



Livestock Slaughter

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Commercial Red Meat Production Up Slightly from Last Year

January 2023 contained 22 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

January 2024 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.77 billion pounds in January, up slightly from the 4.76 billion pounds produced in January 2023.

Beef production, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.73 million head, down 3 percent from January 2023. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,389 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.9 million pounds, 12 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 22,600 head, 26 percent below January 2023. The average live weight was up 45 pounds from last year, at 294 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.47 billion pounds, 2 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.4 million head, 2 percent above January 2023. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 292 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.6 million pounds, was 4 percent above January 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 171,700 head, 5 percent above last year. The average live weight was 121 pounds, down 2 pounds from January a year ago.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January 2024 as % of		January		
				January 2023	December 2023	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,324.6	2,189.9	2,280.8	98	104	2,324.6	2,280.8	98
Veal	4.4	3.9	3.9	88	101	4.4	3.9	88
Pork	2,425.4	2,342.0	2,472.7	102	106	2,425.4	2,472.7	102
Lamb and mutton	10.2	10.7	10.6	104	99	10.2	10.6	104
Total red meat	4,764.5	4,546.4	4,767.9	100	105	4,764.5	4,767.9	100

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January 2024 as % of		January		
				January 2023	December 2023	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,287.4	2,159.0	2,246.0	98	104	2,287.4	2,246.0	98
Veal	4.3	3.7	3.8	88	100	4.3	3.8	88
Pork	2,415.5	2,332.4	2,462.4	102	106	2,415.5	2,462.4	102
Lamb and mutton	9.2	9.5	9.6	104	101	9.2	9.6	104
Total red meat	4,716.4	4,504.7	4,721.8	100	105	4,716.4	4,721.8	100

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January 2024 as % of 2023	January		
					2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,772.7	2,548.8	2,680.3	97	2,772.7	2,680.3	97
Other 1,000	54.2	44.7	50.1	92	54.2	50.1	92
Commercial 1,000	2,826.8	2,593.5	2,730.4	97	2,826.8	2,730.4	97
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,383	1,404	1,392	101	1,383	1,392	101
Other pounds	1,222	1,220	1,226	100	1,222	1,226	100
Commercial pounds	1,380	1,401	1,389	101	1,380	1,389	101
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	30.0	21.8	21.9	73	30.0	21.9	73
Other 1,000	0.6	0.6	0.7	117	0.6	0.7	117
Commercial 1,000	30.6	22.5	22.6	74	30.6	22.6	74
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	246	292	292	119	246	292	119
Other pounds	374	323	349	93	374	349	93
Commercial pounds	249	293	294	118	249	294	118
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	11,079.6	10,775.8	11,316.8	102	11,079.6	11,316.8	102
Other 1,000	50.7	49.7	51.8	102	50.7	51.8	102
Commercial 1,000	11,130.3	10,825.5	11,368.7	102	11,130.3	11,368.7	102
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	293	291	292	100	293	292	100
Other pounds	270	264	273	101	270	273	101
Commercial pounds	293	291	292	100	293	292	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	144.3	159.7	152.4	106	144.3	152.4	106
Other 1,000	18.5	22.8	19.3	104	18.5	19.3	104
Commercial 1,000	162.8	182.4	171.7	105	162.8	171.7	105
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	126	117	124	98	126	124	98
Other pounds	100	99	98	97	100	98	97
Commercial pounds	123	115	121	98	123	121	98
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	41.0	51.2	45.2	110	41.0	45.2	110
Other 1,000	7.4	11.6	9.5	128	7.4	9.5	128
Commercial 1,000	48.4	62.8	54.7	113	48.4	54.7	113
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	66	63	63	96	66	63	96
Other pounds	87	79	77	89	87	77	89
Commercial pounds	69	66	65	95	69	65	95
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	6.6	6.2	7.7	116	6.6	7.7	116
Other 1,000	0.3	0.3	0.3	98	0.3	0.3	98
Commercial 1,000	6.9	6.5	8.0	115	6.9	8.0	115

