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Red Meat Production Up from Previous Month

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.01 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 4.11 billion pounds produced in March 2006.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 2 percent from March 2006. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.5 million pounds, 7 percent above March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 70,800 head, up 20 percent from March 2006. The average live weight was down 38 pounds from last year, at 321 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.86 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.20 million head, down slightly from March 2006. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.6 million pounds, was up 7 percent from March 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 278,600 head, 12 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, down 5 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2007 commercial red meat production was 11.7 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up 11 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

March 2006 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Contents

	Page
Red Meat Production, Commercial and FI, by Type, 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
Reliability Statement.....	18
Types of Plants.....	19
Terms and Definitions.....	20
Information Contacts.....	20

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Type	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 07 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 2006	Feb 2007	2006	2007	07 as % of 06
	<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	2,203.7	1,952.8	2,117.9	96	108	6,081.4	6,235.1	103
Veal	12.7	12.2	13.5	107	111	35.9	40.0	111
Pork	1,877.5	1,636.2	1,860.9	99	114	5,335.0	5,395.6	101
Lamb & Mutton	18.3	14.4	19.6	107	136	49.2	49.1	100
Total Red Meat ³	4,112.1	3,615.6	4,011.9	98	111	11,501.4	11,719.8	102

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

² Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

³ Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding.

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Class	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 07 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 2006	Feb 2007	2006	2007	07 as % of 06
	<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	2,172.3	1,924.2	2,088.5	96	109	5,988.4	6,144.2	103
Veal	12.4	11.9	13.3	107	112	35.0	39.2	112
Pork	1,862.2	1,623.2	1,846.5	99	114	5,292.2	5,354.0	101
Lamb & Mutton	17.7	13.9	19.0	107	136	47.3	47.4	100
Total Red Meat ³	4,064.6	*3,573.2	3,967.3	98	111	11,362.9	11,584.8	102

* Revised.

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

² Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

³ Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding.

Livestock Slaughter: Number and Average Weights, United States ¹

Species	Unit	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 07 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
					Mar 2006	Feb 2007	2006	2007	07 % of 06
					<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>			<i>Prct</i>
Cattle No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,806.1	2,517.6	2,747.4	98	109	7,699.2	8,012.8	104
Other	Thou	47.9	44.1	45.2	94	102	144.0	140.0	97
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,854.0	2,561.7	2,792.6	98	109	7,843.2	8,152.8	104
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,271	1,276	1,261	99	99	1,281	1,276	100
Other	Lbs	1,145	1,150	1,146	100	100	1,138	1,147	101
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,269	1,274	1,259	99	99	1,279	1,274	100
Calves No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	57.9	65.6	69.6	120	106	163.9	208.5	127
Other	Thou	1.1	1.3	1.2	106	91	3.4	3.6	104
Comm'l. ³	Thou	59.1	66.9	70.8	120	106	167.3	212.0	127
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	358	306	319	89	104	356	317	89
Other	Lbs	416	370	413	99	111	410	390	95
Comm'l.	Lbs	359	307	321	89	105	357	318	89
Hogs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	9,148.2	8,039.8	9,118.9	100	113	25,959.5	26,440.1	102
Other	Thou	87.6	77.2	84.2	96	109	248.2	245.5	99
Comm'l. ³	Thou	9,235.8	8,117.0	9,203.2	100	113	26,207.6	26,685.6	102
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	272	270	271	100	100	272	271	99
Other	Lbs	240	234	237	99	101	237	234	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	271	269	270	100	100	272	270	99
Sheep&Lambs No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	239.6	194.3	267.2	111	137	642.2	665.7	104
Other	Thou	10.2	10.1	11.5	113	114	35.1	34.1	97
Comm'l. ³	Thou	249.8	204.4	278.6	112	136	677.3	699.7	103
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	147	143	142	97	99	146	142	97
Other	Lbs	109	92	101	93	110	109	101	92
Comm'l.	Lbs	145	140	140	97	100	144	140	97
Goats No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	45.2	40.8	50.8	112	125	125.2	137.3	110
Other	Thou	13.9	14.2	15.5	112	110	43.2	42.8	99
Comm'l. ³	Thou	59.2	54.9	66.3	112	121	168.4	180.1	107
Live Wt/Hd									
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	65	63	60	93	96	65	62	94
Other	Lbs	77	61	63	83	103	71	65	91
Comm'l.	Lbs	68	62	61	90	98	67	62	93
Bison No.									
Fed. Insp.	Thou	3.6	3.3	4.3	119	132	10.9	11.7	108
Other	Thou	1.3	1.7	1.7	132	98	4.3	5.2	121
Comm'l. ³	Thou	4.9	5.0	6.1	123	120	15.2	16.9	112

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	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 07 as % of ²	
				Mar 2006	Feb 2007
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	3.0	2.2	2.7	92	125
AK					
AZ	35.4	31.1	33.7	95	108
AR	4.9	4.2	4.5	92	106
CA	142.4	131.7	142.1	100	108
CO	150.6	141.5	148.1	98	105
DE-MD	3.5	3.1	3.5	100	111
FL	5.3	6.2	7.0	131	113
GA	11.1	13.3	12.6	113	95
HI	0.9	0.7	0.8	95	113
ID	28.4	7.8	15.6	55	199
IL	245.2	203.4	245.1	100	120
IN	136.3	114.6	133.2	98	116
IA	578.4	486.7	552.2	95	113
KS	529.3	452.9	504.4	95	111
KY	43.8	38.2	47.7	109	125
LA	0.9	0.7	0.9	92	114
MI	36.5	36.8	40.8	112	111
MN	209.0	188.1	210.1	101	112
MS	28.1	22.2	19.2	68	87
MO	70.4	108.8	116.1	165	107
MT	1.1	1.3	1.1	99	85
NE	577.2	536.9	550.3	95	102
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	80	98
N ENG ³	0.9	0.8	0.9	95	107
NJ	4.3	4.3	5.0	117	117
NM	0.4	0.5	0.5	123	95
NY	2.8	2.4	2.8	99	118
NC	207.9	181.0	190.5	92	105
ND	3.2	2.5	2.5	79	104
OH	25.5	21.5	25.0	98	116
OK	94.9	80.5	96.4	102	120
OR	4.0	4.1	4.4	108	107
PA	110.1	96.9	110.4	100	114
SC	21.7	19.5	21.5	99	111
SD	81.8	70.5	84.4	103	120
TN	18.2	16.0	18.3	100	114
TX	430.9	331.9	383.2	89	115
UT	44.6	34.2	39.4	88	115
VA	40.6	35.3	38.8	95	110
WA	67.2	70.7	76.0	113	107
WV	0.4	0.4	0.5	115	105
WI	110.4	109.5	119.4	108	109
WY	0.5	0.6	0.5	103	83
US	4,112.1	3,615.6	4,011.9	98	111

