



Livestock Slaughter

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Record High Pork Production for December

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.14 billion pounds in December, up slightly from the 4.14 billion pounds produced in December 2013.

Beef production, at 2.00 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.44 million head, down 5 percent from December 2013. The average live weight was up 29 pounds from the previous year, at 1,363 pounds.

Veal production totaled 7.6 million pounds, 22 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 43,000 head, down 35 percent from December 2013. The average live weight was up 51 pounds from last year, at 302 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.11 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.85 million head, up 1 percent from December 2013. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.4 million pounds, was up 3 percent from December 2013. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,000 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 3 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2014 commercial red meat production was 47.3 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2013. Accumulated beef production was down 6 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was down 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

December 2013 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

December 2014 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	December 2014 as % of		January to December		
				December 2013	November 2014	2013	2014	2014 as % of 2013
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,047.3	1,850.6	2,000.7	98	108	25,719.5	24,252.1	94
Veal	9.8	6.5	7.6	78	118	111.3	93.9	84
Pork	2,065.4	1,890.7	2,114.5	102	112	23,187.1	22,844.4	99
Lamb and mutton	13.0	11.5	13.4	103	116	156.0	155.8	100
Total red meat	4,135.6	3,759.3	4,136.2	100	110	49,174.0	47,346.3	96

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	December 2014 as % of		January to December		
				December 2013	November 2014	2013	2014	2014 as % of 2013
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,019.1	1,825.4	1,973.4	98	108	25,384.8	23,933.6	94
Veal	9.7	6.3	7.5	77	119	108.9	92.2	85
Pork	2,053.9	1,880.4	2,103.1	102	112	23,039.8	22,709.7	99
Lamb and mutton	12.3	10.6	12.6	102	118	145.5	145.0	100
Total red meat	4,095.0	3,722.8	4,096.6	100	110	48,679.0	46,880.6	96

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

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

Species	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	December 2014 as % of 2013	January to December		
					2013	2014	2014 as % of 2013
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,517.8	2,209.7	2,397.9	95	31,947.0	29,684.1	93
Other 1,000	44.1	38.6	42.2	96	515.3	486.4	94
Commercial 1,000	2,561.9	2,248.3	2,440.2	95	32,462.3	30,170.6	93
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,337	1,367	1,367	102	1,317	1,333	101
Other pounds	1,138	1,147	1,142	100	1,144	1,148	100
Commercial pounds	1,334	1,363	1,363	102	1,314	1,330	101
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	65.8	35.2	42.2	64	751.0	557.6	74
Other 1,000	0.7	0.6	0.7	100	10.9	8.3	76
Commercial 1,000	66.5	35.9	43.0	65	762.0	565.9	74
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	250	305	302	120	248	281	114
Other pounds	359	364	353	98	400	369	92
Commercial pounds	251	306	302	120	250	283	113
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,665.3	8,754.2	9,787.7	101	111,247.9	106,122.3	95
Other 1,000	64.8	58.0	63.6	98	828.8	755.9	91
Commercial 1,000	9,730.1	8,812.2	9,851.3	101	112,076.7	106,878.3	95
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	283	287	287	101	277	285	103
Other pounds	242	243	244	101	245	243	99
Commercial pounds	283	286	286	101	276	285	103
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	184.6	157.1	182.8	99	2,120.1	2,104.4	99
Other 1,000	14.7	16.4	17.1	116	198.5	208.0	105
Commercial 1,000	199.3	173.6	200.0	100	2,318.7	2,312.4	100
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	133	135	137	103	137	137	100
Other pounds	101	108	99	98	109	107	98
Commercial pounds	131	133	134	102	135	135	100
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	45.3	37.2	47.4	105	528.0	486.5	92
Other 1,000	16.0	10.6	14.4	90	161.2	152.3	94
Commercial 1,000	61.2	47.8	61.7	101	689.2	638.8	93
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	63	62	96	64	63	99
Other pounds	59	82	81	138	65	77	120
Commercial pounds	63	67	66	106	64	67	104
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.4	3.8	4.4	100	46.6	51.7	111
Other 1,000	0.9	0.6	0.7	80	10.6	8.5	80
Commercial 1,000	5.3	4.5	5.1	96	57.2	60.1	105

