.6	50.5	17,760	23,031	448	456
WY	0.5	0.4	128	109	259	268
US ³	8,168.3	9,038.7	2,186,800	2,419,497	268	268

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. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 2003 and 2004 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<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	0.2	15	14	108	70
AR						
CA						
CO	67.6	114.4	10,184	18,069	151	158
DE-MD	2.1	2.4	254	292	119	119
FL	0.2	0.4	22	22	95	59
GA	0.3	0.5	34	58	114	110
HI						
ID	0.3	0.3	31	39	111	115
IL	14.7	18.3	2,092	2,629	142	144
IN	2.0	1.7	225	178	112	107
IA	38.9	47.3	5,972	7,243	153	153
KS	0.1	0.2	15	20	106	115
KY	0.7	0.9	97	111	137	124
LA	0.2	0.2	24	24	107	106
MI	15.1	17.8	1,820	2,140	121	120
MN	0.1	0.2	16	22	127	132
MS						
MO	0.4	0.4	40	35	105	86
MT	0.2	0.3	26	32	126	127
NE	0.1	0.1	9	8	121	129
NV	0.1	0.1	10	7	124	87
N ENG ²	1.3	1.7	142	177	110	104
NJ	7.2	9.2	687	849	95	93
NM	2.3	2.2	242	222	105	102
NY	1.7	3.1	160	317	92	103
NC		0.2		18		79
ND						
OH	0.8	0.7	93	77	112	108
OK	0.1	0.1	17	13	147	134
OR	0.7	1.5	93	200	132	137
PA	5.9	6.0	644	705	109	117
SC						
SD	1.0	1.1	117	127	118	119
TN	0.5	0.4	39	41	79	91
TX	34.1	36.3	4,516	5,052	132	139
UT	2.7	3.1	340	403	127	131
VA	0.7	0.6	67	64	100	101
WA	0.5	0.3	64	41	121	154
WV						
WI	0.7	0.8	96	116	135	137
WY	0.1	0.1	18	16	127	158
US ³	262.7	306.8	36,260	44,121	138	144

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. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

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

Item	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Jan - Mar ¹		Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Jan - Mar ¹	
				2003	2004				2003	2004
	<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	1,308	1,123	1,383	3,887	3,728	48.0	47.2	49.0	47.4	48.2
Heifers	874	828	954	2,673	2,593	32.1	34.8	33.8	32.6	33.5
All Cows	494	395	438	1,490	1,288	18.2	16.5	15.5	18.2	16.6
Dairy Cows	250	206	218	743	643	9.2	8.6	7.7	9.1	8.3
Other Cows	244	189	220	747	645	9.0	7.9	7.8	9.1	8.3
Bulls & Stags	48	35	45	144	120	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.6
Total ¹	2,725	2,381	2,821	8,194	7,728	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	7,780	7,528	8,615	23,523	24,565	96.4	96.5	96.3	96.6	96.5
Sows	268	256	303	767	819	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.1	3.2
Stags & Boars	21	21	25	59	66	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Total ¹	8,069	7,804	8,942	24,349	25,450	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	10	10	12	31	32	3.9	5.0	4.0	4.5	4.5
Lambs & Yrlngs	242	189	283	659	669	96.1	95.0	96.0	95.5	95.5
Total ¹	252	199	295	690	701	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	745	750	741	758	747					
Steers ⁴	798	798	784	815	796					
Heifers ⁴	738	735	725	754	733					
All Cows ⁴	598	624	622	599	618					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	924	883	894	927	896					
Calves & Vealers	195	207	190	194	199					
Hogs	200	200	200	200	201					
Barrow Gilts ⁵	196	196	196	196	197					
Sows ⁵	313	317	313	314	315					
Stags & Boars ⁵	238	201	210	238	215					
Sheep	70	71	73	69	72					
Mature Sheep ⁶	62	67	68	63	68					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	70	71	73	69	72					

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 2004¹**

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	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2		0.2	0.9
2	5.9	1.6	0.4	3.5	3.4	0.1	0.4	23.7
3	82.2	30.6	7.3	41.4	32.8	8.5	2.9	14.4
4	54.0	1.6	0.4	43.9	15.2	28.8	8.0	1.2
5	301.8	125.5	46.0	123.3	75.6	47.7	7.0	23.8
6	554.5	290.0	195.6	57.3	11.7	45.6	11.6	1.4
7	1,303.9	676.2	551.5	69.0	4.0	64.9	7.2	
8	258.6	133.4	111.8	11.7	4.8	6.8	1.8	
9	152.5	80.4	9.0	60.0	54.0	6.0	3.2	9.4
10	106.7	43.9	32.0	27.9	16.2	11.7	2.8	0.5
US ²	2,820.8	1,383.4	954.2	438.2	217.9	220.3	45.1	75.2
	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	1.2	1.2			1.6	0.3	1.3	
2	10.5	10.2	0.2	0.1	11.3	1.2	10.1	
3	612.1	610.4	1.7		8.7	0.8	7.9	
4	1,440.4	1,346.7	91.9	1.8	2.4	1.1	1.4	
5	2,408.2	2,272.6	133.0	2.6	36.2	4.3	31.9	
6	469.2	447.6	21.6		35.2	1.3	33.9	
7	3,364.8	3,294.5	50.2	20.0	47.7		47.7	
8	382.4	378.5	3.9		117.9	2.2	115.7	
9	215.9	215.7	0.1		32.3	0.6	31.8	
10	37.2	37.1	0.1		1.5	0.1	1.4	
US ²	8,942.0	8,614.6	302.7	24.7	294.8	11.9	283.0	

