



Livestock Slaughter

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Red Meat Production Down From Previous Month

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.65 billion pounds in January, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in January 2004.

Beef production, at 1.92 billion pounds, was slightly below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.53 million head, down 2 percent from January 2004. The average live weight was 1,262 pounds, up 13 pounds from January a year ago.

Veal production totaled 13.3 million pounds, 17 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,700 head, down 14 percent from January 2004. The average live weight was 329 pounds, down 7 pounds from January a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.48 million head, 4 percent below January 2004. The average live weight was 270 pounds, up 1 pound from January a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.4 million pounds, was down 7 percent from January 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 208,500 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, down 3 pounds from January a year ago.

January 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

January 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 05 % of		Jan ²		
				Jan 2004	Dec 2004	2004	2005	05 as % of 04
	<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	1,924	2,042	1,915	100	94	1,924	1,915	100
Veal	16.0	14.9	13.3	83	89	16.0	13.3	83
Pork	1,758	1,857	1,704	97	92	1,758	1,704	97
Lamb & Mutton	15.4	17.0	14.4	93	85	15.4	14.4	93
Total Red Meat	3,714	3,931	3,647	98	93	3,714	3,647	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	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 05 % of		Jan ²		
				Jan 2004	Dec 2004	2004	2005	05 as % of 04
	<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	1,894	*2,012	1,885	100	94	1,894	1,885	100
Veal	15.6	14.5	12.9	83	89	15.6	12.9	83
Pork	1,743	1,840	1,691	97	92	1,743	1,691	97
Lamb & Mutton	14.8	16.2	13.7	93	85	14.8	13.7	93
Total Red Meat	3,668	3,882	3,602	98	93	3,668	3,602	98

* 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	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 05 % of		Jan ²		
					Jan 2004	Dec 2004	2004	2005	05 % of 04
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,526.6	2,641.8	2,476.7	98	94	2,526.6	2,476.7	98
Other	Thou	50.2	48.8	50.9	101	104	50.2	50.9	101
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,576.8	*2,690.6	2,527.6	98	94	2,576.8	2,527.6	98
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,253	1,271	1,266	101	100	1,253	1,266	101
Other	Lbs	1,100	1,109	1,066	97	96	1,100	1,066	97
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,249	1,268	1,262	101	100	1,249	1,262	101
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	77.4	73.0	66.0	85	90	77.4	66.0	85
Other	Thou	1.6	1.8	1.7	105	95	1.6	1.7	105
Comm'l. ³	Thou	79.0	*74.8	67.7	86	91	79.0	67.7	86
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	328	332	327	100	98	328	327	100
Other	Lbs	424	402	373	88	93	424	373	88
Comm'l.	Lbs	336	334	329	98	99	336	329	98
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,703.5	*9,149.5	8,400.2	97	92	8,703.5	8,400.2	97
Other	Thou	85.8	100.9	77.9	91	77	85.8	77.9	91
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,789.3	*9,250.3	8,478.1	96	92	8,789.3	8,478.1	96
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	269	270	270	100	100	269	270	100
Other	Lbs	235	231	234	99	101	235	234	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	269	270	270	100	100	269	270	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	207.2	228.6	194.8	94	85	207.2	194.8	94
Other	Thou	12.0	13.8	13.7	114	99	12.0	13.7	114
Comm'l. ³	Thou	219.2	242.4	208.5	95	86	219.2	208.5	95
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	143	141	140	98	99	143	140	98
Other	Lbs	103	118	100	97	85	103	100	97
Comm'l.	Lbs	141	140	138	98	99	141	138	98

* 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	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 05 as % of ²	
				Jan 2004	Dec 2004
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	3.3	2.3	2.6	77	113
AK		0.1			
AZ	29.7	29.4	28.3	95	96
AR	4.9	5.6	4.7	96	84
CA	120.8	130.1	125.1	104	96
CO	151.0	142.0	136.5	90	96
DE-MD	2.6	3.2	3.1	119	96
FL	4.7	5.3	4.5	96	84
GA	13.0	15.2	14.1	108	93
HI	0.9	0.9	0.7	74	76
ID	40.7	39.2	22.5	55	57
IL	205.8	241.4	213.1	104	88
IN	128.0	128.7	118.1	92	92
IA	583.0	575.3	513.5	88	89
KS	429.3	467.5	436.9	102	93
KY	46.4	41.2	40.2	87	98
LA	1.2	1.1	1.0	88	90
MI	28.7	33.3	32.6	113	98
MN	194.3	207.9	194.4	100	94
MS	26.8	21.5	25.9	97	120
MO	36.0	41.0	41.8	116	102
MT	1.1	1.3	1.2	108	87
NE	533.9	603.2	562.4	105	93
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	74	100
N ENG ³	1.4	1.2	1.0	72	80
NJ	4.3	4.8	4.2	98	87
NM	0.8	0.7	0.5	67	80
NY	3.2	3.6	2.8	87	78
NC	171.7	200.1	190.4	111	95
ND	2.4	2.8	2.8	117	100
OH	28.1	27.2	25.5	91	94
OK	84.5	90.6	87.9	104	97
OR	3.1	3.5	3.0	99	86
PA	95.3	102.9	90.2	95	88
SC	20.1	21.0	20.2	101	96
SD	94.5	98.1	77.8	82	79
TN	20.2	22.1	18.1	89	82
TX	367.5	356.1	350.9	96	99
UT	34.8	33.3	36.7	106	110
VA	59.9	*70.0	61.2	102	87
WA	38.1	44.1	45.0	118	102
WV	0.7	0.8	0.6	85	73
WI	96.8	110.2	103.8	107	94
WY	0.5	0.6	0.6	112	94
US	3,714.0	*3,930.9	3,646.9	98	93

