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Special Note

NASS is in the process of modifying report layouts in order to improve readability. This report issue is published using both layouts but all future issues will only be produced with the new layout, which is available on the NASS website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. This is the last issue using this layout.

Record Commercial Red Meat Production in March

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.28 billion pounds in March, up 3 percent from the 4.14 billion pounds produced in March 2009.

Beef production, at 2.21 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.91 million head, up 7 percent from March 2009. The average live weight was down 32 pounds from the previous year, at 1,273 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.2 million pounds, slightly below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 79,800 head, up slightly from March 2009. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from last year, at 259 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.04 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.0 million head, up 4 percent from March 2009. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.6 million pounds, was up 11 percent from March 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 262,300 head, 18 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 8 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2010 commercial red meat production was 11.9 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2009. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was down 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

March 2009 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2010 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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Commercial Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Type	Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Mar 10 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 2009	Feb 2010	2009	2010	10 as % of 09
	<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	2,144.0	1,955.7	2,212.1	103	113	6,247.9	6,250.8	100
Veal	12.2	10.7	12.2	100	113	35.2	34.5	98
Pork	1,969.7	1,757.4	2,039.9	104	116	5,814.0	5,607.4	96
Lamb & Mutton	15.9	12.3	17.6	111	143	41.9	42.8	102
Total Red Meat ³	4,141.9	*3,736.2	4,281.7	103	115	12,139.0	11,935.5	98

* 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.

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production: United States ¹

Type	Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Mar 10 % of		Jan - Mar ²		
				Mar 2009	Feb 2010	2009	2010	10 as % of 09
	<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	2,112.6	1,927.2	2,180.7	103	113	6,153.6	6,159.0	100
Veal	12.0	*10.5	11.9	99	114	34.4	33.7	98
Pork	1,955.2	1,745.0	2,025.1	104	116	5,771.6	5,567.9	96
Lamb & Mutton	15.3	11.9	17.0	111	144	40.2	41.1	102
Total Red Meat ³	4,095.1	3,694.5	4,234.7	103	115	11,999.9	11,801.7	98

* 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 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Mar 10 as % of 09	Jan - Mar ²		
						2009	2010	10 as % of 09
					<i>Percent</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Cattle No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	2,680.8	*2,502.9	2,863.6	107	7,827.7	8,023.3	102
Other	Thou	48.7	44.6	49.1	101	148.0	144.2	97
Comm'l. ³	Thou	2,729.5	2,547.6	2,912.7	107	7,975.6	8,167.5	102
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	1,307	1,287	1,275	98	1,310	1,285	98
Other	Lbs	1,145	1,136	1,135	99	1,140	1,134	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	1,305	1,285	1,273	98	1,307	1,282	98
Calves No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	78.8	72.9	78.8	100	235.5	233.3	99
Other	Thou	1.0	1.1	1.1	109	3.1	3.4	109
Comm'l. ³	Thou	79.8	74.0	79.8	100	238.5	236.6	99
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	261	244	257	98	253	245	97
Other	Lbs	416	429	429	103	410	431	105
Comm'l.	Lbs	263	247	259	98	255	248	97
Hogs No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	9,574.2	8,618.6	9,947.0	104	28,260.7	27,403.3	97
Other	Thou	82.7	72.6	83.5	101	242.4	228.0	94
Comm'l. ³	Thou	9,656.9	8,691.2	10,030.5	104	28,503.1	27,631.3	97
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	272	271	272	100	272	272	100
Other	Lbs	244	239	246	101	244	242	99
Comm'l.	Lbs	272	270	272	100	272	271	100
Sheep&Lambs No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	209.7	*167.4	249.4	119	557.2	589.9	106
Other	Thou	11.7	11.1	12.9	110	32.8	37.4	114
Comm'l. ³	Thou	221.4	*178.5	262.3	118	590.1	627.3	106
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	146	143	137	94	145	140	97
Other	Lbs	106	83	89	84	101	90	89
Comm'l.	Lbs	143	139	135	94	142	137	96
Goats No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	55.7	39.3	58.3	105	147.8	140.5	95
Other	Thou	14.8	9.3	10.9	73	40.3	34.5	86
Comm'l. ³	Thou	70.5	48.6	69.1	98	188.2	175.0	93
Live Wt/Hd								
Fed. Insp.	Lbs	62	63	63	101	62	62	101
Other	Lbs	70	62	71	101	70	66	94
Comm'l.	Lbs	63	63	64	101	63	63	99
Bison No.								
Fed. Insp.	Thou	4.7	4.1	5.2	112	13.3	14.0	105
Other	Thou	1.2	1.1	1.0	83	4.0	3.3	82
Comm'l. ³	Thou	5.9	5.2	6.2	106	17.2	17.3	100

* Revised.

¹ Excludes slaughter on farms.

² Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

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

Commercial Red Meat Production: By State and United States ¹

State	Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Mar 10 as % of 2009 ²
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2.1	1.5	2.0	94
AK				
AZ	31.2	29.9	34.1	109
AR	4.5	4.7	5.5	121
CA	143.7	126.4	148.1	103
CO	169.4	169.5	193.8	114
DE-MD	3.5	2.7	3.8	108
FL	8.1	8.1	10.2	125
GA	9.4	8.9	10.6	113
HI	0.9	0.8	0.9	97
ID	19.4	16.1	17.4	89
IL	238.6	209.1	240.2	101
IN	145.6	133.6	140.6	97
IA	587.0	528.8	623.6	106
KS	425.3	402.9	442.0	104
KY	48.5	43.3	50.4	104
LA	0.7	0.5	0.6	86
MI	43.6	36.7	46.9	108
MN	214.7	203.6	233.0	109
MS	2.2	1.9	2.4	109
MO	154.2	128.1	154.1	100
MT	0.9	1.4	1.2	131
NE	595.9	528.7	596.9	100
NV	0.1	0.1	0.1	67
N ENG ³	1.2	1.0	1.1	94
NJ	4.1	*3.9	4.8	116
NM	0.4	0.4	0.4	89
NY	2.9	2.4	3.0	104
NC	218.6	205.8	221.0	101
ND	2.5	3.2	3.6	144
OH	25.7	22.9	26.1	101
OK	90.2	89.6	102.2	113
OR	4.7	4.0	4.9	104
PA	106.3	97.3	120.1	113
SC	19.2	18.5	21.9	114
SD	98.6	70.3	89.6	91
TN	18.7	17.3	21.6	116
TX	433.6	365.5	415.9	96
UT	41.9	38.6	39.2	94
VA	39.2	38.3	50.3	128
WA	70.4	66.3	74.4	106
WV	0.6	0.5	0.7	105
WI	112.9	102.5	122.2	108
WY	0.5	0.5	0.4	89
US	4,141.9	*3,736.2	4,281.7	103