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 2004 * 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	3.1	0.9	0.6	1.1	1.0	0.1	0.4	3.6
2	16.7	4.4	0.9	10.4	9.9	0.5	1.0	60.9
3	235.1	86.5	21.4	119.6	94.2	25.5	7.6	42.3
4	155.4	3.9	1.3	129.8	55.3	74.5	20.4	4.1
5	823.2	322.0	118.1	365.0	217.1	147.9	18.1	79.7
6	1,507.2	778.2	516.3	179.2	34.3	144.9	33.5	4.1
7	3,525.2	1,826.9	1,488.8	190.2	8.9	181.4	19.3	0.1
8	723.0	359.4	323.8	35.2	12.9	22.2	4.6	
9	435.6	221.7	24.7	181.4	167.0	14.4	7.9	26.2
10	303.9	124.0	96.6	75.9	42.0	33.9	7.4	1.7
US ²	7,728.3	3,727.9	2,592.5	1,287.8	642.5	645.3	120.0	222.7
	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	3.3	3.2	0.1		3.9	0.9	3.0	
2	30.9	30.0	0.5	0.3	30.3	3.9	26.3	
3	1,664.0	1,659.0	4.9	0.1	24.7	2.1	22.6	
4	4,075.6	3,814.9	256.7	4.1	7.2	2.8	4.3	
5	6,721.7	6,367.4	347.2	7.1	96.6	10.6	86.0	
6	1,326.0	1,263.0	62.9	0.1	83.9	4.0	79.9	
7	9,709.5	9,526.0	129.4	54.1	106.2		106.1	
8	1,203.0	1,186.5	16.4		253.5	5.8	247.7	
9	615.5	615.1	0.3	0.1	91.4	1.2	90.2	
10	100.5	100.3	0.2	0.1	3.6	0.3	3.3	
US ²	25,449.9	24,565.3	818.7	66.0	701.2	31.7	669.5	

* 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 2004**

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	40.2	32.5	0.1	7.6	7.6			
AR	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3		0.3	0.1	
CA	111.2	47.4	8.6	52.2	46.4	5.8	3.0	9.4
CO	205.3	113.9	90.6	0.7	0.5	0.2		
DE-MD	3.4	2.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1		0.1
FL	6.9	0.3		6.2	0.9	5.3	0.4	
GA	13.1	0.2		11.3	2.0	9.3	1.6	
HI	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2		0.2	0.1	
ID	55.8	19.1	12.2	22.0	11.8	10.2	2.5	
IL								6.7
IN								0.3
IA								
KS	650.4	357.8	291.3	1.3		1.3		
KY	0.8	0.5	0.2				0.1	
LA								
MI	36.1	23.2	5.1	7.7	3.8	3.9	0.1	2.1
MN	54.5	8.6	3.6	37.5	16.9	20.6	4.6	
MS								
MO								
MT	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1		0.1	0.1	
NE	574.3	274.4	237.5	55.8	3.5	52.3	6.7	
NV	0.1	0.1						
N ENG ²	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2		0.2	0.9
NJ	2.2	1.0	0.1	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.2	9.5
NM	1.0			0.9	0.9			
NY	3.7	0.6	0.2	2.7	2.7		0.2	14.2
NC	18.8	0.1	0.1	14.5	7.3	7.2	4.1	0.1
ND								
OH	3.8	0.3	0.3	3.2	2.0	1.2	0.1	5.3
OK	0.2	0.1						
OR	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	
PA	78.5	27.9	6.6	41.0	32.6	8.4	2.9	14.3
SC								
SD								
TN	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1
TX	552.7	289.8	195.5	55.9	10.7	45.2	11.5	1.4
UT	43.3	19.0	20.8	3.1	1.9	1.2	0.4	
VA	0.2	0.1						
WA	49.8	24.6	19.7	5.3	3.9	1.4	0.2	
WV	0.1							
WI	123.2	43.4	2.8	74.9	52.9	22.0	2.1	9.5
WY								
US ³	2,820.8	1,383.4	954.2	438.2	217.9	220.3	45.1	75.2

