



Livestock Slaughter

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Update Alert – March 24, 2015

Corrected estimates of commercial red meat production have been published on pages 4 and 6.

Record Pork Production for February

February 2014 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

February 2015 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.73 billion pounds in February, up 2 percent from the 3.65 billion pounds produced in February 2014.

Beef production, at 1.77 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.17 million head, down 3 percent from February 2014. The average live weight was up 25 pounds from the previous year, at 1,355 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.3 million pounds, 23 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 36,700 head, down 30 percent from February 2014. The average live weight was up 26 pounds from last year, at 293 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.95 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.08 million head, up 5 percent from February 2014. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.6 million pounds, was down slightly from February 2014. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,700 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2015 commercial red meat production was 7.8 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2014. Accumulated beef production was down 5 percent from last year, veal was down 25 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	February 2014	January 2015	February 2015	February 2015 as % of		January to February		
				February 2014	January 2015	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	1,788.3	1,963.8	1,768.4	99	90	3,929.2	3,732.2	95
Veal	8.2	6.8	6.3	77	93	17.5	13.1	75
Pork	1,844.2	2,104.7	1,945.2	105	92	3,929.9	4,049.9	103
Lamb and mutton	11.6	11.7	11.6	100	99	23.9	23.3	97
Total red meat	3,652.3	4,087.0	3,731.5	102	91	7,900.6	7,818.5	99

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	February 2014	January 2015	February 2015	February 2015 as % of		January to February		
				February 2014	January 2015	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	1,762.2	1,936.2	1,744.3	99	90	3,873.8	3,680.6	95
Veal	8.0	6.7	6.2	77	92	17.2	12.9	75
Pork	1,833.7	2,093.5	1,934.6	106	92	3,908.0	4,028.1	103
Lamb and mutton	10.9	11.0	10.8	99	98	22.6	21.8	96
Total red meat	3,614.9	4,047.5	3,695.9	102	91	7,821.6	7,743.4	99

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

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

Species	February 2014	January 2015	February 2015	February 2015 as % of 2014	January to February		
					2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
Cattle				(percent)			(percent)
Number of head							
Federally inspected .. 1,000	2,204.2	2,376.5	2,134.2	97	4,837.9	4,510.7	93
Other	39.9	41.4	36.4	91	85.1	77.9	91
Commercial	2,244.1	2,418.0	2,170.6	97	4,923.1	4,588.6	93
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,334	1,362	1,359	102	1,336	1,360	102
Other	1,153	1,167	1,159	100	1,149	1,163	101
Commercial	1,330	1,359	1,355	102	1,333	1,357	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .. 1,000	51.5	39.3	36.1	70	113.5	75.4	66
Other	0.7	0.6	0.6	89	1.4	1.2	84
Commercial	52.1	39.9	36.7	70	114.9	76.6	67
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	266	290	292	110	258	291	113
Other	375	370	396	106	373	383	103
Commercial	267	291	293	110	259	292	113
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .. 1,000	8,608.8	9,698.4	9,017.7	105	18,335.0	18,716.1	102
Other	58.9	62.0	59.1	100	122.7	121.1	99
Commercial	8,667.7	9,760.4	9,076.8	105	18,457.8	18,837.2	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	283	287	285	101	284	286	101
Other	244	247	245	100	244	246	101
Commercial	283	287	285	101	283	286	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .. 1,000	155.4	153.0	149.9	96	322.4	302.9	94
Other	12.5	13.7	14.8	118	26.1	28.5	109
Commercial	167.9	166.7	164.7	98	348.5	331.4	95
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	140	144	144	103	140	144	103
Other	110	104	109	99	106	107	100
Commercial	138	141	141	102	137	141	102
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .. 1,000	31.5	34.9	28.3	90	67.0	63.2	94
Other	11.0	11.3	9.3	85	23.6	20.6	87
Commercial	42.5	46.2	37.6	89	90.5	83.8	93
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	62	63	99	64	63	98
Other	71	80	81	114	67	81	121
Commercial	66	67	68	103	65	67	104
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .. 1,000	3.9	4.8	4.0	103	8.7	8.8	101
Other	0.8	0.8	0.8	98	1.7	1.6	92
Commercial	4.7	5.6	4.7	102	10.4	10.3	100

