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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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# Livestock Slaughter

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## Red Meat Production at Record High for May

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.05 billion pounds in May, up 9 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in May 2005.

**Beef production**, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 11 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.04 million head, up 9 percent from May 2005. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,241 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 13.1 million pounds, 1 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,000 head, down 3 percent from May 2005. The average live weight was 2 pounds above last year, at 378 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.54 million head, 6 percent above May 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 16.3 million pounds, was up 10 percent from May 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 225,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 144 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago.

**January to May 2006 commercial red meat production** was 19.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

**May 2005** contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**May 2006** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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

Class	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	May 06 % of		Jan - May <sup>2</sup>		
				May 2005	Apr 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	2,074	1,973	2,297	111	116	9,686	10,348	107
Veal	13.2	10.9	13.1	99	120	64.9	61.5	95
Pork	1,611	1,613	1,722	107	107	8,453	8,657	102
Lamb & Mutton	14.8	17.0	16.3	110	96	79.4	82.4	104
<b>Total Red Meat</b>	<b>3,713</b>	<b>3,614</b>	<b>4,049</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>18,283</b>	<b>19,149</b>	<b>105</b>

<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	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	May 06 % of		Jan - May <sup>2</sup>		
				May 2005	Apr 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	2,047	1,946	2,268	111	117	9,540	10,202	107
Veal	12.9	10.6	12.8	99	121	63.2	60.1	95
Pork	1,596	1,601	1,709	107	107	8,381	8,589	102
Lamb & Mutton	14.3	16.3	15.7	110	96	76.3	79.2	104
<b>Total Red Meat</b>	<b>3,670</b>	<b>3,574</b>	<b>4,006</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>18,061</b>	<b>18,930</b>	<b>105</b>

<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	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	May 06 % of		Jan - May <sup>2</sup>		
					May 2005	Apr 2006	2005	2006	06 % of 05
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prcnt</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,750.8	2,565.6	2,993.5	109	117	12,716.9	13,257.8	104
Other	Thou	42.5	41.8	45.2	106	108	232.8	228.4	98
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	2,793.3	2,607.4	3,038.7	109	117	12,949.7	13,486.2	104
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,224	1,247	1,243	102	100	1,241	1,266	102
Other	Lbs	1,123	1,137	1,124	100	99	1,112	1,131	102
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,222	1,246	1,241	102	100	1,238	1,264	102
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	57.3	46.3	56.0	98	121	310.7	266.6	86
Other	Thou	1.2	1.1	1.1	88	93	7.0	5.7	82
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	58.5	47.5	57.0	97	120	317.7	272.3	86
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	375	377	378	102	101	341	371	109
Other	Lbs	399	420	405	101	96	397	413	104
Comm'l.	Lbs	376	379	378	101	100	342	371	109
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	7,938.9	7,882.2	8,452.5	106	107	41,598.4	42,294.6	102
Other	Thou	92.8	73.4	84.5	91	115	416.0	402.6	97
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	8,031.7	7,955.6	8,537.0	106	107	42,014.4	42,697.1	102
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	270	273	272	101	100	271	273	101
Other	Lbs	236	235	224	95	95	235	234	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	270	272	271	101	100	270	272	101
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	198.4	236.0	214.8	108	91	1,073.9	1,092.2	102
Other	Thou	9.7	12.5	11.0	113	88	58.5	57.9	99
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	208.1	248.5	225.8	109	91	1,132.5	1,150.1	102
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	144	138	146	102	106	142	145	102
Other	Lbs	110	102	110	100	107	106	109	103
Comm'l.	Lbs	143	136	144	101	106	140	143	102

<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	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	May 06 as % of <sup>2</sup>	
				May 2005	Apr 2006
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2.4	2.6	2.7	112	102
AK			0.1		
AZ	28.7	28.7	33.0	115	115
AR	4.2	4.1	4.0	95	99
CA	117.8	123.1	138.1	117	112
CO	157.7	142.8	170.0	108	119
DE-MD	3.1	2.8	3.4	110	121
FL	4.5	4.9	5.4	119	111
GA	11.3	10.8	12.1	107	112
HI	0.8	0.7	0.9	114	120
ID	32.3	22.5	22.7	70	101
IL	209.1	212.4	222.8	107	105
IN	108.0	117.8	123.7	115	105
IA	507.4	501.4	532.6	105	106
KS	489.9	*467.9	545.6	111	117
KY	34.6	37.1	40.0	116	108
LA	0.9	0.7	0.7	80	99
MI	31.6	34.6	38.9	123	112
MN	177.9	174.0	197.0	111	113
MS	23.0	23.0	24.3	105	106
MO	38.0	65.7	70.7	186	108
MT	1.3	1.2	1.3	94	107
NE	601.1	541.5	635.6	106	117
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	86	164
N ENG <sup>3</sup>	0.9	0.9	1.0	116	110
NJ	4.1	3.7	4.4	107	118
NM	0.5	0.5	0.5	91	110
NY	2.9	3.1	3.5	122	114
NC	171.0	169.8	190.7	112	112
ND	2.7	2.8	3.1	112	111
OH	23.0	20.8	23.2	101	112
OK	85.0	88.1	87.2	103	99
OR	3.5	3.6	4.2	118	117
PA	94.9	91.2	100.0	105	110
SC	19.8	19.6	21.4	108	109
SD	76.4	70.7	76.6	100	108
TN	15.9	12.6	15.7	98	125
TX	395.2	376.6	450.3	114	120
UT	34.2	36.3	38.9	114	107
VA	55.9	32.8	32.2	58	98
WA	43.9	60.6	55.8	127	92
WV	0.3	0.4	0.3	113	89
WI	96.8	99.4	113.8	118	114
WY	0.5	0.4	0.5	100	117
US	3,713.5	*3,614.2	4,049.1	109	112

\* 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,  
May 2005 and 2006 <sup>1</sup>**