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,
March 2004**

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	9.2		7.6	1.6			
AK							
AZ							
AR							
CA	213.4	213.3	0.1				
CO	0.6	0.6			114.3		114.3
DE-MD	1.5	1.4			2.4	0.1	2.4
FL	8.5	8.2	0.2	0.1	0.4		0.4
GA	6.6	6.3	0.2				
HI	2.3	2.3					
ID					0.1		0.1
IL	805.0	732.8	70.6	1.6	17.2	1.2	16.0
IN	631.6	631.6			1.3	0.8	0.5
IA	2,588.9	2,530.6	39.7	18.6	47.2		47.2
KS	29.0	17.1	10.4	1.5	0.1		0.1
KY	211.0	203.9	7.1		0.9	0.7	0.2
LA							
MI	8.8	3.6	5.1		17.5	2.3	15.2
MN	815.3	815.3			0.1		0.1
MS							
MO	168.1	168.1			0.4		0.4
MT	0.2	0.2					
NE	578.7	578.7					
NV					0.1		0.1
N ENG ²	1.2	1.2			1.6	0.3	1.3
NJ	8.3	8.1	0.2	0.1	9.1	0.8	8.3
NM							
NY	2.2	2.1			2.1	0.4	1.7
NC	945.0	938.6	6.4		0.2		0.2
ND	13.6	13.6					
OH	102.2	88.8	12.4	1.0			
OK	428.9	424.0	4.9				
OR	18.6	18.5			1.4	0.1	1.2
PA	252.1	251.7	0.4		6.0	0.7	5.3
SC							
SD	365.6	362.1	3.5		0.9		0.9
TN	67.7	0.8	66.9		0.4	0.1	0.3
TX	27.3	22.1	5.1		35.1	1.3	33.8
UT	2.3	2.0	0.3		2.7	2.2	0.5
VA	358.5	357.2	1.3				
WA	1.6	1.6					
WV	0.1	0.1					
WI	45.3	0.5	44.8		0.2		0.2
WY							
US ³	8,942.0	8,614.6	302.7	24.7	294.8	11.9	283.0

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

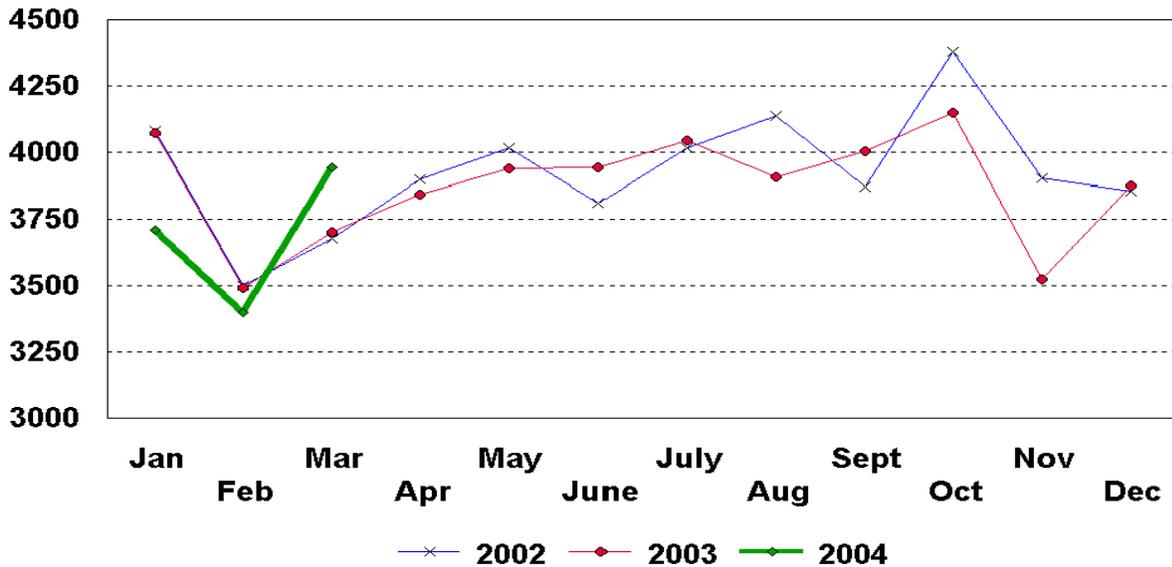
³ States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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

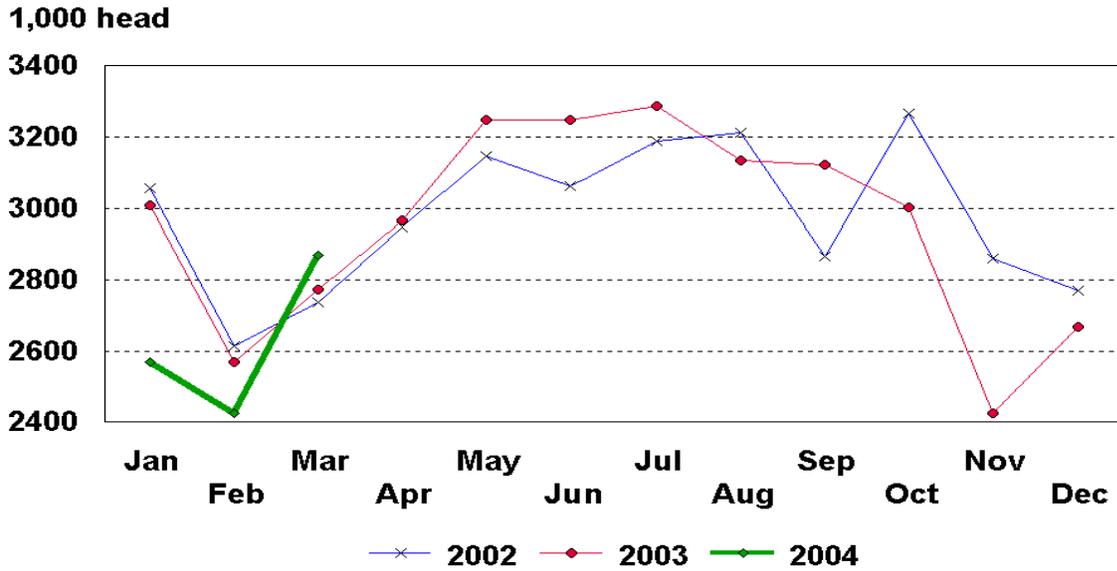
Species	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Jan - Mar	
				2003	2004
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.2	98.1	98.2	98.1	98.1
Calves	97.7	97.9	97.8	97.7	97.9
Hogs	98.8	99.0	98.9	98.8	99.0
Sheep	95.8	93.5	96.1	94.7	94.9

