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Livestock Slaughter

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Red Meat Production Down From Previous Month

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.61 billion pounds in April, down slightly from the 3.62 billion pounds produced in April 2005.

Beef production, at 1.97 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, up 2 percent from April 2005. The average live weight was up 28 pounds from the previous year, at 1,246 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.9 million pounds, 16 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 47,500 head, down 23 percent from April 2005. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 379 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.61 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.96 million head, 6 percent below April 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was up 9 percent from April 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 248,500 head, 13 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 5 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2006 commercial red meat production was 15.1 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

April 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

April 2006 contained 20 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

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Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Apr 2005	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	Apr 06 % of		Jan - Apr ²		
				Apr 2005	Mar 2006	2005	2006	06 as % of 05
	<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	1,888	2,209	1,973	105	89	7,612	8,051	106
Veal	13.0	13.3	10.9	84	82	51.6	48.4	94
Pork	1,703	1,871	1,613	95	86	6,841	6,935	101
Lamb & Mutton	15.5	18.2	17.0	109	93	64.6	66.1	102
Total Red Meat	3,620	4,112	3,614	100	88	14,570	15,100	104

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	Apr 2005	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	Apr 06 % of		Jan - Apr ²		
				Apr 2005	Mar 2006	2005	2006	06 as % of 05
	<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	1,860	2,179	1,946	105	89	7,493	7,933	106
Veal	12.6	13.0	10.6	84	82	50.3	47.3	94
Pork	1,691	1,856	1,601	95	86	6,786	6,880	101
Lamb & Mutton	14.9	17.7	16.3	110	92	62.0	63.5	102
Total Red Meat	3,578	4,066	3,574	100	88	14,391	14,924	104

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	Apr 2005	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	Apr 06 % of		Jan - Apr ²		
					Apr 2005	Mar 2006	2005	2006	06 % of 05
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,516.5	2,806.1	2,565.6	102	91	9,966.1	10,264.3	103
Other	Thou	43.7	46.3	41.8	96	90	190.3	183.2	96
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,560.3	2,852.4	2,607.4	102	91	10,156.4	10,447.5	103
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,220	1,275	1,247	102	98	1,246	1,273	102
Other	Lbs	1,112	1,140	1,137	102	100	1,109	1,132	102
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,218	1,273	1,246	102	98	1,242	1,271	102
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	60.1	57.9	46.3	77	80	253.4	210.7	83
Other	Thou	1.5	1.3	1.1	75	90	5.8	4.7	81
Comm'l. ³	Thou	61.6	59.2	47.5	77	80	259.2	215.3	83
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	351	368	377	107	103	332	369	111
Other	Lbs	400	417	420	105	101	396	415	105
Comm'l.	Lbs	353	370	379	107	103	334	369	111
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,368.7	9,148.0	7,882.2	94	86	33,659.5	33,842.1	101
Other	Thou	76.2	86.2	73.4	96	85	323.3	318.1	98
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,445.0	9,234.1	7,955.6	94	86	33,982.7	34,160.1	101
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	271	272	273	101	100	271	273	101
Other	Lbs	231	240	235	102	98	235	237	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	271	272	272	101	100	270	272	101
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	208.2	239.6	236.0	113	98	875.5	877.4	100
Other	Thou	12.5	10.1	12.5	100	124	48.8	47.0	96
Comm'l. ³	Thou	220.7	249.7	248.5	113	100	924.4	924.3	100
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	145	147	138	95	94	142	144	102
Other	Lbs	102	111	102	100	93	106	109	103
Comm'l.	Lbs	141	145	136	97	94	139	142	102

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	Apr 2005	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	Apr 06 as % of ²	
				Apr 2005	Mar 2006
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2.6	2.8	2.6	100	95
AK	0.1				
AZ	27.5	35.4	28.7	105	81
AR	3.9	5.1	4.1	104	81
CA	115.0	144.1	123.1	107	85
CO	130.2	150.9	142.8	110	95
DE-MD	3.0	3.5	2.8	94	82
FL	4.5	5.3	4.9	107	92
GA	10.4	11.2	10.8	104	96
HI	0.8	0.9	0.7	91	86
ID	30.2	28.7	22.5	74	78
IL	212.8	244.7	212.4	100	87
IN	117.0	136.1	117.8	101	87
IA	534.0	577.2	501.4	94	87
KS	469.2	532.1	468.1	100	88
KY	35.8	44.2	37.1	104	84
LA	1.1	0.8	0.7	68	91
MI	30.4	36.5	34.6	114	95
MN	181.2	209.4	174.0	96	83
MS	22.7	28.1	23.0	101	82
MO	40.5	70.1	65.7	162	94
MT	1.3	1.2	1.2	93	95
NE	535.3	578.1	541.5	101	94
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	91	78
N ENG ³	0.8	0.9	0.9	116	102
NJ	4.1	4.3	3.7	90	87
NM	0.6	0.4	0.5	74	105
NY	3.0	3.3	3.1	103	92
NC	193.7	202.6	169.8	88	84
ND	2.8	3.2	2.8	99	87
OH	23.9	24.8	20.8	87	84
OK	93.5	94.7	88.1	94	93
OR	3.4	4.0	3.6	105	89
PA	89.5	110.1	91.2	102	83
SC	19.1	21.7	19.6	102	90
SD	76.2	81.9	70.7	93	86
TN	12.6	18.2	12.6	100	69
TX	364.9	430.7	376.6	103	87
UT	28.1	44.5	36.3	129	82
VA	60.7	40.7	32.8	54	81
WA	39.6	66.3	60.6	153	91
WV	0.4	0.4	0.4	95	86
WI	92.8	111.9	99.4	107	89
WY	0.5	0.4	0.4	86	91
US	3,619.7	4,111.7	3,614.4	100	88

