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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 3.93 billion pounds in September, up slightly from the previous year.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.77 million head, down slightly from September 2005. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,282 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.8 million pounds, 3 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,500 head, down 5 percent from September 2005. The average live weight was 2 pounds above last year, at 365 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.83 million head, slightly below September 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 266 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was down 9 percent from September 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 219,100 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 6 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2006 commercial red meat production was 35.2 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

September 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.
September 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

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Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Sep 06 % of		Jan - Sep ²		
				Sep 2005	Aug 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	2,158	2,442	2,162	100	89	18,473	19,585	106
Veal	13.2	14.2	12.8	97	90	117.4	113.5	97
Pork	1,743	1,774	1,744	100	98	15,159	15,391	102
Lamb & Mutton	15.6	14.6	14.2	91	97	139.0	138.8	100
Total Red Meat	3,930	4,245	3,933	100	93	33,889	35,228	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	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Sep 06 % of		Jan - Sep ²		
				Sep 2005	Aug 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	2,127	2,413	2,133	100	88	18,212	19,327	106
Veal	13.0	13.9	12.5	97	90	114.4	111.1	97
Pork	1,728	1,757	1,728	100	98	15,028	15,263	102
Lamb & Mutton	15.0	13.8	13.4	90	97	133.3	133.0	100
Total Red Meat	3,883	4,198	3,887	100	93	33,488	34,834	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	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Sep 06 % of		Jan - Sep ²		
					Sep 2005	Aug 2006	2005	2006	06 % of 05
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prcnt</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,728.7	*3,089.0	2,720.9	100	88	23,963.8	24,978.6	104
Other	Thou	47.2	44.4	44.8	95	101	409.4	400.1	98
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,775.9	*3,133.4	2,765.7	100	88	24,373.2	25,378.7	104
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,277	1,277	1,285	101	101	1,250	1,269	102
Other	Lbs	1,137	1,142	1,131	99	99	1,121	1,132	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,275	1,275	1,282	101	101	1,248	1,268	102
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	59.6	65.8	56.5	95	86	549.5	503.6	92
Other	Thou	1.1	1.0	1.0	94	108	12.0	9.6	80
Comm'l. ³	Thou	60.7	66.7	57.5	95	86	561.5	513.2	91
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	359	345	364	102	106	347	363	105
Other	Lbs	398	408	398	100	98	405	410	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	363	347	365	101	105	348	363	104
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	8,777.8	*8,990.8	8,738.2	100	97	75,316.0	76,085.6	101
Other	Thou	93.2	103.8	94.8	102	91	779.7	766.2	98
Comm'l. ³	Thou	8,871.1	*9,094.6	8,833.0	100	97	76,095.7	76,851.8	101
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	265	263	267	101	101	268	270	101
Other	Lbs	230	229	230	100	101	232	231	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	265	263	266	101	101	268	269	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	218.8	*212.6	204.9	94	96	1,905.9	1,900.9	100
Other	Thou	12.3	14.5	14.3	116	99	108.4	109.4	101
Comm'l. ³	Thou	231.1	227.0	219.1	95	97	2,014.3	2,010.3	100
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	136	130	131	96	100	140	140	100
Other	Lbs	107	106	103	97	97	107	107	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	135	129	129	96	100	138	138	100

* 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 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Sep 06 as % of ²	
				Sep 2005	Aug 2006
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2.8	2.7	2.3	83	84
AK	0.1	0.1	0.1	101	75
AZ	31.1	34.7	31.6	102	91
AR	5.0	4.8	4.7	94	97
CA	119.2	140.8	130.4	109	93
CO	149.9	*168.9	132.9	89	79
DE-MD	3.3	3.7	3.3	98	88
FL	4.4	6.3	5.5	125	87
GA	10.8	13.5	13.5	125	100
HI	0.7	0.9	0.8	114	91
ID	25.2	21.4	19.2	76	90
IL	230.3	231.9	226.2	98	98
IN	120.1	129.6	120.4	100	93
IA	555.8	545.1	542.8	98	100
KS	515.9	*583.6	513.4	100	88
KY	42.7	44.5	42.6	100	96
LA	0.8	0.6	0.7	86	110
MI	32.4	41.6	39.4	121	95
MN	200.2	207.0	198.6	99	96
MS	24.3	24.9	21.2	87	85
MO	40.2	84.6	88.8	221	105
MT	1.7	1.7	1.5	87	85
NE	608.4	664.3	594.9	98	90
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	54	71
N ENG ³	1.3	1.1	1.2	96	107
NJ	4.2	4.5	4.3	102	94
NM	0.6	0.5	0.6	96	109
NY	3.6	4.0	3.3	92	83
NC	176.9	194.1	183.6	104	95
ND	2.8	2.6	2.4	87	92
OH	25.9	24.8	23.1	89	93
OK	85.3	89.7	86.2	101	96
OR	3.8	4.4	3.5	93	80
PA	99.2	*105.7	102.6	103	97
SC	19.9	21.4	19.6	99	92
SD	87.3	75.1	77.3	89	103
TN	20.8	18.6	20.2	97	108
TX	406.4	473.3	413.9	102	87
UT	43.0	47.4	43.7	102	92
VA	59.7	32.8	34.8	58	106
WA	57.6	65.3	67.3	117	103
WV	0.5	*0.5	0.5	94	112
WI	105.3	120.4	109.3	104	91
WY	0.5	0.8	0.5	92	56
US	3,929.8	*4,244.6	3,932.6	100	93

* Revised.

¹ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

² Percentages based on unrounded data.

