



Livestock Slaughter

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January Pork Production 5 Percent Above Last Year

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.12 billion pounds in January, up 2 percent from the 4.04 billion pounds produced in January 2011.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was slightly below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 1 percent from January 2011. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,300 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 3 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,700 head, 6 percent below January 2011. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 262 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.99 billion pounds, 5 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.54 million head, 5 percent above January 2011. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.1 million pounds, was 8 percent above January 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,800 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 147 pounds, up 8 pounds from January a year ago.

January 2011 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

January 2012 contained 22 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 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: January 2011 and 2012	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: January 2011 and 2012.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: January 2011 and 2012.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: January 2011 and 2012.....	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: January 2012	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States.....	12
Statistical Methodology	13
Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates	14
Information Contacts	15

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January 2012 as % of		January		
				January 2011	December 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,123.7	2,127.2	2,113.8	100	99	2,123.7	2,113.8	100
Veal	10.8	10.7	10.4	97	97	10.8	10.4	97
Pork	1,896.4	2,065.9	1,987.0	105	96	1,896.4	1,987.0	105
Lamb and mutton	11.2	12.5	12.1	108	97	11.2	12.1	108
Total red meat	4,042.0	4,216.4	4,123.4	102	98	4,042.0	4,123.4	102

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January 2012 as % of		January		
				January 2011	December 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,093.1	2,096.4	2,081.7	99	99	2,093.1	2,081.7	99
Veal	10.5	10.5	10.2	96	97	10.5	10.2	96
Pork	1,884.2	2,052.6	1,974.1	105	96	1,884.2	1,974.1	105
Lamb and mutton	10.7	11.8	11.6	109	98	10.7	11.6	109
Total red meat	3,998.5	4,171.3	4,077.6	102	98	3,998.5	4,077.6	102

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

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

Species	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	2012 as % of 2011	January		
					2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,687.2	2,706.3	2,665.5	99	2,687.2	2,665.5	99
Other 1,000	48.1	48.5	50.2	104	48.1	50.2	104
Commercial 1,000	2,735.3	2,754.8	2,715.7	99	2,735.3	2,715.7	99
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,304	1,300	1,303	100	1,304	1,303	100
Other pounds	1,135	1,139	1,135	100	1,135	1,135	100
Commercial pounds	1,301	1,297	1,300	100	1,301	1,300	100
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	70.8	71.8	66.6	94	70.8	66.6	94
Other 1,000	1.0	1.0	1.1	111	1.0	1.1	111
Commercial 1,000	71.8	72.9	67.7	94	71.8	67.7	94
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	259	250	260	100	259	260	100
Other pounds	444	421	426	96	444	426	96
Commercial pounds	262	253	262	100	262	262	100
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,036.1	9,867.6	9,466.8	105	9,036.1	9,466.8	105
Other 1,000	68.5	75.9	70.9	103	68.5	70.9	103
Commercial 1,000	9,104.6	9,943.5	9,537.7	105	9,104.6	9,537.7	105
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	278	278	279	100	278	279	100
Other pounds	246	243	252	102	246	252	102
Commercial pounds	278	278	278	100	278	278	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	150.5	167.2	153.8	102	150.5	153.8	102
Other 1,000	10.6	12.7	11.0	104	10.6	11.0	104
Commercial 1,000	161.1	179.9	164.8	102	161.1	164.8	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	142	142	151	106	142	151	106
Other pounds	97	102	98	101	97	98	101
Commercial pounds	139	139	147	106	139	147	106
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	40.8	55.2	43.2	106	40.8	43.2	106
Other 1,000	14.2	18.2	13.7	97	14.2	13.7	97
Commercial 1,000	55.0	73.5	57.0	104	55.0	57.0	104
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	63	63	63	101	63	63	101
Other pounds	67	73	66	98	67	66	98
Commercial pounds	64	66	64	100	64	64	100
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	3.8	3.7	3.9	102	3.8	3.9	102
Other 1,000	0.9	1.0	0.9	97	0.9	0.9	97
Commercial 1,000	4.7	4.7	4.8	101	4.7	4.8	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	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January 2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	2.0	1.6	1.4	70
Alaska	-	-	-	-
Arizona	31.3	38.4	36.1	115
Arkansas	3.4	4.2	4.0	117
California	142.9	146.8	141.5	99
Colorado	167.8	179.3	181.4	108
Delaware-Maryland	3.0	3.0	2.9	97
Florida	8.6	9.5	10.2	119
Georgia	10.1	12.0	11.6	115
Hawaii	0.9	0.9	0.8	95
Idaho	15.2	3.5	3.5	23
Illinois	218.4	257.7	247.6	113
Indiana	149.3	156.1	147.0	98
Iowa	556.5	595.6	571.5	103
Kansas	438.8	416.6	420.2	96
Kentucky	48.0	48.8	47.9	100
Louisiana	0.4	0.5	0.5	105
Michigan	43.5	45.9	39.2	90
Minnesota	223.9	251.5	240.4	107
Mississippi	1.7	1.8	2.3	135
Missouri	150.2	156.7	151.5	101
Montana	1.0	1.8	0.8	78
Nebraska	595.8	606.6	593.7	100
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	87
New England ¹	1.2	1.6	1.4	117
New Jersey	4.4	4.6	4.4	101
New Mexico	0.4	0.5	0.4	97
New York	2.6	3.1	2.8	109
North Carolina	196.6	203.1	209.5	107
North Dakota	3.6	2.5	2.9	80
Ohio	24.8	26.0	23.9	96
Oklahoma	99.8	98.6	103.3	103
Oregon	5.1	5.6	5.8	114
Pennsylvania	105.0	112.3	107.8	103
South Carolina	21.0	21.3	21.0	100
South Dakota	90.8	96.5	90.5	100
Tennessee	14.7	21.9	19.1	130
Texas	398.0	404.4	411.5	103
Utah	34.8	37.7	38.2	110
Virginia	40.6	45.0	41.4	102
Washington	67.7	70.8	71.0	105
West Virginia	0.8	1.0	0.8	105
Wisconsin	117.0	120.4	111.0	95
Wyoming	0.6	0.6	0.6	110
United States	4,042.0	4,216.4	4,123.4	102

