



# Livestock Slaughter

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## February Red Meat Production Up 3 Percent from 2011

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in February, up 3 percent from the 3.81 billion pounds produced in February 2011.

**Beef production**, at 2.01 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, down 2 percent from February 2011. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,307 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 9.8 million pounds, 6 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 60,200 head, down 13 percent from February 2011. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from last year, at 276 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.88 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.04 million head, up 6 percent from February 2011. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 12.3 million pounds, was up 13 percent from February 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 165,400 head, 7 percent above last year. The average live weight was 149 pounds, up 8 pounds from February a year ago.

**January to February 2012 commercial red meat production** was 8.04 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 6 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 10 percent.

**February 2011** contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**February 2012** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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## Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

Type	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	February 2012 as % of		January to February		
				February 2011	January 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,020.4	2,113.8	2,009.0	99	95	4,143.4	4,122.8	100
Veal .....	10.5	10.4	9.8	94	94	21.3	20.2	95
Pork .....	1,768.1	1,987.0	1,882.9	106	95	3,664.3	3,869.9	106
Lamb and mutton .....	10.9	12.1	12.3	113	102	22.1	24.4	110
Total red meat .....	3,810.0	4,123.4	3,914.0	103	95	7,851.2	8,037.3	102

## Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

Type	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	February 2012 as % of		January to February		
				February 2011	January 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	1,994.1	2,081.7	1,981.2	99	95	4,087.2	4,062.9	99
Veal .....	10.2	10.2	9.6	94	94	20.8	19.8	95
Pork .....	1,756.1	1,974.1	1,870.1	106	95	3,640.4	3,844.3	106
Lamb and mutton .....	10.5	11.6	11.8	113	102	21.2	23.4	111
Total red meat .....	3,771.0	4,077.6	3,872.7	103	95	7,769.5	7,950.3	102

## Livestock Slaughter, Number of Head and Average Live Weight – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

Species	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	February 2012 as % of 2011	January to February		
					2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
				(percent)			(percent)
<b>Cattle</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	2,580.1	2,665.5	2,514.7	97	5,267.3	5,180.2	98
Other ..... 1,000	41.2	50.2	43.0	104	88.0	93.2	106
Commercial ..... 1,000	2,621.3	2,715.7	2,557.7	98	5,355.3	5,273.4	98
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected ..... pounds	1,289	1,303	1,310	102	1,296	1,307	101
Other ..... pounds	1,131	1,135	1,141	101	1,131	1,138	101
Commercial ..... pounds	1,286	1,300	1,307	102	1,294	1,304	101
<b>Calves</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	67.9	66.6	59.3	87	138.7	125.9	91
Other ..... 1,000	0.9	1.1	0.9	95	2.0	2.0	99
Commercial ..... 1,000	68.8	67.7	60.2	87	140.7	127.9	91
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected ..... pounds	262	260	274	104	261	266	102
Other ..... pounds	427	426	417	98	436	422	97
Commercial ..... pounds	264	262	276	104	263	269	102
<b>Hogs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	8,439.9	9,466.8	8,974.8	106	17,476.1	18,441.6	106
Other ..... 1,000	66.0	70.9	69.7	106	134.2	140.6	105
Commercial ..... 1,000	8,506.0	9,537.7	9,044.5	106	17,610.3	18,582.2	106
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected ..... pounds	278	279	278	100	278	278	100
Other ..... pounds	252	252	253	100	247	252	102
Commercial ..... pounds	277	278	278	100	278	278	100
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	145.5	153.8	154.6	106	296.0	308.3	104
Other ..... 1,000	9.5	11.0	10.8	114	20.5	21.8	107
Commercial ..... 1,000	155.0	164.8	165.4	107	316.4	330.2	104
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected ..... pounds	144	151	153	106	143	152	106
Other ..... pounds	95	98	98	104	97	98	101
Commercial ..... pounds	141	147	149	106	140	148	106
<b>Goats</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	37.7	43.3	38.4	102	78.5	81.7	104
Other ..... 1,000	12.3	13.7	14.1	115	25.8	27.9	108
Commercial ..... 1,000	50.1	57.0	52.6	105	104.3	109.6	105
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected ..... pounds	64	63	62	98	63	63	99
Other ..... pounds	70	66	62	88	68	64	94
Commercial ..... pounds	65	64	62	95	64	63	98
<b>Bison</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	3.4	3.9	3.4	98	7.3	7.2	100
Other ..... 1,000	0.8	0.9	0.8	105	1.7	1.7	104
Commercial ..... 1,000	4.2	4.8	4.2	99	8.9	9.0	101

## Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

[Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton. Totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

State	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	February 2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....	1.7	1.4	1.4	83
Alaska .....	-	-	-	-
Arizona .....	34.8	36.1	30.7	88
Arkansas .....	3.2	4.0	3.5	110
California .....	139.9	141.5	136.6	98
Colorado .....	168.9	181.4	175.0	104
Delaware-Maryland .....	2.8	2.9	2.7	96
Florida .....	8.8	10.2	8.0	90
Georgia .....	10.7	11.6	11.3	105
Hawaii .....	0.9	0.8	0.9	101
Idaho .....	12.9	3.5	3.3	26
Illinois .....	199.3	247.6	234.5	118
Indiana .....	136.1	147.0	142.5	105
Iowa .....	516.9	571.5	532.1	103
Kansas .....	410.3	420.2	398.1	97
Kentucky .....	43.9	47.9	46.6	106
Louisiana .....	0.5	0.5	0.5	100
Michigan .....	37.2	39.2	40.5	109
Minnesota .....	210.9	240.4	226.7	108
Mississippi .....	2.2	2.3	2.5	114
Missouri .....	137.2	151.5	145.2	106
Montana .....	0.8	0.8	0.7	96
Nebraska .....	549.3	593.7	572.4	104
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	117
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	1.1	1.4	1.2	111
New Jersey .....	4.2	4.4	4.1	97
New Mexico .....	0.3	0.4	0.3	80
New York .....	2.3	2.8	2.4	102
North Carolina .....	196.7	209.5	204.2	104
North Dakota .....	3.4	2.9	2.8	82
Ohio .....	21.9	23.9	22.7	104
Oklahoma .....	97.4	103.3	93.6	96
Oregon .....	4.8	5.8	5.6	118
Pennsylvania .....	98.4	107.8	105.0	107
South Carolina .....	20.2	21.0	19.1	95
South Dakota .....	85.7	90.5	81.1	95
Tennessee .....	17.2	19.1	17.4	102
Texas .....	386.9	411.5	389.3	101
Utah .....	35.7	38.2	41.1	115
Virginia .....	34.0	41.4	37.2	109
Washington .....	64.0	71.0	68.1	106
West Virginia .....	0.5	0.8	0.5	98
Wisconsin .....	105.2	111.0	102.1	97
Wyoming .....	0.5	0.6	0.5	121
United States .....	3,810.0	4,123.4	3,914.0	103

