



Livestock Slaughter

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Pork Production at Record High for May

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.18 billion pounds in May, up 7 percent from the 3.91 billion pounds produced in May 2011.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.88 million head, up 2 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,280 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 1 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 59,200 head, down 3 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from last year, at 295 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.93 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.28 million head, up 9 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was up 5 percent from May 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 180,400 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 151 pounds, up 8 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2012 commercial red meat production was 20.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 3 percent.

May 2011 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

May 2012 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	May 2012 as % of		January to May		
				May 2011	April 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,131.9	1,990.6	2,232.0	105	112	10,594.0	10,505.1	99
Veal	10.3	9.9	10.4	101	105	53.9	50.5	94
Pork	1,759.7	1,841.7	1,926.8	109	105	9,269.2	9,626.2	104
Lamb and mutton	12.9	12.9	13.6	105	105	63.5	65.1	103
Total red meat	3,914.8	3,855.0	4,182.8	107	109	19,980.5	20,247.0	101

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	May 2012 as % of		January to May		
				May 2011	April 2012	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,105.4	1,964.0	2,206.4	105	112	10,455.4	10,366.5	99
Veal	10.0	9.6	10.1	101	105	52.6	49.3	94
Pork	1,747.3	1,829.2	1,913.9	110	105	9,206.4	9,562.4	104
Lamb and mutton	12.3	12.2	12.9	105	105	60.7	62.2	102
Total red meat	3,875.0	3,815.0	4,143.3	107	109	19,775.0	20,040.4	101

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

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

Species	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	May 2012 as % of 2011	January to May		
					2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,777.5	2,528.1	2,835.9	102	13,635.4	13,257.2	97
Other 1,000	41.3	41.3	39.7	96	216.8	214.9	99
Commercial 1,000	2,818.7	2,569.3	2,875.6	102	13,852.2	13,472.1	97
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	1,255	1,284	1,283	102	1,277	1,296	102
Other pounds	1,126	1,134	1,132	101	1,127	1,137	101
Commercial pounds	1,253	1,282	1,280	102	1,274	1,294	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	60.0	55.4	58.2	97	328.3	298.0	91
Other 1,000	1.2	1.1	1.0	82	5.5	5.0	91
Commercial 1,000	61.2	56.5	59.2	97	333.8	303.0	91
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	285	292	293	103	275	279	101
Other pounds	426	419	426	100	430	423	98
Commercial pounds	288	295	295	102	278	282	101
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	8,470.4	8,757.3	9,211.9	109	44,300.4	45,864.3	104
Other 1,000	72.2	69.0	73.0	101	353.8	350.6	99
Commercial 1,000	8,542.6	8,826.2	9,284.9	109	44,654.2	46,215.0	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	276	279	277	101	277	278	100
Other pounds	238	251	244	102	246	252	102
Commercial pounds	275	278	277	101	277	278	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	165.8	165.8	164.4	99	837.1	818.6	98
Other 1,000	14.4	15.4	15.9	111	61.0	63.4	104
Commercial 1,000	180.2	181.2	180.4	100	898.1	882.0	98
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	148	147	157	106	145	152	105
Other pounds	92	88	90	97	94	95	101
Commercial pounds	143	142	151	105	141	148	105
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	44.5	45.9	45.5	102	212.9	217.2	102
Other 1,000	14.3	12.7	13.1	92	68.2	65.1	96
Commercial 1,000	58.7	58.6	58.7	100	281.1	282.4	100
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected pounds	63	63	64	102	63	63	100
Other pounds	68	67	70	103	70	68	97
Commercial pounds	64	64	65	102	65	64	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	3.7	3.1	3.7	101	18.6	17.3	93
Other 1,000	0.8	0.9	0.8	105	4.1	4.2	101
Commercial 1,000	4.4	4.0	4.5	102	22.7	21.5	95