* 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,
March 2009 and 2010 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<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	0.7	668	674	938	971
AK						
AZ	43.2	47.4	56,483	61,300	1,311	1,297
AR	1.0	1.0	958	933	1,006	977
CA	137.2	149.4	177,621	189,845	1,314	1,293
CO	189.6	225.6	257,022	294,927	1,357	1,308
DE-MD	3.9	4.1	5,120	5,382	1,307	1,317
FL						
GA	16.4	18.6	16,355	18,844	1,002	1,019
HI	1.0	1.1	1,192	1,163	1,221	1,071
ID	26.3	23.7	33,884	29,719	1,307	1,275
IL						
IN	3.2	3.8	3,378	3,970	1,056	1,055
IA						
KS	508.6	547.1	654,881	685,887	1,288	1,254
KY	2.2	1.9	2,026	1,886	931	974
LA	0.7	0.5	517	381	766	786
MI	50.3	55.6	69,379	75,506	1,387	1,365
MN	70.2	77.2	99,440	109,410	1,425	1,424
MS	0.1	0.2	111	111	787	598
MO	8.2	8.0	9,976	9,505	1,217	1,189
MT	1.1	1.5	1,355	1,781	1,225	1,209
NE	548.7	579.5	749,197	759,720	1,367	1,313
NV	0.1	0.1	141	87	1,078	998
N ENG ²	1.2	1.3	1,248	1,299	1,083	1,034
NJ	2.8	3.3	3,218	3,798	1,160	1,148
NM	0.5	0.5	490	482	1,019	1,090
NY	2.5	2.8	3,050	3,328	1,232	1,191
NC	17.3	17.5	20,212	20,355	1,172	1,170
ND	1.3	2.4	1,521	2,969	1,216	1,245
OH	9.3	9.6	11,391	11,500	1,233	1,210
OK	2.6	2.5	2,973	2,619	1,154	1,041
OR	2.8	3.0	3,399	3,476	1,257	1,206
PA	76.7	87.5	96,905	109,808	1,277	1,271
SC	11.8	15.3	13,253	16,595	1,138	1,102
SD						
TN	3.0	4.7	2,539	3,733	858	816
TX	556.0	558.8	692,363	672,792	1,248	1,207
UT		48.2		63,779		1,327
VA	1.1	1.1	1,112	1,117	1,011	1,054
WA	89.5	93.0	115,801	121,431	1,299	1,310
WV	0.8	0.8	947	896	1,191	1,080
WI	135.9	150.4	181,679	197,727	1,352	1,328
WY	0.6	0.6	735	620	1,190	1,100
US ³	2,729.5	2,912.7	3,548,711	3,693,228	1,305	1,273

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 2009 and 2010 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<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	22.2	21.2	2,467	2,212	113	106
CO						
DE-MD	0.2	0.2	52	65	269	274
FL	0.1		21		353	
GA	0.1	0.1	34	25	482	463
HI						
ID						
IL	3.9	1.9	1,423	819	375	434
IN						
IA						
KS						
KY						
LA	0.3	0.4	158	231	522	535
MI	1.6	1.6	705	668	433	419
MN						
MS		0.1		30		353
MO	0.1	0.1	22	18	435	326
MT						
NE						
NV						
N ENG ²	3.4		338		102	
NJ	5.8	6.5	2,523	2,735	437	420
NM	0.1		6		123	
NY	12.7	11.4	1,488	1,169	121	106
NC	0.1	0.2	79	81	531	521
ND						
OH	4.6	10.4	2,188	2,491	478	245
OK	0.1	0.1	24	27	437	438
OR						
PA	11.6	11.0	4,952	4,652	426	425
SC						
SD						
TN	0.1		37		452	
TX	3.1	3.3	585	937	190	291
UT						
VA		0.1		32		349
WA						
WV						
WI		8.8		3,841		437
WY						
US ³	79.8	79.8	20,771	20,382	263	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 Hog Slaughter: By State and United States,
March 2009 and 2010 ¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<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	7.2	6.8	3,089	2,892	432	428
AK		0.1		13		252
AZ	0.2	0.2	40	47	247	248
AR	13.4	16.4	6,057	7,500	453	459
CA	222.5	215.7	54,386	51,770	245	240
CO	0.6	0.7	162	173	257	258
DE-MD	1.5	1.6	378	428	258	264
FL	6.9	6.9	1,163	1,007	168	146
GA	6.3	7.0	1,636	1,728	260	246
HI	1.3	1.3	313	324	234	243
ID	9.7	9.6	2,470	2,405	256	252
IL	837.4	834.4	233,455	232,203	279	279
IN	704.4	692.9	189,337	182,390	269	263
IA	2,704.7	2,865.8	731,207	780,217	271	272
KS						
KY						
LA	1.5	1.4	347	290	230	205
MI	9.4	7.6	3,562	2,975	380	393
MN	811.0	874.9	214,023	231,708	264	266
MS	10.1	10.2	2,984	3,233	295	318
MO	708.3	700.9	196,873	197,195	278	282
MT	0.6	1.0	156	238	244	240
NE	667.8	677.4	180,389	183,021	270	270
NV						
N ENG ²	1.2	1.2	274	280	228	232
NJ	8.3	8.9	793	835	95	94
NM	0.1	0.1	25	21	254	253
NY	2.0	1.9	376	353	188	182
NC	1,034.5	1,074.7	275,353	279,413	266	260
ND	9.4	10.6	2,407	2,731	256	258
OH	91.5	95.4	25,024	25,057	274	264
OK	418.4	476.6	116,232	132,350	278	278
OR	14.5	15.3	3,683	3,838	255	251
PA	245.4	274.4	63,055	71,756	257	262
SC						
SD	457.6	408.6	119,487	107,778	261	264
TN	56.5	64.5	25,589	28,938	455	449
TX	36.6	37.2	8,877	8,484	243	228
UT	4.2	3.5	779	561	186	162
VA	188.2	246.2	50,775	65,299	270	265
WA	1.9		443		228	
WV	0.5	0.4	132	99	248	238
WI	45.2	46.5	19,460	20,450	437	444
WY	0.3	0.4	75	99	273	257
US ³	9,656.9	10,030.5	2,623,944	2,723,773	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,
March 2009 and 2010¹**

