



Livestock Slaughter

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Pork Production at Record High for December

December 2024 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

December 2025 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.83 billion pounds in December, up 6 percent from the 4.54 billion pounds produced in December 2024.

Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.58 million head, up 2 percent from December 2024. The average live weight was up 32 pounds from the previous year, at 1,463 pounds.

Veal production totaled 2.1 million pounds, 31 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 11,000 head, down 32 percent from December 2024. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from last year, at 334 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.52 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.5 million head, up 7 percent from December 2024. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 293 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.4 million pounds, was up 3 percent from December 2024. Sheep slaughter totaled 217,300 head, 7 percent above last year. The average live weight was 112 pounds, down 5 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2025 commercial red meat production was 53.7 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2024. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 38 percent, pork was down 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up slightly.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	December 2025 as % of		January to December		
				December 2024	November 2025	2024	2025	2025 as % of 2024
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,200.3	2,021.0	2,298.3	104	114	26,982.5	26,000.8	96
Veal	3.1	1.8	2.1	69	116	40.2	24.9	62
Pork	2,329.0	2,231.6	2,516.4	108	113	27,788.9	27,577.2	99
Lamb and mutton	12.1	9.8	12.4	103	127	133.9	134.5	100
Total red meat	4,544.5	4,264.3	4,829.3	106	113	54,945.5	53,737.4	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	December 2025 as % of		January to December		
				December 2024	November 2025	2024	2025	2025 as % of 2024
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,168.6	1,991.5	2,267.3	105	114	26,584.9	25,614.2	96
Veal	2.9	1.7	2.0	69	116	38.5	23.6	61
Pork	2,319.9	2,224.0	2,508.3	108	113	27,672.0	27,468.5	99
Lamb and mutton	10.8	8.7	11.1	103	128	118.7	119.3	100
Total red meat	4,502.1	4,225.8	4,788.8	106	113	54,414.1	53,225.5	98

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	December 2025 as % of 2024	January to December		
					2024	2025	2025 as % of 2024
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,496.1	2,233.6	2,536.5	102	31,258.2	29,251.9	94
Other 1,000	45.0	40.7	43.4	96	571.6	540.9	95
Commercial 1,000	2,541.1	2,274.3	2,579.9	102	31,829.8	29,792.7	94
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,434	1,461	1,467	102	1,402	1,436	102
Other pounds	1,236	1,255	1,244	101	1,221	1,241	102
Commercial pounds	1,431	1,457	1,463	102	1,399	1,432	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	15.2	8.4	10.3	68	203.4	118.0	58
Other 1,000	0.9	0.6	0.6	71	8.5	6.3	74
Commercial 1,000	16.1	9.0	11.0	68	211.9	124.4	59
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	324	351	330	102	320	340	106
Other pounds	397	398	401	101	383	399	104
Commercial pounds	328	354	334	102	323	343	106
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,700.0	10,220.3	11,480.7	107	129,052.7	127,630.7	99
Other 1,000	49.6	39.0	43.0	87	617.7	568.4	92
Commercial 1,000	10,749.6	10,259.3	11,523.7	107	129,670.3	128,199.1	99
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	291	292	293	101	288	289	100
Other pounds	251	267	258	102	261	262	101
Commercial pounds	291	292	293	101	288	289	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	175.3	152.0	190.5	109	1,914.9	1,956.6	102
Other 1,000	28.0	23.1	26.8	96	293.6	301.2	103
Commercial 1,000	203.3	175.1	217.3	107	2,208.5	2,257.7	102
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	121	112	115	95	122	120	98
Other pounds	94	97	95	101	101	99	98
Commercial pounds	117	110	112	96	119	117	98
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	53.4	44.0	55.8	104	566.4	538.8	95
Other 1,000	11.6	9.7	11.9	103	116.5	112.0	96
Commercial 1,000	65.0	53.7	67.7	104	682.9	650.8	95
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	64	64	100	64	64	101
Other pounds	84	79	82	98	83	82	99
Commercial pounds	68	67	67	99	67	67	101
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	6.3	5.2	5.8	92	77.1	63.4	82
Other 1,000	0.4	0.4	0.3	88	3.5	3.3	97
Commercial 1,000	6.7	5.6	6.1	91	80.6	66.7	83

