



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released March 21, 2013, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Commercial Red Meat Production Down From Last Year

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.67 billion pounds in February, down 6 percent from the 3.91 billion pounds produced in February 2012.

Beef production, at 1.87 billion pounds, was 7 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.36 million head, down 8 percent from February 2012. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,320 pounds.

Veal production totaled 9.0 million pounds, 9 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 59,600 head, down 1 percent from February 2012. The average live weight was down 18 pounds from last year, at 258 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.78 billion pounds, down 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.59 million head, down 5 percent from February 2012. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.5 million pounds, was down 7 percent from February 2012. Sheep slaughter totaled 161,700 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, down 7 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2013 commercial red meat production was 8.0 billion pounds, down slightly from 2012. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was down 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

February 2012 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

February 2013 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

This page intentionally left blank.

Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States	4
Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States.....	4
Livestock Slaughter, Number of Head and Average Live Weight – United States	5
Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States	6
Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: February 2012 and 2013	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: February 2012 and 2013.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: February 2012 and 2013.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: February 2012 and 2013.....	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: February 2013	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to February 2013.....	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	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	February 2013 as % of		January to February		
				February 2012	January 2013	2012	2013	2013 as % of 2012
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,008.9	2,260.0	1,873.6	93	83	4,121.9	4,133.6	100
Veal	9.8	10.5	9.0	91	86	20.2	19.4	96
Pork	1,883.0	2,065.5	1,778.9	94	86	3,870.3	3,844.4	99
Lamb and mutton	12.3	12.4	11.5	93	93	24.4	23.8	98
Total red meat	3,914.1	4,348.3	3,672.9	94	84	8,036.9	8,021.2	100

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	February 2013 as % of		January to February		
				February 2012	January 2013	2012	2013	2013 as % of 2012
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	1,981.2	2,227.9	1,844.9	93	83	4,062.9	4,072.8	100
Veal	9.6	10.2	8.8	91	86	19.8	19.0	96
Pork	1,870.1	2,052.1	1,766.6	94	86	3,844.3	3,818.7	99
Lamb and mutton	11.8	11.7	10.9	92	93	23.4	22.6	97
Total red meat	3,872.7	4,302.0	3,631.2	94	84	7,950.3	7,933.2	100

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

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

Species	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	February 2013 as % of 2012	January to February		
					2012	2013	2013 as % of 2012
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,514.7	2,785.2	2,314.5	92	5,180.2	5,099.7	98
Other 1,000	42.9	49.5	44.4	103	92.1	93.9	102
Commercial 1,000	2,557.6	2,834.7	2,358.9	92	5,272.3	5,193.6	99
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,310	1,331	1,323	101	1,307	1,327	102
Other pounds	1,143	1,143	1,141	100	1,136	1,142	101
Commercial pounds	1,307	1,327	1,320	101	1,304	1,324	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	59.3	69.9	58.8	99	125.9	128.6	102
Other 1,000	0.9	1.0	0.9	97	2.0	1.8	91
Commercial 1,000	60.2	70.9	59.6	99	127.9	130.5	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	274	250	256	93	266	253	95
Other pounds	421	421	411	98	427	416	97
Commercial pounds	276	253	258	93	269	255	95
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	8,974.8	9,885.0	8,525.6	95	18,441.6	18,410.6	100
Other 1,000	69.9	75.3	68.3	98	142.3	143.6	101
Commercial 1,000	9,044.7	9,960.3	8,593.9	95	18,583.9	18,554.2	100
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	278	277	277	99	278	277	99
Other pounds	254	246	248	98	253	247	98
Commercial pounds	278	277	277	99	278	277	99
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	154.6	164.7	150.3	97	308.3	315.0	102
Other 1,000	10.7	12.7	11.4	106	21.9	24.0	110
Commercial 1,000	165.3	177.4	161.7	98	330.2	339.0	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	153	143	145	95	152	144	95
Other pounds	99	103	113	114	98	107	109
Commercial pounds	149	140	142	95	148	141	95
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	38.4	39.8	34.0	88	81.7	73.8	90
Other 1,000	13.7	12.4	14.0	103	28.1	26.4	94
Commercial 1,000	52.1	52.1	48.0	92	109.8	100.2	91
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	62	64	65	105	63	65	103
Other pounds	61	66	59	98	65	62	96
Commercial pounds	62	64	64	103	63	64	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	3.4	3.6	3.2	96	7.2	6.9	95
Other 1,000	0.9	1.0	1.0	116	1.7	2.0	115
Commercial 1,000	4.2	4.6	4.2	100	9.0	8.9	99

