



Livestock Slaughter

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Commercial Red Meat Production Down From Last Year

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.95 billion pounds in September, down 6 percent from the 4.19 billion pounds produced in September 2011.

Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, down 12 percent from September 2011. The average live weight was up 33 pounds from the previous year, at 1,311 pounds.

Veal production totaled 8.8 million pounds, 17 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 64,300 head, down 13 percent from September 2011. The average live weight was down 17 pounds from last year, at 235 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.91 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.45 million head, down 2 percent from September 2011. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was up 6 percent from September 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 174,300 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 145 pounds, up 11 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2012 commercial red meat production was 36.6 billion pounds, up slightly from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 10 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

September 2011 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

September 2012 contained 20 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: September 2011 and 2012.....	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: September 2011 and 2012	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: September 2011 and 2012	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: September 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: September 2012.....	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to September 2012	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	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	September 2012 as % of		January to September		
				September 2011	August 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,215.2	2,367.5	2,016.0	91	85	19,705.3	19,341.5	98
Veal	10.7	10.1	8.8	83	87	97.2	87.9	90
Pork	1,954.4	1,997.9	1,911.0	98	96	16,572.9	17,007.4	103
Lamb and mutton	11.8	14.2	12.5	106	88	111.9	116.8	104
Total red meat	4,192.1	4,389.7	3,948.4	94	90	36,487.3	36,553.5	100

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	September 2012 as % of		January to September		
				September 2011	August 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,185.7	2,338.6	1,986.1	91	85	19,456.9	19,093.8	98
Veal	10.4	9.9	8.6	83	87	94.9	85.7	90
Pork	1,939.2	1,983.0	1,896.9	98	96	16,454.3	16,889.5	103
Lamb and mutton	11.1	13.4	11.8	106	88	106.1	110.9	105
Total red meat	4,146.4	4,344.8	3,903.4	94	90	36,112.1	36,179.9	100