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,
April 2005 and 2006 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	0.5	0.4	398	411	847	982
AK						
AZ						
AR	0.8	1.0	729	939	963	953
CA	104.2	111.4	136,214	155,303	1,307	1,394
CO	160.7	170.8	194,363	214,489	1,209	1,256
DE-MD	3.5	3.1	4,532	4,176	1,308	1,346
FL						
GA	18.6	19.5	15,499	16,284	832	836
HI	0.9	0.8	933	824	1,095	1,072
ID	37.8	26.3	48,974	32,704	1,297	1,242
IL						
IN	2.6	2.5	2,708	2,580	1,034	1,033
IA						
KS	617.2	603.5	735,164	728,737	1,191	1,207
KY	1.5	1.3	1,320	1,260	901	939
LA	1.2	0.7	1,134	633	936	878
MI	34.8	38.5	46,706	52,921	1,344	1,373
MN	45.9	47.5	64,373	67,338	1,403	1,419
MS		0.1		102		931
MO	6.7	6.2	8,685	8,257	1,288	1,332
MT	1.5	1.4	1,751	1,629	1,156	1,147
NE	541.9	548.0	671,959	696,582	1,240	1,271
NV	0.1	0.1	94	93	1,217	1,222
N ENG ²	0.9	0.9	909	935	1,040	1,023
NJ	2.0	1.9	2,507	2,235	1,228	1,184
NM	1.1	0.9	1,031	839	974	988
NY	2.9	2.2	3,513	2,704	1,192	1,235
NC	16.0	14.2	16,439	14,839	1,025	1,043
ND	1.0	0.9	1,147	1,063	1,191	1,204
OH	8.7	7.6	9,949	8,483	1,144	1,122
OK	2.4	2.5	2,667	2,852	1,135	1,153
OR	1.6	1.8	1,934	2,218	1,243	1,217
PA	66.8	65.1	81,801	81,303	1,224	1,250
SC		12.1		14,073		1,159
SD						
TN	1.2	1.1	1,075	1,035	916	950
TX	499.2	502.9	584,538	601,148	1,171	1,195
UT	37.4	47.0	43,826	57,280	1,172	1,218
VA	0.8	0.9	799	927	986	1,057
WA	52.8	77.4	63,800	98,853	1,209	1,277
WV	0.6	0.5	543	542	986	1,083
WI	107.7	116.8	144,957	158,207	1,346	1,355
WY	0.6	0.5	683	588	1,176	1,167
US ³	2,560.3	2,607.4	3,118,373	3,248,884	1,218	1,246

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,
April 2005 and 2006 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<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		31		515	
CA	7.3	5.7	1,279	971	174	170
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.2	33	52	298	322
FL						
GA	0.1	0.1	51	50	563	444
HI						
ID						
IL	6.6	3.3	2,982	1,362	455	410
IN	0.2	0.1	22	10	132	125
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.5	0.3	237	171	502	521
MI	1.9	3.3	815	1,255	427	378
MN						
MS						
MO	0.1		19		334	
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	0.4	0.3	64	54	143	208
NJ	6.7	6.0	2,883	2,593	431	429
NM						
NY	8.8	5.2	1,174	1,276	134	243
NC	0.1		26		456	
ND						
OH	4.4		1,773		402	
OK	0.1	0.1	44	32	442	467
OR						
PA	13.9	12.1	5,569	5,218	400	431
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	55	35	615	479
TX	0.7	0.7	388	405	569	588
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	9.1	9.1	4,139	4,183	454	461
WY						
US ³	61.6	47.5	21,738	17,990	353	379

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,
April 2005 and 2006 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<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	9.2	9.0	4,252	4,206	465	466
AK	0.2	0.1	43	30	227	266
AZ	0.6	0.9	135	199	218	221
AR	11.1	11.1	5,559	5,731	501	518
CA	208.2	199.7	50,484	48,882	243	245
CO	0.8	0.9	240	238	283	272
DE-MD	1.0	0.9	231	227	239	254
FL	7.9	7.4	1,091	1,021	138	139
GA	9.9	9.6	2,346	2,233	236	233
HI	1.9	1.7	399	380	211	225
ID	11.8	12.2	3,841	4,002	326	328
IL	763.5	734.9	214,591	208,498	281	284
IN	570.9	575.2	152,272	153,103	267	266
IA	2,429.4	2,278.6	663,146	625,707	273	275
KS		23.8		9,160		385
KY	173.3	179.8	46,744	48,380	270	269
LA	1.4	1.5	265	280	195	188
MI	8.6	8.8	3,016	3,365	350	383
MN	746.3	698.2	198,381	185,209	266	265
MS						
MO						
MT	1.0	1.1	275	266	264	252
NE	604.6	548.8	163,130	149,425	270	272
NV						
N ENG ²	1.1	1.3	230	265	208	205
NJ	9.0	7.2	945	716	104	99
NM	0.2	0.1	58	38	326	384
NY	2.0	3.6	452	859	226	241
NC	945.4	840.1	245,471	215,946	260	257
ND	13.6	12.9	3,217	3,205	236	249
OH	89.3	82.6	24,361	22,676	273	274
OK	430.6	404.8	122,371	113,851	284	281
OR	15.1	14.8	3,721	3,658	247	248
PA	216.6	218.5	52,843	52,957	244	242
SC						
SD	360.3	324.9	95,517	87,019	265	268
TN	37.4	37.9	17,978	18,041	481	476
TX	25.5	25.2	6,074	5,855	238	233
UT	4.1	2.4	1,029	553	250	227
VA	309.4	164.6	79,692	42,749	258	260
WA	2.0	1.9	511	476	254	256
WV	0.5	0.4	110	100	232	236
WI	41.7	39.5	19,086	17,938	458	455
WY	0.3	0.3	88	73	265	262
US ³	8,445.0	7,955.6	2,285,822	2,167,521	271	272

