



Livestock Slaughter

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Commercial Veal Production Continues Trend of Monthly Record Lows

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

October 2015 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.31 billion pounds in October, down slightly from the 4.32 billion pounds produced in October 2014.

Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.51 million head, down 5 percent from October 2014. The average live weight was up 35 pounds from the previous year, at 1,390 pounds.

Veal production totaled 7.2 million pounds, 7 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 40,300 head, down 7 percent from October 2014. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year, at 305 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.17 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.25 million head, up 3 percent from October 2014. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 283 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.0 million pounds, was down 11 percent from October 2014. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,300 head, 10 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, unchanged from October a year ago.

January to October 2015 commercial red meat production was 40.1 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2014.

Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was down 15 percent, pork was up 7 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

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Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States	4
Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States.....	4
Livestock Slaughter, Number of Head and Average Live Weight – United States	5
Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States	6
Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: October 2014 and 2015.....	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: October 2014 and 2015	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: October 2014 and 2015	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: October 2014 and 2015.....	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: October 2015.....	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to October 2015	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	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	October 2015 as % of		January to October		
				October 2014	September 2015	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,171.1	2,085.7	2,125.3	98	102	20,400.7	19,709.8	97
Veal	7.8	6.8	7.2	93	105	79.8	67.6	85
Pork	2,126.4	2,035.5	2,168.9	102	107	18,838.8	20,212.0	107
Lamb and mutton	13.4	12.2	12.0	89	98	130.8	125.3	96
Total red meat	4,318.6	4,140.3	4,313.3	100	104	39,450.1	40,114.7	102

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	October 2015 as % of		January to October		
				October 2014	September 2015	2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,138.6	2,060.2	2,096.5	98	102	20,134.8	19,463.3	97
Veal	7.6	6.7	7.1	93	105	78.4	66.5	85
Pork	2,113.7	2,022.1	2,155.5	102	107	18,726.2	20,092.0	107
Lamb and mutton	12.3	11.0	10.9	89	99	121.8	115.7	95
Total red meat	4,272.1	4,100.1	4,270.0	100	104	39,061.2	39,737.5	102