State	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<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		0.1		7		72
AK						
AZ	0.2	0.2	27	32	108	133
AR		0.1		8		136
CA		31.3		4,518		145
CO	92.7	103.9	14,992	15,972	162	154
DE-MD	3.0	4.6	303	462	102	100
FL	0.6		32		52	
GA	0.2	0.5	11	32	66	63
HI	0.1	0.1	9	8	133	120
ID	0.2	0.2	21	20	126	127
IL		11.7		1,265		108
IN	2.3	4.0	266	420	113	106
IA	34.5	33.1	5,336	5,168	155	156
KS	0.2	0.3	24	28	112	109
KY	0.9	1.0	115	118	125	123
LA	0.5	0.4	40	28	89	76
MI	15.3	18.0	2,039	2,337	133	131
MN	1.7	0.7	226	80	132	118
MS	0.1	0.1	6	5	62	56
MO	0.3	0.4	42	50	121	120
MT	0.2	0.1	26	15	128	110
NE		0.1		8		122
NV	0.1		7		138	
N ENG ²	2.7	3.6	252	289	95	80
NJ	10.1	17.7	815	1,303	81	74
NM	1.4	1.5	208	204	148	140
NY	2.5	5.1	225	419	89	82
NC	0.5	1.1	41	83	74	74
ND						
OH	0.8	0.8	89	86	109	105
OK	0.2	0.1	19	14	113	110
OR	2.1	2.4	303	335	147	141
PA	4.4	4.8	433	430	99	91
SC	0.1		11		82	
SD	0.2	0.2	23	31	134	132
TN	1.2	1.3	91	101	76	76
TX	4.9	5.5	502	430	103	79
UT	3.1	2.8	450	389	144	140
VA	1.5	1.2	155	111	102	97
WA	0.5	0.6	80	98	164	164
WV						
WI	0.6	0.8	84	100	134	125
WY	0.1	0.1	12	13	137	122
US ³	221.4	262.3	31,734	35,254	143	135

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 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Jan - Mar ¹		Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Jan - Mar ¹	
				2009	2010				2009	2010
	<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										
Cattle										
Steers	1,312	1,191	1,397	3,783	3,847	49.0	47.6	48.8	48.3	47.9
Heifers	832	805	864	2,377	2,482	31.0	32.1	30.2	30.4	30.9
All Cows	491	470	549	1,544	1,559	18.3	18.8	19.2	19.7	19.4
Dairy Cows	238	223	256	762	712	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.7	8.9
Other Cows	253	247	292	782	848	9.4	9.9	10.2	10.0	10.6
Bulls	45	37	54	124	135	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.7
Total ¹	2,681	2,503	2,864	7,828	8,023	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves & Vealers	79	73	79	235	233	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows & Gilts	9,273	8,357	9,626	27,386	26,546	96.9	97.0	96.8	96.9	96.9
Sows	267	229	281	772	752	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7
Boars	34	33	40	102	106	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total ¹	9,574	8,619	9,947	28,261	27,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature Sheep	10	12	15	26	38	4.7	7.2	6.0	4.8	6.5
Lambs & Yrlngs	200	155	235	531	552	95.3	92.8	94.0	95.2	93.5
Total ¹	210	167	249	557	590	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Avg Dressed Weight										
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>					
Cattle										
Steers ²	791	773	764	789	770					
Heifers ²	848	830	820	851	829					
All Cows ²	790	771	760	792	770					
Bulls ²	628	621	616	622	615					
Bulls ²	881	867	875	876	868					
Calves & Vealers	154	145	153	148	146					
Hogs	204	203	204	204	203					
Barrows & Gilts ³	202	200	201	202	201					
Sows ³	302	303	304	302	305					
Boars ³	199	193	194	199	195					
Sheep	73	71	68	72	70					
Mature Sheep ⁴	68	68	66	67	66					
Lambs & Yrlngs ⁴	73	71	69	73	70					

¹ Total and percentages based on unrounded data.

² Included in cattle average dressed weight.

³ Included in hog average dressed weight.