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

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

Species	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	September 2012 as % of 2011	January to September		
					2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,830.4	2,952.3	2,497.1	88	25,305.6	24,287.6	96
Other 1,000	45.6	44.0	46.1	101	385.8	382.3	99
Commercial 1,000	2,876.0	2,996.3	2,543.3	88	25,691.5	24,669.9	96
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,280	1,303	1,314	103	1,275	1,299	102
Other pounds	1,135	1,146	1,143	101	1,130	1,139	101
Commercial pounds	1,278	1,300	1,311	103	1,272	1,296	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	72.5	71.6	63.2	87	623.6	554.3	89
Other 1,000	1.3	1.0	1.1	83	10.2	9.0	88
Commercial 1,000	73.8	72.6	64.3	87	633.8	563.4	89
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	249	235	232	93	263	262	99
Other pounds	410	420	413	101	419	421	100
Commercial pounds	252	237	235	93	266	264	99
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,603.4	9,858.1	9,375.6	98	80,298.2	82,072.0	102
Other 1,000	87.7	84.3	78.6	90	673.8	653.9	97
Commercial 1,000	9,691.1	9,942.4	9,454.3	98	80,972.0	82,726.0	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	271	269	271	100	274	275	100
Other pounds	242	244	250	103	244	249	102
Commercial pounds	270	269	271	100	274	275	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	162.8	185.5	160.6	99	1,500.2	1,483.9	99
Other 1,000	14.2	15.0	13.7	96	121.8	120.3	99
Commercial 1,000	177.0	200.5	174.3	98	1,622.0	1,604.3	99
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	137	145	148	108	141	150	106
Other pounds	104	111	110	106	98	99	101
Commercial pounds	134	142	145	108	138	146	106
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	50.8	54.3	44.4	87	423.8	412.5	97
Other 1,000	16.2	14.6	13.3	82	132.6	120.3	91
Commercial 1,000	67.0	68.9	57.7	86	556.4	532.8	96
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	63	64	64	102	63	64	101
Other pounds	60	74	63	105	69	69	101
Commercial pounds	62	66	64	103	64	65	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	3.6	3.4	3.0	83	33.3	30.9	93
Other 1,000	0.6	0.7	0.7	116	7.1	7.3	103
Commercial 1,000	4.3	4.2	3.8	88	40.4	38.2	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	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	September 2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.2	0.6	0.5	43
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	34.5	32.3	27.8	81
Arkansas	4.1	4.0	4.0	99
California	142.1	147.4	133.3	94
Colorado	187.0	204.9	167.7	90
Delaware-Maryland	3.1	2.8	2.4	77
Florida	10.9	10.1	10.1	93
Georgia	12.9	12.7	10.4	81
Hawaii	0.9	0.9	0.7	83
Idaho	3.3	3.7	3.5	106
Illinois	239.3	263.0	245.4	103
Indiana	149.8	159.1	146.0	97
Iowa	563.7	574.8	555.4	99
Kansas	442.8	487.3	404.6	91
Kentucky	47.6	48.1	47.3	99
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.4	89
Michigan	40.7	43.8	36.9	91
Minnesota	243.0	239.3	230.9	95
Mississippi	2.2	2.3	2.1	96
Missouri	146.6	149.2	140.6	96
Montana	1.1	1.4	1.1	97
Nebraska	615.7	667.2	587.8	95
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	98
New England ¹	1.6	1.7	1.7	104
New Jersey	4.6	4.2	3.6	79
New Mexico	0.5	0.3	0.3	75
New York	3.0	2.8	2.5	83
North Carolina	197.1	202.3	193.2	98
North Dakota	2.2	0.6	0.6	28
Ohio	25.0	25.0	23.4	94
Oklahoma	101.1	95.3	88.8	88
Oregon	5.9	6.5	6.0	101
Pennsylvania	111.7	114.7	101.5	91
South Carolina	21.0	21.6	19.8	94
South Dakota	89.3	85.8	91.1	102
Tennessee	25.4	24.3	23.3	92
Texas	430.3	461.2	381.5	89
Utah	39.4	43.3	38.6	98
Virginia	45.3	46.1	43.1	95
Washington	73.0	81.2	69.5	95
West Virginia	0.9	0.6	0.7	81
Wisconsin	121.4	115.7	99.3	82
Wyoming	0.5	0.8	0.4	82
United States	4,192.1	4,389.7	3,948.4	94

(X) Not applicable.

(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: September 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	0.4	357	374	918	931
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	48.6	39.6	60,915	50,129	1,257	1,269
Arkansas	0.8	0.5	789	505	979	998
California	146.9	140.3	182,826	176,113	1,264	1,263
Colorado	211.1	187.8	281,887	252,765	1,337	1,347
Delaware-Maryland	3.5	2.6	4,454	3,299	1,278	1,286
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	24.0	18.1	23,298	18,733	973	1,040
Hawaii	1.0	0.8	1,135	940	1,123	1,122
Idaho	2.5	2.6	2,549	2,668	1,114	1,098
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.4	3.9	3,638	4,183	1,060	1,064
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	527.3	469.5	683,223	621,639	1,296	1,324
Kentucky	1.4	1.3	1,409	1,262	1,000	964
Louisiana	0.6	0.4	399	330	722	834
Michigan	50.8	42.1	65,366	58,424	1,298	1,395
Minnesota	81.1	65.3	109,953	91,934	1,361	1,415
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	41	88	571	802
Missouri	4.8	4.7	5,277	5,049	1,110	1,077
Montana	1.3	1.2	1,510	1,404	1,194	1,194
Nebraska	580.9	535.6	773,325	740,175	1,333	1,383
Nevada	0.1	0.1	116	119	1,033	1,009
New England ¹	1.7	1.8	1,667	1,809	996	1,015
New Jersey	3.5	2.8	4,069	3,149	1,151	1,134
New Mexico	0.6	0.4	664	375	1,247	1,022
New York	3.3	2.3	3,627	2,504	1,125	1,121
North Carolina	20.5	13.4	22,734	15,771	1,114	1,181
North Dakota	2.7	0.8	3,597	919	1,324	1,225
Ohio	9.0	10.1	10,380	11,803	1,163	1,169
Oklahoma	2.0	2.0	1,947	2,054	965	1,018
Oregon	5.0	5.6	5,864	6,584	1,201	1,184
Pennsylvania	89.2	78.2	104,160	90,891	1,179	1,167
South Carolina	13.3	13.5	14,843	15,433	1,130	1,156
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	5.1	3.2	4,036	2,802	816	903
Texas	573.4	492.8	695,676	615,452	1,217	1,252
Utah	46.0	44.3	63,604	61,776	1,386	1,396
Virginia	0.9	1.0	1,011	1,031	1,089	1,011
Washington	89.4	84.3	118,321	113,015	1,331	1,346
West Virginia	1.2	0.9	1,197	841	979	912
Wisconsin	157.4	121.9	199,539	159,426	1,276	1,315
Wyoming	0.6	0.5	719	566	1,126	1,063
United States	2,876.0	2,543.3	3,663,870	3,327,816	1,278	1,311