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,
March 2006 and 2007 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<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	0.7	0.6	683	583	1,038	944
AK	0.1		69		1,162	
AZ		41.9		58,019		1,387
AR	1.2	0.9	1,219	883	1,009	988
CA	130.1	134.5	174,384	176,988	1,369	1,340
CO	173.1	169.3	224,069	219,165	1,295	1,295
DE-MD	3.9	3.9	5,134	5,170	1,334	1,337
FL						
GA	19.7	23.3	18,489	21,297	950	921
HI	1.0	0.9	1,032	984	1,084	1,062
ID		17.2		24,494		1,448
IL						
IN	3.0	2.8	3,131	2,946	1,044	1,051
IA						
KS	662.5	648.1	818,613	786,489	1,236	1,214
KY	1.5	1.6	1,384	1,505	934	946
LA	0.9	0.7	799	640	883	876
MI	40.4	47.0	55,422	64,477	1,378	1,381
MN	56.1	65.2	79,912	91,604	1,437	1,416
MS	0.1	0.1	98	101	869	875
MO	7.6	7.8	9,200	9,510	1,223	1,225
MT	1.4	1.4	1,688	1,631	1,245	1,206
NE	558.0	532.8	731,191	689,844	1,313	1,297
NV	0.1	0.1	118	88	1,146	1,102
N ENG ²	1.0	0.9	1,120	1,007	1,118	1,122
NJ	2.3	2.4	2,689	2,990	1,204	1,238
NM	0.8	0.9	695	786	938	963
NY	2.4	2.2	2,573	2,472	1,104	1,171
NC	15.9	17.5	19,126	20,423	1,205	1,174
ND	1.0	1.1	1,263	1,213	1,237	1,137
OH	9.1	9.6	10,500	11,298	1,176	1,192
OK	2.8	2.0	3,247	2,302	1,145	1,138
OR	1.9	2.2	2,182	2,588	1,153	1,205
PA	77.2	77.2	96,278	96,282	1,259	1,256
SC	13.3	13.6	15,394	15,846	1,163	1,173
SD						
TN	1.4	2.0	1,275	1,696	934	887
TX	567.6	516.8	679,631	612,666	1,201	1,189
UT	57.4	48.8	72,515	63,390	1,266	1,301
VA	1.0	1.1	1,106	1,098	1,057	1,042
WA	83.9	93.8	108,900	123,365	1,303	1,320
WV	0.5	0.6	574	644	1,078	1,094
WI	130.0	142.6	174,949	190,587	1,361	1,351
WY	0.5	0.5	608	647	1,190	1,209
US ³	2,854.0	2,792.6	3,607,680	3,504,629	1,269	1,259

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,
March 2006 and 2007 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<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	7.1	10.7	1,167	1,433	166	135
CO						
DE-MD	0.2	0.1	51	41	325	274
FL						
GA	0.1	0.1	58	40	459	422
HI						
ID						
IL	3.6	3.6	1,519	1,546	424	429
IN	0.2		30		125	
IA						
KS						
KY		0.1		40		544
LA	0.3	0.4	160	184	497	489
MI	3.0	2.2	1,230	943	406	424
MN						
MS						
MO						
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	0.3	0.2	46	42	172	279
NJ	7.4	9.1	3,188	4,042	432	446
NM		0.7		59		79
NY	8.5	12.5	1,610	1,739	194	143
NC		0.1		52		496
ND						
OH	0.1	0.1	20	26	350	350
OK	0.1		40		438	
OR						
PA	15.3	16.7	6,323	6,443	414	386
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1	0.1	42	43	515	422
TX	0.7	1.0	413	656	594	632
UT						
VA	0.1	0.1	28	21	379	304
WA						
WV						
WI	11.1		4,960		449	
WY						
US ³	59.1	70.8	21,078	22,588	359	321

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,
March 2006 and 2007 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<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	9.3	4,514	4,124	463	444
AK		0.1		16		264
AZ	0.3	0.2	71	44	228	207
AR	13.6	13.4	6,369	6,073	467	453
CA	231.3	219.7	56,620	53,440	246	244
CO	1.0	0.9	272	229	268	260
DE-MD	1.3	1.2	341	314	261	263
FL	7.5	7.1	1,033	1,076	140	152
GA	10.7	11.0	2,456	2,378	230	217
HI	1.8	1.7	401	377	226	224
ID	13.8	14.7	3,566	3,773	258	257
IL	855.1	866.4	241,647	242,231	283	280
IN	664.1	658.1	176,637	173,426	266	264
IA	2,626.7	2,485.7	716,960	675,323	273	272
KS		18.4		8,491		463
KY	214.2	234.3	57,393	61,991	268	265
LA	2.0	2.0	417	447	212	222
MI	9.6	9.3	3,688	3,503	387	379
MN	837.6	807.3	219,853	212,964	263	264
MS						
MO		525.3		146,276		279
MT	1.1	1.0	270	255	246	253
NE	611.2	638.9	165,548	172,357	271	270
NV						
N ENG ²	1.1	1.1	244	222	212	210
NJ	8.6	8.5	868	871	101	103
NM	0.1	0.1	23	12	279	221
NY	3.1	2.0	480	376	157	190
NC	1,010.0	931.0	262,364	239,315	260	257
ND	14.9	11.1	3,725	2,783	250	250
OH	99.0	95.8	26,915	25,826	272	270
OK	434.3	455.9	122,238	125,248	281	275
OR	16.9	16.5	4,048	3,901	240	237
PA	265.0	263.3	65,562	66,554	248	253
SC						
SD	377.0	391.4	98,876	101,732	262	260
TN	54.2	54.0	26,771	25,611	494	475
TX	34.0	33.2	8,237	7,893	242	238
UT	3.3	4.1	778	795	234	193
VA	202.7	194.1	52,988	50,516	262	261
WA	1.9	1.8	402	393	214	218
WV	0.4	0.6	122	167	291	304
WI	46.0	46.9	20,478	20,739	451	450
WY	0.4	0.4	109	99	269	261
US ³	9,235.8	9,203.2	2,504,377	2,485,226	271	270

