



# Livestock Slaughter

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## Beef and Pork Production Up From Last Month

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in December, up 1 percent from the 3.88 billion pounds produced in December 2003.

**Beef production**, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.69 million head, up 1 percent from December 2003. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,268 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 14.9 million pounds, 22 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 74,700 head, down 23 percent from December 2003. The average live weight was 12 pounds above last year, at 334 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.86 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.25 million head, 1 percent below December 2003. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 270 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 17.0 million pounds, was down 6 percent from December 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 242,400 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, up 3 pounds from December a year ago.

**January to December 2004 commercial red meat production** was 45.4 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 6 percent from last year, veal was down 13 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

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

**December 2004** contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**Commercial Red Meat Production: United States <sup>1</sup>**

Class	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004	Dec 04 % of		Jan - Dec <sup>2</sup>		
				Dec 2003	Nov 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	1,978	*1,940	2,042	103	105	26,238	24,544	94
Veal	19.0	13.8	14.9	78	108	191.7	167.1	87
Pork	1,869	*1,799	1,857	99	103	19,946	20,509	103
Lamb & Mutton	18.0	16.5	17.0	94	103	199.7	193.7	97
Total Red Meat	3,884	*3,769	3,931	101	104	46,576	45,414	98

\* Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup> Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Federally Inspected Red Meat Production: United States <sup>1</sup>**

Class	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004	Dec 04 % of		Jan - Dec <sup>2</sup>		
				Dec 2003	Nov 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	1,948	*1,909	2,011	103	105	25,880	24,191	93
Veal	18.5	13.3	14.5	78	109	185.4	162.1	87
Pork	1,851	*1,784	1,840	99	103	19,739	20,324	103
Lamb & Mutton	17.2	15.8	16.2	94	103	190.8	185.0	97
Total Red Meat	3,835	*3,722	3,882	101	104	45,995	44,862	98

\* Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup> Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Livestock Slaughter: Number and Average Weights, United States <sup>1</sup>**

Species	Unit	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004	Dec 04 % of		Jan - Dec <sup>2</sup>		
					Dec 2003	Nov 2004	2003	2004	04 % of 03
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,625.6	2,491.6	2,641.8	101	106	34,906.6	32,157.5	92
Other	Thou	49.7	49.4	48.8	98	99	586.8	565.0	96
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	2,675.3	2,541.0	2,690.5	101	106	35,493.4	32,722.6	92
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,247	*1,272	1,271	102	100	1,234	1,242	101
Other	Lbs	1,085	1,089	1,109	102	102	1,092	1,108	102
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,244	*1,268	1,268	102	100	1,231	1,240	101
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	95.3	66.1	73.0	77	110	976.3	823.1	84
Other	Thou	2.2	1.9	1.8	81	92	24.5	20.4	83
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	97.4	68.0	74.7	77	110	1,000.8	843.5	84
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	320	335	332	102	99	316	329	104
Other	Lbs	415	416	402	97	97	424	415	98
Comm'l.	Lbs	322	336	334	103	99	318	331	104
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	9,253.8	*8,880.6	9,149.3	99	103	99,698.2	102,358.7	103
Other	Thou	107.2	90.5	100.9	94	111	1,232.5	1,095.5	89
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	9,361.0	*8,971.0	9,250.1	99	103	100,930.7	103,454.2	103
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	269	270	270	100	100	267	267	100
Other	Lbs	230	233	231	100	99	232	232	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	269	270	270	100	100	266	266	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	245.9	228.2	228.6	93	100	2,805.2	2,676.2	95
Other	Thou	16.0	14.0	13.8	86	99	173.6	161.4	93
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	261.9	*242.2	242.4	93	100	2,978.8	2,837.7	95
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	140	138	141	101	103	136	138	102
Other	Lbs	100	111	118	118	106	105	109	103
Comm'l.	Lbs	137	136	140	102	103	134	136	102

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes slaughter on farms.

<sup>2</sup> Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

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

**Commercial Red Meat Production: By State and United States <sup>1</sup>**

State	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004	Dec 04 as % of <sup>2</sup>	
				Dec 2003	Nov 2004
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	3.4	2.8	2.3	67	82
AK		0.1	0.1	166	77
AZ	31.3	27.8	29.4	94	106
AR	7.6	5.8	5.6	73	96
CA	123.5	121.7	130.1	105	107
CO	140.6	149.2	142.0	101	95
DE-MD	2.7	3.0	3.2	118	107
FL	6.0	4.7	5.3	89	112
GA	15.9	15.2	15.2	96	100
HI	0.9	0.8	0.9	101	107
ID	42.4	38.7	39.2	92	101
IL	207.1	233.1	241.4	117	104
IN	135.5	127.6	128.7	95	101
IA	606.2	561.4	575.3	95	102
KS	438.6	426.7	467.5	107	110
KY	47.3	42.6	41.2	87	97
LA	1.2	1.1	1.1	96	100
MI	32.8	31.4	33.3	102	106
MN	209.6	198.3	207.9	99	105
MS	26.9	27.1	21.5	80	80
MO	41.5	*39.1	41.0	99	105
MT	1.2	1.3	1.3	110	103
NE	560.1	*560.5	603.2	108	108
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	105	80
N ENG <sup>3</sup>	1.8	1.4	1.2	69	90
NJ	5.1	4.3	4.8	94	111
NM	1.0	0.6	0.7	69	109
NY	4.0	3.1	3.6	89	115
NC	198.7	202.0	200.1	101	99
ND	2.9	2.6	2.8	97	107
OH	29.4	27.7	27.2	92	98
OK	90.1	86.4	90.6	101	105
OR	3.4	3.6	3.5	104	98
PA	110.6	92.7	102.9	93	111
SC	21.4	20.9	21.0	98	101
SD	98.9	92.6	98.1	99	106
TN	20.0	19.5	22.1	111	113
TX	357.1	353.4	356.1	100	101
UT	32.7	32.0	33.3	102	104
VA	75.1	68.8	70.1	93	102
WA	43.9	41.5	44.1	100	106
WV	0.8	0.9	0.8	95	85
WI	103.9	94.2	110.2	106	117
WY	0.6	0.6	0.6	116	116
US	3,884.0	*3,769.0	3,930.8	101	104

\* Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup> Percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>3</sup> N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

