



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released January 21, 2011, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Second Month of Record High Commercial Red Meat Production

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.36 billion pounds in December, up 5 percent from the 4.15 billion pounds produced in December 2009.

Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.92 million head, up 6 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,305 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.7 million pounds, 11 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 77,700 head, down 16 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from last year, at 261 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.06 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.93 million head, up 1 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 6 percent from December 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 217,300 head, 8 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 2 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2010 commercial red meat production was 49.1 billion pounds, down slightly from 2009. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

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

December 2010 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

This page intentionally left blank.

Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production - United States	4
Federally Inspected Red Meat Production - United States	4
Livestock Slaughter, Number of Head and Average Live Weight - United States.....	5
Commercial Red Meat Production - States and United States.....	6
Commercial Cattle Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010.....	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010.....	10
Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection, By Class - United States	11
Federally Inspected Slaughter, Average Dressed Weight, By Class - United States.....	11
Federally Inspected Slaughter - Regions and United States: December 2010.....	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter - Regions and United States: January - December 2010	13
Federally Inspected Slaughter, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter - United States.....	13
Statistical Methodology	14
Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates	15
Information Contacts	16

Commercial Red Meat Production - United States

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

Type	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	December 2010 as % of		January - December		
				December 2009	November 2010	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,134.4	2,235.7	2,272.5	106	102	25,966.1	26,316.3	101
Veal	13.1	11.3	11.7	89	103	138.3	134.3	97
Pork	1,985.3	2,067.8	2,056.0	104	99	22,998.9	22,436.0	98
Lamb and mutton	15.9	14.3	15.0	94	105	170.7	163.6	96
Total red meat	4,148.6	4,329.2	4,355.2	105	101	49,274.1	49,050.1	100

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production - United States

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

Type	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	December 2010 as % of		January - December		
				December 2009	November 2010	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,102.5	2,206.5	2,240.1	107	102	25,598.0	25,954.0	101
Veal	12.8	11.0	11.4	89	103	135.1	130.7	97
Pork	1,969.6	2,055.0	2,041.1	104	99	22,826.7	22,274.5	98
Lamb and mutton	15.0	13.5	14.0	93	104	161.7	154.4	95
Total red meat	4,099.8	4,286.1	4,306.7	105	100	48,721.4	48,513.6	100

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

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

Species	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	December 2010 as % of 2009	January - December		
					2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,703.7	2,830.4	2,867.6	106	32,765.2	33,701.6	103
Other 1,000	50.5	46.1	50.3	100	573.0	563.6	98
Commercial 1,000	2,754.2	2,876.4	2,918.0	106	33,338.2	34,265.2	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,299	1,302	1,307	101	1,296	1,282	99
Other pounds	1,134	1,125	1,148	101	1,136	1,135	100
Commercial pounds	1,296	1,299	1,305	101	1,293	1,279	99
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	91.1	71.7	76.6	84	930.4	864.3	93
Other 1,000	1.2	1.2	1.1	91	13.8	14.4	104
Commercial 1,000	92.3	72.9	77.7	84	944.2	878.7	93
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	238	266	259	109	248	259	105
Other pounds	405	442	429	106	408	430	106
Commercial pounds	240	269	261	109	250	262	105
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,742.4	9,894.9	9,837.8	101	112,612.3	109,314.6	97
Other 1,000	91.4	75.3	87.7	96	1,005.8	942.0	94
Commercial 1,000	9,833.7	9,970.2	9,925.4	101	113,618.1	110,256.6	97
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	270	278	278	103	271	273	101
Other pounds	239	236	236	99	239	238	100
Commercial pounds	270	278	277	103	271	272	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	217.1	201.1	199.9	92	2,323.1	2,261.0	97
Other 1,000	18.4	17.0	17.4	95	192.8	194.8	101
Commercial 1,000	235.5	218.0	217.3	92	2,515.9	2,455.7	98
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	139	134	140	101	139	137	98
Other pounds	99	100	114	115	97	97	100
Commercial pounds	136	131	138	102	136	134	98
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	58.3	57.7	52.3	90	659.3	611.8	93
Other 1,000	18.9	16.4	22.3	118	179.7	166.4	93
Commercial 1,000	77.2	74.2	74.6	97	839.0	778.2	93
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	61	63	63	103	61	62	101
Other pounds	77	58	63	81	72	66	93
Commercial pounds	65	62	63	97	63	63	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.9	3.8	4.6	93	53.5	52.9	99
Other 1,000	1.4	1.0	1.0	74	14.7	11.2	76
Commercial 1,000	6.3	4.8	5.6	89	68.3	64.1	94