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	414	332	875	915
AK		0.1		79		1,162
AZ						
AR	0.8	1.0	734	880	936	870
CA	107.3	124.7	142,212	173,968	1,325	1,395
CO	198.0	207.0	239,742	258,017	1,211	1,246
DE-MD	3.6	3.8	4,666	5,098	1,295	1,329
FL						
GA	20.2	21.5	16,732	17,945	827	833
HI	0.8	1.0	825	1,034	1,098	1,047
ID	40.8	26.9	51,986	32,451	1,275	1,206
IL						
IN	2.6	3.0	2,695	3,115	1,041	1,042
IA						
KS	643.7	700.1	769,636	851,125	1,196	1,216
KY	1.2	1.5	1,142	1,429	934	965
LA	1.0	0.8	862	643	903	787
MI	35.6	43.2	47,890	59,095	1,345	1,368
MN	48.9	57.7	67,806	79,418	1,388	1,377
MS		0.1		87		836
MO	6.3	7.7	8,166	10,181	1,302	1,317
MT	1.6	1.5	1,924	1,768	1,208	1,150
NE	634.6	652.5	790,426	828,455	1,245	1,270
NV	0.1	0.1	162	138	1,238	1,240
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	1.0	1.1	1,056	1,131	1,043	1,015
NJ	2.1	2.5	2,734	2,892	1,293	1,178
NM	0.9	0.9	951	881	1,004	1,031
NY	2.9	2.9	3,505	3,574	1,193	1,237
NC	15.9	14.8	16,258	15,481	1,024	1,047
ND	1.0	1.1	1,160	1,280	1,174	1,190
OH	7.4	8.1	8,518	9,072	1,150	1,125
OK	2.6	2.6	2,815	2,775	1,078	1,088
OR	1.5	2.2	1,808	2,709	1,230	1,254
PA	70.8	71.8	86,605	88,628	1,222	1,234
SC		13.0		15,213		1,173
SD						
TN	1.2	1.3	1,148	1,237	975	965
TX	533.5	609.5	630,574	721,186	1,182	1,183
UT	46.7	51.2	53,645	60,999	1,150	1,192
VA	0.8	1.0	850	1,100	1,030	1,058
WA	58.4	72.8	70,761	91,398	1,211	1,255
WV	0.4	0.4	385	443	978	1,110
WI	109.7	130.2	148,674	176,502	1,355	1,355
WY	0.6	0.6	722	696	1,185	1,198
US <sup>3</sup>	2,793.3	3,038.7	3,414,554	3,771,115	1,222	1,241

<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,  
May 2005 and 2006 <sup>1</sup>**

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						
CA	6.8	7.1	1,174	1,169	172	164
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.2	30	64	293	325
FL						
GA	0.1	0.1	59	47	537	439
HI						
ID						
IL	6.7	4.2	3,059	1,778	459	425
IN	0.1	0.1	16	9	126	135
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.4	0.2	213	121	491	498
MI	2.2	4.1	945	1,555	431	384
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	0.4	0.4	63	89	152	224
NJ	6.5	7.1	2,799	3,030	428	430
NM						
NY	6.0	6.0	1,022	1,393	171	232
NC						
ND						
OH	4.4		1,757		398	
OK	0.1	0.1	32	26	424	390
OR						
PA	12.5	14.5	5,219	6,324	416	436
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	66	34	602	392
TX	0.6	0.9	401	506	625	586
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI	10.5	11.1	4,882	5,132	464	463
WY						
US <sup>3</sup>	58.5	57.0	21,999	21,578	376	378

<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,  
May 2005 and 2006 <sup>1</sup>**

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	8.1	9.4	3,788	4,388	466	468
AK	0.1	0.1	25	19	182	230
AZ	0.5	0.3	99	63	194	245
AR	12.2	11.1	6,109	5,670	502	509
CA	206.6	222.6	49,705	54,773	241	246
CO	0.9	1.0	243	272	268	264
DE-MD	1.3	1.4	275	299	216	214
FL	7.6	7.3	1,017	1,004	134	138
GA	11.4	11.1	2,644	2,661	232	240
HI	2.0	2.0	437	431	224	220
ID	13.5	13.2	4,448	4,345	328	328
IL	731.6	757.2	204,278	213,524	279	282
IN	530.6	606.9	140,842	160,807	265	265
IA	2,293.7	2,400.0	624,270	656,972	272	274
KS		21.6		8,568		397
KY	169.4	195.4	45,275	52,212	267	267
LA	1.5	1.5	276	293	188	193
MI	9.3	9.9	3,353	3,815	361	386
MN	722.7	783.7	190,775	206,637	264	264
MS						
MO						
MT	0.9	1.1	247	264	268	246
NE	557.8	595.1	149,690	161,271	268	271
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	1.4	1.5	287	322	203	209
NJ	8.8	8.9	892	909	101	102
NM	0.1	0.2	21	42	271	251
NY	2.5	3.9	560	969	227	246
NC	841.2	951.4	216,279	243,048	257	255
ND	13.3	14.1	3,092	3,458	232	246
OH	88.4	93.7	24,134	25,674	273	274
OK	392.5	400.6	111,004	113,272	283	283
OR	16.1	16.7	3,997	4,205	248	252
PA	224.6	244.6	55,077	57,895	245	237
SC						
SD	361.0	351.8	95,036	94,085	263	267
TN	47.1	47.2	22,838	22,483	485	477
TX	42.2	30.8	10,580	7,016	251	228
UT	3.8	4.2	898	987	239	235
VA	285.2	160.0	73,272	41,842	257	262
WA	1.9	2.1	475	550	257	256
WV	0.4	0.4	102	103	271	240
WI	44.2	48.5	20,384	22,414	461	462
WY	0.2	0.3	50	79	253	269
US <sup>3</sup>	8,031.7	8,537.0	2,166,713	2,316,699	270	271

<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,  
May 2005 and 2006 <sup>1</sup>**