**Commercial Cattle Slaughter: By State and United States,  
December 2003 and 2004 <sup>1</sup>**

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	62	102	998	1,205
AZ	40.1	37.8	54,951	50,340	1,369	1,331
AR	1.3	1.0	1,153	876	874	915
CA	112.5	120.1	142,217	161,035	1,264	1,341
CO	172.3	168.2	216,308	215,578	1,255	1,282
DE-MD	3.0	3.5	3,838	4,516	1,265	1,282
FL	8.2	6.9	8,923	7,538	1,091	1,097
GA	22.0	21.0	26,315	22,891	1,197	1,089
HI	0.7	0.8	803	813	1,073	1,047
ID	55.9	51.3	69,431	64,453	1,241	1,257
IL						
IN						
IA						
KS	557.5	587.0	686,303	741,859	1,231	1,264
KY	1.8	1.8	1,562	1,608	864	874
LA	1.1	1.1	911	1,020	840	930
MI	37.7	36.8	49,980	50,370	1,327	1,367
MN	67.7	66.7	91,096	92,864	1,346	1,393
MS	0.2	0.2	135	112	769	749
MO						
MT	1.4	1.5	1,637	1,759	1,160	1,147
NE	562.5	594.2	722,510	785,272	1,284	1,322
NV	0.1	0.1	82	94	1,047	1,029
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	2.0	1.3	2,066	1,318	1,031	991
NJ	2.3	2.4	2,665	2,938	1,146	1,243
NM	2.0	1.1	1,810	1,087	900	996
NY	4.7	4.2	5,014	4,735	1,058	1,133
NC	18.7	18.6	19,723	18,714	1,053	1,007
ND						
OH	9.9	8.2	11,662	9,051	1,180	1,110
OK	2.8	2.6	2,862	2,684	1,006	1,044
OR	1.2	1.6	1,369	1,849	1,148	1,181
PA	81.1	69.4	103,025	81,980	1,271	1,181
SC						
SD						
TN	1.4	1.4	1,231	1,294	883	921
TX	474.3	480.8	566,830	571,073	1,195	1,188
UT	42.8	44.0	51,057	52,308	1,193	1,188
VA	1.4	1.1	1,311	1,142	908	1,005
WA	58.0	56.2	72,260	71,463	1,247	1,271
WV	1.3	1.2	1,174	1,132	891	960
WI	133.4	133.4	171,239	177,872	1,284	1,334
WY	0.7	0.8	815	971	1,168	1,157
US <sup>3</sup>	2,675.3	2,690.5	3,329,388	3,410,781	1,244	1,268

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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,  
December 2003 and 2004 <sup>1</sup>**

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	10.5	8.0	2,330	1,132	222	142
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.1	21	38	288	321
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	9.1	6.5	4,105	2,929	450	454
IN	1.0	0.8	126	96	130	127
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.8	0.6	401	300	497	491
MI	2.6	2.2	1,136	992	441	447
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	2.7	0.6	316	88	116	158
NJ	11.2	7.5	4,252	3,318	381	443
NM						
NY	14.5	11.3	1,397	979	96	86
NC	0.1	0.1	62	56	470	472
ND						
OH	6.8	6.4	2,917	2,559	432	402
OK						
OR						
PA	19.4	16.4	6,296	5,961	324	363
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	45	50	446	458
TX	2.1	1.2	1,135	759	549	623
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	13.7	11.5	6,195	5,272	453	458
WY						
US <sup>3</sup>	97.4	74.7	31,413	24,932	322	334

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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,  
December 2003 and 2004 <sup>1</sup>**

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	9.9	7.8	4,997	3,686	507	471
AK						
AZ	0.1	0.4	32	42	258	119
AR						
CA	234.4	221.1	57,055	54,515	243	247
CO	1.0	0.9	253	226	260	263
DE-MD	1.8	1.8	485	450	270	256
FL	13.7	12.8	2,381	2,132	174	166
GA	14.8	13.1	3,594	3,364	243	256
HI	2.9	3.0	587	596	201	202
ID						
IL	720.3	829.4	199,826	229,808	277	277
IN	665.9	626.2	176,127	167,129	264	267
IA	2,703.6	2,669.6	731,635	725,857	271	272
KS	27.2	11.5	8,960	5,218	329	455
KY	232.7	200.0	61,870	53,774	266	269
LA	2.7	2.7	492	423	185	159
MI	11.1	11.1	4,330	4,293	391	389
MN	825.6	813.4	219,525	215,089	266	264
MS						
MO	185.6	180.3				
MT	1.3	1.4	312	327	237	241
NE	614.1	626.1	165,276	168,717	269	269
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	2.4	2.3	584	478	243	204
NJ	12.2	13.4	1,101	1,263	90	95
NM	0.1	0.2	20	44	211	269
NY	3.3	3.1	717	788	215	253
NC	983.0	973.6	251,164	253,307	256	260
ND	14.4	13.5	3,366	3,223	234	240
OH	109.7	103.5	29,901	28,645	272	277
OK	425.2	421.5	119,188	118,230	280	281
OR	15.9	17.4	4,076	3,991	257	230
PA	281.5	286.0	71,150	69,213	253	242
SC						
SD	467.3	463.8	123,443	121,572	264	262
TN	60.3	65.5	29,063	31,882	482	487
TX	35.4	37.1	10,449	10,055	295	271
UT	5.3	3.8	1,192	847	227	226
VA	385.6	356.6	98,808	91,882	256	258
WA	1.8	1.9	465	484	254	254
WV	0.9	0.7	222	183	250	268
WI	38.8	39.7	16,864	17,690	435	446
WY	0.3	0.3	97	90	281	271
US <sup>3</sup>	9,361.0	9,250.1	2,518,208	2,496,511	269	270

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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,  
December 2003 and 2004 <sup>1</sup>**

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	0.1	5	5	78	105
AR						
CA						
CO	69.4	90.7	10,596	14,108	153	155
DE-MD	2.5	3.2	291	326	117	102
FL	0.3	0.3	26	18	99	70
GA	0.5	0.1	60	12	122	89
HI						
ID	0.4	0.4	40	44	112	116
IL	17.7	17.9	2,478	2,526	140	141
IN	2.7	2.4	286	262	106	109
IA	38.1	35.4	5,747	5,433	151	154
KS	0.2	0.2	19	23	83	105
KY	1.0	0.8	112	99	117	123
LA	0.1	0.1	6	7	73	82
MI	18.2	15.5	2,188	1,992	120	129
MN	0.4	0.4	41	46	113	126
MS						
MO	0.6	0.5	44	53	80	106
MT	0.3	0.4	43	53	129	119
NE	0.1	0.1	8	7	122	113
NV	0.1	0.1	9	6	101	108
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	2.5	2.1	245	190	97	92
NJ	10.2	9.9	978	811	96	82
NM	2.0	1.6	206	279	102	172
NY	3.8	3.3	328	249	87	77
NC	0.4	0.5	41	38	101	80
ND						
OH	0.9	0.7	97	82	111	114
OK	0.1	0.1	12	5	123	99
OR	1.2	1.5	161	190	130	128
PA	6.2	5.6	672	485	108	87
SC						
SD	1.3	1.2	159	146	120	121
TN	0.6	0.7	41	53	74	77
TX	33.4	15.1	4,413	1,855	132	123
UT	3.1	2.4	393	325	128	135
VA	0.7	0.4	71	43	100	101
WA	0.3	0.2	37	37	134	157
WV						
WI	1.2	1.0	169	142	138	137
WY	0.1	0.2	16	27	125	132
US <sup>3</sup>	261.9	242.4	35,952	33,846	137	140

