



Livestock Slaughter

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Record High Pork Production for March

March 2015 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2016 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.26 billion pounds in March, up 5 percent from the 4.07 billion pounds produced in March 2015.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.53 million head, up 6 percent from March 2015. The average live weight was up 23 pounds from the previous year, at 1,370 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.4 million pounds, 8 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 35,900 head, down 10 percent from March 2015. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from last year, at 302 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.15 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.09 million head, up 2 percent from March 2015. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 284 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.3 million pounds, was down slightly from March 2015. Sheep slaughter totaled 205,900 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

January to March 2016 commercial red meat production was 12.2 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2015.

Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	March 2016 as % of		January to March		
				March 2015	February 2016	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	1,933.3	1,885.0	2,096.0	108	111	5,664.8	5,934.6	105
Veal	6.9	6.1	6.4	92	104	20.0	19.2	96
Pork	2,111.8	2,000.6	2,145.1	102	107	6,161.5	6,229.8	101
Lamb and mutton	14.3	12.5	14.3	100	114	37.5	38.0	101
Total red meat	4,066.3	3,904.2	4,261.7	105	109	11,883.9	12,221.5	103

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	March 2016 as % of		January to March		
				March 2015	February 2016	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	1,907.2	1,859.7	2,069.5	109	111	5,588.1	5,857.0	105
Veal	6.8	6.0	6.2	92	104	19.7	18.8	96
Pork	2,099.1	1,988.7	2,131.8	102	107	6,127.3	6,193.2	101
Lamb and mutton	13.5	11.6	13.2	98	114	35.3	35.1	100
Total red meat	4,026.6	3,866.0	4,220.8	105	109	11,770.3	12,104.1	103

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

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

Species	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	March 2016 as % of 2015	January to March		
					2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,341.5	2,251.8	2,492.9	106	6,852.5	7,064.6	103
Other 1,000	39.6	37.8	39.5	100	116.3	116.0	100
Commercial 1,000	2,381.0	2,289.6	2,532.3	106	6,968.8	7,180.5	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,351	1,375	1,373	102	1,357	1,378	102
Other pounds	1,155	1,176	1,168	101	1,158	1,172	101
Commercial pounds	1,347	1,372	1,370	102	1,354	1,374	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	39.2	35.8	35.2	90	114.6	112.2	98
Other 1,000	0.6	0.7	0.7	119	1.8	1.9	106
Commercial 1,000	39.8	36.5	35.9	90	116.4	114.1	98
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	294	285	301	102	292	286	98
Other pounds	354	382	354	100	365	368	101
Commercial pounds	295	287	302	102	293	287	98
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,817.6	9,363.7	10,015.4	102	28,533.7	29,061.3	102
Other 1,000	69.9	64.4	71.2	102	189.7	198.0	104
Commercial 1,000	9,887.5	9,428.1	10,086.6	102	28,723.5	29,259.3	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	285	284	284	100	286	284	100
Other pounds	248	252	254	103	247	253	103
Commercial pounds	285	283	284	100	286	284	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	190.0	159.9	187.5	99	492.9	491.8	100
Other 1,000	15.2	15.9	18.4	121	43.2	51.2	119
Commercial 1,000	205.2	175.8	205.9	100	536.1	543.1	101
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	142	145	141	99	143	142	100
Other pounds	112	119	117	104	109	115	106
Commercial pounds	139	142	138	99	140	140	100
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	38.2	32.5	38.1	100	101.4	101.7	100
Other 1,000	10.8	8.7	10.3	96	30.4	29.0	95
Commercial 1,000	49.0	41.2	48.4	99	131.9	130.6	99
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	63	62	62	98	63	62	98
Other pounds	80	87	87	108	81	83	103
Commercial pounds	67	67	67	100	67	67	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.6	4.3	4.9	105	13.4	13.4	100
Other 1,000	1.1	0.7	0.8	70	2.7	2.1	79
Commercial 1,000	5.8	5.0	5.7	98	16.1	15.5	96