* 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,
January 2004 and 2005 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<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		63		1,158
AZ						
AR	1.3	1.1	1,109	1,045	837	926
CA	111.1	120.0	141,630	158,092	1,275	1,317
CO	184.7	160.0	233,986	207,378	1,267	1,296
DE-MD	2.9	3.4	3,617	4,392	1,256	1,295
FL						
GA	17.4	21.9	21,623	22,171	1,240	1,013
HI	0.9	0.7	1,039	701	1,110	1,073
ID	53.4	28.7	66,718	37,243	1,249	1,296
IL						
IN						
IA						
KS	545.0	551.6	667,938	688,369	1,226	1,248
KY	1.7	1.6	1,468	1,438	869	882
LA	1.3	1.1	1,131	948	867	901
MI	31.9	36.0	42,978	49,591	1,347	1,376
MN	60.0	62.3	84,182	88,588	1,402	1,421
MS						
MO						
MT	1.2	1.4	1,411	1,558	1,160	1,147
NE	524.9	555.2	682,102	727,675	1,299	1,311
NV	0.1	0.1	120	92	1,040	1,120
N ENG ²	1.6	1.2	1,726	1,207	1,051	995
NJ	1.9	2.3	2,295	2,830	1,218	1,211
NM	1.5	0.9	1,502	900	978	1,002
NY	4.1	3.4	4,315	3,825	1,056	1,119
NC	16.4	17.9	16,906	17,328	1,031	969
ND						
OH	11.4	9.5	13,373	10,839	1,174	1,140
OK	2.7	2.2	2,885	50	1,059	23
OR	0.9	1.4	924	1,771	1,026	1,241
PA	74.2	64.1	94,038	77,775	1,267	1,213
SC						
SD						
TN	1.5	1.3	1,324	1,258	907	978
TX	493.6	473.6	587,666	564,267	1,190	1,191
UT	45.5	48.1	54,207	57,710	1,192	1,200
VA	1.2	1.3	1,251	1,337	1,021	1,025
WA	50.7	59.0	62,108	73,737	1,225	1,249
WV	1.0	0.9	956	868	934	942
WI	118.5	124.5	155,188	167,284	1,309	1,343
WY	0.6	0.8	775	904	1,199	1,173
US ³	2,576.8	2,527.6	3,218,688	3,189,529	1,249	1,262

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,
January 2004 and 2005 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<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	8.8	8.9	1,901	1,218	215	136
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.1	19	25	314	299
FL						
GA						
HI						
ID						
IL	7.4	6.9	3,467	2,874	468	414
IN	0.5	0.7	69	86	127	127
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.6	0.6	290	295	491	475
MI	1.9	1.7	825	729	444	424
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	2.1	0.5	244	83	114	171
NJ	9.7	5.9	3,406	2,565	352	438
NM						
NY	9.8	9.1	931	764	95	84
NC	0.1	0.1	31	43	449	479
ND						
OH	6.3	4.6	2,722	1,844	433	399
OK						
OR						
PA	14.1	14.6	4,943	5,547	351	381
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	46	72	530	519
TX	1.7	1.1	1,023	641	606	571
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	13.3	11.4	5,995	5,167	452	452
WY						
US ³	79.0	67.7	26,541	22,285	336	329

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,
January 2004 and 2005 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<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	9.4	9.0	4,816	4,292	512	475
AK		0.1		9		179
AZ	0.1	0.4	38	50	252	134
AR						
CA	227.0	207.7	54,619	50,392	241	243
CO	1.1	1.0	263	262	244	275
DE-MD	1.6	1.8	428	482	273	264
FL	6.5	6.6	1,183	1,126	181	171
GA	12.1	9.3	2,991	2,297	248	246
HI	2.4	2.0	470	397	197	197
ID	16.5	12.8	5,434	4,193	328	326
IL	728.8	760.8	203,036	210,976	279	277
IN	630.2	574.3	166,246	153,724	264	268
IA	2,643.7	2,425.5	714,117	660,453	270	272
KS						
KY	226.4	197.2	60,682	52,509	268	266
LA	1.9	1.7	380	325	203	190
MI	10.4	10.2	4,030	3,895	389	384
MN	762.1	750.2	203,085	198,914	266	265
MS						
MO						
MT	1.2	1.2	285	282	238	240
NE	596.3	578.5	160,063	156,398	268	270
NV						
N ENG ²	1.4	1.2	342	251	239	212
NJ	9.1	9.8	925	1,033	101	105
NM	0.1	0.2	31	54	211	267
NY	2.6	2.2	569	493	217	222
NC	857.1	935.7	216,163	241,618	252	258
ND	11.4	13.7	2,690	3,219	237	236
OH	100.1	93.9	27,187	25,740	271	274
OK	396.1	415.6	110,986	116,919	280	281
OR	16.1	14.8	4,049	3,309	252	223
PA	225.1	230.8	56,411	55,786	251	242
SC						
SD	446.4	360.8	118,184	94,254	265	261
TN	61.1	53.7	29,327	26,028	480	485
TX	27.4	28.3	7,686	6,950	280	246
UT	4.1	3.3	880	766	217	229
VA	308.0	313.6	78,565	80,018	255	255
WA	1.6	1.7	414	431	255	253
WV	0.8	0.6	194	154	257	259
WI	41.0	40.1	18,428	17,768	449	443
WY	0.4	0.3	110	86	265	250
US ³	8,789.3	8,478.1	2,363,663	2,288,114	269	270