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 2014	January 2015	February 2015	February 2015 as % of 2014
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	0.7	0.6	0.6	82
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	32.2	37.5	35.3	110
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	0.3	96
California	129.2	113.7	103.9	80
Colorado	164.3	167.0	160.4	98
Delaware-Maryland	2.4	2.5	2.5	105
Florida	7.7	7.7	6.4	83
Georgia	12.0	10.1	9.5	80
Hawaii	0.7	0.8	0.8	112
Idaho	3.2	3.6	3.4	105
Illinois	236.3	276.1	253.6	107
Indiana	138.5	153.8	143.4	104
Iowa	535.1	609.1	568.9	106
Kansas	363.3	410.0	370.6	102
Kentucky	40.5	46.9	43.3	107
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.4	90
Michigan	38.3	37.4	34.1	89
Minnesota	203.0	227.9	207.6	102
Mississippi	0.8	0.4	0.4	54
Missouri	148.1	170.0	152.6	103
Montana	0.9	0.8	0.8	93
Nebraska	510.3	618.5	548.2	107
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	120
New England ¹	1.2	1.5	1.2	100
New Jersey	3.3	3.3	3.4	102
New Mexico	0.2	0.3	0.3	129
New York	2.6	2.8	2.5	96
North Carolina	196.0	217.8	205.1	105
North Dakota	0.8	0.7	0.7	95
Ohio	21.0	21.0	20.1	95
Oklahoma	84.3	102.1	96.4	114
Oregon	5.6	6.3	5.8	105
Pennsylvania	94.2	111.2	101.0	107
South Carolina	18.0	20.7	17.1	95
South Dakota	90.7	101.7	90.2	100
Tennessee	16.5	20.6	17.8	108
Texas	307.7	335.0	304.2	99
Utah	37.0	38.9	35.2	95
Virginia	46.2	47.3	38.5	83
Washington	63.2	66.7	62.8	99
West Virginia	0.5	0.6	0.4	94
Wisconsin	94.8	92.5	81.1	86
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	100
United States	3,652.3	4,087.0	3,731.5	102

(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 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.5	0.4	501	390	1,033	1,038
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	41.3	44.0	55,187	59,420	1,339	1,353
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	421	373	964	1,011
California	128.6	96.1	168,638	125,461	1,320	1,318
Colorado	184.9	178.7	253,380	246,324	1,372	1,379
Delaware-Maryland	2.6	2.6	3,268	3,435	1,275	1,317
Florida	(D)	9.6	(D)	11,921	(D)	1,258
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.8	0.9	955	1,044	1,131	1,170
Idaho	2.1	2.8	2,279	3,155	1,166	1,204
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.0	2.6	3,221	2,794	1,066	1,066
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	426.6	423.2	562,989	572,080	1,320	1,352
Kentucky	1.2	0.9	1,183	908	977	1,046
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	403	383	822	920
Michigan	42.8	37.3	58,525	52,067	1,374	1,403
Minnesota	57.7	45.3	82,925	68,320	1,444	1,516
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	59	92	772	831
Missouri	5.7	4.4	6,546	4,824	1,156	1,093
Montana	1.1	0.9	1,286	1,102	1,148	1,204
Nebraska	451.2	478.0	633,410	680,406	1,405	1,425
Nevada	0.1	0.1	85	80	1,048	1,023
New England ¹	1.3	1.3	1,409	1,432	1,073	1,083
New Jersey	2.7	2.4	2,926	2,563	1,089	1,063
New Mexico	0.2	0.3	212	276	972	1,089
New York	2.5	2.3	2,892	2,726	1,154	1,182
North Carolina	5.6	4.2	6,668	5,072	1,207	1,220
North Dakota	1.0	0.9	1,194	1,107	1,245	1,259
Ohio	7.8	6.7	9,105	7,791	1,188	1,179
Oklahoma	2.0	2.0	1,927	2,012	987	987
Oregon	4.6	4.7	5,638	5,679	1,249	1,232
Pennsylvania	69.6	73.1	84,432	89,060	1,218	1,223
South Carolina	11.3	11.1	12,656	13,452	1,130	1,221
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	3.9	3.6	3,366	3,345	867	949
Texas	393.4	380.9	497,912	491,607	1,269	1,294
Utah	43.5	41.8	60,292	56,936	1,388	1,364
Virginia	1.1	0.9	1,164	1,041	1,035	1,097
Washington	78.6	75.9	104,056	102,715	1,328	1,356
West Virginia	0.6	0.5	607	511	1,012	1,086
Wisconsin	109.6	88.7	150,800	122,996	1,384	1,395
Wyoming	0.6	0.6	656	649	1,076	1,119
United States	2,244.1	2,170.6	2,978,853	2,934,757	1,330	1,355