⁴ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

**Federally Inspected Slaughter: By Region and United States,
March 2010 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	1.1	0.5	0.2					
2	6.0	2.0	0.4	3.2	2.9	0.3	0.5	17.9
3	90.3	36.1	9.0	43.5	34.8	8.8	1.6	11.3
4	72.6	2.2	0.8	58.6	11.0	47.6	11.0	0.2
5	361.9	159.1	44.1	148.5	80.0	68.4	10.2	22.9
6	556.6	299.2	156.3	87.8	20.0	67.8	13.3	3.3
7	1,172.4	630.8	468.3	65.2	1.5	63.8	8.1	0.1
8	286.7	131.9	134.9					
9	197.4	87.5	14.0	92.2	81.5	10.7	3.8	21.2
10	118.6	48.0	35.8	31.6	18.2	13.4	3.3	
US ²	2,863.6	1,397.2	863.8	548.6	256.5	292.1	54.1	78.8
	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>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1	1.0	0.9			3.3	0.2		3.1
2	10.7	10.5			22.2	2.2		20.0
3	521.1	504.1			11.4	0.8		10.6
4	1,456.4	1,372.6	82.1	1.8	4.6	1.0		3.6
5	2,520.3	2,402.1	113.9	4.3	31.0	3.3		27.7
6	518.0	495.6	22.4	0.1	3.6	1.7		1.9
7	4,260.2	4,181.4	60.5	18.3	33.6	1.1		32.5
8	421.7	421.4	0.3		106.5	4.0		102.5
9	211.5	211.5	0.1		30.6	0.4		30.3
10	26.1	26.0	0.1		2.5	0.1		2.4
US ²	9,947.0	9,626.1	280.8	40.1	249.4	14.9		234.5

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 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 - March 2010¹**

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	3.2	1.4	0.7					
2	16.2	5.5	1.1	8.5	7.3	1.1	1.1	52.4
3	236.8	95.2	23.2	114.5	91.2	23.2	3.9	31.6
4	203.9	5.9	2.0	168.4	36.0	132.4	27.6	0.6
5	1,003.3	425.1	127.7	424.7	223.4	201.3	25.9	66.8
6	1,546.5	788.0	474.3	251.3	57.8	193.4	32.9	12.0
7	3,327.0	1,747.8	1,371.6	188.2	4.9	183.3	19.4	0.2
8	805.4	405.7	343.6					
9	547.9	237.2	41.2	260.1	224.7	35.5	9.3	64.4
10	333.1	135.2	96.9	92.6	47.2	45.4	8.3	
US ²	8,023.3	3,847.2	2,482.4	1,559.1	711.5	847.6	134.7	233.3
	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	2.6	0.1	0.1	5.9	0.6	5.3	
2	29.8	29.3			43.8	4.9	38.9	
3	1,342.6	1,296.9			24.6	1.6	23.0	
4	4,110.2	3,890.1	215.8	4.3	10.2	2.1	8.1	
5	7,054.6	6,739.8	304.7	10.1	75.9	8.5	67.4	
6	1,434.3	1,369.5	64.6	0.2	8.8	4.4	4.4	
7	11,649.6	11,439.4	161.3	48.9	88.2	1.8	86.4	
8	1,098.9	1,098.2	0.7		254.2	12.7	241.4	
9	608.9	608.7	0.2		72.7	1.1	71.6	
10	71.6	71.4	0.1		5.7	0.4	5.3	
US ²	27,403.3	26,545.9	751.8	105.6	589.9	38.1	551.8	

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.

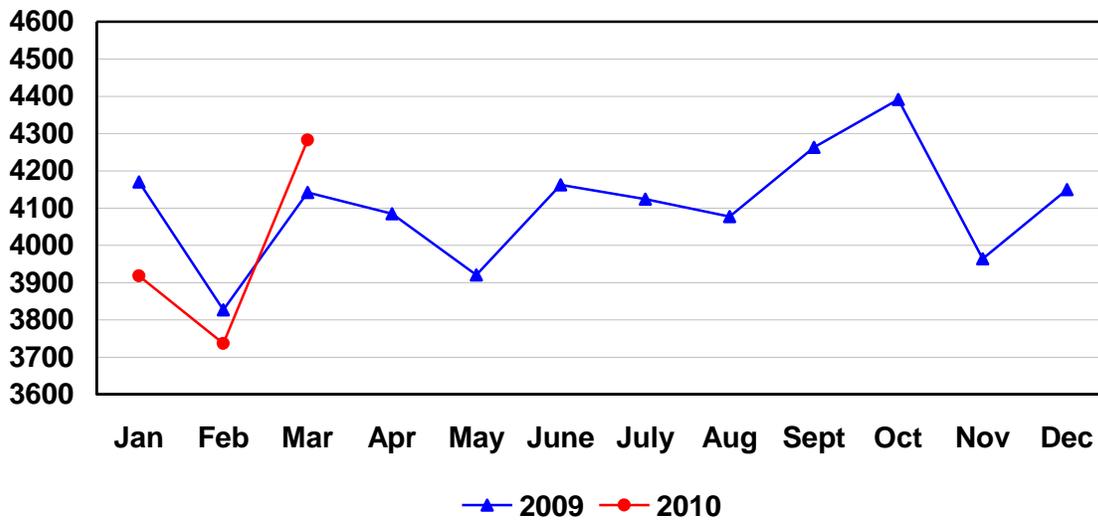
² Regions with no data printed are still included in the US and Region total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

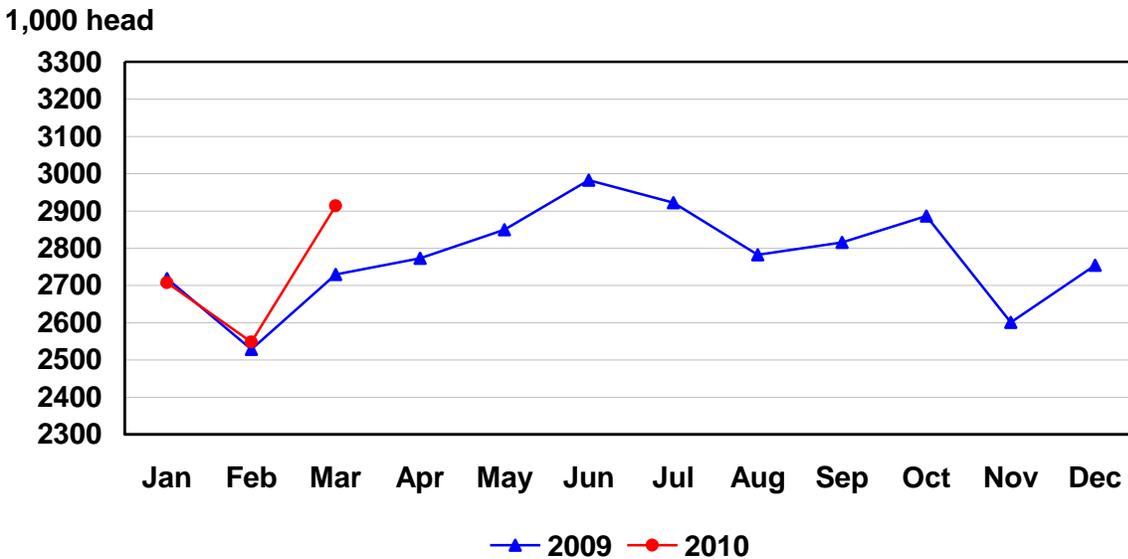
Species	Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Jan - Mar	
				2009	2010
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle	98.2	98.2	98.3	98.1	98.2
Calves	98.8	98.5	98.7	98.7	98.6
Hogs	99.1	99.2	99.2	99.1	99.2
Sheep	94.7	93.8	95.1	94.4	94.0