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	May 2012 as % of 2011
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.7	1.4	1.5	89
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	32.6	32.5	32.3	99
Arkansas	3.5	3.3	3.4	96
California	143.3	143.5	149.5	104
Colorado	169.5	170.8	185.1	109
Delaware-Maryland	3.2	2.6	2.6	82
Florida	9.6	9.2	9.5	99
Georgia	9.1	11.4	11.9	131
Hawaii	0.9	0.9	0.9	99
Idaho	13.9	3.4	3.6	26
Illinois	209.4	230.8	247.6	118
Indiana	137.7	136.8	147.3	107
Iowa	502.6	531.7	549.5	109
Kansas	437.8	408.2	458.7	105
Kentucky	42.9	41.3	45.1	105
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	0.4	84
Michigan	41.1	38.6	41.1	100
Minnesota	214.3	214.5	229.6	107
Mississippi	1.8	2.0	1.9	108
Missouri	135.1	145.0	147.6	109
Montana	1.5	1.6	1.5	98
Nebraska	564.8	547.8	626.8	111
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	87
New England ¹	1.4	1.3	1.4	102
New Jersey	4.2	4.5	4.6	109
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	0.2	66
New York	2.4	2.3	2.7	110
North Carolina	197.3	189.4	203.1	103
North Dakota	4.3	1.0	0.6	14
Ohio	24.7	22.1	22.6	92
Oklahoma	94.7	94.6	95.0	100
Oregon	5.6	5.6	6.3	114
Pennsylvania	101.4	99.2	104.9	103
South Carolina	19.6	20.1	21.6	110
South Dakota	75.6	81.9	82.7	109
Tennessee	14.5	14.3	17.5	121
Texas	438.7	398.3	449.4	102
Utah	34.0	37.9	38.5	113
Virginia	36.9	42.6	44.5	120
Washington	68.9	66.7	80.5	117
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	0.4	82
Wisconsin	112.6	94.5	108.4	96
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.5	112
United States	3,914.8	3,855.0	4,182.8	107

(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: May 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama	0.5	0.7	486	623	959	931
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	54	(X)	1,048	(X)
Arizona	44.1	44.4	55,947	57,035	1,274	1,287
Arkansas	0.6	0.5	560	533	934	977
California	144.1	150.2	183,996	191,847	1,298	1,285
Colorado	205.8	215.2	258,640	280,521	1,258	1,304
Delaware-Maryland	3.5	2.8	4,579	3,674	1,317	1,322
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	16.4	21.2	16,128	20,898	986	988
Hawaii	1.0	1.0	1,112	1,149	1,129	1,149
Idaho	18.5	2.4	22,171	2,548	1,225	1,119
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.1	3.2	3,279	3,371	1,064	1,063
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	538.8	552.8	676,315	704,111	1,256	1,274
Kentucky	1.3	1.3	1,360	1,354	1,037	1,022
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	369	293	824	775
Michigan	48.6	46.7	64,655	64,700	1,342	1,392
Minnesota	68.4	69.0	94,032	97,180	1,381	1,413
Mississippi	0.1	0.1	64	82	516	602
Missouri	6.2	4.5	7,409	5,030	1,190	1,127
Montana	2.0	2.0	2,249	2,277	1,120	1,139
Nebraska	558.5	599.0	715,023	793,327	1,281	1,326
Nevada	0.2	0.1	157	135	1,045	1,069
New England ¹	1.4	1.6	1,516	1,646	1,056	1,047
New Jersey	3.4	3.2	3,841	3,591	1,125	1,136
New Mexico	0.4	0.2	465	218	1,194	1,058
New York	2.5	2.6	2,791	2,997	1,139	1,155
North Carolina	17.7	17.2	20,312	20,200	1,149	1,175
North Dakota	3.6	0.8	4,660	909	1,289	1,182
Ohio	9.9	7.7	11,664	9,016	1,184	1,177
Oklahoma	2.4	2.2	2,418	2,248	1,021	1,022
Oregon	4.1	5.1	4,868	6,148	1,229	1,217
Pennsylvania	78.2	79.2	91,959	94,101	1,187	1,192
South Carolina	13.5	14.0	15,694	16,685	1,180	1,204
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	3.9	3.5	3,313	3,116	867	922
Texas	590.0	591.1	708,990	724,368	1,205	1,228
Utah	43.6	47.0	55,114	62,526	1,266	1,331
Virginia	1.3	1.0	1,580	1,159	1,220	1,137
Washington	87.6	100.2	111,101	130,521	1,274	1,307
West Virginia	0.5	0.4	585	412	1,106	1,051
Wisconsin	137.5	129.0	179,465	170,221	1,317	1,326
Wyoming	0.5	0.6	618	696	1,170	1,124
United States	2,818.7	2,875.6	3,520,739	3,674,302	1,253	1,280