³ N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

**Commercial Cattle Slaughter: By State and United States,
September 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	0.3	0.2	262	121	866	783
AK	0.1	0.1	67	69	1,183	1,143
AZ						
AR	0.8	0.9	788	794	935	929
CA	110.9	127.7	147,908	173,116	1,333	1,356
CO	174.2	151.7	225,907	199,614	1,297	1,316
DE-MD	3.7	3.7	4,843	4,803	1,304	1,313
FL						
GA	19.3	25.4	16,219	20,741	840	817
HI	0.7	0.9	783	984	1,123	1,075
ID	28.9	21.3	36,600	27,012	1,265	1,268
IL						
IN	3.3	3.3	3,481	3,434	1,043	1,051
IA						
KS	632.9	623.9	804,980	797,619	1,272	1,278
KY	1.2	1.1	1,116	1,043	930	971
LA	0.9	0.9	795	702	877	788
MI	36.9	44.3	49,883	60,978	1,350	1,377
MN	52.6	54.9	74,136	76,527	1,408	1,394
MS		0.1		70		819
MO	6.7	7.2	8,855	9,579	1,318	1,322
MT	1.9	1.7	2,257	1,921	1,210	1,143
NE	593.6	567.1	780,041	755,675	1,314	1,333
NV	0.1	0.1	141	77	1,250	1,226
N ENG ²	1.3	1.3	1,350	1,260	1,013	997
NJ	2.3	2.3	2,764	2,844	1,228	1,239
NM	1.0	1.0	983	943	975	992
NY	3.5	2.5	4,157	2,975	1,196	1,210
NC	16.9	16.7	17,486	19,897	1,034	1,193
ND	0.9	0.9	1,056	999	1,202	1,140
OH	9.8	8.8	11,168	9,903	1,143	1,123
OK	1.9	2.0	1,992	2,206	1,077	1,128
OR	2.1	2.4	2,586	2,798	1,205	1,185
PA	73.8	72.6	89,339	88,303	1,211	1,217
SC		13.3		14,568		1,096
SD						
TN	1.2	1.3	1,156	1,167	932	908
TX	533.3	545.8	649,047	660,966	1,217	1,211
UT	53.5	54.0	67,292	68,574	1,259	1,270
VA	0.7	1.0	696	1,061	987	1,041
WA	71.7	81.2	93,968	109,175	1,311	1,345
WV	0.8	0.7	708	686	903	985
WI	121.8	130.3	164,486	174,117	1,350	1,336
WY	0.6	0.5	670	602	1,194	1,182
US ³	2,775.9	2,765.7	3,538,313	3,546,240	1,275	1,282

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 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						
CA	6.5	7.2	935	1,028	145	143
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.2	40	64	287	312
FL						
GA	0.2	0.1	89	59	481	431
HI						
ID						
IL	6.2	3.6	2,733	1,620	438	444
IN	0.2	0.1	30	16	132	126
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.4	0.3	206	136	461	477
MI	1.9	3.0	700	1,184	372	389
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	0.4	0.3	73	79	170	277
NJ	6.6	6.6	2,884	2,882	437	433
NM						
NY	8.3	8.6	1,301	1,697	157	198
NC	0.1	0.1	37	44	478	538
ND						
OH	4.4	0.1	1,731	19	396	350
OK		0.1		25		422
OR						
PA	12.5	14.8	5,371	6,422	429	434
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	52	62	498	430
TX	0.7	0.8	397	460	549	594
UT						
VA	0.1	0.1	17	20	341	317
WA						
WV						
WI	10.9	10.6	5,141	4,989	471	469
WY						
US ³	60.7	57.5	22,022	20,987	363	365

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 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	9.8	8.2	4,599	3,910	469	475
AK	0.1	0.1	26	24	244	229
AZ	0.4	0.3	81	67	196	217
AR	14.4	13.0	7,191	6,774	499	521
CA	218.5	205.6	51,493	47,914	236	233
CO	1.5	1.2	390	303	260	261
DE-MD	1.7	1.5	379	336	225	222
FL	9.0	7.8	1,111	1,015	123	130
GA	9.2	11.0	2,245	2,493	245	226
HI	1.9	1.8	413	400	219	219
ID	13.4	12.1	4,382	3,945	326	326
IL	805.2	795.0	218,727	218,450	272	275
IN	605.7	603.5	156,834	156,943	259	260
IA	2,561.5	2,496.1	681,339	667,287	266	267
KS		14.0		6,121		436
KY	215.3	212.1	56,137	56,008	261	264
LA	1.4	1.2	276	246	190	199
MI	10.4	10.4	3,513	3,873	338	374
MN	821.5	797.8	216,141	210,794	263	264
MS						
MO						
MT	1.6	1.5	381	354	240	231
NE	622.3	624.2	165,601	166,319	266	266
NV						
N ENG ²	2.2	2.0	454	426	210	214
NJ	9.6	8.6	927	901	97	105
NM	0.3	0.3	79	84	285	252
NY	3.4	2.9	725	739	214	253
NC	899.2	945.3	224,579	231,490	250	245
ND	13.9	11.3	3,299	2,731	238	242
OH	97.4	93.1	26,209	24,897	269	267
OK	406.1	418.5	112,162	112,280	276	268
OR	16.0	15.1	3,785	3,205	236	212
PA	239.6	242.2	58,582	63,162	244	261
SC						
SD	423.0	362.1	108,828	94,927	257	262
TN	62.2	60.5	30,043	28,895	483	477
TX	28.8	33.6	6,995	8,071	243	240
UT	4.4	4.5	1,047	952	238	210
VA	308.5	177.4	78,481	45,422	254	256
WA	2.1	2.2	542	563	257	257
WV	0.7	0.8	183	205	247	242
WI	43.1	44.4	18,898	19,408	439	438
WY	0.5	0.5	145	137	270	265
US ³	8,871.1	8,833.0	2,348,822	2,351,899	265	266