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: February 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama .....	0.5	0.4	518	352	950	941
Alaska .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona .....	47.1	42.7	60,779	55,007	1,294	1,292
Arkansas .....	0.7	0.8	629	740	952	947
California .....	145.1	136.1	183,539	175,793	1,288	1,301
Colorado .....	196.6	195.8	259,364	264,946	1,320	1,354
Delaware-Maryland .....	2.9	2.9	3,804	3,698	1,296	1,294
Florida .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia .....	19.8	19.9	19,680	20,267	998	1,021
Hawaii .....	1.1	1.1	1,191	1,242	1,121	1,151
Idaho .....	17.1	2.2	21,132	2,303	1,259	1,114
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana .....	3.0	3.0	3,194	3,203	1,057	1,057
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	495.0	476.3	634,786	616,173	1,283	1,294
Kentucky .....	1.5	1.5	1,437	1,547	982	1,004
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.5	369	377	839	773
Michigan .....	43.7	47.1	59,515	65,361	1,375	1,394
Minnesota .....	63.1	62.5	89,997	91,401	1,433	1,469
Mississippi .....	0.2	0.1	140	71	723	731
Missouri .....	6.7	4.9	8,150	5,633	1,225	1,150
Montana .....	0.9	0.9	1,112	1,052	1,219	1,199
Nebraska .....	530.7	518.2	702,940	707,841	1,326	1,367
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	102	123	1,051	990
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	1.3	1.4	1,289	1,440	1,028	1,037
New Jersey .....	3.2	3.1	3,566	3,545	1,132	1,136
New Mexico .....	0.5	0.3	535	329	1,257	1,228
New York .....	2.4	2.4	2,731	2,694	1,172	1,150
North Carolina .....	18.0	16.0	20,869	18,595	1,164	1,162
North Dakota .....	2.9	3.5	3,815	4,610	1,340	1,338
Ohio .....	8.9	9.5	10,497	11,152	1,195	1,174
Oklahoma .....	2.2	1.9	2,201	1,925	1,018	990
Oregon .....	3.4	4.4	4,169	5,332	1,251	1,219
Pennsylvania .....	75.0	82.8	91,508	101,724	1,232	1,233
South Carolina .....	15.0	11.6	16,817	13,366	1,136	1,166
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	4.0	4.5	3,333	3,710	848	850
Texas .....	507.8	506.6	623,488	628,049	1,231	1,243
Utah .....	44.1	48.0	57,924	66,405	1,316	1,386
Virginia .....	1.3	1.2	1,478	1,284	1,127	1,076
Washington .....	79.8	83.4	104,629	111,418	1,318	1,341
West Virginia .....	0.7	0.7	703	711	1,022	993
Wisconsin .....	128.9	123.7	170,744	164,211	1,339	1,335
Wyoming .....	0.6	0.7	681	831	1,169	1,269
United States .....	2,621.3	2,557.7	3,358,633	3,335,912	1,286	1,307

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: February 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alaska .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Arizona .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
California .....	16.6	14.6	1,706	1,539	104	106
Colorado .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Delaware-Maryland .....	0.3	0.3	66	78	265	259
Florida .....	(D)	0.1	(D)	29	(D)	443
Georgia .....	-	0.1	-	42	-	800
Hawaii .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Illinois .....	1.3	1.4	560	595	427	434
Indiana .....	(D)	0.4	(D)	102	(D)	235
Iowa .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kentucky .....	0.1	0.1	41	30	600	442
Louisiana .....	0.3	0.3	180	149	541	520
Michigan .....	1.5	1.4	636	604	414	418
Minnesota .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montana .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	0.6	0.7	79	96	136	144
New Jersey .....	6.4	6.0	2,661	2,443	414	410
New Mexico .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York .....	9.0	7.0	855	731	102	105
North Carolina .....	0.1	0.1	76	29	509	470
North Dakota .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Ohio .....	10.0	7.9	2,116	1,819	233	234
Oklahoma .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Pennsylvania .....	8.8	8.3	3,697	3,559	420	428
South Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	0.1	0.1	31	27	446	543
Texas .....	1.8	1.1	935	719	534	676
Utah .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washington .....	2.8	2.0	215	135	77	67
West Virginia .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Wisconsin .....	8.3	8.3	3,647	3,718	443	446
Wyoming .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States .....	68.8	60.2	17,715	16,525	264	276