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

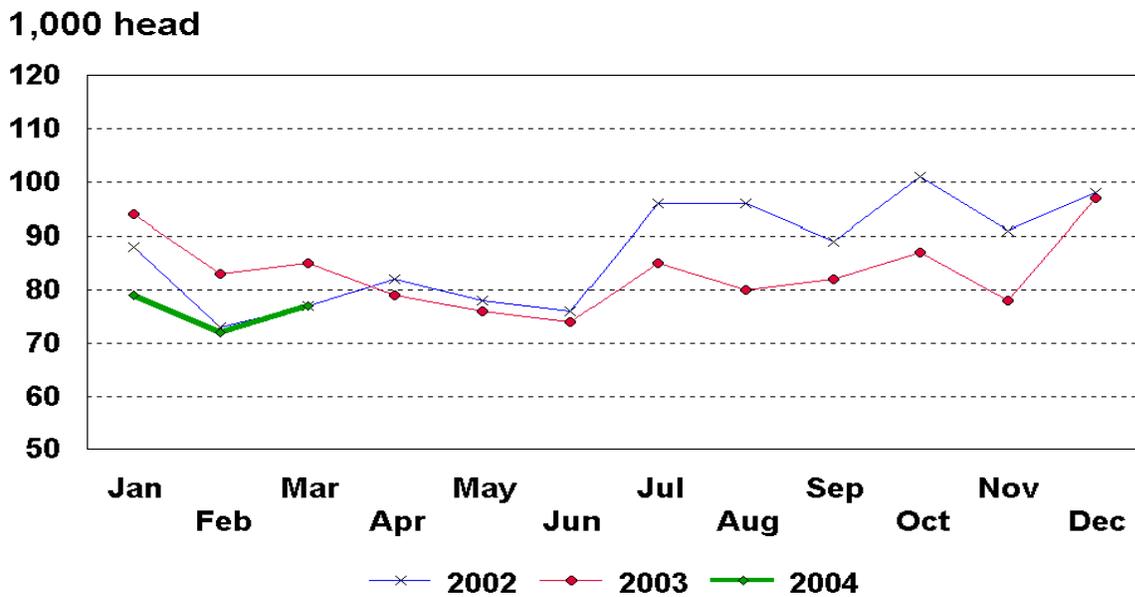
Million Pounds



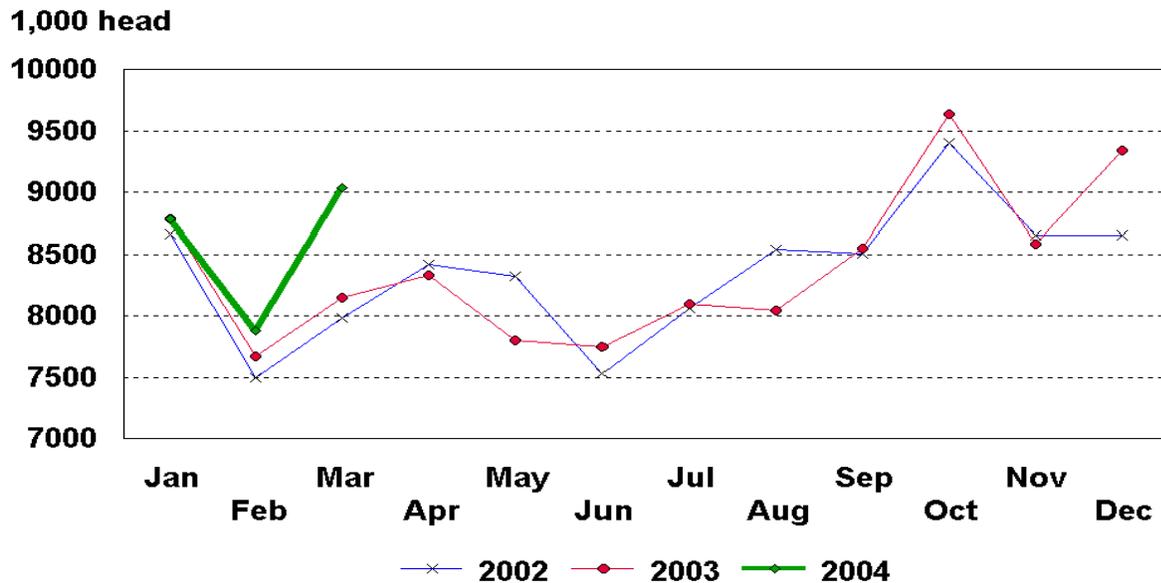
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