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 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January 2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.1	1.1	1.2	113
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	0.1	97
Arizona	43.8	36.7	42.2	96
Arkansas	0.6	0.4	0.6	102
California	143.7	101.2	102.1	71
Colorado	170.6	161.4	178.6	105
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.5	2.9	99
Florida	7.1	5.3	4.3	61
Georgia	13.7	12.8	13.8	101
Hawaii	0.9	0.7	0.7	84
Idaho	33.9	40.0	42.1	124
Illinois	277.2	287.4	294.3	106
Indiana	168.5	158.4	174.4	104
Iowa	788.6	784.3	811.5	103
Kansas	497.4	481.1	485.0	97
Kentucky	56.7	54.1	54.4	96
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	0.3	96
Michigan	112.4	111.5	127.4	113
Minnesota	276.8	228.7	250.9	91
Mississippi	0.8	0.8	0.8	105
Missouri	184.8	180.7	181.5	98
Montana	1.4	1.9	1.2	81
Nebraska	654.6	660.1	664.6	102
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
New England ¹	2.7	2.8	2.8	105
New Jersey	3.8	4.1	3.9	103
New Mexico	0.4	0.3	0.5	113
New York	3.4	3.1	3.0	89
North Carolina	256.1	223.9	245.7	96
North Dakota	0.8	0.6	0.9	104
Ohio	23.7	23.6	26.9	113
Oklahoma	109.4	98.0	116.9	107
Oregon	2.6	2.2	2.3	87
Pennsylvania	134.0	129.4	140.1	105
South Carolina	15.3	15.2	17.1	111
South Dakota	122.2	127.8	131.9	108
Tennessee	25.0	26.3	24.8	99
Texas	391.0	361.6	386.0	99
Utah	43.0	44.0	48.4	113
Virginia	1.5	1.3	1.5	101
Washington	82.8	73.1	76.9	93
West Virginia	1.1	1.1	1.2	112
Wisconsin	107.1	95.9	101.4	95
Wyoming	0.9	0.7	0.8	98
United States	4,764.5	4,546.4	4,767.9	100

(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: January 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.0	0.9	1,139	1,025	1,099	1,149
Alaska	0.1	0.1	66	66	1,094	1,100
Arizona	50.5	47.0	71,568	67,901	1,419	1,447
Arkansas	0.9	0.9	877	875	1,022	1,020
California	140.7	115.9	186,284	156,707	1,333	1,363
Colorado	192.5	195.2	270,972	281,108	1,409	1,442
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.9	4,071	4,064	1,396	1,415
Florida	11.6	6.5	13,830	7,793	1,199	1,210
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.2	1.0	1,419	1,178	1,201	1,134
Idaho	46.9	(D)	59,689	(D)	1,281	(D)
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	4.7	4.6	5,670	5,540	1,206	1,208
Iowa	49.8	48.7	70,777	69,199	1,421	1,422
Kansas	558.0	550.1	775,040	757,431	1,389	1,377
Kentucky	6.0	5.7	6,493	6,519	1,089	1,144
Louisiana	0.6	0.5	465	447	821	923
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.6	0.5	555	536	959	1,017
Missouri	31.5	24.5	37,825	29,892	1,207	1,227
Montana	1.9	1.3	2,284	1,660	1,221	1,232
Nebraska	572.9	561.4	837,230	826,286	1,463	1,473
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	3.0	3.0	3,507	3,555	1,157	1,188
New Jersey	4.0	4.3	4,550	4,870	1,144	1,138
New Mexico	0.5	0.6	546	632	1,151	1,084
New York	3.7	3.4	4,405	4,066	1,217	1,199
North Carolina	8.2	6.4	10,043	7,906	1,234	1,230
North Dakota	1.1	1.1	1,379	1,407	1,310	1,335
Ohio	7.1	7.0	9,381	9,322	1,327	1,340
Oklahoma	7.0	5.8	8,314	6,759	1,198	1,173
Oregon	2.0	1.4	2,267	1,650	1,145	1,205
Pennsylvania	96.1	93.2	122,107	121,328	1,277	1,306
South Carolina	22.7	24.8	29,886	33,475	1,323	1,359
South Dakota	38.6	38.8	55,079	57,212	1,433	1,483
Tennessee	3.1	3.2	3,010	3,332	981	1,046
Texas	487.0	476.4	647,091	632,094	1,333	1,330
Utah	49.1	52.8	67,948	75,935	1,385	1,439
Virginia	1.7	1.8	1,880	1,937	1,096	1,051
Washington	98.5	88.5	137,508	125,071	1,400	1,416
West Virginia	1.4	1.6	1,566	1,799	1,128	1,145
Wisconsin	117.7	105.6	164,510	148,710	1,405	1,417
Wyoming	1.1	1.1	1,288	1,280	1,151	1,180
United States	2,826.8	2,730.4	3,891,558	3,784,251	1,380	1,389

