



# Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

---

Released February 22, 2018, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Record High Red Meat and Pork Production for January

**January 2017** contained 22 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**January 2018** contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.59 billion pounds in January, up 7 percent from the 4.29 billion pounds produced in January 2017.

**Beef production**, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.76 million head, up 7 percent from January 2017. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from the previous year, at 1,376 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 6.6 million pounds, 5 percent above January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 49,000 head, 5 percent above January 2017. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 235 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.29 billion pounds, 6 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, 6 percent above January 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 12.5 million pounds, was 2 percent above January 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 176,300 head, slightly below last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, up 4 pounds from January a year ago.

**This page intentionally left blank.**

## Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States .....	4
Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States.....	4
Livestock Slaughter, Number of Head and Average Live Weight – United States .....	5
Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States .....	6
Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018 .....	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018.....	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: January 2018 .....	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter, Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States.....	12
Statistical Methodology .....	13
Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates .....	14
Information Contacts .....	15

## Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January 2018 as % of		January		
				January 2017	December 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,118.3	2,148.0	2,278.0	108	106	2,118.3	2,278.0	108
Veal .....	6.3	6.6	6.6	105	101	6.3	6.6	105
Pork .....	2,154.5	2,235.0	2,289.9	106	102	2,154.5	2,289.9	106
Lamb and mutton .....	12.3	12.8	12.5	102	98	12.3	12.5	102
Total red meat .....	4,291.4	4,402.3	4,587.1	107	104	4,291.4	4,587.1	107

## Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January 2018 as % of		January		
				January 2017	December 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,089.7	2,123.0	2,248.4	108	106	2,089.7	2,248.4	108
Veal .....	6.2	6.4	6.5	105	101	6.2	6.5	105
Pork .....	2,142.1	2,224.1	2,278.7	106	102	2,142.1	2,278.7	106
Lamb and mutton .....	11.4	11.8	11.7	103	100	11.4	11.7	103
Total red meat .....	4,249.5	4,365.3	4,545.3	107	104	4,249.5	4,545.3	107

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

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

Species	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January 2018 as % of 2017	January		
					2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
				(percent)			(percent)
<b>Cattle</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	2,533.2	2,543.2	2,713.8	107	2,533.2	2,713.8	107
Other ..... 1,000	42.6	37.2	43.7	103	42.6	43.7	103
Commercial ..... 1,000	2,575.8	2,580.4	2,757.5	107	2,575.8	2,757.5	107
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,374	1,382	1,380	100	1,374	1,380	100
Other ..... pounds	1,175	1,173	1,182	101	1,175	1,182	101
Commercial ..... pounds	1,370	1,379	1,376	100	1,370	1,376	100
<b>Calves</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	45.9	45.6	48.4	105	45.9	48.4	105
Other ..... 1,000	0.7	0.8	0.7	98	0.7	0.7	98
Commercial ..... 1,000	46.6	46.4	49.0	105	46.6	49.0	105
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	233	242	232	100	233	232	100
Other ..... pounds	385	399	394	102	385	394	102
Commercial ..... pounds	235	245	235	100	235	235	100
<b>Hogs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	10,058.8	10,400.3	10,652.8	106	10,058.8	10,652.8	106
Other ..... 1,000	67.2	60.8	61.3	91	67.2	61.3	91
Commercial ..... 1,000	10,126.1	10,461.1	10,714.1	106	10,126.1	10,714.1	106
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	285	286	286	101	285	286	101
Other ..... pounds	254	244	253	99	254	253	99
Commercial ..... pounds	284	286	286	101	284	286	101
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	161.7	170.1	161.9	100	161.7	161.9	100
Other ..... 1,000	15.3	18.0	14.3	93	15.3	14.3	93
Commercial ..... 1,000	177.0	188.1	176.3	100	177.0	176.3	100
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	141	138	144	102	141	144	102
Other ..... pounds	110	111	111	101	110	111	101
Commercial ..... pounds	138	136	142	102	138	142	102
<b>Goats</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	37.0	46.7	39.4	106	37.0	39.4	106
Other ..... 1,000	9.1	10.3	7.2	79	9.1	7.2	79
Commercial ..... 1,000	46.1	57.0	46.5	101	46.1	46.5	101
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	62	63	64	102	62	64	102
Other ..... pounds	78	80	82	105	78	82	105
Commercial ..... pounds	65	66	67	102	65	67	102
<b>Bison</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	4.2	3.4	3.8	90	4.2	3.8	90
Other ..... 1,000	0.6	0.4	0.5	85	0.6	0.5	85
Commercial ..... 1,000	4.8	3.8	4.3	90	4.8	4.3	90

## Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January 2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....	0.9	1.1	1.2	132
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	90
Arizona .....	42.4	36.4	43.0	101
Arkansas .....	0.5	0.4	0.4	95
California .....	122.3	121.9	130.4	107
Colorado .....	193.0	183.2	198.3	103
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.1	2.8	3.3	107
Florida .....	2.8	2.5	2.9	101
Georgia .....	13.0	13.3	12.7	98
Hawaii .....	0.7	0.8	0.6	95
Idaho .....	5.4	19.6	23.3	432
Illinois .....	288.4	282.5	294.6	102
Indiana .....	162.5	159.5	163.6	101
Iowa .....	591.4	642.0	653.6	111
Kansas .....	453.2	482.4	493.0	109
Kentucky .....	43.1	46.0	49.9	116
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.3	0.3	84
Michigan .....	41.2	72.6	80.7	196
Minnesota .....	226.4	248.6	249.1	110
Mississippi .....	0.5	0.5	0.5	96
Missouri .....	178.0	174.0	176.4	99
Montana .....	0.9	1.2	0.9	96
Nebraska .....	660.1	675.8	695.1	105
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	111
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.1	2.0	2.1	102
New Jersey .....	3.1	3.2	3.0	97
New Mexico .....	0.3	0.3	0.4	139
New York .....	3.7	3.2	3.3	89
North Carolina .....	226.7	223.0	222.4	98
North Dakota .....	0.8	0.5	0.8	97
Ohio .....	22.2	18.6	20.1	91
Oklahoma .....	95.9	96.8	108.1	113
Oregon .....	5.6	4.5	5.5	99
Pennsylvania .....	124.8	116.5	127.2	102
South Carolina .....	9.8	9.3	9.8	100
South Dakota .....	121.2	129.3	130.2	107
Tennessee .....	21.4	24.3	21.9	102
Texas .....	357.7	347.9	380.0	106
Utah .....	37.6	43.2	48.7	130
Virginia .....	47.5	41.3	44.3	93
Washington .....	76.4	72.7	77.0	101
West Virginia .....	0.8	0.8	0.7	96
Wisconsin .....	103.3	96.9	107.2	104
Wyoming .....	0.4	0.4	0.5	111
United States .....	4,291.4	4,402.3	4,587.1	107

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	0.4	0.4	405	406	1,057	1,038
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	61	64	1,125	1,050
Arizona .....	51.9	52.0	70,445	71,665	1,361	1,379
Arkansas .....	0.6	0.5	557	505	973	969
California .....	113.5	122.7	147,183	164,403	1,307	1,350
Colorado .....	211.3	217.1	299,791	307,779	1,420	1,420
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.2	3.4	4,289	4,600	1,339	1,348
Florida .....	4.4	(D)	5,084	(D)	1,167	(D)
Georgia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii .....	0.7	0.8	840	938	1,141	1,155
Idaho .....	4.4	31.1	5,182	39,563	1,227	1,287
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana .....	3.1	3.2	3,474	3,486	1,105	1,106
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	516.1	552.4	705,153	760,099	1,367	1,377
Kentucky .....	1.8	1.7	1,799	1,793	1,025	1,055
Louisiana .....	0.5	0.5	403	372	794	797
Michigan .....	44.5	46.6	62,728	66,432	1,418	1,435
Minnesota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi .....	0.2	0.2	181	199	913	820
Missouri .....	4.1	4.9	4,747	5,732	1,161	1,171
Montana .....	1.0	1.0	1,206	1,174	1,194	1,218
Nebraska .....	583.3	617.3	843,359	894,869	1,447	1,451
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	118	131	1,081	1,021
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.0	2.0	2,322	2,386	1,147	1,172
New Jersey .....	2.8	3.1	3,077	3,368	1,089	1,097
New Mexico .....	0.3	0.4	314	508	992	1,160
New York .....	3.0	3.3	3,644	3,929	1,210	1,222
North Carolina .....	5.5	5.9	6,779	7,245	1,227	1,237
North Dakota .....	0.9	0.9	1,171	1,220	1,263	1,305
Ohio .....	4.4	5.0	5,144	5,825	1,157	1,167
Oklahoma .....	2.6	2.7	2,550	2,820	998	1,035
Oregon .....	(D)	3.7	(D)	4,511	(D)	1,246
Pennsylvania .....	88.6	93.4	110,114	114,743	1,247	1,232
South Carolina .....	15.1	14.8	18,454	18,616	1,228	1,263
South Dakota .....	27.5	34.1	37,913	49,915	1,390	1,469
Tennessee .....	6.9	6.1	6,422	5,827	957	976
Texas .....	442.3	473.0	584,855	622,034	1,326	1,319
Utah .....	45.5	57.3	60,854	78,527	1,341	1,372
Virginia .....	1.5	1.6	1,528	1,709	1,050	1,072
Washington .....	92.1	91.7	126,254	127,373	1,374	1,393
West Virginia .....	1.0	1.0	992	1,004	1,016	1,027
Wisconsin .....	112.8	115.6	157,758	161,515	1,406	1,406
Wyoming .....	0.6	0.6	588	683	1,070	1,135
United States .....	2,575.8	2,757.5	3,521,697	3,786,653	1,370	1,376