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: February 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama .....	6.0	4.9	2,559	2,095	429	426
Alaska .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Arizona .....	0.1	0.1	18	25	261	262
Arkansas .....	9.4	10.3	4,335	4,700	463	457
California .....	191.4	189.9	46,684	46,871	244	247
Colorado .....	0.6	0.8	165	185	261	238
Delaware-Maryland .....	1.7	1.4	447	389	266	270
Florida .....	5.3	4.1	691	643	132	157
Georgia .....	5.6	6.5	1,419	1,609	255	246
Hawaii .....	1.2	1.1	293	259	252	241
Idaho .....	9.1	10.9	2,305	2,807	255	258
Illinois .....	677.1	858.4	190,900	242,115	282	282
Indiana .....	649.6	686.2	176,758	185,924	272	271
Iowa .....	2,294.0	2,370.9	637,673	661,240	278	279
Kansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	1.0	1.0	184	195	189	199
Michigan .....	8.6	10.3	3,412	4,084	397	397
Minnesota .....	799.7	878.0	215,790	237,881	270	271
Mississippi .....	9.0	10.1	2,982	3,471	330	343
Missouri .....	619.2	667.4	175,735	188,400	284	282
Montana .....	0.7	0.7	165	175	246	258
Nebraska .....	580.9	659.3	159,430	182,019	275	276
Nevada .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	1.3	1.5	326	362	245	237
New Jersey .....	6.8	7.2	705	753	104	105
New Mexico .....	-	0.1	-	24	-	223
New York .....	1.7	2.0	308	423	184	210
North Carolina .....	914.6	942.9	246,657	258,450	270	274
North Dakota .....	7.3	0.3	1,861	100	255	311
Ohio .....	73.9	80.0	20,317	21,208	276	265
Oklahoma .....	443.3	436.4	125,632	122,183	283	280
Oregon .....	13.3	14.2	3,366	3,650	254	257
Pennsylvania .....	216.1	221.8	56,794	57,623	263	260
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	388.5	358.5	104,082	97,366	268	272
Tennessee .....	48.6	50.1	22,782	23,139	469	462
Texas .....	34.6	32.0	9,683	10,096	280	317
Utah .....	3.7	4.7	539	676	145	144
Virginia .....	161.2	177.5	43,557	48,064	270	271
Washington .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia .....	0.4	0.5	102	133	258	261
Wisconsin .....	39.8	42.7	18,181	19,382	459	455
Wyoming .....	0.2	0.2	42	61	214	264
United States .....	8,506.0	9,044.5	2,357,796	2,514,623	277	278

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: February 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alaska .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona .....	0.1	0.2	20	29	132	144
Arkansas .....	-	0.1	-	5	-	93
California .....	19.0	23.8	2,653	3,459	139	145
Colorado .....	67.6	82.9	10,801	14,144	160	171
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.1	2.7	307	272	100	102
Florida .....	0.1	0.1	8	9	59	72
Georgia .....	0.1	0.3	8	22	70	84
Hawaii .....	-	0.1	-	5	-	100
Idaho .....	0.1	0.1	17	19	135	133
Illinois .....	8.5	11.3	1,260	1,812	149	160
Indiana .....	2.1	2.5	238	269	111	109
Iowa .....	11.2	0.1	1,658	21	149	152
Kansas .....	0.1	0.2	12	17	98	93
Kentucky .....	0.8	0.7	101	95	131	130
Louisiana .....	0.3	0.3	18	20	69	66
Michigan .....	14.0	10.3	1,865	1,438	134	139
Minnesota .....	1.1	0.2	153	29	142	127
Mississippi .....	(D)	0.2	(D)	13	(D)	62
Missouri .....	0.2	0.2	28	32	120	132
Montana .....	0.1	0.2	14	19	95	114
Nebraska .....	0.1	-	6	-	123	-
Nevada .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	1.5	1.6	144	153	93	96
New Jersey .....	7.3	7.2	636	615	87	86
New Mexico .....	0.8	0.9	125	139	152	153
New York .....	2.1	2.9	173	271	82	93
North Carolina .....	0.9	0.8	67	61	77	75
North Dakota .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ohio .....	0.5	0.6	56	63	109	109
Oklahoma .....	-	0.1	-	8	-	104
Oregon .....	1.6	1.8	230	278	143	151
Pennsylvania .....	1.9	2.9	191	296	99	101
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	0.2	0.2	21	23	130	122
Tennessee .....	0.5	0.6	42	46	90	82
Texas .....	3.9	4.6	261	331	68	72
Utah .....	2.1	2.3	314	317	147	141
Virginia .....	0.7	0.4	63	35	95	94
Washington .....	0.5	0.6	79	113	158	180
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	0.5	0.5	64	77	142	142
Wyoming .....	0.1	-	8	-	141	-
United States .....	155.0	165.4	21,831	24,683	141	149