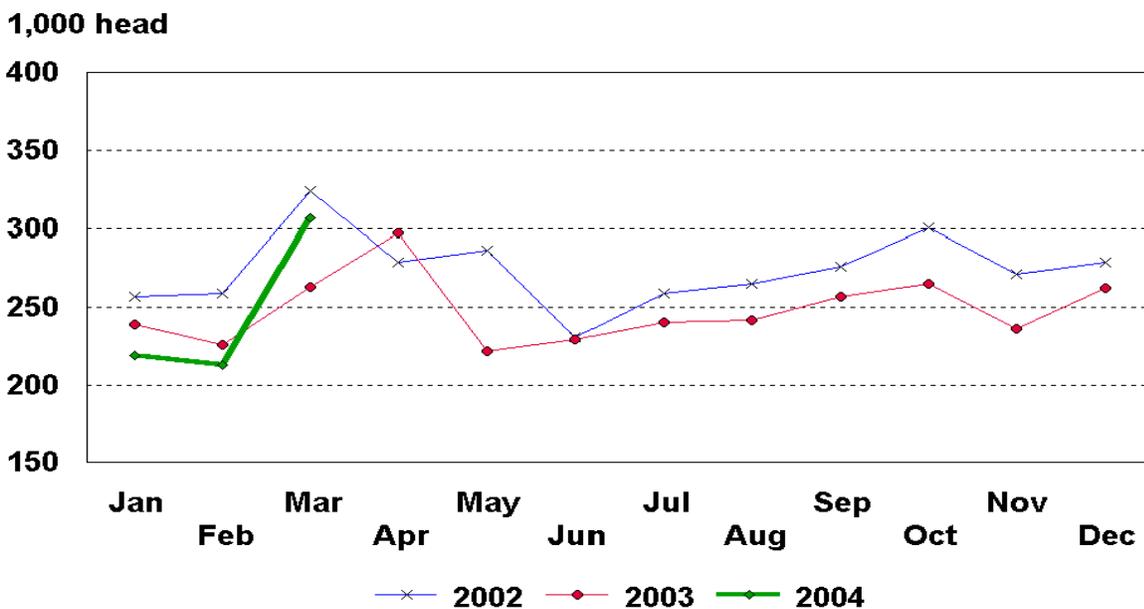
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



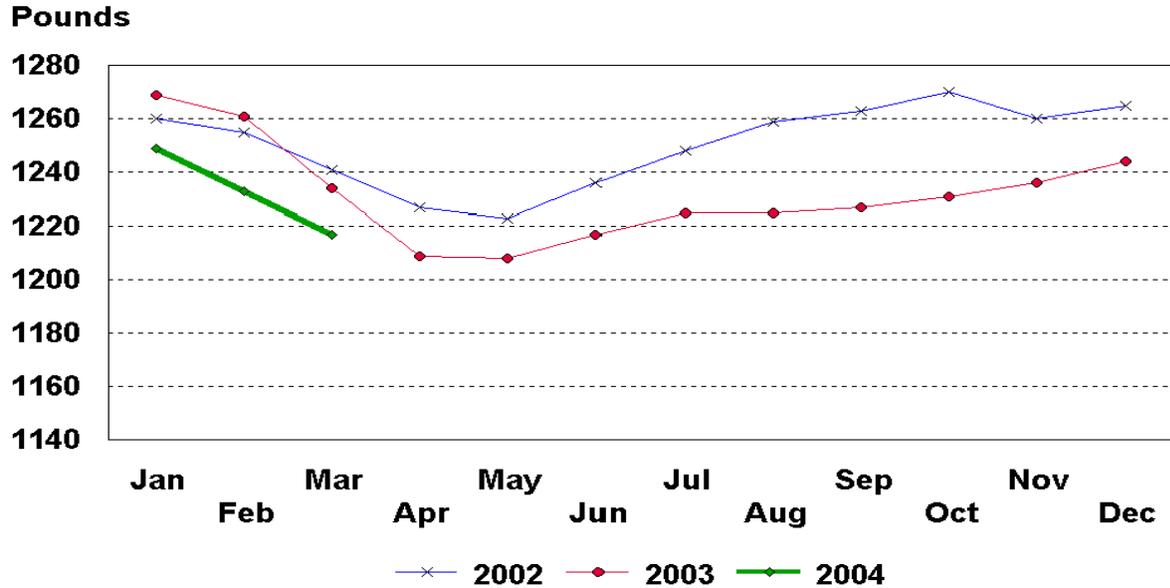
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



