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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER -- MEAT AND LARD PRODUCTION  
1940 - 1946

DEC 19 1957

United States meat production in 1946 is estimated at 23.0 billion pounds, a decrease of 3 percent from the 23.7 billion pounds produced in 1945, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. The 1946 total meat production was the fourth largest on record. Beef production was 9.4 billion pounds, down 9 percent from 1945 but the second largest on record. Pork and veal production of 11.2 and 1.4 billion pounds respectively were each the third largest of record. Production of lamb and mutton was about 1.0 billion, the smallest since 1941. Except for 1945, the lard production of 2.1 billion pounds in 1946 was the smallest since 1939. Veal production was down 13 percent from 1945 and lamb and mutton down 8 percent. However, pork was up 4 percent, and lard up 3 percent.

Total slaughter of cattle in 1946 was 9 percent under the 1945 record, but was still the third largest on record. Cattle slaughter under Federal inspection was 22 percent below 1945 and the smallest since 1941, but other wholesale and retail slaughter of cattle was the largest on record and farm slaughter was the highest since 1922. Calf slaughter under Federal inspection was down 17 percent, while other wholesales and retail slaughter declined only 5 percent. Sheep and lamb slaughter was the smallest since 1941. Under Federal inspection, sheep and lamb slaughter was 6 percent below 1945, but other wholesale and retail slaughter decreased 18 percent. Hog slaughter was larger than in 1945 for each class, with that under Federal inspection 8 percent above 1945.

All species were slaughtered at lighter weights than in 1945. The average live weight for hogs and sheep was the second highest on record. The average live weight for cattle was 5 pounds lighter than in 1945, and that for calves 7 pounds lighter. Calves also averaged 9 pounds below 1944, but otherwise exceeded the average weight in any other year.

The accompanying tables show estimates of slaughter and meat production by class of slaughter and of total lard production for the period 1940-46. Numbers slaughtered under Federal inspection are compiled by the Bureau of Animal Industry. In this report, however, inspected slaughter in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands has been excluded. The data on live weight, dressed weight and production under Federal inspection are prepared by the Livestock Branch, P. & M.A., and are based on monthly reports of production and yields reported by slaughterers operating under Federal inspection. Estimates of numbers, live weight and production for other wholesale and retail slaughter are based on reports from slaughterers who are not under Federal inspection and on other available records of movement and disappearance of livestock. Prior to 1944, information on this non-Federally inspected wholesale and retail slaughter was obtained largely on an annual basis. Since 1944 data for this class of slaughter has been obtained by months; first, under the slaughter control programs of the War Food Administration, and later under the slaughter and meat control programs of O.P.A. For the period December 1945 through April 1946 and since October 1946, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been collecting voluntary monthly reports from these non-Federally inspected wholesale and retail establishments. Estimates of farm slaughter are based on voluntary reports from livestock producers who report annually on the number of the different species slaughtered on their farms, and periodically on the live weight of animals slaughtered.

(Over)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER 1940-1946

Species and Class of Slaughter	1940			1941			1942			1943			1944			1945			1946			
	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	
	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.
<b>CATTLE</b>																						
Federally Inspected	9,743	940	9,175	10,932	961	10,516	12,340	954	11,773	11,721	955	11,198	13,955	924	12,905	14,531	948	13,775	11,402	943	10,759	
Other Wholesale and Retail	4,644	827	3,842	4,916	877	4,114	5,047	855	4,314	5,416	837	4,535	5,035	829	4,172	6,244	837	5,225	7,479	857	6,413	
Farm	571	779	444	439	769	439	646	753	708	725	664	520	654	714	610	216	725	664	943	754	711	
<b>Total</b>	14,958	900	13,461	16,419	918	15,071	18,033	919	16,580	17,845	911	16,253	19,644	891	17,687	21,691	907	19,664	19,824	902	17,883	
<b>CALVES</b>																						
Federally Inspected	5,358	191	1,024	5,461	196	1,070	5,760	208	1,197	5,209	207	1,080	7,769	218	1,693	7,020	214	1,501	5,841	199	1,165	
Other Wholesale and Retail	3,003	190	569	3,107	197	612	3,317	210	697	4,111	206	4,846	5,749	221	1,272	5,884	224	1,316	5,569	220	1,228	
Farm	728	204	149	684	213	146	641	232	148	620	248	324	324	261	190	741	257	190	758	256	194	
<b>Total</b>	9,089	192	1,742	9,252	198	1,828	9,718	210	2,042	9,940	209	2,080	14,242	222	3,155	13,645	220	3,007	12,168	213	2,587	
<b>SHEEP AND LAMBS</b>																						
Federally Inspected	17,349	86	1,495	18,122	88	1,600	21,624	89	1,926	23,363	91	2,118	21,875	89	1,956	21,218	94	2,003	19,884	94	1,864	
Other Wholesale and Retail	3,651	86	316	3,605	88	315	3,383	88	299	3,134	85	268	2,918	85	248	2,850	88	257	2,350	89	209	
Farm	571	86	51	522	91	52	562	89	51	562	89	51	562	89	50	571	88	50	580	86	51	
<b>Total</b>	21,571	86	1,662	22,309	88	1,968	25,585	89	2,217	27,015	90	2,437	25,355	89	2,254	24,639	94	2,310	22,814	93	2,124	
<b>HOGS</b>																						
Federally Inspected	50,398	232	11,716	46,520	241	11,214	53,897	245	13,229	63,431	254	16,141	69,017	244	16,859	40,960	265	10,837	44,394	255	11,307	
Other Wholesale and Retail	13,057	208	2,722	12,088	215	2,594	12,117	229	2,770	17,779	225	3,996	15,500	212	3,286	17,300	228	3,945	18,000	231	4,158	
Farm	14,155	230	3,257	12,789	231	2,950	12,533	232	2,912	14,016	234	3,275	13,551	232	3,137	13,631	237	3,231	13,950	245	3,232	
<b>Total</b>	77,610	268	17,695	71,397	275	16,758	78,547	281	18,911	95,226	286	23,412	98,068	277	23,282	71,891	291	18,013	76,244	287	18,857	

