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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 3.86 billion pounds in December, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in December 2005.

Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, down 2 percent from December 2005. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,297 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.4 million pounds, 7 percent above December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,100 head, up 13 percent from December 2005. The average live weight was 25 pounds below last year, at 346 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.79 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.88 million head, 4 percent below December 2005. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was down 8 percent from December 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 223,700 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 7 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2006 commercial red meat production was 47.4 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was up slightly, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

December 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

December 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Contents

	Page
Red Meat Production, Commercial and FI, by Class, U.S.	1
Livestock Slaughter, Number and Average Weights, by Species and Type of Slaughter, U.S.	2
Commercial Red Meat Production, by State and U.S.	3
Commercial Cattle Slaughter, Number, Total and Average Live Weight, by State and U.S.	4
Commercial Calf Slaughter, Number, Total and Average Live Weight, by State and U.S.	5
Commercial Hog Slaughter, Number, Total and Average Live Weight, by State and U.S.	6
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter, Number, Total and Average Live Weight, by State and U.S.	7
Federally Inspected Classification of Number and Average Dressed Weight, by Species and Class and U.S.	8
Federally Inspected Slaughter by Species and Class, by Region and U.S.	9
Federally Inspected Percent of Total Commercial, by Species, U.S.	11
Data Sources, Revision Policy, and Procedures and Reliability	18
Types of Plants	19
Terms and Definitions	20

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Dec 06 % of		Jan - Dec ²		
				Dec 2005	Nov 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	2,057	2,217	2,040	99	92	24,682	26,071	106
Veal	13.5	14.3	14.4	107	101	155.8	156.2	100
Pork	1,866	1,890	1,793	96	95	20,685	20,999	102
Lamb & Mutton	16.5	15.3	15.3	92	100	187.1	184.9	99
Total Red Meat	3,954	4,137	3,863	98	93	45,711	47,411	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	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Dec 06 % of		Jan - Dec ²		
				Dec 2005	Nov 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	2,027	2,189	2,011	99	92	24,328	25,722	106
Veal	13.1	14.0	14.1	107	101	151.7	152.9	101
Pork	1,850	1,875	1,777	96	95	20,506	20,823	102
Lamb & Mutton	15.9	14.7	14.6	92	99	179.5	177.1	99
Total Red Meat	3,906	4,092	3,817	98	93	45,166	46,875	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	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Dec 06 % of		Jan - Dec ²		
					Dec 2005	Nov 2006	2005	2006	06 % of 05
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prcnt</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,619.4	2,797.2	2,564.3	98	92	31,831.5	33,142.8	104
Other	Thou	47.7	44.0	44.8	94	102	556.1	541.7	97
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,667.1	2,841.2	2,609.1	98	92	32,387.7	33,684.4	104
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,283	1,294	1,298	101	100	1,259	1,276	101
Other	Lbs	1,130	1,139	1,151	102	101	1,121	1,135	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,280	1,291	1,297	101	100	1,256	1,274	101
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	58.7	65.6	67.0	114	102	717.6	698.6	97
Other	Thou	1.3	1.2	1.1	82	96	16.7	13.0	78
Comm'l. ³	Thou	60.0	66.8	68.1	113	102	734.4	711.6	97
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	367	350	345	94	98	352	360	102
Other	Lbs	449	409	438	98	107	413	413	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	371	351	346	93	99	353	360	102
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	9,137.6	9,276.4	8,787.2	96	95	102,519.0	103,690.4	101
Other	Thou	96.9	91.1	95.9	99	105	1,062.5	1,048.3	99
Comm'l. ³	Thou	9,234.5	*9,367.5	8,883.1	96	95	103,581.5	104,738.7	101
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	272	273	273	100	100	269	270	100
Other	Lbs	227	237	231	101	97	232	232	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	272	273	272	100	100	269	270	100
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	218.9	*212.4	209.9	96	99	2,554.4	2,546.3	100
Other	Thou	11.9	11.5	13.8	116	120	143.4	147.6	103
Comm'l. ³	Thou	230.8	223.8	223.7	97	100	2,697.8	2,693.8	100
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	145	139	139	96	100	140	139	99
Other	Lbs	107	106	103	96	97	107	107	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	143	137	136	96	99	138	137	99

* 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	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Dec 06 as % of ²	
				Dec 2005	Nov 2006
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2.5	2.4	2.1	81	87
AK	0.1	0.1	0.1	98	52
AZ	34.1	33.7	31.9	94	95
AR	6.0	5.7	6.0	100	106
CA	134.6	139.5	142.1	106	102
CO	142.1	150.6	123.7	87	82
DE-MD	3.3	3.4	3.3	101	98
FL	4.4	7.0	6.6	151	94
GA	10.6	14.9	13.7	129	92
HI	0.9	0.7	0.8	94	110
ID	19.7	4.2	4.0	20	95
IL	238.2	246.5	228.1	96	93
IN	125.7	138.1	126.0	100	91
IA	585.5	587.9	554.4	95	94
KS	465.8	501.5	490.7	105	98
KY	42.3	46.5	43.4	102	93
LA	0.9	0.9	0.8	81	85
MI	35.7	38.9	39.0	109	100
MN	206.1	212.9	200.4	97	94
MS	24.2	24.8	21.6	89	87
MO	42.2	110.3	112.7	267	102
MT	1.6	0.8	1.0	61	115
NE	582.6	631.1	557.5	96	88
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	161	115
N ENG ³	1.2	1.3	1.2	100	94
NJ	4.3	4.8	5.0	117	105
NM	0.5	0.6	0.6	122	91
NY	3.7	3.9	3.9	103	98
NC	206.9	191.6	188.7	91	99
ND	2.9	2.5	2.5	87	101
OH	25.1	23.7	23.8	95	100
OK	95.5	90.6	81.0	85	89
OR	3.9	3.5	3.2	84	92
PA	106.0	105.4	109.0	103	103
SC	20.8	21.8	20.7	99	95
SD	96.9	85.4	81.1	84	95
TN	22.5	20.8	18.7	83	90
TX	388.6	*398.1	353.1	91	89
UT	42.3	45.9	33.1	78	72
VA	47.2	37.7	34.8	74	92
WA	64.7	71.1	67.2	104	94
WV	0.7	0.7	0.7	96	100
WI	110.3	124.8	124.6	113	100
WY	0.5	0.5	0.5	101	109
US	3,953.6	4,137.2	3,863.0	98	93

* Revised.