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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	Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec <sup>1</sup>		Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec <sup>1</sup>	
	2003	2004	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	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 <sup>2</sup>										
Cattle										
Steers	1,255	1,206	1,289	17,177	16,192	47.8	48.4	48.8	49.2	50.4
Heifers	800	804	851	11,078	10,347	30.5	32.3	32.2	31.7	32.2
All Cows	523	440	462	6,023	5,069	19.9	17.7	17.5	17.3	15.8
Dairy Cows	244	192	225	2,860	2,365	9.3	7.7	8.5	8.2	7.4
Other Cows	279	248	237	3,163	2,704	10.6	10.0	9.0	9.1	8.4
Bulls & Stags	48	41	40	629	550	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.7
Total <sup>1</sup>	2,626	2,492	2,642	34,907	32,158	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,953	*8,586	8,848	96,242	98,829	96.8	96.7	96.7	96.5	96.6
Sows	281	270	276	3,215	3,271	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.2
Stags & Boars	20	25	26	241	259	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Total <sup>1</sup>	9,254	*8,881	9,149	99,698	102,359	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	11	12	11	143	147	4.7	5.1	4.7	5.1	5.5
Lambs & Yrlngs	234	217	218	2,662	2,529	95.3	94.9	95.3	94.9	94.5
Total <sup>1</sup>	246	228	229	2,805	2,676	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Dressed Weight <sup>3</sup>										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
Cattle	747	*771	766	746	756					
Steers <sup>4</sup>	810	*829	818	803	806					
Heifers <sup>4</sup>	738	764	758	732	740					
All Cows <sup>4</sup>	592	610	623	590	614					
Bulls & Stags <sup>4</sup>	877	871	876	904	893					
Calves & Vealers	200	206	203	194	201					
Hogs	201	202	202	199	199					
Barrow Gilts <sup>5</sup>	197	198	198	195	196					
Sows <sup>5</sup>	317	314	312	315	313					
Stags & Boars <sup>5</sup>	245	207	215	241	220					
Sheep	70	69	71	68	69					
Mature Sheep <sup>6</sup>	65	65	65	66	66					
Lamb & Yrlngs <sup>6</sup>	71	69	71	68	69					

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Total and percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>2</sup> Species totals and classification reported by meat inspectors, Inspection Operations, FSIS.

<sup>3</sup> Based on packer reports.

<sup>4</sup> Included in cattle average dressed weight.

<sup>5</sup> Included in hog average dressed weight.

<sup>6</sup> Included in sheep average dressed weight.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,  
December 2004 <sup>1</sup>**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total <sup>2</sup>	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	1.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5
2	6.2	1.8	0.5	3.6	3.4	0.1	0.4	18.8
3	72.4	25.3	4.6	40.4	32.9	7.6	2.1	16.6
4	59.7	1.1	0.3	50.5	12.7	37.8	7.8	1.1
5	313.9	120.5	42.7	143.6	75.5	68.1	7.1	27.1
6	480.8	240.5	172.1	58.4	17.5	40.9	9.7	1.0
7	1,219.3	664.1	492.6	56.4	4.4	52.1	6.1	
8	223.4	108.4	98.0	15.1	4.4	10.7	1.8	
9	157.8	78.2	7.3	69.7	61.9	7.7	2.7	7.5
10	107.2	48.6	32.7	24.1	12.1	12.0	1.9	0.3
US <sup>2</sup>	2,641.8	1,288.9	851.1	462.0	224.9	237.1	39.8	73.0
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total <sup>2</sup>	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total <sup>2</sup>	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	1.9			1.9	0.4	1.5	
2	16.2	15.6	0.1	0.5	12.0	1.3	10.7	
3	643.3	641.2	2.1	0.1	9.0	0.4	8.6	
4	1,427.7	1,334.8	91.7	1.2	2.7	1.1	1.6	
5	2,385.8	2,281.9	101.6	2.3	33.4	4.5	29.0	
6	468.1	442.3	25.7	0.1	13.3	0.9	12.4	
7	3,481.2	3,410.2	49.7	21.3	35.9	0.1	35.8	
8	478.6	473.7	4.8		93.8	1.6	92.2	
9	214.2	214.1	0.1		25.0	0.3	24.7	
10	32.2	32.1	0.1		1.6	0.1	1.5	
US <sup>2</sup>	9,149.3	8,847.9	275.8	25.6	228.6	10.6	218.0	

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,  
January - December 2004 \* <sup>1</sup>**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total <sup>2</sup>	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	13.0	4.5	2.4	4.0	3.4	0.7	2.1	12.2
2	65.4	18.0	3.8	39.3	37.2	2.1	4.4	211.6
3	900.2	350.5	78.6	438.8	354.1	84.7	32.3	172.1
4	697.1	12.7	3.9	581.2	148.6	432.5	99.3	12.6
5	3,438.3	1,426.5	465.6	1,458.0	857.2	600.8	88.1	302.7
6	6,172.8	3,200.6	2,116.4	717.7	136.0	581.7	138.1	11.0
7	14,809.1	8,118.3	5,916.6	687.3	34.2	653.1	87.0	0.3
8	3,064.7	1,608.7	1,285.7	147.4	45.9	101.5	22.8	
9	1,771.6	916.9	91.6	720.8	621.1	99.7	42.3	95.8
10	1,225.5	535.6	382.1	274.5	127.4	147.0	33.4	4.8
US <sup>2</sup>	32,157.5	16,192.2	10,346.6	5,069.0	2,365.0	2,704.0	549.8	823.1
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total <sup>2</sup>	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total <sup>2</sup>	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>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	18.4	18.0	0.2	0.1	21.5	4.4	17.1	
2	145.3	142.1	1.9	1.3	141.2	15.9	125.2	
3	6,775.8	6,757.0	18.4	0.4	108.0	9.1	98.9	
4	16,357.1	15,402.3	939.0	15.8	31.5	14.0	17.6	
5	26,937.5	25,500.6	1,409.5	27.5	396.1	59.3	336.7	
6	5,382.4	5,120.8	260.6	1.0	262.1	14.1	248.0	
7	39,017.1	38,233.2	571.6	212.3	402.4	1.2	401.2	
8	4,868.8	4,800.9	67.5	0.4	987.1	21.5	965.6	
9	2,465.7	2,464.4	1.0	0.3	307.4	5.9	301.5	
10	390.7	389.6	0.9	0.2	19.1	1.8	17.2	
US <sup>2</sup>	102,358.7	98,828.7	3,270.6	259.3	2,676.2	147.3	2,529.0	

\* Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By State and United States,  
December 2004**

State	Cattle						Calves	
	Total <sup>1</sup>	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	37.4	27.9	0.3	9.3	9.3			
AR	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.3		0.3		
CA	119.5	49.9	6.7	60.2	52.6	7.6	2.6	7.5
CO	167.6	86.1	80.2	1.3	0.5	0.8		
DE-MD	3.5	2.5	0.7	0.3	0.3			0.1
FL	6.9	0.1		6.3	0.6	5.7	0.5	
GA	20.7	0.1		18.6	4.8	13.8	2.1	
HI	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.1		0.1	0.1	
ID	49.7	21.2	9.9	17.1	7.0	10.1	1.5	
IL								6.5
IN								0.7
IA								
KS	584.3	339.5	243.3	1.5		1.5		
KY	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1		0.1		
LA								
MI	34.9	22.4	0.4	11.9	5.8	6.1	0.1	2.1
MN	63.5	8.2	4.3	46.8	10.0	36.8	4.3	
MS								
MO								
MT	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1		0.1		
NE	592.3	304.3	230.3	51.8	3.7	48.1	5.8	
NV	0.1	0.1						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	1.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5
NJ	2.3	1.1	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.2	7.5
NM	0.7			0.7	0.7			
NY	3.9	0.7	0.3	2.7	2.6	0.1	0.2	11.3
NC	18.2	0.1		14.4	7.1	7.3	3.6	0.1
ND								
OH	3.2	0.3	0.2	2.6	1.6	1.0	0.1	6.3
OK								
OR	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.1	
PA	68.6	22.6	3.8	40.1	32.6	7.5	2.1	16.4
SC								
SD								
TN	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1
TX	479.5	240.4	172.1	57.4	16.8	40.6	9.6	1.0
UT	43.4	21.9	17.5	3.6	1.5	2.1	0.3	
VA	0.2	0.1						
WA	56.2	27.1	22.7	6.1	4.4	1.7	0.2	
WV	0.1							
WI	129.1	40.7	3.4	82.3	58.1	24.2	2.7	11.5
WY								
US <sup>3</sup>	2,641.8	1,288.9	851.1	462.0	224.9	237.1	39.8	73.0

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2004**

State	Hogs				Sheep		
	Total <sup>1</sup>	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total <sup>1</sup>	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	7.0		6.1	0.9			
AK							
AZ							
AR							
CA	211.2	211.1					
CO	0.6	0.5			90.7		90.7
DE-MD	1.7	1.7			3.2	0.1	3.1
FL	12.8	12.8			0.3	0.1	0.2
GA	6.5	6.2	0.2				
HI	3.0	2.9					
ID					0.2		0.2
IL	811.3	761.8	48.4	1.1	16.1	1.3	14.9
IN	622.8	622.8			1.7	1.0	0.7
IA	2,667.9	2,605.9	40.7	21.3	35.2	0.1	35.1
KS	9.5	0.5	8.9		0.2		0.2
KY	199.1	192.9	6.2		0.8	0.6	0.2
LA							
MI	9.3	3.5	5.8		15.2	2.2	13.1
MN	810.7	810.7			0.2		0.1
MS							
MO	178.7	178.7			0.5		0.5
MT	0.1	0.1			0.1		0.1
NE	625.1	625.1					
NV					0.1		
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	2.0	1.9			1.9	0.4	1.5
NJ	13.3	13.1	0.1	0.1	9.9	1.0	8.9
NM							
NY	2.9	2.5		0.4	2.1	0.3	1.8
NC	964.2	951.5	12.4	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.3
ND	13.0	13.0					
OH	97.5	82.7	13.6	1.2			
OK	420.1	415.5	4.6				
OR	17.1	17.1	0.1		1.4	0.1	1.3
PA	285.5	285.2	0.3	0.1	5.5	0.3	5.3
SC							
SD	462.8	458.2	4.6		1.1		1.1
TN	65.3	0.8	64.4		0.7	0.1	0.5
TX	32.5	25.4	7.2		13.2	0.9	12.3
UT	2.1	1.9	0.2		1.9	1.6	0.3
VA	356.1	354.3	1.8				
WA	1.7	1.7			0.1		0.1
WV	0.1	0.1					
WI	34.2	0.4	33.7		0.1		0.1
WY							
US <sup>3</sup>	9,149.3	8,847.9	275.8	25.6	228.6	10.6	218.0

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

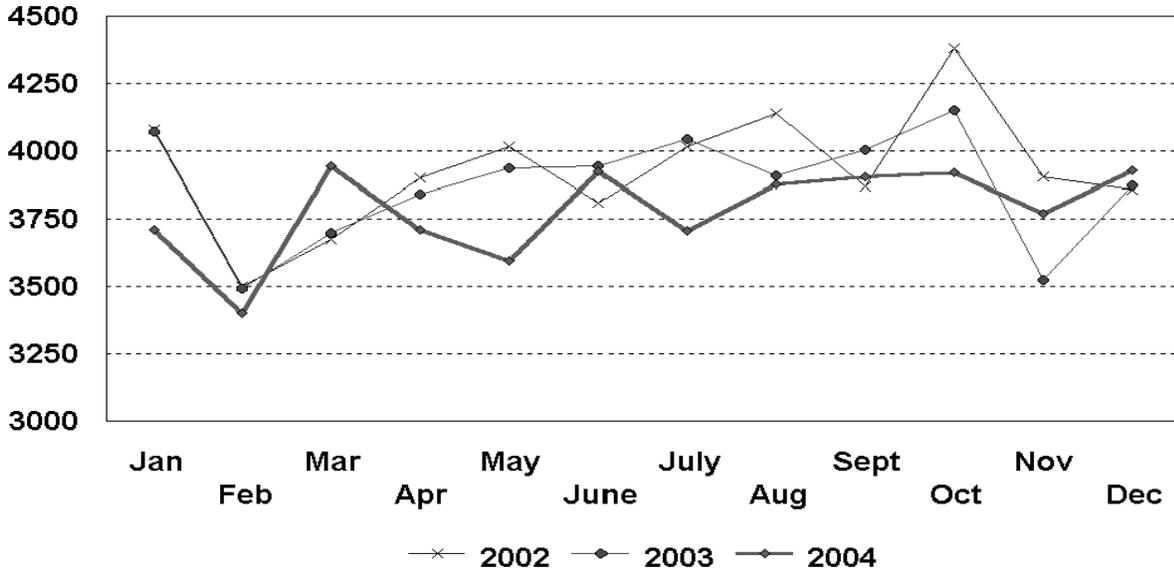
<sup>3</sup> States with no data printed are still included in the US total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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

