



Livestock Slaughter

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Record Red Meat and Pork Production for August

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.39 billion pounds in August, up 2 percent from the 4.30 billion pounds produced in August 2011.

Beef production, at 2.37 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.00 million head, down 3 percent from August 2011. The average live weight was up 30 pounds from the previous year, at 1,300 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.1 million pounds, 11 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,600 head, down 9 percent from August 2011. The average live weight was down 11 pounds from last year, at 237 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.00 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.94 million head, up 4 percent from August 2011. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was up 8 percent from August 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,500 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, up 10 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2012 commercial red meat production was 32.6 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

August 2011 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

August 2012 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	August 2012 as % of		January to August		
				August 2011	July 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,386.9	2,200.8	2,367.5	99	108	17,489.9	17,325.5	99
Veal	11.4	9.5	10.1	89	107	86.6	79.0	91
Pork	1,892.1	1,721.8	1,997.8	106	116	14,618.3	15,096.3	103
Lamb and mutton	13.1	12.5	14.2	108	114	100.1	104.2	104
Total red meat	4,303.4	3,944.5	4,389.6	102	111	32,295.0	32,605.0	101

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	August 2012 as % of		January to August		
				August 2011	July 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,358.1	2,176.8	2,338.6	99	107	17,271.2	17,107.7	99
Veal	11.1	9.2	9.9	89	107	84.5	77.1	91
Pork	1,876.2	1,708.7	1,982.9	106	116	14,515.1	14,992.5	103
Lamb and mutton	12.3	11.8	13.4	109	113	95.0	99.1	104
Total red meat	4,257.8	3,906.5	4,344.8	102	111	31,965.8	32,276.5	101

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

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

Species	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	August 2012 as % of 2011	January to August		
					2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	3,053.1	2,755.2	2,952.3	97	22,475.3	21,790.5	97
Other 1,000	44.0	36.8	44.0	100	340.2	336.2	99
Commercial 1,000	3,097.1	2,792.0	2,996.3	97	22,815.5	22,126.6	97
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,272	1,297	1,303	102	1,274	1,297	102
Other pounds	1,141	1,140	1,146	100	1,129	1,138	101
Commercial pounds	1,270	1,295	1,300	102	1,272	1,294	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	78.9	66.5	71.6	91	551.1	491.1	89
Other 1,000	1.2	0.9	1.0	80	8.9	7.9	89
Commercial 1,000	80.1	67.5	72.6	91	559.9	499.0	89
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	245	239	235	96	265	266	100
Other pounds	393	416	420	107	421	422	100
Commercial pounds	248	241	237	96	268	268	100
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,440.0	8,492.6	9,857.9	104	70,694.8	72,696.1	103
Other 1,000	90.0	73.4	84.3	94	586.2	575.3	98
Commercial 1,000	9,530.0	8,566.1	9,942.2	104	71,281.0	73,271.4	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	266	269	269	101	274	275	100
Other pounds	244	246	244	100	244	249	102
Commercial pounds	266	269	269	101	274	275	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	182.6	164.5	185.5	102	1,337.4	1,323.3	99
Other 1,000	16.1	14.1	15.0	93	107.6	106.7	99
Commercial 1,000	198.7	178.6	200.5	101	1,445.0	1,430.0	99
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	135	144	145	107	142	150	106
Other pounds	101	97	111	110	97	97	100
Commercial pounds	132	140	142	108	139	146	105
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	60.3	52.0	54.3	90	373.0	368.1	99
Other 1,000	18.2	13.3	14.6	80	116.4	106.9	92
Commercial 1,000	78.5	65.3	68.9	88	489.4	475.1	97
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	63	63	64	102	63	63	101
Other pounds	65	77	74	113	70	70	101
Commercial pounds	63	66	66	105	65	65	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	3.5	3.5	3.4	99	29.7	27.9	94
Other 1,000	0.8	0.8	0.7	95	6.4	6.5	102
Commercial 1,000	4.3	4.3	4.2	98	36.1	34.4	95