Commercial Red Meat Production - States and United States

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

State	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	December 2010 as % of 2009
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.9	1.8	1.9	96
Alaska	0.1	0.1	-	-
Arizona	29.7	34.5	34.9	118
Arkansas	5.2	4.4	4.2	80
California	151.8	148.1	156.4	103
Colorado	165.7	171.1	184.6	111
Delaware-Maryland	3.4	3.3	3.1	91
Florida	9.3	9.9	8.9	95
Georgia	10.6	11.8	11.4	108
Hawaii	0.9	0.9	0.9	99
Idaho	18.3	18.8	16.1	88
Illinois	242.2	249.4	239.6	99
Indiana	147.6	162.3	158.0	107
Iowa	579.5	593.6	595.0	103
Kansas	434.3	456.1	461.4	106
Kentucky	54.4	54.1	55.1	101
Louisiana	0.5	0.5	0.5	103
Michigan	44.9	44.1	47.0	104
Minnesota	224.9	249.3	247.1	110
Mississippi	2.5	1.9	2.4	93
Missouri	143.3	153.1	157.7	110
Montana	2.3	2.0	2.1	93
Nebraska	580.9	634.5	630.7	109
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	88
New England ¹	1.4	1.8	1.5	110
New Jersey	4.7	5.0	4.6	98
New Mexico	0.4	0.6	0.4	110
New York	3.2	2.9	2.8	87
North Carolina	229.6	224.0	215.3	94
North Dakota	2.7	3.1	3.7	140
Ohio	27.2	26.3	27.2	100
Oklahoma	98.4	102.6	105.5	107
Oregon	4.9	5.4	5.0	102
Pennsylvania	114.8	113.7	118.3	103
South Carolina	22.0	20.5	20.5	93
South Dakota	79.7	98.6	96.0	120
Tennessee	19.7	23.3	18.4	93
Texas	414.8	417.5	437.8	106
Utah	34.7	36.3	37.2	107
Virginia	46.3	47.8	42.7	92
Washington	69.3	72.9	72.0	104
West Virginia	0.9	1.0	0.8	96
Wisconsin	119.2	119.9	125.8	106
Wyoming	0.6	0.5	0.6	113
United States	4,148.6	4,329.2	4,355.2	105

- Represents zero.

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Cattle Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.4	0.5	342	463	889	915
Alaska	0.1	0.1	77	55	1,134	1,105
Arizona	41.8	48.0	54,002	61,665	1,298	1,290
Arkansas	0.8	0.7	778	698	987	979
California	141.1	153.5	180,918	195,305	1,298	1,296
Colorado	192.4	208.4	254,738	282,449	1,325	1,356
Delaware-Maryland	3.8	3.3	4,881	4,332	1,290	1,312
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	19.0	21.9	18,811	20,935	991	961
Hawaii	1.0	1.1	1,172	1,156	1,150	1,095
Idaho	25.2	22.5	31,089	27,041	1,253	1,225
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	4.3	4.0	4,500	4,220	1,057	1,054
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	518.7	541.7	675,271	715,985	1,302	1,322
Kentucky	1.8	1.7	1,747	1,633	952	957
Louisiana	0.4	0.5	264	334	714	722
Michigan	52.0	53.8	71,666	73,815	1,383	1,382
Minnesota	75.6	79.7	104,600	111,235	1,391	1,403
Mississippi	-	0.1	-	45	-	587
Missouri	8.1	7.4	9,595	8,554	1,185	1,155
Montana	2.9	2.6	3,523	3,149	1,200	1,194
Nebraska	548.6	589.5	736,000	797,485	1,343	1,354
Nevada	0.1	0.1	96	78	1,026	969
New England ¹	1.6	1.7	1,525	1,670	978	984
New Jersey	3.2	3.4	3,616	3,856	1,139	1,131
New Mexico	0.5	0.6	574	636	1,101	1,105
New York	2.9	2.8	3,358	3,185	1,176	1,178
North Carolina	19.7	17.4	22,914	20,026	1,167	1,157
North Dakota	1.4	2.6	1,724	3,336	1,250	1,288
Ohio	10.2	10.1	12,087	11,947	1,193	1,194
Oklahoma	2.2	1.9	2,120	1,849	948	982
Oregon	3.4	3.8	3,937	4,618	1,204	1,240
Pennsylvania	75.5	87.8	93,701	108,604	1,255	1,249
South Carolina	12.4	13.2	13,480	14,443	1,104	1,110
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	3.7	3.9	2,988	3,213	834	848
Texas	536.5	568.6	667,823	708,404	1,248	1,250
Utah	(D)	46.3	(D)	60,490	(D)	1,308
Virginia	0.9	1.1	947	1,242	1,040	1,082
Washington	86.6	90.4	113,289	118,224	1,314	1,315
West Virginia	1.2	1.2	1,236	1,218	1,037	1,044
Wisconsin	148.2	158.1	196,336	207,778	1,338	1,328
Wyoming	0.7	0.8	833	979	1,113	1,165
United States	2,754.2	2,918.0	3,558,149	3,792,092	1,296	1,305

