

---

Released January 22, 2010, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Livestock Slaughter* call Sherry Bertramsen at (515) 284-4340, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

## Record High Beef Production for December

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.15 billion pounds in December, down slightly from the 4.16 billion pounds produced in December 2008.

**Beef production**, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, up 3 percent from December 2008. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,296 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 13.1 million pounds, 2 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 92,300 head, down 2 percent from December 2008. The average live weight was down 5 pounds from last year, at 240 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.99 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.83 million head, down 3 percent from December 2008. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.9 million pounds, was up 3 percent from December 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 235,300 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, up 2 pounds from December a year ago.

**January to December 2009 commercial red meat production** was 49.3 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

**December 2008** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**December 2009** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.



# Contents

	<b>Page</b>
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 Livestock Slaughter Plants .....	19
Terms and Definitions .....	20
Information Contacts .....	20



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

Type	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Dec 09 % of		Jan - Dec <sup>2</sup>		
				Dec 2008	Nov 2009	2008	2009	09 as % of 08
	<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	2,082.0	2,015.3	2,133.5	102	106	26,560.7	25,962.6	98
Veal	13.3	11.8	13.1	98	111	143.1	138.3	97
Pork	2,052.1	1,921.4	1,985.0	97	103	23,347.0	22,992.6	98
Lamb & Mutton	15.4	14.4	15.9	103	111	173.8	170.9	98
Total Red Meat <sup>3</sup>	4,162.8	*3,962.9	4,147.5	100	105	50,224.6	49,264.4	98

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>2</sup> Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>3</sup> Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding.

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

Type	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Dec 09 % of		Jan - Dec <sup>2</sup>		
				Dec 2008	Nov 2009	2008	2009	09 as % of 08
	<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	2,051.3	1,988.1	2,102.5	102	106	26,200.0	25,598.0	98
Veal	13.0	11.5	12.8	98	111	139.8	135.1	97
Pork	2,036.8	1,908.4	1,969.5	97	103	23,169.9	22,826.3	99
Lamb & Mutton	14.5	13.5	15.0	103	111	165.7	161.7	98
Total Red Meat <sup>3</sup>	4,115.6	*3,921.5	4,099.8	100	105	49,675.4	48,721.1	98

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>2</sup> Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>3</sup> Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding.

**Livestock Slaughter: Number and Average Weights, United States <sup>1</sup>**

Species	Unit	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Dec 09 as % of 08	Jan - Dec <sup>2</sup>		09 as % of 08
						2008	2009	
					<i>Percent</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Cattle No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,623.0	*2,556.3	2,703.7	103	33,805.1	32,765.2	97
Other	Thou	48.5	43.1	49.0	101	559.8	568.2	102
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	2,671.5	*2,599.4	2,752.8	103	34,364.9	33,333.4	97
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,306	1,301	1,299	99	1,284	1,296	101
Other	Lbs	1,139	1,123	1,131	99	1,141	1,136	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,303	1,298	1,296	99	1,282	1,293	101
Calves No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	92.8	80.0	91.1	98	942.0	930.4	99
Other	Thou	1.4	1.2	1.2	88	14.5	13.5	93
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	94.1	81.2	92.3	98	956.6	943.8	99
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	243	243	238	98	255	248	97
Other	Lbs	415	408	409	99	413	410	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	245	246	240	98	257	250	97
Hogs No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	10,053.4	9,385.4	9,742.3	97	115,420.7	112,610.9	98
Other	Thou	91.5	75.1	90.5	99	1,031.2	972.6	94
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	10,144.9	9,460.5	9,832.9	97	116,451.9	113,583.5	98
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	271	272	270	100	268	271	101
Other	Lbs	232	243	238	103	238	238	100
Comm'l.	Lbs	270	272	270	100	268	271	101
Sheep&Lambs No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	212.5	200.4	217.1	102	2,393.5	2,323.0	97
Other	Thou	18.4	18.8	18.2	99	162.1	194.3	120
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	230.9	219.2	235.3	102	2,555.5	2,517.3	99
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	137	134	139	101	138	139	100
Other	Lbs	100	97	99	99	103	98	95
Comm'l.	Lbs	134	131	136	101	136	136	100
Goats No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	70.9	59.1	58.3	82	670.7	659.3	98
Other	Thou	23.6	18.5	18.9	80	195.1	175.1	90
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	94.6	77.6	77.2	82	865.8	834.4	96
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	62	64	61	99	62	61	99
Other	Lbs	72	72	76	105	68	72	105
Comm'l.	Lbs	64	65	65	100	63	63	100
Bison No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	4.5	4.5	4.9	111	54.8	53.5	98
Other	Thou	1.4	1.2	1.3	97	15.3	14.8	96
Comm'l. <sup>3</sup>	Thou	5.8	5.6	6.3	107	70.1	68.3	97

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes slaughter on farms.

<sup>2</sup> Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>3</sup> Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding.

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

State	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Dec 09 as % of 2008 <sup>2</sup>
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	1.7	1.5	1.9	115
AK		0.1	0.1	
AZ	33.7	28.9	29.7	88
AR	5.7	4.2	5.2	91
CA	149.6	137.2	151.8	101
CO	164.3	151.1	165.7	101
DE-MD	3.4	3.3	3.4	101
FL	7.7	8.2	9.3	121
GA	11.2	10.2	10.6	95
HI	0.9	0.8	0.9	105
ID	19.3	17.7	18.3	95
IL	256.5	230.0	242.2	94
IN	146.2	143.2	147.6	101
IA	599.4	577.1	579.5	97
KS	421.0	404.3	434.3	103
KY	54.5	48.5	54.4	100
LA	0.6	0.5	0.5	83
MI	45.1	41.9	44.9	100
MN	222.3	219.0	224.7	101
MS	1.5	2.3	2.5	165
MO	147.2	147.2	143.3	97
MT	1.6	1.4	1.6	96
NE	591.3	579.1	581.4	98
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	66
N ENG <sup>3</sup>	1.4	1.4	1.4	98
NJ	4.6	4.0	4.7	102
NM	0.5	0.5	0.4	70
NY	3.5	3.1	3.2	93
NC	221.8	224.3	229.6	104
ND	2.2	1.9	2.5	117
OH	26.4	24.4	27.2	103
OK	98.2	91.6	98.4	100
OR	4.8	5.0	4.9	101
PA	116.7	105.0	114.5	98
SC	20.5	19.8	22.0	107
SD	87.6	75.1	79.7	91
TN	21.1	23.8	19.7	93
TX	399.3	374.8	414.8	104
UT	42.3	33.1	34.7	82
VA	46.4	41.5	46.3	100
WA	65.3	65.2	69.3	106
WV	0.9	0.9	0.9	91
WI	113.9	109.2	119.0	104
WY	0.6	0.5	0.6	92
US	4,162.8	*3,962.9	4,147.5	100