(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: May 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	0.1	(Y)	22	(X)	399	(X)
California	16.7	13.4	1,794	1,466	108	110
Colorado	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Delaware-Maryland	0.3	0.3	74	72	262	250
Florida	(D)	0.1	(D)	38	(D)	452
Georgia	(Y)	0.1	(X)	91	(X)	847
Hawaii	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Idaho	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Illinois	1.5	1.2	683	526	447	452
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	118	(D)	305
Iowa	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	220	167	533	536
Michigan	1.6	1.7	665	746	418	430
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)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	1.4	0.6	156	87	109	143
New Jersey	4.9	6.9	2,078	2,962	422	429
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	5.7	6.1	735	698	139	115
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	59	36	519	490
North Dakota	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Ohio	7.7	7.3	2,402	1,965	329	273
Oklahoma	0.1	0.1	20	27	391	457
Oregon	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Pennsylvania	9.6	9.5	4,113	4,091	431	431
South Carolina	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	0.1	(X)	51	(X)	509
Texas	0.5	0.3	329	203	627	656
Utah	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Virginia	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Washington	1.5	2.2	111	128	75	59
West Virginia	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Wisconsin	8.3	8.5	3,664	3,827	441	453
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	61.2	59.2	17,355	17,383	288	295

(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: May 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama	5.8	4.6	2,538	1,947	438	419
Alaska	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.1	34	30	249	246
Arkansas	10.5	10.0	4,851	4,610	464	459
California	204.9	211.7	48,737	51,079	238	242
Colorado	0.7	1.1	170	237	257	211
Delaware-Maryland	1.5	1.4	355	315	236	225
Florida	8.8	6.2	1,151	843	131	137
Georgia	5.8	6.9	1,441	1,682	250	245
Hawaii	1.3	1.2	315	294	249	253
Idaho	10.9	12.0	2,725	3,031	250	253
Illinois	705.1	871.2	198,790	247,531	282	284
Indiana	662.5	712.3	179,061	192,005	270	270
Iowa	2,254.6	2,461.1	621,810	685,977	276	279
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.8	0.8	165	161	204	201
Michigan	11.1	10.5	4,092	3,858	370	366
Minnesota	812.9	877.6	217,370	236,119	268	269
Mississippi	9.8	9.2	2,432	2,597	249	283
Missouri	616.6	677.9	173,611	191,801	282	283
Montana	1.1	1.0	298	275	269	266
Nebraska	598.7	649.6	162,510	179,069	271	276
Nevada	0.1	0.1	22	22	252	239
New England ¹	1.8	1.8	415	420	229	231
New Jersey	8.8	8.6	810	880	92	102
New Mexico	(Y)	0.1	(X)	20	(X)	279
New York	2.4	2.9	412	586	173	202
North Carolina	902.9	946.0	247,754	256,047	274	271
North Dakota	9.0	0.3	2,271	97	253	329
Ohio	85.7	84.5	22,801	22,438	267	266
Oklahoma	437.4	444.8	122,796	123,133	281	277
Oregon	15.2	15.6	3,787	3,962	250	253
Pennsylvania	226.9	242.1	58,331	62,515	257	258
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	343.4	365.1	90,805	99,050	265	271
Tennessee	40.0	50.5	18,941	23,571	474	468
Texas	33.9	26.6	9,366	8,136	277	306
Utah	5.7	5.1	804	710	143	140
Virginia	176.2	211.9	47,372	57,738	269	273
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.4	0.6	94	134	216	223
Wisconsin	46.4	48.3	21,447	22,340	464	463
Wyoming	0.2	0.3	63	76	260	248
United States	8,542.6	9,284.9	2,351,498	2,572,638	275	277