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 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	0.2	0.2	22	17	134	98
AR	0.1	0.1	9	12	104	108
CA						
CO	84.9	82.1	12,797	11,650	151	142
DE-MD	3.3	3.2	337	319	102	101
FL	0.2	0.2	12	13	69	67
GA	0.2	0.3	20	35	103	107
HI						
ID	0.4	0.6	52	74	122	124
IL	16.7	13.2	2,231	1,607	133	121
IN	2.0	2.4	218	257	111	108
IA	37.2	37.1	5,338	5,250	143	141
KS	0.3	0.3	26	36	104	104
KY	1.2	0.8	158	106	132	125
LA	0.1	0.1	6	8	78	73
MI	15.0	14.8	1,934	1,953	129	132
MN	0.3	0.3	41	30	129	119
MS						
MO	0.5	0.6	43	57	86	96
MT	0.5	0.6	70	82	138	136
NE						
NV	0.1	0.1	12	9	108	108
N ENG ²	2.8	2.9	263	264	95	91
NJ	9.5	10.6	809	835	86	78
NM	1.3	0.9	145	119	110	126
NY	2.8	2.8	276	233	99	82
NC	0.6	0.8	56	64	91	84
ND	0.1	0.1	9	7	129	116
OH	1.2	1.4	136	150	111	106
OK						
OR	1.8	1.9	237	255	130	132
PA	4.6	4.3	460	426	100	98
SC						
SD	1.0	1.2	122	144	120	116
TN	1.1	1.2	77	87	72	74
TX	7.6	2.6	891	210	117	82
UT	2.4	2.6	327	361	138	136
VA	1.0	1.2	96	113	100	95
WA	0.2	0.2	30	25	128	126
WV	0.1	0.1	7	8	117	113
WI	1.0	1.3	139	175	134	130
WY	0.2	0.2	24	25	140	142
US ³	231.1	219.1	31,088	28,233	135	129

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 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Jan - Sep ¹		Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	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	1,476	1,690	1,461	12,749	13,415	54.1	54.7	53.7	53.2	53.7
Heifers	816	854	767	7,363	7,337	29.9	27.7	28.2	30.7	29.4
All Cows	392	497	448	3,471	3,845	14.4	16.1	16.5	14.5	15.4
Dairy Cows	190	217	206	1,644	1,704	7.0	7.0	7.6	6.9	6.8
Other Cows	202	280	242	1,827	2,141	7.4	9.1	8.9	7.6	8.6
Bulls & Stags	44	49	45	380	381	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5
Total ¹	2,729	3,089	2,721	23,964	24,979	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,487	*8,683	8,434	72,786	73,455	96.7	96.6	96.5	96.6	96.5
Sows	266	283	267	2,321	2,397	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2
Stags & Boars	25	25	37	209	233	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Total ¹	8,778	*8,991	8,738	75,316	76,086	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	11	11	10	98	87	5.0	5.0	4.8	5.2	4.6
Lambs & Yrlngs	208	202	195	1,808	1,813	95.0	95.0	95.2	94.8	95.4
Total ¹	219	213	205	1,906	1,901	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	784	784	787	764	777					
Steers ⁴	835	843	847	810	826					
Heifers ⁴	763	764	770	743	758					
All Cows ⁴	616	603	607	621	623					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	893	912	900	909	920					
Calves & Vealers	220	212	223	213	222					
Hogs	198	196	198	200	201					
Barrow Gilts ⁵	194	192	194	197	197					
Sows ⁵	309	310	309	309	310					
Stags & Boars ⁵	213	212	227	213	214					
Sheep	69	65	66	70	70					
Mature Sheep ⁶	68	68	66	69	68					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	69	65	66	70	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 2006¹**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total ²	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	1.0	0.5	0.2					0.3
2	4.6	1.7	0.3	2.3	2.2	0.2	0.3	15.2
3	75.2	32.0	6.4	34.3	27.2	7.0	2.6	15.0
4	65.2	0.8	0.2	56.2	11.8	44.4	8.0	
5	299.8	132.2	36.2	122.5	73.1	49.4	8.9	17.4
6	544.9	299.3	157.0	80.1	13.7	66.4	8.5	0.6
7	1,244.9	746.0	436.8	53.3	1.4	51.9	8.8	0.1
8	214.7	110.6	89.2					
9	166.9	79.8	6.8	76.0	65.0	11.0	4.4	7.0
10	103.7	58.2	34.1	10.5	6.7	3.8	0.9	
US ²	2,720.9	1,460.9	767.2	448.0	206.4	241.6	44.8	56.5
	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	1.5	1.5						
2	11.1	10.8	0.2	0.1	12.6	1.3	11.3	
3	419.4	405.3	1.0	13.1	8.3	0.4	7.9	
4	1,397.9	1,314.0	82.8	1.0	3.2	0.8	2.4	
5	2,303.6	2,193.0	107.3	3.3	28.0	3.8	24.2	
6	457.2	435.6	21.5	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.2	
7	3,543.0	3,476.6			37.7	0.5	37.2	
8	375.7	368.9	6.8		85.4	1.9	83.5	
9	200.6	200.5						
10	28.2	28.1	0.1		2.4	0.2	2.2	
US ²	8,738.2	8,434.3	266.7	37.2	204.9	9.8	195.0	

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 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	8.0	3.3	1.6					2.5
2	40.9	13.8	2.6	22.0	21.1	1.0	2.4	135.0
3	657.6	298.0		283.7	228.0	55.7		131.2
4	526.5	8.6	3.3	447.7	97.2	350.5	66.9	
5	2,657.7	1,179.1	321.1	1,084.8	584.4	500.4	72.7	155.8
6	4,938.8	2,622.6	1,558.4	671.5	98.8	572.7	86.3	5.7
7	11,539.0	6,810.1	4,179.0	479.9	12.9	467.0	70.0	0.3
8	2,197.6	1,199.9						0.1
9	1,484.3	744.7	57.2	646.6	556.4	90.2	35.8	65.2
10	928.4	535.2	301.3	86.1	61.5	24.6	5.8	
US ²	24,978.6	13,415.4	7,337.4	3,845.0	1,704.1	2,140.8	380.9	503.6
	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	11.5	11.1	0.3	0.2				
2	102.4	100.4	1.3	0.7	105.2	11.9		93.3
3	3,709.1	3,686.8	8.9	13.4	73.4	4.0		69.4
4	12,429.3	11,738.6	678.3	12.4	26.9	9.4		17.5
5	20,343.5	19,318.6	994.9	30.0	261.8	29.8		231.9
6	3,987.8	3,805.7	181.1	1.1	41.5	1.9		39.6
7	29,996.0	29,350.2			309.6	5.8		303.8
8	3,352.5	3,292.5	59.9	0.1	814.4	16.9		797.5
9	1,881.3	1,880.3						
10	272.2	271.1	0.9	0.2	17.3	0.9		16.4
US ²	76,085.6	73,455.3	2,397.1	233.2	1,900.9	87.4		1,813.4

* 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.