- Represents zero.

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

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Calf Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2009 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 head)	2009 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2009 (pounds)	2010 (pounds)
Alabama	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Alaska	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
California	21.7	16.2	2,230	1,697	104	106
Colorado	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delaware-Maryland	0.2	0.2	64	62	270	265
Florida	0.5	-	45	-	88	-
Georgia	0.1	-	22	-	409	-
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	2.1	1.5	955	640	452	436
Indiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Kansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kentucky	-	0.1	-	37	-	524
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	210	197	502	526
Michigan	1.7	1.6	745	675	452	426
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri	0.1	-	23	-	414	-
Montana	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.5	(D)	99	(D)	182	(D)
New Jersey	6.6	5.9	2,792	2,476	424	417
New Mexico	-	0.1	-	15	-	108
New York	17.0	12.4	1,587	1,188	96	101
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	74	66	506	453
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	13.6	13.9	2,940	2,973	218	235
Oklahoma	0.1	0.1	33	32	497	476
Oregon	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)
Pennsylvania	11.1	10.3	4,821	4,426	434	429
South Carolina	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	5.3	2.2	824	710	156	331
Utah	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)
Virginia	(D)	0.1	(D)	29	(D)	396
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Wisconsin	(D)	8.9	(D)	3,972	(D)	445
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	92.3	77.7	21,915	19,707	240	261

- Represents zero.

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

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Hog Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2009 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 head)	2009 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2009 (pounds)	2010 (pounds)
Alabama	7.2	6.7	3,211	2,920	444	436
Alaska	0.1	0.1	21	15	233	194
Arizona	0.1	0.1	34	21	260	243
Arkansas	15.7	12.5	7,278	5,731	462	459
California	263.3	249.5	63,537	60,158	242	241
Colorado	0.6	0.7	163	183	258	265
Delaware-Maryland	1.6	1.7	403	445	256	256
Florida	8.0	5.7	1,160	791	144	139
Georgia	6.9	6.4	1,838	1,628	266	253
Hawaii	1.7	1.6	377	377	224	231
Idaho	11.4	10.7	2,883	2,692	252	253
Illinois	837.9	832.5	232,840	233,788	278	281
Indiana	733.5	752.0	191,263	205,475	261	273
Iowa	2,675.8	2,658.9	721,744	740,153	270	279
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.5	1.4	249	227	161	157
Michigan	10.5	12.9	3,874	5,111	368	397
Minnesota	856.9	926.4	225,420	250,662	264	271
Mississippi	11.9	11.5	3,562	3,302	300	288
Missouri	660.0	709.8	183,804	203,266	279	287
Montana	1.4	1.5	352	366	243	249
Nebraska	646.9	694.0	173,210	191,054	268	275
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	2.3	2.4	419	488	186	202
New Jersey	11.2	11.0	962	947	86	86
New Mexico	0.1	0.1	18	29	264	250
New York	2.3	2.4	366	376	158	157
North Carolina	1,102.4	1,008.1	288,301	271,615	262	270
North Dakota	9.4	10.1	2,438	2,658	261	262
Ohio	95.6	92.9	25,848	25,833	271	279
Oklahoma	458.5	488.4	127,838	137,260	279	281
Oregon	14.4	13.3	3,592	3,346	251	251
Pennsylvania	298.2	271.5	76,767	70,923	258	262
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	361.7	433.2	94,634	115,839	262	267
Tennessee	57.2	53.5	26,919	24,760	471	463
Texas	43.5	44.5	11,181	12,716	258	286
Utah	5.4	5.3	929	709	171	134
Virginia	225.8	206.6	60,454	55,332	268	268
Washington	1.9	(D)	413	(D)	218	(D)
West Virginia	0.6	0.4	157	119	277	273
Wisconsin	40.0	44.9	17,636	20,034	446	450
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	63	58	266	293
United States	9,833.7	9,925.4	2,654,235	2,748,884	270	277