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	December 2014 as % of 2013
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	0.7	0.6	0.7	111
Alaska	0.1	0.1	0.1	100
Arizona	33.4	31.9	38.3	115
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	0.4	119
California	148.8	107.0	117.9	79
Colorado	186.2	170.0	178.2	96
Delaware-Maryland	2.8	2.5	2.7	99
Florida	8.7	6.6	7.7	89
Georgia	13.4	10.1	10.9	82
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.8	110
Idaho	4.0	3.3	3.8	96
Illinois	263.9	246.6	272.0	103
Indiana	162.2	140.6	155.7	96
Iowa	573.9	549.1	605.8	106
Kansas	415.6	375.1	414.5	100
Kentucky	46.6	42.6	47.4	102
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	0.4	97
Michigan	41.3	34.7	40.3	98
Minnesota	232.8	201.8	219.9	94
Mississippi	1.1	0.4	0.5	47
Missouri	163.0	149.7	167.8	103
Montana	1.9	1.9	1.8	97
Nebraska	607.8	593.1	624.1	103
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	146
New England ¹	1.7	1.9	1.9	109
New Jersey	4.3	3.2	3.9	90
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	0.3	101
New York	3.0	2.7	3.1	103
North Carolina	229.4	204.5	230.7	101
North Dakota	0.6	0.4	0.6	105
Ohio	25.9	21.5	24.8	96
Oklahoma	96.1	91.0	101.1	105
Oregon	6.1	6.1	6.4	105
Pennsylvania	109.8	105.3	119.5	109
South Carolina	19.5	19.0	21.8	112
South Dakota	101.4	87.4	99.1	98
Tennessee	20.8	23.1	26.0	125
Texas	348.5	298.8	331.0	95
Utah	38.0	35.2	39.2	103
Virginia	46.2	36.8	47.9	103
Washington	66.2	66.4	71.0	107
West Virginia	0.7	0.7	0.7	93
Wisconsin	107.0	85.4	94.9	89
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	97
United States	4,135.6	3,759.3	4,136.2	100

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: December 2013 and 2014

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2013 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (pounds)	2014 (pounds)
Alabama	0.4	0.4	429	413	964	1,004
Alaska	0.1	0.1	63	66	1,110	974
Arizona	43.6	47.1	57,760	63,827	1,328	1,359
Arkansas	0.5	0.5	440	465	940	977
California	144.7	107.0	188,429	139,396	1,311	1,315
Colorado	206.6	194.3	285,373	273,221	1,382	1,407
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.8	3,763	3,744	1,307	1,320
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	23.5	(D)	24,358	(D)	1,038	(D)
Hawaii	0.8	0.9	830	1,026	1,105	1,110
Idaho	2.7	2.8	3,026	3,121	1,167	1,172
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.5	3.0	3,713	3,181	1,066	1,058
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	480.7	466.9	646,070	642,176	1,344	1,376
Kentucky	1.4	1.3	1,307	1,337	955	997
Louisiana	0.5	0.5	367	389	742	842
Michigan	45.6	44.7	62,749	61,681	1,383	1,387
Minnesota	70.0	53.3	97,591	78,022	1,400	1,472
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	56	127	803	858
Missouri	5.0	4.9	5,721	5,350	1,135	1,098
Montana	2.5	2.3	2,834	2,678	1,151	1,156
Nebraska	552.7	547.4	771,655	787,847	1,397	1,441
Nevada	0.1	0.1	68	112	1,040	1,038
New England ¹	1.7	2.0	1,806	2,073	1,035	1,050
New Jersey	2.9	2.7	3,178	2,892	1,090	1,093
New Mexico	0.4	0.3	379	343	1,011	1,066
New York	2.8	2.9	3,174	3,335	1,134	1,165
North Carolina	5.5	5.1	6,562	6,176	1,204	1,220
North Dakota	0.7	0.7	917	944	1,256	1,275
Ohio	8.9	8.5	10,330	9,893	1,176	1,177
Oklahoma	1.9	1.9	1,853	1,919	987	1,007
Oregon	5.0	5.5	6,113	6,678	1,223	1,228
Pennsylvania	77.8	85.9	93,473	104,525	1,205	1,221
South Carolina	12.1	14.6	13,383	17,086	1,118	1,182
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	4.1	4.9	3,467	4,440	850	930
Texas	446.9	413.2	566,891	537,506	1,271	1,305
Utah	45.4	47.7	61,597	63,441	1,358	1,330
Virginia	1.0	1.0	962	1,064	988	1,050
Washington	81.7	85.5	109,039	116,236	1,339	1,363
West Virginia	1.1	1.0	1,058	930	933	965
Wisconsin	128.1	107.0	175,745	146,703	1,379	1,379
Wyoming	0.6	0.6	643	614	1,053	1,041
United States	2,561.9	2,440.2	3,409,411	3,318,882	1,334	1,363