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,
January 2004 and 2005 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<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		0.1		5		105
CA						
CO	62.6	74.7	9,751	11,436	156	153
DE-MD	2.7	3.1	327	330	123	105
FL	0.2	0.2	15	12	76	80
GA						
HI						
ID	0.3	0.3	39	36	113	108
IL	14.3	15.3	2,107	2,180	147	142
IN	1.8	1.6	187	162	103	104
IA	29.7	32.3	4,544	5,105	153	158
KS	0.2	0.3	15	24	91	91
KY	0.9	0.8	111	103	124	124
LA	0.1	0.1	8	9	86	85
MI	16.0	15.1	1,933	2,034	121	135
MN	0.2	0.2	22	22	113	120
MS						
MO	0.4	0.4	29	39	83	91
MT	0.3	0.2	41	30	128	128
NE	0.1	0.1	7	11	120	113
NV	0.1	0.1	6	8	99	99
N ENG ²	1.5	1.4	153	143	104	99
NJ	9.2	10.6	905	889	99	84
NM	1.8	1.3	188	161	102	125
NY	2.7	3.6	263	260	96	73
NC	0.2	0.7	17	54	104	81
ND						
OH	0.9	0.9	118	94	126	105
OK						
OR	0.9	1.2	128	141	140	122
PA	5.1	4.2	543	403	107	95
SC						
SD	0.7	0.6	88	79	123	123
TN	0.6	0.7	42	56	75	75
TX	27.3	12.2	3,696	1,446	136	118
UT	2.7	2.5	344	340	126	134
VA	0.7	0.5	66	41	99	90
WA	0.2	0.2	29	27	134	148
WV						
WI	0.9	0.7	120	98	133	136
WY	0.2	0.1	22	18	138	129
US ³	219.2	208.5	30,833	28,758	141	138

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	Jan	Dec	Jan	Jan ¹		Jan	Dec	Jan	Jan ¹	
	2004	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent of Total</i>								
Class²										
Cattle										
Steers	1,222	1,289	1,226	1,222	1,226	48.4	48.8	49.5	48.4	49.5
Heifers	810	851	767	810	767	32.1	32.2	31.0	32.1	31.0
All Cows	455	462	442	455	442	18.0	17.5	17.8	18.0	17.8
Dairy Cows	219	225	217	219	217	8.7	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.7
Other Cows	236	237	225	236	225	9.3	9.0	9.1	9.3	9.1
Bulls & Stags	40	40	43	40	43	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.7
Total ¹	2,527	2,642	2,477	2,527	2,477	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,423	8,848	8,124	8,423	8,124	96.8	96.7	96.7	96.8	96.7
Sows	260	276	255	260	255	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Stags & Boars	20	26	21	20	21	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Total ¹	8,703	9,149	8,400	8,703	8,400	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	10	11	10	10	10	4.8	4.7	5.2	4.8	5.2
Lambs & Yrlngs	197	218	185	197	185	95.2	95.3	94.8	95.2	94.8
Total ¹	207	229	195	207	195	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Dressed Weight³										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
Cattle										
Steers ⁴	753	766	765	753	765					
Heifers ⁴	810	818	815	810	815					
All Cows ⁴	744	758	755	744	755					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	608	623	627	608	627					
Calves & Vealers	910	876	919	910	919					
Hogs										
Barrow Gilts ⁵	202	203	200	202	200					
Sows ⁵	201	202	202	201	202					
Stags & Boars ⁵	197	198	199	197	199					
Sheep										
Mature Sheep ⁶	316	312	309	316	309					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	239	215	210	239	210					
	72	71	70	72	70					
	68	65	67	68	67					
	72	71	71	72	71					

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,
January 2005 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	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5
2	5.5	1.6	0.4	3.2	3.0	0.1	0.3	14.9
3	66.0	25.9						14.7
4	59.0	1.2	0.3	49.9	12.8	37.2	7.6	
5	282.2	107.9	34.1	133.1	71.1	62.0	7.1	25.2
6	473.6	250.8	152.5	57.9	15.9	42.0	12.5	0.9
7	1,127.2	613.2	452.4	54.7	4.6	50.1	6.9	
8	218.5	113.3						
9	156.3	78.0	7.1	69.2	64.5	4.7	2.1	8.6
10	87.4	33.5	26.0	25.2	13.6	11.6	2.6	
US ²	2,476.7	1,225.8	766.6	441.8	216.5	225.3	42.5	66.0
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ²	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	1.0	1.0						
2	11.8	11.6	0.1	0.1	11.5	1.3	10.2	
3	545.0	543.5	1.5		7.7	0.3	7.3	
4	1,391.7	1,310.5	79.3	1.9	2.9	1.1	1.8	
5	2,197.3	2,093.6	101.9	1.8	30.0	4.4	25.6	
6	454.5	433.3			10.5	0.5	10.0	
7	3,191.6	3,127.0			32.8	0.1	32.7	
8	375.8	372.7	3.1		77.3	1.7	75.6	
9	203.3	203.2						
10	28.2	28.1	0.1		1.2		1.2	
US ²	8,400.2	8,124.5	254.6	21.1	194.8	10.1	184.7	

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.