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

² Percentages based on unrounded data.

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

**Commercial Cattle Slaughter: By State and United States,
December 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	0.2	0.3	158	256	883	849
AK	0.1	0.1	89	63	1,161	990
AZ						
AR	0.9	0.9	795	804	900	935
CA	121.4	137.3	167,801	188,450	1,382	1,373
CO	162.9	139.2	215,751	185,307	1,325	1,331
DE-MD	3.6	3.6	4,748	4,748	1,318	1,321
FL						
GA	18.2	24.6	15,361	20,511	846	833
HI	0.9	0.8	880	826	1,030	1,046
ID						
IL						
IN	3.4	3.2	3,512	3,404	1,046	1,059
IA						
KS	573.6	590.6	729,078	765,353	1,271	1,296
KY	1.6	1.4	1,428	1,338	883	945
LA	0.9	0.7	790	627	909	864
MI	39.5	44.1	54,334	60,483	1,374	1,372
MN	61.1	67.7	83,971	93,997	1,375	1,388
MS		0.1		63		727
MO	7.6	7.6	10,002	9,989	1,310	1,309
MT	2.0	1.2	2,244	1,349	1,137	1,161
NE	567.5	522.6	742,455	706,583	1,308	1,352
NV	0.1	0.1	81	138	1,215	1,233
N ENG ²	1.3	1.2	1,246	1,212	990	976
NJ	2.2	2.3	2,710	2,872	1,211	1,234
NM	0.9	1.1	892	1,095	997	1,012
NY	2.8	2.4	3,164	2,755	1,129	1,161
NC	15.5	16.9	15,696	20,245	1,011	1,201
ND	1.1	0.9	1,222	1,072	1,137	1,169
OH	8.1	8.8	9,080	10,020	1,115	1,141
OK	2.3	2.1	2,468	2,316	1,081	1,119
OR	1.7	2.1	2,199	2,426	1,265	1,171
PA	68.0	72.0	84,682	90,805	1,246	1,262
SC		11.3		12,526		1,105
SD						
TN	1.4	1.4	1,301	1,307	901	921
TX	507.3	467.6	618,486	564,990	1,219	1,208
UT	53.2	40.9	66,295	51,701	1,247	1,263
VA	0.9	0.8	940	808	1,040	1,056
WA	80.3	83.5	105,784	110,566	1,317	1,324
WV	1.2	1.1	1,156	1,120	1,000	1,054
WI	132.1	150.8	179,886	203,580	1,362	1,350
WY	0.7	0.6	757	732	1,163	1,157
US ³	2,667.1	2,609.1	3,415,148	3,382,844	1,280	1,297

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,
December 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	4.8	10.0	925	1,391	192	139
CO						
DE-MD	0.1	0.2	44	61	299	329
FL						
GA	0.1	0.1	46	41	409	461
HI						
ID						
IL	4.2	3.6	1,782	1,593	429	444
IN	0.6	0.5	72	58	130	128
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.4	0.3	201	150	499	505
MI	2.8	2.4	1,072	969	387	400
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	0.3	0.3	63	80	244	310
NJ	6.8	8.5	2,936	3,787	433	443
NM						
NY	10.6	13.2	2,280	2,605	216	198
NC	0.1	0.1	26	42	498	428
ND						
OH	3.7	0.1	1,477	19	399	352
OK	0.1	0.1	37	32	461	461
OR						
PA	12.7	16.3	5,413	7,009	425	430
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	40	38	464	354
TX	1.0	0.8	569	482	579	593
UT						
VA		0.1		22		354
WA						
WV						
WI	10.8	10.6	4,995	4,918	464	463
WY						
US ³	60.0	68.1	22,259	23,557	371	346