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,
March 2006 and 2007 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<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		15		108	
AR	0.1		8		114	
CA						
CO	101.9	122.4	16,122	18,804	158	154
DE-MD	2.9	2.8	308	292	106	104
FL	0.2	0.2	13	12	62	56
GA	0.2	0.4	25	45	128	127
HI						
ID	0.2	0.3	32	35	134	133
IL	15.2		2,248		148	
IN	1.6	2.2	179	234	110	106
IA	41.5	44.8	6,469	6,923	157	155
KS	0.2	0.2	28	20	119	123
KY	0.8	0.8	104	104	130	133
LA	0.2	0.4	19	41	106	99
MI	16.5	16.7	2,238	2,244	136	135
MN	0.2	0.2	20	26	128	116
MS						
MO	0.3	0.5	43	60	130	126
MT	0.2	0.2	19	26	101	114
NE	0.5		74		158	
NV		0.1		9		137
N ENG ²	2.2	2.5	186	241	85	98
NJ	7.8	10.1	645	747	83	74
NM	0.8	1.2	101	156	125	132
NY	2.6	4.3	206	305	81	71
NC	0.4	0.4	34	31	91	84
ND	0.1	0.1	7	7	145	131
OH	0.8	1.0	80	110	104	107
OK	0.2	0.1	20	8	134	126
OR	1.5	2.3	217	329	145	141
PA	4.2	5.5	413	496	98	91
SC						
SD	1.3	0.9	173	114	129	132
TN	0.9	0.9	71	69	76	80
TX	10.9	2.4	1,469	202	135	85
UT	2.8	3.0	390	423	142	143
VA	0.9	0.9	88	90	97	101
WA	0.1	0.1	7	15	137	144
WV						
WI	0.7	0.6	101	86	142	136
WY	0.1	0.1	14	20	127	144
US ³	249.8	278.6	36,178	39,013	145	140

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	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Jan - Mar ¹		Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Jan - Mar ¹	
				2006	2007				2006	2007
	<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	1,458	1,236	1,393	3,945	4,014	52.0	49.1	50.7	51.2	50.1
Heifers	878	803	820	2,390	2,442	31.3	31.9	29.9	31.0	30.5
All Cows	427	444	488	1,240	1,434	15.2	17.6	17.8	16.1	17.9
Dairy Cows	207	202	230	579	660	7.4	8.0	8.4	7.5	8.2
Other Cows	220	242	258	661	774	7.8	9.6	9.4	8.6	9.7
Bulls	43	35	46	124	122	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.5
Total ¹	2,806	2,518	2,747	7,699	8,013	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves & Vealers	58	66	70	164	208	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrow & Gilts	8,837	7,757	8,790	25,108	25,502	96.6	96.5	96.4	96.7	96.5
Sows	286	248	284	781	818	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1
Boars	25	35	45	71	121	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5
Total ¹	9,148	8,040	9,119	25,959	26,440	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	9	8	9	26	26	4.0	4.0	3.4	4.1	3.9
Lambs & Yrlngs	230	187	258	616	640	96.0	96.0	96.6	95.9	96.1
Total ¹	240	194	267	642	666	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Dressed Weight										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
Cattle	777	767	763	781	770					
Steers ³	818	816	808	825	819					
Heifers ³	766	760	752	769	761					
All Cows ³	644	631	635	644	632					
Bulls ³	930	905	920	928	912					
Calves & Vealers	216	183	192	215	190					
Hogs	204	202	203	204	203					
Barrow Gilts ⁴	200	199	199	201	199					
Sows ⁴	310	307	308	312	308					
Boars ⁴	238	206	215	235	212					
Sheep	74	72	71	74	71					
Mature Sheep ⁵	68	66	68	68	66					
Lamb & Yrlngs ⁵	74	72	71	74	71					

¹ Total and percentages based on unrounded data.

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

³ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

⁴ Included in hog average dressed weight.

⁵ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,
March 2007¹**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total ²	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	0.8	0.3	0.1					0.1
2	4.5	1.6	0.3	2.3	2.1	0.2	0.2	21.5
3	79.8	34.5	5.9	37.3	29.8	7.5	2.1	16.9
4	66.5	1.3	0.3	56.4	12.7	43.6	8.5	
5	329.0	142.4	37.0	141.9	77.6	64.3	7.7	17.5
6	515.9	275.2	159.9	70.8	19.3	51.5	10.0	1.6
7	1,233.6	698.3	461.6	64.7	1.8	62.9	9.0	
8	228.5	104.5	107.5					
9	176.7	85.0	12.1	76.1	68.2	7.9	3.5	10.5
10	112.1	49.9	35.5	24.2	13.4	10.8	2.6	
US ²	2,747.4	1,393.2	820.2	488.4	230.4	258.0	45.6	69.6
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	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	0.8	0.8						
2	10.2	10.0	0.2	0.1	13.3	1.2	12.0	
3	456.9	441.3	1.1	14.5	9.0	0.3	8.7	
4	1,393.1	1,314.1	77.0	2.0	2.4	0.8	1.6	
5	2,451.5	2,325.1	123.0	3.4	36.4	3.2	33.2	
6	493.7	474.5	19.1	0.1	0.9	0.3	0.5	
7	3,661.0	3,575.3			45.3	0.3	45.0	
8	404.6	402.3	2.3		125.7	2.2	123.5	
9	215.0	214.8						
10	32.0	31.9	0.1		2.4	0.1	2.3	
US ²	9,118.9	8,790.1	284.2	44.7	267.2	9.1	258.0	