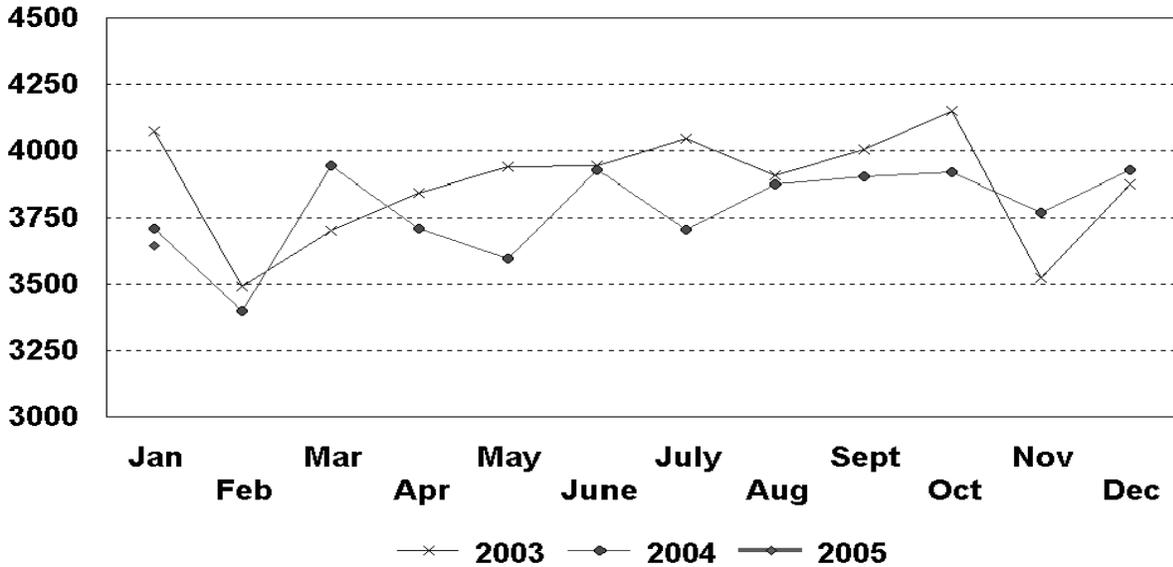
² States with no data printed are still included in the US total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

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

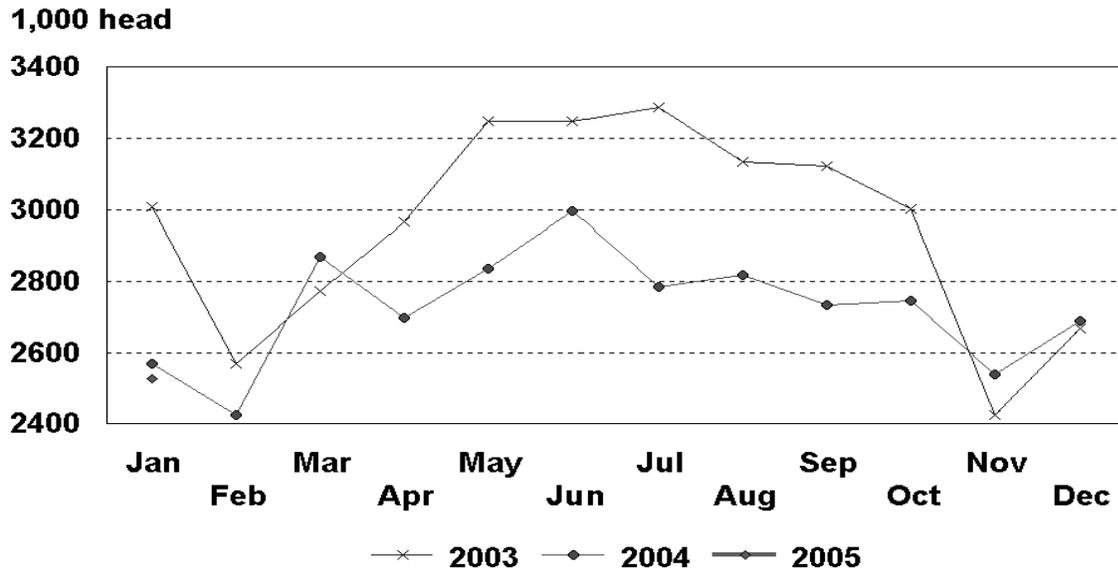
Species	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan - Jan	
	2004	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.1	98.2	98.0	98.1	98.0
Calves	98.0	97.7	97.5	98.0	97.5
Hogs	99.0	98.9	99.1	99.0	99.1
Sheep	94.5	94.3	93.4	94.5	93.4