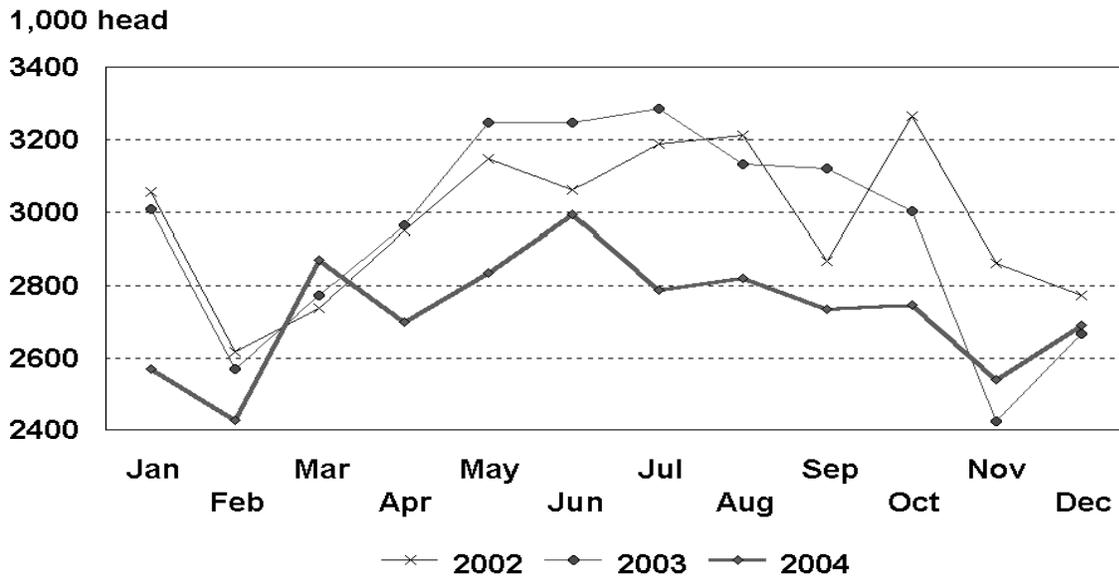
Species	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004	Jan - Dec	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	2003	2004
Cattle	98.1	98.1	98.2	98.3	98.3
Calves	97.8	97.2	97.7	97.5	97.6
Hogs	98.9	99.0	98.9	98.8	98.9
Sheep	93.9	94.2	94.3	94.2	94.3

## U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

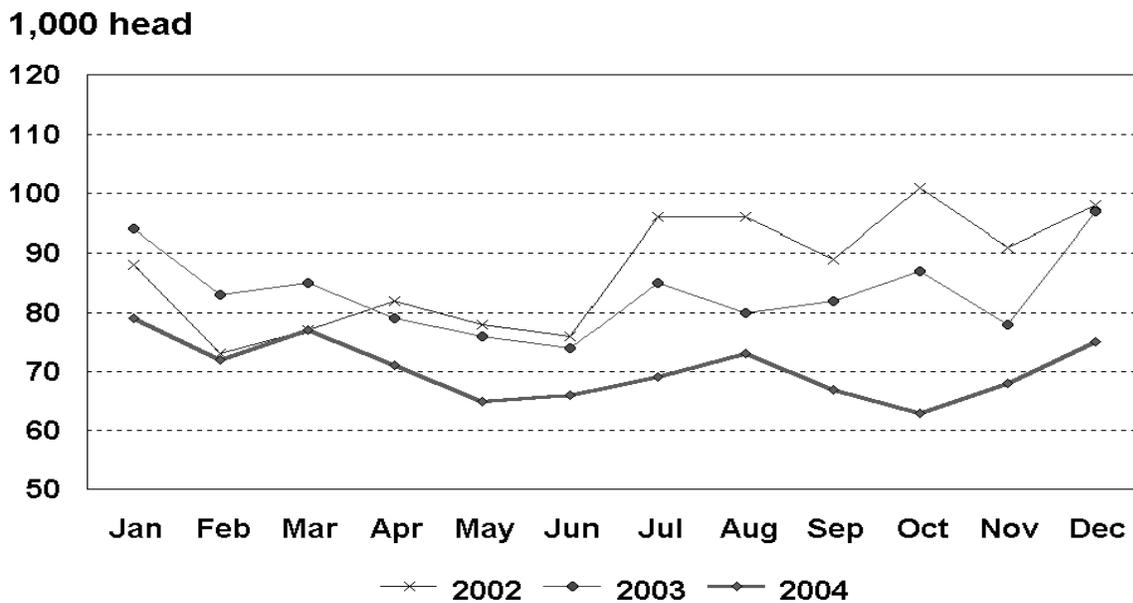
Million Pounds



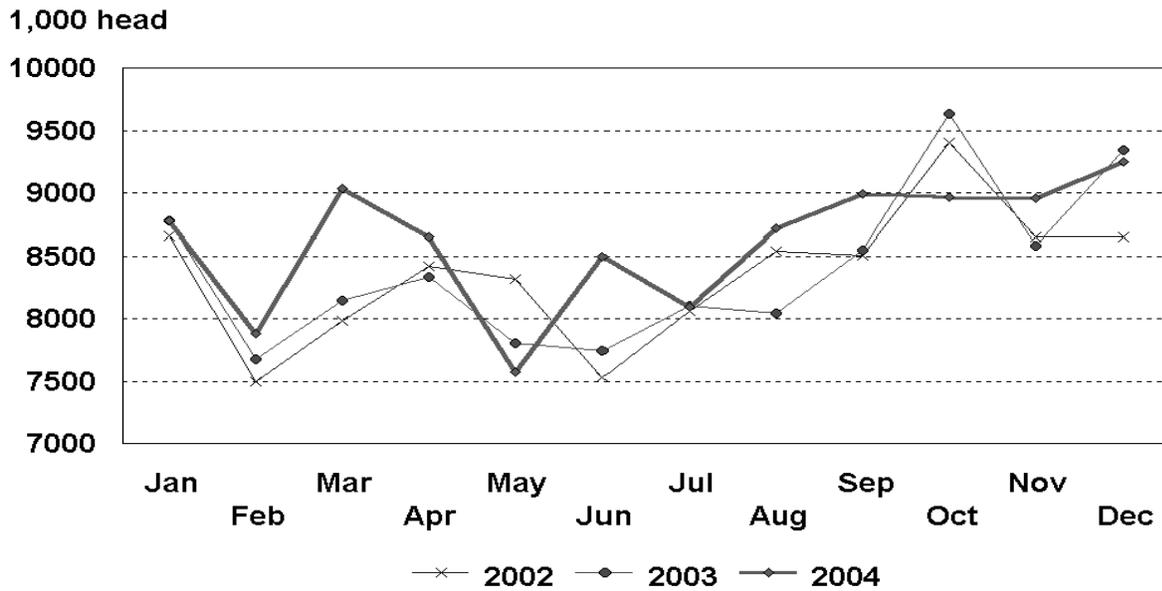
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