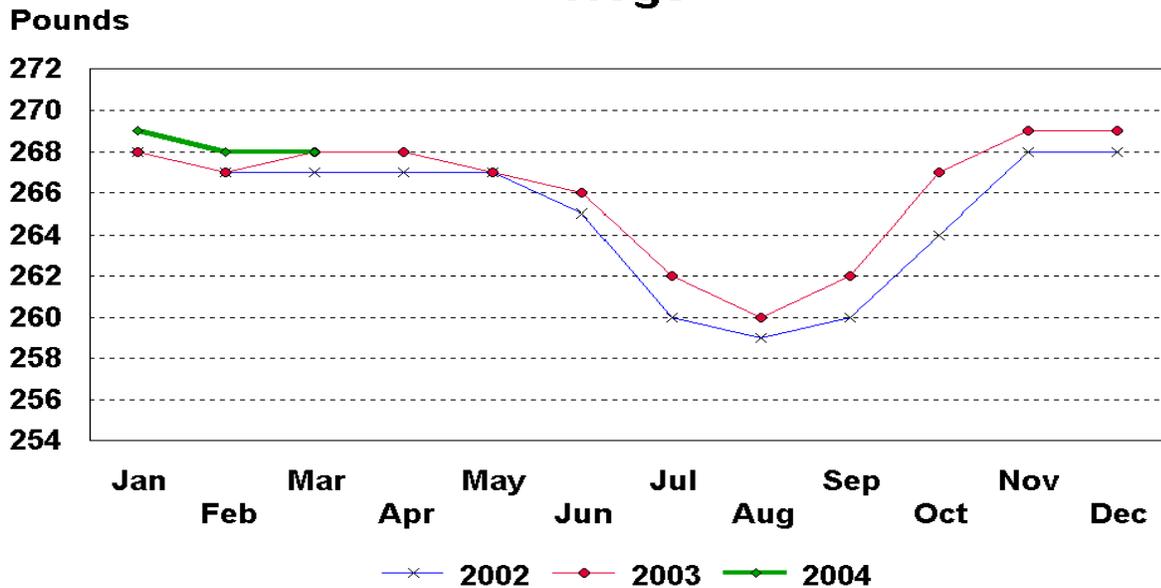
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



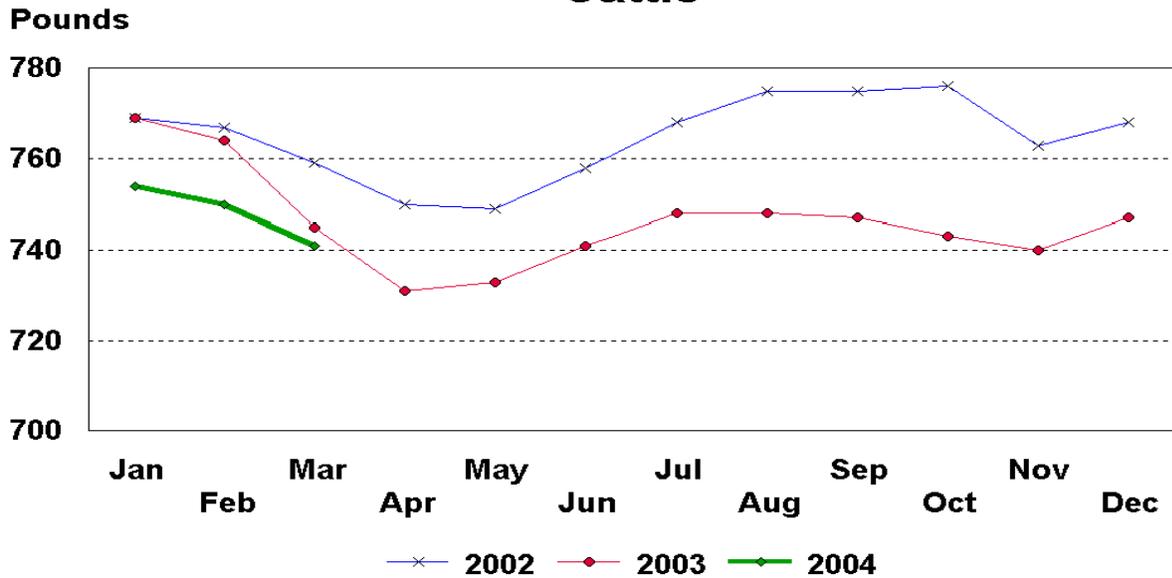
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



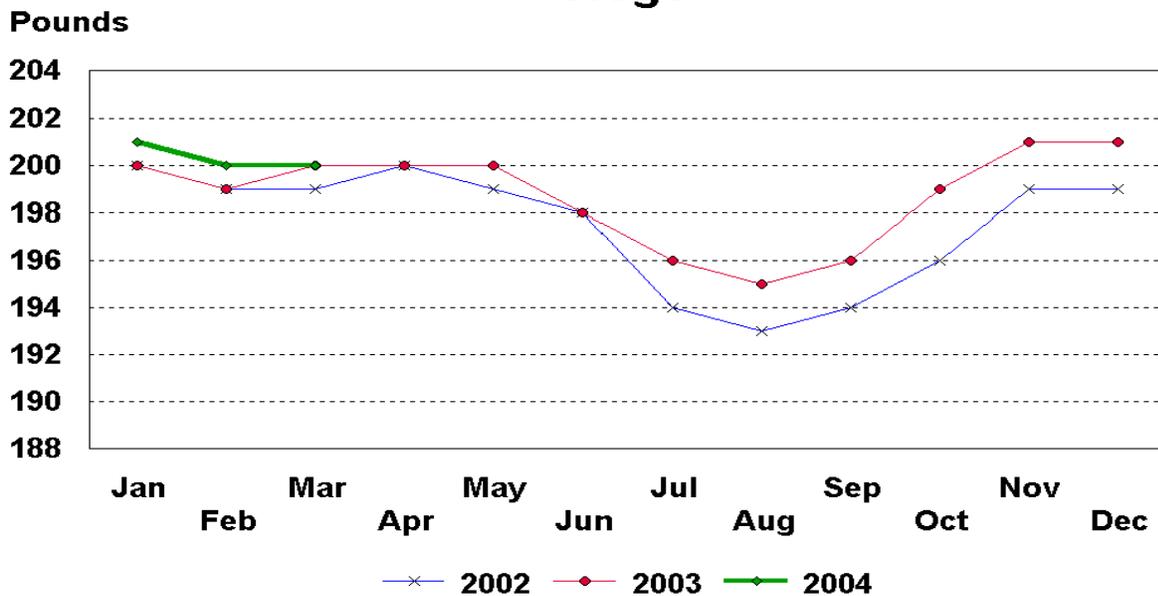
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