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	March 2016 as % of 2015
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	0.8	0.7	0.9	110
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
Arizona	35.9	41.5	43.9	122
Arkansas	0.4	0.5	0.5	123
California	109.5	113.7	117.5	107
Colorado	175.3	157.3	183.4	105
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	3.1	3.2	111
Florida	7.7	7.8	5.4	70
Georgia	11.0	9.8	11.6	106
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.8	112
Idaho	3.7	4.2	4.4	121
Illinois	279.9	274.1	297.2	106
Indiana	150.9	148.7	159.5	106
Iowa	608.6	564.1	601.6	99
Kansas	412.2	410.9	438.8	106
Kentucky	49.5	44.3	49.7	100
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.5	96
Michigan	37.2	38.6	41.9	113
Minnesota	223.0	204.1	213.5	96
Mississippi	0.6	0.4	0.5	90
Missouri	169.1	159.2	176.0	104
Montana	1.8	0.9	1.0	54
Nebraska	602.6	593.7	671.8	111
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	104
New England ¹	1.5	1.6	1.8	116
New Jersey	4.0	2.9	3.0	75
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	0.2	81
New York	2.6	2.9	3.3	126
North Carolina	227.2	185.6	212.2	93
North Dakota	0.8	0.8	0.9	110
Ohio	23.2	22.3	22.8	98
Oklahoma	97.8	97.2	101.1	103
Oregon	6.5	6.0	6.8	105
Pennsylvania	112.0	118.7	123.0	110
South Carolina	21.3	19.3	21.7	102
South Dakota	104.7	104.6	110.8	106
Tennessee	21.3	20.0	21.4	101
Texas	319.6	312.7	357.1	112
Utah	37.8	38.3	41.8	111
Virginia	45.8	37.7	42.0	92
Washington	66.3	69.9	77.1	116
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	0.6	102
Wisconsin	88.8	83.5	90.0	101
Wyoming	0.4	0.5	0.4	107
United States	4,066.3	3,904.2	4,261.7	105

(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: March 2015 and 2016

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2016 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (pounds)	2016 (pounds)
Alabama	0.5	0.6	577	627	1,084	1,090
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	44.9	53.5	60,496	73,493	1,350	1,378
Arkansas	0.4	0.5	378	479	1,020	1,011
California	100.8	105.3	132,558	141,131	1,326	1,351
Colorado	194.7	198.1	266,732	279,403	1,371	1,412
Delaware-Maryland	3.0	3.4	4,058	4,563	1,342	1,363
Florida	11.7	8.1	14,676	10,265	1,266	1,272
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.8	1.0	955	1,136	1,144	1,195
Idaho	2.5	2.9	2,898	3,417	1,231	1,268
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	2.7	2.7	2,884	2,949	1,069	1,105
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	478.8	494.3	637,442	672,738	1,332	1,362
Kentucky	1.3	1.5	1,334	1,535	1,057	1,054
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	442	371	911	882
Michigan	41.0	44.5	56,698	63,066	1,392	1,425
Minnesota	48.9	(D)	74,167	(D)	1,523	(D)
Mississippi	0.3	0.2	252	177	838	897
Missouri	4.6	3.8	5,308	4,271	1,148	1,125
Montana	2.3	1.1	2,560	1,352	1,122	1,207
Nebraska	525.0	599.3	747,446	860,537	1,425	1,437
Nevada	0.1	0.1	106	113	987	1,072
New England ¹	1.5	1.7	1,711	1,968	1,139	1,150
New Jersey	2.8	2.8	3,010	2,992	1,096	1,074
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	323	276	1,096	1,024
New York	2.4	2.9	2,812	3,485	1,183	1,211
North Carolina	5.7	6.0	6,843	7,250	1,210	1,211
North Dakota	1.0	1.1	1,247	1,364	1,281	1,274
Ohio	7.5	5.9	8,710	6,936	1,176	1,178
Oklahoma	2.3	2.9	2,422	3,056	1,051	1,045
Oregon	4.9	(D)	6,081	(D)	1,250	(D)
Pennsylvania	82.7	85.5	101,228	106,238	1,228	1,247
South Carolina	14.7	15.7	17,799	19,634	1,225	1,257
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	5.1	6.0	4,713	5,377	947	932
Texas	404.1	439.0	517,294	575,486	1,283	1,314
Utah	44.6	48.7	61,097	67,504	1,372	1,391
Virginia	0.9	1.1	991	1,213	1,058	1,065
Washington	79.9	92.6	107,955	127,311	1,354	1,378
West Virginia	0.6	0.6	612	644	1,032	1,035
Wisconsin	96.4	103.1	133,145	143,904	1,390	1,404
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	538	574	1,098	1,125
United States	2,381.0	2,532.3	3,201,106	3,462,085	1,347	1,370