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection, By Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	January to February		February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	January to February	
				2011	2012				2011	2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)
<b>Cattle</b>										
Steers .....	1,223	1,285	1,185	2,505	2,470	47.4	48.2	47.1	47.5	47.7
Heifers .....	818	766	781	1,627	1,547	31.7	28.7	31.1	30.9	29.9
All cows .....	497	572	508	1,051	1,080	19.3	21.5	20.2	19.9	20.9
Dairy cows .....	249	264	261	513	525	9.6	9.9	10.4	9.7	10.1
Other cows .....	248	308	247	538	555	9.6	11.6	9.8	10.2	10.7
Bulls .....	42	43	40	85	83	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Total .....	2,580	2,665	2,515	5,267	5,180	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	68	67	59	139	126	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows and gilts .....	8,194	9,196	8,712	16,966	17,908	97.1	97.1	97.1	97.1	97.1
Sows .....	220	245	235	459	479	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Boars .....	26	26	28	52	54	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total .....	8,440	9,467	8,975	17,476	18,442	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature sheep .....	8	8	8	18	17	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.9	5.5
Lambs and yearlings .....	137	145	146	278	291	94.4	94.5	94.5	94.1	94.5
Total .....	146	154	155	296	308	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## Federally Inspected Slaughter, Average Dressed Weight, By Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	January to February	
				2011	2012
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
<b>Cattle</b> .....	776	783	790	779	786
Steers <sup>1</sup> .....	835	853	855	842	854
Heifers <sup>1</sup> .....	778	792	795	782	793
All cows <sup>1</sup> .....	616	605	622	615	613
Bulls <sup>1</sup> .....	869	860	877	865	868
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	155	154	163	154	158
<b>Hogs</b> .....	208	209	208	208	209
Barrows and gilts <sup>2</sup> .....	206	206	206	206	206
Sows <sup>2</sup> .....	308	305	307	307	306
Boars <sup>2</sup> .....	208	208	209	210	209
<b>Sheep</b> .....	72	75	77	72	76
Mature sheep <sup>3</sup> .....	70	63	65	69	64
Lambs and yearlings <sup>3</sup> .....	72	76	77	72	77

<sup>1</sup> Included in cattle average dressed weight.

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

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

## Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: February 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	Cattle							Calves	
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total	
				All	Dairy	Other			
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1 .....	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	
2 .....	5.4	1.6	0.6	2.7	2.4	0.3	0.4	13.0	
3 .....	84.4	31.9	3.1	47.6	38.1	9.5	1.8	8.6	
4 .....	64.6	2.2	1.1	52.0	14.8	37.2	9.3	0.2	
5 .....	293.4	116.9	32.2	136.0	77.5	58.5	8.3	19.3	
6 .....	504.9	247.4	156.8	92.0	30.6	61.5	8.7	1.1	
7 .....	1,035.6	536.4	439.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
8 .....	256.8	130.4	107.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
9 .....	179.4	73.1	14.9	88.0	74.8	13.3	3.4	14.4	
10 .....	89.0	44.5	25.6	18.0	14.8	3.2	0.9	2.0	
United States .....	2,514.7	1,184.9	781.2	508.5	261.1	247.3	40.1	59.3	
	Hogs				Sheep				
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)		
1 .....	1.3	1.2	-	-	1.5	0.1	1.5		
2 .....	9.1	8.8	0.1	0.1	9.6	1.6	7.9		
3 .....	399.1	398.0	(D)	(D)	6.4	0.4	6.0		
4 .....	1,280.4	1,212.9	(D)	(D)	2.8	0.7	2.0		
5 .....	2,528.9	2,419.5	104.4	5.1	23.2	2.2	21.0		
6 .....	471.7	455.9	15.2	0.5	1.5	0.8	0.7		
7 .....	3,710.4	3,641.8	50.1	18.5	0.4	-	0.4		
8 .....	362.8	362.7	0.1	-	85.0	2.2	82.7		
9 .....	185.3	185.2	0.1	-	22.4	0.3	22.1		
10 .....	25.9	25.8	-	-	1.9	0.1	1.7		
United States .....	8,974.8	8,711.9	234.8	28.2	154.6	8.5	146.1		