- Represents zero.

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: January 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	0.3	468	270	926	912
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	42.6	48.5	54,560	63,136	1,284	1,305
Arkansas	0.8	0.8	825	802	974	972
California	146.5	139.3	185,612	178,809	1,290	1,292
Colorado	193.4	201.2	260,905	275,268	1,350	1,369
Delaware-Maryland	3.2	3.1	4,185	4,072	1,300	1,298
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	18.7	20.8	18,347	20,647	983	993
Hawaii	1.0	1.0	1,107	1,081	1,112	1,122
Idaho	21.2	2.3	25,359	2,402	1,221	1,107
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.6	3.6	3,851	3,806	1,056	1,056
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	518.0	504.5	678,717	654,257	1,311	1,297
Kentucky	1.5	1.6	1,522	1,555	988	967
Louisiana	0.4	0.5	329	373	757	773
Michigan	50.3	46.6	69,296	63,519	1,388	1,369
Minnesota	73.1	72.5	103,590	102,608	1,426	1,421
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	48	40	647	695
Missouri	6.7	5.7	7,920	6,463	1,189	1,143
Montana	1.3	1.0	1,475	1,144	1,181	1,183
Nebraska	563.9	538.7	757,664	737,691	1,345	1,370
Nevada	0.1	0.1	84	74	987	981
New England ¹	1.5	1.7	1,447	1,701	993	1,027
New Jersey	3.3	3.2	3,693	3,631	1,135	1,138
New Mexico	0.5	0.5	615	559	1,203	1,252
New York	2.6	2.9	3,067	3,282	1,190	1,145
North Carolina	18.3	18.4	21,032	21,245	1,157	1,157
North Dakota	2.5	3.5	3,346	4,655	1,341	1,337
Ohio	10.0	10.3	11,956	11,952	1,207	1,165
Oklahoma	1.9	2.4	1,891	2,381	980	1,008
Oregon	3.8	4.5	4,508	5,451	1,225	1,216
Pennsylvania	78.8	84.9	97,888	102,093	1,253	1,207
South Carolina	16.1	13.3	17,912	15,202	1,121	1,150
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	4.4	4.5	3,688	3,832	855	873
Texas	519.8	550.3	645,692	671,626	1,246	1,223
Utah	43.6	45.1	56,468	61,909	1,298	1,376
Virginia	1.3	1.3	1,366	1,351	1,030	1,057
Washington	85.7	86.9	111,385	115,766	1,306	1,337
West Virginia	1.1	1.1	1,159	1,105	1,060	1,018
Wisconsin	143.2	137.3	190,932	180,422	1,347	1,321
Wyoming	0.8	0.9	883	972	1,111	1,132
United States	2,735.3	2,715.7	3,544,887	3,523,506	1,301	1,300