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	0.1	0.1	9	12	115	85
AR						
CA						
CO	80.3	91.2	12,998	15,021	162	165
DE-MD	3.0	2.9	300	288	101	100
FL	0.2	0.2	10	11	58	58
GA	0.5	0.5	43	52	96	111
HI						
ID	0.3	0.3	33	30	125	118
IL	15.5	12.4	2,148	1,694	139	137
IN	2.2	2.1	229	225	106	109
IA	25.9	25.2	4,109	3,935	159	156
KS	0.2	0.2	19	19	110	100
KY	1.4	1.1	187	141	138	123
LA	0.1	0.1	11	11	97	80
MI	14.4	15.1	1,907	1,999	132	132
MN	0.2	0.2	24	26	132	125
MS						
MO	0.4	0.6	35	55	85	98
MT	0.1	0.2	17	24	159	115
NE	0.1	0.1	7	9	111	127
NV	0.2	0.1	17	13	91	111
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	1.5	2.6	139	241	95	93
NJ	9.9	10.4	782	824	79	80
NM	1.4	0.7	177	85	124	127
NY	2.1	2.4	150	191	73	81
NC	0.4	0.5	33	44	81	89
ND						
OH	0.7	0.9	77	99	116	105
OK	0.1	0.1	6	9	114	131
OR	1.4	1.8	210	255	150	138
PA	5.0	4.6	469	452	94	99
SC						
SD	1.1	1.1	135	165	121	153
TN	0.7	1.1	58	80	80	75
TX	0.3	10.0	31	1,328	110	133
UT	2.4	3.0	308	430	131	143
VA	1.1	0.8	120	84	110	106
WA	0.2	0.2	36	18	155	117
WV						
WI	0.8	0.8	115	104	136	137
WY	0.1	0.1	11	11	145	147
US <sup>3</sup>	208.1	225.8	29,664	32,516	143	144

<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	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	Jan - May <sup>1</sup>		May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	Jan - May <sup>1</sup>	
	<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>				
<b>Class <sup>2</sup></b>										
<b>Cattle</b>										
Steers	1,493	1,379	1,650	6,551	6,974	54.3	53.8	55.1	51.5	52.6
Heifers	841	763	885	4,003	4,039	30.6	29.8	29.6	31.5	30.5
All Cows	374	386	416	1,953	2,042	13.5	15.0	13.9	15.4	15.4
Dairy Cows	164	170	177	937	926	5.9	6.6	5.9	7.4	7.0
Other Cows	210	216	239	1,016	1,116	7.6	8.4	8.0	8.0	8.4
Bulls & Stags	43	37	42	210	203	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.5
<b>Total <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,751</b>	<b>2,566</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>12,717</b>	<b>13,258</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows & Gilts	7,661	7,614	8,144	40,206	40,865	96.5	96.6	96.3	96.7	96.6
Sows	254	246	282	1,277	1,310	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.1
Stags & Boars	24	23	26	116	120	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
<b>Total <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>7,939</b>	<b>7,882</b>	<b>8,452</b>	<b>41,598</b>	<b>42,295</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature Sheep	13	10	11	54	47	6.4	4.3	5.2	5.0	4.3
Lambs & Yrlngs	186	226	204	1,020	1,045	93.6	95.7	94.8	95.0	95.7
<b>Total <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>198</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>1,074</b>	<b>1,092</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Average Dressed Weight <sup>3</sup></b>										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
<b>Cattle</b>	748	761	761	755	772					
Steers <sup>4</sup>	791	801	805	799	816					
Heifers <sup>4</sup>	721	744	736	737	757					
All Cows <sup>4</sup>	617	633	623	624	634					
Bulls & Stags <sup>4</sup>	917	*923	919	913	926					
Calves & Vealers	230	230	233	208	228					
<b>Hogs</b>	202	203	202	202	203					
Barrow Gilts <sup>5</sup>	198	200	199	199	200					
Sows <sup>5</sup>	311	309	311	310	310					
Stags & Boars <sup>5</sup>	214	215	210	211	216					
<b>Sheep</b>	72	69	73	71	73					
Mature Sheep <sup>6</sup>	71	68	68	69	68					
Lamb & Yrlngs <sup>6</sup>	72	70	74	71	73					

\* 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,  
May 2006<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	0.9	0.4	0.2					0.4
2	5.2	1.8	0.3	2.8	2.7	0.1	0.3	13.0
3	74.9	36.0	6.2	29.8	24.1	5.7	2.8	14.7
4	58.5	1.1	0.4	48.8	10.2	38.6	8.1	
5	304.1	145.2	38.4	112.4	60.0	52.4	8.1	19.3
6	608.5	315.2	206.4	77.3	10.3	67.0	9.6	0.7
7	1,406.9	842.7	505.4	52.5	1.1	51.4	6.4	
8	267.4	161.8	90.2					
9	166.3	86.0	7.3	69.0	57.8	11.2	4.0	6.8
10	100.8	59.8	30.5	9.8	6.7	3.2	0.6	
US <sup>2</sup>	2,993.5	1,650.1	885.3	416.0	177.1	239.0	42.1	56.0
	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	1.3	1.2						
2	12.6	12.4	0.1	0.1	12.1	1.4	10.7	
3	404.8	403.9	0.9		8.0	0.4	7.6	
4	1,389.1	1,313.5	74.1	1.4	3.2	1.4	1.8	
5	2,267.0	2,139.6	124.2	3.3	27.3	3.4	23.9	
6	437.6	419.2	18.3	0.1	8.2	0.2	8.0	
7	3,324.0	3,247.4			25.7	0.9	24.9	
8	367.8	358.5	9.3		94.8	2.2	92.6	
9	217.5	217.4						
10	30.9	30.8	0.1		1.9	0.2	1.8	
US <sup>2</sup>	8,452.5	8,143.8	282.3	26.3	214.8	11.1	203.7	

