



Livestock Slaughter

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Another Record Monthly High for Pork Production

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.22 billion pounds in December, down 3 percent from the 4.35 billion pounds produced in December 2010.

Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, down 6 percent from December 2010. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,297 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.7 million pounds, 8 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,900 head, down 6 percent from December 2010. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from last year, at 253 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.07 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.94 million head, up slightly from December 2010. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was down 16 percent from December 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 180,700 head, 16 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, up 1 pound from December a year ago.

January to December 2011 commercial red meat production was 49.2 billion pounds, up slightly from 2010.

Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

December 2010 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

December 2011 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

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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 2010 and 2011	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter - States and United States: December 2010 and 2011.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter - States and United States: December 2010 and 2011.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter - States and United States: December 2010 and 2011.....	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 2011	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter - Regions and United States: January to December 2011	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 2010	November 2011	December 2011	December 2011 as % of		January to December		
				December 2010	November 2011	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,270.9	2,149.4	2,127.2	94	99	26,304.9	26,199.3	100
Veal	11.7	10.8	10.7	92	99	134.3	129.2	96
Pork	2,055.4	2,086.9	2,065.9	101	99	22,436.5	22,759.1	101
Lamb and mutton	14.9	12.6	12.5	84	100	163.7	148.6	91
Total red meat	4,352.8	4,259.7	4,216.4	97	99	49,039.4	49,236.3	100

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2010	November 2011	December 2011	December 2011 as % of		January to December		
				December 2010	November 2011	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,240.1	2,119.8	2,096.4	94	99	25,954.2	25,854.2	100
Veal	11.4	10.5	10.5	92	100	130.7	126.2	97
Pork	2,041.1	2,073.6	2,052.6	101	99	22,274.6	22,599.4	101
Lamb and mutton	14.0	11.8	11.9	85	101	154.4	140.9	91
Total red meat	4,306.7	4,215.8	4,171.4	97	99	48,513.9	48,720.7	100

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

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

Species	December 2010	November 2011	December 2011	December 2011 as % of 2010	January to December		
					2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,867.7	2,739.1	2,706.3	94	33,702.0	33,554.6	100
Other 1,000	48.2	46.5	48.5	101	547.0	537.8	98
Commercial 1,000	2,915.9	2,785.6	2,754.8	94	34,249.0	34,092.3	100
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,307	1,296	1,300	99	1,282	1,280	100
Other pounds	1,142	1,131	1,139	100	1,132	1,132	100
Commercial pounds	1,305	1,293	1,297	99	1,279	1,277	100
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	76.6	71.9	71.8	94	864.2	838.8	97
Other 1,000	1.1	1.1	1.0	94	14.4	12.7	88
Commercial 1,000	77.7	73.0	72.9	94	878.6	851.5	97
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	258	252	250	97	260	260	100
Other pounds	437	401	421	96	432	421	97
Commercial pounds	261	255	253	97	262	263	100
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,837.8	9,968.1	9,867.7	100	109,314.7	109,956.6	101
Other 1,000	84.0	74.9	75.9	90	945.1	907.7	96
Commercial 1,000	9,921.8	10,043.0	9,943.6	100	110,259.8	110,864.3	101
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	278	279	278	100	273	275	101
Other pounds	236	245	243	103	238	244	103
Commercial pounds	277	278	278	100	272	275	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	200.0	171.9	168.0	84	2,261.1	2,001.0	88
Other 1,000	16.0	14.8	12.7	79	196.4	160.7	82
Commercial 1,000	216.0	186.7	180.7	84	2,457.5	2,161.7	88
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	140	138	142	101	137	141	103
Other pounds	113	105	102	90	98	98	100
Commercial pounds	138	135	139	101	134	138	103
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	52.5	58.6	55.1	105	612.1	589.1	96
Other 1,000	20.5	18.6	18.2	89	166.9	183.0	110
Commercial 1,000	73.0	77.2	73.4	101	779.0	772.1	99
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	63	63	63	101	62	63	101
Other pounds	58	67	73	126	67	67	100
Commercial pounds	61	64	66	107	63	64	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.6	3.9	3.7	80	52.9	44.2	84
Other 1,000	1.0	0.9	1.0	101	11.1	10.0	90
Commercial 1,000	5.6	4.8	4.7	84	63.9	54.2	85