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

<sup>2</sup> Percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>3</sup> N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

**Commercial Cattle Slaughter: By State and United States,  
December 2008 and 2009 <sup>1</sup>**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	0.5	0.4	412	342	863	889
AK		0.1		77		1,134
AZ	46.9	41.8	61,712	54,002	1,321	1,298
AR	1.0	0.8	1,039	778	994	987
CA	137.1	141.0	176,505	180,918	1,306	1,298
CO	187.4	192.4	252,316	254,738	1,348	1,325
DE-MD	3.7	3.8	4,783	4,881	1,278	1,290
FL						
GA		19.0		18,811		991
HI	0.9	1.0	1,040	1,172	1,100	1,150
ID	25.7	25.1	32,193	31,015	1,271	1,255
IL						
IN	4.2	4.3	4,387	4,500	1,056	1,057
IA						
KS	501.0	518.7	653,605	675,271	1,305	1,302
KY	2.0	1.8	1,868	1,747	939	952
LA	0.6	0.4	415	264	741	714
MI	52.8	52.0	72,444	71,666	1,383	1,383
MN	66.4	75.5	91,255	104,494	1,380	1,391
MS	0.1		39		774	
MO	7.9	8.1	9,295	9,595	1,186	1,185
MT	2.1	2.0	2,379	2,344	1,125	1,152
NE	543.8	549.2	735,056	736,744	1,353	1,343
NV	0.1	0.1	143	96	1,179	1,026
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	1.5	1.6	1,546	1,525	1,029	978
NJ	3.1	3.2	3,533	3,616	1,136	1,139
NM	0.6	0.5	570	507	1,037	1,109
NY	2.8	2.9	3,302	3,358	1,184	1,176
NC	16.1	19.7	18,460	22,914	1,150	1,167
ND	1.1	1.2	1,319	1,518	1,179	1,256
OH	8.8	10.2	10,458	12,087	1,195	1,193
OK	2.3	2.2	2,499	2,120	1,068	948
OR	3.1	3.4	3,648	3,937	1,228	1,204
PA	77.1	75.2	97,003	93,364	1,273	1,255
SC	12.1	12.4	13,227	13,480	1,097	1,104
SD						
TN	2.8	3.7	2,408	2,988	871	834
TX	512.3	536.5	642,589	667,823	1,258	1,248
UT	52.0		67,498		1,303	
VA	0.8	0.9	821	947	987	1,040
WA	82.8	86.6	107,167	113,289	1,299	1,314
WV	1.4	1.2	1,525	1,254	1,087	1,052
WI	141.0	147.9	185,389	195,946	1,330	1,338
WY	0.8	0.7	911	833	1,147	1,113
US <sup>3</sup>	2,671.5	2,752.8	3,468,180	3,556,432	1,303	1,296

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>2</sup> N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

<sup>3</sup> States with no data printed are still included in the US total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Commercial Calf Slaughter: By State and United States,  
December 2008 and 2009 <sup>1</sup>**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<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	22.6	21.7	2,594	2,229	117	104
CO						
DE-MD	0.2	0.2	48	64	267	270
FL	0.1	0.5	19	45	318	88
GA	0.1	0.1	46	22	445	409
HI						
ID						
IL	7.8	2.1	1,868	955	243	452
IN						
IA	0.1		26		328	
KS						
KY						
LA	0.4	0.4	207	210	524	502
MI	1.3	1.7	531	745	423	452
MN						
MS						
MO	0.1	0.1	37	23	409	414
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	0.3	0.5	74	99	245	182
NJ	6.0	6.6	2,535	2,792	421	424
NM	1.7		147		93	
NY	20.4	17.0	2,102	1,587	107	96
NC	0.2	0.1	82	74	535	506
ND						
OH	5.2	13.6	2,445	2,940	473	218
OK		0.1		33		497
OR						
PA	14.4	11.1	5,089	4,819	353	434
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1		37		479	
TX	3.5	5.3	874	824	251	156
UT						
VA						
WA						
WV						
WI						
WY						
US <sup>3</sup>	94.1	92.3	22,713	21,904	245	240

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>2</sup> N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

<sup>3</sup> States with no data printed are still included in the US total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Commercial Hog Slaughter: By State and United States,  
December 2008 and 2009 <sup>1</sup>**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<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	6.0	7.2	2,644	3,211	438	444
AK	0.1	0.1	26	21	207	233
AZ	0.1	0.1	30	34	271	260
AR	17.3	15.7	7,859	7,278	454	462
CA	262.1	263.3	62,824	63,496	240	241
CO	0.7	0.6	171	163	258	258
DE-MD	1.8	1.6	477	403	262	256
FL	6.0	8.0	967	1,160	161	144
GA	6.8	6.9	1,821	1,838	266	266
HI	1.8	1.7	404	377	222	224
ID	13.4	11.4	3,388	2,858	253	252
IL	936.4	837.9	258,603	232,840	276	278
IN	707.9	733.5	189,826	191,263	268	261
IA	2,791.4	2,675.9	751,634	721,761	269	270
KS						
KY						
LA	1.8	1.5	258	249	140	161
MI	10.6	10.5	3,809	3,874	361	368
MN	878.9	856.4	231,508	225,277	264	264
MS	7.2	11.9	2,142	3,562	300	300
MO	687.6	660.0	188,093	183,804	274	279
MT	1.2	1.2	331	312	271	251
NE	692.8	647.0	187,144	173,234	270	268
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	2.1	2.2	427	417	200	186
NJ	11.0	11.2	944	962	86	86
NM	0.1	0.1	20	17	271	265
NY	2.5	2.3	391	366	156	158
NC	1,076.1	1,102.4	283,056	288,301	263	262
ND	8.3	9.3	2,112	2,422	256	260
OH	96.2	95.6	26,255	25,848	274	271
OK	465.1	458.5	127,511	127,838	274	279
OR	14.7	14.4	3,686	3,592	252	251
PA	295.8	297.9	75,923	76,684	257	258
SC						
SD	403.3	361.7	105,200	94,634	261	262
TN	62.9	57.2	29,298	26,919	467	471
TX	44.3	43.5	11,414	11,181	258	258
UT	5.9	5.4	1,079	929	185	171
VA	227.0	225.8	60,664	60,454	267	268
WA	2.1	1.9	467	416	219	220
WV	0.7	0.6	183	144	260	254
WI	46.1	40.2	19,918	17,690	440	445
WY	0.3	0.2	70	63	255	266
US <sup>3</sup>	10,144.9	9,832.9	2,739,561	2,653,968	270	270