(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 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	12.6	7.6	1,182	694	94	92
Colorado	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Georgia	0.1	(Y)	54	(X)	598	(X)
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Illinois	1.1	0.6	465	267	427	434
Indiana	0.6	0.4	165	104	279	278
Iowa	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	0.1	(Y)	48	(X)	501	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	33	35	303	307
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Nebraska	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.4	0.3	62	54	159	168
New Jersey	4.5	4.9	1,881	2,116	417	433
New Mexico	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
New York	6.3	4.1	717	523	115	131
North Carolina	0.1	(Y)	24	(X)	384	(X)
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	9.9	6.5	4,039	2,827	407	433
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.7	0.4	377	213	574	580
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Washington	(D)	0.9	(D)	82	(D)	90
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	6.2	4.6	2,814	2,143	457	463
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	52.1	36.7	13,879	10,685	267	293

(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 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.7	1.5	649	546	382	368
Alaska	0.1	0.1	25	30	295	252
Arizona	0.1	0.1	22	32	236	251
Arkansas	0.7	0.6	178	168	247	263
California	172.3	177.8	42,204	44,943	245	253
Colorado	1.2	1.2	285	263	235	222
Delaware-Maryland	1.4	1.6	386	429	269	270
Florida	2.8	6.3	518	785	189	124
Georgia	5.6	5.5	1,369	1,303	244	239
Hawaii	0.9	1.0	212	246	249	256
Idaho	10.5	8.6	2,682	2,320	256	270
Illinois	832.7	897.8	238,485	259,235	287	289
Indiana	645.1	665.7	179,119	185,891	278	279
Iowa	2,355.8	2,468.9	669,161	705,949	284	286
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.1	0.9	228	218	207	231
Michigan	15.3	13.7	6,190	5,192	405	378
Minnesota	787.0	836.2	213,482	228,757	271	274
Mississippi	4.0	3.4	1,060	490	268	143
Missouri	667.3	686.0	190,808	198,307	286	289
Montana	0.8	0.8	170	194	222	243
Nebraska	575.8	636.4	160,366	178,262	279	280
Nevada	(Y)	0.1	(X)	26	(X)	257
New England ¹	1.6	1.5	408	364	257	247
New Jersey	6.7	8.9	651	867	98	97
New Mexico	0.1	0.2	27	51	274	280
New York	2.4	2.5	549	591	227	234
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.3	0.3	85	99	271	290
Ohio	71.1	72.6	20,412	20,221	287	279
Oklahoma	377.6	444.8	108,753	124,839	288	281
Oregon	13.0	13.1	3,314	3,553	256	270
Pennsylvania	211.9	236.1	57,426	62,919	271	267
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	48.9	53.5	22,042	24,116	451	452
Texas	22.9	24.9	5,866	6,168	257	248
Utah	3.1	3.5	699	540	222	155
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.4	0.5	98	153	254	301
Wisconsin	49.3	49.1	21,758	22,164	442	452
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	47	57	259	259
United States	8,667.7	9,076.8	2,452,682	2,586,849	283	285