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 2010	November 2011	December 2011	December 2011 as % of 2010
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.9	1.6	1.6	84
Alaska	-	0.1	-	-
Arizona	34.9	33.2	38.4	110
Arkansas	4.2	3.0	4.2	100
California	156.0	147.5	146.8	94
Colorado	184.5	170.0	179.3	97
Delaware-Maryland	3.1	3.0	3.0	94
Florida	8.9	10.3	9.5	107
Georgia	11.4	12.8	12.0	105
Hawaii	0.9	0.7	0.9	92
Idaho	16.1	3.8	3.5	22
Illinois	239.6	264.4	257.8	108
Indiana	158.0	158.6	156.1	99
Iowa	595.0	604.5	595.6	100
Kansas	461.4	424.8	416.6	90
Kentucky	55.1	51.4	48.8	89
Louisiana	0.5	0.6	0.5	89
Michigan	47.0	42.8	45.9	98
Minnesota	247.0	248.7	251.5	102
Mississippi	2.4	2.4	1.8	77
Missouri	157.7	158.6	156.7	99
Montana	1.7	1.7	1.8	104
Nebraska	629.8	612.5	606.6	96
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	126
New England ¹	1.5	1.8	1.6	104
New Jersey	4.6	4.6	4.6	100
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.5	106
New York	2.8	3.1	3.1	111
North Carolina	215.3	212.4	203.1	94
North Dakota	3.6	2.4	2.5	70
Ohio	27.2	25.8	26.0	96
Oklahoma	105.5	104.0	98.6	93
Oregon	5.0	6.3	5.6	112
Pennsylvania	118.1	112.4	112.3	95
South Carolina	20.5	21.3	21.3	104
South Dakota	96.0	101.0	96.5	101
Tennessee	18.4	24.2	21.9	119
Texas	437.8	402.2	404.4	92
Utah	37.2	37.3	37.7	101
Virginia	42.7	48.3	45.0	105
Washington	72.0	74.9	70.8	98
West Virginia	0.8	1.0	1.0	122
Wisconsin	125.6	118.7	120.4	96
Wyoming	0.6	0.5	0.6	89
United States	4,352.8	4,259.7	4,216.4	97

- Represents zero.

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: December 2010 and 2011

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2010 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (pounds)	2011 (pounds)
Alabama	0.5	0.3	463	285	915	874
Alaska	0.1	-	55	-	1,105	-
Arizona	48.0	52.0	61,665	67,219	1,290	1,296
Arkansas	0.7	0.7	698	713	979	981
California	153.5	144.6	195,332	184,054	1,296	1,285
Colorado	208.4	202.3	282,429	273,427	1,356	1,353
Delaware-Maryland	3.3	3.3	4,344	4,184	1,312	1,281
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	21.9	21.9	20,935	21,474	961	985
Hawaii	1.1	0.9	1,156	1,039	1,095	1,095
Idaho	22.4	2.5	26,889	2,633	1,227	1,103
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	4.0	3.6	4,220	3,793	1,054	1,064
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	541.7	497.8	715,985	648,503	1,322	1,303
Kentucky	1.7	1.5	1,633	1,479	957	979
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	352	310	715	772
Michigan	53.8	55.2	73,815	74,492	1,382	1,356
Minnesota	79.6	81.9	111,056	114,131	1,403	1,399
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	45	40	587	608
Missouri	7.6	4.7	8,737	5,424	1,155	1,152
Montana	2.2	2.3	2,556	2,664	1,160	1,164
Nebraska	588.4	555.7	796,066	753,069	1,354	1,356
Nevada	0.1	0.1	78	95	969	1,009
New England ¹	1.7	1.8	1,670	1,727	984	991
New Jersey	3.4	3.1	3,866	3,489	1,129	1,126
New Mexico	0.6	0.6	636	729	1,105	1,281
New York	2.8	3.2	3,185	3,637	1,178	1,143
North Carolina	17.4	17.8	20,026	20,315	1,157	1,146
North Dakota	2.4	3.0	3,127	4,038	1,298	1,334
Ohio	10.1	11.3	11,947	13,125	1,194	1,169
Oklahoma	1.9	2.2	1,849	2,138	982	983
Oregon	3.8	4.9	4,618	5,800	1,240	1,213
Pennsylvania	87.6	84.7	108,379	100,365	1,249	1,189
South Carolina	13.2	12.6	14,443	13,956	1,110	1,120
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	3.9	4.6	3,213	3,853	848	853
Texas	568.6	535.7	708,404	661,091	1,250	1,237
Utah	46.3	45.3	60,490	61,013	1,308	1,351
Virginia	1.2	1.1	1,244	1,207	1,082	1,055
Washington	90.4	86.4	118,224	115,692	1,315	1,345
West Virginia	1.2	1.4	1,182	1,398	1,013	983
Wisconsin	157.9	153.4	207,495	199,014	1,329	1,304
Wyoming	0.8	0.7	979	855	1,165	1,142
United States	2,915.9	2,754.8	3,789,353	3,563,845	1,305	1,297