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

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

Species	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	October 2015 as % of 2014	January to October		
					2014	2015	2015 as % of 2014
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,590.5	2,434.7	2,469.3	95	25,076.5	23,624.3	94
Other 1,000	49.3	38.4	43.6	88	407.1	370.4	91
Commercial 1,000	2,639.9	2,473.1	2,513.0	95	25,483.6	23,994.7	94
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,359	1,386	1,394	103	1,327	1,358	102
Other pounds	1,151	1,161	1,156	100	1,148	1,161	101
Commercial pounds	1,355	1,383	1,390	103	1,324	1,355	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	42.6	36.8	39.6	93	480.1	362.8	76
Other 1,000	0.7	0.5	0.6	85	6.8	5.7	84
Commercial 1,000	43.3	37.2	40.3	93	486.9	368.5	76
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	303	311	303	100	278	311	112
Other pounds	394	410	401	102	380	384	101
Commercial pounds	304	312	305	100	279	312	112
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,880.3	9,651.8	10,172.4	103	87,580.4	94,623.8	108
Other 1,000	71.1	74.7	74.0	104	635.3	667.9	105
Commercial 1,000	9,951.4	9,726.5	10,246.5	103	88,215.7	95,291.7	108
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	286	280	284	99	285	283	99
Other pounds	245	248	249	102	243	246	101
Commercial pounds	286	280	283	99	285	283	99
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	186.8	166.7	166.3	89	1,764.4	1,652.8	94
Other 1,000	20.6	24.1	20.0	97	172.7	183.1	106
Commercial 1,000	207.4	190.8	186.3	90	1,937.1	1,835.9	95
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	132	132	131	99	138	140	102
Other pounds	107	107	109	103	107	108	100
Commercial pounds	129	128	129	100	135	137	101
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	43.9	40.4	36.5	83	401.9	363.4	90
Other 1,000	13.5	20.5	17.4	129	122.9	121.5	99
Commercial 1,000	57.5	60.9	53.9	94	524.8	484.9	92
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	63	62	62	98	64	62	98
Other pounds	80	81	75	94	74	81	109
Commercial pounds	67	68	66	99	66	67	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.4	4.2	4.2	96	43.5	43.4	100
Other 1,000	0.8	0.7	0.7	84	7.2	7.3	101
Commercial 1,000	5.2	4.9	4.9	94	50.7	50.7	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	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	October 2015 as % of 2014
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.1	0.7	0.8	76
Alaska	0.1	0.1	0.1	100
Arizona	38.1	36.6	38.2	100
Arkansas	0.5	0.4	0.5	101
California	120.2	111.6	116.6	97
Colorado	199.3	189.6	194.2	97
Delaware-Maryland	2.7	2.9	3.0	114
Florida	8.1	7.4	7.6	94
Georgia	11.9	10.9	11.0	93
Hawaii	0.8	0.7	0.7	83
Idaho	4.0	4.4	4.4	109
Illinois	278.1	273.1	288.3	104
Indiana	163.7	151.0	164.7	101
Iowa	623.1	563.1	600.0	96
Kansas	437.9	450.8	452.8	103
Kentucky	46.4	46.0	46.8	101
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.5	121
Michigan	39.5	39.2	40.4	102
Minnesota	230.6	220.8	230.4	100
Mississippi	0.4	0.4	0.5	121
Missouri	172.0	164.5	169.2	98
Montana	2.0	1.2	2.0	96
Nebraska	686.7	673.9	687.7	100
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	99
New England ¹	2.4	2.2	2.3	97
New Jersey	3.6	3.8	3.6	99
New Mexico	0.4	0.3	0.4	90
New York	3.3	3.4	3.4	102
North Carolina	208.3	182.7	210.2	101
North Dakota	0.8	0.6	0.7	91
Ohio	25.9	23.1	19.8	76
Oklahoma	98.9	103.9	110.1	111
Oregon	7.1	6.5	6.7	94
Pennsylvania	124.2	113.8	124.9	101
South Carolina	22.4	19.9	19.9	89
South Dakota	99.5	100.5	107.6	108
Tennessee	24.6	25.0	27.3	111
Texas	369.2	364.8	368.9	100
Utah	42.6	40.8	40.8	96
Virginia	43.3	39.2	44.1	102
Washington	78.4	72.9	75.9	97
West Virginia	1.0	0.7	0.9	83
Wisconsin	94.7	85.9	85.0	90
Wyoming	0.3	0.4	0.2	71
United States	4,318.6	4,140.3	4,313.3	100

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

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: October 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (pounds)	2015 (pounds)
Alabama	0.6	0.4	581	401	983	1,078
Alaska	0.1	0.1	105	89	1,093	1,016
Arizona	46.1	45.0	62,830	63,518	1,366	1,415
Arkansas	0.6	0.5	539	520	966	991
California	105.0	104.1	137,793	141,098	1,325	1,367
Colorado	217.4	207.0	303,883	297,110	1,399	1,436
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	3.2	3,688	4,360	1,286	1,350
Florida	(D)	12.3	(D)	14,976	(D)	1,225
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.9	0.8	1,049	857	1,143	1,140
Idaho	3.0	3.4	3,331	4,021	1,169	1,242
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.9	3.2	4,102	3,589	1,065	1,106
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	497.6	492.4	676,939	694,937	1,361	1,412
Kentucky	1.5	1.4	1,537	1,373	1,030	1,001
Louisiana	0.6	0.6	433	533	764	921
Michigan	44.3	43.8	60,388	60,728	1,373	1,395
Minnesota	54.7	40.7	79,287	59,435	1,456	1,469
Mississippi	0.1	0.3	114	229	847	870
Missouri	5.8	3.7	6,229	4,098	1,083	1,098
Montana	2.6	2.4	2,908	2,768	1,132	1,133
Nebraska	608.7	594.5	873,226	872,919	1,436	1,470
Nevada	0.2	0.2	169	167	1,019	1,023
New England ¹	2.5	2.4	2,616	2,628	1,061	1,094
New Jersey	2.5	2.2	2,690	2,518	1,094	1,123
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	471	421	1,001	1,065
New York	3.3	3.0	3,599	3,466	1,120	1,158
North Carolina	6.6	5.0	7,993	6,053	1,218	1,215
North Dakota	1.0	0.8	1,169	1,036	1,229	1,269
Ohio	9.8	8.1	11,348	9,274	1,168	1,158
Oklahoma	1.8	2.2	1,867	2,255	1,015	1,007
Oregon	6.4	5.9	7,680	7,206	1,217	1,243
Pennsylvania	93.6	86.4	112,179	104,046	1,203	1,209
South Carolina	16.0	15.4	18,787	18,437	1,183	1,206
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	5.3	4.8	4,654	4,389	904	935
Texas	461.6	448.4	596,910	592,693	1,296	1,325
Utah	50.6	46.5	68,796	64,833	1,360	1,399
Virginia	1.4	1.3	1,435	1,402	1,029	1,042
Washington	93.8	87.2	127,628	123,260	1,364	1,418
West Virginia	1.5	1.3	1,420	1,172	927	905
Wisconsin	105.6	99.2	145,103	136,502	1,381	1,385
Wyoming	0.3	0.2	339	223	1,094	1,174
United States	2,639.9	2,513.0	3,570,158	3,485,167	1,355	1,390