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,
April 2005 and 2006 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<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	0.3	0.2	35	20	135	115
AR						
CA						
CO	88.4	93.3	14,366	14,866	162	159
DE-MD	3.1	3.1	327	345	105	110
FL	0.3	0.5	15	32	55	59
GA	0.1	0.2	8	28	107	115
HI						
ID	0.2	0.2	26	30	126	122
IL	18.7	19.6	2,504	2,296	134	117
IN	2.8	3.2	306	322	111	101
IA	25.4	34.3	3,949	5,325	155	155
KS	0.2	0.3	19	31	103	109
KY	1.1	1.0	145	126	129	131
LA	0.1	0.1	10	10	87	92
MI	13.6	14.6	1,816	1,915	134	132
MN	0.2	0.2	20	21	129	117
MS						
MO	0.4	0.5	40	44	97	86
MT	0.2	0.2	20	24	123	120
NE	0.1	0.1	8	7	114	118
NV	0.1		9		97	
N ENG ²	2.5	4.9	225	397	90	81
NJ	11.0	12.6	853	965	78	77
NM	1.5	0.5	191	60	126	125
NY	5.9	8.5	407	528	69	62
NC	0.3	0.4	27	37	90	86
ND						
OH	1.0	1.6	96	161	95	103
OK	0.1	0.1	9	10	117	123
OR	1.3	2.0	190	301	148	149
PA	7.3	7.3	675	691	93	95
SC						
SD	0.6	0.9	93	122	155	129
TN	0.8	0.9	69	67	91	79
TX	1.3	4.9	136	581	108	118
UT	2.4	2.7	321	366	132	137
VA	1.1	0.9	134	93	127	101
WA	0.3	0.1	31	14	124	113
WV						
WI	0.7	0.9	95	132	134	142
WY	0.1	0.1	11	16	140	151
US ³	220.7	248.5	31,050	33,813	141	136

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	Apr	Mar	Apr	Jan - Apr ¹		Apr	Mar	Apr	Jan - Apr ¹	
	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent of Total</i>				
Class ²										
Cattle										
Steers	1,336	1,458	1,379	5,058	5,324	53.1	52.0	53.8	50.8	51.9
Heifers	772	878	763	3,162	3,153	30.7	31.3	29.8	31.7	30.7
All Cows	366	428	386	1,579	1,626	14.6	15.3	15.0	15.9	15.8
Dairy Cows	173	207	170	773	749	6.9	7.4	6.6	7.8	7.3
Other Cows	193	221	216	806	877	7.7	7.9	8.4	8.1	8.5
Bulls & Stags	43	43	37	167	161	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.6
Total ¹	2,517	2,806	2,566	9,966	10,264	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,095	8,836	7,614	32,545	32,721	96.7	96.6	96.6	96.7	96.7
Sows	248	286	246	1,022	1,028	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0
Stags & Boars	26	25	23	92	94	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total ¹	8,369	9,148	7,882	33,659	33,842	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	11	9	10	41	36	5.4	4.0	4.3	4.7	4.1
Lambs & Yrlngs	197	230	226	834	841	94.6	96.0	95.7	95.3	95.9
Total ¹	208	240	236	876	877	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										
Steers ⁴	743	780	761	757	776					
Heifers ⁴	784	823	801	801	820					
All Cows ⁴	723	768	744	742	764					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	618	640	633	626	638					
Calves & Vealers	911	929	922	912	927					
Hogs										
Barrow Gilts ⁵	214	225	230	202	226					
Barrow Gilts ⁵	203	203	203	202	204					
Sows ⁵	200	200	200	199	200					
Sows ⁵	310	311	309	309	310					
Stags & Boars ⁵	210	217	215	210	217					
Sheep										
Mature Sheep ⁶	73	74	69	71	72					
Mature Sheep ⁶	70	68	68	68	68					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	73	74	70	71	73					

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,
April 2006 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	0.8	0.3	0.2					0.2
2	3.9	1.3	0.3	2.2	2.1	0.1	0.2	11.3
3	67.3	31.6	5.3	28.0	22.3	5.6	2.4	12.3
4	53.7	1.0	0.4	45.5	9.6	35.9	6.9	
5	266.7	117.5	30.9	111.1	58.8	52.3	7.3	15.7
6	502.0	271.5	156.4	65.6	10.3	55.4	8.5	0.5
7	1,193.6	700.6	436.7	50.2	1.7	48.5	6.1	
8	226.2	123.4	88.6					
9	146.8	75.8	5.4	62.6	54.8	7.8	3.1	5.5
10	104.5	56.5	39.2	8.3	6.2	2.1	0.5	
US ²	2,565.6	1,379.2	763.3	386.1	170.1	216.0	37.0	46.3
	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	1.1	1.1						
2	10.6	10.3	0.2	0.1	20.5	1.6	18.9	
3	382.8	381.9	0.8		11.0	1.1	9.9	
4	1,241.5	1,177.7	63.0	0.9	3.0	1.0	2.0	
5	2,113.4	2,006.9	103.4	3.1	34.4	2.9	31.4	
6	436.3	418.2	18.0	0.1	3.6	0.2	3.4	
7	3,135.1	3,065.2			34.8	0.6	34.2	
8	338.9	329.9	8.9		96.3	1.8	94.5	
9	194.9	194.8						
10	27.7	27.6	0.1		2.1	0.1	2.0	
US ²	7,882.2	7,613.6	246.0	22.6	236.0	10.1	225.9	

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 - April 2006 * ¹**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total ²	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	3.5	1.4	0.7					1.0
2	17.6	6.0	1.2	9.5	9.1	0.4	1.0	56.5
3	281.7	123.6		126.5	102.5	24.0		55.5
4	218.8	4.2	1.5	184.4	43.3	141.2	28.6	
5	1,109.6	467.6	132.8	479.5	249.9	229.7	29.7	66.4
6	1,978.7	1,066.3	611.1	261.5	43.9	217.5	39.9	2.3
7	4,695.6	2,668.9	1,797.8	199.1	6.3	192.8	29.7	0.1
8	910.0	450.8						0.1
9	622.0	308.1	23.6	277.3	246.9	30.4	13.1	25.3
10	426.8	227.5	161.0	36.3	27.6	8.7	2.0	
US ²	10,264.3	5,324.3	3,153.3	1,626.2	748.7	877.4	160.5	210.7
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ²	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	4.1	3.9	0.1	0.1				
2	42.4	41.6	0.7	0.2	47.1	4.7	42.4	
3	1,677.7	1,673.6	4.0	0.1	32.9	2.1	30.8	
4	5,499.3	5,194.9	298.6	5.8	10.7	3.7	7.1	
5	9,038.6	8,613.5	412.4	12.6	124.6	12.2	112.4	
6	1,764.8	1,683.9	80.4	0.5	29.3	1.0	28.3	
7	13,297.6	13,016.2			147.2	2.4	144.8	
8	1,578.1	1,554.7	23.4		370.2	7.5	362.7	
9	819.6	819.3						
10	119.8	119.2	0.5	0.1	6.6	0.3	6.3	
US ²	33,842.1	32,720.8	1,027.6	93.7	877.4	36.4	841.0	

* Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

¹ States included in regions are as follows: 1- CT, ME, NH, VT, MA, & RI; 2- NY & NJ; 3- DE-MD, PA, WV, & VA; 4- AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, & TN; 5- IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, & WI; 6- AR, LA, NM, OK, & TX; 7- IA, KS, MO, & NE; 8- CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, & WY; 9- AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10- AK, ID, OR, & WA.