- 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 2010 and 2011

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2010 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (pounds)	2011 (pounds)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
California	16.2	16.3	1,697	1,694	107	104
Colorado	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	0.2	0.3	62	70	265	262
Florida	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)
Georgia	-	0.1	-	46	-	596
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	1.5	1.1	640	491	436	442
Indiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kentucky	0.1	0.1	37	41	524	572
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	197	198	526	535
Michigan	1.6	1.4	675	580	426	422
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	(D)	0.6	(D)	94	(D)	147
New Jersey	5.9	6.7	2,477	2,817	417	418
New Mexico	0.1	-	15	-	108	-
New York	12.4	11.4	1,188	1,097	101	102
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	66	40	453	503
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	13.9	12.0	2,973	1,979	235	166
Oklahoma	0.1	0.1	32	21	476	349
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	10.3	9.5	4,424	4,058	429	426
South Carolina	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	-	0.1	-	38	-	468
Texas	2.2	1.7	710	600	331	360
Utah	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Virginia	0.1	-	29	-	396	-
Washington	(D)	1.3	(D)	94	(D)	76
West Virginia	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)
Wisconsin	8.9	8.9	3,969	4,051	445	455
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	77.7	72.9	19,702	18,226	261	253

- 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 2010 and 2011

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2010 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (pounds)	2011 (pounds)
Alabama	6.7	5.8	2,920	2,465	436	425
Alaska	0.1	(D)	15	(D)	194	(D)
Arizona	0.1	0.1	21	28	243	226
Arkansas	12.5	12.5	5,731	5,677	459	453
California	247.6	228.1	59,743	54,950	241	241
Colorado	0.6	0.8	162	185	261	237
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.5	445	367	256	249
Florida	5.7	4.1	791	635	139	156
Georgia	6.4	7.4	1,628	1,844	253	251
Hawaii	1.6	1.5	377	344	231	233
Idaho	10.6	11.0	2,676	2,808	253	256
Illinois	832.5	946.2	233,788	266,352	281	282
Indiana	752.0	745.7	205,475	203,101	273	272
Iowa	2,658.8	2,675.0	740,135	748,547	279	280
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.5	1.4	237	195	159	143
Michigan	12.9	11.8	5,111	4,666	397	395
Minnesota	926.3	940.9	250,642	255,910	271	272
Mississippi	11.5	9.5	3,302	2,559	288	269
Missouri	709.6	711.7	203,212	203,751	287	286
Montana	1.4	1.5	326	347	234	237
Nebraska	693.8	711.8	191,000	197,078	275	277
Nevada	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
New England ¹	2.4	2.4	488	550	202	233
New Jersey	11.0	11.5	947	1,044	86	91
New Mexico	0.1	0.1	29	19	250	260
New York	2.4	2.8	376	496	157	179
North Carolina	1,008.1	952.0	271,615	257,456	270	271
North Dakota	10.0	0.5	2,608	150	262	275
Ohio	92.9	90.1	25,833	24,270	279	270
Oklahoma	488.4	460.8	137,260	128,768	281	280
Oregon	13.3	13.0	3,346	3,288	251	254
Pennsylvania	271.2	260.8	70,844	67,463	262	259
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	433.2	427.6	115,839	116,138	267	272
Tennessee	53.5	66.2	24,760	29,546	463	447
Texas	44.5	38.3	12,716	10,945	286	286
Utah	5.3	5.3	709	700	134	132
Virginia	206.6	218.3	55,343	58,553	268	268
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.4	0.6	111	173	255	277
Wisconsin	44.3	46.5	19,880	20,772	452	448
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	58	63	293	273
United States	9,921.8	9,943.6	2,747,978	2,762,662	277	278

- Represents zero.

