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Livestock Slaughter

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Lamb & Mutton Production at Record Low for September

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, up 1 percent from the 3.91 billion pounds produced in September 2004.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, up 1 percent from September 2004. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from the previous year, at 1,276 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.2 million pounds, 2 percent above September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 60,700 head, down 10 percent from September 2004. The average live weight was 43 pounds above last year, at 363 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.87 million head, 1 percent below September 2004. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 265 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.6 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 231,300 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2005 commercial red meat production was 33.9 billion pounds, up slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 7 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

September 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.
September 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Sep 05 % of		Jan - Sep ²		
				Sep 2004	Aug 2005	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	2,105	*2,320	2,161	103	93	18,451	18,484	100
Veal	12.9	13.7	13.2	102	97	125.8	117.4	93
Pork	1,772	1,751	1,743	98	100	15,076	15,157	101
Lamb & Mutton	16.3	15.4	15.6	96	102	144.3	139.1	96
Total Red Meat	3,906	4,099	3,933	101	96	33,796	33,897	100

* Revised.

¹ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

² Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Sep 05 % of		Jan - Sep ²		
				Sep 2004	Aug 2005	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	2,075	2,291	2,130	103	93	18,187	18,227	100
Veal	12.5	13.4	13.0	103	97	122.2	114.4	94
Pork	1,755	1,734	1,728	98	100	14,938	15,029	101
Lamb & Mutton	15.6	14.6	15.0	96	102	137.6	133.3	97
Total Red Meat	3,857	*4,053	3,886	101	96	33,385	33,504	100

* 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	Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Sep 05 % of		Jan - Sep ²		
					Sep 2004	Aug 2005	2004	2005	05 % of 04
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prcnt</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,689.4	*2,947.8	2,731.0	102	93	24,329.1	23,964.2	99
Other	Thou	47.7	42.9	46.7	98	109	420.7	403.8	96
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,737.1	*2,990.7	2,777.6	101	93	24,749.8	24,368.1	98
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,268	1,269	1,278	101	101	1,233	1,251	102
Other	Lbs	1,122	1,149	1,136	101	99	1,108	1,119	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,265	1,267	1,276	101	101	1,231	1,249	101
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	65.7	64.4	59.6	91	93	623.3	549.3	88
Other	Thou	1.6	1.3	1.1	72	88	14.2	12.2	86
Comm'l. ³	Thou	67.3	*65.7	60.7	90	92	637.5	561.5	88
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	318	345	359	113	104	327	347	106
Other	Lbs	414	404	396	96	98	415	400	96
Comm'l.	Lbs	320	347	363	113	105	329	348	106
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,897.4	*8,880.3	8,777.4	99	99	75,448.2	75,305.3	100
Other	Thou	101.8	102.4	92.5	91	90	822.8	766.1	93
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,999.2	8,982.7	8,869.9	99	99	76,271.0	76,071.4	100
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	266	263	265	100	101	266	268	101
Other	Lbs	235	232	231	98	99	231	232	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	265	263	265	100	101	266	268	101
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	230.7	215.6	218.9	95	102	1,991.1	1,906.0	96
Other	Thou	13.3	13.7	12.4	94	90	122.7	110.1	90
Comm'l. ³	Thou	243.9	*229.4	231.3	95	101	2,113.8	2,016.0	95
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	134	136	136	102	100	138	140	101
Other	Lbs	107	108	109	102	101	110	107	98
Comm'l.	Lbs	133	134	135	101	101	136	138	101

* 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	Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Sep 05 as % of ²	
				Sep 2004	Aug 2005
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2.6	2.7	2.8	105	100
AK		0.1	0.1		84
AZ	28.3	33.8	31.1	110	92
AR	4.7	4.8	5.0	106	104
CA	124.7	128.1	119.2	96	93
CO	176.2	167.3	149.9	85	90
DE-MD	2.6	3.4	3.3	129	97
FL	3.6	5.4	4.8	135	90
GA	14.5	15.0	12.4	86	83
HI	0.8	0.8	0.7	89	91
ID	37.6	28.4	25.2	67	89
IL	227.7	228.0	230.3	101	101
IN	120.4	126.8	120.1	100	95
IA	568.4	546.9	555.9	98	102
KS	467.8	546.0	515.8	110	94
KY	43.0	43.6	42.7	99	98
LA	1.1	0.9	0.8	74	85
MI	32.7	37.7	32.4	99	86
MN	199.6	191.9	200.2	100	104
MS	28.0	25.0	24.3	87	97
MO	38.5	41.7	40.0	104	96
MT	1.4	1.7	1.5	105	89
NE	597.6	*654.8	608.1	102	93
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	120	111
N ENG ³	1.3	1.1	1.3	98	110
NJ	4.1	4.4	4.2	103	95
NM	0.6	0.7	0.6	106	89
NY	3.3	3.8	3.6	107	94
NC	193.4	191.2	176.9	91	93
ND	2.8	2.8	2.7	94	94
OH	26.6	25.5	25.9	97	102
OK	84.1	92.1	85.3	101	93
OR	3.6	4.2	3.7	103	88
PA	96.6	101.1	99.2	103	98
SC	20.6	20.2	19.9	96	98
SD	86.7	83.0	87.3	101	105
TN	18.8	18.3	20.8	111	113
TX	401.0	*457.4	407.8	102	89
UT	35.7	42.8	43.0	120	100
VA	64.7	51.5	59.8	92	116
WA	36.9	56.8	57.6	156	101
WV	0.7	0.5	0.5	79	108
WI	102.3	106.3	105.7	103	99
WY	0.7	1.0	0.5	78	52
US	3,906.3	*4,099.4	3,932.8	101	96