- 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: January 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	17.9	16.0	1,882	1,688	106	106
Colorado	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Delaware-Maryland	0.2	0.3	62	77	267	270
Florida	(D)	0.1	(D)	26	(D)	192
Georgia	0.1	0.1	28	32	458	636
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Illinois	1.7	1.3	718	549	434	427
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	105	(D)	264
Iowa	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kentucky	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	211	182	521	530
Michigan	1.6	1.4	654	555	411	409
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri	0.1	-	27	-	415	-
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.6	0.5	88	75	152	144
New Jersey	5.7	5.7	2,417	2,335	421	413
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York	9.7	9.1	947	889	103	99
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	79	35	535	517
North Dakota	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Ohio	10.7	9.9	2,274	1,950	238	199
Oklahoma	0.1	-	24	-	452	-
Oregon	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Pennsylvania	9.5	9.1	4,044	3,857	425	424
South Carolina	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	-	0.1	-	33	-	507
Texas	2.5	2.1	997	993	413	492
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia	0.1	-	24	-	386	-
Washington	2.5	2.4	196	165	78	69
West Virginia	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Wisconsin	7.6	8.8	3,412	4,031	449	457
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	71.8	67.7	18,278	17,659	262	262

- 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: January 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	7.2	5.0	3,130	2,124	438	428
Alaska	(D)	0.1	(D)	13	(D)	222
Arizona	0.1	0.1	29	32	260	228
Arkansas	9.7	11.7	4,483	5,357	460	457
California	211.1	212.3	49,945	50,527	237	238
Colorado	0.6	1.0	155	226	250	227
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	1.7	469	454	268	265
Florida	5.3	5.3	812	693	154	133
Georgia	5.7	7.4	1,412	1,815	246	246
Hawaii	1.2	1.2	301	277	247	240
Idaho	9.8	11.6	2,487	2,958	255	256
Illinois	754.9	888.5	213,824	251,012	283	283
Indiana	705.1	702.9	193,446	190,897	275	272
Iowa	2,476.5	2,544.1	690,471	712,137	279	280
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.8	0.8	149	154	185	186
Michigan	10.6	10.0	4,188	3,878	397	387
Minnesota	829.7	918.8	224,806	248,865	272	271
Mississippi	8.8	9.9	2,321	3,178	265	321
Missouri	677.4	690.8	193,287	196,112	286	284
Montana	0.8	0.7	211	177	268	271
Nebraska	640.4	673.2	176,807	186,985	276	278
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-
New England ¹	1.6	1.8	385	461	241	261
New Jersey	10.5	12.0	1,018	1,255	97	105
New Mexico	0.1	0.1	20	22	269	279
New York	2.1	2.4	353	489	168	203
North Carolina	909.6	963.9	245,940	263,873	271	274
North Dakota	9.2	0.4	2,415	119	262	297
Ohio	85.2	84.4	23,178	22,215	272	263
Oklahoma	453.1	476.7	129,417	134,698	286	283
Oregon	13.9	14.8	3,522	3,765	253	255
Pennsylvania	230.5	234.1	60,821	60,845	264	260
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	406.9	402.3	109,500	109,323	269	272
Tennessee	40.7	55.6	19,063	25,487	469	459
Texas	36.7	33.1	10,325	9,478	282	287
Utah	5.1	4.9	698	664	138	136
Virginia	194.1	198.4	52,236	53,677	269	271
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.4	0.7	94	181	247	258
Wisconsin	45.5	46.3	20,672	20,892	458	452
Wyoming	0.2	0.3	60	81	242	260
United States	9,104.6	9,537.7	2,530,012	2,653,475	278	278

- 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 Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: January 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	18	27	125	142
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
California	20.7	25.5	2,900	3,682	140	145
Colorado	61.0	79.1	9,543	13,452	157	170
Delaware-Maryland	3.4	3.1	339	311	99	100
Florida	-	0.1	-	7	-	71
Georgia	0.2	0.5	16	39	67	84
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	0.1	0.1	18	18	127	132
Illinois	10.8	10.1	1,624	1,570	150	156
Indiana	2.2	2.6	246	279	111	110
Iowa	16.0	0.1	2,421	17	152	144
Kansas	0.2	0.2	15	15	96	92
Kentucky	0.7	0.8	83	103	125	126
Louisiana	0.2	0.3	12	17	58	62
Michigan	14.4	12.3	1,968	1,662	137	135
Minnesota	1.2	0.4	168	51	137	121
Mississippi	(D)	0.3	(D)	14	(D)	57
Missouri	0.2	0.3	29	35	122	139
Montana	0.2	0.2	21	18	106	105
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	8	9	125	150
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-
New England ¹	1.9	2.1	171	201	91	94
New Jersey	7.9	7.2	677	617	86	86
New Mexico	0.9	0.9	131	137	147	150
New York	2.4	2.8	194	257	83	92
North Carolina	0.9	0.8	73	58	78	74
North Dakota	0.1	-	7	-	126	-
Ohio	0.4	0.9	41	98	107	107
Oklahoma	0.1	0.1	14	10	112	102
Oregon	1.6	1.9	213	264	136	140
Pennsylvania	2.3	3.0	229	298	100	100
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.1	0.2	18	17	142	115
Tennessee	0.6	0.7	53	49	83	74
Texas	4.5	3.7	305	231	68	63
Utah	2.2	2.1	311	283	140	136
Virginia	0.6	0.3	58	32	97	93
Washington	0.6	0.6	101	115	162	178
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.6	0.5	81	73	133	136
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	8	10	125	139
United States	161.1	164.8	22,301	24,208	139	147