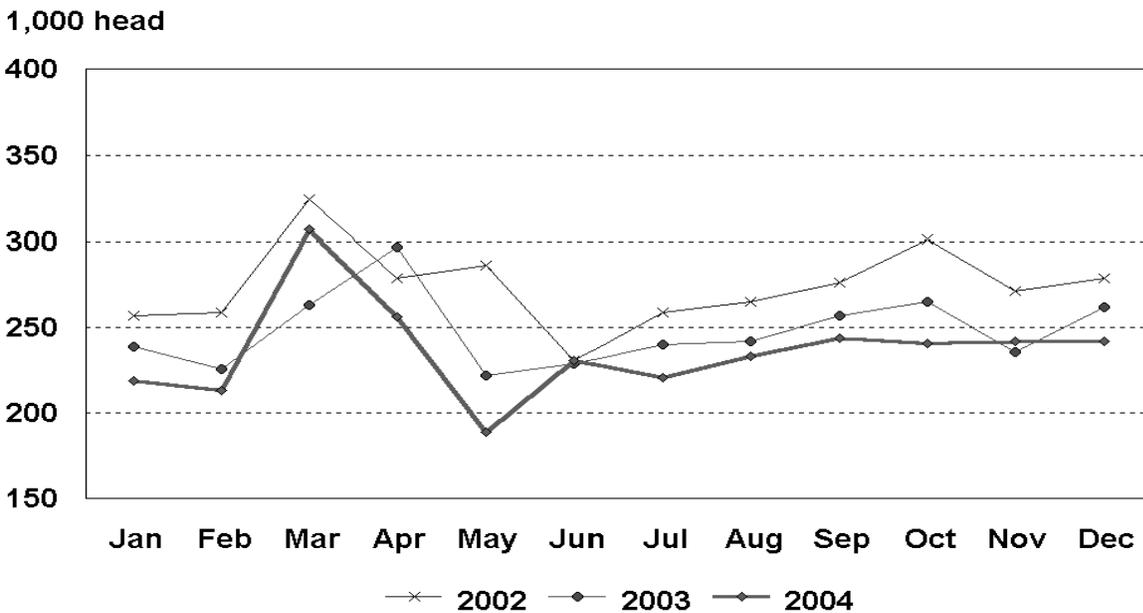
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



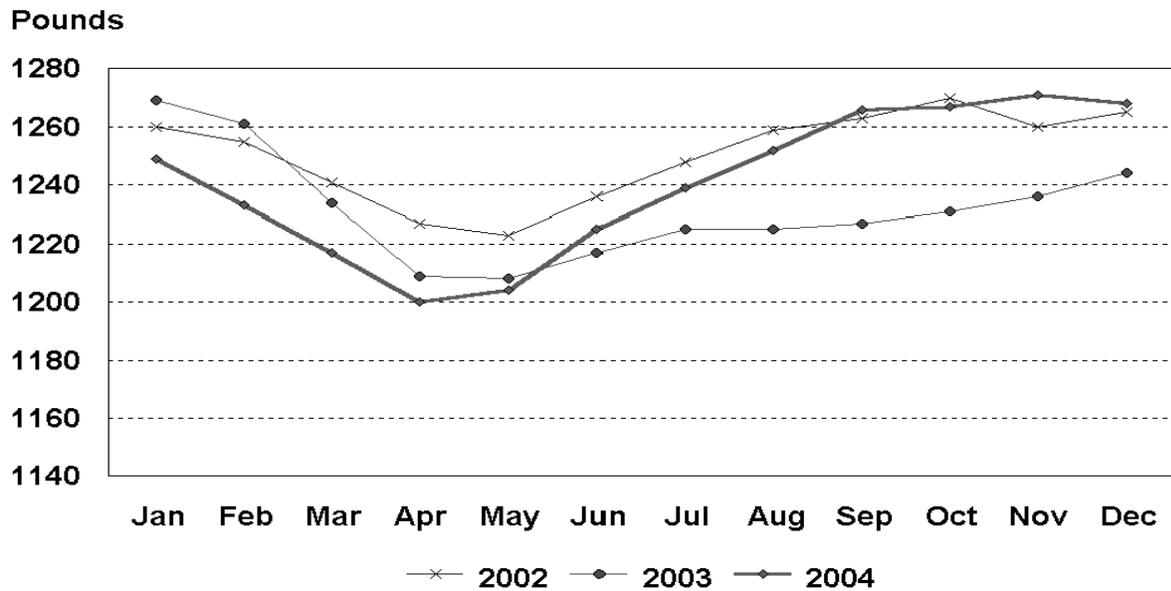
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



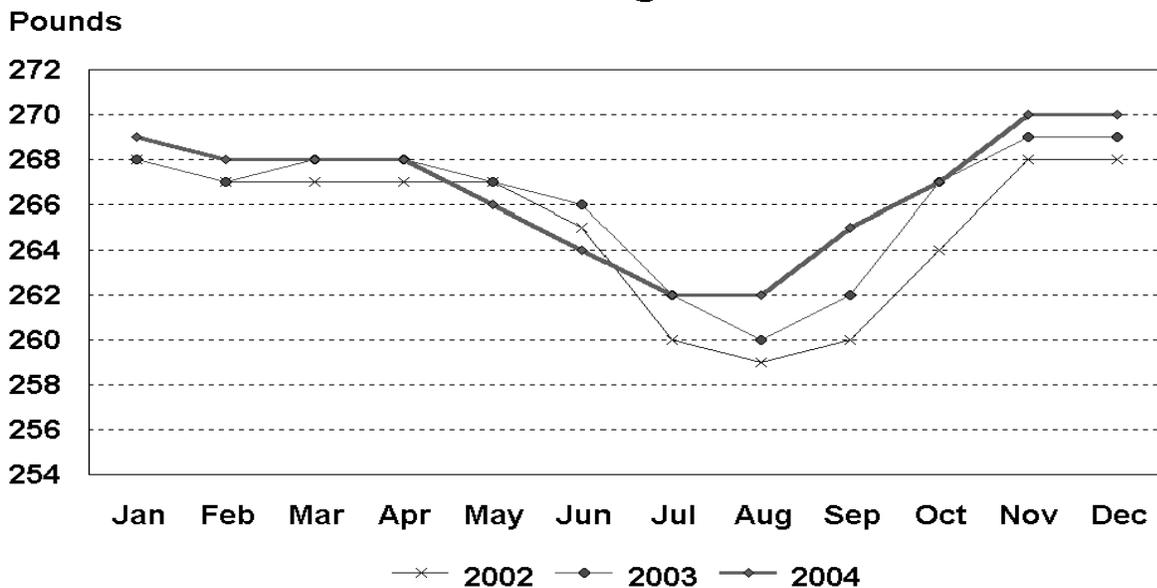
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