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

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Arkansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California .....	10.6	6.6	932	666	89	103
Colorado .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	26	(X)	437
Georgia .....	0.1	0.2	66	74	459	480
Hawaii .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho .....	1.5	2.7	120	231	82	84
Illinois .....	0.1	0.1	21	29	334	406
Indiana .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Michigan .....	0.1	0.1	32	30	297	300
Minnesota .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Nevada .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	0.3	0.3	59	48	172	192
New Jersey .....	1.9	1.8	725	661	376	371
New Mexico .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York .....	5.6	7.5	633	852	115	115
North Carolina .....	0.1	0.1	33	25	455	386
North Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio .....	11.3	14.3	2,208	2,187	197	154
Oklahoma .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	7.9	8.8	3,344	3,718	425	422
South Carolina .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Tennessee .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas .....	0.2	0.1	86	59	432	435
Utah .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Washington .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	5.0	5.1	2,242	2,453	450	483
Wyoming .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States .....	46.6	49.0	10,888	11,427	235	235

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.



## Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	2.6	3.6	1,020	1,479	394	407
Alaska .....	0.2	0.2	62	50	269	243
Arizona .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas .....	0.7	0.7	183	182	269	262
California .....	219.5	210.0	54,448	53,522	248	255
Colorado .....	1.9	1.6	471	408	246	248
Delaware-Maryland .....	1.9	1.9	515	516	272	272
Florida .....	4.4	3.9	570	614	131	157
Georgia .....	5.9	5.0	1,434	1,207	243	241
Hawaii .....	0.9	0.4	224	97	251	238
Idaho .....	13.4	16.0	3,564	4,256	266	267
Illinois .....	1,038.0	1,062.0	296,453	305,434	286	288
Indiana .....	759.9	761.6	212,234	213,905	279	281
Iowa .....	2,694.0	2,935.6	762,027	838,748	283	286
Kansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	0.9	0.8	194	153	220	193
Michigan .....	16.6	188.8	6,671	56,071	403	297
Minnesota .....	956.1	1,043.1	260,459	287,090	272	275
Mississippi .....	(D)	3.0	(D)	497	(D)	166
Missouri .....	797.9	797.5	232,921	230,173	292	289
Montana .....	0.8	0.7	229	193	274	260
Nebraska .....	687.4	695.5	192,531	196,361	280	282
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	20	21	256	270
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.8	3.0	789	835	278	280
New Jersey .....	11.0	7.6	1,119	807	101	106
New Mexico .....	0.2	0.2	55	62	258	273
New York .....	5.4	2.1	1,413	543	264	262
North Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota .....	0.5	0.4	136	117	302	300
Ohio .....	88.2	73.7	24,291	21,088	276	287
Oklahoma .....	451.7	504.2	124,525	139,522	276	277
Oregon .....	14.8	14.5	3,931	3,845	266	266
Pennsylvania .....	282.1	284.0	77,362	77,402	274	273
South Carolina .....	(D)	2.7	(D)	660	(D)	249
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	59.4	63.0	27,255	28,536	460	454
Texas .....	25.6	23.3	6,385	5,833	249	251
Utah .....	4.2	5.5	779	973	186	177
Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington .....	0.7	0.9	178	232	265	266
West Virginia .....	0.8	0.7	235	199	305	300
Wisconsin .....	61.6	67.6	27,155	29,544	442	438
Wyoming .....	0.3	0.3	90	83	273	272
United States .....	10,126.1	10,714.1	2,879,408	3,062,142	284	286