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

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Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: December 2010 and 2011

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2010 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 head)	2010 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2010 (pounds)	2011 (pounds)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	0.3	0.2	32	31	127	125
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	6	6	103	91
California	20.8	23.4	2,932	3,313	141	142
Colorado	89.9	85.7	14,119	13,734	157	160
Delaware-Maryland	3.9	3.4	383	328	98	98
Florida	(D)	0.1	(D)	6	(D)	71
Georgia	0.4	0.2	27	18	75	75
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	5	10	103	132
Idaho	0.2	0.2	29	25	125	131
Illinois	12.9	11.9	1,825	1,680	142	141
Indiana	3.3	3.9	363	435	109	111
Iowa	23.8	0.1	3,475	20	146	147
Kansas	0.3	0.3	23	28	92	104
Kentucky	1.0	0.9	116	121	118	128
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	15	15	54	58
Michigan	15.4	13.1	1,984	1,700	129	130
Minnesota	1.3	0.4	157	52	117	126
Mississippi	0.2	(D)	14	(D)	65	(D)
Missouri	0.4	0.3	48	42	126	121
Montana	0.4	0.4	43	39	100	99
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	15	7	126	120
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-
New England ¹	2.8	2.9	237	244	85	85
New Jersey	11.2	9.7	935	825	83	85
New Mexico	1.0	0.8	133	117	134	145
New York	3.3	3.6	274	299	82	82
North Carolina	1.7	1.2	131	80	76	68
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ohio	1.3	1.1	143	112	109	106
Oklahoma	0.1	0.2	7	19	113	93
Oregon	2.1	2.1	289	291	136	139
Pennsylvania	3.7	4.3	355	426	97	99
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	24	23	131	115
Tennessee	0.7	0.6	54	44	78	74
Texas	5.7	3.1	634	192	111	62
Utah	2.6	2.5	357	331	138	135
Virginia	0.9	0.5	81	42	91	92
Washington	1.3	1.0	236	178	185	179
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.9	0.8	121	108	134	133
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	16	16	151	176
United States	216.0	180.7	29,815	25,088	138	139

- 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 2010	November 2011	December 2011	January to December		December 2010	November 2011	December 2011	January to December	
				2010	2011				2010	2011
	(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	1,382	1,302	1,314	16,596	16,539	48.2	47.5	48.6	49.2	49.3
Heifers	850	775	746	10,047	9,726	29.6	28.3	27.6	29.8	29.0
All cows	589	613	601	6,437	6,712	20.5	22.4	22.2	19.1	20.0
Dairy cows	265	253	262	2,807	2,914	9.2	9.2	9.7	8.3	8.7
Other cows	324	360	340	3,630	3,798	11.3	13.1	12.5	10.8	11.3
Bulls	47	50	45	622	579	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7
Total	2,868	2,739	2,706	33,702	33,555	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	77	72	72	864	839	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,556	9,672	9,579	105,983	106,601	97.1	97.0	97.1	97.0	96.9
Sows	253	268	260	2,966	3,027	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.8
Boars	29	27	29	366	329	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	9,838	9,968	9,868	109,315	109,957	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	11	12	10	156	141	5.3	7.0	6.1	6.9	7.0
Lambs and yearlings	189	160	158	2,105	1,860	94.7	93.0	93.9	93.1	93.0
Total	200	172	168	2,261	2,001	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 2010	November 2011	December 2011	January to December	
				2010	2011
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	784	776	777	773	773
Steers ¹	854	854	850	835	841
Heifers ¹	788	788	785	768	773
All cows ¹	605	587	600	607	596
Bulls ¹	863	856	857	875	868
Calves and vealers	153	149	148	154	154
Hogs	208	208	208	204	206
Barrows and gilts ²	205	206	206	201	203
Sows ²	306	302	302	305	305
Boars ²	208	208	208	200	210
Sheep	70	69	71	68	70
Mature sheep ³	65	66	63	65	66
Lambs and yearlings ³	71	69	71	69	71