* 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,
September 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	0.3	0.3	256	262	850	866
AK	0.1	0.1	51	67	977	1,183
AZ						
AR	1.0	0.8	955	788	949	935
CA	114.4	110.9	152,585	147,889	1,334	1,334
CO	210.3	174.2	266,973	225,900	1,270	1,297
DE-MD	3.0	3.7	3,598	4,843	1,217	1,304
FL						
GA	20.5	19.3	24,579	19,221	1,200	996
HI	0.9	0.7	913	783	1,074	1,123
ID	47.3	29.1	61,175	36,632	1,293	1,260
IL						
IN						
IA						
KS	582.2	632.8	728,198	804,876	1,251	1,272
KY	1.1	1.2	1,030	1,102	896	928
LA	1.1	0.8	931	737	824	876
MI	37.2	36.9	49,984	49,861	1,345	1,350
MN	59.7	52.7	84,284	74,246	1,411	1,409
MS						
MO						
MT	1.6	1.7	1,912	1,998	1,161	1,164
NE	587.8	593.3	768,409	779,664	1,307	1,314
NV						
N ENG ²	1.3	1.3	1,354	1,351	1,031	1,014
NJ	1.9	2.3	2,329	2,776	1,236	1,227
NM	0.9	1.0	844	983	945	975
NY	3.6	3.5	4,131	4,154	1,136	1,196
NC	19.0	16.9	19,328	17,486	1,019	1,034
ND						
OH	8.7	9.8	9,944	11,168	1,140	1,143
OK	2.0	1.8	2,113	1,958	1,045	1,079
OR	1.7	2.0	2,033	2,459	1,188	1,202
PA	71.9	73.8	82,914	89,315	1,152	1,211
SC						
SD						
TN	1.1	1.2	1,073	1,148	968	949
TX	521.3	535.6	637,639	651,975	1,223	1,217
UT	45.5	53.5	55,971	67,292	1,229	1,259
VA	1.0	0.8	1,080	795	1,044	1,060
WA	48.5	71.7	60,376	93,957	1,246	1,311
WV	0.9	0.8	841	693	959	895
WI	122.7	122.1	162,528	164,795	1,325	1,350
WY	0.7	0.6	856	670	1,179	1,194
US ³	2,737.1	2,777.6	3,463,716	3,543,498	1,265	1,276

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,
September 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	8.0	6.5	1,103	949	138	146
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.1	28	40	242	287
FL						
GA	0.2	0.2	103	89	412	481
HI						
ID						
IL	6.5	6.2	2,913	2,733	446	438
IN	0.4	0.2	52	30	129	132
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.7	0.4	353	205	475	461
MI	2.2	1.9	940	700	435	372
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	0.7	0.4	95	73	146	170
NJ	6.6	6.6	2,878	2,885	436	437
NM						
NY	11.2	8.3	942	1,300	84	157
NC	0.1	0.1	63	37	497	478
ND						
OH	5.5	4.4	2,223	1,731	405	396
OK						
OR						
PA	14.7	12.5	5,400	5,371	368	429
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	45	52	466	498
TX	1.0	0.7	581	397	599	549
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	8.0	10.9	3,547	5,141	446	471
WY						
US ³	67.3	60.7	21,546	22,035	320	363

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,
September 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	9.0	9.8	4,284	4,599	475	469
AK	0.1	0.1	16	26	264	244
AZ	0.5	0.4	90	81	172	196
AR	14.3	14.4	6,628	7,191	463	499
CA	223.6	218.1	53,236	51,554	238	236
CO	1.8	1.5	416	390	235	259
DE-MD	1.7	1.7	369	379	221	225
FL	6.7	9.0	1,146	1,636	172	181
GA	12.6	9.2	2,965	2,245	235	245
HI	2.2	1.9	441	413	203	219
ID	13.9	13.2	4,513	4,298	326	324
IL	811.1	805.2	221,242	218,727	273	272
IN	601.9	605.7	156,565	156,834	260	259
IA	2,617.8	2,561.5	700,019	681,354	267	266
KS						
KY	214.9	215.3	56,630	56,135	263	261
LA	1.6	1.4	323	268	197	188
MI	10.4	10.4	3,736	3,506	359	338
MN	789.9	821.5	208,412	216,141	264	263
MS						
MO						
MT	1.6	1.6	351	361	222	230
NE	616.9	621.9	162,590	165,497	264	266
NV						
N ENG ²	2.5	2.2	501	453	203	209
NJ	10.6	9.6	1,085	927	102	97
NM	0.2	0.3	70	79	285	285
NY	3.8	3.4	846	724	222	214
NC	967.3	899.2	242,843	224,579	251	250
ND	13.6	13.8	3,443	3,271	252	238
OH	103.1	97.4	27,665	26,209	268	269
OK	404.8	406.0	110,331	112,150	273	276
OR	17.6	15.9	4,009	3,762	228	237
PA	241.7	239.6	59,588	58,584	247	244
SC						
SD	417.6	423.0	108,025	108,828	259	257
TN	55.4	62.2	26,936	30,047	486	483
TX	33.0	28.4	8,454	6,914	256	244
UT	3.9	4.4	904	1,047	233	238
VA	336.7	308.5	85,009	78,488	252	254
WA	2.0	2.1	518	539	257	258
WV	0.8	0.7	214	180	259	247
WI	47.8	44.2	21,114	19,196	442	434
WY	0.6	0.5	157	145	265	270
US ³	8,999.2	8,869.9	2,387,426	2,349,204	265	265