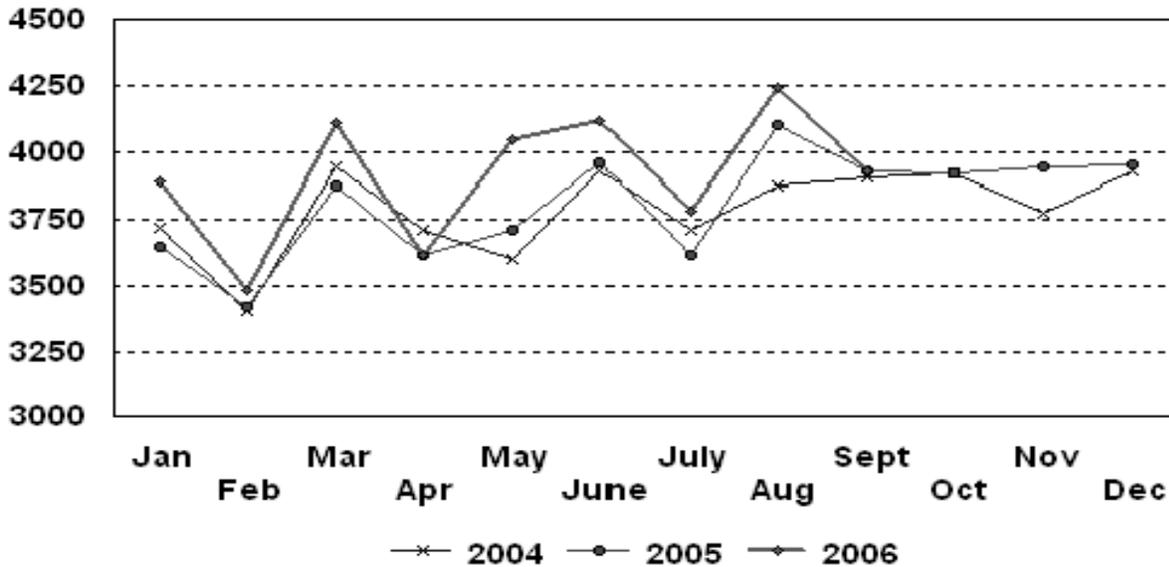
² Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

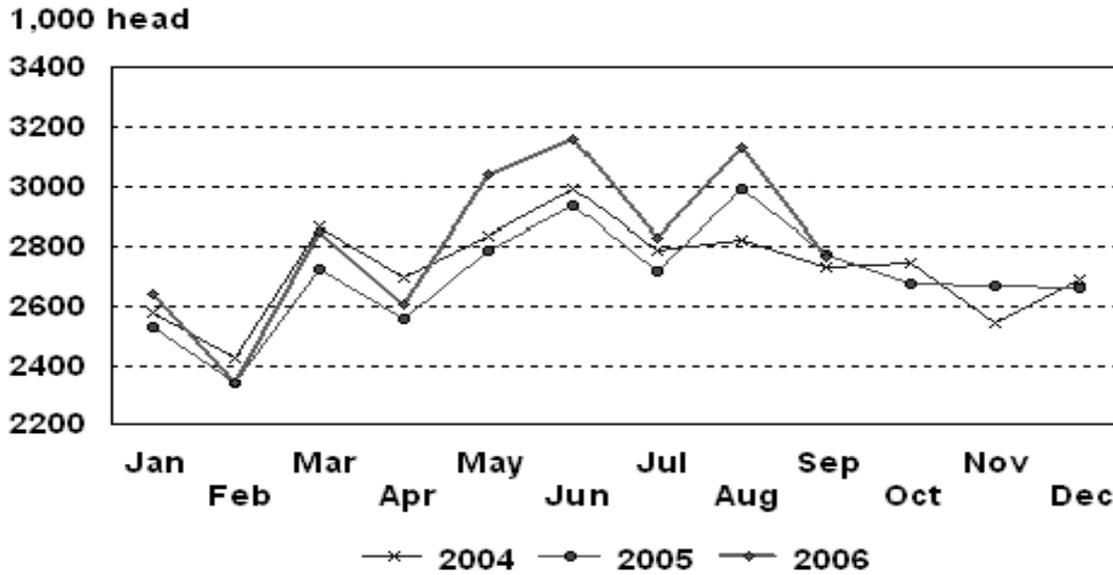
Species	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Jan - Sep	
				2005	2006
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.3	98.6	98.4	98.3	98.4
Calves	98.2	98.6	98.2	97.9	98.1
Hogs	98.9	98.9	98.9	99.0	99.0
Sheep	94.7	93.6	93.5	94.6	94.6