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 2011

[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	1.5	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	
2	6.2	1.8	0.6	3.3	2.8	0.5	0.5	18.1	
3	87.5	25.6	9.3	50.3	40.1	10.2	2.3	9.8	
4	72.8	2.1	1.0	60.7	15.9	44.8	8.9	0.5	
5	355.9	138.0	36.3	173.3	90.8	82.5	8.4	23.7	
6	534.4	266.8	145.5	112.0	21.9	90.1	10.2	1.7	
7	1,096.2	606.3	412.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
8	262.3	138.4	101.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
9	196.9	87.4	13.6	92.2	70.2	21.9	3.8	16.2	
10	92.7	47.3	25.9	18.0	12.0	6.0	1.5	1.2	
United States	2,706.3	1,314.3	746.0	601.4	261.9	339.5	44.5	71.8	
	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	1.9	1.9	-	-	2.7	0.1	2.6		
2	14.1	13.8	(D)	(D)	12.7	1.6	11.0		
3	479.7	478.2	(D)	(D)	8.5	0.7	7.8		
4	1,325.2	1,239.5	81.7	4.0	3.3	0.9	2.4		
5	2,750.5	2,638.0	106.7	5.8	26.8	3.5	23.3		
6	506.4	487.6	18.5	0.3	1.2	0.5	0.7		
7	4,109.6	4,039.8	51.0	18.8	0.5	-	0.5		
8	432.7	432.6	-	-	87.8	2.5	85.4		
9	222.4	222.3	0.1	-	22.3	0.4	21.9		
10	25.2	25.2	-	-	2.2	0.1	2.1		
United States	9,867.7	9,578.9	259.5	29.3	168.0	10.2	157.8		

- 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 to December 2011

[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	16.2	7.4	3.6	2.8	1.6	1.3	2.3	15.5
2	73.6	23.0	6.5	38.4	32.5	5.9	5.7	185.8
3	1,020.4	356.8	97.8	541.3	431.5	109.8	24.6	118.3
4	879.8	25.0	10.7	731.2	175.1	556.1	112.8	6.5
5	4,124.0	1,767.5	438.2	1,798.7	1,003.4	795.4	119.6	267.8
6	6,810.8	3,298.1	2,034.4	1,346.3	208.5	1,137.8	132.0	18.8
7	13,848.1	7,663.6	5,356.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.6
8	3,219.2	1,738.6	1,234.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-
9	2,334.1	1,046.6	211.9	1,029.2	804.8	224.4	46.5	204.0
10	1,228.3	612.1	331.1	260.9	158.9	102.0	24.3	21.5
United States	33,554.6	16,538.6	9,725.8	6,711.6	2,914.0	3,797.7	578.6	838.8
	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	20.9	20.3	0.4	0.2	27.1	3.0	24.2	
2	138.1	135.7	(D)	(D)	148.1	19.9	128.1	
3	5,178.7	5,159.5	(D)	(D)	96.2	5.7	90.5	
4	15,394.3	14,485.6	862.4	46.3	42.3	10.2	32.1	
5	29,881.4	28,535.7	1,282.9	62.8	318.7	36.4	282.3	
6	6,067.6	5,854.2	212.5	0.9	31.5	16.7	14.8	
7	45,674.8	44,812.3	651.2	211.3	55.3	2.5	52.7	
8	4,834.4	4,832.2	2.1	0.1	977.9	39.4	938.4	
9	2,451.5	2,450.7	0.8	0.1	277.4	5.1	272.3	
10	314.9	314.3	0.5	0.1	26.5	1.6	24.9	
United States	109,956.6	106,600.5	3,027.0	329.0	2,001.0	140.6	1,860.4	

- 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 2010	November 2011	December 2011	January to December	
				2010	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.3	98.3	98.2	98.4	98.4
Calves	98.6	98.4	98.6	98.4	98.5
Hogs	99.2	99.3	99.2	99.1	99.2
Sheep	92.6	92.1	93.0	92.0	92.6

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

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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

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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.

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