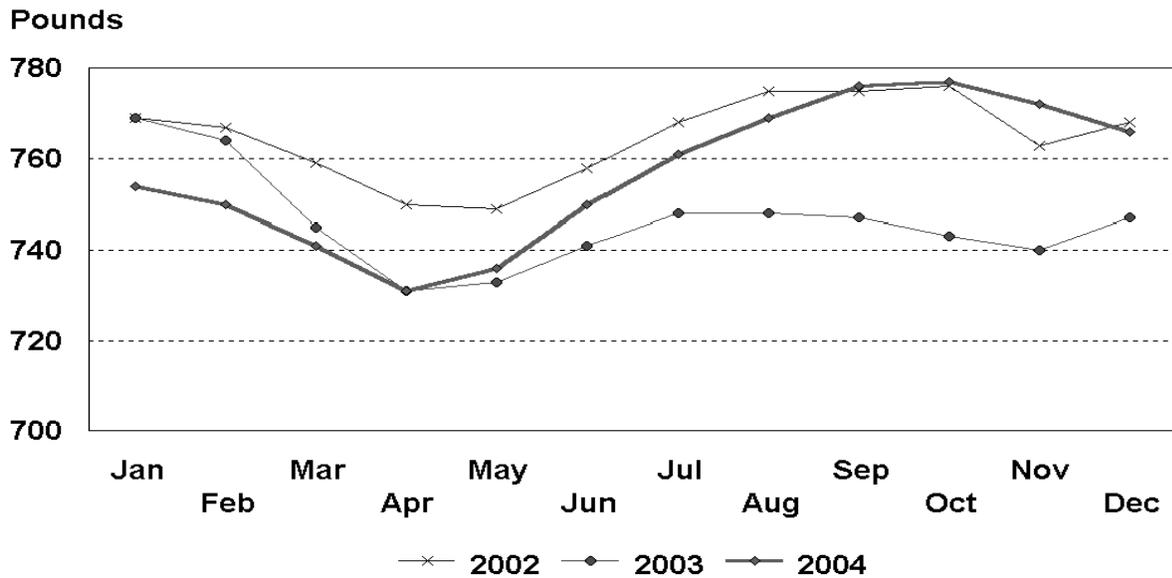
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



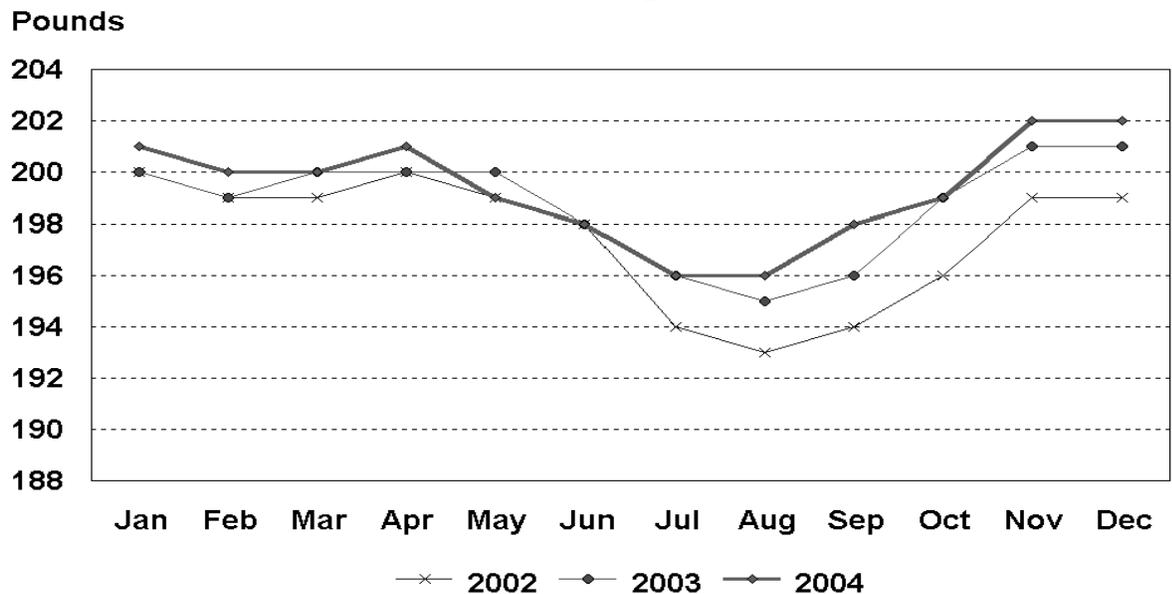
## U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



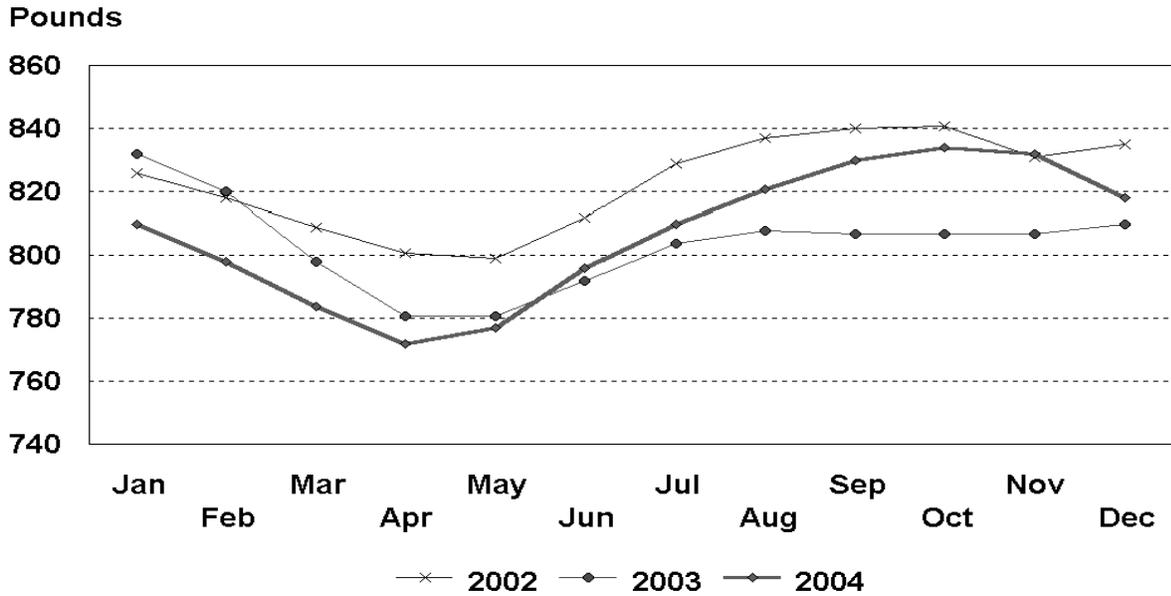
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