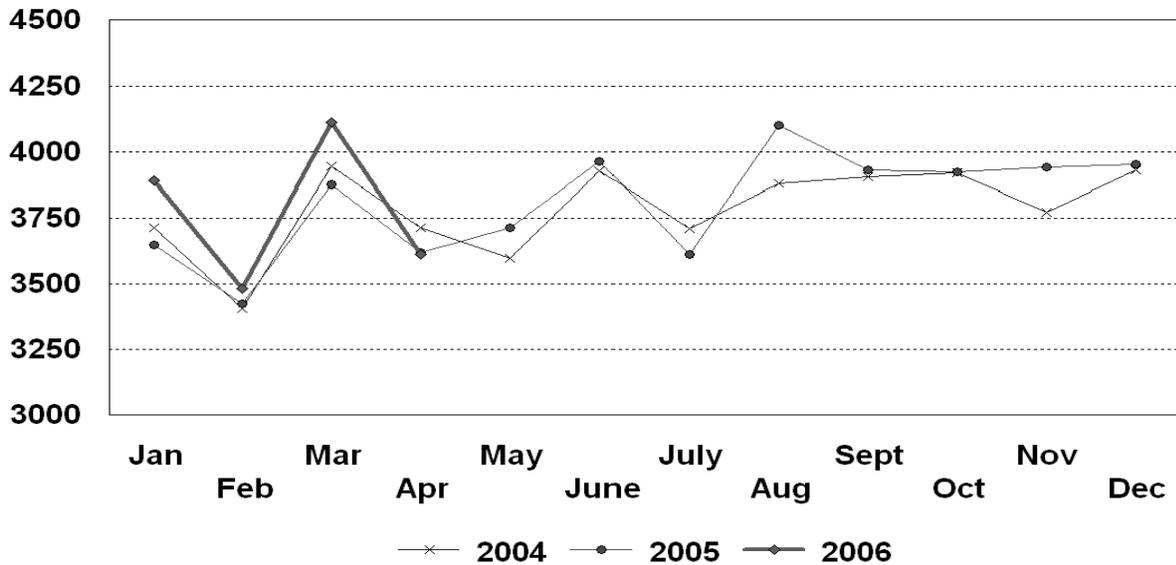
² Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

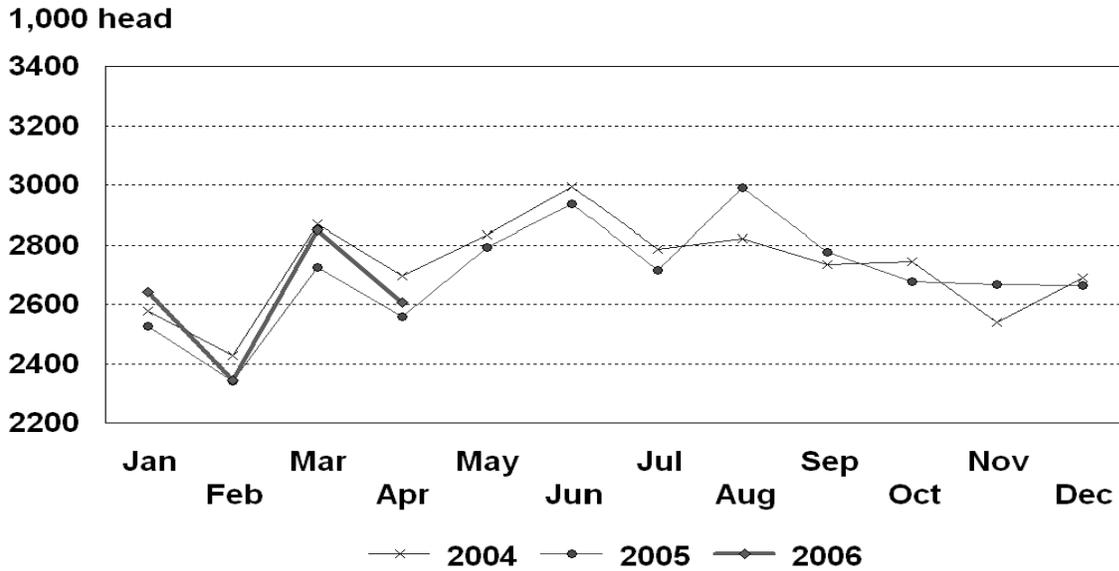
Species	Apr 2005	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	Jan - Apr	
				2005	2006
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.3	98.4	98.4	98.1	98.2
Calves	97.5	97.9	97.6	97.8	97.8
Hogs	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.0	99.1
Sheep	94.3	96.0	95.0	94.7	94.9