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

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

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: December 2013 and 2014

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2013 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (pounds)	2014 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
California	15.7	7.2	1,483	744	95	105
Colorado	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Delaware-Maryland	0.3	(D)	76	(D)	263	(D)
Florida	0.1	(D)	29	(D)	481	(D)
Georgia	0.1	0.1	48	38	566	547
Hawaii	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Idaho	(Y)	0.1	(X)	24	(X)	452
Illinois	1.2	0.7	545	282	438	431
Indiana	0.7	0.5	185	124	261	276
Iowa	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(D)	0.1	(D)	29	(D)	487
Louisiana	0.1	(Y)	66	(X)	493	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	29	35	308	297
Minnesota	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Mississippi	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.8	0.5	100	65	132	138
New Jersey	6.5	5.3	2,755	2,295	427	430
New Mexico	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New York	8.0	5.2	945	651	119	128
North Carolina	(Y)	0.1	(X)	24	(X)	420
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	12.1	(D)	2,218	(D)	185	(D)
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	11.2	7.7	4,362	3,289	389	429
South Carolina	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.3	0.2	159	95	524	478
Utah	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Virginia	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Washington	1.6	(D)	125	(D)	77	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	7.5	6.6	3,446	3,079	458	471
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	66.5	43.0	16,655	12,913	251	302

(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: December 2013 and 2014

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2013 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (pounds)	2014 (pounds)
Alabama	1.6	1.9	604	727	374	392
Alaska	0.1	0.1	27	21	258	271
Arizona	0.1	0.2	28	39	236	256
Arkansas	0.6	0.9	144	224	258	260
California	216.9	217.6	53,484	54,316	247	250
Colorado	1.5	1.2	322	288	220	240
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	1.8	441	462	248	256
Florida	6.2	5.8	795	806	128	140
Georgia	6.9	6.7	1,674	1,576	243	236
Hawaii	1.3	1.2	323	268	252	231
Idaho	12.1	10.9	3,158	2,845	261	262
Illinois	939.2	949.1	268,931	273,275	286	288
Indiana	756.6	721.6	210,560	202,201	278	280
Iowa	2,535.0	2,632.5	716,719	755,727	283	287
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.3	1.3	227	237	170	180
Michigan	16.9	16.2	7,203	6,338	427	391
Minnesota	897.6	863.7	243,731	238,829	272	277
Mississippi	5.4	4.1	1,422	563	263	138
Missouri	729.2	750.4	211,620	218,441	290	291
Montana	1.7	1.6	384	368	232	230
Nebraska	634.2	658.1	176,942	186,229	279	283
Nevada	0.1	0.1	16	19	258	255
New England ¹	2.5	2.8	634	653	253	230
New Jersey	10.9	11.9	949	1,010	87	85
New Mexico	0.1	0.2	39	47	283	296
New York	3.2	3.4	644	734	203	216
North Carolina	1,044.2	(D)	299,021	(D)	286	(D)
North Dakota	0.4	0.4	119	124	278	295
Ohio	89.8	88.4	25,743	24,801	287	281
Oklahoma	427.9	470.0	124,286	131,318	291	279
Oregon	14.4	13.7	3,746	3,613	262	263
Pennsylvania	261.2	281.0	70,656	75,813	271	270
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	450.2	(D)	124,150	(D)	276	(D)
Tennessee	63.5	78.0	28,247	35,532	446	456
Texas	26.8	25.7	6,712	6,387	251	248
Utah	5.3	4.3	802	637	152	149
Virginia	216.2	(D)	60,527	(D)	280	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.5	0.6	130	155	264	279
Wisconsin	46.2	52.7	20,470	24,038	444	457
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	39	49	258	256
United States	9,730.1	9,851.3	2,752,308	2,819,066	283	286