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 - March 2007 ¹**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total ²	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	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	2.5	1.2	0.4					0.4
2	13.0	4.8	0.9	6.6	5.9	0.7	0.7	65.1
3	234.2	101.4	23.3	103.7	82.6	21.1	5.7	47.9
4	203.1	3.7	1.0	175.3	41.3	134.1	23.1	
5	976.6	429.5	112.4	414.4	223.7	190.7	20.4	52.3
6	1,438.7	744.0	455.1	210.1	51.6	158.5	29.4	7.0
7	3,645.1	2,018.8	1,413.9	189.8	3.6	186.2	22.7	0.1
8	675.1	314.6	308.4					
9	527.7	252.2	29.8	235.7	206.7	29.1	9.9	31.6
10	296.9	143.6	97.1	51.7	29.6	22.2	4.5	
US ²	8,012.8	4,013.9	2,442.2	1,434.5	660.0	774.4	122.1	208.5
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total ²	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	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	2.7	2.7						
2	31.9	31.2	0.5	0.3	32.7	3.6	29.1	
3	1,287.7	1,243.3	3.5	40.9	21.7	1.0	20.7	
4	4,168.7	3,941.6	221.1	5.9	7.1	2.3	4.8	
5	6,998.8	6,644.7	344.3	9.8	91.2	9.2	82.0	
6	1,367.5	1,304.5	62.8	0.2	2.3	1.1	1.3	
7	10,744.3	10,513.7			112.0	0.6	111.4	
8	1,114.5	1,096.5	17.9		307.1	5.8	301.4	
9	630.4	630.1						
10	93.6	93.3	0.2		5.9	0.3	5.5	
US ²	26,440.1	25,501.6	817.6	120.9	665.7	25.9	639.8	

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.

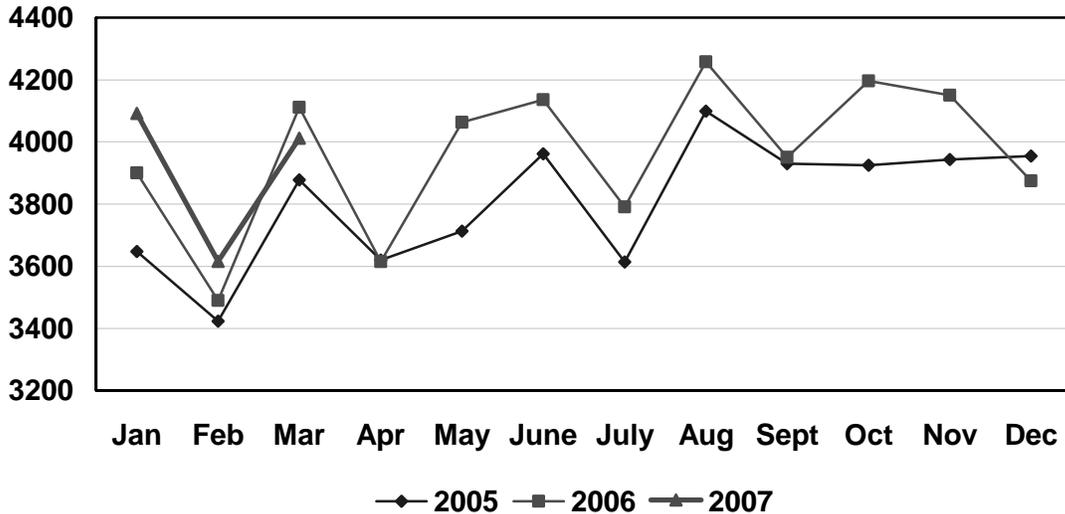
² Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

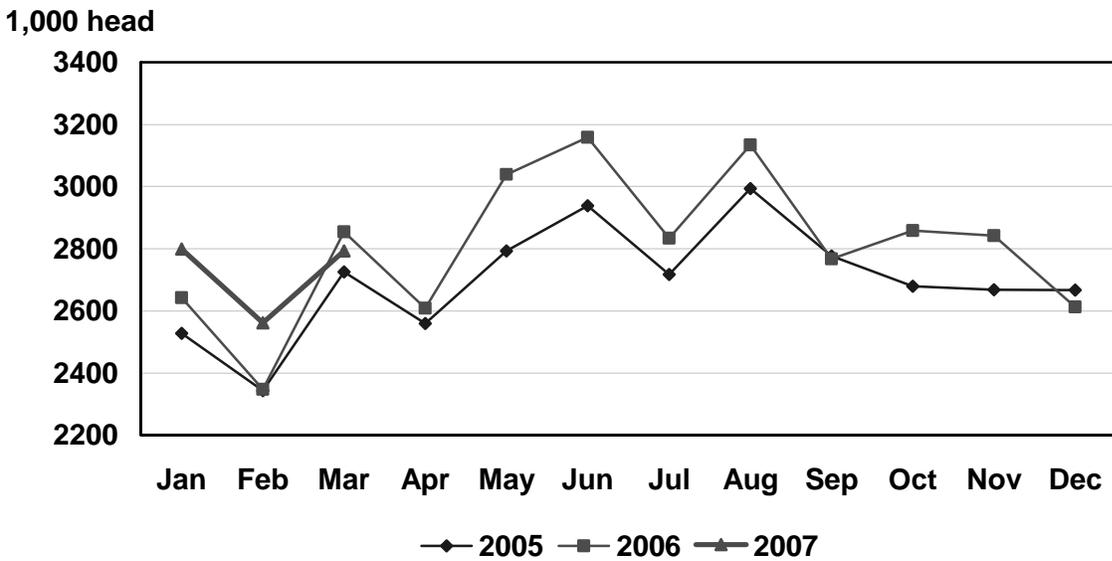
Species	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Jan - Mar	
				2006	2007
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.3	98.3	98.4	98.2	98.3
Calves	98.1	98.0	98.3	98.0	98.3
Hogs	99.1	99.0	99.1	99.1	99.1
Sheep	95.9	95.1	95.9	94.8	95.1