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,
September 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	0.2	0.2	19	22	98	134
AR	0.1	0.1	5	9	88	104
CA						
CO	83.6	84.9	12,500	12,797	149	151
DE-MD	3.1	3.3	318	337	103	102
FL	0.2	0.2	10	14	64	76
GA						
HI						
ID	0.6	0.4	74	47	124	121
IL	16.6	16.7	2,110	2,231	127	133
IN	2.5	2.0	272	218	110	111
IA	37.3	37.2	5,537	5,338	148	143
KS	0.3	0.3	35	26	109	104
KY	1.1	1.2	136	158	123	132
LA	0.1	0.1	12	7	84	77
MI	16.3	14.9	1,965	1,930	120	129
MN	0.3	0.3	43	33	127	132
MS						
MO	0.4	0.5	40	42	89	85
MT	0.6	0.5	68	62	116	125
NE	0.3	0.1	32	18	120	126
NV	0.1	0.1	13	12	97	108
N ENG ²	2.2	2.8	214	262	96	95
NJ	9.2	9.7	744	826	81	85
NM	1.8	1.3	203	145	110	110
NY	2.8	2.8	219	275	79	99
NC	0.4	0.6	37	56	82	91
ND						
OH	1.2	1.2	127	136	108	111
OK	0.1	0.1	12	7	127	120
OR	1.6	1.8	164	232	103	130
PA	5.7	4.5	482	457	85	101
SC						
SD	0.4	1.0	58	122	134	120
TN	0.6	1.1	44	77	78	72
TX	24.3	7.6	3,072	891	126	117
UT	2.5	2.4	336	327	137	138
VA	0.4	1.1	39	108	90	99
WA	0.2	0.2	33	30	141	128
WV						
WI	1.4	1.4	182	187	130	134
WY	0.2	0.2	25	24	133	140
US ³	243.9	231.3	32,370	31,136	133	135

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	Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Jan - Sep ¹		Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Jan - Sep ¹	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Percent of Total	Percent of Total	Percent of Total	Percent of Total	Percent of Total
Class ²										
Cattle										
Steers	1,371	1,638	1,476	12,393	12,748	51.0	55.6	54.1	50.9	53.2
Heifers	847	873	816	7,780	7,363	31.5	29.6	29.9	32.0	30.7
All Cows	418	392	394	3,735	3,472	15.5	13.4	14.5	15.4	14.5
Dairy Cows	197	190	190	1,749	1,644	7.3	6.5	7.0	7.2	6.9
Other Cows	221	202	204	1,986	1,828	8.2	6.9	7.5	8.2	7.6
Bulls & Stags	53	45	44	422	380	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.6
Total ¹	2,689	*2,948	2,731	24,329	23,964	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,601	8,582	8,487	72,797	72,777	96.7	96.6	96.7	96.5	96.6
Sows	278	274	266	2,462	2,319	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.1
Stags & Boars	19	24	25	189	209	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total ¹	8,897	8,880	8,777	75,448	75,305	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	13	12	11	113	98	5.5	5.5	5.0	5.7	5.2
Lambs & Yrlngs	218	204	208	1,878	1,808	94.5	94.5	95.0	94.3	94.8
Total ¹	231	216	219	1,991	1,906	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	776	782	785	751	765					
Steers ⁴	830	829	835	799	810					
Heifers ⁴	758	757	763	732	743					
All Cows ⁴	615	623	620	614	625					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	896	901	894	899	910					
Calves & Vealers	194	212	220	200	213					
Hogs	198	196	198	199	200					
Barrow Gilts ⁵	194	192	194	195	197					
Sows ⁵	309	307	309	313	309					
Stags & Boars ⁵	224	218	213	223	213					
Sheep	68	68	69	69	70					
Mature Sheep ⁶	65	70	68	66	69					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	68	68	69	69	70					

* Revised.

¹ Total and percentages based on unrounded data.

² Species totals and classification reported by meat inspectors, Inspection Operations, FSIS.

³ Based on packer reports.

⁴ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

⁵ Included in hog average dressed weight.

⁶ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,
September 2005¹**

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	1.1	0.5	0.2					0.4
2	5.5	1.8	0.3	3.1	3.0	0.1	0.3	14.9
3	76.5	34.8		33.5	26.8	6.7		12.7
4	56.8	0.8	0.2	47.5	10.9	36.6	8.2	
5	286.1	127.1	39.9	111.1	60.9	50.2	7.9	23.5
6	535.1	298.4	159.1	67.0	13.2	53.8	10.6	0.7
7	1,282.9	755.6	478.6	41.1	2.5	38.6	7.6	
8	235.8	122.4						
9	149.7	67.0	8.7	69.8	60.9	8.9	4.2	6.3
10	101.5	67.9	23.3	9.7	7.1	2.6	0.6	
US ²	2,731.0	1,476.4	816.3	393.9	190.2	203.8	44.4	59.6
	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	1.7	1.7						
2	12.5	12.2	0.2	0.1	11.4	1.6	9.8	
3	548.3	547.2	1.1		8.6	0.6	7.9	
4	1,372.9	1,283.1	88.6	1.2	3.3	1.4	1.9	
5	2,341.4	2,237.0	101.5	2.9	31.7	4.4	27.4	
6	445.2	423.4	21.7	0.1	6.7		6.7	
7	3,372.4	3,304.8			37.7	0.2	37.4	
8	439.0	433.7	5.3		87.7	1.7	86.1	
9	213.7	213.6						
10	30.2	30.1	0.1		2.1	0.1	1.9	
US ²	8,777.4	8,486.7	265.7	24.9	218.9	10.9	208.0	

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 - September 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	7.9	3.0	1.5					4.1
2	46.1	14.2	2.4	26.6	25.2	1.4	2.8	136.5
3	647.1	282.5		291.5	236.1	55.4		119.3
4	498.5	9.1	2.6	418.1	92.1	326.0	68.5	
5	2,456.9	1,068.1	310.2	1,013.8	537.7	476.1	65.0	207.2
6	4,679.6	2,568.2	1,521.5	499.3	106.6	392.8	90.6	6.1
7	11,324.7	6,554.7	4,293.6	411.1	27.1	384.0	65.2	0.3
8	2,100.8	1,101.7						
9	1,346.3	697.1	61.6	557.9	494.6	63.2	29.8	66.9
10	856.3	449.7	238.1	149.9	88.4	61.5	18.6	
US ²	23,964.2	12,748.4	7,363.3	3,472.3	1,644.2	1,828.2	380.2	549.3
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ²	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	12.0	11.6	0.2	0.2				
2	106.3	103.5	1.5	1.3	105.6	13.0	92.6	
3	4,667.4	4,655.2	11.8	0.4	78.0	4.5	73.5	
4	12,076.6	11,401.5	661.2	13.9	26.3	10.8	15.5	
5	19,858.3	18,873.6	961.5	23.3	285.1	43.1	242.0	
6	4,031.7	3,849.6	181.3	0.7	25.6	0.8	24.8	
7	28,845.0	28,221.7			311.7	2.4	309.3	
8	3,571.6	3,525.3	46.2	0.1	788.5	15.6	772.9	
9	1,869.1	1,868.3						
10	267.2	266.4	0.7	0.1	15.3	1.2	14.1	
US ²	75,305.3	72,776.8	2,319.4	209.1	1,906.0	98.2	1,807.8	

* 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.