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	August 2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.6	0.5	0.6	40
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	0.1	70
Arizona	37.6	30.8	32.3	86
Arkansas	4.0	3.6	4.0	101
California	149.8	141.0	147.4	98
Colorado	204.9	190.5	204.9	100
Delaware-Maryland	3.4	2.5	2.8	83
Florida	10.4	9.5	10.1	97
Georgia	11.9	11.2	12.7	107
Hawaii	0.9	0.9	0.9	96
Idaho	3.4	3.5	3.7	110
Illinois	240.0	228.6	263.0	110
Indiana	146.9	128.3	159.1	108
Iowa	544.0	486.8	574.8	106
Kansas	497.1	464.7	487.3	98
Kentucky	43.6	42.2	48.1	110
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.4	77
Michigan	46.6	41.9	43.8	94
Minnesota	229.8	215.8	239.3	104
Mississippi	2.5	1.8	2.3	90
Missouri	140.8	131.3	149.2	106
Montana	1.2	1.2	1.4	109
Nebraska	636.0	593.6	667.2	105
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	93
New England ¹	1.5	1.5	1.7	112
New Jersey	5.1	4.4	4.2	83
New Mexico	0.4	0.2	0.3	92
New York	3.2	2.6	2.8	90
North Carolina	200.7	182.2	202.3	101
North Dakota	2.9	0.5	0.6	21
Ohio	26.1	21.4	25.0	96
Oklahoma	100.5	89.5	95.3	95
Oregon	6.8	5.9	6.5	96
Pennsylvania	108.8	101.0	114.7	105
South Carolina	21.2	19.5	21.6	102
South Dakota	83.2	70.8	85.8	103
Tennessee	23.9	18.7	24.2	101
Texas	474.4	437.9	461.2	97
Utah	41.8	42.4	43.3	104
Virginia	41.9	36.9	46.1	110
Washington	79.7	74.5	81.2	102
West Virginia	0.6	0.4	0.6	103
Wisconsin	122.8	103.2	115.7	94
Wyoming	0.9	0.5	0.8	84
United States	4,303.4	3,944.5	4,389.6	102

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: August 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	0.4	0.3	328	302	922	945
Alaska	0.1	0.1	71	58	997	1,028
Arizona	52.0	45.9	65,592	58,235	1,267	1,271
Arkansas	0.5	0.6	508	565	963	986
California	154.3	150.4	192,508	188,574	1,268	1,261
Colorado	233.8	231.7	309,810	309,297	1,326	1,336
Delaware-Maryland	3.7	3.0	4,668	3,812	1,278	1,282
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	22.6	23.0	21,659	23,044	961	1,004
Hawaii	1.0	1.0	1,183	1,158	1,143	1,149
Idaho	2.4	2.5	2,425	2,674	1,112	1,126
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.9	4.3	4,142	4,538	1,063	1,061
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	592.1	571.5	764,752	747,116	1,292	1,308
Kentucky	1.2	1.1	1,190	1,111	1,015	1,005
Louisiana	0.6	0.3	436	260	761	816
Michigan	57.3	50.0	75,130	68,842	1,323	1,383
Minnesota	79.1	75.9	106,456	105,274	1,352	1,393
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	42	63	549	748
Missouri	4.6	4.8	5,130	5,222	1,119	1,082
Montana	1.3	1.5	1,624	1,856	1,210	1,209
Nebraska	621.6	623.2	809,398	849,894	1,303	1,365
Nevada	0.1	0.1	103	93	1,061	1,046
New England ¹	1.6	1.8	1,639	1,797	1,001	1,027
New Jersey	4.0	3.4	4,550	3,836	1,141	1,122
New Mexico	0.4	0.3	526	343	1,267	1,117
New York	3.1	2.4	3,483	2,644	1,142	1,141
North Carolina	20.2	16.1	22,608	18,800	1,122	1,172
North Dakota	3.6	0.7	4,629	888	1,288	1,236
Ohio	9.4	9.4	10,813	10,877	1,153	1,169
Oklahoma	2.0	1.8	1,977	1,762	985	990
Oregon	5.3	5.7	6,351	6,787	1,203	1,205
Pennsylvania	86.2	87.8	98,726	102,618	1,159	1,174
South Carolina	13.4	15.3	15,444	17,171	1,165	1,135
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	4.7	3.4	3,862	3,023	842	902
Texas	629.6	596.9	763,781	740,420	1,217	1,243
Utah	49.4	50.0	67,306	69,371	1,364	1,390
Virginia	0.9	0.8	1,045	842	1,105	1,058
Washington	97.9	98.5	128,770	131,516	1,322	1,340
West Virginia	0.6	0.7	683	738	1,079	1,099
Wisconsin	156.8	141.9	198,450	184,850	1,276	1,310
Wyoming	0.9	0.7	1,076	913	1,233	1,249
United States	3,097.1	2,996.3	3,921,324	3,888,095	1,270	1,300