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

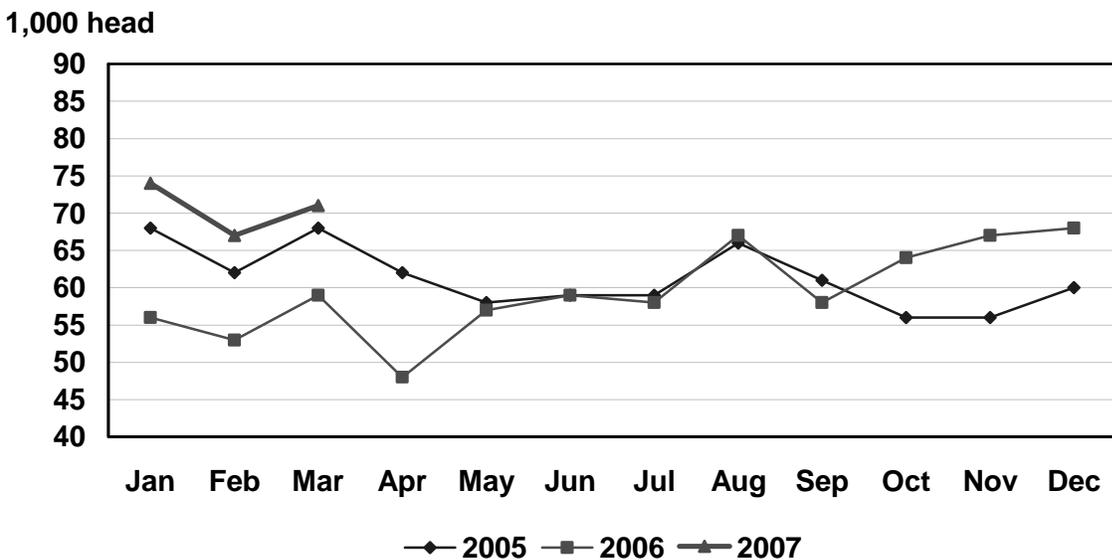
Million Pounds



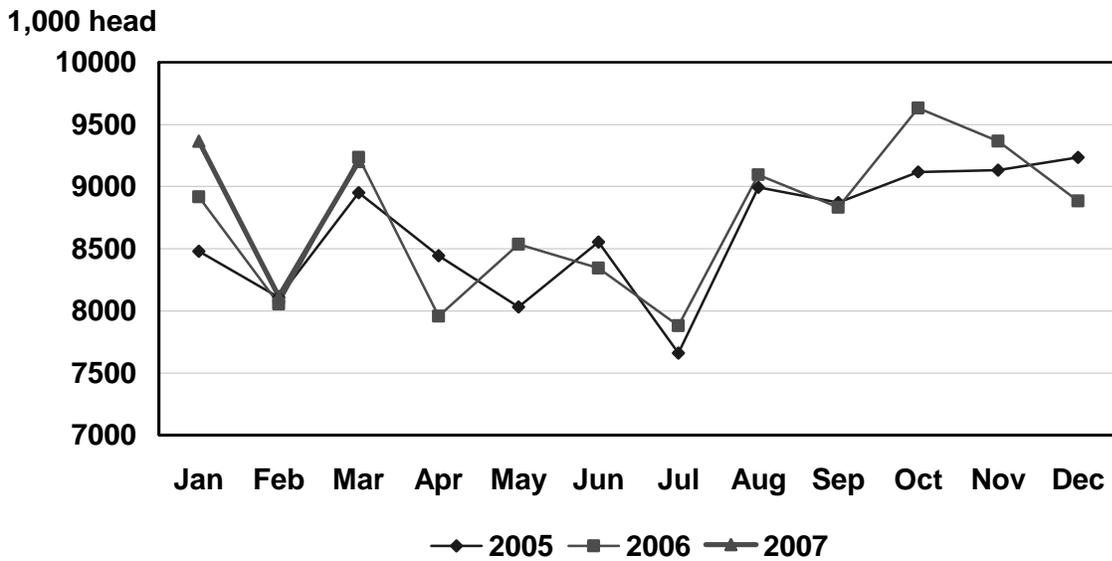
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



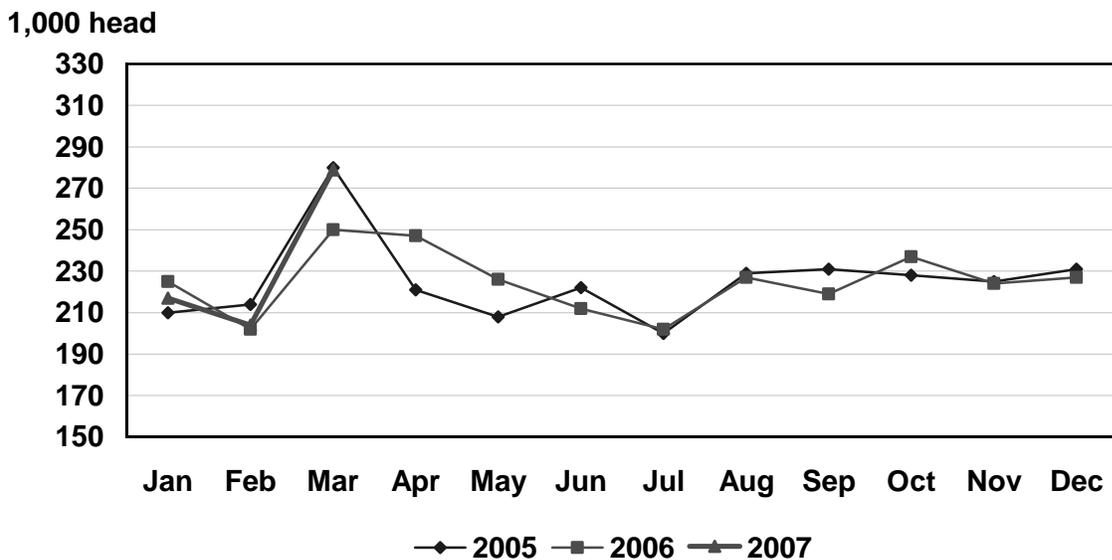
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