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

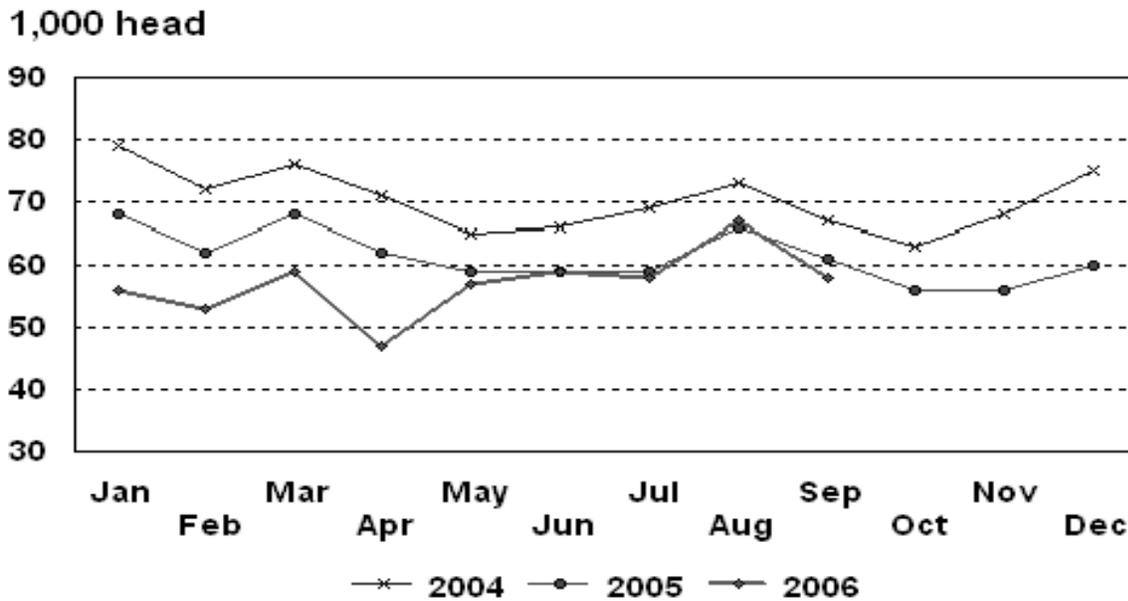
Million Pounds



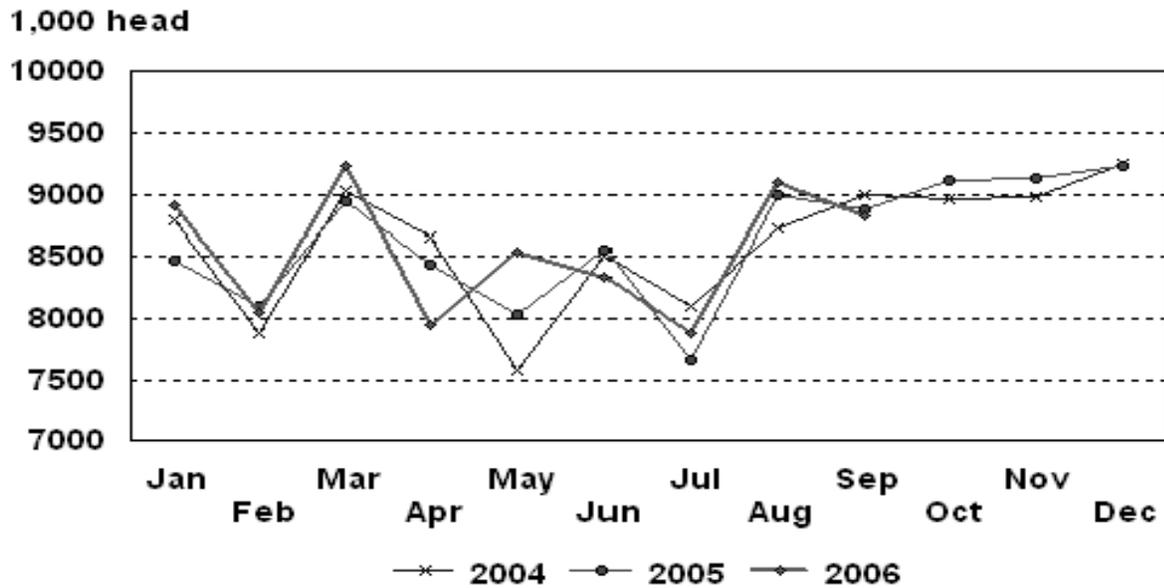
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



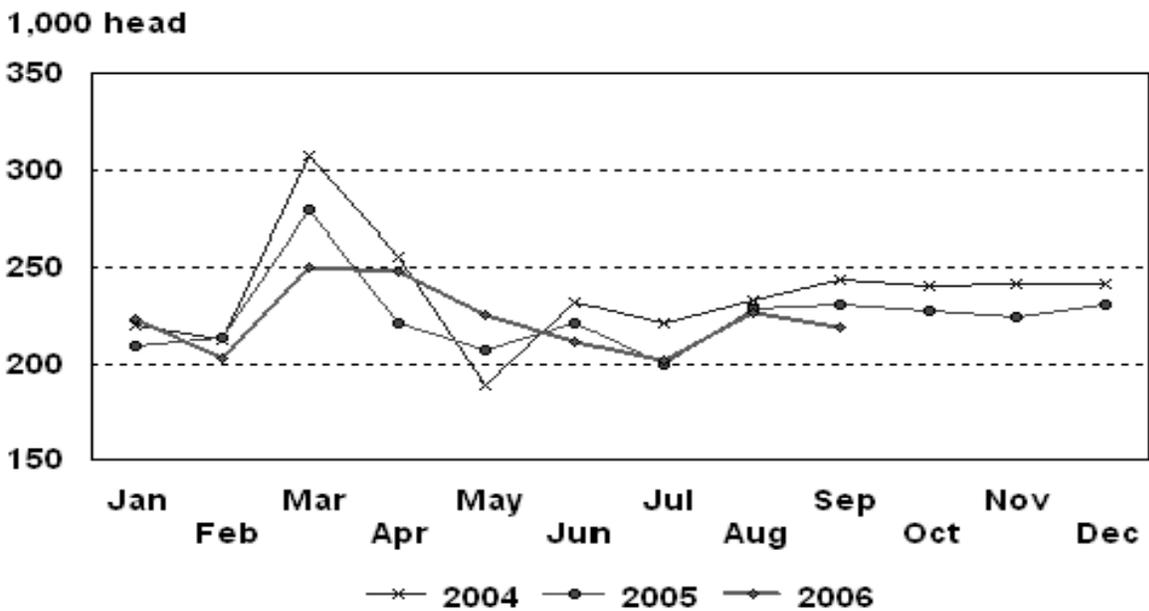
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