(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 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.2	0.3	31	38	133	126
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	5	5	97	94
California	22.4	23.3	3,181	3,434	142	147
Colorado	75.1	68.3	11,658	11,018	155	161
Delaware-Maryland	3.1	3.0	307	295	99	99
Florida	0.6	0.5	36	31	64	64
Georgia	0.8	0.3	53	27	65	79
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	9	13	136	133
Idaho	0.1	0.1	14	19	139	140
Illinois	11.5	(D)	1,712	(D)	149	(D)
Indiana	3.4	2.8	389	330	116	116
Iowa	0.1	0.2	16	23	139	116
Kansas	0.3	0.4	28	32	105	82
Kentucky	0.9	0.8	101	101	119	121
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	33	26	92	69
Michigan	14.0	15.4	1,926	2,122	138	138
Minnesota	0.3	0.4	30	38	111	108
Mississippi	0.3	0.3	21	21	74	76
Missouri	0.5	0.8	63	67	115	87
Montana	0.3	0.3	35	35	131	125
Nebraska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	10	(X)	126
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	1.7	1.8	162	192	96	106
New Jersey	7.6	7.7	618	593	81	77
New Mexico	0.7	0.7	104	106	146	148
New York	3.0	3.6	300	380	101	105
North Carolina	0.8	0.7	56	48	71	71
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	0.8	0.8	81	85	106	105
Oklahoma	0.1	0.2	8	15	97	81
Oregon	2.1	2.3	285	340	136	148
Pennsylvania	4.2	4.0	420	438	101	110
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	21	32	130	156
Tennessee	0.9	0.6	59	44	68	75
Texas	7.2	8.6	777	891	108	103
Utah	(D)	1.9	(D)	254	(D)	137
Virginia	0.3	0.3	23	25	93	95
Washington	0.7	0.9	101	121	137	134
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.7	0.6	90	75	129	125
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	10	18	139	139
United States	167.9	164.7	23,165	23,215	138	141

(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 2014	January 2015	February 2015	January to February		February 2014	January 2015	February 2015	January to February	
				2014	2015				2014	2015
Cattle	(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)
Steers	1,097	1,209	1,055	2,397	2,264	49.8	50.9	49.4	49.5	50.2
Heifers	635	649	627	1,386	1,277	28.8	27.3	29.4	28.7	28.3
All cows	435	481	422	975	903	19.7	20.2	19.8	20.1	20.0
Dairy cows	237	275	242	507	518	10.7	11.6	11.4	10.5	11.5
Other cows	199	205	180	468	386	9.0	8.6	8.4	9.7	8.5
Bulls	38	38	30	80	68	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.5
Total	2,204	2,377	2,134	4,838	4,511	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	51	39	36	114	75	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	8,366	9,435	8,775	17,825	18,210	97.2	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.3
Sows	217	235	222	457	457	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4
Boars	26	28	20	54	49	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Total	8,609	9,698	9,018	18,335	18,716	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9	9	8	20	16	6.0	5.7	5.1	6.1	5.4
Lambs and yearlings	146	144	142	303	286	94.0	94.3	94.9	93.9	94.6
Total	155	153	150	322	303	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 2014	January 2015	February 2015	January to February	
				2014	2015
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle					
Steers ¹	801	817	819	803	818
Heifers ¹	866	884	880	869	882
All cows ¹	804	814	817	806	815
Bulls ¹	627	642	663	625	652
	883	912	918	878	914
Calves and vealers	157	172	173	152	172
Hogs	213	216	215	213	215
Barrows and gilts ²	211	214	212	211	213
Sows ²	304	305	306	303	306
Boars ²	203	201	202	203	201
Sheep	70	72	72	70	72
Mature sheep ³	66	69	66	65	67
Lambs and yearlings ³	71	72	72	71	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 2015