U.S. Monthly Commercial Red Meat Production

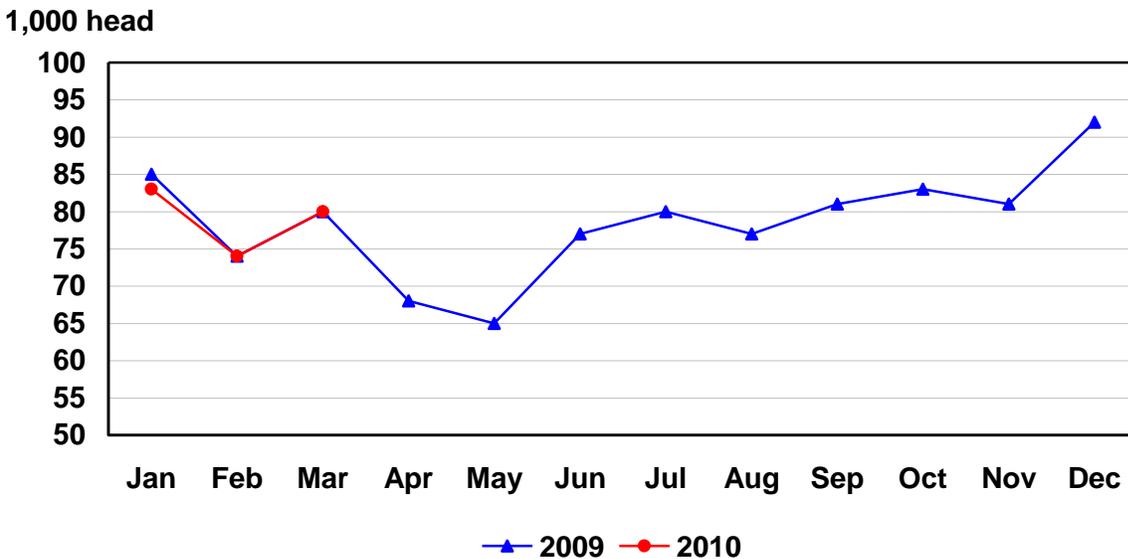
Million Pounds



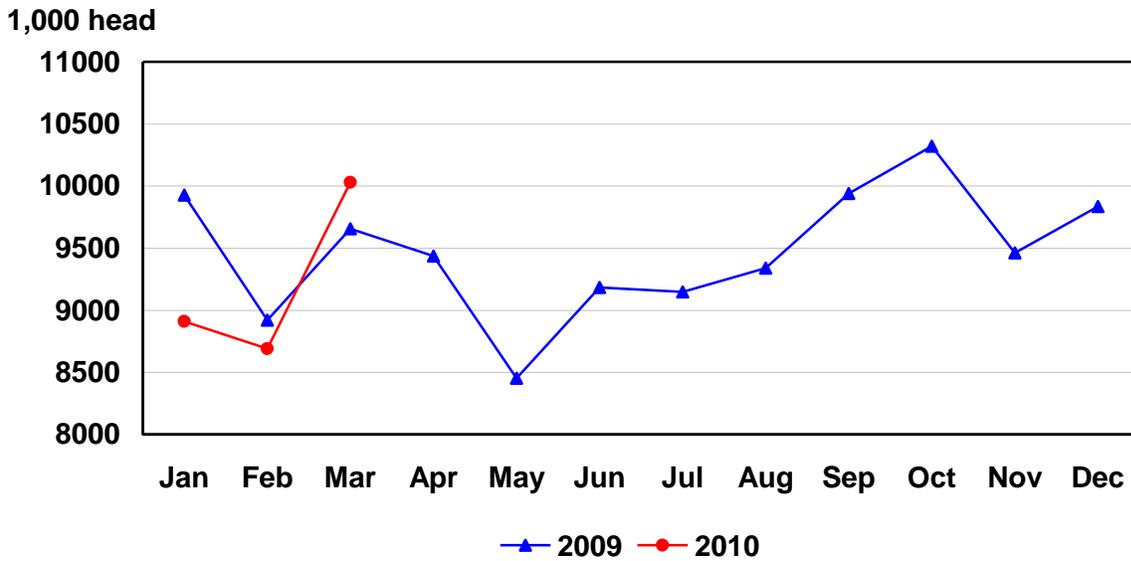
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Cattle