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,
December 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	7.3	4,330	3,334	470	458
AK	0.1	0.1	16	22	255	229
AZ	0.3	0.3	32	42	110	157
AR	17.0	17.1	8,927	8,930	524	523
CA	235.8	219.1	57,094	52,209	242	238
CO	1.0	0.7	252	182	261	263
DE-MD	1.6	1.7	414	431	258	253
FL	10.7	12.8	1,162	1,622	109	126
GA	11.7	14.0	2,783	3,100	237	221
HI	2.4	2.2	516	473	218	217
ID	13.0	13.5	4,252	4,431	328	328
IL	837.1	778.4	234,043	217,716	280	280
IN	613.1	615.7	163,990	163,486	267	266
IA	2,675.4	2,510.5	732,476	684,959	274	273
KS		14.2		6,003		422
KY	204.4	209.8	55,094	56,654	270	270
LA	2.5	2.2	406	344	164	157
MI	11.6	10.0	4,505	3,921	390	393
MN	821.5	756.7	218,618	202,393	266	267
MS						
MO						
MT	1.2	0.9	322	214	258	252
NE	639.0	602.7	174,342	163,389	273	271
NV						
N ENG ²	2.2	2.0	457	441	204	220
NJ	11.9	11.6	1,071	1,072	90	92
NM	0.1	0.1	36	25	266	273
NY	2.9	2.7	638	703	223	262
NC	1,028.7	935.5	265,821	238,962	258	255
ND	13.0	11.3	3,224	2,798	248	248
OH	96.5	93.9	27,036	25,940	280	276
OK	433.0	378.7	124,568	105,588	288	279
OR	17.4	15.8	4,195	3,133	242	199
PA	285.6	269.7	70,702	69,774	248	259
SC						
SD	457.1	363.5	121,057	98,102	265	270
TN	66.9	55.5	32,292	26,674	483	481
TX	35.9	34.5	9,109	8,473	254	246
UT	4.1	5.3	937	1,110	230	211
VA	236.7	175.6	61,997	45,438	262	259
WA	2.0	2.0	508	503	253	256
WV	0.7	0.6	169	140	259	253
WI	38.9	43.1	17,251	19,363	444	449
WY	0.3	0.4	75	97	267	276
US ³	9,234.5	8,883.1	2,510,536	2,418,256	272	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,
December 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	0.1	0.1	11	9	107	91
AR						
CA						
CO	88.9	85.3	14,317	13,213	161	155
DE-MD	2.8	3.0	298	309	105	103
FL	0.2	0.2	14	16	74	66
GA	0.2	0.4	19	37	103	99
HI						
ID	0.3	0.3	38	35	129	119
IL	17.3	14.3	2,422	1,821	140	128
IN	2.2	3.0	235	332	109	110
IA	34.1	34.9	5,265	5,232	154	150
KS	0.2	0.3	18	28	103	107
KY	1.2	1.0	153	109	133	111
LA	0.1	0.2	7	10	83	69
MI	14.5	16.0	1,925	2,121	133	133
MN	0.3	0.4	46	41	134	117
MS						
MO	0.6	0.5	49	51	85	99
MT	0.3	0.3	40	31	116	118
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	2.7	2.9	244	276	90	94
NJ	9.4	11.8	784	930	84	79
NM	0.6	0.8	78	96	124	125
NY	3.5	4.8	305	399	86	83
NC	0.4	0.6	35	52	92	83
ND	0.1	0.1	6	7	113	122
OH	0.8	1.3	89	136	105	107
OK		0.1		5		104
OR	1.6	1.9	216	237	135	127
PA	4.4	4.7	406	450	92	96
SC						
SD	1.0	1.6	125	212	129	130
TN	0.9	1.4	70	105	79	74
TX	10.7	1.1	1,374	75	129	68
UT	2.6	2.7	363	360	137	132
VA	1.1	0.9	103	87	95	101
WA	0.2	0.4	26	45	138	117
WV						
WI	1.2	1.1	164	152	139	137
WY	0.1	0.1	15	17	140	130
US ³	230.8	223.7	32,899	30,456	143	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	Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec ¹		Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec 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	1,351	1,365	1,279	16,797	17,477	51.6	48.8	49.9	52.8	52.7
Heifers	801	874	770	9,761	9,819	30.6	31.2	30.0	30.7	29.6
All Cows	430	515	477	4,775	5,336	16.4	18.4	18.6	15.0	16.1
Dairy Cows	200	219	212	2,252	2,353	7.6	7.8	8.3	7.1	7.1
Other Cows	230	296	265	2,523	2,983	8.8	10.6	10.3	7.9	9.0
Bulls & Stags	37	44	39	498	511	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5
Total ¹	2,619	2,797	2,564	31,832	33,143	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	8,847	8,954	8,484	99,123	100,114	96.8	96.5	96.5	96.7	96.6
Sows	266	*283	266	3,116	3,228	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1
Stags & Boars	24	40	37	280	349	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
Total ¹	9,138	9,276	8,787	102,519	103,690	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	11	9	11	129	118	4.8	4.3	5.0	5.1	4.6
Lambs & Yrlngs	208	203	199	2,425	2,428	95.2	95.7	95.0	94.9	95.4
Total ¹	219	212	210	2,554	2,546	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	778	786	787	769	779					
Steers ⁴	829	847	848	817	831					
Heifers ⁴	769	788	789	750	765					
All Cows ⁴	622	607	614	621	619					
Bulls & Stags ⁴	901	884	889	905	911					
Calves & Vealers	227	215	212	216	221					
Hogs	203	202	203	201	201					
Barrow Gilts ⁵	200	199	199	197	198					
Sows ⁵	312	310	312	310	310					
Stags & Boars ⁵	216	215	209	213	215					
Sheep	73	69	70	70	70					
Mature Sheep ⁶	68	65	64	69	67					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁶	73	70	70	71	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,
December 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					0.2
2	4.5	1.7	0.3	2.2	1.9	0.3	0.3	21.7
3	74.5	34.0	6.2	32.4	25.7	6.6	2.0	16.5
4	63.6	0.9	0.3	55.5	12.6	43.0	7.0	
5	335.0	141.7	39.3	146.9	79.9	67.0	7.3	17.0
6	467.3	233.0	153.8	71.5	11.8	59.7	9.0	0.7
7	1,162.8	644.7	450.7	60.0	1.1	58.8	7.5	
8	192.0	93.8	80.2					
9	176.8	84.3	9.2	80.0	68.1	11.9	3.3	9.8
10	86.7	44.5	29.8	11.8	6.3	5.4	0.7	
US ²	2,564.3	1,279.0	769.9	476.6	211.6	265.0	38.9	67.0
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total ²	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	1.6	1.6						
2	14.0	13.8	0.2	0.1	14.5	1.5	13.0	
3	445.7	432.5	1.3	12.0	8.2	0.5	7.7	
4	1,388.6	1,310.8	76.7	1.2	3.4	0.9	2.5	
5	2,263.1	2,153.9	105.8	3.4	30.0	4.2	25.8	
6	424.9	399.3	25.5	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.4	
7	3,631.0	3,562.2			35.5	0.2	35.3	
8	377.2	369.1	8.1		89.1	1.7	87.3	
9	211.1	211.0						
10	29.9	29.8	0.1		2.2	0.2	2.0	
US ²	8,787.2	8,483.9	266.3	37.0	209.9	10.6	199.3	

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 - December 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	11.1	4.9	2.2					3.3
2	55.4	18.9	3.7	29.3	27.5	1.9	3.4	196.7
3	888.3	402.0		386.6	309.8	76.8		180.7
4	734.4	11.5	4.2	627.8	136.2	491.6	90.9	
5	3,665.6	1,597.0	443.6	1,527.7	824.9	702.8	97.3	206.6
6	6,473.2	3,391.9	2,054.2	912.5	135.4	777.1	114.6	8.4
7	15,222.9	8,847.6	5,611.3	669.0	16.5	652.5	95.1	0.4
8	2,872.0	1,532.6						0.1
9	2,014.1	991.7	85.4	890.0	763.9	126.1	47.0	91.4
10	1,205.7	678.4	398.5	120.8	81.6	39.3	8.0	
US ²	33,142.8	17,476.7	9,818.9	5,336.3	2,353.1	2,983.2	510.9	698.6
	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	16.4	15.8	0.4	0.2				
2	139.7	136.9	1.8	1.0	143.6	15.9	127.7	
3	5,024.0	4,960.2	12.4	51.4	98.6	5.2	93.4	
4	16,772.1	15,820.7	935.5	15.9	36.8	12.0	24.7	
5	27,617.7	26,252.5	1,324.5	40.6	348.3	41.7	306.6	
6	5,365.9	5,107.6	257.0	1.3	43.3	2.8	40.6	
7	41,334.0	40,476.9			421.2	6.6	414.6	
8	4,532.6	4,457.6	74.9	0.1	1,095.3	22.3	1,073.0	
9	2,522.1	2,520.9						
10	365.9	364.5	1.1	0.3	23.9	1.6	22.3	
US ²	103,690.4	100,113.7	3,227.6	349.1	2,546.3	118.0	2,428.3	

* 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.