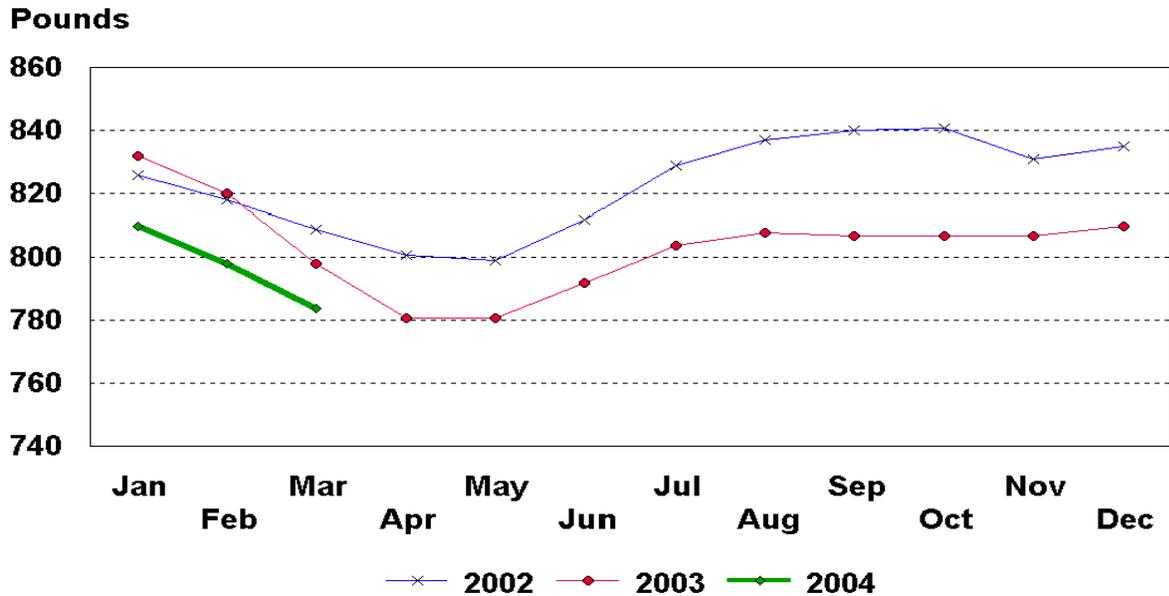
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



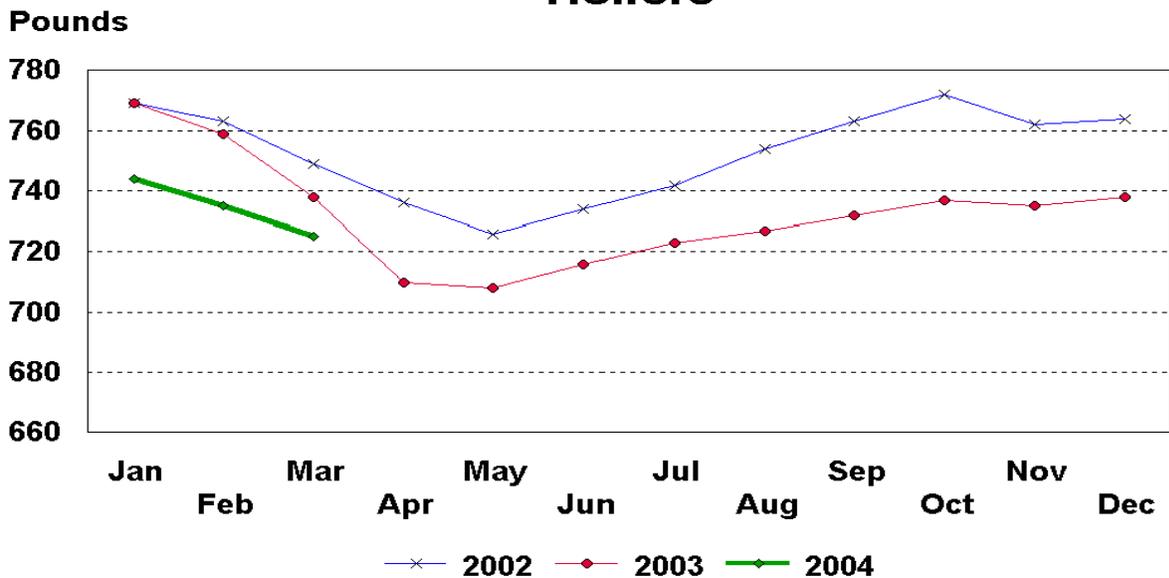
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