(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: October 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (pounds)	2015 (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	8.5	9.7	818	881	98	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	0.1	65	42	581	527
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Illinois	0.6	(Y)	262	(X)	429	(X)
Indiana	0.4	0.4	121	103	285	236
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)	25	(X)	500	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	34	36	302	284
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	0.5	0.2	72	34	150	148
New Jersey	5.1	5.2	2,192	2,318	431	442
New Mexico	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
New York	4.8	2.8	644	484	136	175
North Carolina	0.1	(Y)	25	(X)	447	(X)
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	0.1	(Y)	23	(X)	460	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	7.7	7.9	3,281	3,447	428	436
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.4	0.4	268	202	600	490
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	0.1	27	41	452	495
Washington	(D)	0.6	(D)	41	(D)	67
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	6.4	5.2	2,919	2,533	458	487
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	43.3	40.3	13,088	12,181	304	305

(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: October 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (pounds)	2015 (pounds)
Alabama	2.7	2.3	1,082	870	400	385
Alaska	0.1	0.1	16	34	261	275
Arizona	0.2	0.2	41	46	262	264
Arkansas	0.8	0.8	213	204	254	260
California	228.6	207.3	58,326	51,211	255	247
Colorado	1.2	1.7	286	410	237	239
Delaware-Maryland	1.5	1.5	384	383	252	260
Florida	2.7	3.2	518	504	191	156
Georgia	6.2	6.2	1,532	1,490	247	241
Hawaii	1.3	1.0	299	241	232	251
Idaho	11.1	11.4	2,932	2,926	265	258
Illinois	969.5	1,022.5	279,936	292,690	289	286
Indiana	758.7	769.3	213,172	214,379	281	279
Iowa	2,707.3	2,768.7	775,621	782,522	287	283
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.0	1.2	221	271	217	236
Michigan	15.6	17.6	6,400	7,191	410	410
Minnesota	913.5	979.7	251,702	267,408	276	273
Mississippi	3.2	3.2	485	523	152	162
Missouri	762.6	765.8	223,787	222,478	294	291
Montana	1.7	1.6	360	384	216	240
Nebraska	667.3	683.9	189,464	191,532	284	280
Nevada	0.1	0.1	22	22	252	263
New England ¹	3.5	3.3	892	853	257	262
New Jersey	9.0	9.1	858	860	96	94
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	74	89	274	277
New York	3.7	4.8	898	1,223	246	254
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.5	0.6	141	150	299	269
Ohio	88.1	61.7	24,888	18,556	283	301
Oklahoma	467.5	531.9	129,041	143,693	276	270
Oregon	14.1	13.7	3,748	3,523	266	258
Pennsylvania	276.4	298.4	75,346	82,371	273	276
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	73.2	82.2	32,991	37,291	451	454
Texas	23.6	27.0	5,846	6,528	248	242
Utah	4.1	4.9	626	871	154	179
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.9	0.8	272	232	301	291
Wisconsin	53.4	40.5	24,484	17,257	459	427
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	47	52	249	291
United States	9,951.4	10,246.5	2,842,015	2,902,509	286	283