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	February 2013 as % of 2012
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.4	0.6	0.7	49
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
Arizona	30.7	32.2	29.8	97
Arkansas	3.5	3.9	3.4	97
California	136.6	149.5	130.8	96
Colorado	175.0	195.9	176.1	101
Delaware-Maryland	2.7	2.6	2.4	89
Florida	8.0	10.1	8.0	100
Georgia	11.3	9.9	9.1	80
Hawaii	0.9	0.8	0.7	78
Idaho	3.4	4.2	3.7	108
Illinois	234.5	264.5	226.6	97
Indiana	142.5	148.9	126.2	89
Iowa	532.1	599.4	501.4	94
Kansas	398.1	459.0	396.2	100
Kentucky	46.6	46.4	41.7	90
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.4	79
Michigan	40.5	42.2	37.2	92
Minnesota	227.3	241.8	211.2	93
Mississippi	2.5	2.3	1.7	67
Missouri	145.2	157.9	139.1	96
Montana	0.7	0.9	0.8	110
Nebraska	572.2	631.3	526.5	92
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	82
New England ¹	1.2	1.6	1.3	103
New Jersey	4.1	4.1	3.9	95
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	0.3	95
New York	2.4	3.0	2.3	99
North Carolina	204.2	224.4	195.0	95
North Dakota	2.8	0.9	0.7	27
Ohio	22.7	23.3	22.1	98
Oklahoma	93.6	104.8	93.2	100
Oregon	5.5	6.2	5.9	106
Pennsylvania	104.9	109.1	93.8	89
South Carolina	19.1	19.7	18.1	95
South Dakota	81.1	100.2	80.3	99
Tennessee	17.4	19.7	16.0	92
Texas	389.3	443.6	324.1	83
Utah	41.1	41.6	36.5	89
Virginia	37.2	46.6	39.3	106
Washington	68.1	76.8	65.6	96
West Virginia	0.5	0.7	0.5	94
Wisconsin	102.0	116.6	99.9	98
Wyoming	0.5	0.6	0.4	78
United States	3,914.1	4,348.3	3,672.9	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: February 2012 and 2013

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2012 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (pounds)	2013 (pounds)
Alabama	0.4	0.4	352	407	941	1,024
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	59	(X)	1,109
Arizona	42.7	39.3	55,007	51,826	1,292	1,323
Arkansas	0.7	0.5	660	434	954	897
California	136.1	130.3	175,768	168,410	1,301	1,301
Colorado	195.8	195.4	264,946	267,454	1,354	1,370
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.4	3,698	3,200	1,294	1,317
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	19.9	15.2	20,267	15,718	1,021	1,041
Hawaii	1.1	0.8	1,242	901	1,151	1,114
Idaho	2.2	2.6	2,372	2,860	1,125	1,161
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.0	3.2	3,203	3,371	1,057	1,055
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	476.3	464.3	616,173	607,355	1,294	1,308
Kentucky	1.5	1.4	1,547	1,400	1,004	1,023
Louisiana	0.5	0.3	377	243	773	745
Michigan	47.1	42.4	65,361	59,998	1,394	1,424
Minnesota	63.1	60.6	92,176	86,504	1,467	1,434
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	71	50	731	743
Missouri	4.9	4.8	5,633	5,362	1,150	1,126
Montana	0.9	1.0	1,064	1,209	1,199	1,180
Nebraska	518.1	479.8	707,713	659,651	1,367	1,376
Nevada	0.1	0.1	123	96	990	1,023
New England ¹	1.4	1.4	1,440	1,457	1,037	1,028
New Jersey	3.1	2.9	3,545	3,258	1,136	1,142
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	329	296	1,228	1,037
New York	2.4	2.1	2,694	2,386	1,150	1,159
North Carolina	16.0	11.6	18,595	13,848	1,162	1,195
North Dakota	3.4	1.0	4,581	1,173	1,339	1,223
Ohio	9.5	10.4	11,152	12,133	1,174	1,179
Oklahoma	1.9	2.0	1,925	1,986	990	985
Oregon	4.3	4.9	5,154	5,963	1,221	1,233
Pennsylvania	82.6	72.0	101,504	86,440	1,234	1,206
South Carolina	11.6	12.6	13,366	14,999	1,166	1,201
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	4.5	3.7	3,710	3,394	850	939
Texas	506.6	417.6	628,049	522,539	1,243	1,254
Utah	48.0	43.1	66,405	58,920	1,386	1,369
Virginia	1.2	1.2	1,284	1,274	1,076	1,054
Washington	83.4	79.9	111,426	107,326	1,341	1,348
West Virginia	0.7	0.7	711	680	993	984
Wisconsin	123.5	120.7	164,007	162,736	1,335	1,356
Wyoming	0.7	0.6	831	617	1,269	1,012
United States	2,557.6	2,358.9	3,335,912	3,106,096	1,307	1,320