(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: January 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	0.2	0.1	93	55	476	471
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	0.2	0.3	50	105	314	403
Indiana	0.6	0.6	252	216	425	389
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.2	0.2	58	57	286	290
New Jersey	1.5	1.5	563	555	382	376
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	4.5	(D)	424	(D)	95	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.2	32	51	291	284
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	7.4	4.0	1,190	1,214	161	304
Oklahoma	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	6.9	7.6	2,973	3,388	432	448
South Carolina	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.2	0.1	109	69	449	479
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	(D)	21	(D)	289	(D)
Washington	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
West Virginia	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Wisconsin	2.3	(Y)	1,046	(X)	461	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	30.6	22.6	7,579	6,607	249	294

(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: January 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.6	2.2	656	941	406	420
Alaska	0.1	0.1	28	25	275	243
Arizona	0.1	0.1	19	26	310	328
Arkansas	0.4	0.5	109	135	267	259
California	195.6	79.4	52,659	18,245	270	230
Colorado	3.4	3.1	515	450	154	143
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	2.0	552	545	287	279
Florida	3.4	3.7	471	546	139	147
Georgia	5.2	5.3	1,414	1,455	271	273
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	53	40	256	265
Idaho	12.2	13.3	3,476	3,385	285	255
Illinois	979.5	1,068.8	284,162	309,306	290	290
Indiana	776.4	816.8	219,873	228,234	283	280
Iowa	3,483.4	3,528.5	1,009,492	1,041,499	290	295
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.2	0.3	51	57	211	229
Michigan	325.2	392.9	96,317	115,181	296	293
Minnesota	1,140.0	1,062.5	323,718	299,018	284	281
Mississippi	3.7	3.9	609	680	164	175
Missouri	742.8	738.7	221,601	222,406	298	301
Montana	0.7	0.7	196	202	295	288
Nebraska	653.1	700.8	190,850	207,326	292	296
Nevada	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New England ¹	2.3	2.6	673	751	299	288
New Jersey	9.6	9.1	862	862	90	95
New Mexico	0.2	0.3	56	82	257	267
New York	2.8	2.0	718	479	255	245
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	58	63	291	308
Ohio	79.7	95.0	23,352	27,723	293	292
Oklahoma	468.4	489.7	138,824	146,951	296	300
Oregon	4.7	5.1	1,346	1,296	284	255
Pennsylvania	281.8	305.5	81,588	88,624	290	290
South Carolina	1.9	1.8	493	441	255	249
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	79.3	76.9	35,261	34,691	445	452
Texas	24.7	22.6	4,935	4,581	200	203
Utah	2.0	2.0	538	506	267	253
Virginia	1.2	1.3	442	399	354	317
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.7	0.8	207	236	316	299
Wisconsin	67.1	78.1	28,517	33,721	426	433
Wyoming	0.3	0.3	91	70	278	265
United States	11,130.3	11,368.7	3,259,963	3,323,260	293	292

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: January 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.7	9	76	93	117
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	8	10	92	98
California	21.6	22.7	3,027	3,293	141	145
Colorado	31.5	32.3	5,055	5,268	160	163
Delaware-Maryland	2.2	1.7	219	174	100	102
Florida	2.0	2.7	107	139	53	52
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	12	16	138	132
Idaho	0.3	0.2	39	25	147	143
Illinois	5.1	5.9	483	505	95	85
Indiana	5.9	5.5	608	553	104	101
Iowa	0.2	0.1	22	17	146	122
Kansas	0.4	0.2	39	20	93	87
Kentucky	1.2	1.5	121	150	99	98
Louisiana	0.6	0.7	34	41	57	60
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.7	0.6	55	47	76	73
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	9	11	66	75
Missouri	0.8	0.8	59	59	75	78
Montana	0.4	0.3	46	37	110	113
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	8	7	127	116
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	3.6	4.1	343	380	95	93
New Jersey	14.3	13.2	1,172	1,078	82	82
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	64	59	136	141
New York	5.4	6.0	493	531	92	89
North Carolina	1.9	2.7	122	165	64	61
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	4.6	5.0	744	778	162	155
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.9	4.5	652	694	132	156
Pennsylvania	9.9	12.4	973	1,242	98	100
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	22	24	128	123
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	16.8	21.6	2,052	2,405	122	111
Utah	1.6	1.5	225	196	137	133
Virginia	0.8	1.0	61	68	72	67
Washington	1.5	1.4	207	188	135	136
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	2.9	0.9	457	107	158	126
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	15	15	143	137
United States	162.8	171.7	20,089	20,800	123	121