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>2</sup> N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

<sup>3</sup> States with no data printed are still included in the US total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter: By State and United States,  
December 2008 and 2009<sup>1</sup>**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<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	0.3	7	32	83	105
AR						
CA						
CO	82.2	84.5	13,003	13,109	158	155
DE-MD	4.0	4.1	385	387	97	95
FL	0.3	0.2	19	12	57	57
GA	0.3	0.5	22	29	79	65
HI		0.1		9		125
ID	0.2	0.2	26	26	130	122
IL						
IN	3.1	4.1	343	467	112	113
IA	32.8	37.5	4,837	5,697	148	152
KS	0.3	0.3	38	30	115	95
KY	1.3	1.1	155	127	123	113
LA	0.4	0.3	22	18	62	60
MI	15.8	16.3	2,011	2,108	128	130
MN	1.1	0.8	132	105	117	125
MS						
MO	0.6	0.5	72	59	117	117
MT	0.4	0.4	55	40	129	110
NE	0.1	0.1	10	10	99	125
NV						
N ENG <sup>2</sup>	3.5	3.1	306	261	87	84
NJ	13.4	12.0	1,130	951	84	79
NM	1.1	1.1	150	143	137	134
NY	5.5	4.2	434	403	79	95
NC	1.1	1.0	87	75	78	74
ND						
OH	0.9	1.0	96	107	104	105
OK	0.1	0.1	7	9	82	84
OR	2.1	2.3	291	295	136	130
PA	5.0	4.0	489	393	97	99
SC		0.2		13		78
SD	0.2	0.2	28	26	130	134
TN	1.6	1.1	116	86	71	76
TX	4.4	8.4	332	762	75	91
UT	3.2	3.2	440	431	136	134
VA	2.0	1.4	182	128	93	94
WA	1.0	0.8	128	147	134	178
WV	0.5		77		147	
WI	1.3	0.9	171	118	134	130
WY	0.1	0.1	19	18	146	133
US <sup>3</sup>	230.9	235.3	30,876	31,853	134	136

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>2</sup> N ENG includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

<sup>3</sup> States with no data printed are still included in the US total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

**Classification of Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection:  
United States**

Item	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan - Dec <sup>1</sup>		Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan - Dec <sup>1</sup>	
				2008	2009				2008	2009
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent of Total</i>				
<b>Class</b>										
<b>Cattle</b>										
Steers	1,272	1,193	1,323	16,949	16,313	48.5	46.7	48.9	50.1	49.8
Heifers	796	784	794	10,091	9,742	30.4	30.7	29.4	29.9	29.7
All Cows	517	533	541	6,161	6,140	19.7	20.9	20.0	18.2	18.7
Dairy Cows	229	209	231	2,591	2,815	8.7	8.2	8.5	7.7	8.6
Other Cows	288	324	310	3,569	3,325	11.0	12.7	11.5	10.6	10.1
Bulls	38	46	45	605	570	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.7
Total <sup>1</sup>	2,623	2,556	2,704	33,805	32,765	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves & Vealers	93	80	91	942	930	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows & Gilts	9,749	9,099	9,433	111,461	108,950	97.0	96.9	96.8	96.6	96.7
Sows	271	257	274	3,502	3,242	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.9
Boars	33	30	36	458	419	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,053	9,385	9,742	115,421	112,611	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature Sheep	11	20	14	122	158	5.2	9.8	6.5	5.1	6.8
Lambs & Yrlngs	201	181	203	2,271	2,165	94.8	90.2	93.5	94.9	93.2
Total <sup>1</sup>	213	200	217	2,393	2,323	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Avg Dressed Weight</b>										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
<b>Cattle</b>										
Steers <sup>2</sup>	785	780	780	778	784					
Heifers <sup>2</sup>	852	850	846	838	847					
All Cows <sup>2</sup>	789	792	784	772	782					
Bulls <sup>2</sup>	606	599	604	609	610					
	869	859	865	888	878					
Calves & Vealers	142	145	142	150	147					
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows & Gilts <sup>3</sup>	203	204	202	201	203					
Sows <sup>3</sup>	200	201	199	198	200					
Boars <sup>3</sup>	305	308	308	308	306					
	201	203	199	208	199					
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature Sheep <sup>4</sup>	68	67	69	69	70					
Lamb & Yrlngs <sup>4</sup>	66	62	61	67	64					
	69	68	70	69	70					

<sup>1</sup> Total and percentages based on unrounded data.

<sup>2</sup> Included in cattle average dressed weight.

<sup>3</sup> Included in hog average dressed weight.