(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: February 2012 and 2013

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2012 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (pounds)	2013 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	14.6	14.4	1,541	1,512	106	106
Colorado	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Delaware-Maryland	0.3	0.3	78	69	259	253
Florida	0.1	0.1	29	27	443	501
Georgia	0.1	0.1	42	55	800	622
Hawaii	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Idaho	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Illinois	1.4	1.1	595	464	434	439
Indiana	0.4	0.5	102	158	235	290
Iowa	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	0.1	(D)	30	(D)	442	(D)
Louisiana	0.3	0.2	152	129	520	520
Michigan	1.4	0.5	604	183	418	389
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	0.7	0.5	96	72	144	150
New Jersey	6.0	5.0	2,443	2,119	410	421
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	7.0	6.6	731	870	105	132
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	29	43	470	468
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	7.9	11.0	1,819	2,072	234	188
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Pennsylvania	8.3	10.4	3,558	4,201	428	403
South Carolina	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Tennessee	0.1	0.1	30	34	540	488
Texas	1.1	0.8	719	517	676	648
Utah	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Virginia	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Washington	2.0	2.2	135	161	67	75
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	8.3	5.5	3,718	2,551	446	461
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	60.2	59.6	16,534	15,318	276	258

(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: February 2012 and 2013

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2012 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (pounds)	2013 (pounds)
Alabama	4.9	1.7	2,095	657	426	379
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	25	(X)	237
Arizona	0.1	0.1	25	27	262	261
Arkansas	10.3	10.3	4,695	4,708	458	459
California	189.5	183.3	46,871	44,904	247	245
Colorado	0.8	1.1	185	244	238	218
Delaware-Maryland	1.4	1.6	389	424	270	272
Florida	4.1	7.2	643	898	157	125
Georgia	6.5	6.6	1,609	1,617	246	246
Hawaii	1.1	1.0	259	257	241	246
Idaho	11.0	11.0	2,827	2,853	259	261
Illinois	858.4	823.7	242,115	232,654	282	283
Indiana	686.2	608.1	185,924	164,870	271	271
Iowa	2,370.8	2,268.3	661,217	628,895	279	277
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.1	0.9	217	203	205	219
Michigan	10.3	10.3	4,084	4,011	397	391
Minnesota	878.7	834.5	238,077	222,280	271	266
Mississippi	10.1	8.6	3,471	2,306	343	268
Missouri	667.4	637.1	188,400	180,186	282	283
Montana	0.7	0.7	180	178	258	246
Nebraska	659.1	592.6	181,957	161,267	276	272
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	1.5	1.5	362	408	237	274
New Jersey	7.2	9.9	753	942	105	95
New Mexico	0.1	0.1	24	23	223	275
New York	2.0	2.3	423	526	210	226
North Carolina	942.9	908.5	258,450	248,947	274	274
North Dakota	0.3	0.3	100	91	311	295
Ohio	80.0	71.3	21,208	19,432	265	273
Oklahoma	436.4	439.7	122,183	120,632	280	274
Oregon	14.2	13.6	3,644	3,533	257	260
Pennsylvania	221.7	209.7	57,597	55,788	260	266
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	358.5	351.1	97,366	95,075	272	271
Tennessee	50.1	46.0	23,139	21,098	462	460
Texas	32.0	30.9	10,096	9,038	317	293
Utah	4.7	3.8	676	615	144	162
Virginia	177.5	187.1	48,064	50,914	271	272
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.5	0.4	133	119	261	275
Wisconsin	42.8	39.9	19,421	18,075	455	454
Wyoming	0.2	0.3	61	67	264	248
United States	9,044.7	8,593.9	2,514,787	2,375,560	278	277