UNITED STATES LARD PRODUCTION

Year	1940-1946		Total Lard Production
	of dressed weight	Percent	
	2/	1/	Mill. lbs.
1940	13.0	13.0	2,288
1941	13.3	13.3	2,228
1942	12.7	12.7	2,401
1943	12.5	12.5	2,865
1944	13.1	13.1	3,094
1945	11.5	11.5	2,066
1946	11.4	11.4	2,138

1/ Excludes animals condemned under Federal Inspection. For pork the average shown is pork production per head excluding lard.

2/ Pounds of lard per 100 pounds live weight. Excludes animals condemned under Federal Inspection.

3/ Total lard production for all classes. Includes rendered pork fat.

UNITED STATES MEAT PRODUCTION 1940-1946

Kind of Meat	1940			1941			1942			1943			1944			1945			1946			
	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	Head	live weight	Total	
	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.	Thous.	Mill. lbs.
<b>BEEF</b>																						
Federally Inspected	513	4,971	527	5,739	517	6,347	512	5,970	480	6,655	500	7,240	499	5,666								
Other Wholesale and Retail	428	1,984	432	2,126	446	2,249	432	2,340	427	2,149	432	2,700	448	3,349								
Farm	397	227	392	224	389	251	375	265	364	311	170	339	285	363								
<b>Total</b>	1,338	7,182	1,351	8,099	1,352	8,847	1,351	8,575	1,317	9,115	1,312	10,279	1,347	9,378								
<b>PORK</b>																						
Federally Inspected	106	566	110	599	116	667	115	597	120	926	118	823	111	642								
Other Wholesale and Retail	109	328	114	353	120	399	117	481	122	703	124	729	123	687								
Farm	117	85	122	84	133	85	131	89	131	109	146	109	147									
<b>Total</b>	332	981	344	1,036	356	1,151	343	1,167	362	1,738	351	1,661	344	1,440								
<b>LAMB AND MUTTON</b>																						
Federally Inspected	41	702	42	750	41	860	41	958	41	887	43	913	43	850								
Other Wholesale and Retail	41	150	42	150	41	139	39	122	39	114	41	117	41	96								
Farm	42	21	42	21	42	21	41	21	41	23	24	24	24									
<b>Total</b>	84	876	86	921	84	1,024	84	1,104	84	1,024	87	1,054	87	970								
<b>PORK (excluding lard)</b>																						
Federally Inspected	131	6,614	136	6,345	140	7,562	147	9,308	137	9,456	156	6,387	150	6,642								
Other Wholesale and Retail	125	1,632	129	1,559	138	1,672	138	2,454	132	2,046	142	2,456	144	2,592								
Farm	127	1,798	127	1,624	133	1,642	134	1,878	133	1,802	136	1,854	140	1,933								
<b>Total</b>	383	10,044	392	9,528	411	10,876	415	13,640	399	13,304	434	10,697	434	11,173								
<b>TOTAL MEAT</b>																						
<b>Total</b>	19,083	19,577	19,577	21,917	21,917	24,486	24,486	25,181	25,181	28,961	28,961	23,691	23,691	22,961								