<sup>4</sup> Included in sheep average dressed weight.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,  
December 2009<sup>1</sup>**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total <sup>2</sup>	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	1.2	0.6	0.3					0.5
2	5.9	2.0	0.4	3.1	2.7	0.4	0.4	23.6
3	78.4	30.5	7.2	39.4	31.3	8.1	1.4	11.4
4	70.3	1.8	0.6	58.4	12.8	45.6	9.4	0.7
5	354.4	148.0	46.9	150.9	81.3	69.6	8.6	26.8
6	535.0	272.2	162.2	89.5	15.8	73.7	11.2	5.2
7	1,113.8	602.8	442.3	62.2	1.8	60.4	6.5	
8	247.5	138.0	90.4					
9	183.2	79.7	13.2	87.4	68.6	18.8	3.0	21.5
10	113.9	47.3	30.9	32.7	10.8	21.9	3.0	
US <sup>2</sup>	2,703.7	1,322.8	794.5	541.3	231.2	310.1	45.2	91.1
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total <sup>2</sup>	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Boars	Total <sup>2</sup>	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	1.9	1.9			2.8	0.3		2.6
2	13.3	13.2	0.1		15.5	1.9		13.6
3	524.6	509.3	1.5	13.7	10.3	0.6		9.7
4	1,501.4	1,422.2	77.6	1.7	4.0	0.9		3.1
5	2,541.4	2,425.6	112.3	3.5	27.3	3.6		23.7
6	508.5	485.2	23.3					
7	3,994.0	3,918.2	59.2	16.6	38.1	0.4		37.7
8	374.3	374.1	0.2		87.0	2.5		84.5
9	255.9	255.8	0.1					
10	27.0	27.0			2.4	0.3		2.1
US <sup>2</sup>	9,742.3	9,432.5	274.2	35.6	217.1	14.0		203.1

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

<sup>2</sup> Regions with no data printed are still included in the US and Region total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,  
January - December 2009<sup>1</sup>**

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves
	Total <sup>2</sup>	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	13.5	6.1	2.8					30.5
2	64.5	21.5	3.9	34.0	29.4	4.6	5.1	208.6
3	959.4	385.4	83.8	473.3	376.4	96.9	16.9	133.1
4	808.1	20.2	7.6	663.3	150.6	512.7	116.9	4.1
5	4,090.7	1,807.6	546.0	1,631.2	872.2	759.0	105.8	252.8
6	6,599.0	3,408.0	2,004.9	1,058.1	236.9	821.2	128.0	44.1
7	13,630.6	7,510.1	5,334.2	696.6	21.5	675.0	89.7	
8	3,045.9	1,620.8	1,210.2					
9	2,170.1	990.8	140.0	1,001.2	843.2	157.9	38.0	242.3
10	1,383.3	542.3	408.3	389.0	207.1	181.9	43.7	
US <sup>2</sup>	32,765.2	16,313.0	9,741.7	6,140.3	2,815.3	3,325.0	570.2	930.4
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total <sup>2</sup>	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Boars	Total <sup>2</sup>	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	
1	16.8	16.3	0.3	0.2	36.2	4.2	32.0	
2	125.1	123.1	1.1	0.8	165.1	18.5	146.7	
3	5,267.0	5,119.4	15.5	132.1	115.4	5.6	109.8	
4	16,682.1	15,746.8	916.9	18.4	43.0	12.0	31.0	
5	29,286.1	27,937.3	1,306.5	42.4	280.6	37.6	243.0	
6	5,833.7	5,567.1	265.1	1.6				
7	48,017.6	47,063.6	731.0	223.1	393.1	6.2	386.9	
8	4,494.0	4,489.7	4.2	0.1	948.1	41.6	906.5	
9	2,594.2	2,593.1	0.9	0.2				
10	294.2	293.5	0.6	0.1	26.9	2.5	24.4	
US <sup>2</sup>	112,610.9	108,949.9	3,242.1	419.0	2,323.0	157.7	2,165.3	

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

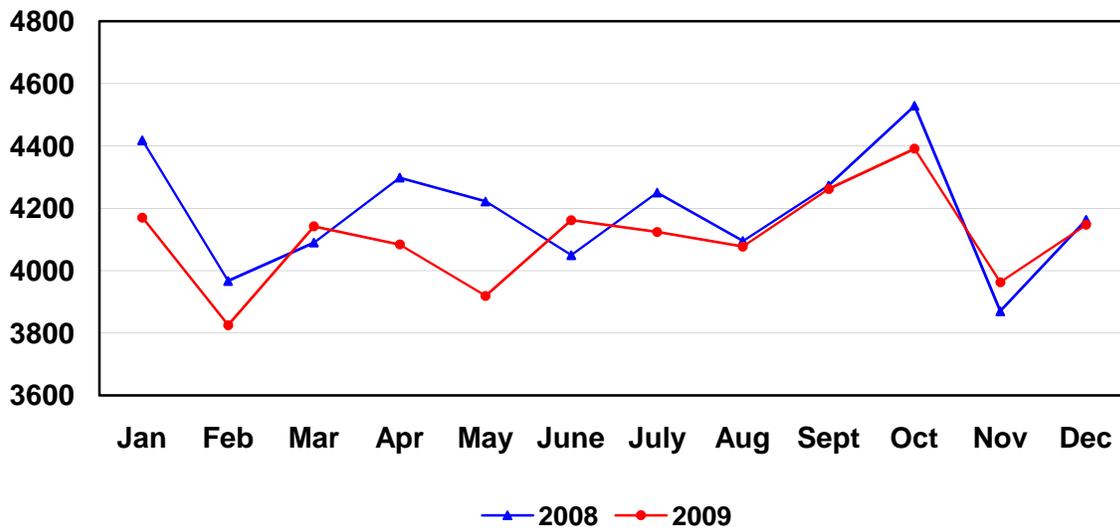
<sup>2</sup> Regions with no data printed are still included in the US and Region total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

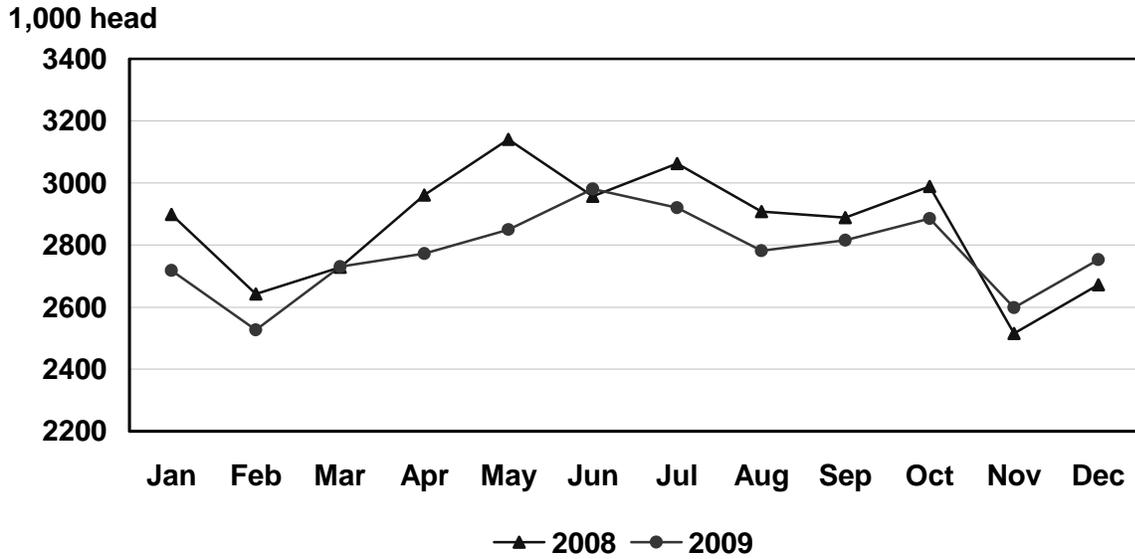
Species	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan - Dec	
				2008	2009
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.2	98.3	98.2	98.4	98.3
Calves	98.6	98.5	98.7	98.5	98.6
Hogs	99.1	99.2	99.1	99.1	99.1
Sheep	92.0	91.4	92.3	93.7	92.3