(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: August 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	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	19.5	15.9	2,122	1,686	110	107
Colorado	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Delaware-Maryland	0.4	0.3	104	90	261	259
Florida	(D)	0.1	(D)	27	(D)	443
Georgia	0.1	0.1	36	58	452	576
Hawaii	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Idaho	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Illinois	1.8	1.1	777	497	439	450
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	143	(D)	338
Iowa	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	0.1	(Y)	29	(X)	542	(X)
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	166	151	486	536
Michigan	1.8	1.4	760	587	422	438
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	0.1	(X)	21	(X)	378
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	2.1	1.0	208	110	99	112
New Jersey	6.4	5.0	2,680	2,093	416	416
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	11.5	11.3	1,084	1,067	100	95
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	75	27	514	492
North Dakota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Ohio	13.6	14.7	2,607	2,448	211	167
Oklahoma	0.1	0.1	27	53	393	461
Oregon	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Pennsylvania	9.6	11.4	4,102	4,898	426	430
South Carolina	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	0.1	0.1	67	44	564	487
Texas	1.7	1.1	364	504	219	480
Utah	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Virginia	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Washington	1.5	3.0	112	197	78	67
West Virginia	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Wisconsin	8.6	5.1	3,764	2,369	440	463
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	80.1	72.6	19,310	17,139	248	237

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: August 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	5.7	1.7	2,413	701	421	417
Alaska	(D)	0.1	(D)	21	(D)	227
Arizona	0.1	0.1	23	21	273	257
Arkansas	12.3	12.2	5,608	5,595	455	460
California	218.1	215.8	51,405	50,803	236	236
Colorado	1.8	2.3	449	553	255	239
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	1.7	475	401	246	232
Florida	11.6	6.1	1,195	803	103	131
Georgia	6.5	6.9	1,605	1,683	246	243
Hawaii	1.4	1.3	326	315	237	238
Idaho	11.1	12.3	2,730	3,041	247	247
Illinois	864.0	947.1	231,424	257,297	268	272
Indiana	730.2	790.4	190,551	207,712	261	263
Iowa	2,523.9	2,664.3	666,996	712,572	264	268
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.8	0.7	155	158	204	212
Michigan	13.1	13.5	4,548	4,840	347	359
Minnesota	872.0	929.2	228,902	245,071	263	264
Mississippi	10.8	9.8	3,541	3,165	328	324
Missouri	680.2	712.8	182,741	193,852	269	272
Montana	1.5	1.4	353	323	229	235
Nebraska	654.2	683.8	174,073	183,634	266	269
Nevada	0.1	0.1	14	17	247	252
New England ¹	2.7	3.0	542	704	202	234
New Jersey	9.8	9.6	973	913	99	95
New Mexico	0.3	0.4	61	98	233	261
New York	3.4	3.9	608	775	178	200
North Carolina	979.5	967.1	251,124	256,314	256	265
North Dakota	0.3	0.4	91	103	277	282
Ohio	98.1	91.3	25,213	24,074	258	264
Oklahoma	485.9	468.7	130,846	124,169	269	265
Oregon	17.6	15.1	4,345	3,719	248	246
Pennsylvania	248.9	265.4	63,217	68,480	254	258
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	382.9	390.9	98,495	102,745	257	263
Tennessee	71.2	73.1	32,282	33,383	454	457
Texas	37.6	28.1	10,523	8,990	281	321
Utah	9.0	8.1	1,193	1,149	133	142
Virginia	208.8	223.5	54,307	60,070	260	269
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	1.1	1.0	268	245	245	244
Wisconsin	50.1	53.5	22,405	24,213	450	454
Wyoming	1.3	1.2	345	306	256	264
United States	9,530.0	9,942.2	2,530,012	2,672,157	266	269