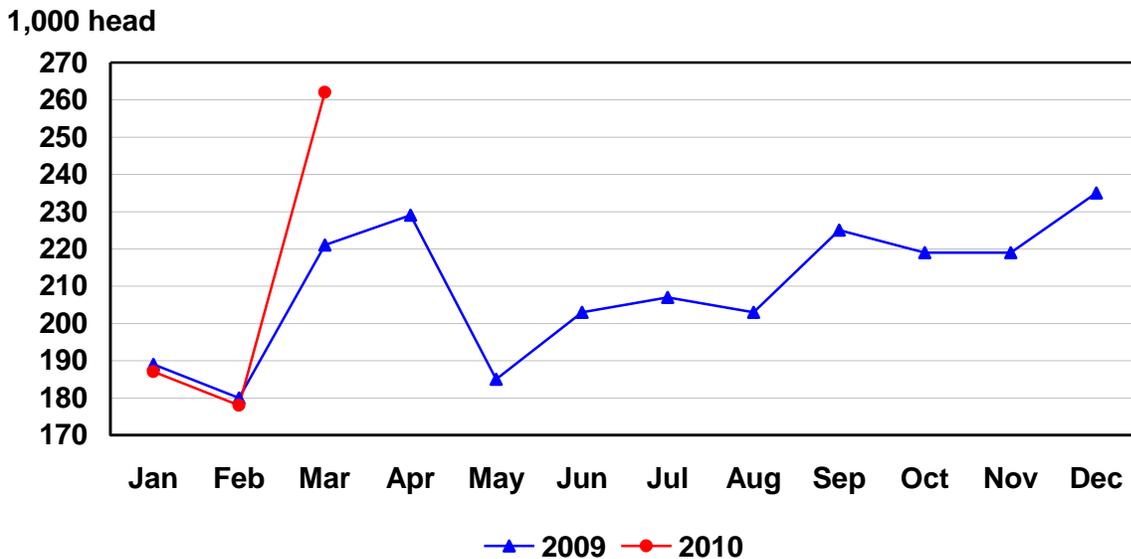
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Calves



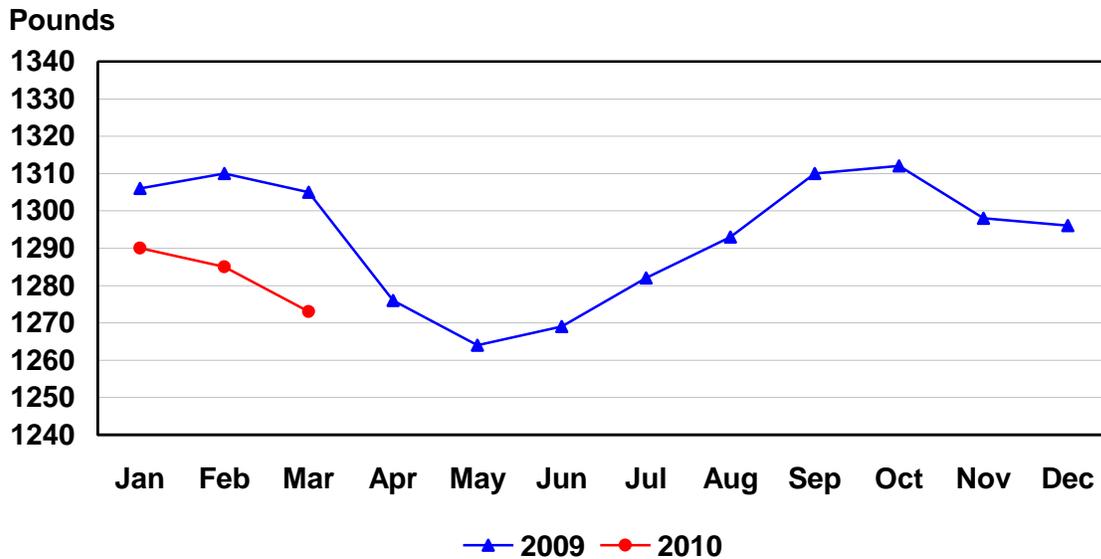
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Hogs



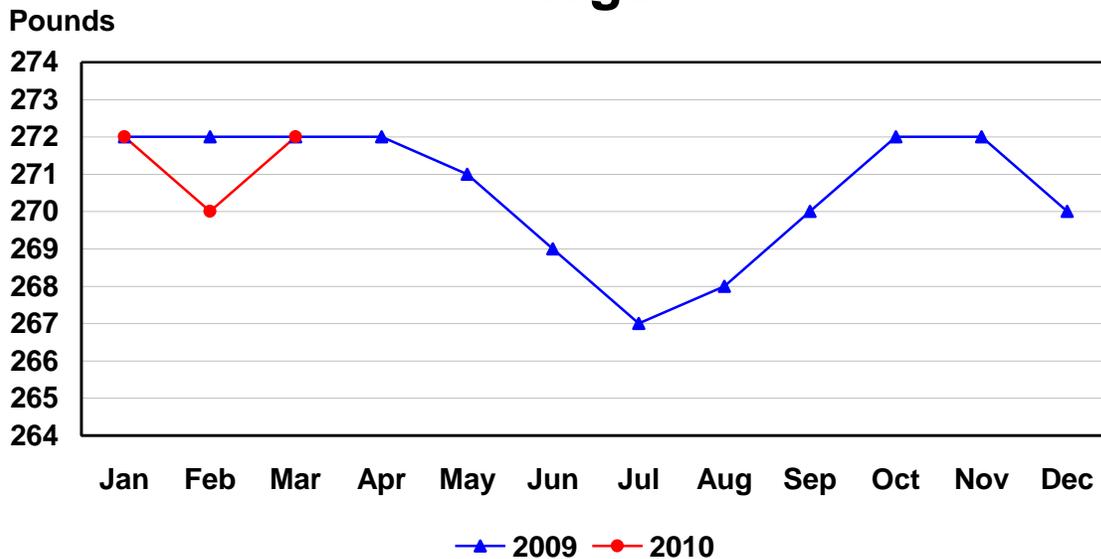
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Sheep & Lambs