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

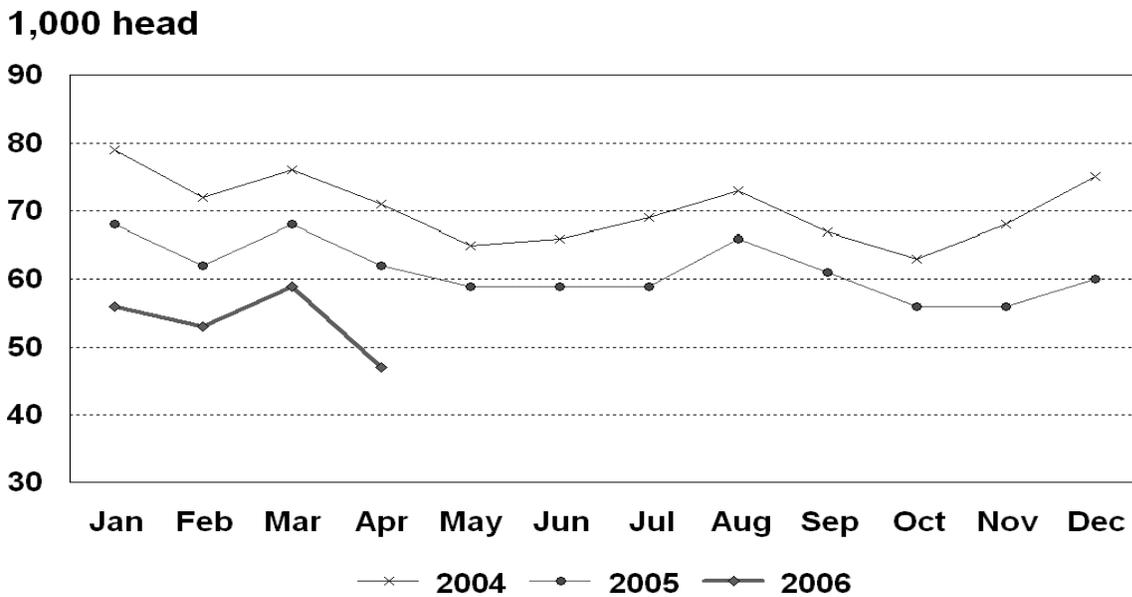
Million Pounds



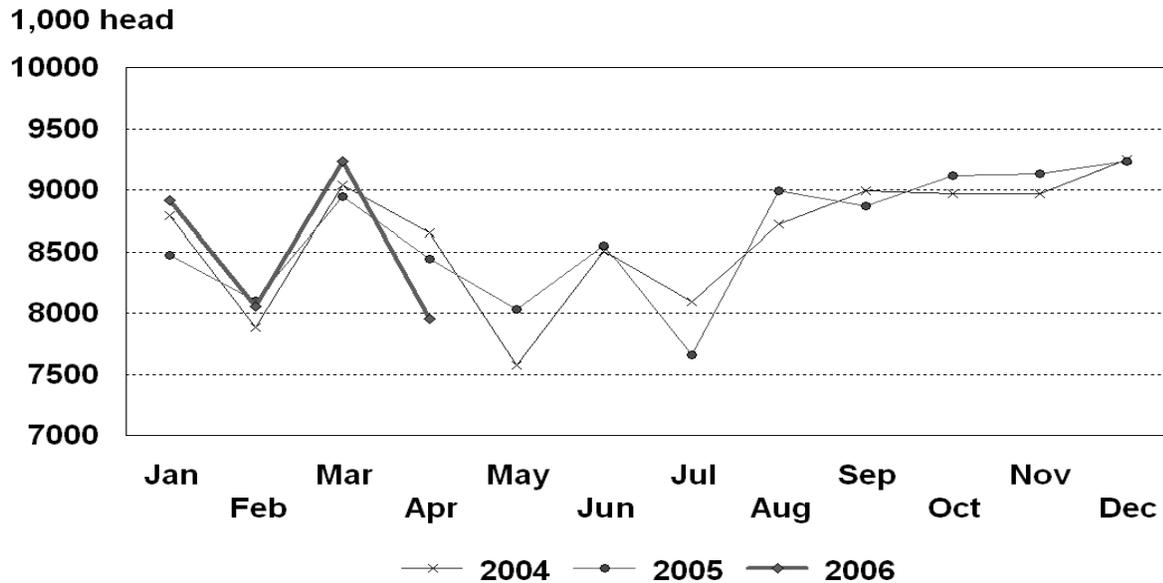
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



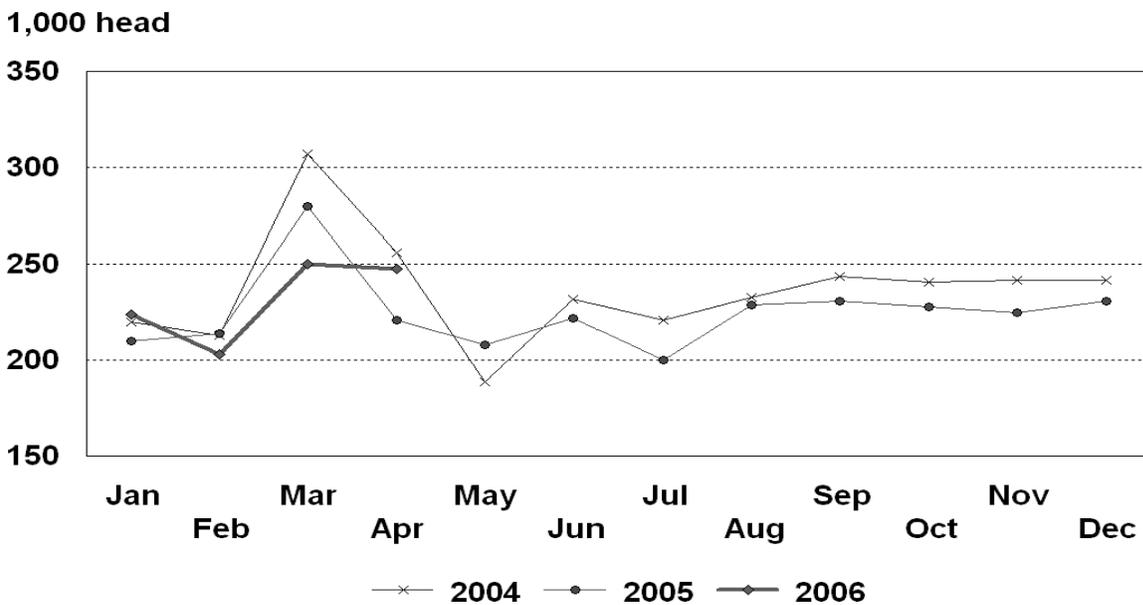
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