(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: October 2014 and 2015

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	2014 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2014 (pounds)	2015 (pounds)
Alabama	0.1	(Y)	8	(X)	100	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.3	0.3	40	39	123	131
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	8	6	88	119
California	23.9	21.3	3,090	2,818	129	132
Colorado	88.9	76.8	13,151	11,272	148	147
Delaware-Maryland	4.2	3.6	403	349	97	97
Florida	0.5	0.6	29	39	63	63
Georgia	1.4	1.0	92	60	66	61
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	13	18	126	135
Idaho	0.3	0.4	34	43	125	122
Illinois	11.8	(D)	1,547	(D)	131	(D)
Indiana	5.2	3.6	579	403	112	113
Iowa	0.4	0.4	63	69	171	183
Kansas	0.6	0.5	57	49	96	101
Kentucky	1.3	1.3	158	153	122	116
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	27	33	73	77
Michigan	16.9	17.8	2,247	2,373	133	134
Minnesota	0.6	0.7	56	65	99	99
Mississippi	0.3	0.3	21	15	61	56
Missouri	1.0	0.8	97	80	101	94
Montana	0.7	0.7	91	71	131	105
Nebraska	0.1	(Y)	12	(X)	118	(X)
Nevada	0.1	0.1	14	13	118	109
New England ¹	4.0	3.3	383	320	95	98
New Jersey	9.2	9.7	750	766	82	79
New Mexico	0.9	0.6	122	80	140	139
New York	5.2	4.8	486	511	94	106
North Carolina	2.2	1.2	147	89	68	77
North Dakota	0.1	0.1	7	7	113	131
Ohio	1.6	1.4	165	156	103	111
Oklahoma	0.3	0.3	29	34	103	129
Oregon	3.4	3.0	457	397	135	132
Pennsylvania	5.6	5.0	567	532	102	106
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.4	0.4	56	61	159	159
Tennessee	1.2	0.9	88	69	71	73
Texas	8.1	9.6	870	945	107	98
Utah	(D)	2.0	(D)	271	(D)	137
Virginia	0.7	0.3	62	31	95	92
Washington	1.2	1.3	152	163	122	124
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.1	1.6	126	226	114	137
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	11	8	135	155
United States	207.4	186.3	26,759	23,942	129	129

(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	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	January to October		October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	January to October	
				2014	2015				2014	2015
	(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	1,306.3	1,388.4	1,335.3	13,081.0	12,860.3	50.4	57.0	54.1	52.2	54.4
Heifers	766.1	564.6	638.8	7,045.0	6,113.3	29.6	23.2	25.9	28.1	25.9
All cows	467.9	437.5	453.2	4,487.3	4,260.2	18.1	18.0	18.4	17.9	18.0
Dairy cows	251.8	251.8	256.5	2,340.9	2,429.0	9.7	10.3	10.4	9.3	10.3
Other cows	216.1	185.8	196.7	2,146.4	1,831.2	8.3	7.6	8.0	8.6	7.8
Bulls	50.2	44.2	42.0	463.2	390.5	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.7
Total	2,590.5	2,434.7	2,469.3	25,076.5	23,624.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	42.6	36.8	39.6	480.1	362.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,588.4	9,385.1	9,904.0	84,986.9	92,003.7	97.0	97.2	97.4	97.0	97.2
Sows	259.9	244.3	245.0	2,309.7	2,383.4	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.5
Boars	32.0	22.4	23.5	283.8	236.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Total	9,880.3	9,651.8	10,172.4	87,580.4	94,623.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	13.2	10.8	9.6	116.0	94.7	7.1	6.5	5.8	6.6	5.7
Lambs and yearlings	173.6	155.9	156.7	1,648.4	1,558.1	92.9	93.5	94.2	93.4	94.3
Total	186.8	166.7	166.3	1,764.4	1,652.8	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	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	January to October	
				2014	2015
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	827	848	851	805	826
Steers ¹	900	920	926	867	888
Heifers ¹	822	829	846	796	813
All cows ¹	625	637	630	627	646
Bulls ¹	893	910	895	899	920
Calves and vealers	180	184	180	164	184
Hogs	214	210	212	214	212
Barrows and gilts ²	212	207	210	211	210
Sows ²	306	307	311	305	309
Boars ²	205	203	199	205	204
Sheep	66	66	66	69	70
Mature sheep ³	65	69	66	66	68
Lambs and yearlings ³	66	66	66	69	70