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	December 2025 as % of 2024
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	0.9	1.0	1.1	132
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	0.1	98
Arizona	40.8	33.0	41.1	101
Arkansas	0.5	0.4	0.5	97
California	88.7	76.3	85.9	97
Colorado	174.2	165.9	185.7	107
Delaware-Maryland	2.4	1.8	2.0	83
Florida	5.7	4.3	3.4	60
Georgia	6.4	8.3	9.4	147
Hawaii	0.7	0.6	0.7	110
Idaho	47.4	45.2	49.9	105
Illinois	281.2	264.7	296.6	105
Indiana	169.2	169.3	182.0	108
Iowa	743.6	724.1	818.8	110
Kansas	471.4	423.9	501.4	106
Kentucky	53.4	51.5	55.7	104
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	0.3	102
Michigan	128.7	132.3	140.6	109
Minnesota	234.4	224.2	244.2	104
Mississippi	0.8	0.8	0.8	96
Missouri	176.0	174.8	195.6	111
Montana	2.5	2.0	2.6	106
Nebraska	663.8	626.0	709.0	107
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	118
New England ¹	2.7	2.5	2.6	96
New Jersey	4.5	4.4	5.4	120
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.4	112
New York	2.8	2.5	2.9	106
North Carolina	229.9	213.4	246.5	107
North Dakota	0.6	0.8	0.6	90
Ohio	25.4	23.8	27.0	106
Oklahoma	104.0	90.6	105.1	101
Oregon	2.3	2.1	2.3	101
Pennsylvania	131.1	116.7	135.8	104
South Carolina	14.7	12.3	12.8	87
South Dakota	126.6	115.6	131.0	104
Tennessee	25.7	25.0	27.9	108
Texas	360.4	317.2	371.3	103
Utah	46.1	47.5	51.7	112
Virginia	1.2	1.1	1.1	95
Washington	76.0	69.0	79.6	105
West Virginia	1.0	0.9	0.8	83
Wisconsin	95.4	86.9	96.1	101
Wyoming	0.9	0.7	0.8	87
United States	4,544.5	4,264.3	4,829.3	106

(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: December 2024 and 2025

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.7	0.7	759	792	1,117	1,195
Alaska	0.1	0.1	104	98	1,170	1,123
Arizona	44.3	(D)	65,592	(D)	1,483	(D)
Arkansas	0.6	0.6	707	679	1,104	1,129
California	92.6	90.2	130,126	124,084	1,414	1,384
Colorado	183.6	190.5	274,689	291,173	1,498	1,530
Delaware-Maryland	2.4	1.9	3,327	2,606	1,395	1,409
Florida	8.4	(D)	11,142	(D)	1,330	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.9	1.0	1,071	1,182	1,206	1,221
Idaho	(D)	59.9	(D)	82,869	(D)	1,391
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	7.4	9.9	8,756	12,584	1,199	1,281
Iowa	46.4	48.3	66,645	71,034	1,436	1,471
Kansas	505.2	518.5	730,149	772,655	1,446	1,491
Kentucky	6.1	6.5	7,214	7,941	1,191	1,224
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	426	439	1,028	999
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.4	0.4	461	426	1,028	1,058
Missouri	4.9	24.1	6,122	32,253	1,248	1,347
Montana	2.9	3.0	3,507	3,747	1,225	1,248
Nebraska	550.5	563.5	827,438	863,198	1,504	1,534
Nevada	0.1	(D)	88	(D)	1,282	(D)
New England ¹	2.8	2.6	3,478	3,215	1,226	1,227
New Jersey	4.7	5.3	5,482	6,220	1,164	1,173
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	467	529	1,065	1,193
New York	2.8	3.0	3,505	3,748	1,258	1,260
North Carolina	5.3	(D)	6,474	(D)	1,237	(D)
North Dakota	0.8	0.7	1,067	942	1,295	1,387
Ohio	5.8	5.7	7,713	7,603	1,329	1,343
Oklahoma	7.1	8.2	8,465	10,222	1,196	1,254
Oregon	1.2	1.2	1,537	1,477	1,242	1,281
Pennsylvania	87.1	86.6	115,561	116,587	1,333	1,350
South Carolina	20.8	18.3	28,253	24,483	1,366	1,348
South Dakota	40.7	29.6	59,807	47,359	1,476	1,600
Tennessee	3.0	3.0	2,921	2,958	1,004	1,021
Texas	435.2	428.0	588,805	602,682	1,357	1,412
Utah	50.0	(D)	72,149	(D)	1,445	(D)
Virginia	1.3	1.2	1,410	1,315	1,082	1,113
Washington	84.7	84.7	123,224	127,420	1,459	1,509
West Virginia	1.2	0.9	1,389	1,081	1,137	1,217
Wisconsin	104.8	100.8	146,685	141,348	1,408	1,410
Wyoming	1.1	1.0	1,333	1,173	1,221	1,202
United States	2,541.1	2,579.9	3,628,195	3,767,653	1,431	1,463