(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: August 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	(Y)	0.1	(X)	4	(X)	75
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.3	0.2	38	26	111	124
Arkansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	5	(X)	95
California	25.9	27.8	3,417	3,886	132	140
Colorado	83.9	84.3	13,077	14,551	156	173
Delaware-Maryland	4.0	3.8	392	369	98	97
Florida	0.4	0.3	23	20	63	62
Georgia	0.5	0.5	41	38	81	70
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	5	6	106	117
Idaho	0.3	0.3	38	38	120	122
Illinois	14.7	12.1	1,931	1,551	132	129
Indiana	3.9	3.8	422	416	109	109
Iowa	0.3	0.5	40	62	139	134
Kansas	0.4	0.4	42	49	116	113
Kentucky	1.2	1.3	145	167	123	125
Louisiana	0.5	0.2	26	14	58	56
Michigan	17.3	19.2	2,188	2,423	126	127
Minnesota	0.4	0.3	54	41	135	130
Mississippi	(D)	0.2	(D)	18	(D)	74
Missouri	0.6	0.7	69	83	113	114
Montana	0.4	0.3	47	34	128	131
Nebraska	0.2	0.2	21	25	136	139
Nevada	0.1	0.1	11	9	111	112
New England ¹	2.4	3.0	211	279	88	95
New Jersey	11.4	9.7	966	805	85	83
New Mexico	0.7	0.9	103	128	138	150
New York	3.7	4.4	310	441	84	101
North Carolina	1.5	1.3	109	99	71	75
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	9	(X)	122
Ohio	1.6	1.4	173	145	106	107
Oklahoma	0.1	0.3	8	31	104	110
Oregon	2.6	2.4	347	334	136	140
Pennsylvania	4.4	5.8	439	641	99	111
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	32	41	117	119
Tennessee	1.0	1.1	70	80	67	76
Texas	6.9	6.9	525	719	76	105
Utah	2.5	2.6	334	361	135	138
Virginia	0.7	0.4	70	36	96	98
Washington	0.7	0.7	114	116	154	162
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.2	1.4	163	191	137	136
Wyoming	0.3	0.3	46	44	144	131
United States	198.7	200.5	26,197	28,474	132	142

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	January to August		August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	January to August	
				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	1,561	1,457	1,505	11,214	10,980	51.1	52.9	51.0	49.9	50.4
Heifers	841	726	836	6,592	6,275	27.5	26.4	28.3	29.3	28.8
All cows	600	526	561	4,287	4,174	19.6	19.1	19.0	19.1	19.2
Dairy cows	245	239	275	1,910	2,038	8.0	8.7	9.3	8.5	9.4
Other cows	355	287	286	2,378	2,136	11.6	10.4	9.7	10.6	9.8
Bulls	52	45	51	382	362	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
Total	3,053	2,755	2,952	22,475	21,790	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	79	67	72	551	491	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,142	8,223	9,542	68,509	70,491	96.8	96.8	96.8	96.9	97.0
Sows	270	242	283	1,968	1,976	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7
Boars	28	28	33	218	229	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	9,440	8,493	9,858	70,695	72,696	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	12	13	16	93	85	6.3	7.8	8.5	7.0	6.4
Lambs and yearlings	171	152	170	1,244	1,238	93.7	92.2	91.5	93.0	93.6
Total	183	165	185	1,337	1,323	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	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	January to August	
				2011	2012
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	775	792	794	771	787
Steers ¹	847	860	865	834	851
Heifers ¹	773	785	791	767	785
All cows ¹	579	603	596	601	611
Bulls ¹	868	880	882	874	882
Calves and vealers	145	140	139	157	158
Hogs	199	201	201	205	206
Barrows and gilts ²	196	198	198	203	203
Sows ²	303	306	307	307	308
Boars ²	211	208	209	211	208
Sheep	68	72	72	71	75
Mature sheep ³	63	64	65	66	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	68	73	73	72	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: August 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	1.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.0	
2	5.7	1.9	0.9	2.5	2.2	0.3	0.4	16.4	
3	90.7	34.3	1.1	53.1	42.6	10.5	2.1	11.7	
4	74.0	2.3	1.0	60.9	16.6	44.3	9.8	0.3	
5	348.0	155.8	35.3	146.1	85.7	60.4	10.7	22.5	
6	595.4	287.9	188.8	108.4	30.9	77.5	10.3	1.1	
7	1,241.0	701.6	468.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.1	
8	293.5	181.8	92.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
9	196.9	84.9	16.6	91.8	72.5	19.3	3.6	15.7	
10	105.7	53.6	31.3	19.2	15.6	3.6	1.5	3.0	
United States	2,952.3	1,504.9	836.0	560.8	275.3	285.5	50.6	71.6	
	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	2.5	2.5	0.1	(Y)	2.8	0.3	2.5		
2	13.3	13.2	(Y)	0.1	13.5	1.5	11.9		
3	489.5	488.1	(D)	(D)	10.4	1.3	9.2		
4	1,350.8	1,255.6	(D)	(D)	4.9	1.1	3.8		
5	2,787.2	2,664.8	116.2	6.2	33.0	3.3	29.7		
6	505.6	486.5	19.1	(Y)	4.3	2.9	1.4		
7	4,070.2	3,992.5	56.3	21.4	1.0	(Y)	1.0		
8	399.2	399.1	0.1	(Y)	86.5	4.6	81.9		
9	211.0	211.0	(Y)	(Y)	26.4	0.5	25.9		
10	28.6	28.6	(Y)	(Y)	2.7	0.2	2.5		
United States	9,857.9	9,541.8	283.1	33.0	185.5	15.7	169.8		