(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: March 2015 and 2016

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2016 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (pounds)	2016 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Arizona	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	8.7	7.6	866	687	100	92
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Georgia	(Y)	0.1	(X)	38	(X)	480
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	1.8	(D)	138	(D)	77
Illinois	0.7	0.1	295	24	431	388
Indiana	0.3	0.3	92	114	326	344
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Louisiana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	31	30	301	298
Minnesota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.3	0.2	48	40	174	171
New Jersey	5.5	1.7	2,344	646	428	384
New Mexico	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
New York	4.0	2.5	539	354	138	147
North Carolina	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
North Dakota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Ohio	(D)	5.4	(D)	1,746	(D)	325
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	7.2	8.6	3,059	3,709	427	433
South Carolina	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.4	0.3	215	144	578	472
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(Y)	0.1	(X)	26	(X)	448
Washington	1.2	(D)	88	(D)	74	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	5.3	5.8	2,427	2,816	459	484
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	39.8	35.9	11,679	10,743	295	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: March 2015 and 2016

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2016 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (pounds)	2016 (pounds)
Alabama	1.9	2.3	729	802	377	357
Alaska	0.1	0.2	24	51	247	237
Arizona	0.2	(D)	49	(D)	252	(D)
Arkansas	0.8	0.9	221	244	272	266
California	185.9	210.5	46,753	51,776	252	246
Colorado	1.4	1.6	336	383	244	245
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.7	445	474	267	276
Florida	4.0	3.7	646	620	162	170
Georgia	6.7	5.6	1,646	1,368	246	243
Hawaii	1.0	0.9	256	239	254	257
Idaho	10.7	13.4	2,833	3,430	265	257
Illinois	996.1	1,055.7	286,951	304,320	288	288
Indiana	701.5	740.1	196,056	207,937	280	281
Iowa	2,646.3	2,743.9	753,520	781,002	285	285
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.3	1.5	305	341	226	229
Michigan	15.2	16.7	5,935	6,476	392	388
Minnesota	902.2	885.5	245,259	241,498	272	273
Mississippi	3.3	(D)	531	(D)	161	(D)
Missouri	758.7	803.7	219,990	230,485	290	287
Montana	1.8	0.9	401	244	220	261
Nebraska	686.2	672.2	191,179	189,358	279	282
Nevada	0.1	0.1	28	30	248	268
New England ¹	1.9	2.5	506	676	260	273
New Jersey	8.5	9.9	816	945	96	96
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	63	49	275	271
New York	2.9	4.5	670	1,157	232	258
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.3	0.4	75	107	296	302
Ohio	86.0	87.4	23,864	24,196	278	277
Oklahoma	452.3	470.6	126,430	130,210	280	277
Oregon	15.4	15.9	4,066	4,085	265	257
Pennsylvania	252.7	287.6	67,757	78,165	268	272
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	62.6	60.8	28,259	27,889	452	459
Texas	24.1	24.7	5,837	6,147	243	250
Utah	3.7	4.5	642	817	175	183
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	0.9	(D)	260	(D)	274
West Virginia	0.8	0.9	220	243	277	283
Wisconsin	56.5	41.1	25,507	17,935	453	438
Wyoming	0.3	0.4	84	103	271	286
United States	9,887.5	10,086.6	2,812,224	2,861,706	285	284