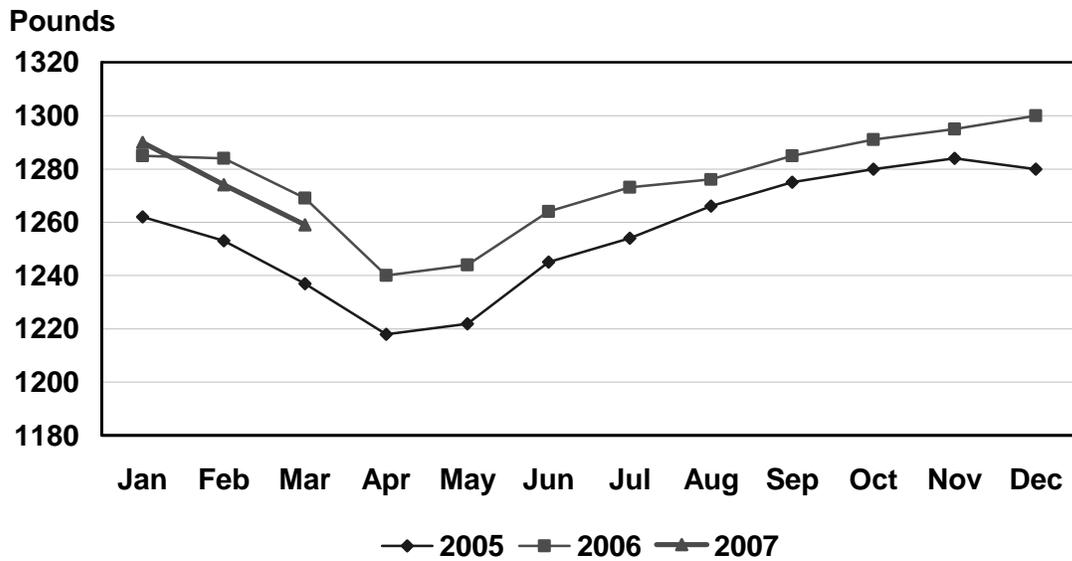
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



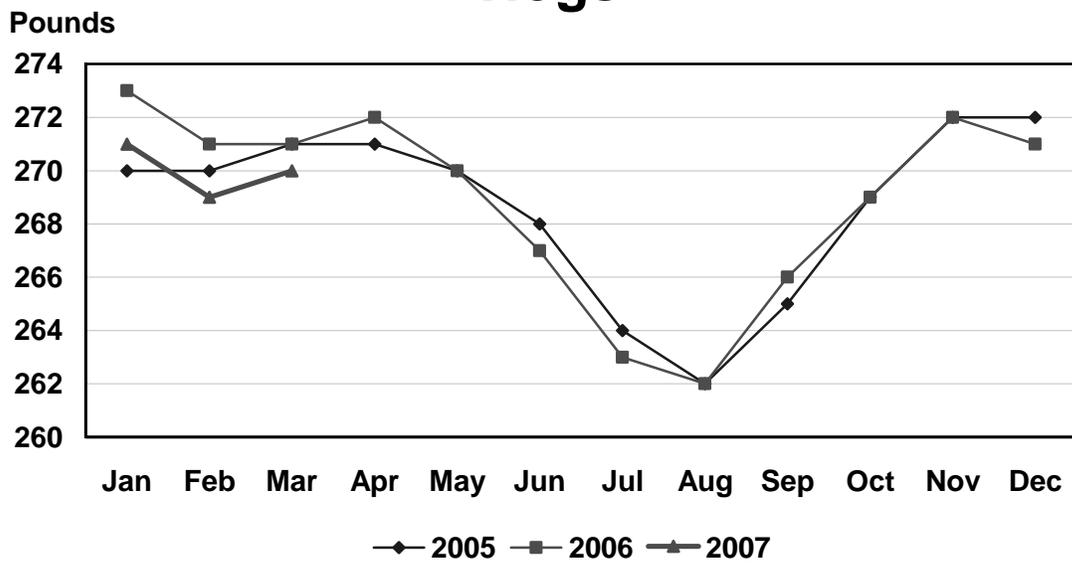
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



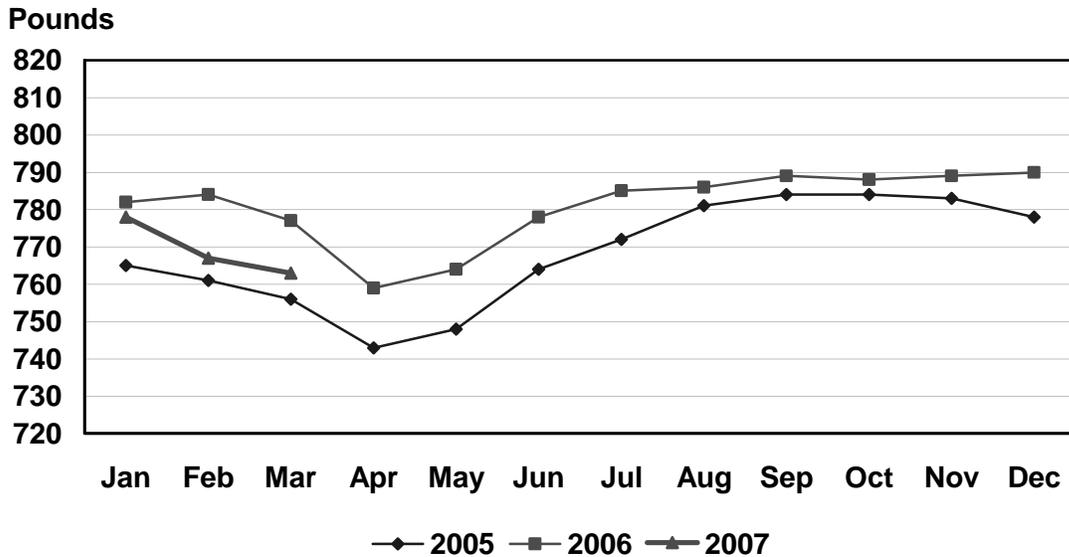
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