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

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: January 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California .....	24.4	23.4	3,718	3,481	152	149
Colorado .....	69.0	67.9	11,142	11,560	162	170
Delaware-Maryland .....	2.9	3.8	282	359	96	94
Florida .....	1.0	1.0	60	58	59	60
Georgia .....	1.5	1.6	116	112	76	72
Hawaii .....	(D)	0.1	(D)	18	(D)	144
Idaho .....	0.1	0.2	18	27	143	141
Illinois .....	9.3	3.9	1,339	390	143	101
Indiana .....	3.1	3.1	370	374	118	122
Iowa .....	0.2	0.2	31	33	150	165
Kansas .....	0.3	0.3	28	27	97	104
Kentucky .....	1.1	1.1	134	135	127	122
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.3	28	15	67	59
Michigan .....	16.0	20.0	2,222	2,926	139	146
Minnesota .....	0.3	0.4	33	36	114	100
Mississippi .....	0.2	0.6	13	35	68	61
Missouri .....	0.9	0.9	77	77	87	87
Montana .....	0.3	0.3	33	45	121	141
Nebraska .....	0.1	0.1	12	9	141	121
Nevada .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	141
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	3.0	2.8	291	254	98	92
New Jersey .....	9.3	9.5	731	751	79	79
New Mexico .....	0.4	0.6	62	83	145	151
New York .....	4.4	4.5	455	478	104	106
North Carolina .....	1.1	1.0	80	86	72	83
North Dakota .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio .....	3.0	3.5	380	504	127	143
Oklahoma .....	0.2	0.4	23	39	97	105
Oregon .....	3.3	4.0	456	581	140	146
Pennsylvania .....	5.9	6.2	631	697	107	112
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	0.2	0.2	36	38	162	162
Tennessee .....	0.9	0.9	72	66	77	74
Texas .....	7.5	5.4	723	518	97	97
Utah .....	1.8	1.7	246	239	140	141
Virginia .....	0.5	0.8	40	58	87	74
Washington .....	1.3	1.7	179	233	140	137
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	1.2	2.4	152	379	132	159
Wyoming .....	0.1	0.1	14	12	154	141
United States .....	177.0	176.3	24,471	24,951	138	142

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> 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	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January		January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January	
				2017	2018				2017	2018
	(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)
<b>Cattle</b>										
Steers .....	1,312.8	1,284.7	1,383.2	1,312.8	1,383.2	51.8	50.5	51.0	51.8	51.0
Heifers .....	695.9	735.9	747.5	695.9	747.5	27.5	28.9	27.5	27.5	27.5
All cows .....	488.4	481.2	544.3	488.4	544.3	19.3	18.9	20.1	19.3	20.1
Dairy cows .....	269.0	247.3	289.8	269.0	289.8	10.6	9.7	10.7	10.6	10.7
Other cows .....	219.3	233.9	254.5	219.3	254.5	8.7	9.2	9.4	8.7	9.4
Bulls .....	36.2	41.5	38.8	36.2	38.8	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4
Total .....	2,533.2	2,543.2	2,713.8	2,533.2	2,713.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	45.9	45.6	48.4	45.9	48.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows and gilts .....	9,788.1	10,126.2	10,358.4	9,788.1	10,358.4	97.3	97.4	97.2	97.3	97.2
Sows .....	244.1	241.4	262.7	244.1	262.7	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.5
Boars .....	26.7	32.7	31.6	26.7	31.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total .....	10,058.8	10,400.3	10,652.8	10,058.8	10,652.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature sheep .....	7.9	7.8	7.4	7.9	7.4	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.6
Lambs and yearlings .....	153.8	162.3	154.5	153.8	154.5	95.1	95.4	95.4	95.1	95.4
Total .....	161.7	170.1	161.9	161.7	161.9	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	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January	
				2017	2018
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
<b>Cattle</b> .....	827	837	830	827	830
Steers <sup>1</sup> .....	893	903	893	893	893
Heifers <sup>1</sup> .....	828	843	836	828	836
All cows <sup>1</sup> .....	642	643	658	642	658
Bulls <sup>1</sup> .....	879	878	893	879	893
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	136	141	135	136	135
<b>Hogs</b> .....	213	214	214	213	214
Barrows and gilts <sup>2</sup> .....	211	212	212	211	212
Sows <sup>2</sup> .....	306	306	303	306	303
Boars <sup>2</sup> .....	199	198	190	199	190
<b>Sheep</b> .....	71	69	73	71	73
Mature sheep <sup>3</sup> .....	67	65	69	67	69
Lambs and yearlings <sup>3</sup> .....	71	70	73	71	73