(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: December 2013 and 2014

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2013 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 head)	2013 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2013 (pounds)	2014 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.3	0.3	34	37	113	118
Arkansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	85
California	24.3	23.6	3,389	3,239	139	137
Colorado	84.0	81.0	12,745	12,561	152	155
Delaware-Maryland	4.3	3.8	391	359	92	95
Florida	0.6	0.6	39	37	60	57
Georgia	1.0	0.6	66	43	67	70
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	7	10	114	141
Idaho	0.2	0.2	25	23	139	138
Illinois	14.2	13.9	1,868	2,025	131	146
Indiana	4.2	4.5	466	517	110	114
Iowa	0.3	0.2	43	40	168	181
Kansas	0.3	0.5	29	45	92	92
Kentucky	1.2	1.4	150	173	123	121
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	18	18	62	59
Michigan	16.5	18.7	2,111	2,603	128	139
Minnesota	0.6	0.5	75	53	122	111
Mississippi	0.4	0.3	31	24	74	69
Missouri	0.7	0.8	72	69	98	84
Montana	0.5	0.6	51	66	94	104
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	9	13	126	135
Nevada	0.1	0.1	13	8	118	129
New England ¹	3.5	3.3	317	304	89	93
New Jersey	10.8	10.0	885	793	82	79
New Mexico	0.7	0.9	104	129	142	146
New York	5.2	6.3	484	638	92	101
North Carolina	1.3	1.3	90	91	69	70
North Dakota	0.1	0.1	6	9	129	139
Ohio	1.4	1.2	146	116	103	100
Oklahoma	0.3	0.2	21	26	78	113
Oregon	2.2	3.2	303	447	136	141
Pennsylvania	6.5	5.9	621	596	96	101
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	34	34	139	157
Tennessee	1.1	1.0	77	74	69	73
Texas	6.0	8.3	560	760	93	92
Utah	2.2	(D)	297	(D)	134	(D)
Virginia	0.4	0.5	41	45	92	90
Washington	0.8	1.0	127	136	164	135
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.9	0.7	105	88	112	121
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	14	11	130	163
United States	199.3	200.0	26,003	26,726	131	134

(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	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	January to December		December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	January to December	
				2013	2014				2013	2014
	(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	1,248	1,084	1,213	16,003	15,378	49.6	49.1	50.6	50.1	51.8
Heifers	726	658	675	9,131	8,378	28.8	29.8	28.2	28.6	28.2
All cows	504	426	467	6,255	5,380	20.0	19.3	19.5	19.6	18.1
Dairy cows	257	218	257	3,125	2,816	10.2	9.9	10.7	9.8	9.5
Other cows	248	208	210	3,130	2,565	9.8	9.4	8.8	9.8	8.6
Bulls	40	42	42	557	548	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8
Total	2,518	2,210	2,398	31,947	29,684	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	66	35	42	751	558	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,397	8,509	9,501	107,965	102,998	97.2	97.2	97.1	97.0	97.1
Sows	240	219	258	2,932	2,787	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6
Boars	28	25	28	351	337	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	9,665	8,754	9,788	111,248	106,122	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	12	10	10	133	136	6.3	6.3	5.7	6.3	6.5
Lambs and yearlings	173	147	172	1,988	1,968	93.7	93.7	94.3	93.7	93.5
Total	185	157	183	2,120	2,104	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Federally Inspected Slaughter, Average Dressed Weight, By Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	January to December	
				2013	2014
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	804	828	825	796	808
Steers ¹	874	903	897	863	872
Heifers ¹	806	827	824	794	800
All cows ¹	620	630	631	620	627
Bulls ¹	865	894	898	880	898
Calves and vealers	148	181	179	146	166
Hogs	213	215	215	207	214
Barrows and gilts ²	210	213	213	205	212
Sows ²	302	301	303	304	305
Boars ²	202	205	201	204	204
Sheep	67	68	69	69	69
Mature sheep ³	63	67	65	64	66
Lambs and yearlings ³	67	68	69	69	69

¹ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

² Included in hog average dressed weight.

³ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: December 2014

[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	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	
2	5.4	1.7	1.0	2.0	1.6	0.4	0.7	10.5	
3	88.2	22.5	6.0	56.0	45.0	11.0	3.6	7.9	
4	55.2	2.9	2.0	44.1	14.1	30.0	6.1	0.2	
5	280.2	126.2	36.6	108.4	64.0	44.4	9.0	15.0	
6	411.0	204.1	121.7	76.0	29.5	46.6	9.2	0.2	
7	1,055.0	596.6	390.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
8	254.0	152.1	81.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
9	154.4	57.7	11.5	83.0	73.7	9.3	2.3	7.0	
10	92.9	48.8	23.9	19.1	14.8	4.3	1.1	1.1	
United States	2,397.9	1,213.2	675.2	467.2	256.8	210.4	42.3	42.2	
	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)	(1,000 head)	
1	(D)	(D)	(Y)	(D)	3.0	0.1	2.9		
2	15.1	15.0	0.1	(Y)	15.7	1.7	14.0		
3	495.5	494.3	1.1	0.2	10.8	1.0	9.9		
4	(D)	(D)	90.0	(D)	5.1	1.2	4.0		
5	2,665.4	2,549.2	111.4	4.8	34.7	3.4	31.3		
6	492.7	492.7	(Y)	(Y)	3.6	0.7	2.8		
7	4,052.6	3,980.2	55.5	16.9	0.8	(Y)	0.8		
8	(D)	(D)	0.1	(D)	83.0	1.7	81.3		
9	213.0	213.0	(Y)	(Y)	22.7	0.4	22.2		
10	25.9	25.9	(Y)	(Y)	3.4	0.3	3.1		
United States	9,787.7	9,501.3	258.3	28.1	182.8	10.5	172.3		

(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 December 2014

[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	18.7	8.5	4.6	3.0	1.8	1.1	2.6	5.6
2	66.5	20.5	11.6	27.7	21.0	6.7	6.7	123.8
3	988.3	267.6	77.7	599.4	478.7	120.6	43.6	109.9
4	645.8	36.7	18.2	507.3	143.5	363.7	83.7	2.3
5	3,405.6	1,518.6	388.0	1,370.7	816.0	554.7	128.3	174.8
6	5,301.2	2,670.5	1,569.0	945.0	314.3	630.7	116.7	5.9
7	13,068.2	7,603.0	4,750.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.2
8	3,154.6	1,880.6	1,051.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	1,889.4	794.8	176.5	880.8	732.6	148.1	37.4	120.5
10	1,145.7	577.5	330.3	220.3	163.6	56.6	17.7	14.5
United States	29,684.1	15,378.3	8,377.8	5,380.3	2,815.6	2,564.7	547.8	557.6
	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)	(1,000 head)
1	(D)	(D)	0.4	(D)	35.3	1.6	33.7	
2	138.6	137.1	1.2	0.4	164.4	18.6	145.8	
3	5,043.6	5,030.5	11.9	1.2	129.5	10.7	118.8	
4	(D)	(D)	826.0	(D)	62.9	12.8	50.1	
5	29,729.7	28,360.5	1,308.5	60.7	377.4	34.7	342.7	
6	5,057.3	5,055.7	1.0	0.6	42.5	9.7	32.9	
7	44,372.2	43,542.0	633.2	197.1	9.7	0.5	9.2	
8	(D)	(D)	4.3	(D)	967.4	38.8	928.6	
9	2,307.6	2,307.0	0.6	0.1	278.8	6.4	272.4	
10	308.2	307.7	0.3	0.2	36.5	2.7	33.8	
United States	106,122.3	102,997.5	2,787.5	337.3	2,104.4	136.4	1,968.0	

(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	December 2013	November 2014	December 2014	January to December	
				2013	2014
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.4	98.4
Calves	98.9	98.2	98.3	98.6	98.5
Hogs	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.3	99.3
Sheep	92.6	90.5	91.4	91.4	91.0

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	(202) 720-3240
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
Evan Schulz – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-6147

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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