<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 - May 2006 \* <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	4.4	1.7	0.9					1.4
2	22.8	7.7	1.5	12.3	11.7	0.5	1.3	69.5
3	356.6	159.6		156.3	126.6	29.8		70.2
4	277.2	5.4	1.9	233.3	53.5	179.8	36.7	
5	1,413.8	612.8	171.3	592.0	309.9	282.1	37.8	85.7
6	2,587.3	1,381.5	817.5	338.8	54.2	284.5	49.5	3.0
7	6,102.5	3,511.6	2,303.1	251.6	7.4	244.2	36.1	0.1
8	1,177.4	612.6						0.1
9	788.3	394.1	30.9	346.2	304.7	41.5	17.1	32.2
10	527.6	287.3	191.5	46.2	34.3	11.9	2.6	
US <sup>2</sup>	13,257.8	6,974.3	4,038.6	2,042.2	925.8	1,116.4	202.6	266.6
	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	5.4	5.1	0.1	0.1				
2	55.1	54.0	0.8	0.2	59.2	6.1		53.1
3	2,082.6	2,077.5	4.9	0.2	40.9	2.5		38.4
4	6,888.4	6,508.4	372.7	7.3	14.0	5.1		8.9
5	11,305.6	10,753.0	536.6	15.9	151.9	15.6		136.3
6	2,202.3	2,103.1	98.6	0.6	37.5	1.2		36.3
7	16,621.6	16,263.6			172.9	3.2		169.6
8	1,945.9	1,913.1	32.7	0.1	465.0	9.6		455.4
9	1,037.1	1,036.7						
10	150.7	150.0	0.6	0.1	8.6	0.5		8.1
US <sup>2</sup>	42,294.6	40,864.6	1,309.9	120.0	1,092.2	47.5		1,044.7

\* 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.

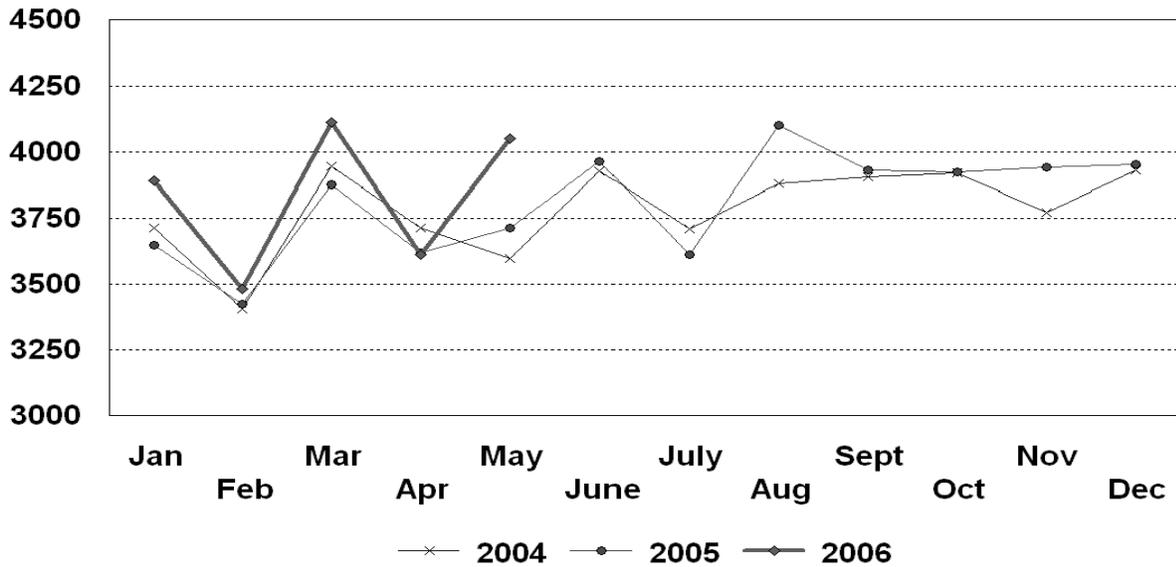
<sup>2</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

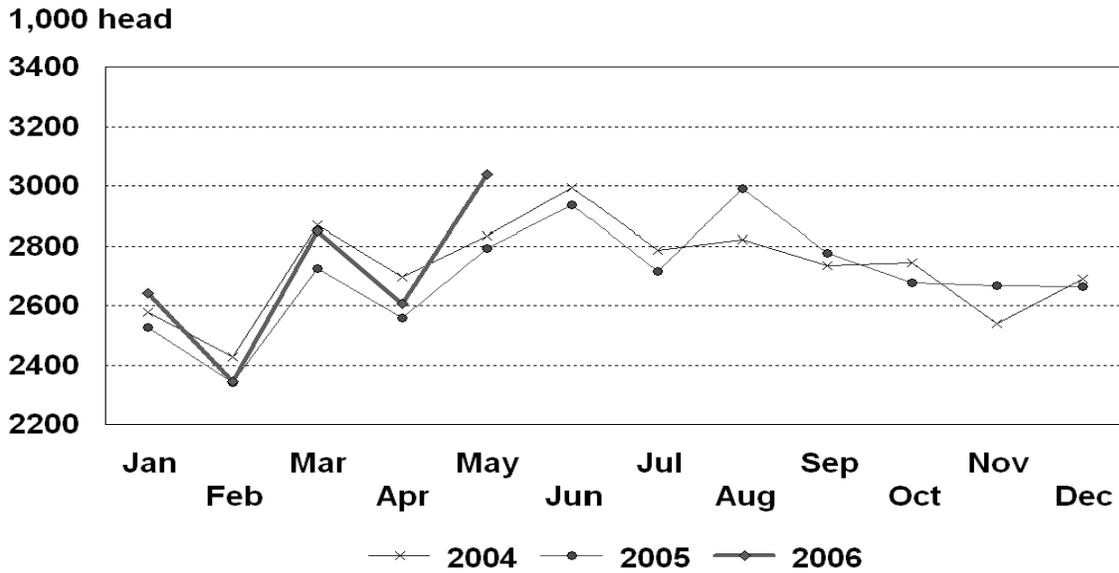
Species	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006	Jan - May	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	2005	2006
Cattle	98.5	98.4	98.5	98.2	98.3
Calves	97.9	97.6	98.1	97.8	97.9
Hogs	98.8	99.1	99.0	99.0	99.1
Sheep	95.3	95.0	95.1	94.8	95.0