(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 Calf Slaughter – States and United States: September 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	18.8	16.1	1,914	1,677	103	105
Colorado	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Delaware-Maryland	0.3	0.3	73	69	263	259
Florida	(D)	0.1	(D)	29	(D)	526
Georgia	(Y)	0.1	(X)	67	(X)	688
Hawaii	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Idaho	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Illinois	1.4	0.9	594	420	429	446
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	131	(D)	312
Iowa	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	0.1	(Y)	47	(X)	586	(X)
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	207	166	512	530
Michigan	1.5	1.2	630	514	421	432
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	1.8	0.7	192	95	110	137
New Jersey	6.3	4.6	2,608	1,941	416	419
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	9.2	8.7	798	835	92	97
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	61	31	533	460
North Dakota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Ohio	11.8	12.7	2,685	2,178	248	172
Oklahoma	(Y)	0.1	(X)	46	(X)	461
Oregon	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Pennsylvania	9.2	9.3	3,877	3,995	422	428
South Carolina	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	0.1	0.1	44	36	569	456
Texas	2.5	0.7	744	235	300	361
Utah	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Virginia	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Washington	1.3	2.8	100	192	76	69
West Virginia	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Wisconsin	7.4	5.0	3,240	2,327	441	471
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	73.8	64.3	18,157	15,070	252	235

(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: September 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	4.4	1.2	1,782	479	410	405
Alaska	(D)	0.1	(D)	18	(D)	307
Arizona	0.2	0.2	50	41	233	249
Arkansas	12.3	12.4	5,509	5,664	449	456
California	208.4	183.3	49,651	43,139	238	236
Colorado	1.0	1.5	270	357	258	242
Delaware-Maryland	1.5	1.5	354	369	242	241
Florida	10.6	4.9	1,054	672	99	139
Georgia	7.4	6.1	1,686	1,514	229	248
Hawaii	1.4	1.1	324	267	236	251
Idaho	10.2	11.1	2,546	2,748	250	248
Illinois	866.1	894.0	235,547	245,251	272	274
Indiana	730.9	725.9	195,366	191,047	267	263
Iowa	2,610.2	2,587.9	704,716	696,622	270	269
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.9	0.7	148	158	174	226
Michigan	11.6	10.4	4,289	3,883	370	373
Minnesota	914.7	919.6	244,955	243,527	268	265
Mississippi	10.0	9.3	3,051	2,903	305	311
Missouri	691.2	659.4	190,611	182,841	276	277
Montana	1.2	1.3	260	317	225	236
Nebraska	675.4	645.0	182,734	172,646	271	268
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	2.9	2.7	619	644	217	242
New Jersey	9.2	8.4	929	802	101	95
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	67	71	244	284
New York	2.9	3.2	554	678	191	214
North Carolina	952.8	917.5	247,490	246,353	260	269
North Dakota	0.3	0.4	88	113	283	282
Ohio	91.7	81.7	24,060	21,456	263	263
Oklahoma	487.2	431.9	131,956	115,515	271	268
Oregon	14.3	12.9	3,550	3,185	249	248
Pennsylvania	243.4	234.1	63,290	60,931	260	260
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	404.3	415.6	106,812	110,601	264	266
Tennessee	77.2	72.8	34,212	32,430	444	446
Texas	39.8	29.4	10,922	9,421	275	321
Utah	7.3	6.4	948	914	131	143
Virginia	223.8	206.7	59,188	56,150	265	272
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.9	1.0	216	257	249	266
Wisconsin	48.9	43.8	21,122	19,617	434	449
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	133	122	260	255
United States	9,691.1	9,454.3	2,618,874	2,558,797	270	271