(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	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January		January 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January	
				2023	2024				2023	2024
	(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	1,270.9	1,197.8	1,286.5	1,270.9	1,286.5	45.8	47.0	48.0	45.8	48.0
Heifers	848.0	797.2	834.1	848.0	834.1	30.6	31.3	31.1	30.6	31.1
All cows	615.9	516.6	528.0	615.9	528.0	22.2	20.3	19.7	22.2	19.7
Dairy cows	297.9	224.7	250.2	297.9	250.2	10.7	8.8	9.3	10.7	9.3
Other cows	318.0	291.9	277.8	318.0	277.8	11.5	11.5	10.4	11.5	10.4
Bulls	37.9	37.2	31.6	37.9	31.6	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.2
Total	2,772.7	2,548.8	2,680.3	2,772.7	2,680.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	30.0	21.8	21.9	30.0	21.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,789.3	10,498.5	11,006.5	10,789.3	11,006.5	97.4	97.4	97.3	97.4	97.3
Sows	266.9	254.2	286.0	266.9	286.0	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5
Boars	23.4	23.2	24.3	23.4	24.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	11,079.6	10,775.8	11,316.8	11,079.6	11,316.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9.6	10.2	9.7	9.6	9.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.4
Lambs and yearlings	134.6	149.5	142.7	134.6	142.7	93.3	93.6	93.6	93.3	93.6
Total	144.3	159.7	152.4	144.3	152.4	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 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January	
				2023	2024
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	827	849	840	827	840
Steers ¹	913	941	921	913	921
Heifers ¹	832	851	836	832	836
All cows ¹	639	628	644	639	644
Bulls ¹	843	862	868	843	868
Calves and vealers	143	172	172	143	172
Hogs	218	217	218	218	218
Barrows and gilts ²	216	215	216	216	216
Sows ²	296	296	295	296	295
Boars ²	194	218	223	194	223
Sheep	64	60	63	64	63
Mature sheep ³	62	64	64	62	64
Lambs and yearlings ³	64	59	63	64	63

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: January 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	2.6	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
2	7.7	2.1	2.2	3.2	2.7	0.5	0.2	4.1
3	95.4	38.6	3.6	49.0	37.8	11.2	4.2	7.7
4	71.1	4.7	2.4	57.4	15.2	42.2	6.6	0.4
5	259.4	118.9	(D)	100.2	58.7	41.5	(D)	4.7
6	478.0	201.8	168.3	100.2	33.3	66.9	7.7	(D)
7	1,173.9	644.7	(D)	75.6	7.1	68.5	(D)	(Y)
8	284.7	156.7	(D)	24.6	6.3	18.2	(D)	(Y)
9	163.3	65.1	24.7	72.0	59.6	12.4	1.6	(D)
10	144.3	53.0	44.6	45.3	29.2	16.1	1.4	(D)
United States	2,680.3	1,286.5	834.1	528.0	250.2	277.8	31.6	21.9
	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	2.3	2.3	(Y)	(Y)	4.0	0.2	3.8	
2	11.0	10.9	0.1	(Y)	18.6	1.8	16.8	
3	306.6	306.3	(D)	(D)	15.9	2.2	13.7	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	10.7	1.0	9.7	
5	3,490.3	3,360.5	125.8	4.0	25.7	1.5	24.2	
6	509.3	509.0	0.2	0.1	17.2	0.6	16.6	
7	4,980.7	4,886.9	79.2	14.6	0.9	(Y)	0.9	
8	(D)	(D)	0.3	(Y)	33.6	0.8	32.8	
9	76.1	76.1	(Y)	(Y)	21.1	1.5	19.6	
10	19.5	19.5	(Y)	(Y)	4.7	0.2	4.6	
United States	11,316.8	11,006.5	286.0	24.3	152.4	9.7	142.7	

(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	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024	January	
				2023	2024
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.1	98.3	98.2	98.1	98.2
Calves	98.1	97.2	97.1	98.1	97.1
Hogs	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
Sheep	88.6	87.5	88.7	88.6	88.7

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.

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 950 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 1,950 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 13). 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.

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@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Kim Dapra – Milk Production and Milk Cows.....	(512) 501-3266
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products.....	(202) 690-3347
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448

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: 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 www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@usda.gov.

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