[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	0.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.3
2	4.6	1.3	1.0	2.0	1.6	0.4	0.4	8.9
3	74.6	18.8	6.0	47.9	38.8	9.1	2.0	6.7
4	43.0	2.8	1.1	34.1	12.9	21.3	5.0	0.1
5	237.7	114.3	24.5	92.4	57.8	34.6	6.4	11.3
6	379.4	199.0	105.0	68.7	32.9	35.8	6.6	0.3
7	940.1	500.2	368.0	66.6	4.3	62.3	5.3	(D)
8	230.2	122.7	90.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
9	140.6	52.9	8.9	77.0	70.4	6.6	1.9	7.5
10	82.7	42.5	21.5	18.0	15.1	2.8	0.7	0.9
United States	2,134.2	1,054.9	627.1	422.3	242.3	180.0	29.8	36.1
Hogs								
	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	1.2	1.2	(Y)	(Y)	1.8	0.1	1.7	
2	11.3	11.2	0.1	(Y)	10.9	1.0	9.9	
3	405.9	404.9	0.9	(Y)	7.8	1.1	6.7	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.7	3.1	0.7	2.5	
5	2,509.8	2,399.2	106.6	4.0	27.7	1.9	25.9	
6	465.4	465.0	0.4	0.1	3.4	0.6	2.8	
7	3,804.6	3,737.5	51.6	15.5	0.7	(Y)	0.7	
8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	70.0	1.7	68.3	
9	174.6	174.6	(Y)	(Y)	22.1	0.5	21.6	
10	22.9	22.9	(Y)	(Y)	2.4	0.2	2.2	
United States	9,017.7	8,775.2	222.0	20.5	149.9	7.7	142.2	

(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 2015

[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	2.6	1.1	0.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.6
2	9.9	2.8	1.9	4.3	3.4	0.9	0.9	18.1
3	159.7	39.8	11.4	103.6	83.9	19.7	4.9	14.4
4	97.7	5.6	2.6	78.4	28.7	49.7	11.1	0.2
5	505.2	236.5	58.3	195.9	123.3	72.7	14.5	24.9
6	799.9	410.7	223.7	150.5	67.6	82.9	15.0	0.5
7	1,990.2	1,098.1	749.8	130.1	8.7	121.4	12.2	(D)
8	474.6	275.2	161.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
9	299.7	106.6	21.9	167.0	150.9	16.1	4.2	14.8
10	171.3	87.2	44.7	38.0	32.1	5.9	1.3	2.0
United States	4,510.7	2,263.5	1,276.5	903.2	517.6	385.5	67.5	75.4
Hogs								
Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	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)	(1,000 head)
1	2.9	2.8	0.1	(Y)	3.9	0.2	3.7	
2	21.3	21.1	0.2	(Y)	22.0	2.0	20.0	
3	859.1	857.3	1.7	0.1	15.7	2.5	13.2	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	7.6	6.9	1.6	5.3	
5	5,213.2	4,987.4	217.1	8.7	56.6	4.0	52.6	
6	957.3	956.2	0.6	0.5	6.3	1.1	5.2	
7	7,905.5	7,768.6	105.2	31.8	1.5	(Y)	1.4	
8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	141.3	3.7	137.6	
9	348.4	348.3	0.1	(Y)	43.8	1.0	42.8	
10	47.8	47.7	0.1	(Y)	4.9	0.5	4.4	
United States	18,716.1	18,210.2	457.1	48.8	302.9	16.5	286.5	

(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 2014	January 2015	February 2015	January to February	
				2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.2	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3
Calves	98.7	98.5	98.4	98.8	98.5
Hogs	99.3	99.4	99.3	99.3	99.4
Sheep	92.6	91.8	91.0	92.5	91.4

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 (NFI head kill) X (live weight) X (FI dressing percentage) = 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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