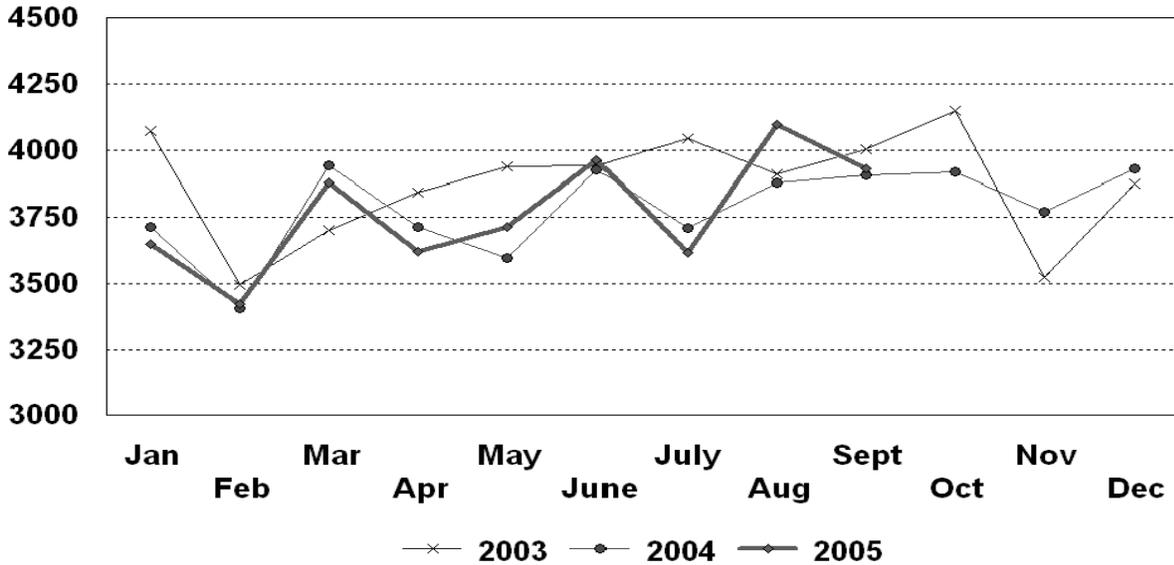
² Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

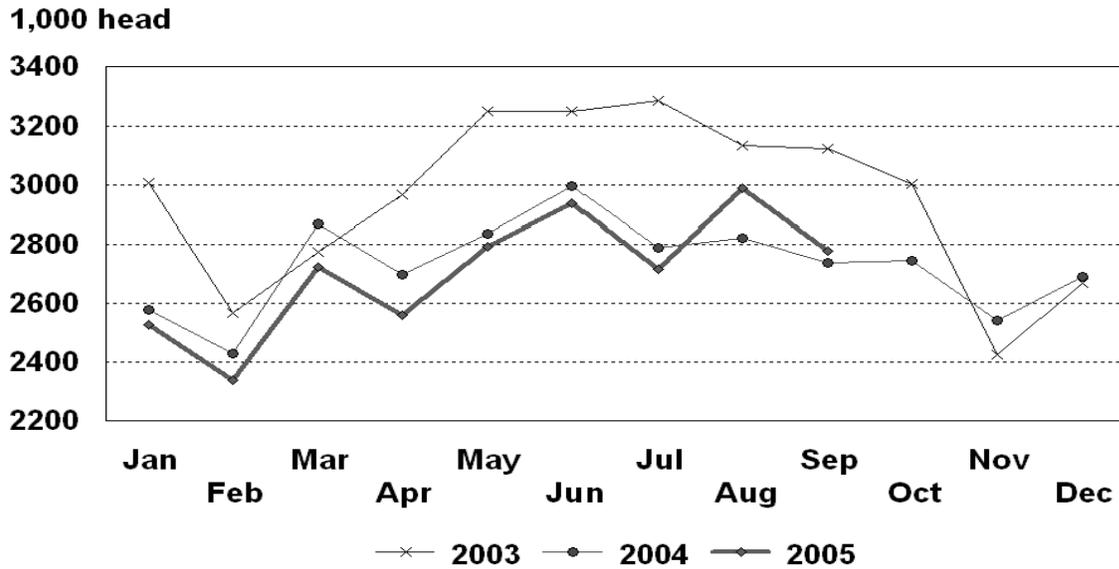
Species	Sep 2004	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Jan - Sep	
				2004	2005
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.3	98.6	98.3	98.3	98.3
Calves	97.7	98.0	98.1	97.8	97.8
Hogs	98.9	98.9	99.0	98.9	99.0
Sheep	94.6	94.0	94.6	94.2	94.5