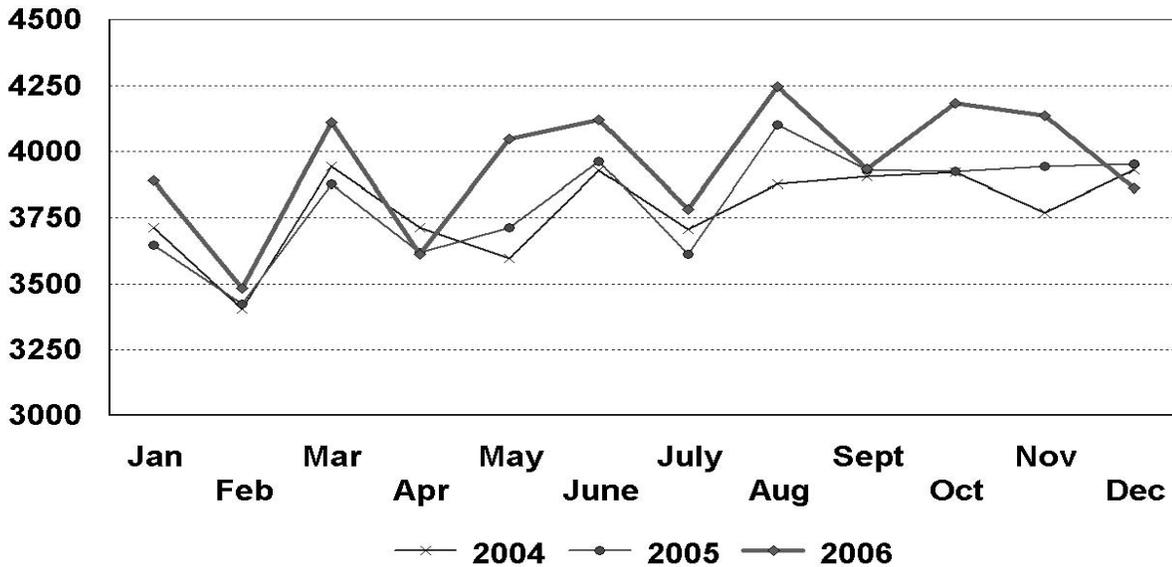
² Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

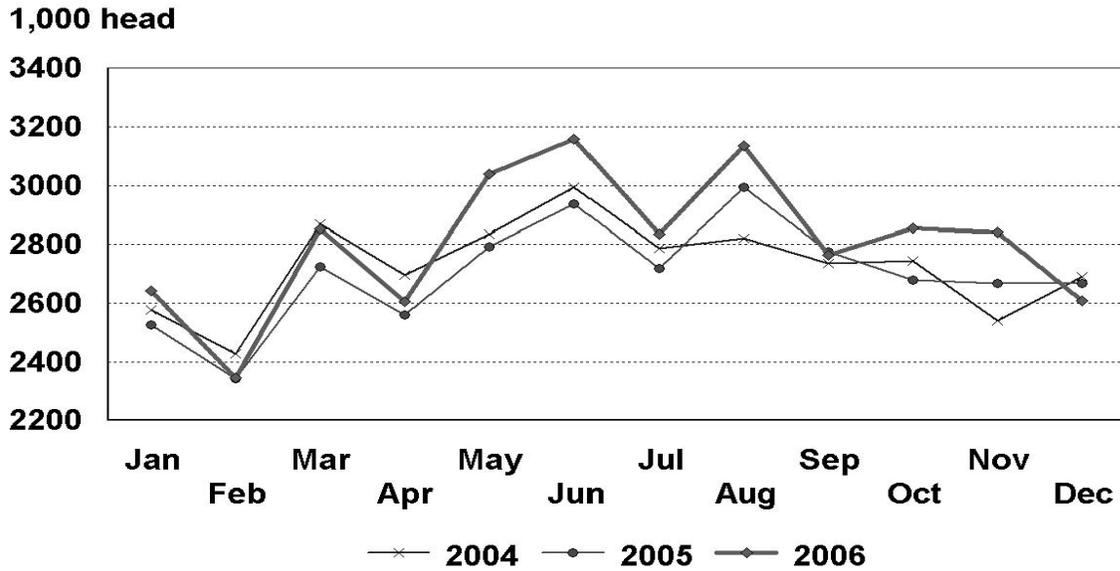
Species	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Jan - Dec	
				2005	2006
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.2	98.5	98.3	98.3	98.4
Calves	97.8	98.3	98.4	97.7	98.2
Hogs	99.0	99.0	98.9	99.0	99.0
Sheep	94.8	94.9	93.8	94.7	94.5