## U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

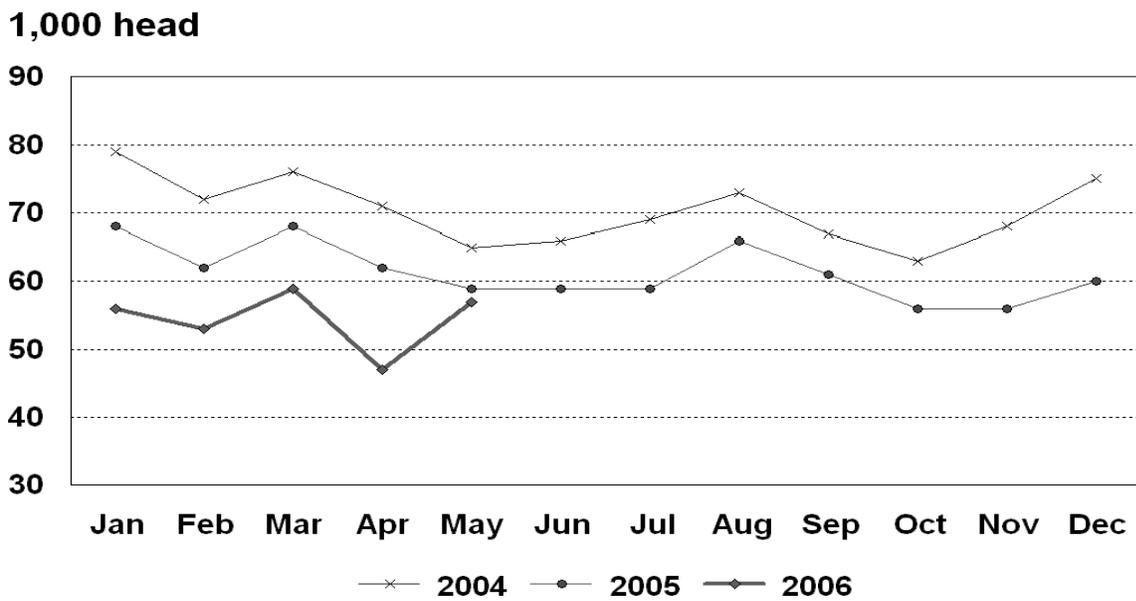
Million Pounds



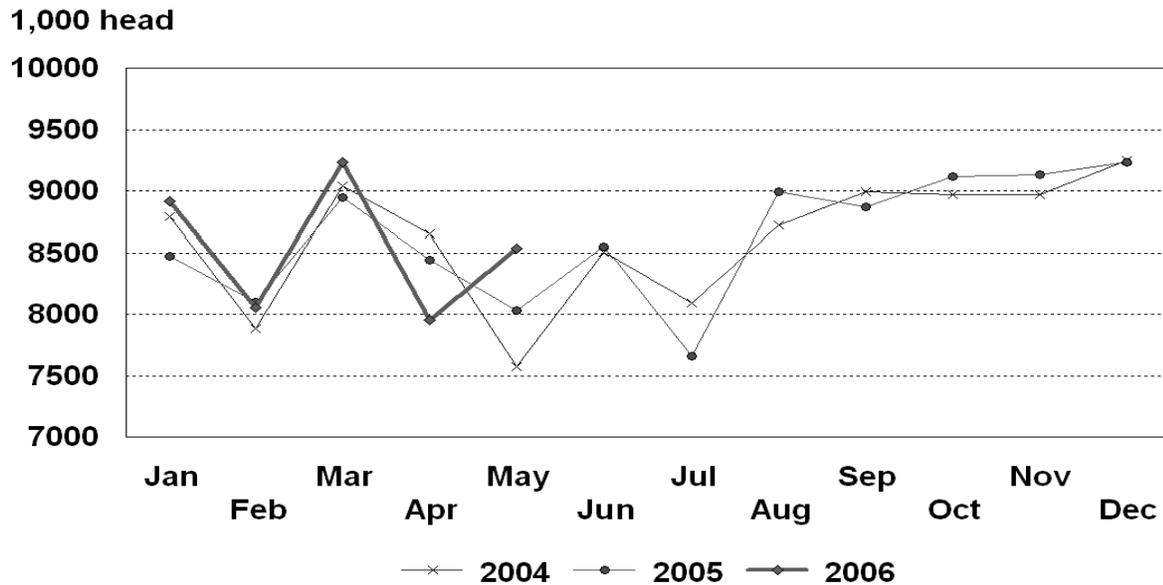
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



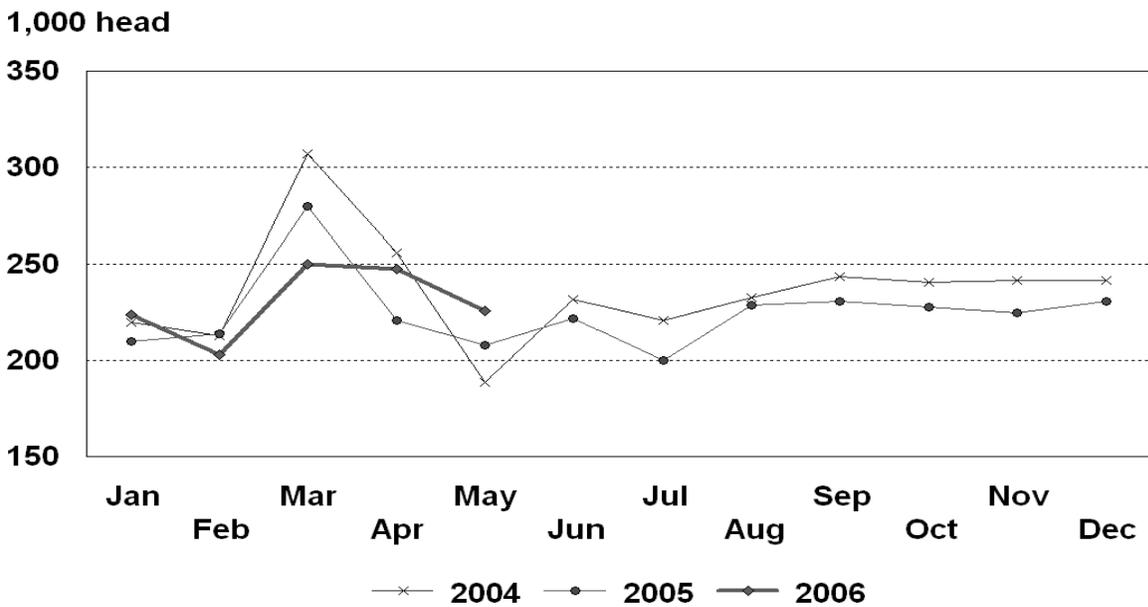
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