## U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

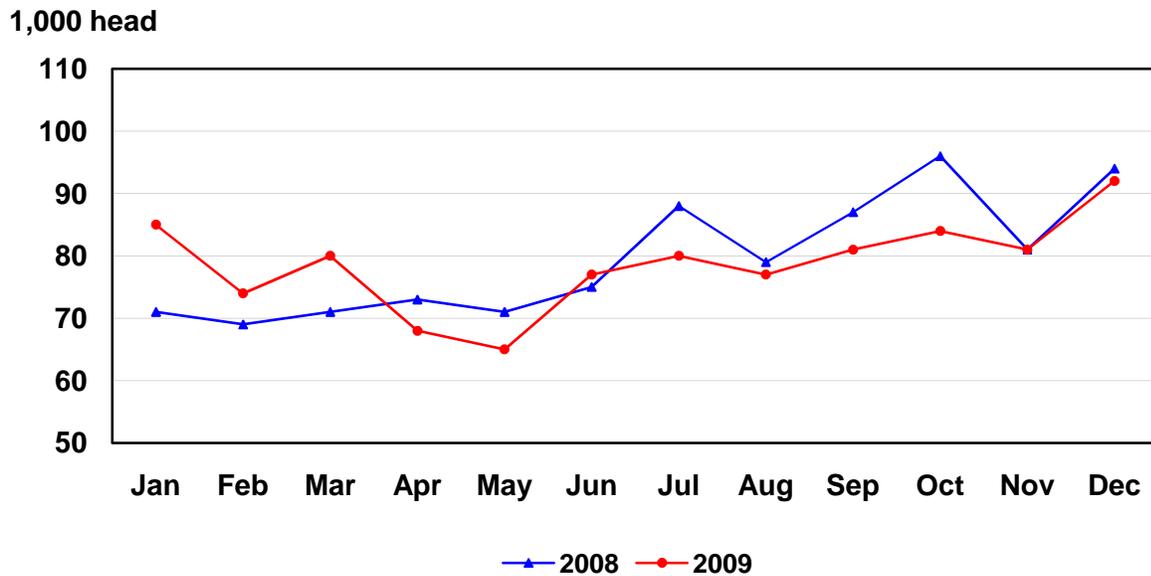
Million Pounds



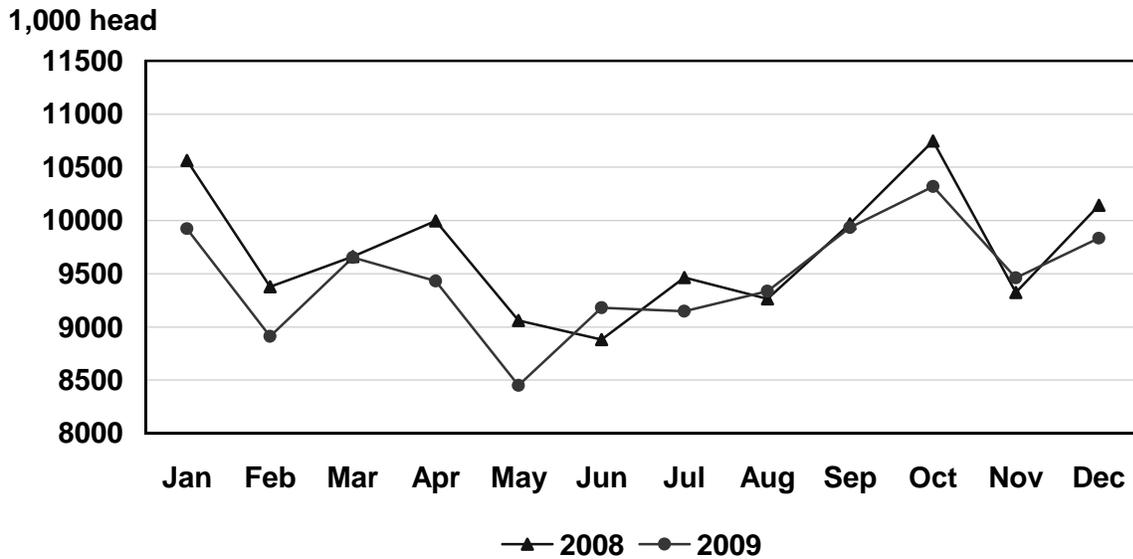
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