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

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

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: December 2024 and 2025

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Alaska	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
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)	0.1	(D)	54	(D)	407
Georgia	0.1	0.1	33	32	456	503
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	0.1	0.2	60	85	402	413
Indiana	0.5	(D)	189	(D)	396	(D)
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	22	(X)	446
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(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	0.1	0.1	28	29	265	297
New Jersey	1.5	1.9	559	743	384	388
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	39	22	352	359
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	2.4	(D)	816	(D)	347	(D)
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	6.2	4.1	2,654	1,713	432	414
South Carolina	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Texas	0.4	0.3	171	130	486	487
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	16.1	11.0	5,250	3,643	328	334

(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: December 2024 and 2025

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.6	2.3	654	1,003	422	445
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(Y)	0.1	(X)	21	(X)	291
Arkansas	0.3	0.3	93	83	279	273
California	91.7	93.9	20,829	21,619	228	231
Colorado	2.5	2.4	384	398	153	164
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	1.9	472	517	269	277
Florida	4.6	4.8	619	572	133	118
Georgia	5.2	5.3	1,351	1,432	260	269
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	58	49	292	265
Idaho	12.4	13.9	3,172	3,645	257	261
Illinois	1,012.8	1,080.9	292,008	311,136	288	288
Indiana	760.6	809.7	219,298	233,445	288	288
Iowa	3,250.3	3,537.4	948,717	1,044,005	292	295
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	67	58	160	161
Michigan	405.6	437.7	119,661	128,563	295	294
Minnesota	987.9	1,035.3	278,703	295,468	282	285
Mississippi	4.5	4.4	763	751	169	172
Missouri	774.9	794.6	230,334	239,142	297	301
Montana	1.6	1.5	465	431	296	285
Nebraska	690.9	775.2	202,453	227,459	293	293
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	2.4	2.5	652	662	277	263
New Jersey	11.5	12.7	989	1,217	86	96
New Mexico	0.2	0.1	50	37	240	257
New York	1.9	1.8	430	409	229	223
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	47	47	304	292
Ohio	91.6	97.3	26,995	29,863	295	307
Oklahoma	454.9	454.0	130,512	130,932	287	288
Oregon	5.4	5.6	1,380	1,450	257	262
Pennsylvania	295.4	312.4	83,019	88,474	281	283
South Carolina	3.4	3.5	719	750	211	214
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	78.7	85.2	36,205	39,649	461	466
Texas	28.1	26.8	4,976	5,017	177	187
Utah	1.9	2.6	440	453	238	174
Virginia	1.4	1.3	428	418	313	318
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	138	105	285	218
Wisconsin	60.5	69.1	25,565	29,864	424	433
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	71	56	322	269
United States	10,749.6	11,523.7	3,128,892	3,376,512	291	293