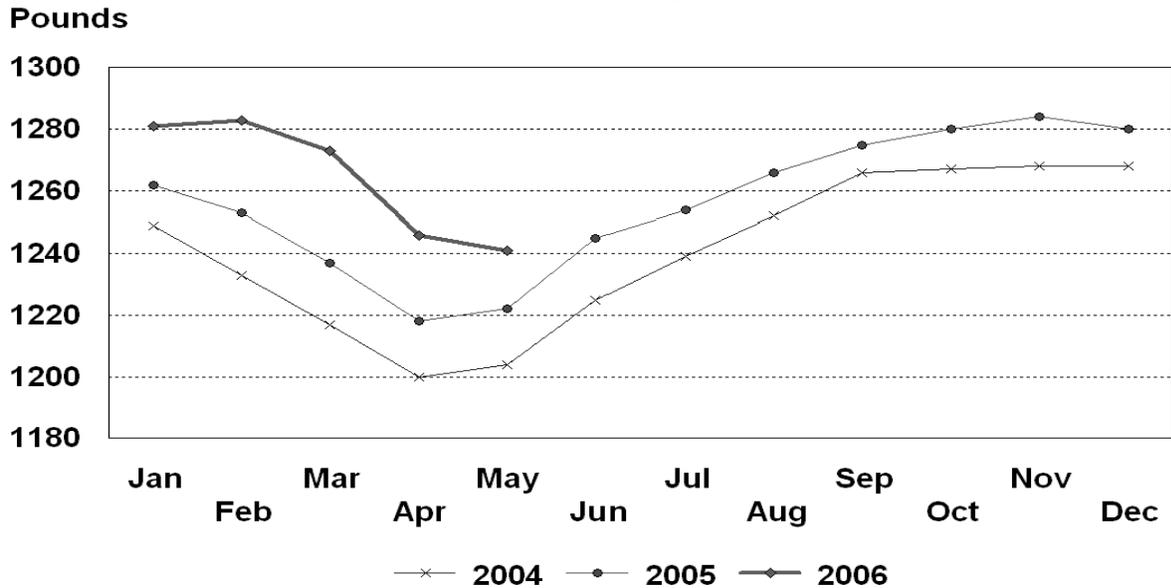
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



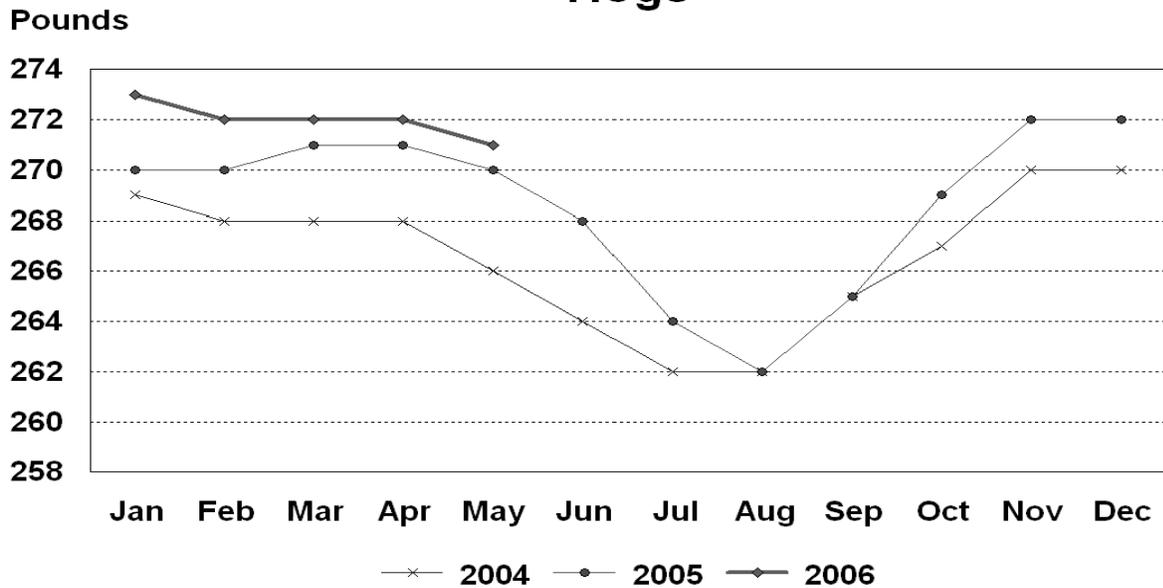
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



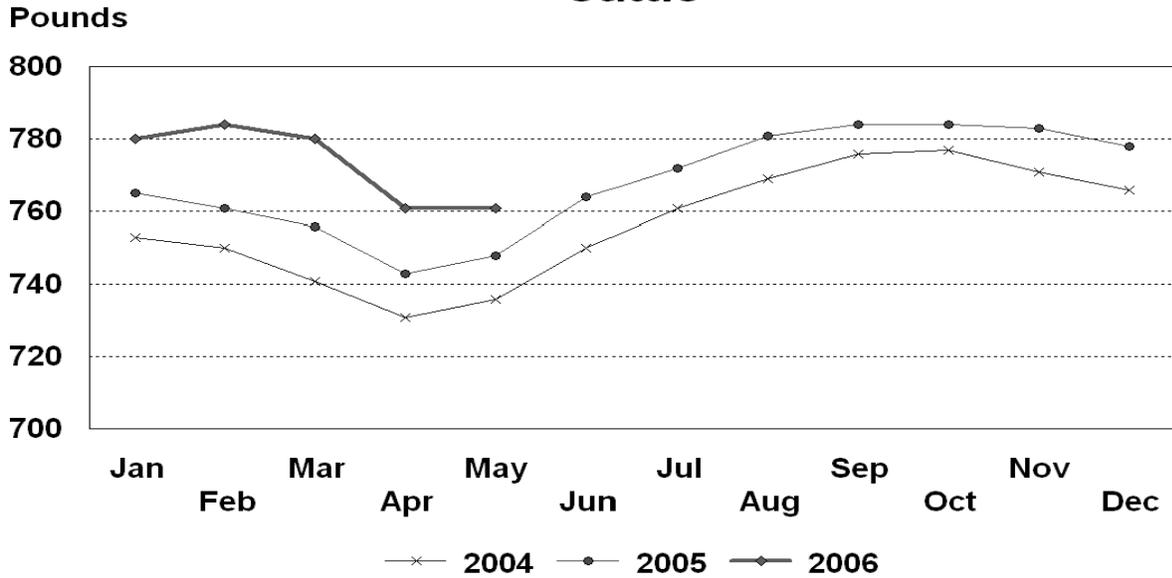
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