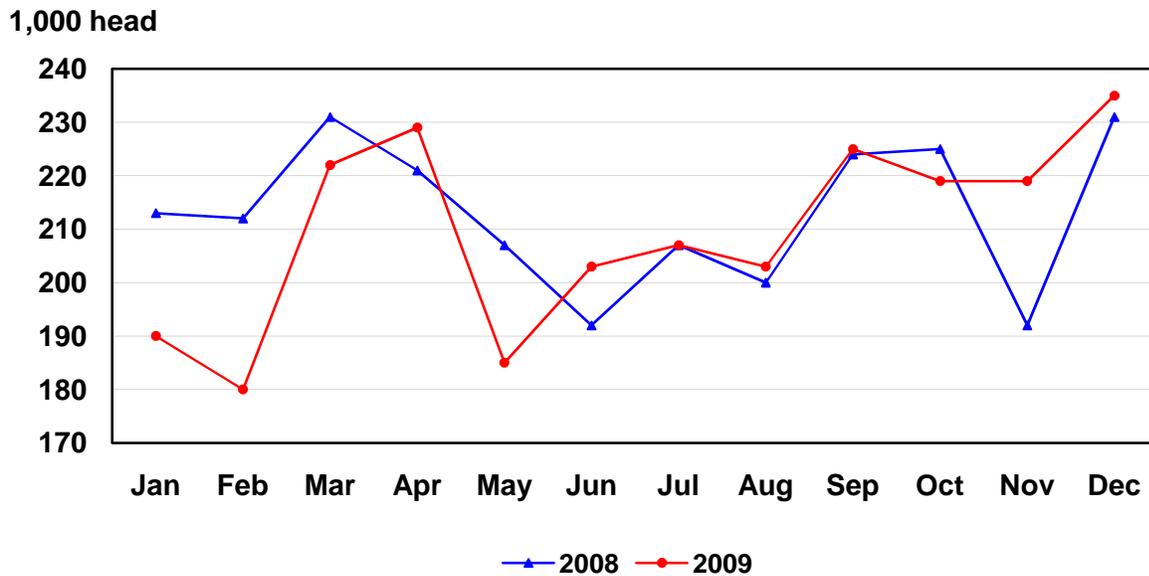
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



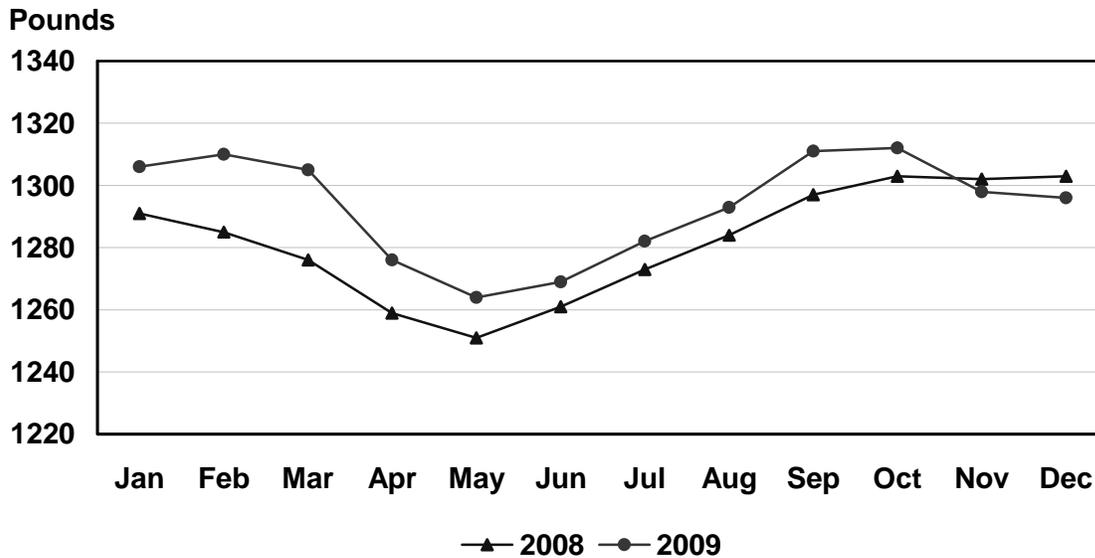
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



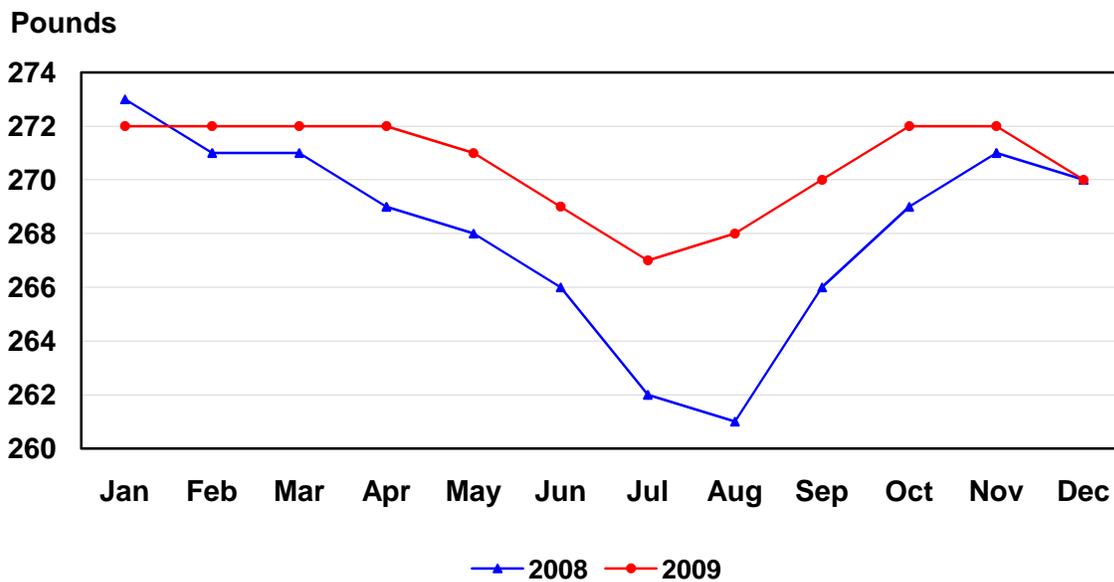
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep