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

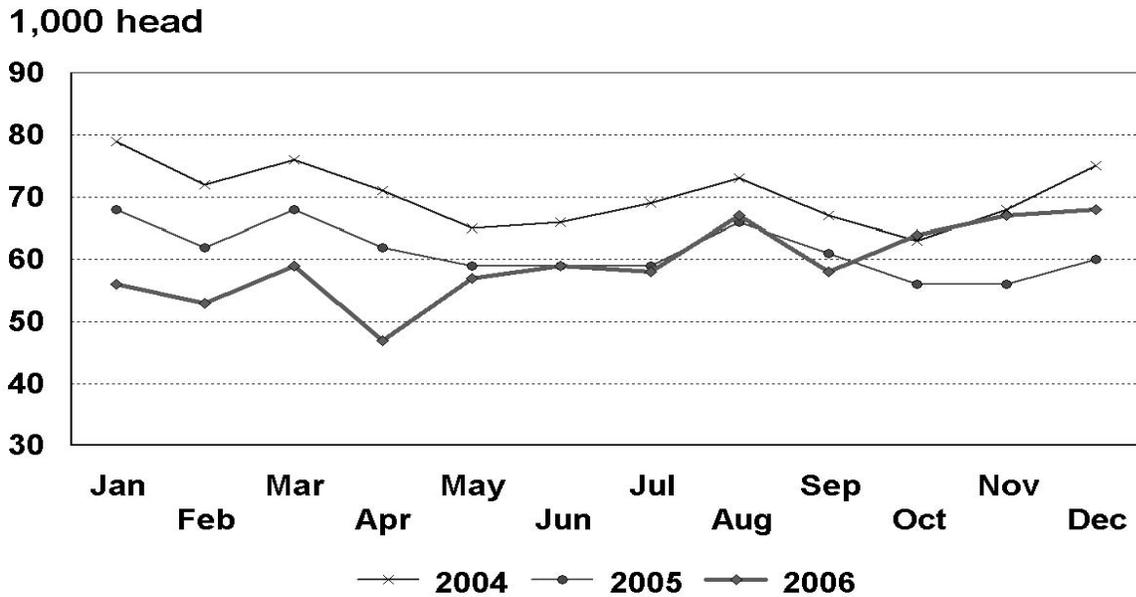
Million Pounds



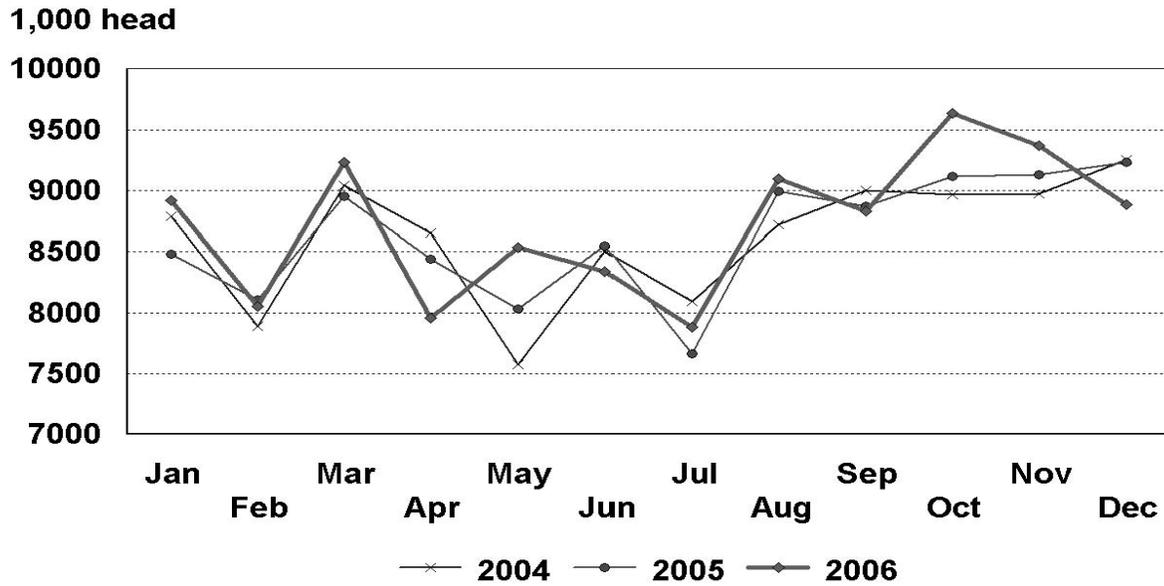
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



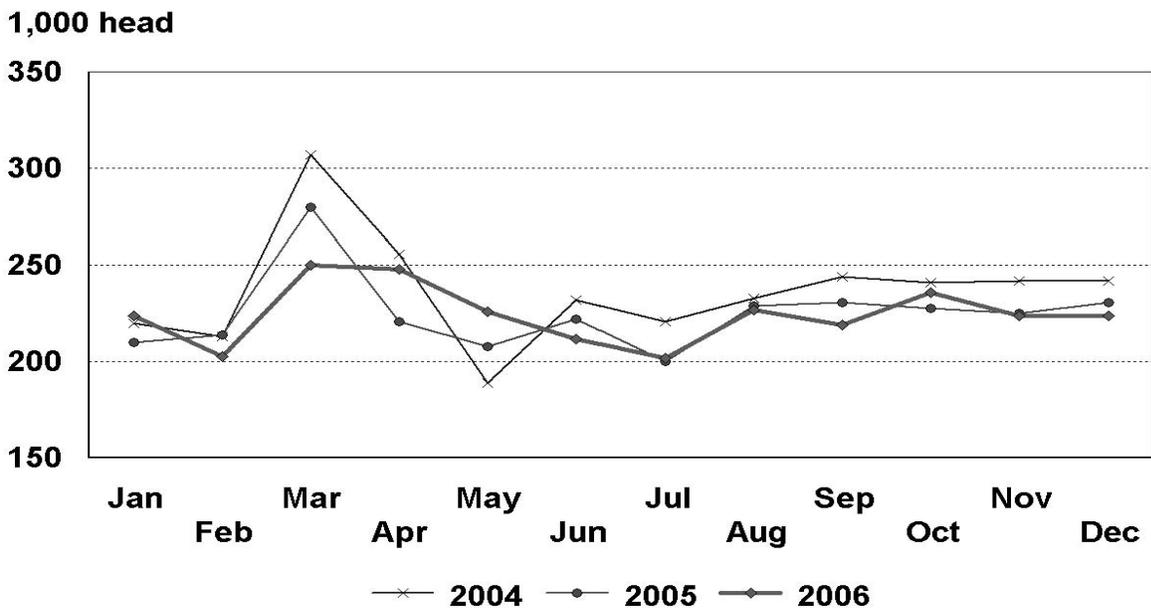
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