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

¹ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter - States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2009 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 head)	2009 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2009 (pounds)	2010 (pounds)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	0.3	0.3	32	32	105	127
Arkansas	-	0.1	-	6	-	103
California	(D)	22.0	(D)	3,075	(D)	140
Colorado	84.5	89.9	13,109	14,119	155	157
Delaware-Maryland	4.1	3.9	387	383	95	98
Florida	0.2	(D)	12	(D)	57	(D)
Georgia	0.5	0.4	29	27	65	75
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	9	5	125	103
Idaho	0.2	0.2	26	30	122	125
Illinois	(D)	12.9	(D)	1,825	(D)	142
Indiana	4.1	3.3	467	363	113	109
Iowa	37.6	23.8	5,702	3,474	152	146
Kansas	0.3	0.3	31	23	99	92
Kentucky	1.1	1.0	127	116	113	119
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	18	14	60	52
Michigan	16.3	15.4	2,108	1,984	130	129
Minnesota	0.9	1.1	107	125	125	115
Mississippi	-	0.2	-	14	-	65
Missouri	0.5	0.4	59	48	117	126
Montana	0.5	0.5	55	57	101	108
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	15	17	130	125
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-
New England ¹	3.1	2.8	262	237	84	85
New Jersey	12.0	11.1	951	918	79	83
New Mexico	1.0	1.0	139	133	133	134
New York	4.2	3.3	403	277	95	83
North Carolina	1.0	1.7	75	131	74	76
North Dakota	-	0.1	-	8	-	116
Ohio	1.0	1.3	107	143	105	109
Oklahoma	0.1	0.1	9	7	84	113
Oregon	2.3	2.1	295	289	130	136
Pennsylvania	3.9	3.7	391	358	100	97
South Carolina	0.2	(D)	13	(D)	78	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	26	24	134	131
Tennessee	1.1	0.7	86	54	76	78
Texas	8.4	5.7	762	634	91	111
Utah	3.2	2.6	431	357	134	138
Virginia	1.4	0.9	128	79	94	91
Washington	0.8	1.3	147	236	178	185
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.9	1.2	113	166	130	136
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	18	16	133	151
United States	235.5	217.3	31,872	29,973	136	138

- Represents zero.

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

¹ 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	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	January - December		December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	January - December	
				2009	2010				2009	2010
	(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)
Cattle										
Steers	1,323	1,337	1,382	16,313	16,596	48.9	47.3	48.2	49.8	49.2
Heifers	794	849	850	9,742	10,047	29.4	30.0	29.6	29.7	29.8
All cows	541	592	589	6,140	6,437	20.0	20.9	20.5	18.7	19.1
Dairy cows	231	241	265	2,815	2,807	8.5	8.5	9.2	8.6	8.3
Other cows	310	351	324	3,325	3,630	11.5	12.4	11.3	10.1	10.8
Bulls	45	52	47	570	622	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
Total	2,704	2,830	2,868	32,765	33,702	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	91	72	77	930	864	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,433	9,611	9,556	108,950	105,983	96.8	97.1	97.1	96.7	97.0
Sows	274	258	253	3,243	2,966	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.7
Boars	36	26	29	419	366	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Total	9,742	9,895	9,838	112,612	109,315	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	14	15	11	158	156	6.5	7.6	5.3	6.8	6.9
Lambs and yearlings	203	186	189	2,165	2,105	93.5	92.4	94.7	93.2	93.1
Total	217	201	200	2,323	2,261	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	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	January - December	
				2009	2010
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	780	782	784	784	773
Steers ¹	846	855	854	847	835
Heifers ¹	784	790	788	782	768
All cows ¹	604	599	605	610	607
Bulls ¹	865	862	863	878	875
Calves and vealers	142	157	153	147	154
Hogs	202	208	208	203	204
Barrows and gilts ²	199	205	205	200	201
Sows ²	308	305	306	306	305
Boars ²	199	215	208	199	200
Sheep	69	67	70	70	68
Mature sheep ³	61	64	65	64	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	70	67	71	70	69

¹ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

² Included in hog average dressed weight.

³ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

Federally Inspected Slaughter - Regions and United States: December 2010

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	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	1.4	0.7	0.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
2	6.0	2.0	0.4	3.1	2.6	0.5	0.5	18.3
3	90.3	31.6	8.8	48.1	38.4	9.7	1.9	10.6
4	71.5	1.9	0.7	60.7	14.5	46.1	8.3	0.2
5	364.7	156.1	41.0	158.5	94.1	64.4	9.1	26.2
6	567.1	274.1	174.8	105.0	18.1	86.9	13.2	2.3
7	1,180.5	622.8	480.0	70.9	1.0	69.9	6.8	0.1
8	268.7	149.2	97.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-
9	201.8	91.0	16.5	91.4	74.9	16.5	2.9	16.0
10	115.5	52.4	29.5	31.3	14.0	17.3	2.3	(D)
United States	2,867.6	1,381.7	849.9	588.6	264.8	323.8	47.4	76.6
	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	2.0	1.9	-	-	2.5	0.2	2.3	
2	13.2	13.0	(D)	(D)	13.6	1.6	12.0	
3	478.5	474.4	(D)	(D)	9.3	0.4	8.9	
4	1,388.3	1,315.9	69.7	2.7	4.0	0.9	3.1	
5	2,628.0	2,516.8	105.5	5.7	29.4	3.4	26.0	
6	538.0	516.1	21.9	-	2.5	0.9	1.6	
7	4,074.7	4,003.6	53.7	17.4	24.3	0.2	24.1	
8	447.6	447.4	0.2	-	92.2	2.3	90.0	
9	242.0	241.9	0.1	-	19.7	0.6	19.1	
10	25.4	25.3	-	-	2.4	0.2	2.2	
United States	9,837.8	9,556.3	252.5	28.9	199.9	10.7	189.2	

- Represents zero.

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

¹ 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 - December 2010

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	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	15.7	7.3	3.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
2	69.9	23.4	4.7	36.1	30.5	5.5	5.8	200.1
3	992.0	395.0	91.3	484.6	385.4	99.2	21.0	123.4
4	854.2	21.7	8.2	706.0	148.8	557.3	118.3	2.7
5	4,207.0	1,842.3	504.7	1,740.1	965.3	774.8	119.9	265.7
6	6,653.4	3,307.4	2,044.0	1,151.6	208.4	943.1	150.4	27.0
7	14,016.0	7,597.8	5,595.1	732.0	14.9	717.1	91.1	0.7
8	3,224.5	1,752.1	1,242.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-
9	2,283.9	1,032.8	181.7	1,023.3	809.9	213.5	46.0	212.6
10	1,385.0	616.6	371.6	357.3	164.4	192.9	39.5	(D)
United States	33,701.6	16,596.4	10,046.8	6,436.8	2,807.0	3,629.8	621.6	864.3
	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	19.0	18.4	0.3	0.2	27.7	2.7	24.9	
2	128.8	126.5	(D)	(D)	173.4	22.6	150.8	
3	5,271.8	5,162.5	(D)	(D)	110.3	5.2	105.1	
4	15,912.9	15,009.8	885.7	17.4	48.0	10.1	38.0	
5	29,214.3	27,945.9	1,215.8	52.6	326.4	41.9	284.5	
6	5,949.7	5,719.6	229.6	0.6	39.7	22.2	17.5	
7	45,401.8	44,587.5	615.0	199.3	280.2	9.0	271.2	
8	4,647.9	4,645.8	2.1	0.1	926.8	33.4	893.4	
9	2,476.5	2,475.6	0.7	0.1	301.1	7.2	293.9	
10	291.9	291.2	0.6	0.1	27.4	2.2	25.2	
United States	109,314.6	105,982.7	2,965.9	366.0	2,261.0	156.4	2,104.6	

- Represents zero.

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

¹ 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	December 2009	November 2010	December 2010	January - December	
				2009	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.2	98.4	98.3	98.3	98.4
Calves	98.7	98.3	98.6	98.5	98.4
Hogs	99.1	99.2	99.1	99.1	99.1
Sheep	92.2	92.2	92.0	92.3	92.1

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 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 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

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Lorie Warren – 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
Everett Olbert – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4751
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Nick Streff – Hogs and Pigs	(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.

The United States 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, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or a 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, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.