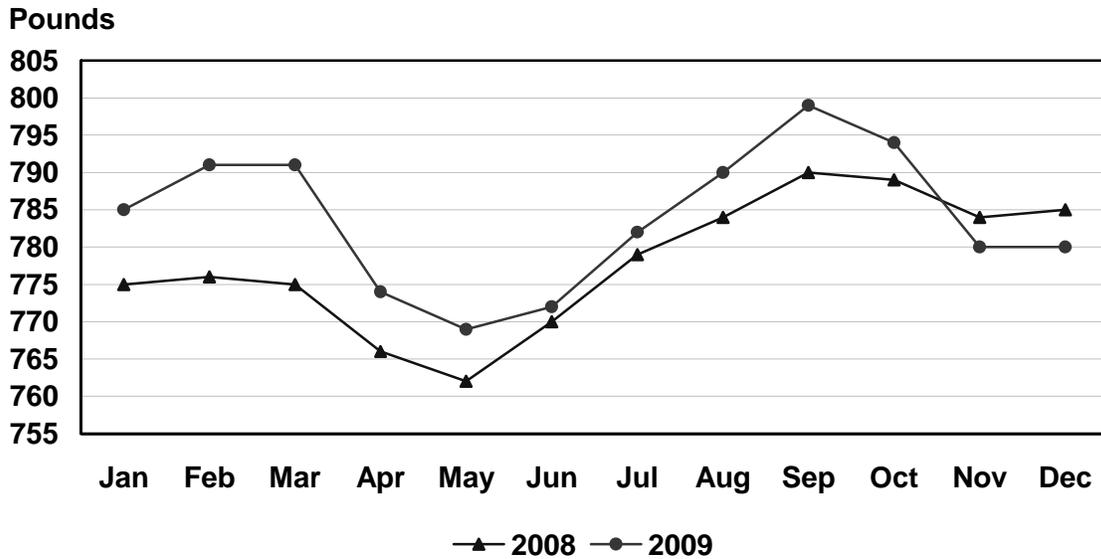
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



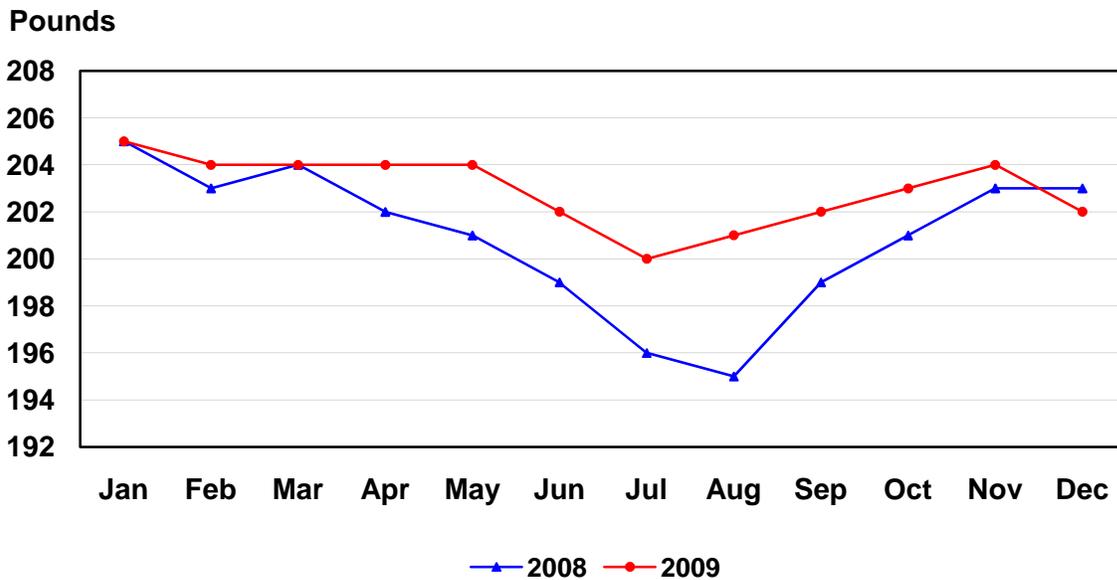
# U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



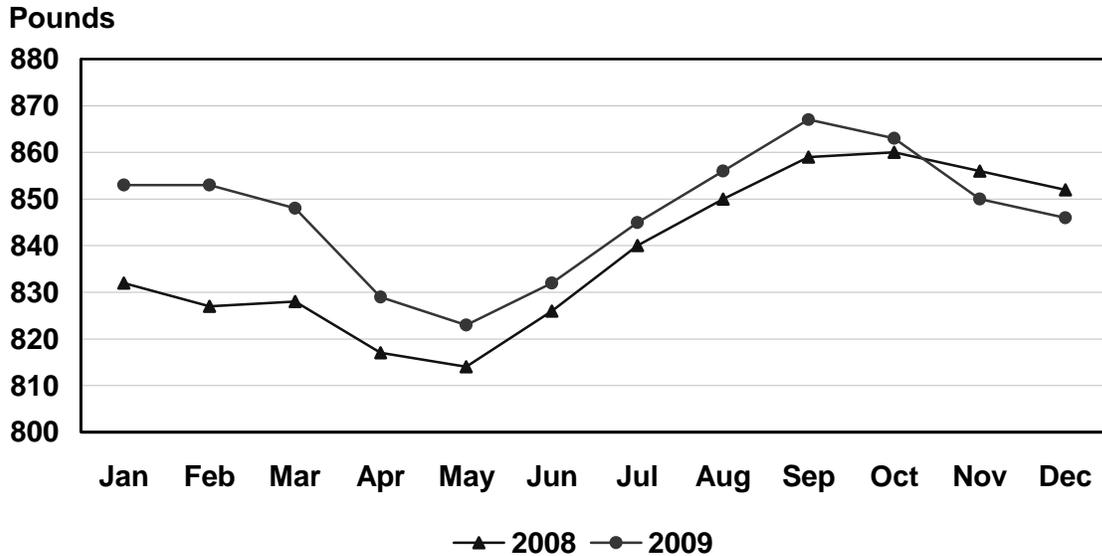
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