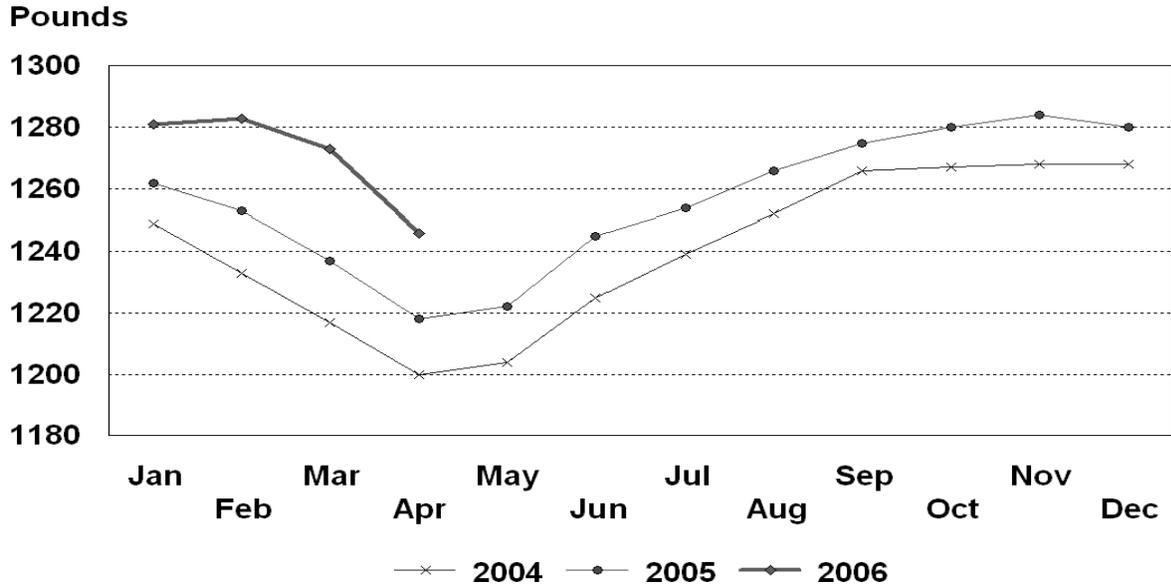
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



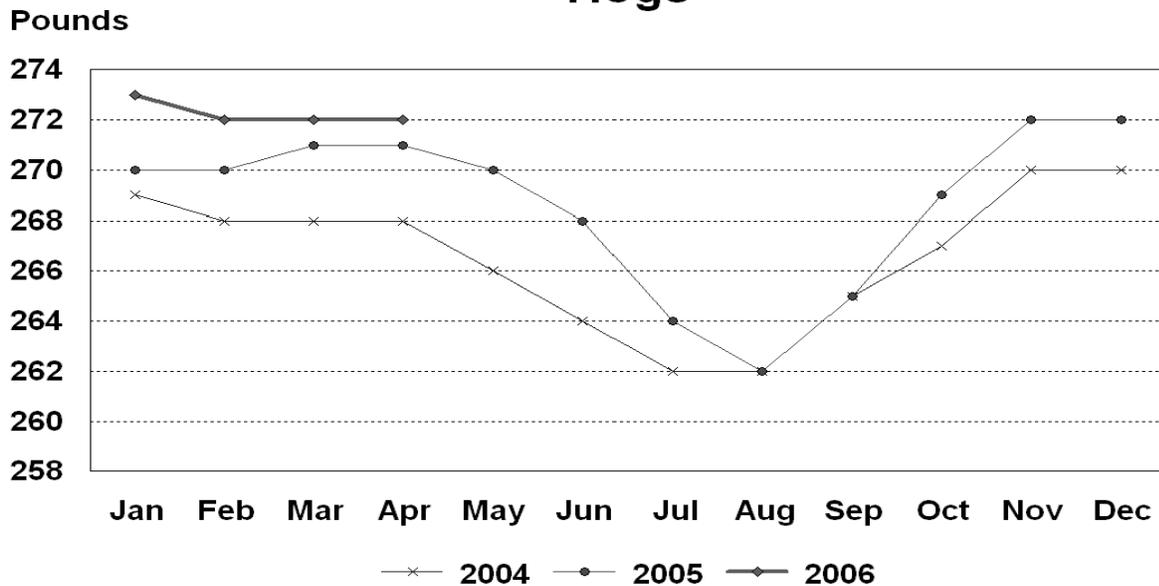
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



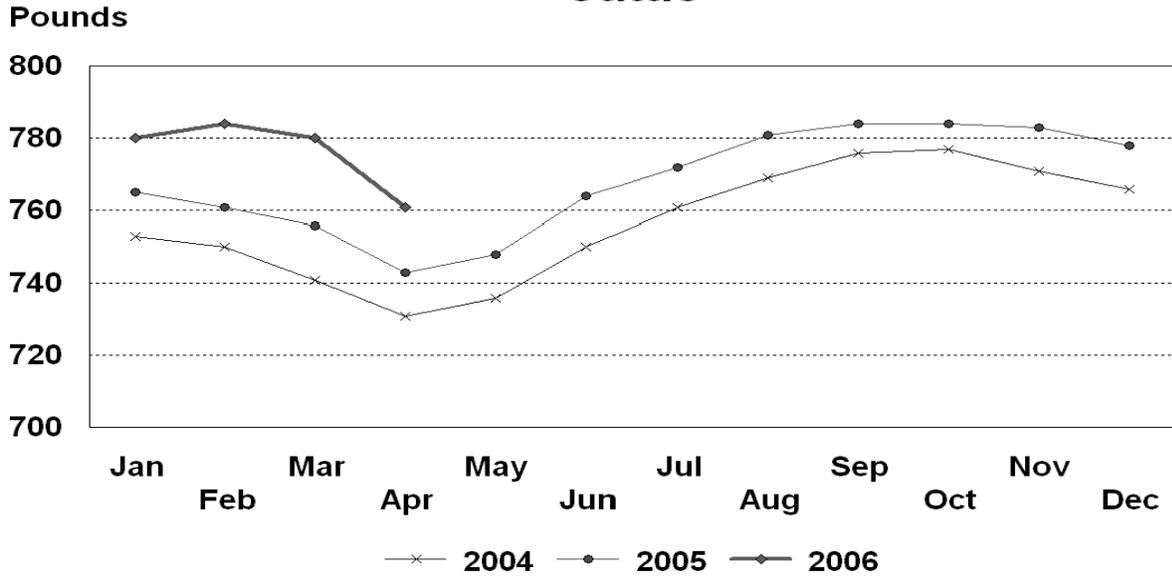
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