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

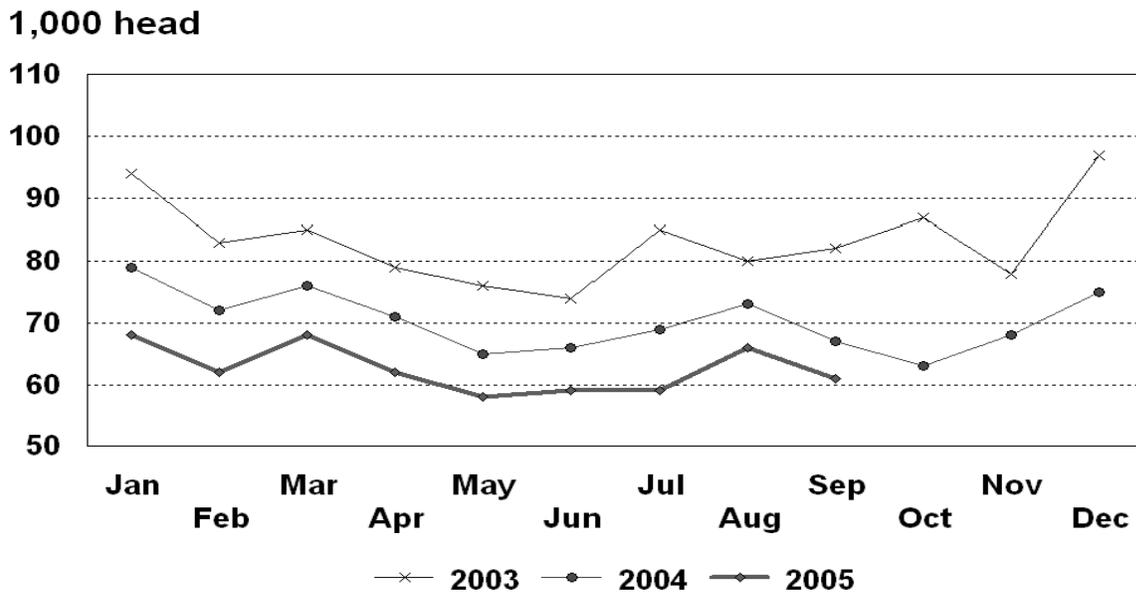
Million Pounds



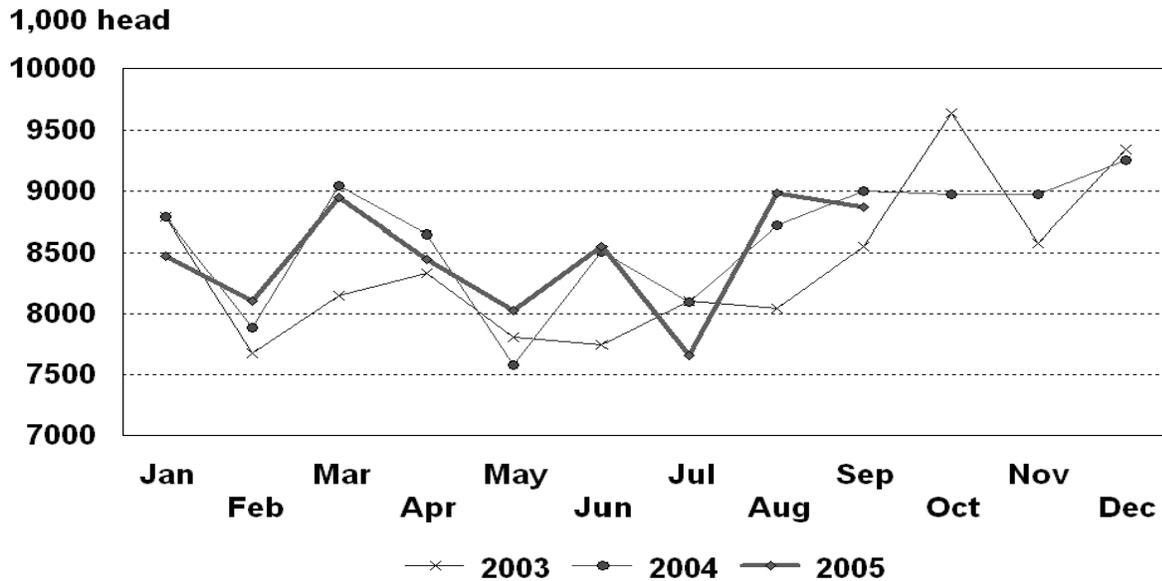
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



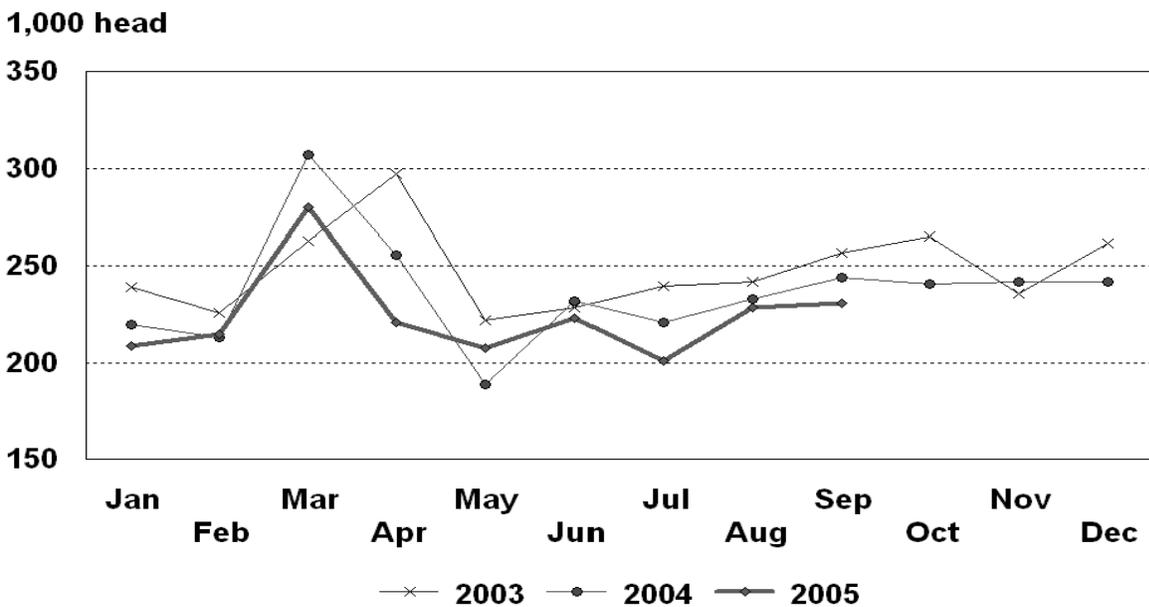
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