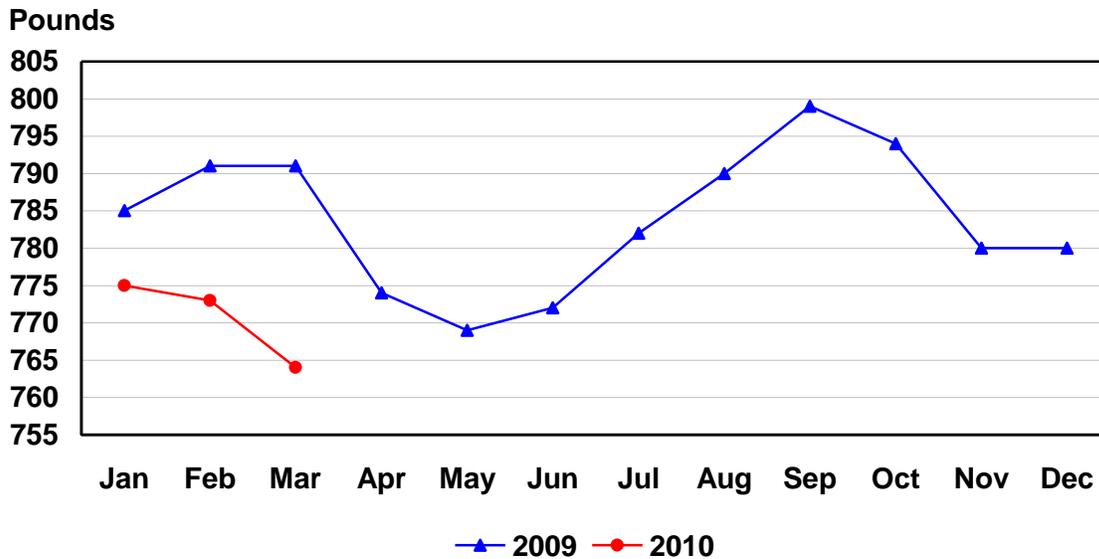
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Cattle



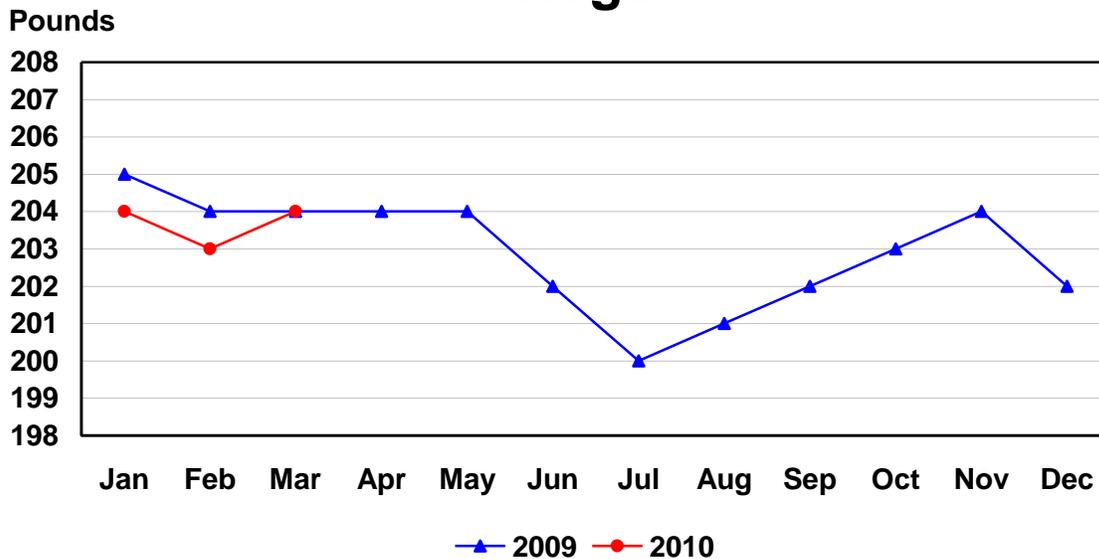
U.S. Monthly Commercial Slaughter Average Live Weight Hogs



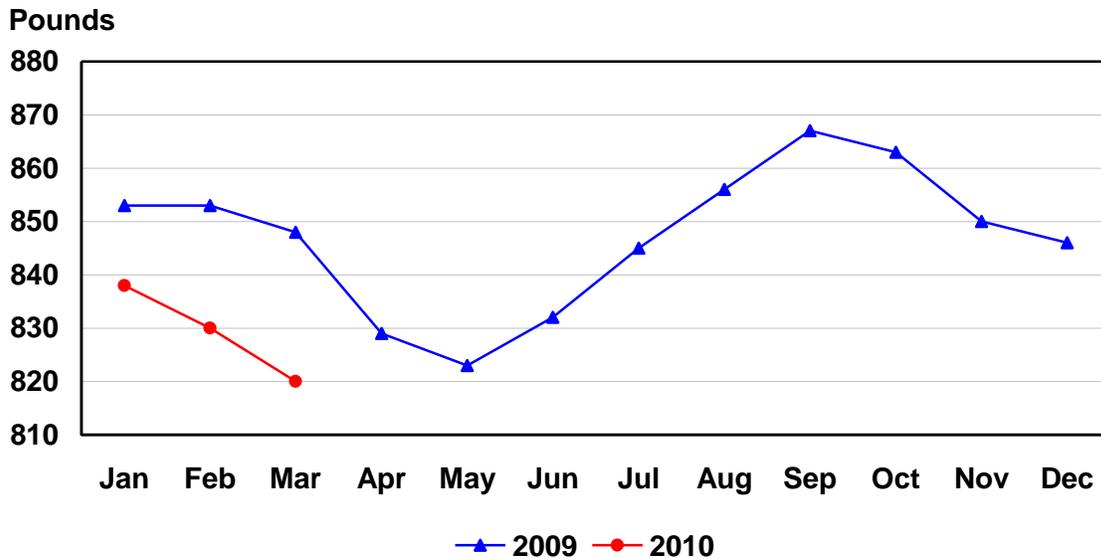
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Cattle