(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: December 2024 and 2025

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	89
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.8	0.8	91	96	115	125
Arkansas	0.1	0.2	6	17	68	89
California	23.1	22.6	3,335	3,134	144	139
Colorado	36.1	43.3	5,813	6,656	161	154
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.5	163	146	95	97
Florida	3.2	3.3	169	164	53	50
Georgia	(D)	3.7	(D)	245	(D)	67
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	8	8	116	120
Idaho	0.1	0.2	14	25	145	146
Illinois	6.8	7.8	592	665	88	85
Indiana	6.2	6.0	658	600	106	100
Iowa	0.1	0.2	16	17	118	112
Kansas	0.3	0.2	31	23	98	93
Kentucky	1.0	0.9	105	95	103	109
Louisiana	0.9	0.8	53	46	59	55
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.7	0.9	54	75	78	86
Mississippi	0.2	0.1	14	10	71	71
Missouri	1.6	1.9	132	136	82	72
Montana	0.4	0.4	52	52	119	127
Nebraska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	118
Nevada	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New England ¹	5.4	5.6	530	521	98	93
New Jersey	15.7	20.7	1,290	1,793	82	87
New Mexico	0.5	0.8	68	107	135	132
New York	8.1	9.1	787	903	97	99
North Carolina	6.5	9.9	407	627	62	63
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	116
Ohio	6.5	4.9	1,049	720	161	148
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.4	4.6	674	687	152	148
Pennsylvania	12.5	12.0	1,213	1,193	97	100
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	33	39	112	123
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	29.6	23.5	2,900	1,785	98	76
Utah	1.5	1.5	196	192	135	132
Virginia	0.9	0.9	71	76	77	83
Washington	1.1	1.1	143	139	134	131
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.0	0.9	112	90	113	96
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	14	15	130	130
United States	203.3	217.3	23,789	24,435	117	112

(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	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	January to December		December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	January to December	
				2024	2025				2024	2025
	(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	1,193.9	1,096.2	1,249.6	15,184.1	14,535.7	47.8	49.1	49.3	48.6	49.7
Heifers	829.0	705.5	808.8	10,003.5	9,277.1	33.2	31.6	31.9	32.0	31.7
All cows	440.0	394.2	444.0	5,580.3	4,992.4	17.6	17.6	17.5	17.9	17.1
Dairy cows	224.5	204.1	248.4	2,725.5	2,641.4	9.0	9.1	9.8	8.7	9.0
Other cows	215.5	190.1	195.6	2,854.8	2,351.1	8.6	8.5	7.7	9.1	8.0
Bulls	33.3	37.7	34.2	490.4	446.6	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.5
Total	2,496.1	2,233.6	2,536.5	31,258.2	29,251.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	15.2	8.4	10.3	203.4	118.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,428.1	9,990.7	11,198.5	125,617.6	124,406.3	97.5	97.8	97.5	97.3	97.5
Sows	250.9	212.9	262.2	3,148.1	2,975.6	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.3
Boars	21.0	16.7	20.0	287.0	248.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	10,700.0	10,220.3	11,480.7	129,052.7	127,630.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	10.6	10.3	12.8	127.7	130.0	6.1	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6
Lambs and yearlings	164.6	141.7	177.7	1,787.2	1,826.6	93.9	93.2	93.3	93.3	93.4
Total	175.3	152.0	190.5	1,914.9	1,956.6	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	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	January to December	
				2024	2025
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	871	894	896	852	878
Steers ¹	953	984	983	931	955
Heifers ¹	868	891	893	848	871
All cows ¹	651	642	650	641	658
Bulls ¹	877	905	909	899	917
Calves and vealers	193	206	194	190	201
Hogs	217	218	219	214	215
Barrows and gilts ²	215	216	217	212	213
Sows ²	296	301	299	298	300
Boars ²	228	239	227	223	229
Sheep	61	57	58	62	61
Mature sheep ³	65	64	63	64	64
Lambs and yearlings ³	61	57	58	62	61