(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 Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: September 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	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.3	0.2	31	23	111	124
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	5	7	101	98
California	22.3	22.8	3,082	3,078	139	135
Colorado	84.3	75.0	12,768	13,307	152	178
Delaware-Maryland	3.6	3.0	343	281	95	95
Florida	0.2	0.2	10	13	64	58
Georgia	0.4	0.7	32	53	76	80
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	8	6	124	109
Idaho	0.3	0.3	35	34	124	124
Illinois	11.6	11.7	1,559	1,574	135	135
Indiana	3.0	2.8	330	315	110	111
Iowa	0.2	0.4	31	63	143	144
Kansas	0.3	0.4	32	39	108	110
Kentucky	1.0	1.1	128	135	128	122
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	18	19	63	59
Michigan	13.0	14.2	1,638	1,814	126	128
Minnesota	0.4	0.3	50	39	140	127
Mississippi	(D)	0.3	(D)	18	(D)	73
Missouri	0.5	0.5	54	56	112	119
Montana	0.4	0.4	45	53	121	123
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	8	14	135	142
Nevada	0.2	0.1	23	7	124	106
New England ¹	2.4	2.8	201	243	84	87
New Jersey	7.8	7.8	667	651	86	84
New Mexico	0.8	0.8	115	121	139	150
New York	3.4	3.3	289	318	86	95
North Carolina	1.2	1.1	81	82	70	73
North Dakota	0.1	0.1	9	8	125	121
Ohio	1.7	1.4	185	145	110	104
Oklahoma	0.1	0.3	9	42	105	131
Oregon	2.1	2.2	290	309	136	140
Pennsylvania	3.6	5.8	354	647	98	112
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	31	38	118	118
Tennessee	0.8	0.7	59	55	72	74
Texas	4.7	7.5	385	828	82	111
Utah	2.3	1.9	307	266	136	138
Virginia	0.5	0.4	51	35	95	94
Washington	0.6	0.6	101	94	158	147
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.1	1.1	154	162	134	142
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	16	20	134	146
United States	177.0	174.3	23,680	25,162	134	145