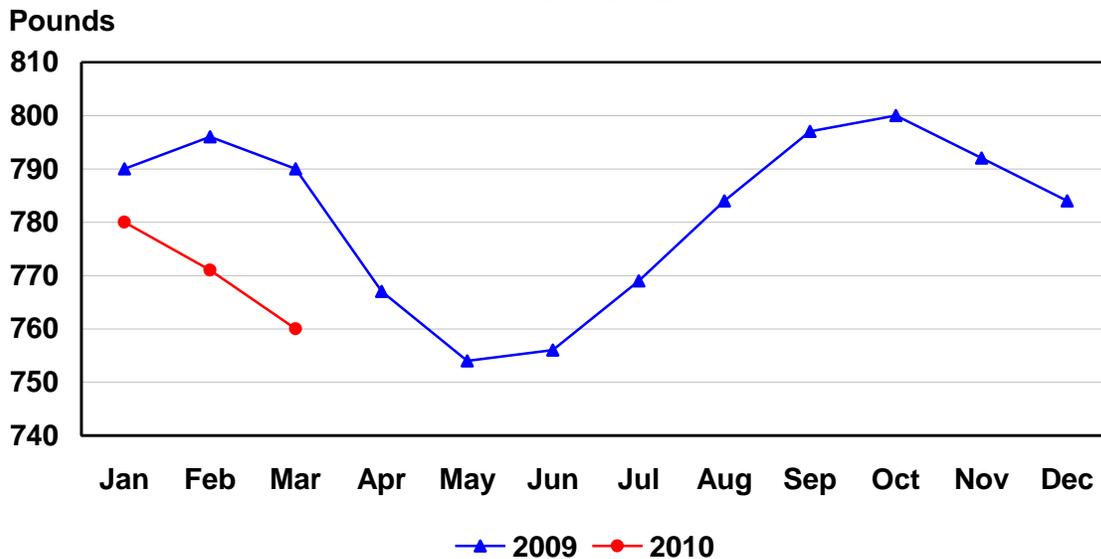
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Hogs



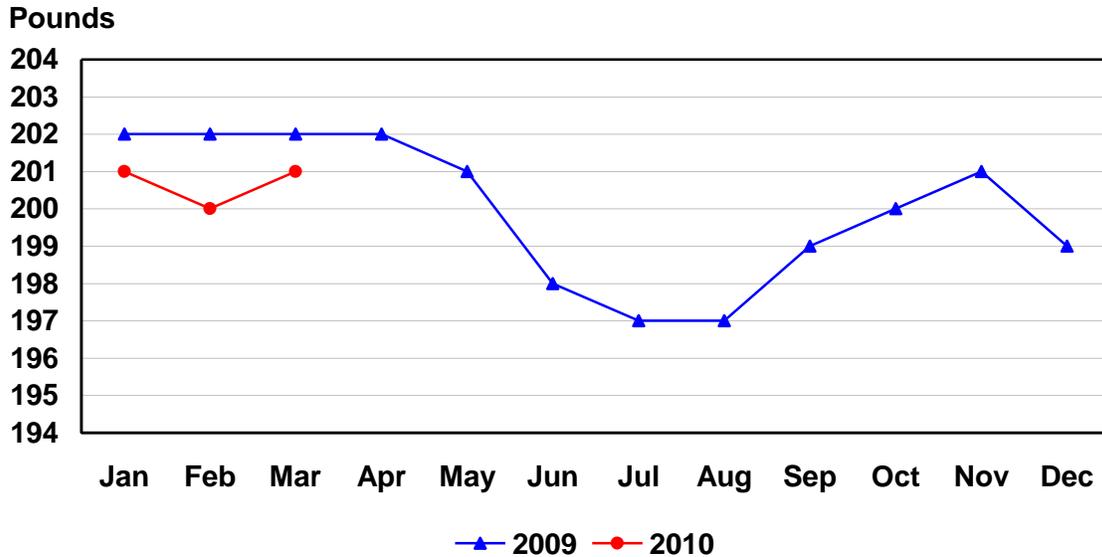
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Steers



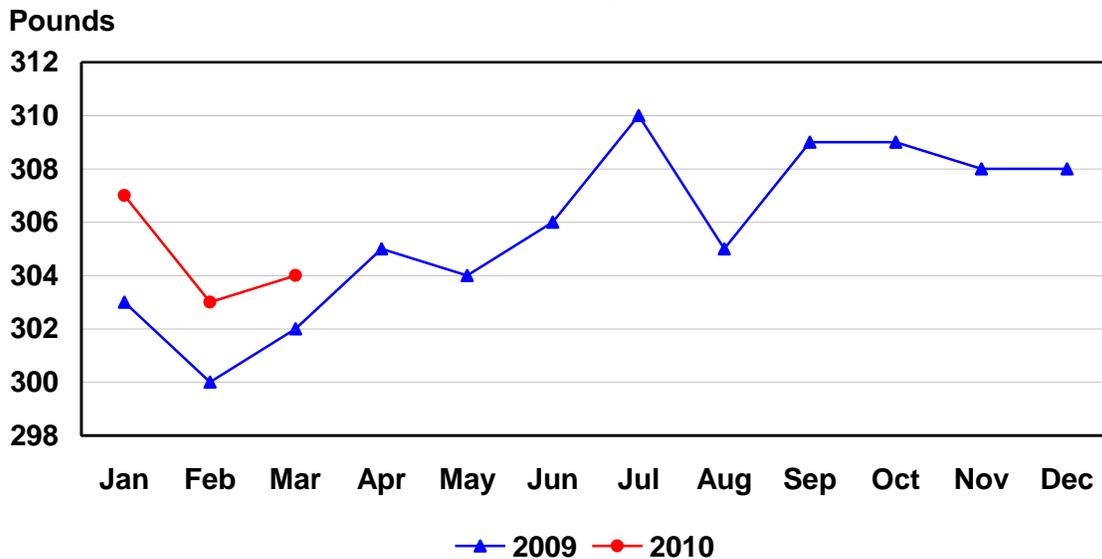
U.S. Monthly Federally Inspected Average Dressed Weight Heifers



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.

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 Terms and Definitions, 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 April 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 April.

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.

Computer 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 non-sampling 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.

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates

Average Live Weight: The weight of the whole animal, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Commercial Production: Includes slaughter and meat production in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Total Live Weight: The total live weight of animals, before slaughter. 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

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