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

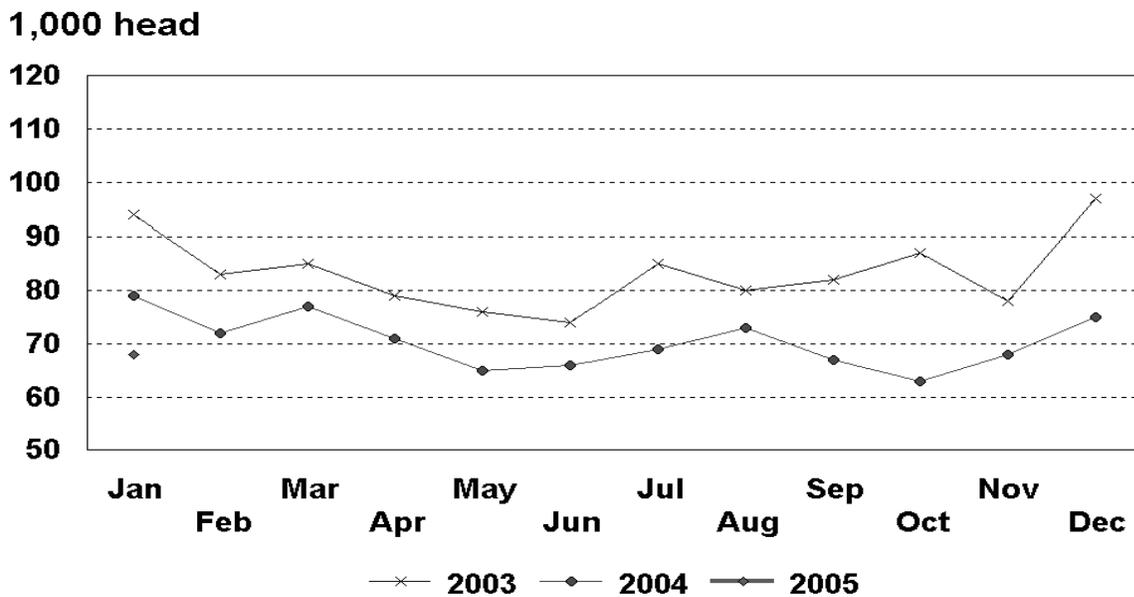
Million Pounds



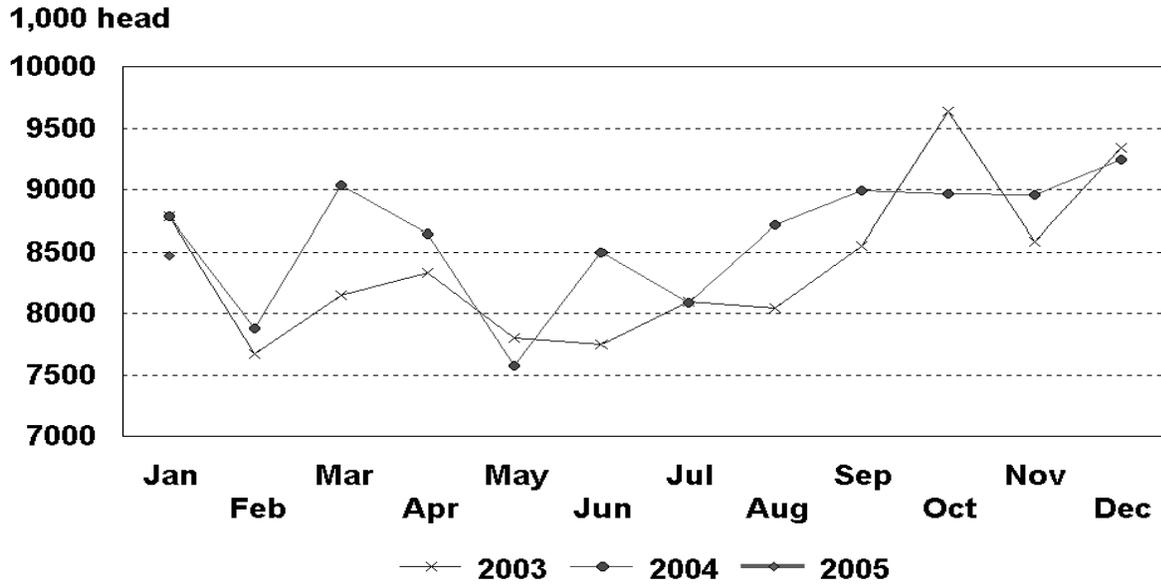
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



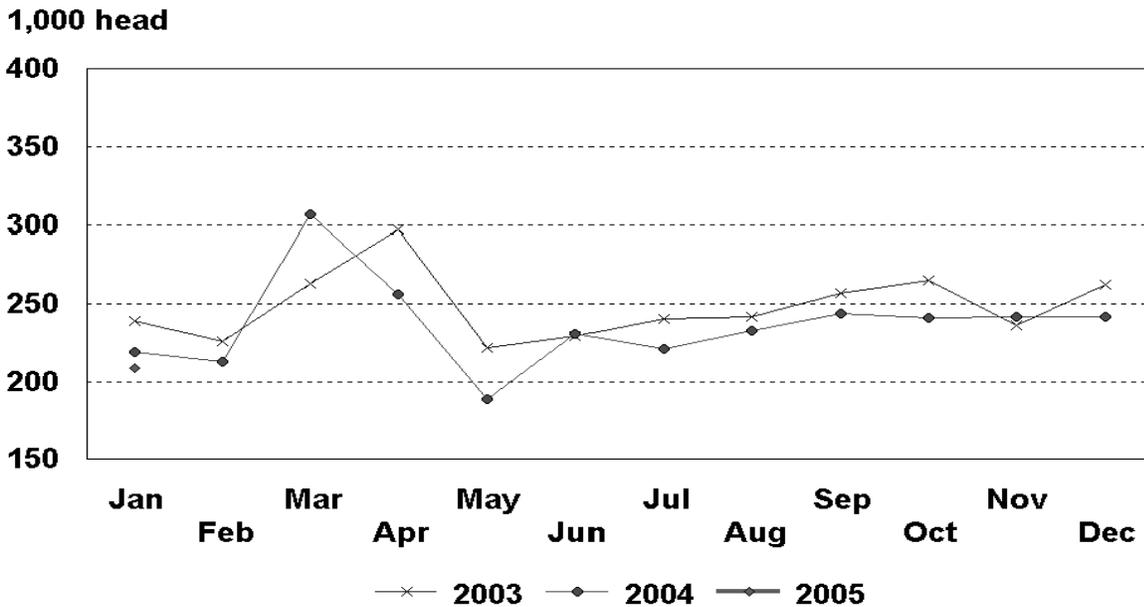
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