(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: March 2015 and 2016

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 pounds)	2016 (1,000 pounds)	2015 (pounds)	2016 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.3	(D)	39	(D)	129	(D)
Arkansas	0.1	(Y)	8	(X)	108	(X)
California	27.5	28.5	3,910	4,131	142	145
Colorado	85.4	79.9	14,064	13,400	165	168
Delaware-Maryland	3.5	3.5	357	348	102	99
Florida	1.3	1.0	87	65	69	62
Georgia	0.6	1.0	43	65	70	62
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	24	30	141	142
Idaho	0.1	0.1	11	15	144	124
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	4.0	4.3	441	472	111	111
Iowa	0.2	0.2	31	28	155	162
Kansas	0.4	0.5	37	44	91	85
Kentucky	1.3	1.7	156	202	121	121
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	41	43	88	100
Michigan	18.0	18.2	2,495	2,530	139	139
Minnesota	0.3	0.3	43	39	125	120
Mississippi	0.3	0.3	24	22	70	64
Missouri	0.7	0.7	73	71	98	95
Montana	0.6	0.3	74	39	123	120
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	10	9	139	135
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	2.9	2.9	264	247	91	85
New Jersey	12.2	12.7	937	956	77	75
New Mexico	0.8	0.7	119	114	148	152
New York	5.7	7.3	507	669	89	92
North Carolina	1.0	1.2	69	87	72	70
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	1.2	1.4	127	155	103	110
Oklahoma	0.4	0.3	42	29	103	100
Oregon	3.3	3.4	483	498	146	145
Pennsylvania	6.1	6.1	603	612	99	100
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.3	34	42	157	160
Tennessee	0.9	0.9	62	64	72	70
Texas	7.5	10.9	851	1,288	113	118
Utah	2.1	2.0	291	289	137	143
Virginia	0.5	0.6	47	61	95	95
Washington	0.7	0.8	90	107	136	131
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.8	1.0	104	138	133	140
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	16	11	147	154
United States	205.2	205.9	28,603	28,493	139	138

(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	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	January to March		March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	January to March	
				2015	2016				2015	2016
	(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	1,178.6	1,157.2	1,315.4	3,442.3	3,687.7	50.3	51.4	52.8	50.2	52.2
Heifers	676.0	617.9	668.4	1,952.7	1,897.4	28.9	27.4	26.8	28.5	26.9
All cows	449.4	444.4	469.3	1,352.6	1,376.0	19.2	19.7	18.8	19.7	19.5
Dairy cows	260.7	256.4	261.8	778.4	783.7	11.1	11.4	10.5	11.4	11.1
Other cows	188.6	188.0	207.5	574.2	592.2	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.4
Bulls	37.5	32.4	39.8	105.0	103.5	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5
Total	2,341.5	2,251.8	2,492.9	6,852.5	7,064.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	39.2	35.8	35.2	114.6	112.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,547.3	9,105.1	9,736.9	27,757.5	28,271.5	97.2	97.2	97.2	97.3	97.3
Sows	247.3	235.5	257.5	704.4	725.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5
Boars	23.0	23.1	21.0	71.9	64.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total	9,817.6	9,363.7	10,015.4	28,533.7	29,061.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9.5	7.8	8.3	26.0	23.2	5.0	4.9	4.4	5.3	4.7
Lambs and yearlings	180.5	152.1	179.2	466.9	468.7	95.0	95.1	95.6	94.7	95.3
Total	190.0	159.9	187.5	492.9	491.8	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	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	January to March	
				2015	2016
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	816	828	832	817	831
Steers ¹	873	891	891	879	894
Heifers ¹	818	830	832	816	832
All cows ¹	656	654	660	653	654
Bulls ¹	927	907	918	919	910
Calves and vealers	174	168	178	173	169
Hogs	214	212	213	215	213
Barrows and gilts ²	211	210	210	213	211
Sows ²	308	308	310	306	310
Boars ²	208	208	214	204	210
Sheep	71	73	70	72	71
Mature sheep ³	67	69	69	67	69
Lambs and yearlings ³	71	73	71	72	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: March 2016