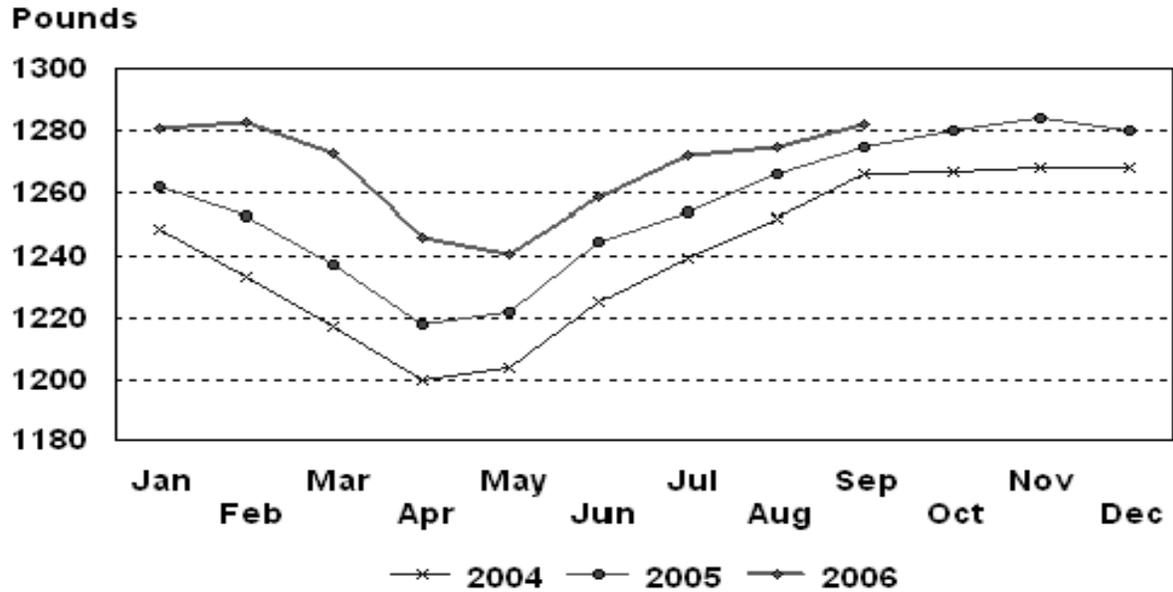
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



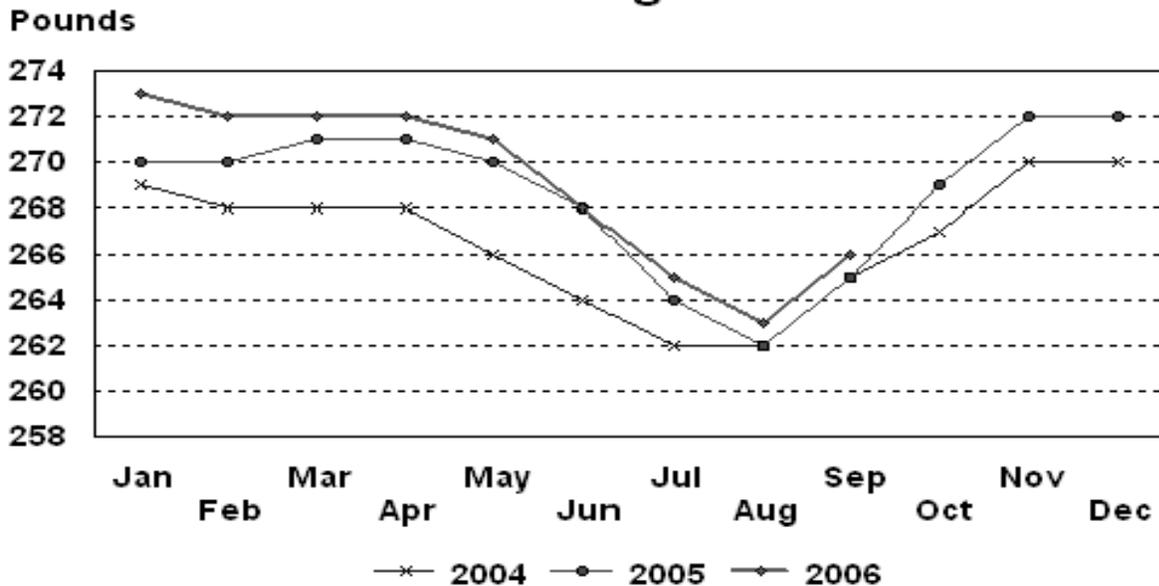
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



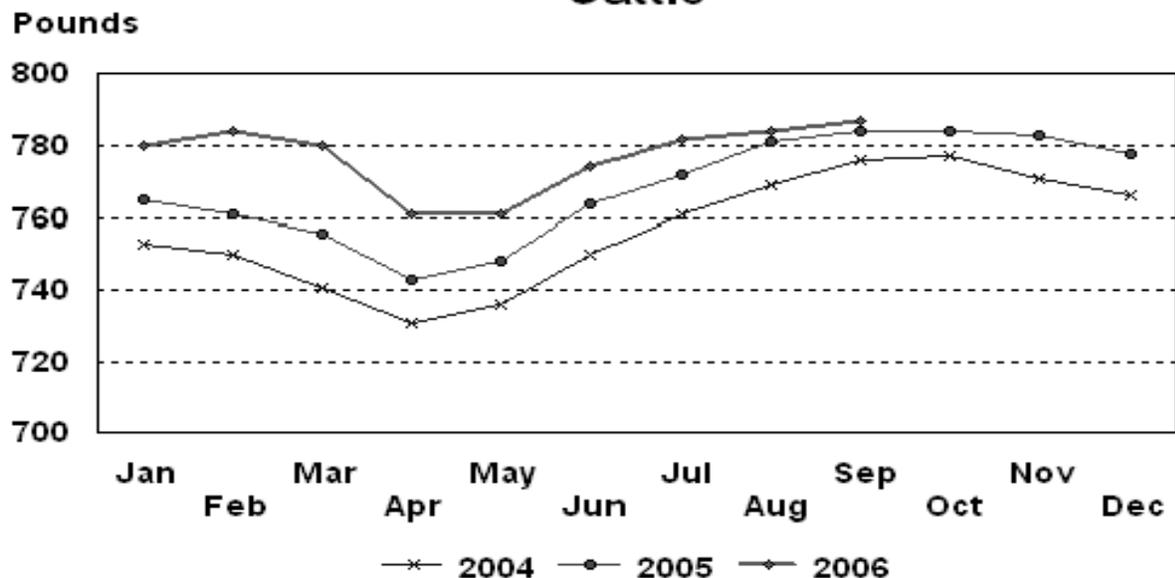
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