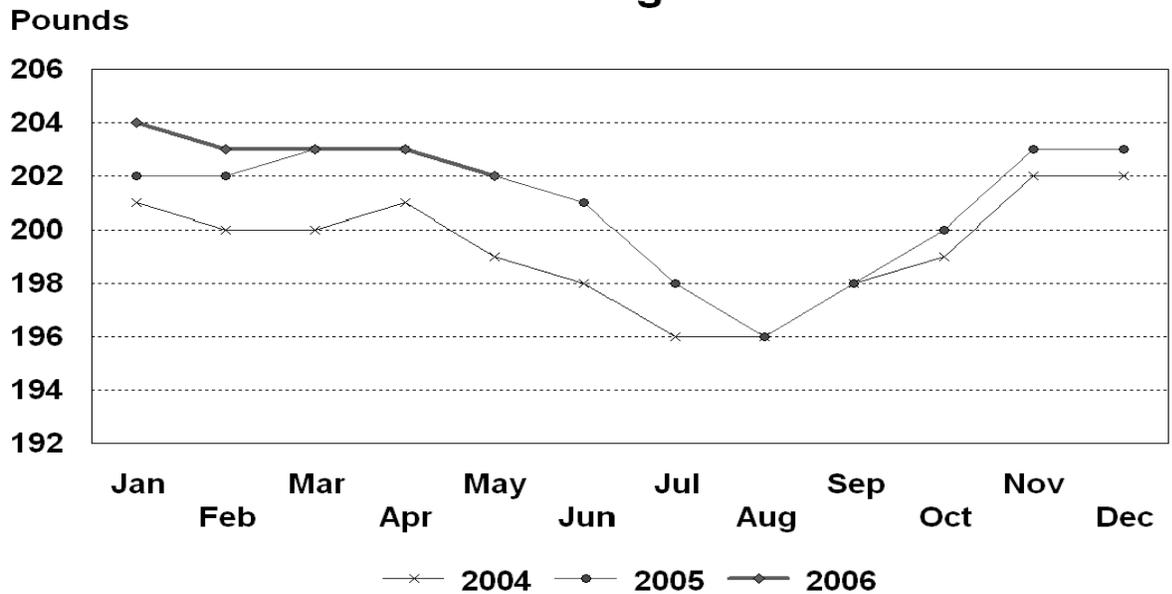
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



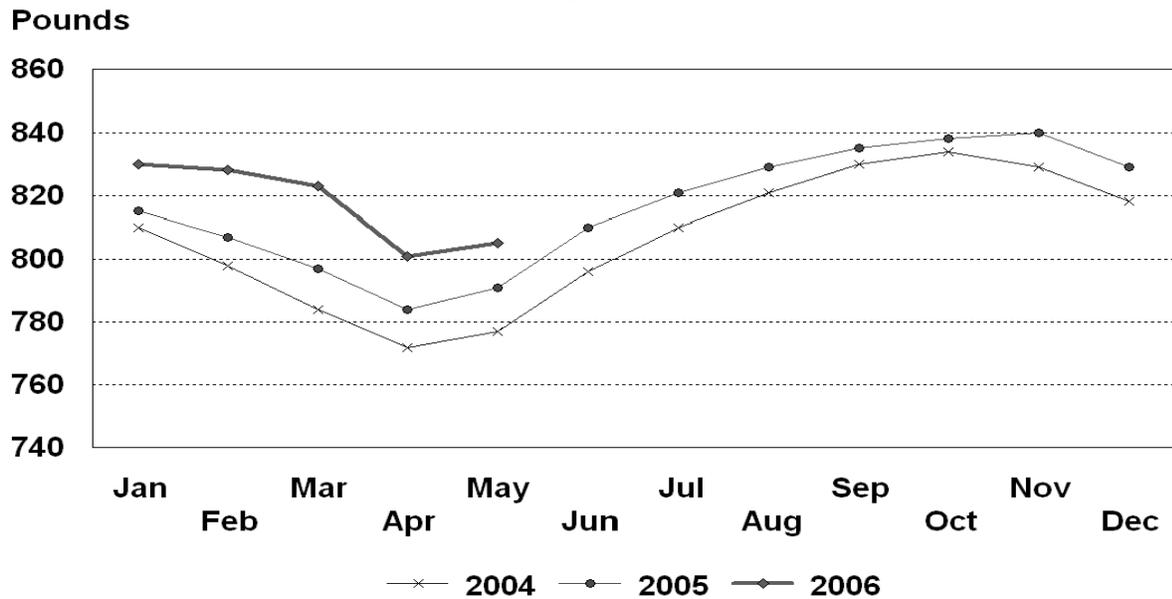
# U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