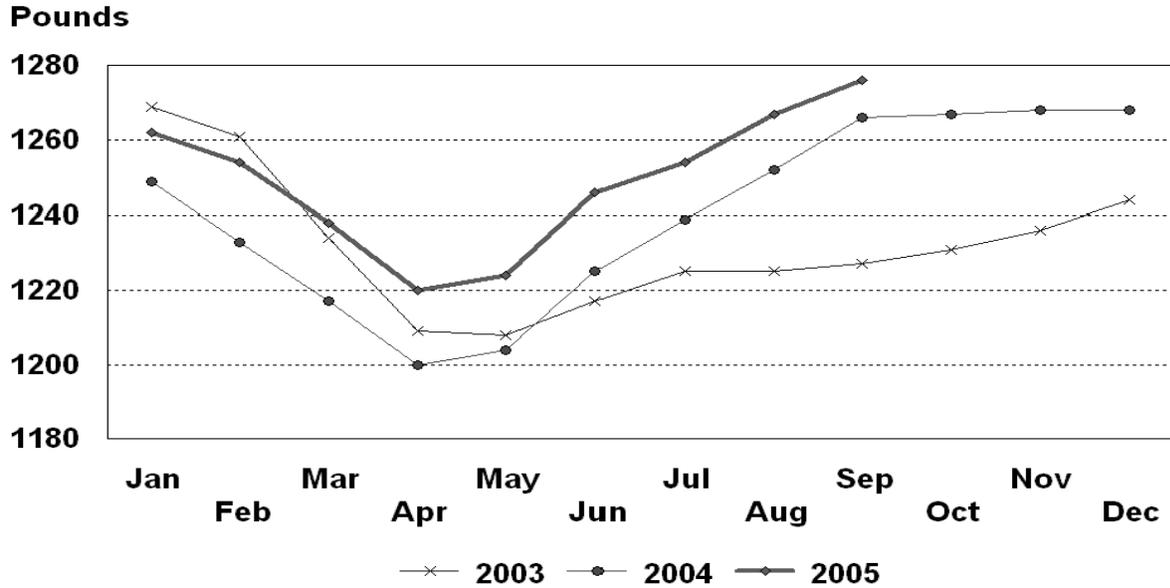
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



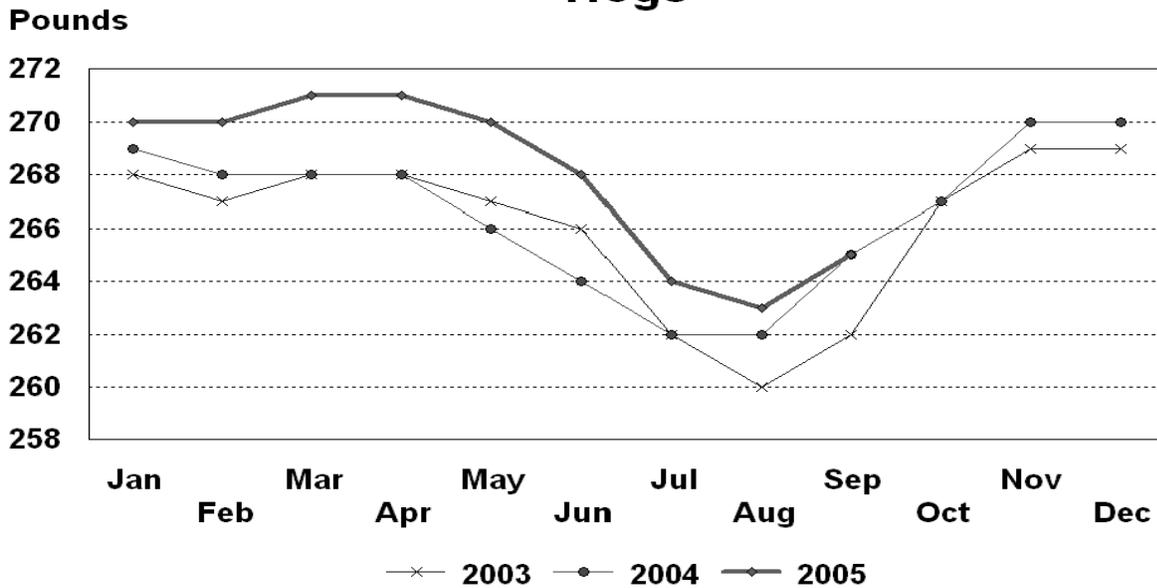
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



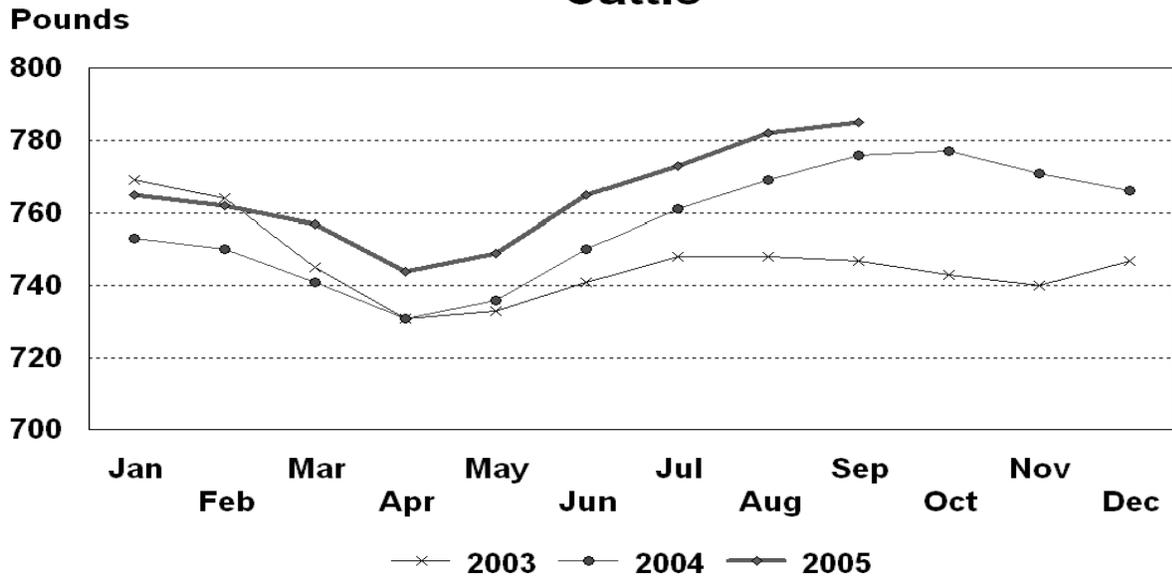
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