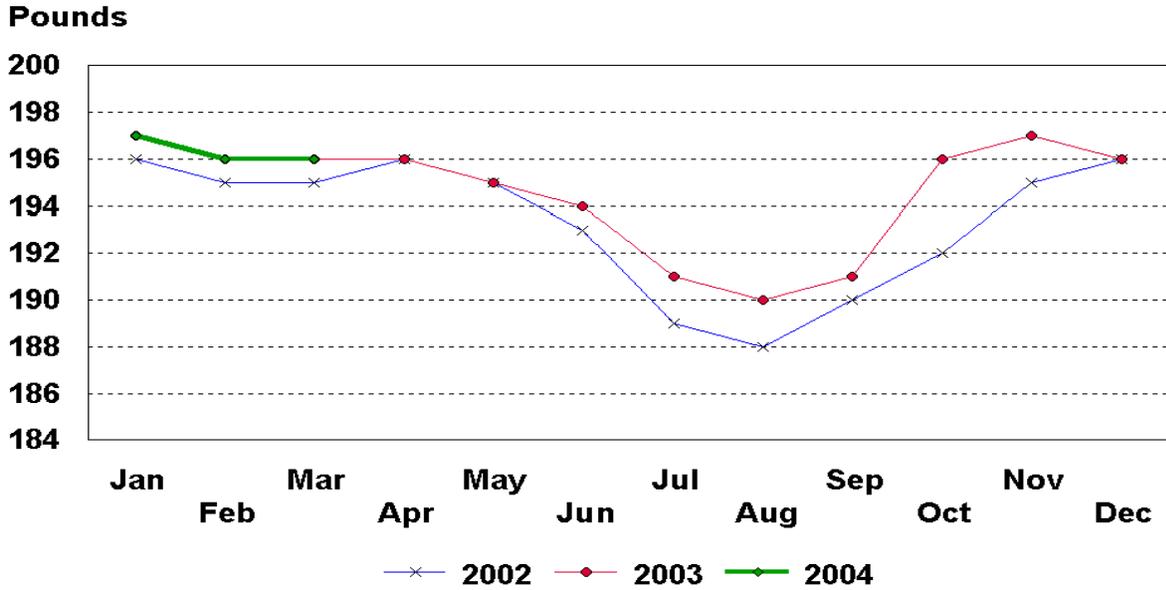
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



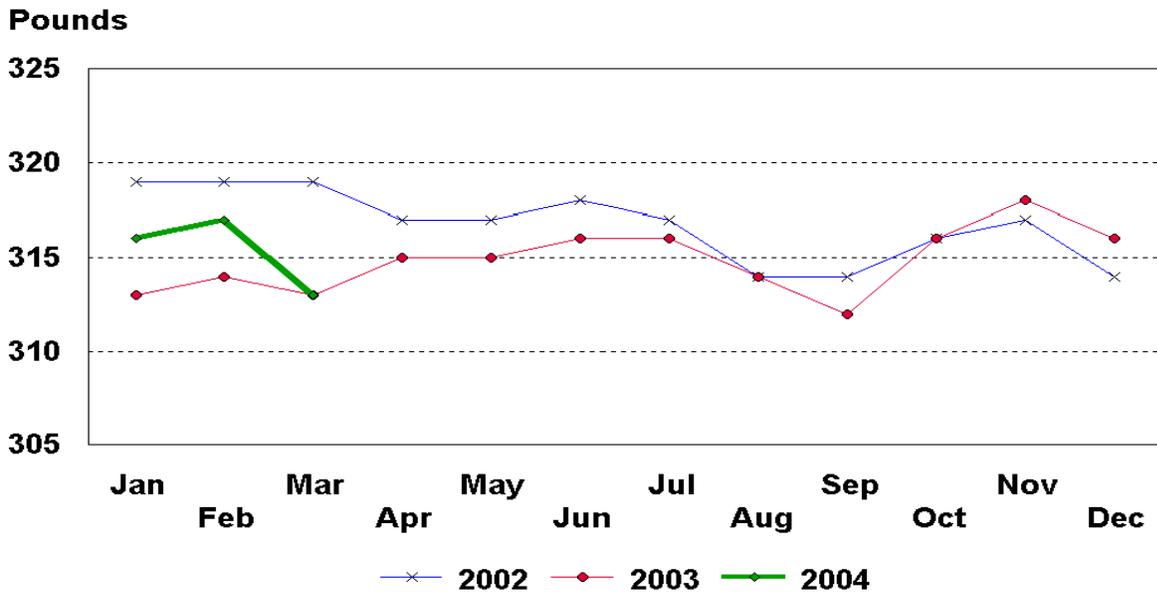
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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. Number of head slaughtered daily under FI are recorded on the LS-149 forms by species and class. Head kill excluding animals condemned and total live and dressed weights are also given.

There are 850 plants in the U.S. operating under Federal Inspection and over 2,200 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 LS-149 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.

If no form is received by mail or other means, data for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species are imputed. Imputation of live and dressed weights may also be necessary on partially completed forms for any plant. The imputation is also based on the 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 usually less than 10 percent and for hogs about 7 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 weights 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 species 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.

No data are published, unless permission is granted, if less than three plants slaughter a species in a State or if one plant has 60 percent or more of the total commercial slaughter for a species. If not published, these data are included in U.S. totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine publishibility.

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: 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. 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 May 21, 2004.

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