<sup>1</sup> Included in cattle average dressed weight.

<sup>2</sup> Included in hog average dressed weight.

<sup>3</sup> Included in sheep average dressed weight.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	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 .....	1.8	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
2 .....	6.2	1.7	1.2	2.9	2.7	0.2	0.4	9.2
3 .....	96.0	31.9	2.3	58.3	46.4	11.9	3.6	9.2
4 .....	54.3	3.8	1.2	43.8	14.1	29.7	5.5	0.3
5 .....	280.8	133.0	(D)	111.3	71.8	39.5	(D)	19.8
6 .....	471.7	236.5	128.9	98.0	32.3	65.7	8.3	0.1
7 .....	1,196.0	681.6	442.6	63.7	4.9	58.8	8.1	(Y)
8 .....	306.0	172.3	(D)	28.9	9.1	19.8	(D)	(Y)
9 .....	175.1	70.5	12.3	89.7	81.1	8.6	2.6	6.4
10 .....	125.8	51.1	25.5	47.3	27.1	20.2	1.8	3.0
United States .....	2,713.8	1,383.2	747.5	544.3	289.8	254.5	38.8	48.4
	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 .....	2.6	2.6	0.1	(Y)	2.7	0.1	2.6	
2 .....	9.5	9.3	0.1	(Y)	13.6	1.0	12.5	
3 .....	483.6	482.5	(D)	(D)	11.4	1.3	10.1	
4 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	6.0	0.8	5.2	
5 .....	3,169.7	3,039.1	125.6	5.0	28.6	1.6	27.0	
6 .....	523.6	523.4	0.2	(Y)	2.2	0.4	1.8	
7 .....	4,444.2	4,361.5	64.1	18.7	1.0	0.1	1.0	
8 .....	(D)	(D)	0.7	(Y)	69.4	1.3	68.1	
9 .....	207.3	207.2	0.1	(Y)	22.5	0.4	22.1	
10 .....	31.1	31.1	(Y)	(Y)	4.4	0.3	4.1	
United States .....	10,652.8	10,358.4	262.7	31.6	161.9	7.4	154.5	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> 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	January 2017	December 2017	January 2018	January	
				2017	2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	98.3	98.6	98.4	98.3	98.4
Calves .....	98.5	98.4	98.6	98.5	98.6
Hogs .....	99.3	99.4	99.4	99.3	99.4
Sheep .....	91.3	90.4	91.9	91.3	91.9

## Statistical Methodology

**Data Sources:** Primary data for the *Livestock Slaughter* publication are obtained from electronic reports completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide daily counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants, in addition to total live and dressed weights. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates.

There are 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 14). 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section .....	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter .....	(202) 720-3240
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products .....	(202) 690-3236
Heidi Gleich – Cattle, Cattle on Feed .....	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs .....	(202) 720-3106
Vacant – Sheep and Goats .....	(202) 720-8784

## 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).



**USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 24, 2018**

University of Chicago – Gleacher Center  
450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
312-464-8787

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2018 Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website ([https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education\\_and\\_Outreach/Meeting/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php)). Or contact Tina Hall (NASS) at 202-720-3896 or at [tina.hall@nass.usda.gov](mailto:tina.hall@nass.usda.gov) or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or at [patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov](mailto:patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov).

The Data Users' Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss developments and trends. For registration details or additional information about the Industry Outlook Conference, see the conference page on the LMIC website (<http://lmic.info/page/meetings>) or contact James Robb at 303-716-9933.