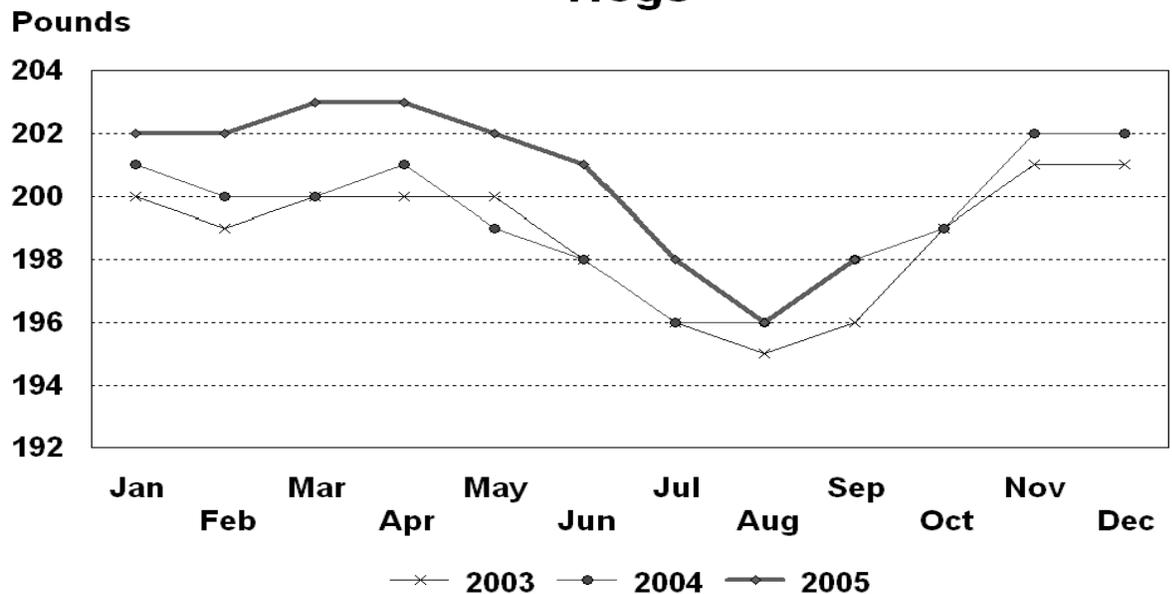
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



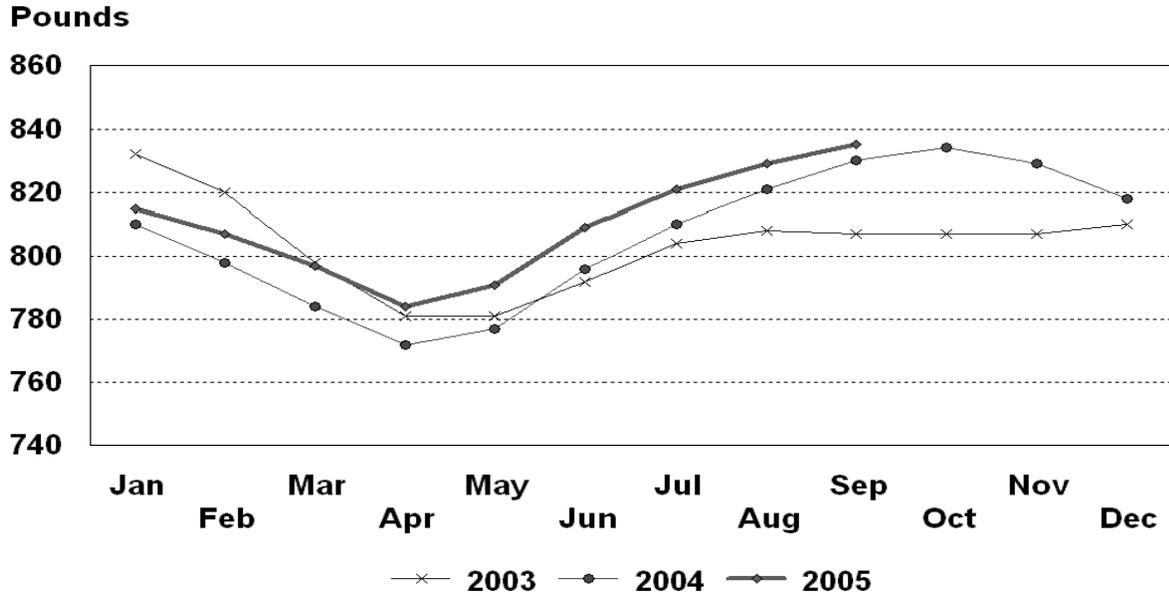
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