(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: May 2011 and 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2011 (1,000 head)	2012 (1,000 head)	2011 (1,000 pounds)	2012 (1,000 pounds)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.2	0.1	18	25	116	170
Arkansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	110
California	25.3	26.7	3,658	3,893	146	146
Colorado	77.4	77.8	13,283	14,643	172	188
Delaware-Maryland	3.5	3.1	337	303	96	97
Florida	0.3	0.2	18	13	56	67
Georgia	0.5	1.0	36	76	71	77
Hawaii	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	114
Idaho	0.1	0.2	19	22	137	133
Illinois	9.8	13.0	1,448	2,002	148	154
Indiana	2.5	3.1	277	339	110	108
Iowa	4.1	0.1	618	17	153	154
Kansas	0.2	0.3	21	26	101	86
Kentucky	0.9	1.0	118	128	131	133
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	15	14	59	54
Michigan	13.3	13.7	1,745	1,894	131	139
Minnesota	0.3	0.2	35	27	128	123
Mississippi	(D)	0.2	(D)	17	(D)	67
Missouri	0.4	0.4	45	46	113	121
Montana	0.3	0.2	25	21	100	90
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	0.1	0.1	15	11	145	120
New England ¹	2.5	2.4	232	211	95	87
New Jersey	10.3	9.0	875	760	85	84
New Mexico	1.0	0.8	151	127	157	157
New York	3.1	3.6	263	331	84	93
North Carolina	1.1	1.2	78	88	68	74
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	1.2	1.3	131	135	112	105
Oklahoma	0.1	0.2	9	32	110	131
Oregon	2.1	2.4	303	354	147	149
Pennsylvania	2.9	4.4	285	443	97	102
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	22	29	133	119
Tennessee	0.6	1.0	44	66	69	65
Texas	10.0	7.1	880	458	88	64
Utah	2.2	2.3	318	326	146	145
Virginia	0.8	0.2	77	23	97	95
Washington	0.7	0.5	118	89	178	169
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.6	0.7	79	93	136	140
Wyoming	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
United States	180.2	180.4	25,780	27,230	143	151

(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	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	January to May		May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	January to May	
				2011	2012				2011	2012
	(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	1,431	1,251	1,489	6,652	6,514	51.5	49.5	52.5	48.8	49.1
Heifers	782	765	786	4,113	3,938	28.2	30.3	27.7	30.2	29.7
All cows	516	469	514	2,631	2,586	18.6	18.6	18.1	19.3	19.5
Dairy cows	220	240	251	1,239	1,294	7.9	9.5	8.9	9.1	9.8
Other cows	296	230	263	1,392	1,292	10.6	9.1	9.3	10.2	9.7
Bulls	48	43	47	239	219	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.6
Total	2,777	2,528	2,836	13,635	13,257	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	60	55	58	328	298	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	8,202	8,501	8,931	42,964	44,518	96.8	97.1	97.0	97.0	97.1
Sows	241	231	252	1,201	1,207	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6
Boars	27	26	29	136	139	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	8,470	8,757	9,212	44,300	45,864	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	15	10	11	55	47	9.1	6.1	6.5	6.5	5.7
Lambs and yearlings	151	156	154	782	772	90.9	93.9	93.5	93.5	94.3
Total	166	166	164	837	819	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	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	January to May	
				2011	2012
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	761	779	780	770	784
Steers ¹	819	835	839	829	845
Heifers ¹	749	776	771	768	785
All cows ¹	602	621	612	610	617
Bulls ¹	881	893	884	875	881
Calves and vealers	170	175	175	164	166
Hogs	206	209	208	208	209
Barrows and gilts ²	203	206	205	205	206
Sows ²	310	310	312	308	309
Boars ²	212	208	211	211	209
Sheep	74	74	79	73	76
Mature sheep ³	68	66	66	68	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	75	74	79	73	77