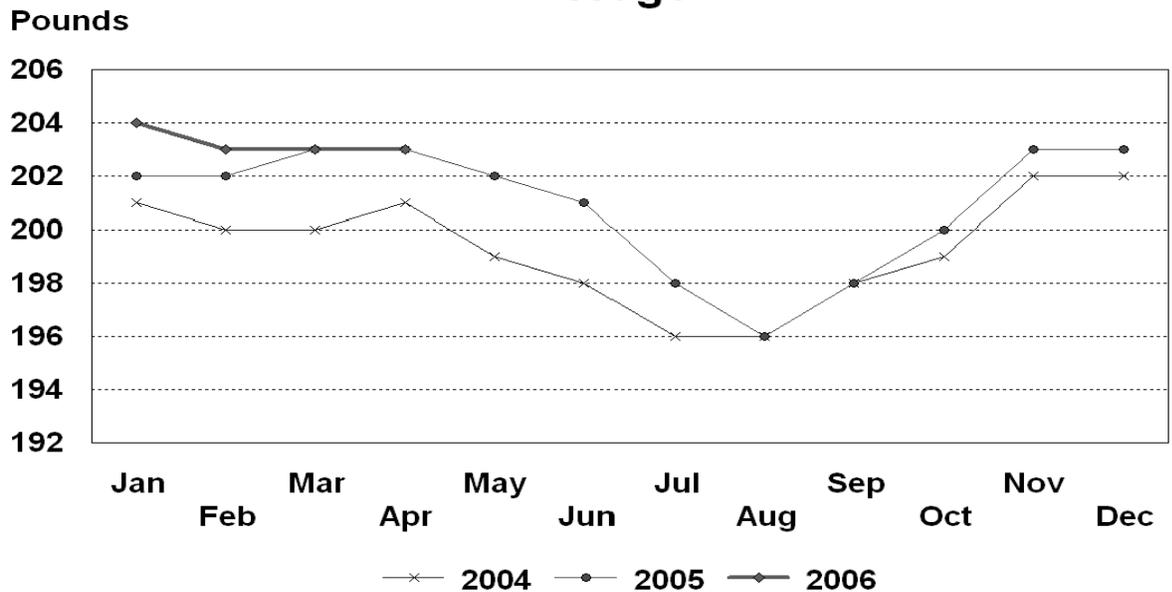
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



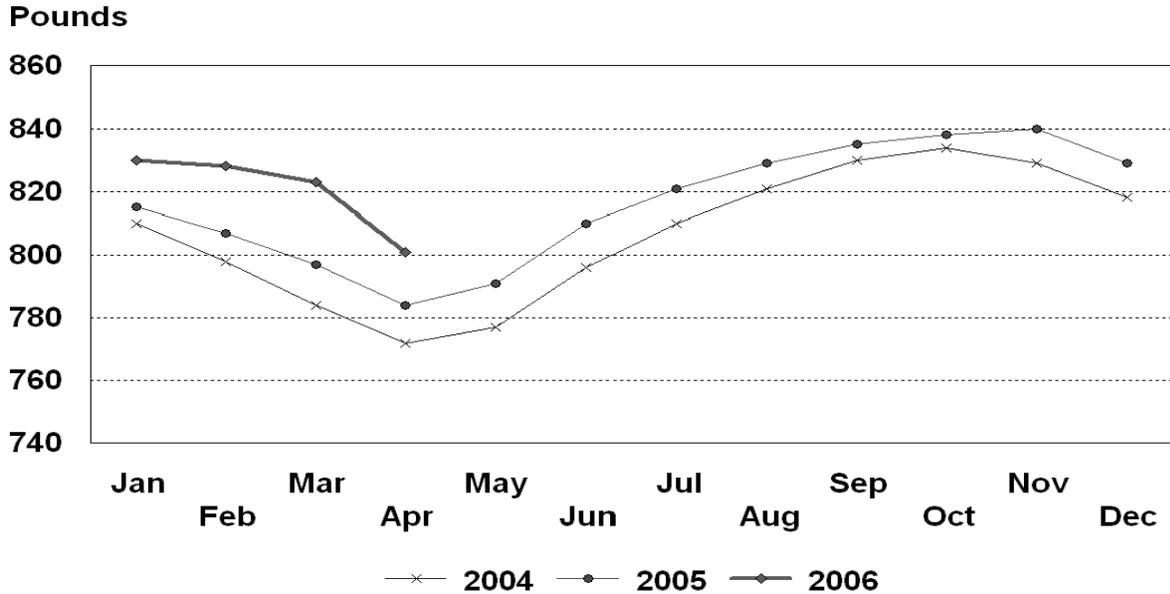
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



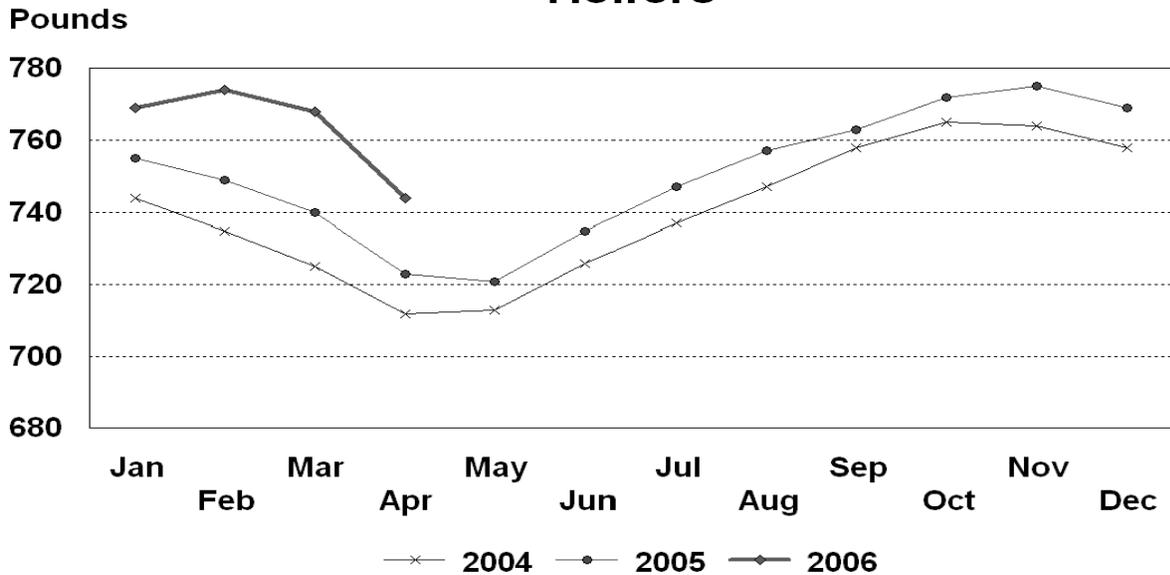
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