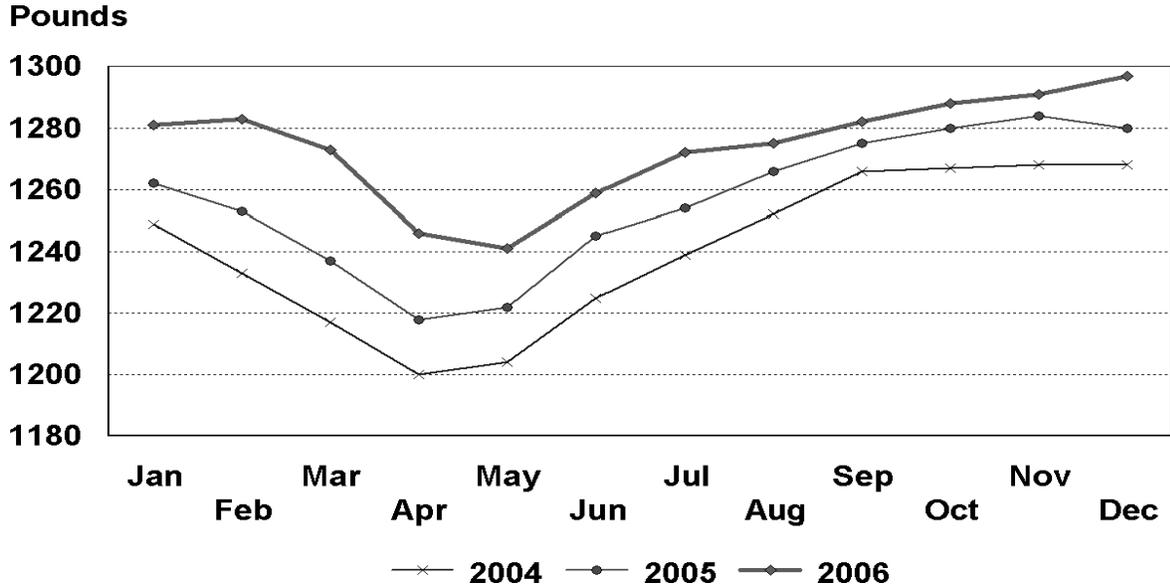
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



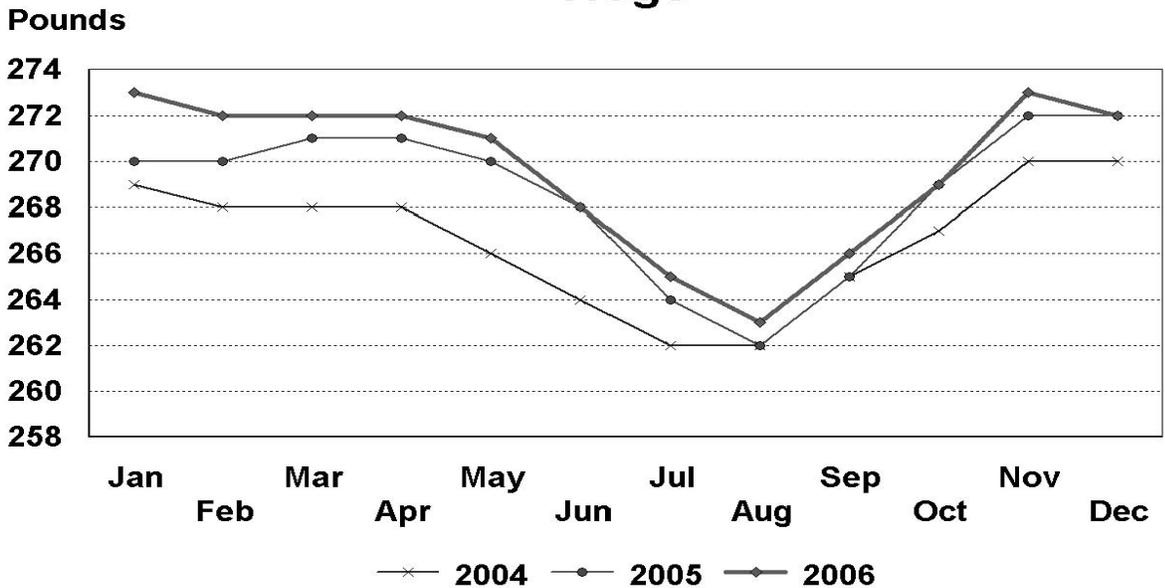
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



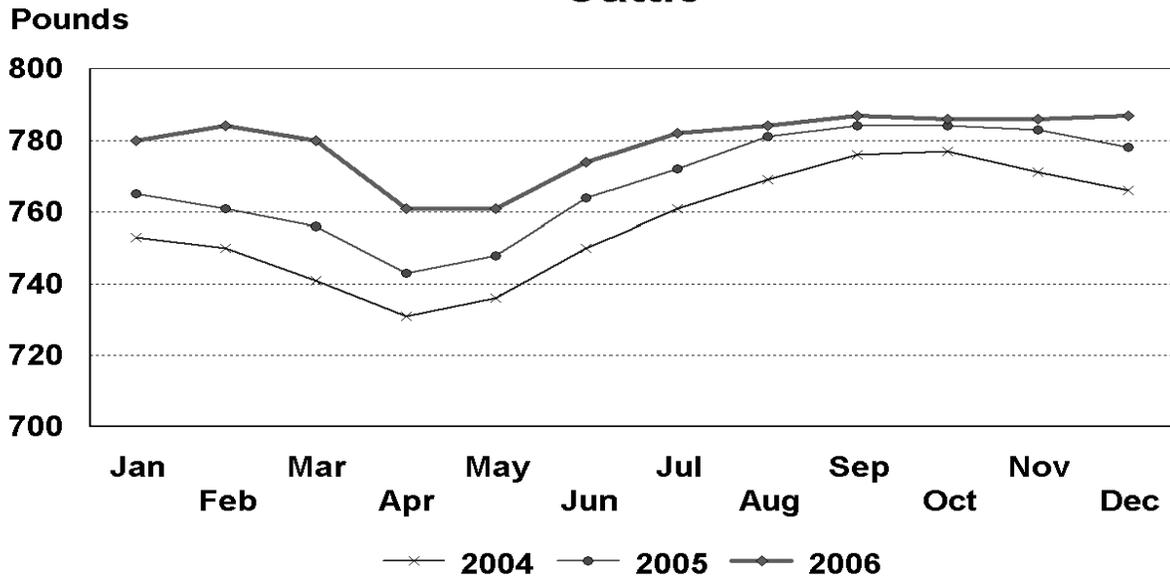
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