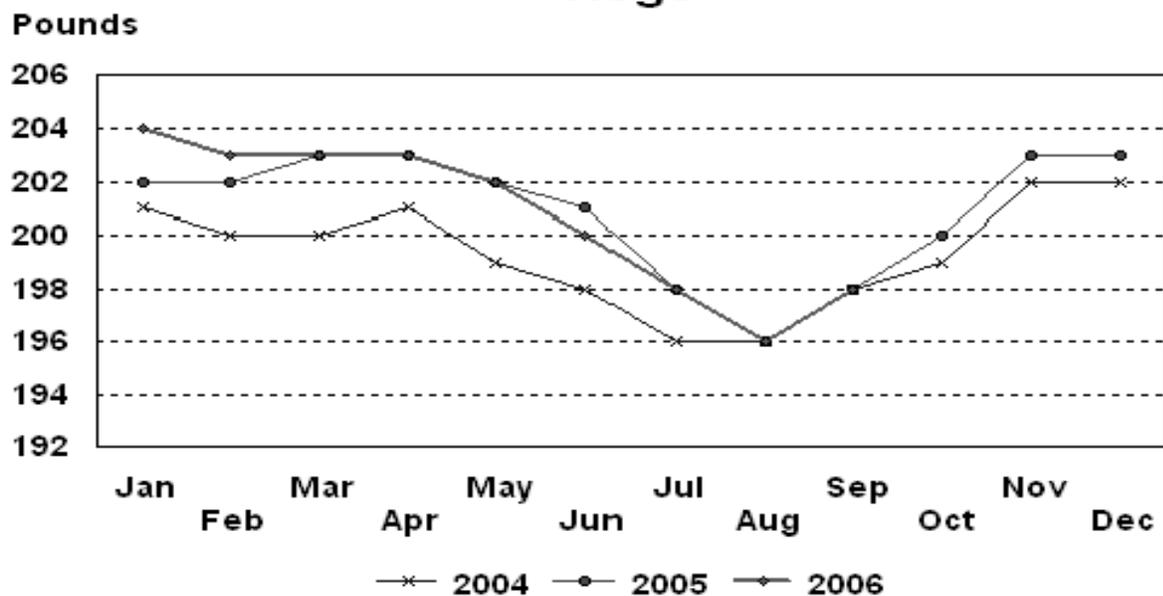
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



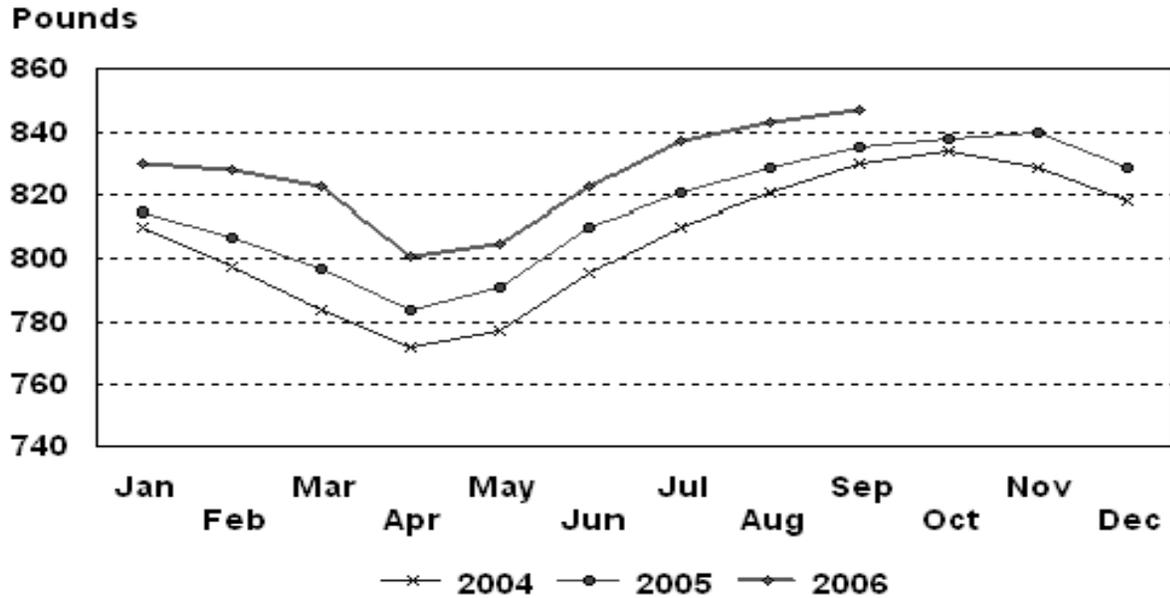
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