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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 August 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)	(1,000 head)
1	10.7	4.7	2.5	1.8	1.1	0.7	1.7	5.1
2	44.7	14.1	5.3	21.5	18.9	2.5	3.8	110.9
3	666.7	248.5	17.4	383.9	306.3	77.6	16.9	78.0
4	553.3	19.6	9.3	448.4	119.8	328.6	76.0	2.2
5	2,529.5	1,106.4	263.6	1,085.8	608.3	477.4	73.7	158.8
6	4,451.3	2,221.2	1,360.6	789.6	234.2	555.5	79.9	5.9
7	9,057.8	5,027.0	3,510.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.3
8	2,166.4	1,255.7	756.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	1,528.1	670.1	136.4	693.0	562.6	130.5	28.6	110.7
10	781.9	412.4	213.0	147.4	118.7	28.7	9.2	19.3
United States	21,790.5	10,979.6	6,275.1	4,173.9	2,037.6	2,136.3	361.9	491.1
	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	13.1	12.7	0.3	0.2	18.7	1.3	17.4	
2	94.6	92.9	1.0	0.6	98.3	13.4	85.0	
3	3,488.7	3,480.3	(D)	(D)	68.3	5.9	62.4	
4	10,060.2	9,499.5	(D)	(D)	30.7	7.6	23.0	
5	20,275.0	19,347.1	884.9	43.0	221.4	21.1	200.2	
6	3,852.0	3,729.8	120.9	1.2	16.4	8.4	8.0	
7	30,153.8	29,571.6	428.9	153.3	4.8	0.1	4.6	
8	2,947.0	2,946.3	0.7	0.1	657.3	22.2	635.0	
9	1,595.5	1,594.9	0.5	0.1	189.3	4.1	185.2	
10	216.3	215.9	0.3	0.1	18.2	1.0	17.2	
United States	72,696.1	70,491.1	1,975.9	229.2	1,323.3	85.3	1,238.1	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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	August 2011	July 2012	August 2012	January to August	
				2011	2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.6	98.7	98.5	98.5	98.5
Calves	98.5	98.6	98.6	98.4	98.4
Hogs	99.1	99.1	99.2	99.2	99.2
Sheep	91.9	92.1	92.5	92.6	92.5

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
Travis Averill – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(515) 284-4340
Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Sheep and Goats.....	(202) 720-4751

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 “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

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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USDA Data Users' Meeting
Monday October 22, 2012

Crowne Plaza Chicago-Metro
Chicago, Illinois 60661
312-829-5000

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will be organizing an open forum for data users. The purpose will be to provide updates on pending changes in the various statistical and information programs and seek comments and input from data users. Other USDA agencies to be represented will include the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board. The Foreign Trade Division from the Census Bureau will also be included in the meeting.

For registration details or additional information for the Data Users' Meeting, see the NASS homepage at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/meeting/> or contact Vernita Murray (NASS) at 202-690-8141 or at vernita_murray@nass.usda.gov.

This Data Users' Meeting precedes an Industry Outlook Meeting that will be held at the same location on Tuesday October 23, 2012. The Outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss the outlook situation. For registration details or additional information for the Industry Outlook Meeting, see the Livestock and Marketing Information Center (LMIC) homepage at <http://www.lmic.info/> or contact Erica Rosa 303-236-0461 at rosa@lmic.info or Laura Lahr 303-236-0464 at lahr@lmic.info.