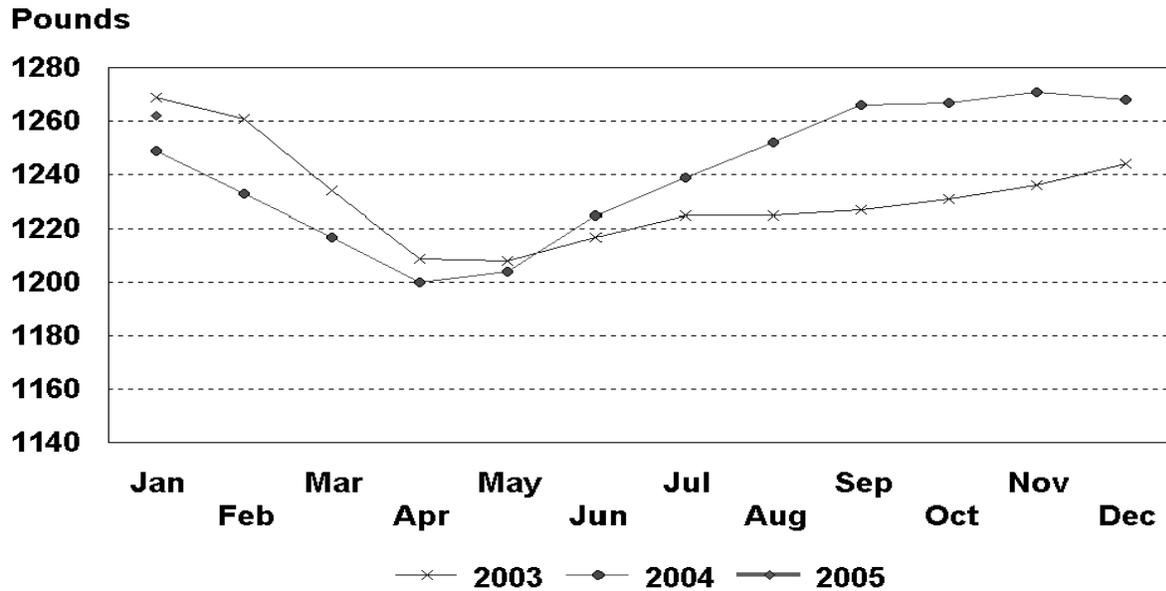
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



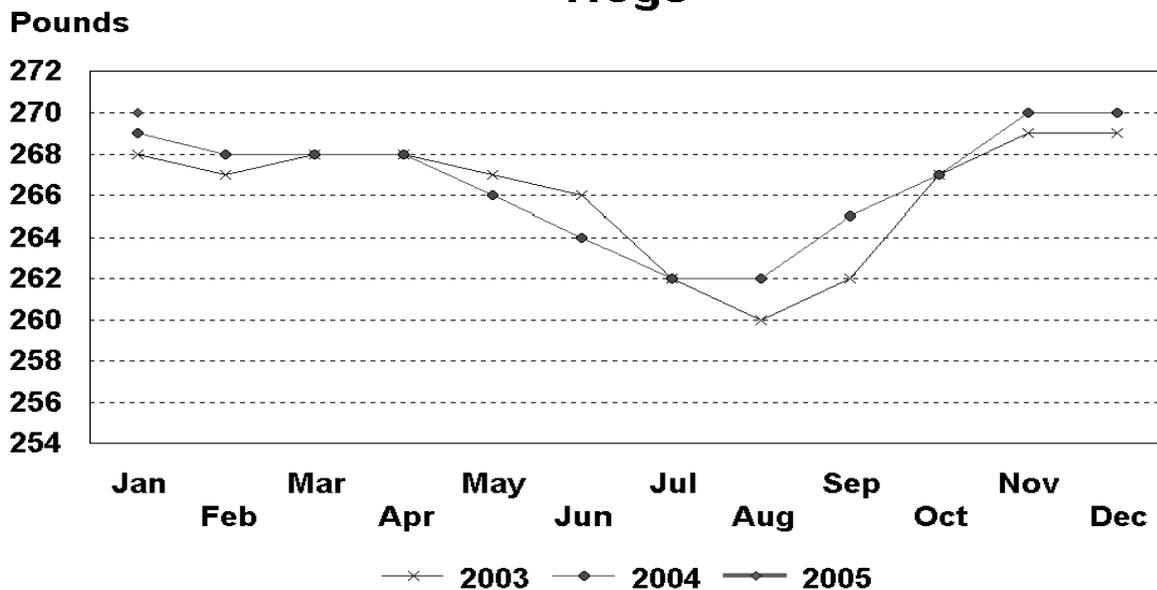
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



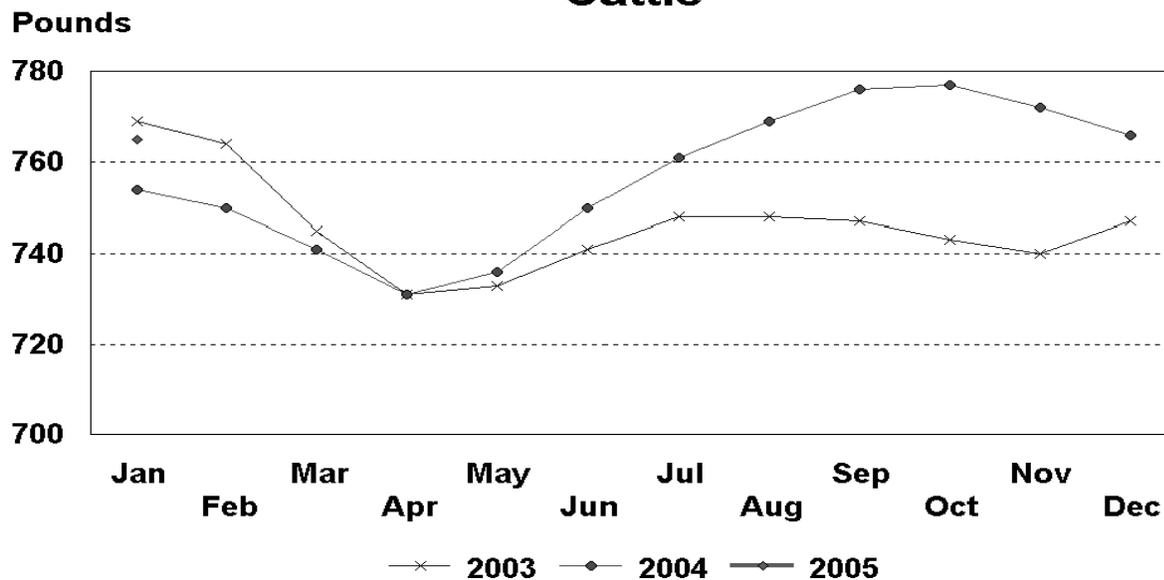
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