(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: February 2012 and 2013

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2012 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (pounds)	2013 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.2	0.2	29	24	144	118
Arkansas	0.1	(Y)	5	(X)	94	(X)
California	23.5	24.0	3,414	3,335	146	139
Colorado	82.9	70.6	14,144	11,605	171	165
Delaware-Maryland	2.7	3.0	272	288	102	97
Florida	0.1	0.3	9	17	72	68
Georgia	0.3	0.5	22	32	84	65
Hawaii	0.1	(Y)	5	(X)	100	(X)
Idaho	0.2	0.2	24	28	147	136
Illinois	11.3	11.4	1,812	1,759	160	155
Indiana	2.5	2.3	269	268	109	117
Iowa	0.2	0.2	23	22	152	108
Kansas	0.2	0.3	17	26	93	88
Kentucky	0.7	0.8	95	104	130	131
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	24	27	75	79
Michigan	10.3	13.8	1,438	1,863	139	135
Minnesota	0.5	0.3	59	34	122	113
Mississippi	0.2	0.3	13	19	62	75
Missouri	0.2	0.3	32	46	132	133
Montana	0.2	0.2	18	25	114	120
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	1.6	1.9	153	173	96	92
New Jersey	7.2	8.2	615	687	86	83
New Mexico	0.9	0.8	139	127	153	152
New York	2.9	2.9	271	279	93	98
North Carolina	0.8	1.1	61	90	75	82
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	0.6	0.9	63	95	109	104
Oklahoma	0.1	0.2	6	21	108	139
Oregon	1.8	2.1	279	282	151	136
Pennsylvania	3.0	3.5	299	355	101	101
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	23	28	122	127
Tennessee	0.6	0.8	46	65	82	77
Texas	4.6	5.5	331	638	72	115
Utah	2.3	2.2	317	292	141	134
Virginia	0.4	0.3	35	26	94	100
Washington	0.6	0.5	113	74	180	162
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.6	0.7	81	79	143	112
Wyoming	(Y)	0.1	(X)	15	(X)	169
United States	165.3	161.7	24,681	22,988	149	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	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	January to February		February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	January to February	
				2012	2013				2012	2013
	(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	1,185	1,371	1,110	2,470	2,482	47.1	49.2	48.0	47.7	48.7
Heifers	781	794	689	1,547	1,483	31.1	28.5	29.8	29.9	29.1
All cows	508	578	479	1,080	1,057	20.2	20.7	20.7	20.9	20.7
Dairy cows	261	297	259	525	556	10.4	10.7	11.2	10.1	10.9
Other cows	247	281	219	555	500	9.8	10.1	9.5	10.7	9.8
Bulls	40	42	37	83	78	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5
Total	2,515	2,785	2,315	5,180	5,100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	59	70	59	126	129	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	8,712	9,593	8,275	17,908	17,867	97.1	97.0	97.1	97.1	97.0
Sows	235	261	222	479	483	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Boars	28	32	29	54	60	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	8,975	9,885	8,526	18,442	18,411	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	8	9	9	17	18	5.5	5.2	5.9	5.5	5.6
Lambs and yearlings	146	156	141	291	297	94.5	94.8	94.1	94.5	94.4
Total	155	165	150	308	315	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	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	January to February	
				2012	2013
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	790	802	799	786	800
Steers ¹	855	873	867	854	870
Heifers ¹	795	806	807	793	806
All cows ¹	622	620	622	613	621
Bulls ¹	877	879	882	868	881
Calves and vealers	163	147	150	158	148
Hogs	208	208	207	209	207
Barrows and gilts ²	206	205	205	206	205
Sows ²	307	305	307	306	306
Boars ²	209	205	207	209	206
Sheep	77	71	72	76	72
Mature sheep ³	65	65	66	64	66
Lambs and yearlings ³	77	72	73	77	72