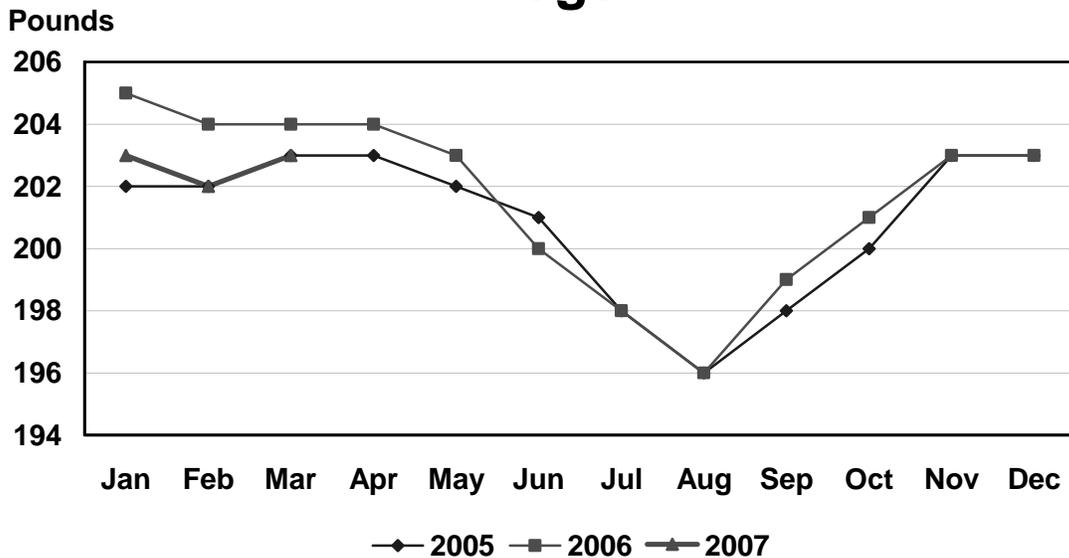
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



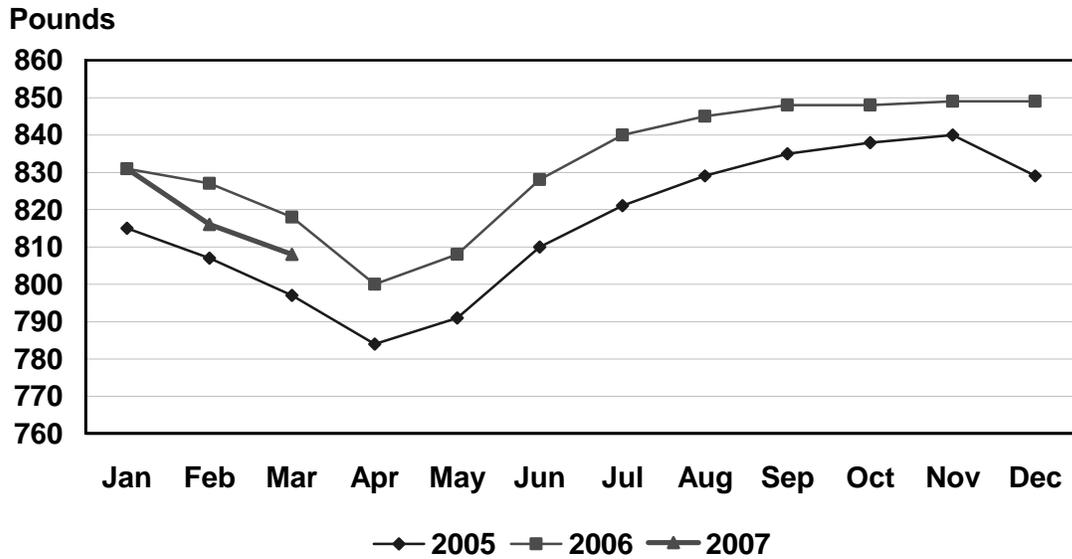
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



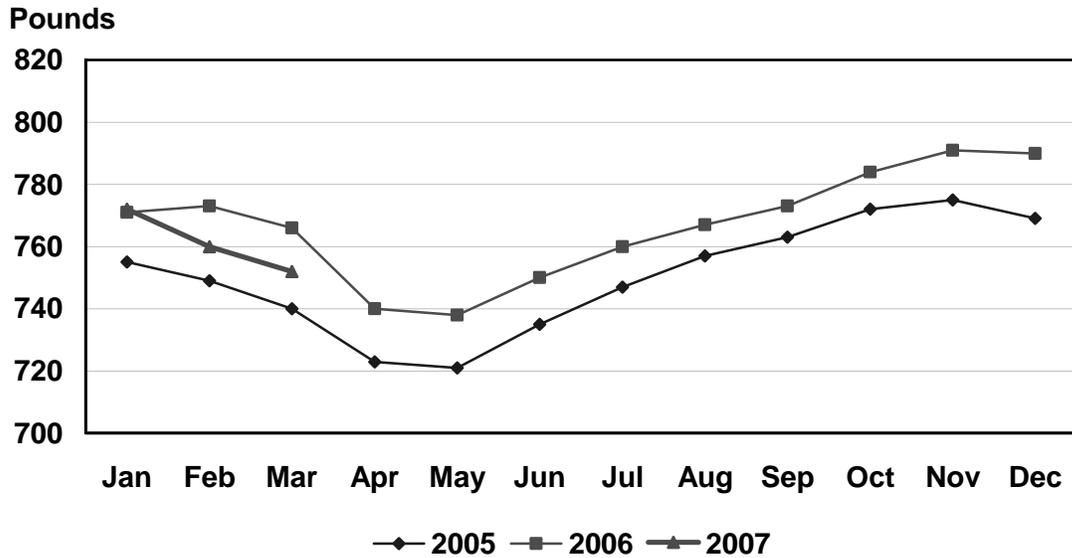
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