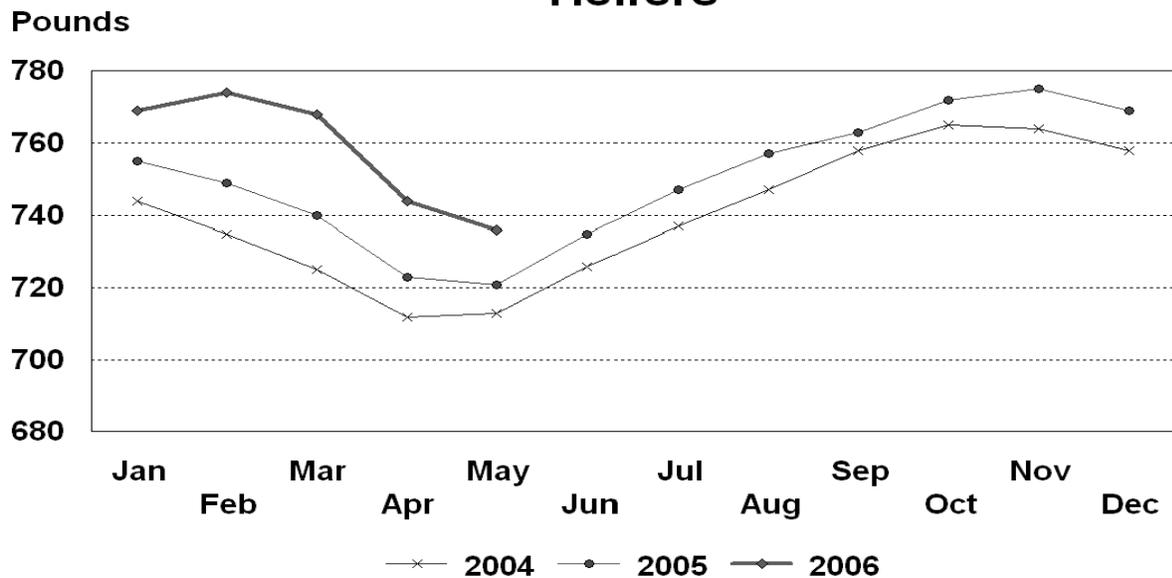
# U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



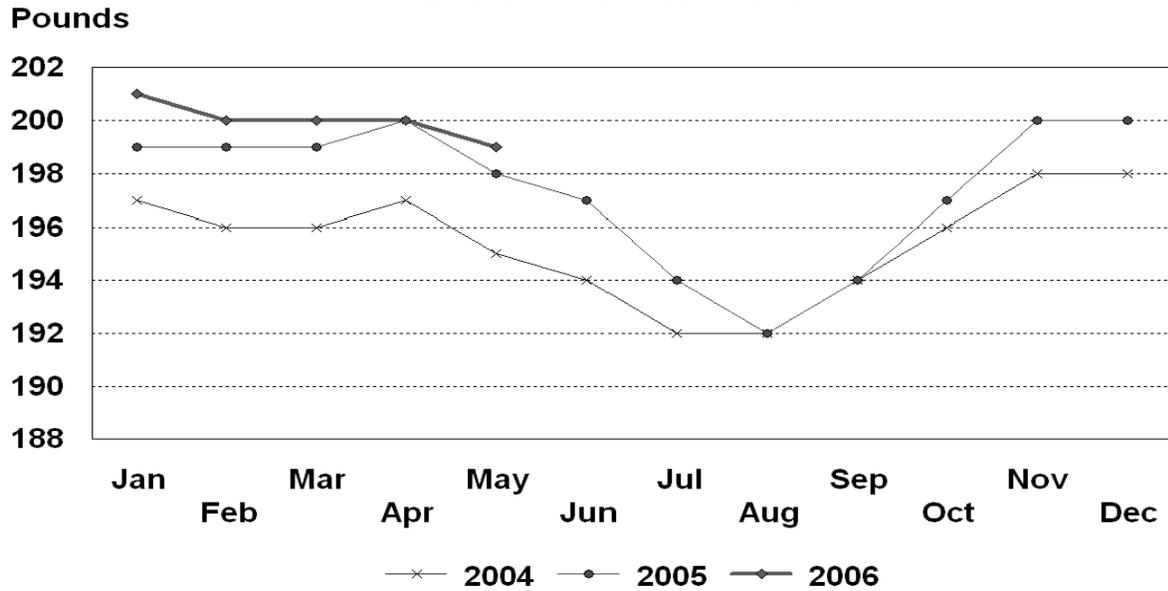
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



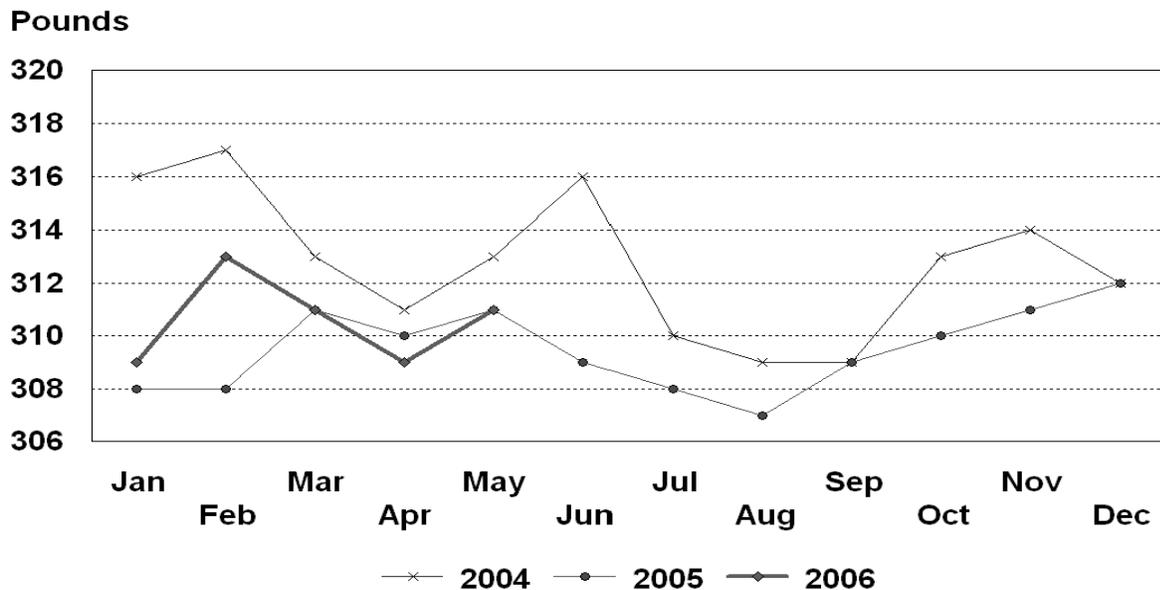
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



## 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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