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: October 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	2.1	1.1	0.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.2
2	5.1	1.7	0.8	2.1	1.7	0.4	0.4	8.0
3	88.4	24.5	3.4	55.7	45.6	10.2	4.7	8.2
4	56.2	3.5	0.9	46.0	14.9	31.1	5.7	0.2
5	259.9	121.5	28.3	100.7	69.9	30.8	9.4	11.1
6	446.8	242.9	116.7	80.3	29.1	51.2	6.9	0.4
7	1,101.2	673.8	365.9	52.5	2.0	50.5	8.9	(D)
8	264.7	161.5	85.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
9	149.4	57.0	10.4	79.4	69.1	10.4	2.6	9.5
10	95.5	47.7	26.6	20.0	15.5	4.4	1.3	2.0
United States	2,469.3	1,335.3	638.8	453.2	256.5	196.7	42.0	39.6
	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	2.8	2.8	(Y)	(Y)	3.0	0.2	2.8	
2	13.6	13.5	0.1	(Y)	14.1	1.4	12.7	
3	497.2	496.1	1.1	(Y)	9.3	1.0	8.3	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.8	5.2	1.0	4.2	
5	2,858.8	2,749.5	105.5	3.8	29.0	2.7	26.3	
6	554.0	553.9	(Y)	(Y)	2.8	0.3	2.5	
7	4,235.3	4,162.4	54.2	18.7	0.8	(Y)	0.8	
8	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.1	78.6	2.2	76.5	
9	204.6	204.5	(Y)	(Y)	20.1	0.8	19.3	
10	25.2	25.1	(Y)	(Y)	3.5	0.1	3.3	
United States	10,172.4	9,904.0	245.0	23.5	166.3	9.6	156.7	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

¹ States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8- Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to October 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)	(1,000 head)
1	16.0	6.6	4.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	2.5
2	54.5	16.7	9.6	22.6	19.8	2.7	5.7	79.1
3	812.4	228.9	49.1	498.4	403.2	95.2	36.0	73.7
4	525.9	30.3	13.5	424.9	146.0	278.9	57.2	1.5
5	2,529.4	1,234.2	266.0	947.7	626.5	321.2	81.4	114.8
6	4,233.7	2,301.1	1,135.9	722.7	307.3	415.4	74.1	2.5
7	10,580.2	6,371.9	3,579.3	549.0	35.7	513.4	80.0	(D)
8	2,528.9	1,627.2	725.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
9	1,431.4	550.9	109.9	744.5	656.8	87.7	26.1	75.0
10	911.7	492.4	220.2	187.2	143.7	43.5	12.0	13.5
United States	23,624.3	12,860.3	6,113.3	4,260.2	2,429.0	1,831.2	390.5	362.8
	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	21.0	20.3	0.4	0.2	28.0	1.3	26.7	
2	118.1	116.6	1.2	0.3	148.2	12.9	135.3	
3	4,456.5	4,447.2	8.8	0.6	94.6	9.8	84.8	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	16.4	56.1	10.9	45.2	
5	26,584.6	25,411.0	1,133.7	39.9	297.3	26.4	270.8	
6	4,942.6	4,940.1	1.8	0.7	31.5	4.5	27.1	
7	39,759.1	39,015.9	565.0	178.2	8.1	0.3	7.8	
8	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.2	726.4	19.1	707.3	
9	1,863.7	1,863.3	0.3	0.1	231.1	6.9	224.2	
10	254.5	254.1	0.3	0.1	31.6	2.6	28.9	
United States	94,623.8	92,003.7	2,383.4	236.7	1,652.8	94.7	1,558.1	

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

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	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	January to October	
				2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.1	98.4	98.3	98.4	98.5
Calves	98.3	98.8	98.4	98.6	98.5
Hogs	99.3	99.2	99.3	99.3	99.3
Sheep	90.1	87.4	89.3	91.1	90.0

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 approximately 800 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 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
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 720-3240
Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
David Colwell – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-8784
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Michael Klamm – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278

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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