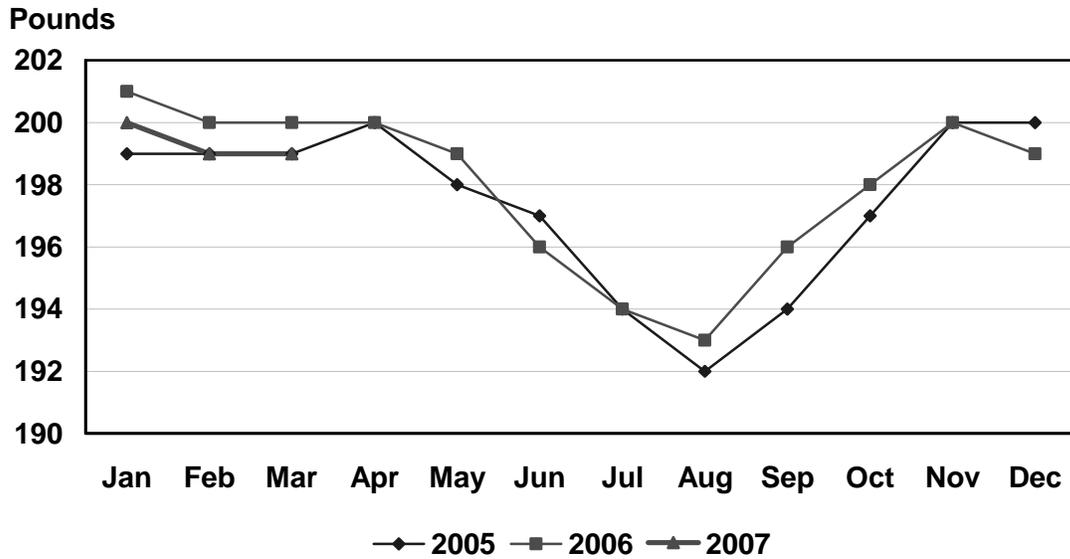
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



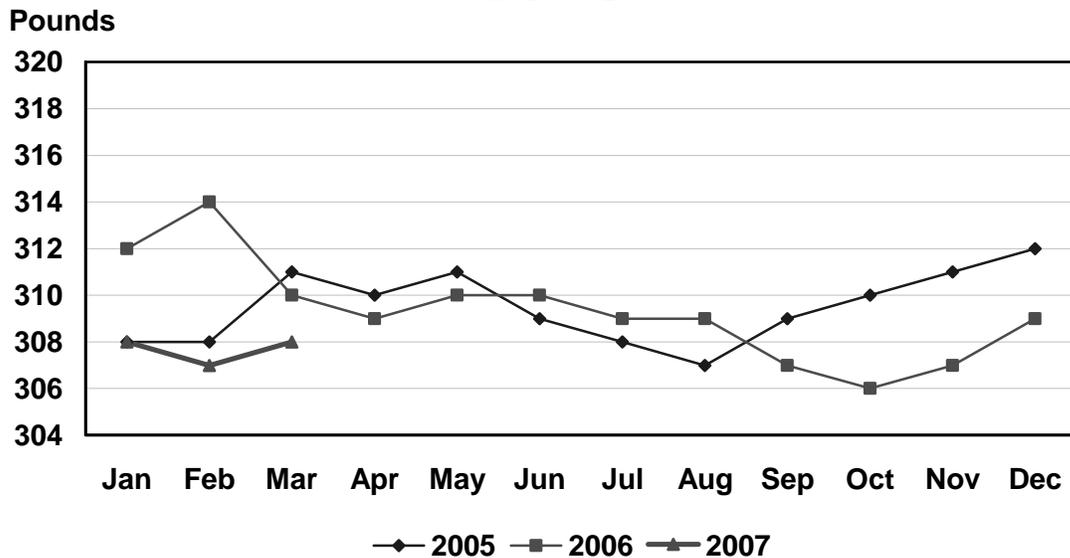
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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



U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Sows



Reliability of 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 daily counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants, in addition to total live and dressed weights. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates. More than 95 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under Federal Inspection.

There are nearly 800 livestock slaughter plants in the U.S. operating under Federal Inspection and over 2,000 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Types of Plants, page 20). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored

Revision Policy: Number of head slaughtered, live weights, and dressed weights are subject to revision the following month after the monthly release. Annual totals are published in the slaughter summary each March which includes any revisions made to current and previous year's published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports received from slaughter plants and are usually less than one-half of one percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year's data after the publication of the annual summary in March.

Procedures and Reliability: The livestock slaughter data is obtained electronically on a daily basis and summarized approximately two weeks after the week of slaughter. An edit compares each plant's data with the historical data for that plant. Data are checked for unusual values for head kill, patterns of kill, average weights, and dressing percent, based on each plant's past operating profile. In addition, the edit provides a listing of missing reports for follow-up contact with FSIS. Average live and dressed weights and dressing percentages by State are compared with the previous weeks as an additional check. Fluctuations are frequently the result of plants permanently or temporarily closing and a shift in the species reported.

The FSIS District Veterinary Medical Specialists (DVMS) are contacted by e-mail or telephone for missing or potentially erroneous slaughter data. This assures that plants slaughtering a large number of head or several species are accounted for each week. Any corrections FSIS makes to the slaughter data are included in the summary.

Imputation may be necessary for incomplete reports. The imputation of live and dressed weights is based on the current week reported data of plants of similar size and location. Imputation for live and dressed weight data for cattle and hogs is less than 10 percent and 7 percent, respectively. The imputation for calves and sheep is more frequent and variable. If no data is received electronically or by other means, for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species, data are imputed. The imputation of head for any plant is based on the historical data for that particular plant. The imputation of head slaughtered is rare but when necessary, the imputed head kill for missing plants usually is less than 1 percent of the U.S. head kill totals.

FI data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release. These weekly totals are published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) in **Livestock, Meat, Wool Market News**, Weekly Summary, and Statistics and are also available on the NASS website. NFI data are summarized monthly only.

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 still included in US and region totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine the publishable data.

Types of Livestock Slaughter 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 Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates

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 excluding condemnation and is comprised of beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. The FI red meat production is equal to the total carcass weight after slaughter. The NFI meat production formula is (NFI head kill) X (live weight) X (FI dressing percentage) = 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.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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William Weaver, Head, Livestock Section (202) 720-3570

 Bruce Boess – Hogs and Pigs..... (202) 720-3106

 Shawn Clark – Dairy Products (202) 690-3236

 Jason Hardegree – Milk Production and Milk Cows..... (202) 720-3278

 Scott Hollis – Sheep & Lambs, Goats (202) 720-4751

 Mike Miller – Cattle, Cattle on Feed (202) 720-3040

 Benita Hodge – Livestock Slaughter (515) 284-4340

 Charmaine Wilson – Dairy Products Prices..... (202) 690-2168

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