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	1.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
2	5.6	1.6	1.0	2.5	2.3	0.2	0.5	4.1
3	88.3	26.8	4.5	53.8	43.9	9.9	3.2	8.8
4	55.9	2.8	1.2	45.8	15.7	30.0	6.1	0.2
5	267.7	125.8	29.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	11.6
6	437.5	253.6	98.6	77.6	34.4	43.2	7.7	0.2
7	1,108.5	644.7	396.2	59.2	2.6	56.6	8.4	(D)
8	268.5	142.7	97.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
9	159.1	64.6	13.1	78.9	70.5	8.4	2.5	7.4
10	100.3	52.2	25.9	21.3	17.1	4.2	1.0	2.6
United States	2,492.9	1,315.4	668.4	469.3	261.8	207.5	39.8	35.2
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	2.2	2.1	0.1	(Y)	2.8	0.1	2.7	
2	14.2	14.0	0.1	(Y)	19.5	1.5	18.0	
3	480.0	479.0	1.0	(Y)	10.7	0.7	10.0	
4	(D)	(D)	66.7	0.3	6.1	1.0	5.1	
5	2,797.1	2,676.1	116.4	4.6	30.7	2.3	28.4	
6	489.1	489.1	0.1	(Y)	3.8	0.5	3.4	
7	4,238.0	4,149.7	72.3	16.0	0.7	0.1	0.7	
8	(D)	(D)	0.7	(Y)	81.9	1.6	80.3	
9	206.5	206.4	0.1	(Y)	27.6	0.5	27.0	
10	29.9	29.8	(Y)	(Y)	3.8	0.2	3.6	
United States	10,015.4	9,736.9	257.5	21.0	187.5	8.3	179.2	

(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 March 2016

[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	4.3	1.8	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7
2	15.3	4.7	2.8	6.6	6.0	0.5	1.3	16.8
3	247.5	75.2	13.6	151.0	122.4	28.6	7.8	23.6
4	158.9	7.9	3.6	131.5	45.8	85.7	15.9	0.6
5	771.2	364.8	81.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	33.6
6	1,233.8	680.4	293.4	240.0	115.6	124.4	20.0	1.4
7	3,154.2	1,817.6	1,147.4	166.2	7.2	159.0	22.9	(D)
8	735.8	410.8	249.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
9	463.9	181.6	32.9	243.6	220.6	23.0	5.8	27.7
10	279.6	142.7	71.4	62.9	50.1	12.8	2.5	7.8
United States	7,064.6	3,687.7	1,897.4	1,376.0	783.7	592.2	103.5	112.2
	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	6.5	6.2	0.2	(Y)	6.7	0.2	6.4	
2	37.8	37.5	0.3	0.1	45.2	3.9	41.2	
3	1,400.5	1,397.4	3.0	0.1	27.3	2.2	25.1	
4	(D)	(D)	192.1	2.6	15.8	2.6	13.2	
5	8,132.4	7,788.5	331.7	12.1	85.1	6.2	78.9	
6	1,441.9	1,441.6	0.2	0.1	9.9	1.3	8.6	
7	12,259.9	12,015.3	195.3	49.3	1.9	0.1	1.8	
8	(D)	(D)	2.3	(Y)	219.6	4.4	215.2	
9	596.3	596.1	0.2	(Y)	70.5	1.6	68.9	
10	78.8	78.7	0.1	(Y)	10.0	0.8	9.3	
United States	29,061.3	28,271.5	725.4	64.4	491.8	23.2	468.7	

(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, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	March 2015	February 2016	March 2016	January to March	
				2015	2016
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.3	98.3	98.4	98.3	98.4
Calves	98.6	98.1	98.1	98.5	98.3
Hogs	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.3
Sheep	92.6	91.0	91.1	91.9	90.6

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 about 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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