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: December 2025

[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	2.4	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
2	8.2	2.7	2.2	3.1	2.2	0.8	0.3	2.8
3	88.6	35.4	4.5	44.1	35.3	8.9	4.5	4.2
4	53.1	5.5	2.2	40.7	13.4	27.3	4.8	0.2
5	253.9	126.5	(D)	88.8	59.6	29.3	(D)	1.6
6	430.7	177.4	155.7	88.3	35.4	52.9	9.3	(D)
7	1,145.1	640.5	(D)	59.9	14.0	45.8	(D)	0.1
8	273.3	152.7	(D)	13.6	2.3	11.2	(D)	(Y)
9	136.2	50.7	22.1	62.3	55.4	6.9	1.0	(D)
10	145.1	57.3	43.5	42.7	30.4	12.2	1.6	(D)
United States	2,536.5	1,249.6	808.8	444.0	248.4	195.6	34.2	10.3
	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	2.4	2.3	(Y)	(Y)	5.5	0.2	5.4	
2	14.5	14.4	(Y)	(Y)	29.0	4.2	24.8	
3	314.4	314.2	0.2	(Y)	15.4	0.8	14.7	
4	(D)	(D)	88.6	(D)	15.6	1.0	14.6	
5	3,513.7	3,411.7	96.1	5.9	33.6	1.9	31.7	
6	477.7	477.5	0.1	0.1	18.2	1.2	17.1	
7	5,122.4	5,035.0	77.0	10.3	1.9	(D)	(D)	
8	(D)	(D)	0.1	(D)	44.5	(D)	(D)	
9	89.6	89.5	(Y)	(Y)	21.7	2.5	19.2	
10	21.0	21.0	(Y)	(Y)	5.0	0.1	4.9	
United States	11,480.7	11,198.5	262.2	20.0	190.5	12.8	177.7	

(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 December 2025

[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	30.0	12.4	8.2	6.9	4.3	2.5	2.6	1.2
2	87.1	27.4	24.4	31.9	24.2	7.6	3.3	27.7
3	1,063.0	411.4	87.2	495.6	377.8	117.8	68.7	52.9
4	662.6	64.3	27.4	503.1	145.6	357.5	67.9	2.7
5	2,904.2	1,448.2	(D)	1,012.6	690.9	321.7	(D)	18.2
6	5,101.5	2,207.3	1,761.8	1,023.3	370.9	652.4	109.1	(D)
7	12,920.2	7,271.6	(D)	597.5	104.4	493.2	(D)	0.6
8	3,243.3	1,790.6	(D)	188.8	42.4	146.4	(D)	(Y)
9	1,550.5	664.4	251.3	618.8	538.0	80.8	15.9	(D)
10	1,689.6	638.1	513.2	513.9	342.7	171.2	24.4	(D)
United States	29,251.9	14,535.7	9,277.1	4,992.4	2,641.4	2,351.1	446.6	118.0
	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	24.7	24.4	0.2	0.1	56.4	2.3	54.1	
2	129.9	129.2	0.5	0.2	263.6	30.0	233.7	
3	3,409.4	3,407.0	2.1	0.3	171.0	14.7	156.2	
4	(D)	(D)	965.8	(D)	166.2	11.9	154.3	
5	39,184.7	38,004.5	1,115.7	64.5	350.6	19.1	331.6	
6	5,746.9	5,744.7	1.1	1.0	201.8	10.6	191.2	
7	56,649.2	55,628.4	887.9	132.8	22.2	(D)	(D)	
8	(D)	(D)	1.5	(D)	426.4	(D)	(D)	
9	963.8	963.2	0.5	0.1	238.9	30.0	208.9	
10	228.2	227.8	0.3	0.1	59.4	2.0	57.4	
United States	127,630.7	124,406.3	2,975.6	248.7	1,956.6	130.0	1,826.6	

(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	December 2024	November 2025	December 2025	January to December	
				2024	2025
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.2	98.2	98.3	98.2	98.2
Calves	94.4	93.8	94.1	96.0	94.9
Hogs	99.5	99.6	99.6	99.5	99.6
Sheep	86.2	86.8	87.7	86.7	86.7

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 1,100 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,825 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.

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
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

Access to NASS Reports

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- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov 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.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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