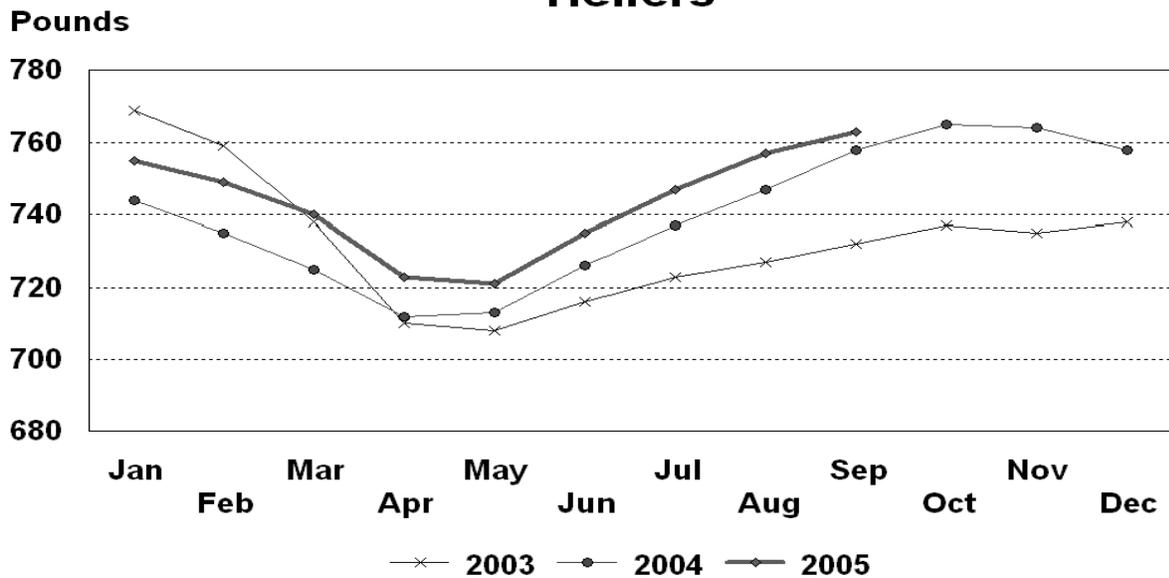
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



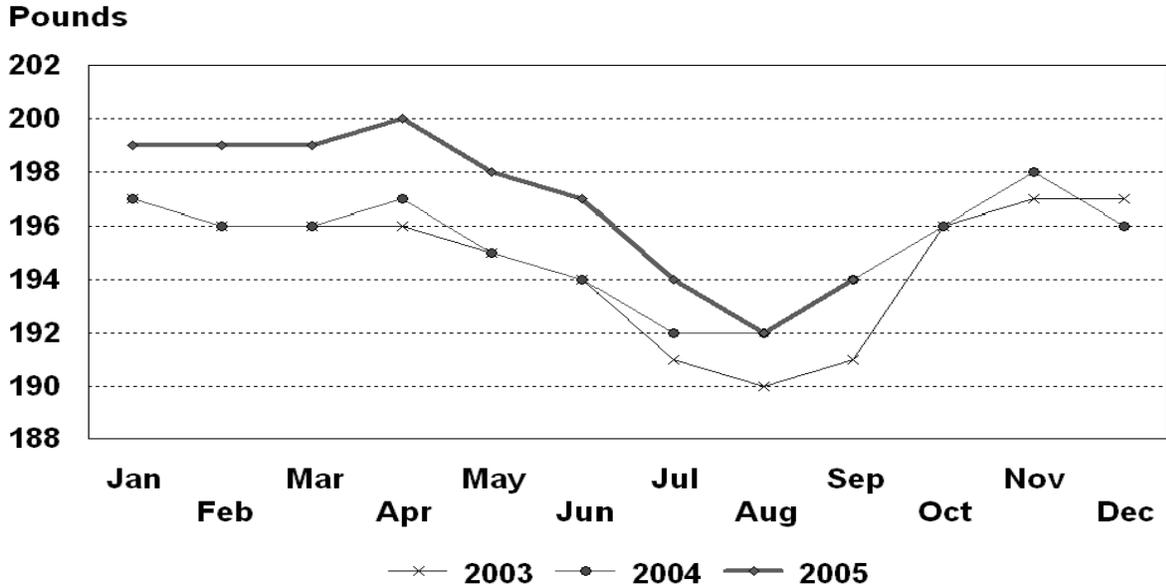
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



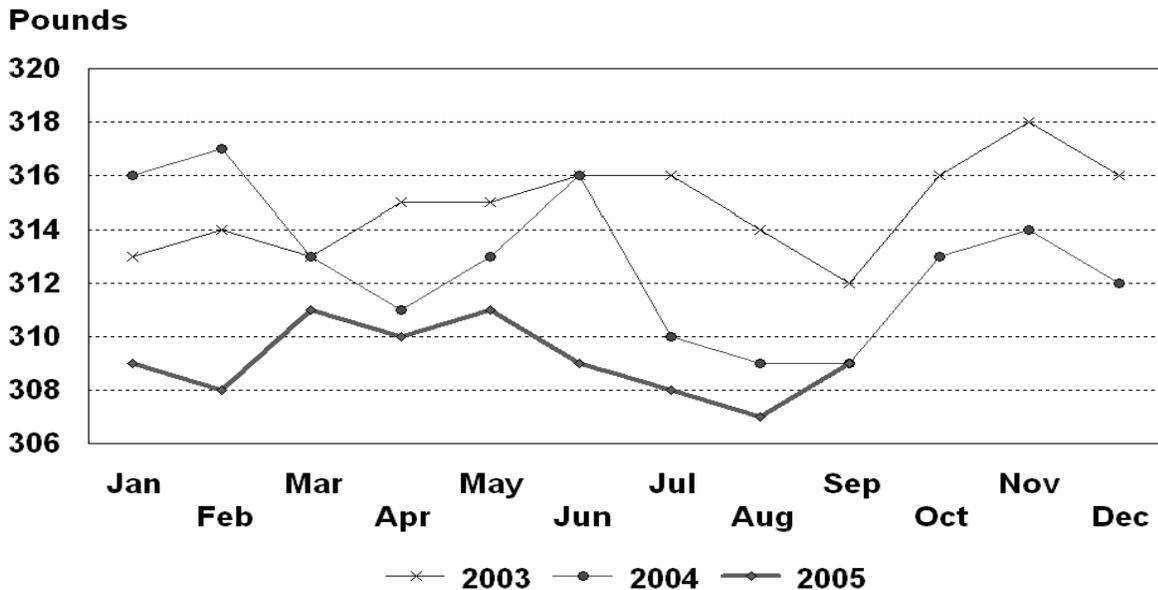
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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 20). 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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