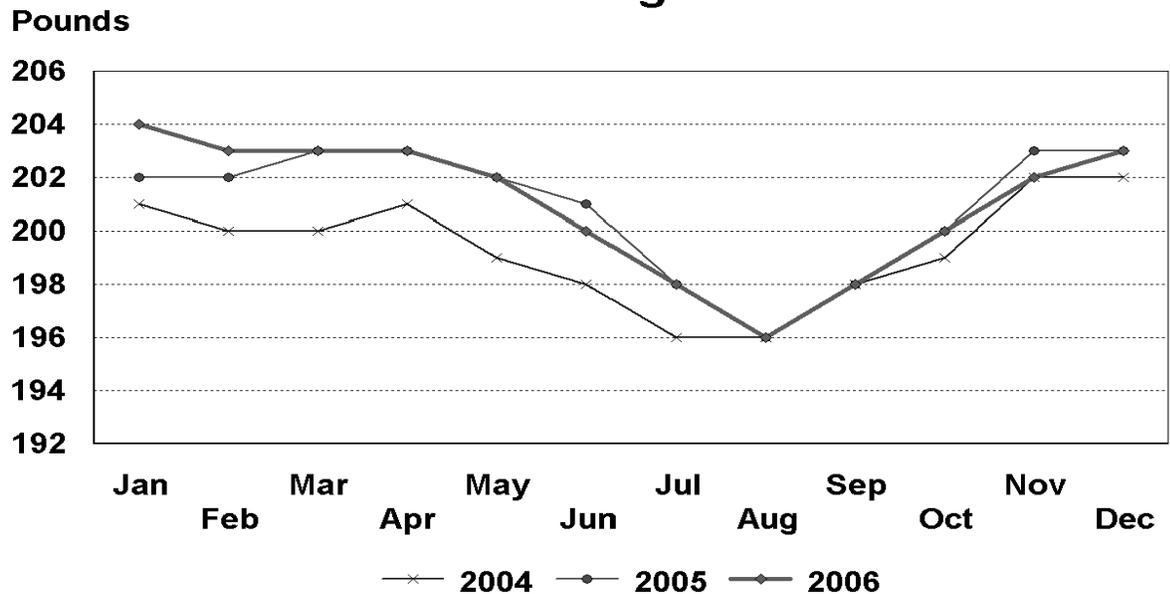
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



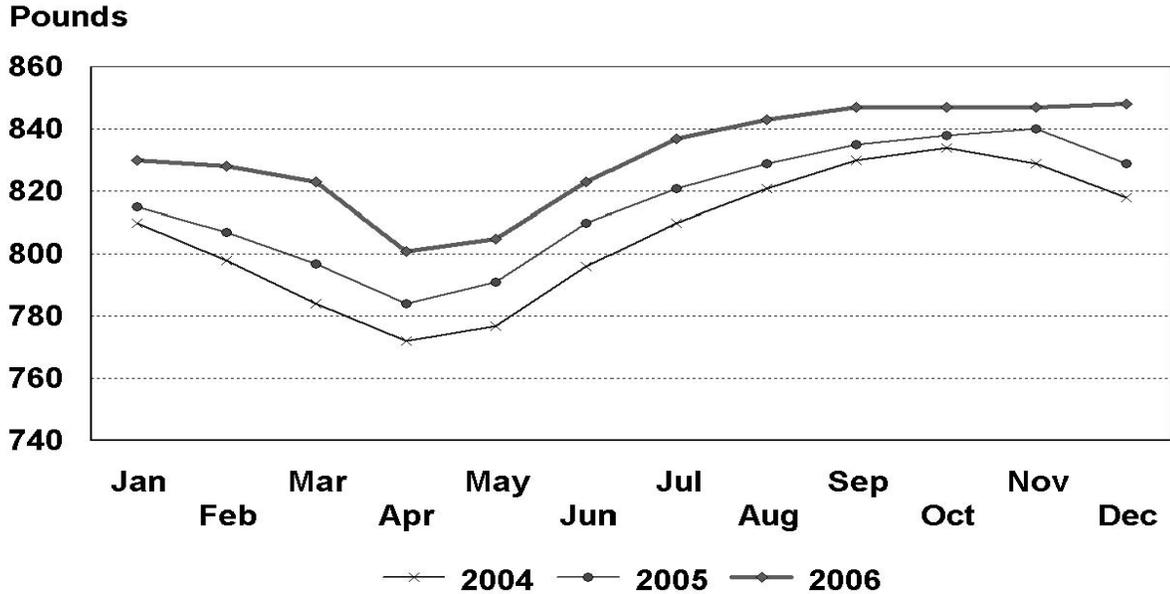
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



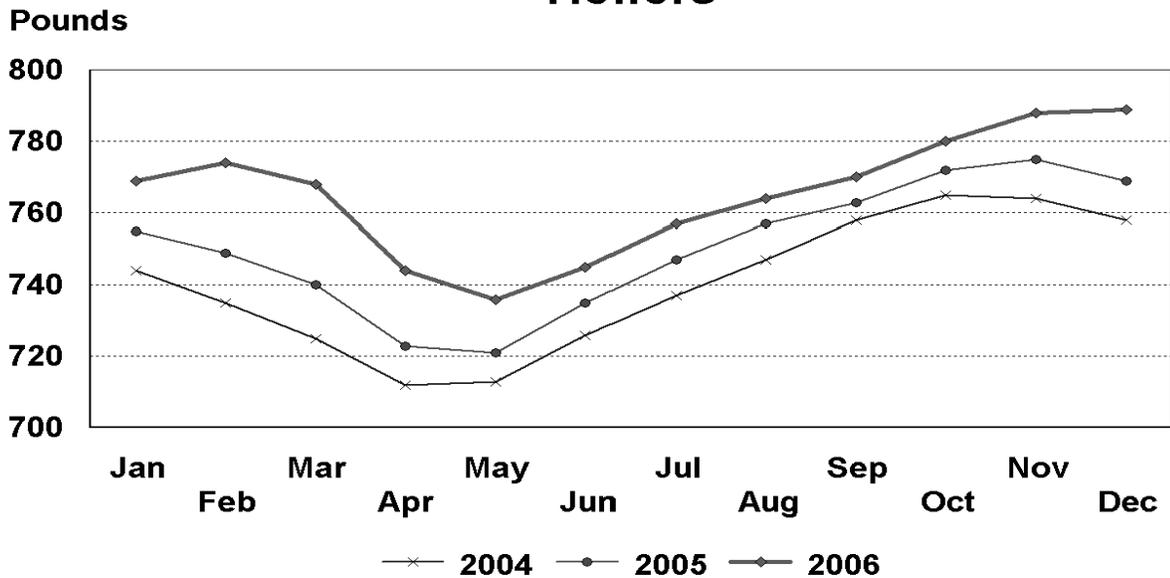
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