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: February 2013

[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	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5
2	4.9	1.6	0.6	2.4	2.0	0.3	0.3	11.7
3	73.4	14.5	5.1	52.2	41.9	10.3	1.6	10.7
4	54.4	2.7	0.9	42.9	13.4	29.4	7.9	0.2
5	282.2	115.5	25.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	18.5
6	415.8	197.9	129.5	79.9	29.8	50.2	8.4	0.8
7	976.3	519.8	399.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
8	249.7	143.1	89.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	169.9	70.4	14.7	82.1	70.0	12.1	2.7	14.2
10	86.6	44.1	22.5	19.0	16.2	2.8	1.0	2.2
United States	2,314.5	1,110.3	688.8	478.9	259.4	219.5	36.6	58.8
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	1.2	1.2	(Y)	(Y)	1.8	0.1	1.7	
2	12.1	12.0	0.1	(Y)	10.6	1.4	9.2	
3	396.6	395.6	1.0	(Y)	7.2	0.6	6.6	
4	1,212.7	1,150.5	58.6	3.6	3.6	0.8	2.7	
5	2,361.0	2,255.4	98.9	6.6	26.5	2.2	24.3	
6	474.1	459.4	14.6	(Y)	2.3	0.8	1.5	
7	3,508.4	3,441.4	48.7	18.3	0.6	(Y)	0.6	
8	355.1	354.7	0.3	(Y)	72.5	2.7	69.8	
9	179.1	178.9	0.1	(Y)	23.0	0.3	22.7	
10	25.4	25.4	(Y)	(Y)	2.2	(Y)	2.2	
United States	8,525.6	8,274.5	222.4	28.6	150.3	8.9	141.4	

(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 February 2013

[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	2.8	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	1.2
2	10.6	3.5	1.2	5.1	4.4	0.7	0.7	27.8
3	160.3	33.0	10.9	112.6	90.4	22.2	3.8	22.8
4	119.1	5.5	2.4	94.6	29.2	65.5	16.5	0.6
5	619.7	250.6	60.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	39.9
6	975.7	491.7	286.9	178.5	62.6	115.9	18.6	2.0
7	2,126.0	1,143.3	855.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.1
8	532.0	310.8	183.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	365.8	144.4	34.7	180.9	151.7	29.2	5.8	29.1
10	187.7	97.7	47.2	40.9	34.0	6.9	1.9	5.1
United States	5,099.7	2,481.6	1,483.2	1,056.8	556.3	500.4	78.2	128.6
	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	2.7	2.6	0.1	(Y)	4.6	0.2	4.4	
2	24.3	23.9	0.3	0.1	21.9	2.9	19.0	
3	856.5	854.3	2.1	0.1	15.3	1.2	14.1	
4	2,591.8	2,452.2	131.1	8.5	7.7	1.8	5.9	
5	5,056.9	4,831.4	212.8	12.6	58.4	4.4	54.0	
6	1,005.8	974.9	30.8	0.1	4.6	1.6	3.0	
7	7,645.5	7,501.9	104.9	38.7	1.4	(Y)	1.4	
8	792.3	791.5	0.7	(Y)	147.6	4.5	143.1	
9	380.4	380.1	0.2	(Y)	49.3	0.9	48.3	
10	54.5	54.4	0.1	(Y)	4.3	0.1	4.2	
United States	18,410.6	17,867.4	483.0	60.2	315.0	17.5	297.5	

(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	February 2012	January 2013	February 2013	January to February	
				2012	2013
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.3	98.3	98.1	98.3	98.2
Calves	98.5	98.6	98.5	98.4	98.6
Hogs	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.2
Sheep	93.5	92.9	93.0	93.4	92.9

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
Tiffany Hora – 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.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

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