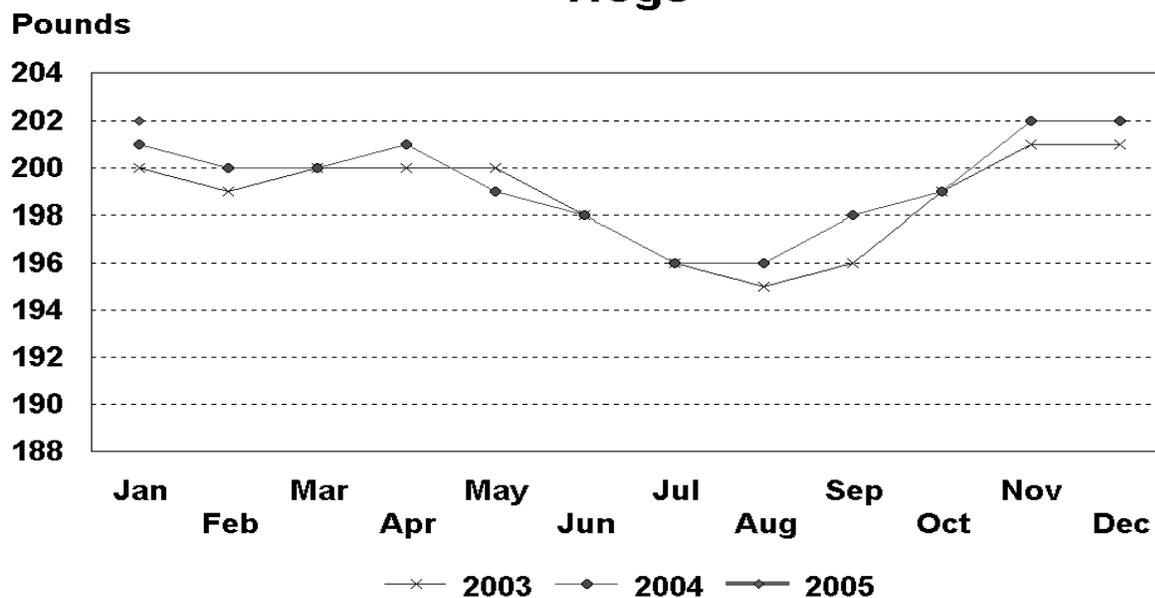
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



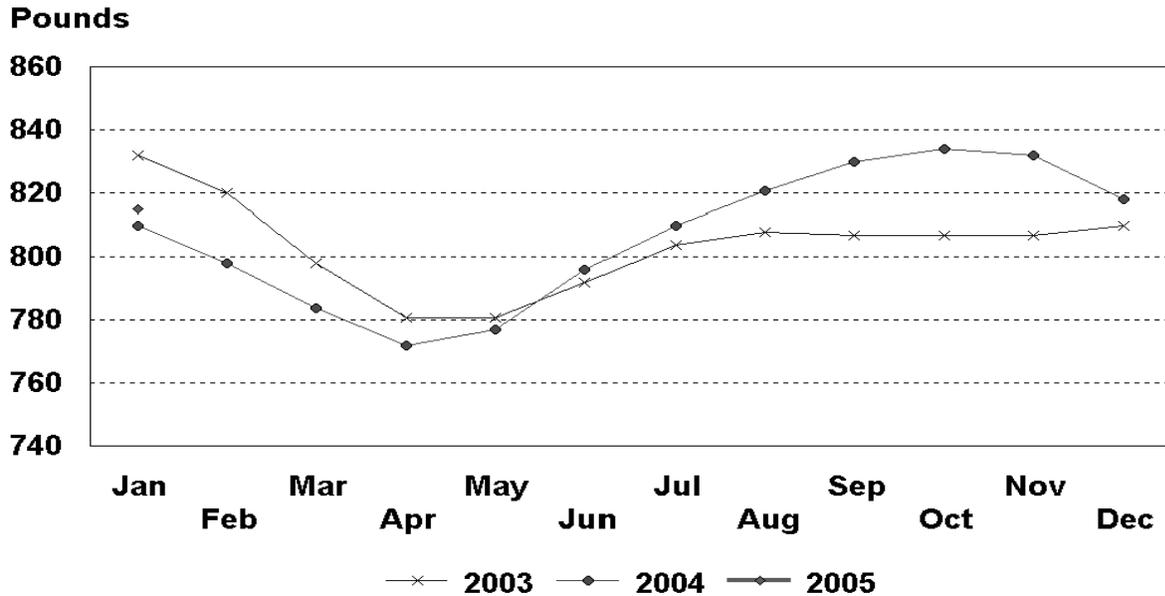
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