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: May 2012

[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	1.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	
2	5.7	1.8	0.7	2.7	2.4	0.2	0.6	13.0	
3	81.5	32.7	1.8	44.5	35.3	9.2	2.6	9.8	
4	70.6	3.0	1.1	56.5	14.8	41.7	10.0	0.3	
5	317.7	148.2	32.3	128.1	72.4	55.7	9.0	18.8	
6	589.6	288.8	190.8	99.2	29.3	69.9	10.9	0.3	
7	1,193.8	693.3	434.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
8	273.5	172.7	81.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
9	195.1	86.0	18.8	86.8	72.8	14.0	3.5	13.2	
10	106.9	61.9	24.8	19.2	15.4	3.8	1.0	2.2	
United States	2,835.9	1,488.9	786.1	514.1	251.3	262.8	46.8	58.2	
	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	1.6	1.5	(Y)	(Y)	2.4	0.1	2.2		
2	11.4	11.2	0.2	(Y)	12.0	1.9	10.2		
3	454.3	453.4	(D)	(D)	8.3	0.5	7.8		
4	1,283.6	1,217.9	(D)	(D)	4.2	1.0	3.2		
5	2,576.2	2,454.1	116.1	6.0	27.7	2.7	25.1		
6	474.0	460.4	13.6	(Y)	1.7	0.8	0.9		
7	3,806.2	3,728.7	58.2	19.3	0.6	(Y)	0.6		
8	370.0	369.9	0.1	(Y)	79.9	3.1	76.8		
9	206.0	205.9	0.1	(Y)	25.1	0.5	24.6		
10	28.6	28.6	(Y)	(Y)	2.5	0.1	2.4		
United States	9,211.9	8,931.4	251.7	28.8	164.4	10.7	153.7		

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to May 2012

[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	6.4	2.8	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.5	1.0	2.7
2	28.0	8.4	3.1	14.1	12.3	1.8	2.4	66.0
3	413.5	155.0	14.1	234.0	186.7	47.3	10.4	47.2
4	344.3	12.3	5.8	278.2	75.6	202.6	48.0	1.4
5	1,530.6	654.7	163.8	669.0	376.5	292.4	43.1	96.2
6	2,702.3	1,349.4	817.2	485.8	155.3	330.4	49.9	4.3
7	5,494.4	2,953.6	2,222.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.2
8	1,314.0	717.7	499.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	946.4	412.1	78.2	438.9	369.6	69.3	17.1	69.1
10	477.3	248.0	132.4	91.7	74.5	17.3	5.2	11.1
United States	13,257.2	6,514.0	3,938.5	2,586.1	1,294.1	1,291.9	218.7	298.0
	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	6.8	6.6	0.1	0.1	11.4	0.7	10.7	
2	57.0	55.6	0.9	0.5	60.2	8.6	51.6	
3	2,169.1	2,164.1	(D)	(D)	39.6	2.7	36.9	
4	6,359.0	6,024.3	(D)	(D)	17.2	4.3	12.9	
5	12,790.9	12,222.0	542.8	26.2	134.6	12.6	122.0	
6	2,409.2	2,335.1	73.1	1.0	7.4	3.3	4.1	
7	19,046.5	18,685.3	267.5	93.7	2.4	0.1	2.3	
8	1,894.2	1,893.6	0.5	(Y)	417.6	11.8	405.8	
9	997.4	997.0	0.4	(Y)	117.6	2.1	115.5	
10	134.2	134.0	0.2	(Y)	10.7	0.7	10.0	
United States	45,864.3	44,517.6	1,207.4	139.4	818.6	46.8	771.8	

(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	May 2011	April 2012	May 2012	January to May	
				2011	2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.5	98.4	98.6	98.4	98.4
Calves	98.0	98.1	98.3	98.4	98.3
Hogs	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.2
Sheep	92.0	91.5	91.2	93.2	92.8

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 nearly 800 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and over 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
Travis Averill – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(515) 284-4340
Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
James Collom – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Vacant – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4751

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 “Receive NASS Updates” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.
- Printed reports may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by calling toll-free (800) 999-6779, or (703) 605-6220 if calling from outside the United States or Canada. Accepted methods of payment are Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order.

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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