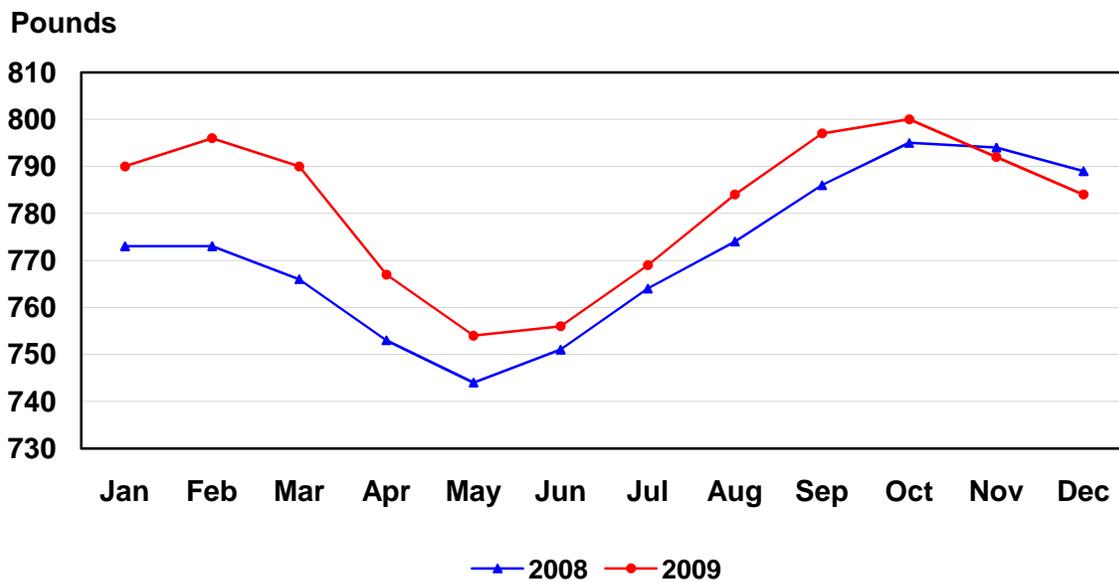
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



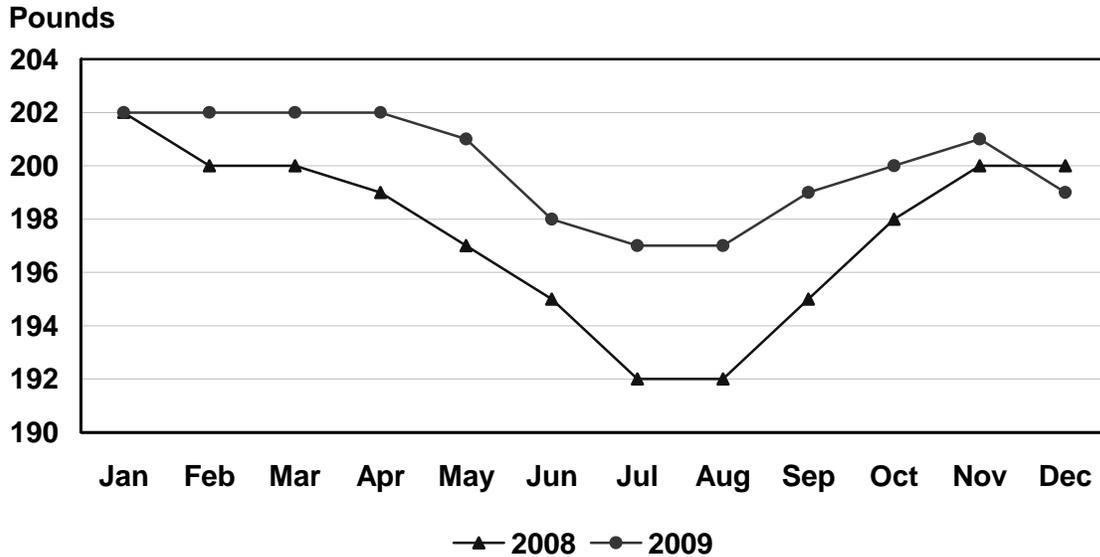
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



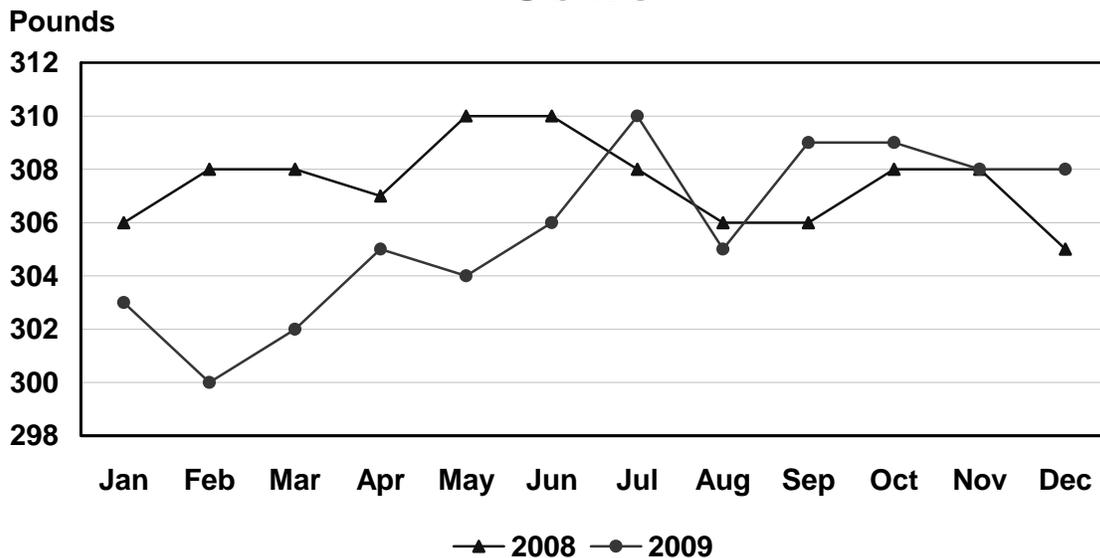
## U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



## 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 19). 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

**Average Live Weight:** Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

**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.

**Number of Head:** Includes post-mortem condemnations.

**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.

**Total Live Weight:** Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

**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.

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch.....	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section .....	(202) 690-2424
Jim Collom – Dairy Products .....	(202) 690-3236
Joe Gaynor – Dairy Products Prices .....	(202) 690-2168
Jason Hardegree – Cattle, Cattle on Feed .....	(202) 720-3040
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter .....	(515) 284-4340
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278
Everett Olbert – Sheep and Goats.....	(202) 720-4751
Nicholas Streff – Hogs and Pigs.....	(202) 720-3106

## ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

---

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

### INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: **www.nass.usda.gov**.

### E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Starting with the NASS Home Page at **www.nass.usda.gov**, under the right navigation, *Receive reports by Email*, click on **National** or **State**. Follow the instructions on the screen.

-----

### PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

**CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)**  
**Other areas, please call 703-605-6220      FAX: 703-605-6900**  
**(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)**

-----

### ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: **nass@nass.usda.gov**.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.