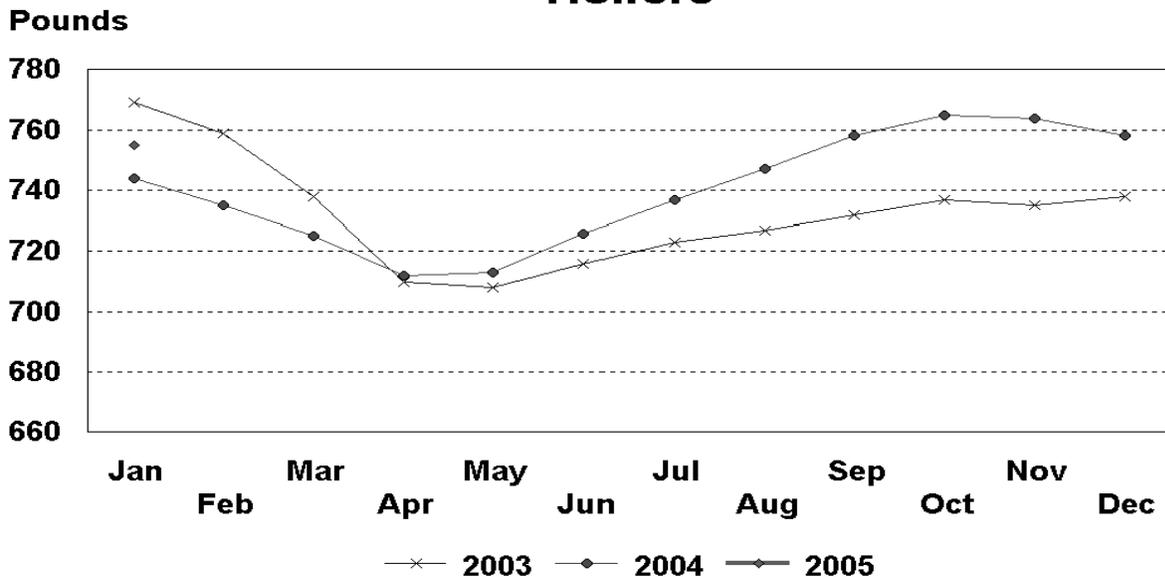
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



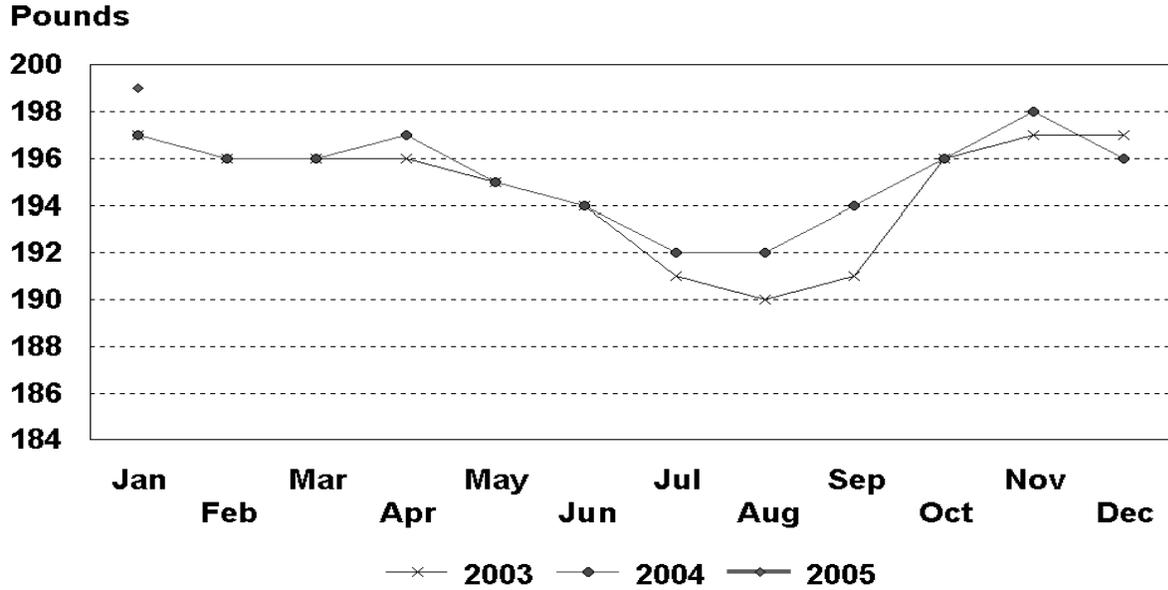
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



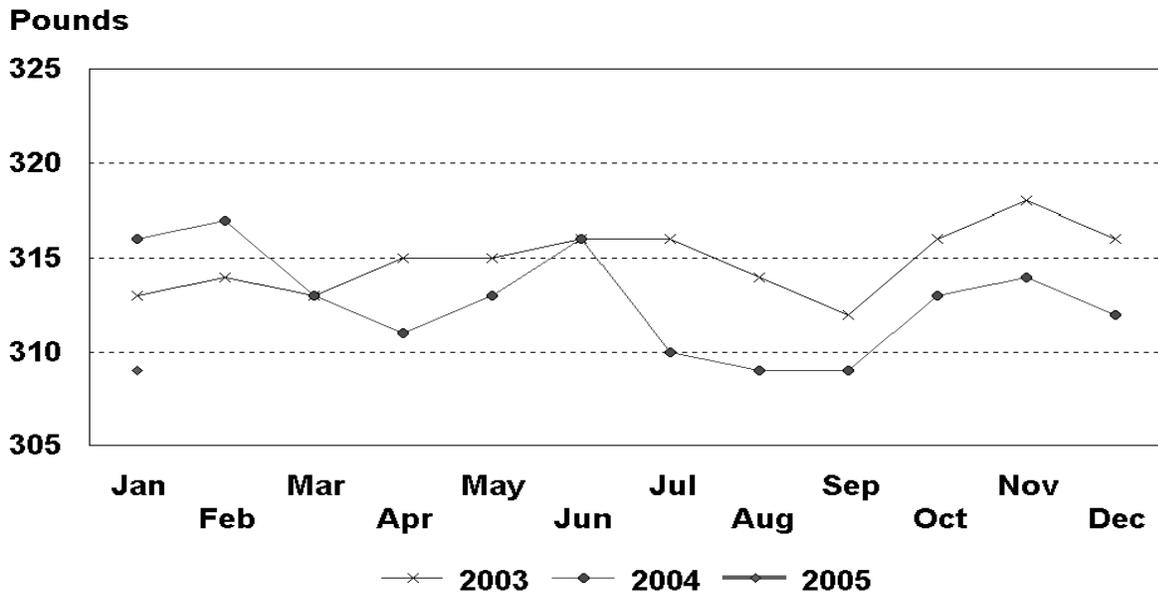
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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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