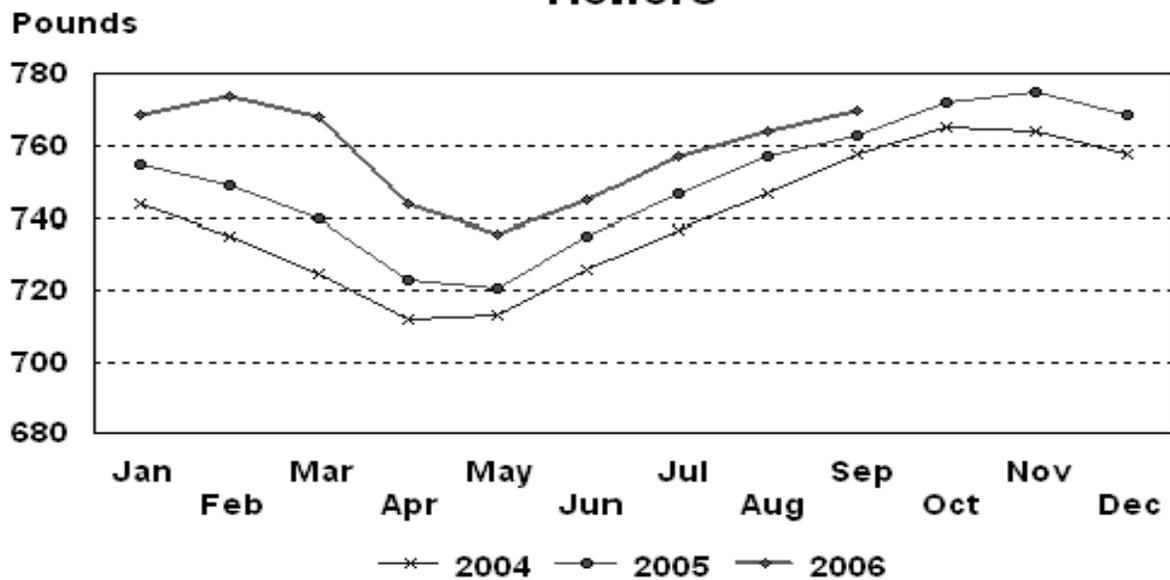
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



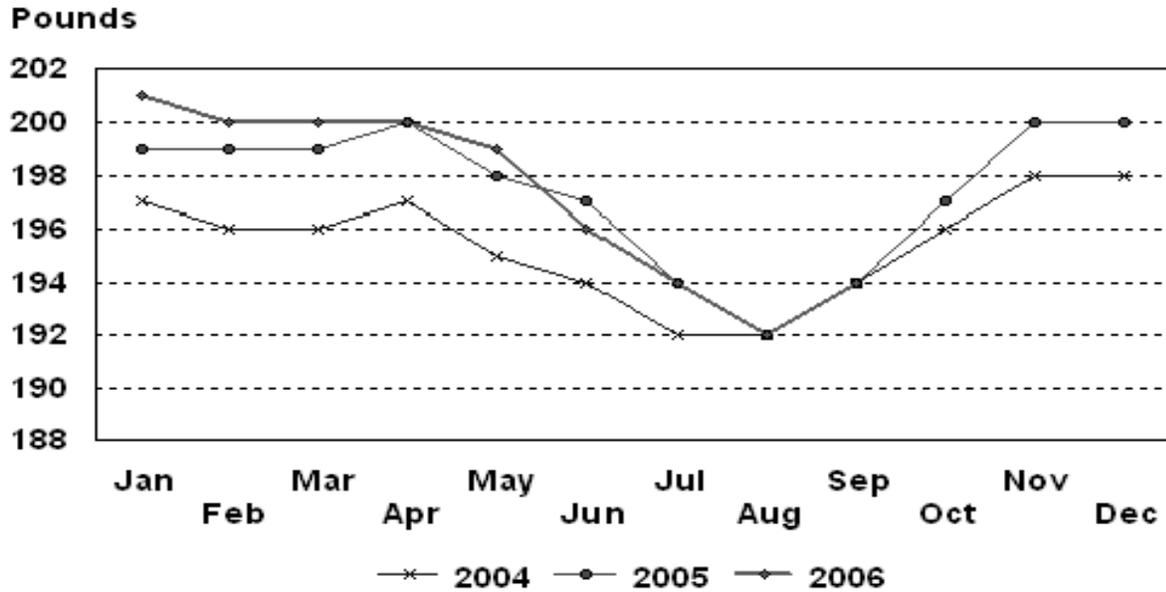
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



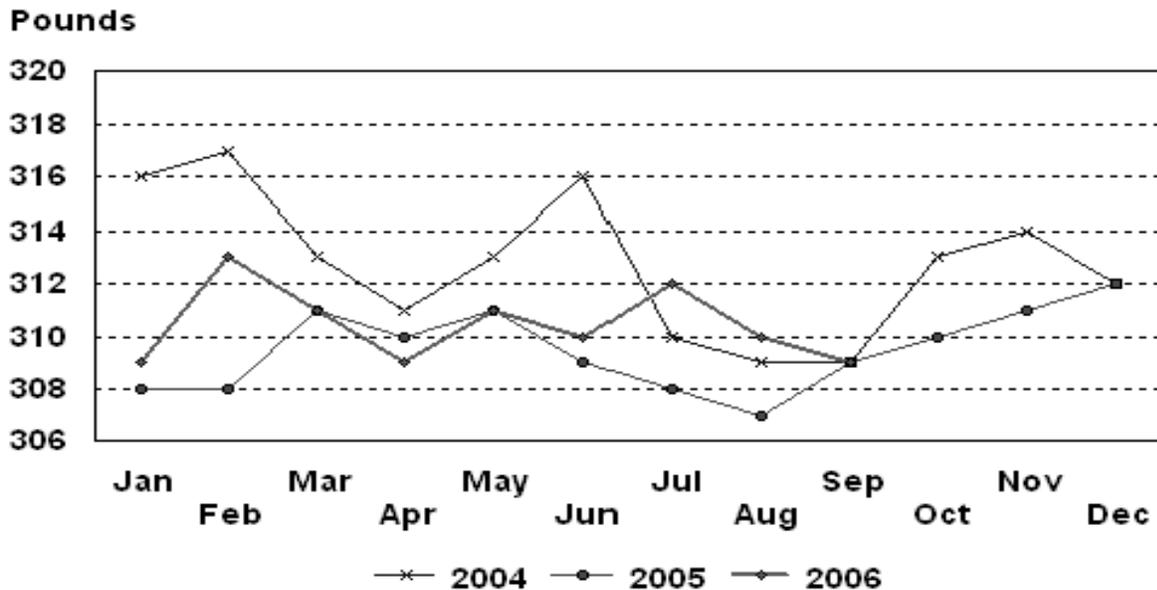
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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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