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8- Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to February 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	Cattle							Calves	
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total	
				All	Dairy	Other			
(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1 .....	2.6	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.2	
2 .....	11.4	3.4	1.2	5.9	5.0	0.9	0.9	27.7	
3 .....	171.1	58.9	9.0	99.4	79.4	20.0	3.8	18.0	
4 .....	138.0	4.5	2.3	112.5	31.3	81.2	18.8	0.5	
5 .....	616.3	244.3	65.7	290.0	157.8	132.2	16.2	40.8	
6 .....	1,053.5	506.9	319.4	208.3	62.4	145.9	19.0	2.9	
7 .....	2,121.2	1,119.9	872.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.1	
8 .....	516.7	281.4	195.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
9 .....	367.7	156.6	29.7	174.7	144.8	29.8	6.8	30.2	
10 .....	181.8	92.8	51.0	36.1	28.3	7.8	1.9	4.4	
United States .....	5,180.2	2,469.7	1,547.0	1,080.4	525.0	555.4	83.1	125.9	
	Hogs				Sheep				
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1 .....	2.6	2.5	0.1	0.1	3.6	0.2	3.3		
2 .....	23.3	22.7	0.3	0.3	19.1	3.2	15.9		
3 .....	831.6	829.6	(D)	(D)	13.3	1.0	12.3		
4 .....	2,599.9	2,458.3	(D)	(D)	5.6	1.5	4.1		
5 .....	5,153.4	4,932.1	211.4	9.9	47.1	4.6	42.4		
6 .....	986.5	955.2	30.3	1.0	2.9	1.3	1.5		
7 .....	7,628.6	7,492.2	101.1	35.3	0.8	-	0.7		
8 .....	769.8	769.5	0.3	-	165.9	4.1	161.8		
9 .....	392.6	392.4	0.1	-	46.5	0.7	45.8		
10 .....	53.3	53.2	0.1	-	3.8	0.3	3.5		
United States .....	18,441.6	17,907.8	479.4	54.4	308.3	16.9	291.4		

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8 - Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	January to February	
				2011	2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	98.4	98.2	98.3	98.4	98.2
Calves .....	98.6	98.3	98.5	98.6	98.4
Hogs .....	99.2	99.3	99.2	99.2	99.2
Sheep .....	93.9	93.3	93.5	93.5	93.4

## Statistical Methodology

**Data Sources:** Primary data for the *Livestock Slaughter* publication 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 United States operating under Federal Inspection and over 1,900 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 15). 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. A computer program 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 computer program 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 United States 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 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 computer edit program 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, as indicated with a (D), these data are still included in United States 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. Based on packers' dressed weights.

**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  $(\text{NFI head kill}) \times (\text{live weight}) \times (\text{FI dressing percentage}) = \text{NFI red meat production}$ .

**Slaughter:** Killing and butchering of animals primarily for food.

**Slaughter, Farm:** Animals slaughtered on farms primarily for home consumption. Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments, but includes mobile slaughtering on farms. These estimates appear only in the annual slaughter release.

**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 weight of live animals, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

**Wholesome Meat Act:** Legislation that specifies that all meat produced for sale in the United States 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. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section .....	(202) 690-2424
Lorie Warren – Dairy Products, Sheep .....	(202) 690-3236
Travis Averill – Cattle, Cattle on Feed .....	(202) 720-3040
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter .....	(515) 284-4340
Everett Olbert – Dairy Products Prices .....	(202) 720-4751
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278
Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs, Goats .....	(202) 720-3106

## Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Receive NASS Updates” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.
- Printed reports may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by calling toll-free (800) 999-6779, or (703) 605-6220 if calling from outside the United States or Canada. Accepted methods of payment are Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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