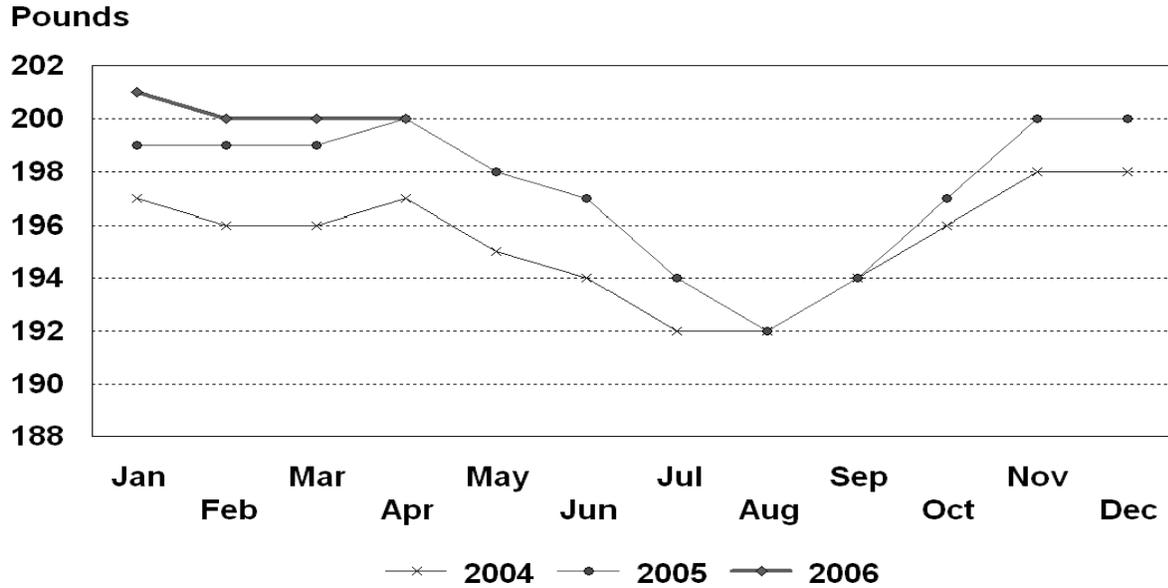
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



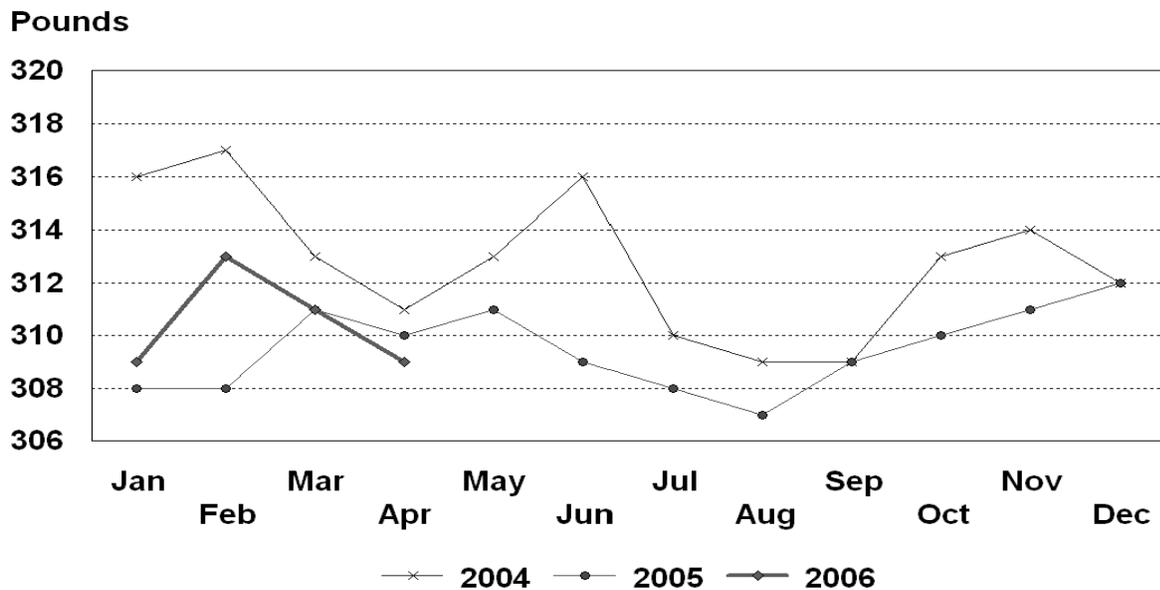
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Barrows and Gilts



U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Sows



Livestock Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for the commercial livestock slaughter estimates are obtained from the **Weekly Livestock Slaughter Report** (LS-149) questionnaires completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide actual counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates. Over 95 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. Number of head slaughtered daily under FI are recorded on the LS-149 forms by species and class. Head kill excluding animals condemned and total live and dressed weights are also given.

There are 850 plants in the U.S. operating under Federal Inspection and over 2,200 plants under State inspection. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Types of Plants, page 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 when an individual plant's data could be divulged. If not published, these data are included in US totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine the publishable data.

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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