(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	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	January to September		September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	January to September	
				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	1,364	1,505	1,237	12,578	12,216	48.2	51.0	49.5	49.7	50.3
Heifers	804	836	708	7,396	6,983	28.4	28.3	28.4	29.2	28.8
All cows	610	561	506	4,898	4,680	21.6	19.0	20.3	19.4	19.3
Dairy cows	247	275	251	2,157	2,288	8.7	9.3	10.0	8.5	9.4
Other cows	363	286	255	2,741	2,392	12.8	9.7	10.2	10.8	9.8
Bulls	53	51	46	434	408	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7
Total	2,830	2,952	2,497	25,306	24,288	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	73	72	63	624	554	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,309	9,542	9,098	77,818	79,589	96.9	96.8	97.0	96.9	97.0
Sows	266	283	251	2,234	2,227	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.7
Boars	28	33	27	246	256	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	9,603	9,858	9,376	80,298	82,072	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	12	16	18	105	103	7.4	8.5	11.1	7.0	7.0
Lambs and yearlings	151	170	143	1,395	1,381	92.6	91.5	88.9	93.0	93.0
Total	163	185	161	1,500	1,484	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	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	January to September	
				2011	2012
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	775	794	797	772	788
Steers ¹	855	865	871	836	853
Heifers ¹	780	791	803	769	787
All cows ¹	579	596	599	598	610
Bulls ¹	863	882	874	873	881
Calves and vealers	147	139	136	156	155
Hogs	202	201	202	205	206
Barrows and gilts ²	199	198	200	202	203
Sows ²	299	307	302	306	308
Boars ²	209	209	209	210	209
Sheep	68	72	74	71	75
Mature sheep ³	64	65	64	66	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	69	73	75	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: September 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	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.7	
2	5.0	1.7	0.6	2.3	1.9	0.3	0.4	13.4	
3	80.1	27.5	1.6	49.0	39.3	9.7	2.1	9.6	
4	64.4	2.1	0.7	51.9	14.4	37.4	9.7	0.3	
5	297.9	133.7	30.3	124.1	75.7	48.5	9.8	20.0	
6	491.3	246.6	137.3	98.2	27.8	70.4	9.1	0.6	
7	1,042.5	562.4	413.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.1	
8	242.8	147.5	77.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
9	180.3	69.8	19.4	88.0	69.8	18.2	3.2	15.8	
10	91.3	44.7	27.2	18.2	13.8	4.5	1.3	2.8	
United States	2,497.1	1,236.6	708.4	506.2	250.8	255.4	45.9	63.2	
	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	2.1	2.1	(Y)	(Y)	2.6	0.1	2.5		
2	11.4	11.3	(Y)	(Y)	10.5	1.2	9.3		
3	440.9	439.9	(D)	(D)	9.6	2.1	7.5		
4	1,287.4	1,199.1	(D)	(D)	3.8	0.8	3.0		
5	2,642.1	2,540.3	96.6	5.2	27.5	2.7	24.8		
6	467.1	448.1	19.0	(Y)	5.3	4.2	1.1		
7	3,899.5	3,832.0	48.7	18.8	0.7	(Y)	0.7		
8	421.8	421.7	0.1	(Y)	76.6	6.3	70.4		
9	178.7	178.6	(Y)	(Y)	21.3	0.4	20.9		
10	24.5	24.5	(Y)	(Y)	2.6	0.1	2.5		
United States	9,375.6	9,097.6	251.2	26.8	160.6	17.9	142.7		

(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 September 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	12.2	5.4	2.9	2.0	1.2	0.8	1.9	5.8
2	49.6	15.8	6.0	23.7	20.9	2.9	4.2	124.2
3	746.8	276.0	19.0	432.9	345.6	87.3	19.0	87.6
4	617.7	21.7	10.0	500.3	134.3	366.0	85.7	2.5
5	2,827.4	1,240.1	293.8	1,209.9	684.0	525.9	83.5	178.7
6	4,942.6	2,467.8	1,497.9	887.8	262.0	625.8	89.0	6.5
7	10,100.3	5,589.4	3,923.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.4
8	2,409.2	1,403.1	834.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	1,708.4	739.9	155.8	781.0	632.4	148.6	31.7	126.5
10	873.3	457.0	240.2	165.6	132.5	33.1	10.5	22.1
United States	24,287.6	12,216.2	6,983.5	4,680.1	2,288.4	2,391.7	407.8	554.3
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	15.3	14.7	0.3	0.2	21.3	1.4	19.9	
2	106.0	104.3	1.1	0.6	108.9	14.6	94.3	
3	3,929.6	3,920.3	(D)	(D)	77.9	8.0	69.9	
4	11,347.8	10,698.6	(D)	(D)	34.5	8.5	26.0	
5	22,917.1	21,887.4	981.5	48.3	248.9	23.8	225.0	
6	4,319.1	4,177.9	139.9	1.3	21.7	12.6	9.1	
7	34,053.3	33,403.6	477.6	172.1	5.5	0.2	5.3	
8	3,368.9	3,368.0	0.9	0.1	733.9	28.5	705.4	
9	1,774.1	1,773.5	0.6	0.1	210.6	4.5	206.2	
10	240.8	240.4	0.3	0.1	20.8	1.1	19.6	
United States	82,072.0	79,588.7	2,227.3	256.0	1,483.9	103.1	1,380.8	

(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, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	September 2011	August 2012	September 2012	January to September	
				2011	2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.4	98.5	98.2	98.5	98.5
Calves	98.2	98.6	98.3	98.4	98.4
Hogs	99.1	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.2
Sheep	92.0	92.5	92.2	92.5	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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