- 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	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January		January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January	
				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)
Cattle										
Steers	1,282	1,314	1,285	1,282	1,285	47.7	48.6	48.2	47.7	48.2
Heifers	808	746	766	808	766	30.1	27.6	28.7	30.1	28.7
All cows	554	601	572	554	572	20.6	22.2	21.5	20.6	21.5
Dairy cows	264	262	264	264	264	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.8	9.9
Other cows	290	340	308	290	308	10.8	12.5	11.6	10.8	11.6
Bulls	43	45	43	43	43	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Total	2,687	2,706	2,665	2,687	2,665	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	71	72	67	71	67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	8,772	9,579	9,196	8,772	9,196	97.1	97.1	97.1	97.1	97.1
Sows	238	260	245	238	245	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Boars	26	29	26	26	26	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	9,036	9,868	9,467	9,036	9,467	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9	10	8	9	8	6.3	6.2	5.5	6.3	5.5
Lambs and yearlings	141	157	145	141	145	93.7	93.8	94.5	93.7	94.5
Total	150	167	154	150	154	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	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January	
				2011	2012
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	782	777	783	782	783
Steers ¹	849	850	853	849	853
Heifers ¹	785	785	792	785	792
All cows ¹	613	600	605	613	605
Bulls ¹	861	857	860	861	860
Calves and vealers	153	148	154	153	154
Hogs	209	208	209	209	209
Barrows and gilts ²	206	206	206	206	206
Sows ²	306	302	305	306	305
Boars ²	213	208	208	213	208
Sheep	71	71	75	71	75
Mature sheep ³	68	63	63	68	63
Lambs and yearlings ³	71	71	76	71	76

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: January 2012

[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	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	
2	6.0	1.8	0.6	3.1	2.6	0.6	0.5	14.7	
3	86.7	27.0	5.9	51.8	41.3	10.5	2.0	9.4	
4	73.4	2.3	1.1	60.5	16.5	44.0	9.4	0.3	
5	322.9	127.3	33.6	154.1	80.4	73.7	7.9	21.5	
6	548.6	259.5	162.6	116.2	31.8	84.4	10.3	1.9	
7	1,085.7	583.5	433.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
8	259.9	151.0	88.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	
9	188.3	83.5	14.8	86.7	70.1	16.6	3.4	15.8	
10	92.7	48.2	25.5	18.1	13.5	4.6	1.0	2.4	
United States	2,665.5	1,284.8	765.8	571.9	263.8	308.1	43.0	66.6	
	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	1.4	1.3	-	-	2.0	0.2	1.9		
2	14.2	13.9	0.2	0.1	9.5	1.5	7.9		
3	432.5	431.6	(D)	(D)	6.9	0.6	6.3		
4	1,319.6	1,245.5	(D)	(D)	2.8	0.8	2.1		
5	2,624.5	2,512.6	107.0	4.8	23.9	2.4	21.5		
6	514.8	499.3	15.1	0.4	1.4	0.6	0.8		
7	3,918.2	3,850.4	51.0	16.8	0.4	-	0.4		
8	407.0	406.8	0.2	-	80.9	1.8	79.1		
9	207.3	207.2	0.1	-	24.0	0.4	23.6		
10	27.4	27.4	-	-	1.9	0.2	1.7		
United States	9,466.8	9,195.9	244.6	26.2	153.8	8.4	145.3		

- 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	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	January	
				2011	2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.2
Calves	98.6	98.6	98.3	98.6	98.3
Hogs	99.2	99.2	99.3	99.2	99.3
Sheep	93.4	93.0	93.3	93.4	93.3

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

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.

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