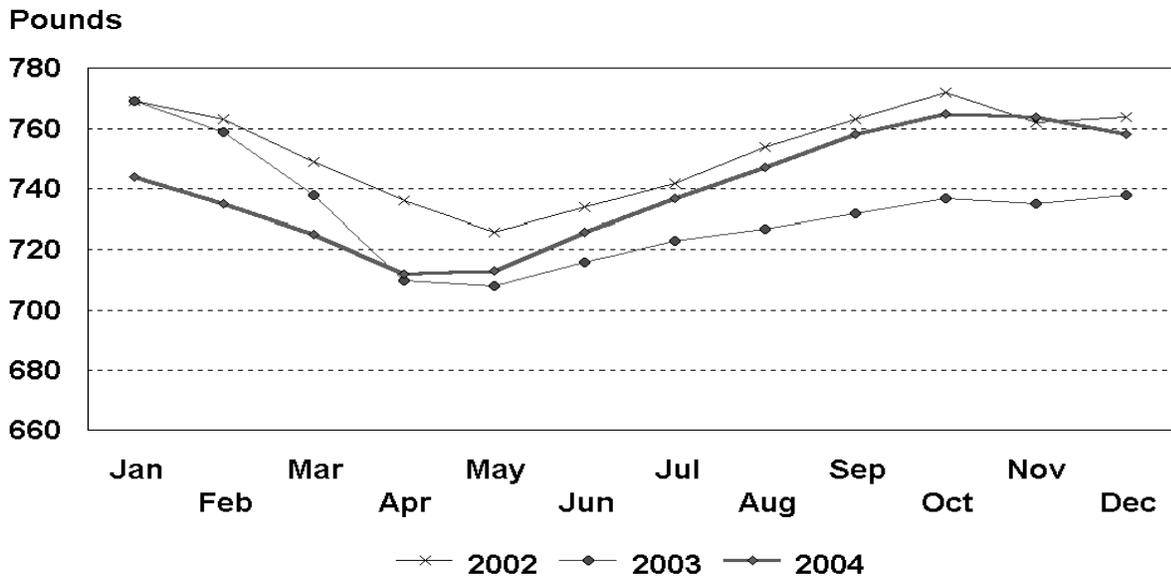
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



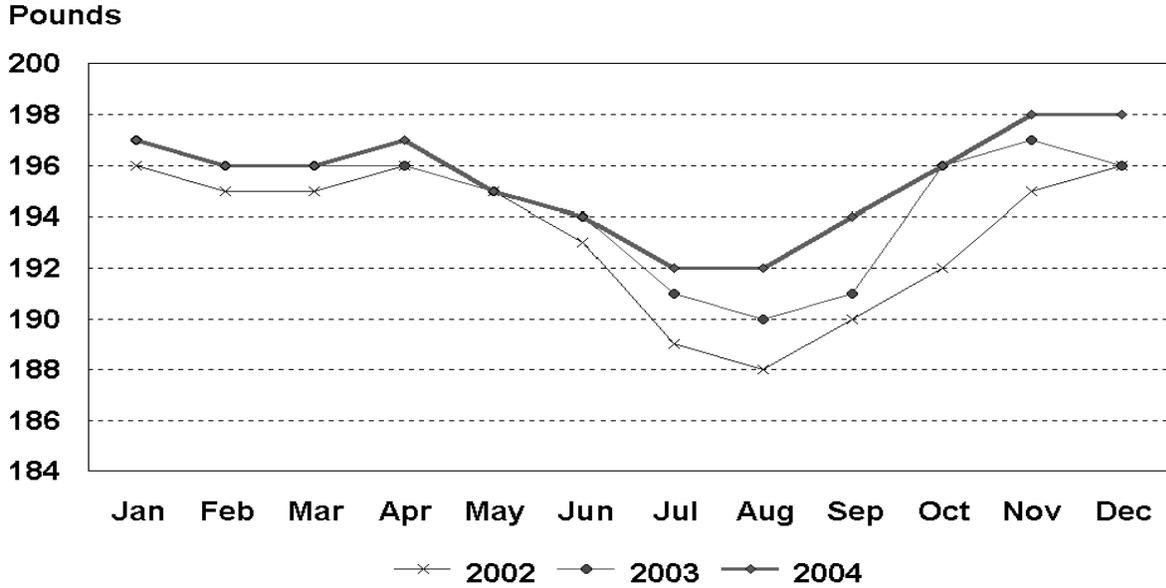
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



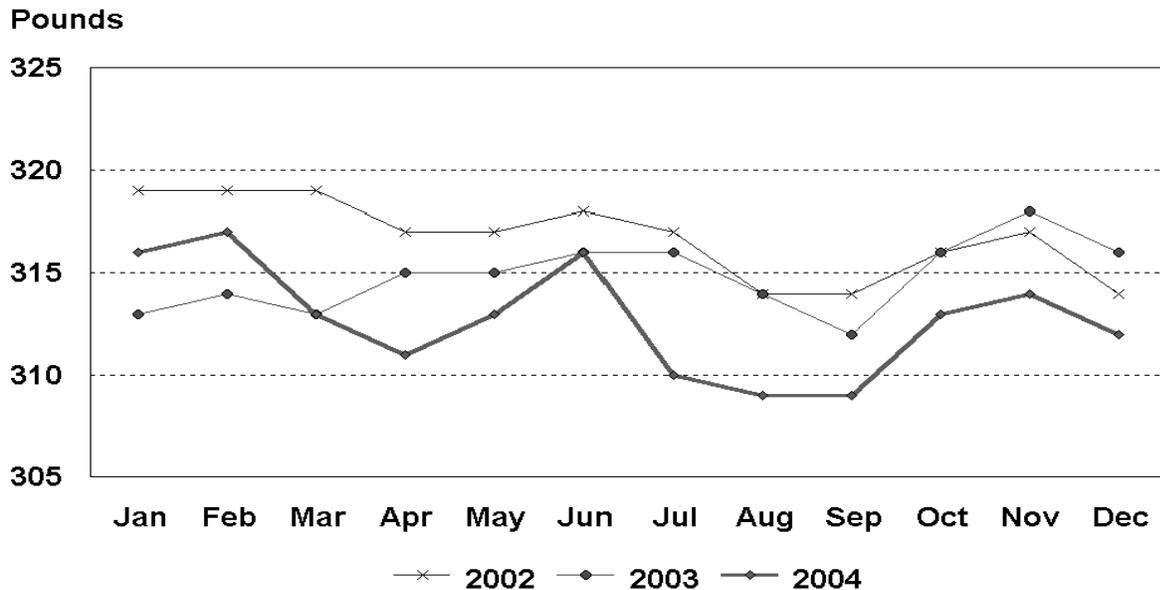
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



## 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. 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 publishability.

### **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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