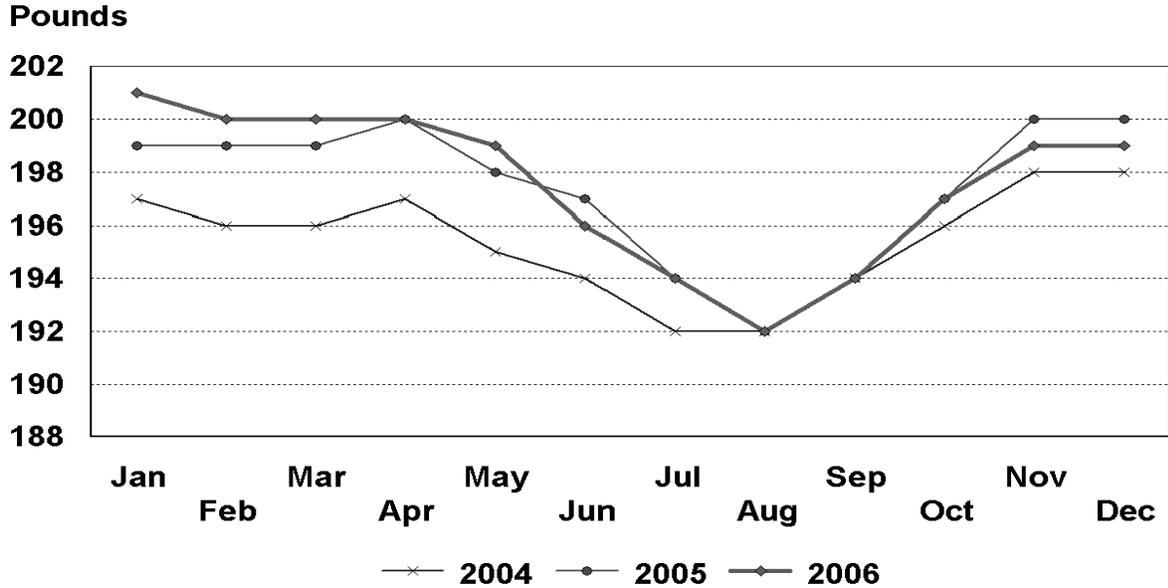
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



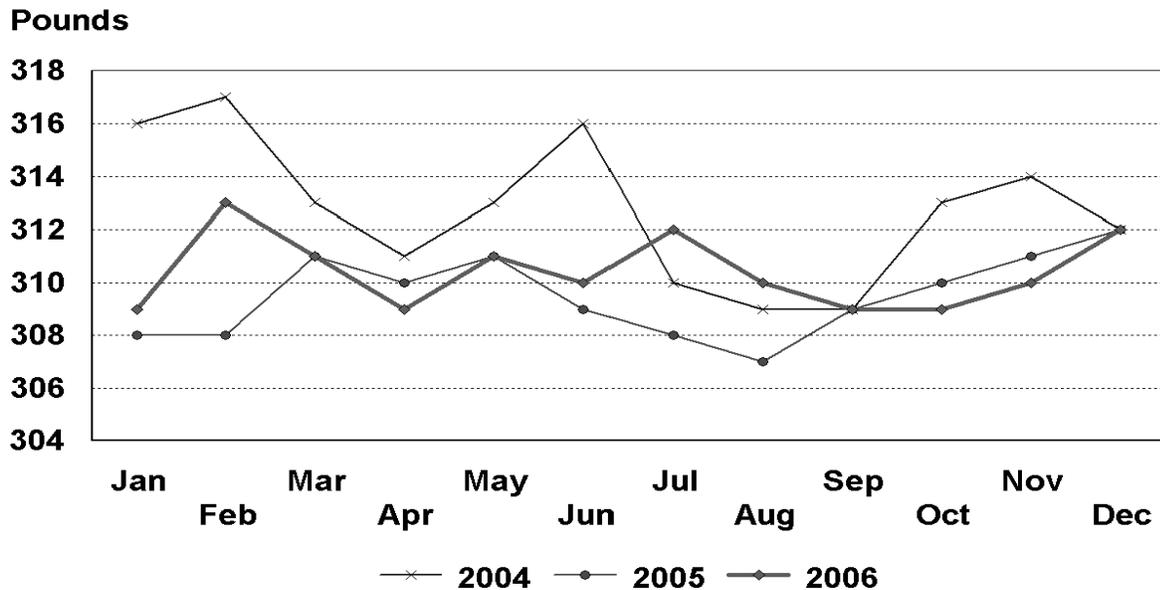
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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



U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Sows



Livestock Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for the commercial livestock slaughter estimates are obtained from electronic reports 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 reported by species and class. Number of animals condemned and total live and dressed weights are also reported by FSIS.

There are 806 plants in the U.S. operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 2,100 plants under State inspection. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Types of Plants, page 72). 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 reports are 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 report is received electronically 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 0.5 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.

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 post mortem as a percentage of the total kill. The condemnation factor for 2005 was 2 head per 100 head for calves, 0.55 per 100 for cattle, 0.39 per 100 for hogs and 0.19 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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