



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released September 24, 2026, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Commercial Red Meat Production Down 1 Percent from Last Year

August 2025 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

August 2026 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.10 billion pounds in August, down 1 percent from the 4.15 billion pounds produced in August 2025.

Beef production, at 1.98 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.24 million head, down 4 percent from August 2025. The average live weight was up 28 pounds from the previous year, at 1,441 pounds.

Veal production totaled 1.6 million pounds, 19 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 7,300 head, down 23 percent from August 2025. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from last year, at 373 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.10 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.92 million head, down 2 percent from August 2025. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 284 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 9.7 million pounds, was down 4 percent from August 2025. Sheep slaughter totaled 174,300 head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 109 pounds, down 3 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2026 commercial red meat production was 34.6 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2025. Accumulated beef production was down 5 percent from last year, veal was down 25 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

This page intentionally left blank.

Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States 4

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States..... 4

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States..... 5

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States 6

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: August 2025 and 2026 7

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: August 2025 and 2026..... 8

Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: August 2025 and 2026..... 9

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: August 2025 and 2026..... 10

Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States 11

Federally Inspected Slaughter Average Dressed Weight by Class – United States 11

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: August 2026 12

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to August 2026..... 13

Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States 13

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates 14

Statistical Methodology 15

Information Contacts 16

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	August 2026 as % of		January to August		
				August 2025	July 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,016.7	2,085.1	1,981.6	98	95	17,197.8	16,368.4	95
Veal	1.9	1.5	1.6	81	105	17.1	12.9	75
Pork	2,116.5	2,190.5	2,102.3	99	96	17,937.7	18,098.6	101
Lamb and mutton	10.0	9.7	9.7	96	99	91.4	82.9	91
Total red meat	4,145.3	4,286.9	4,095.2	99	96	35,243.9	34,562.7	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	August 2026 as % of		January to August		
				August 2025	July 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	1,985.9	2,056.5	1,953.3	98	95	16,940.7	16,123.1	95
Veal	1.9	1.4	1.5	80	107	16.2	12.0	75
Pork	2,106.0	2,181.5	2,091.5	99	96	17,865.2	18,030.5	101
Lamb and mutton	8.7	8.7	8.4	97	98	81.0	74.3	92
Total red meat	4,102.5	4,248.0	4,054.8	99	95	34,903.0	34,239.9	98

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	August 2026 as % of 2025	January to August		
					2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,290.3	2,325.9	2,203.2	96	19,480.4	18,060.6	93
Other 1,000	43.2	39.6	39.1	90	361.3	338.5	94
Commercial 1,000	2,333.5	2,365.6	2,242.3	96	19,841.7	18,399.1	93
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,416	1,441	1,444	102	1,426	1,461	102
Other pounds	1,238	1,245	1,251	101	1,238	1,259	102
Commercial pounds	1,413	1,438	1,441	102	1,423	1,457	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9.0	6.3	6.9	76	81.3	56.7	70
Other 1,000	0.4	0.4	0.4	91	4.3	3.8	88
Commercial 1,000	9.4	6.7	7.3	77	85.6	60.4	71
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	350	377	370	106	338	361	107
Other pounds	404	434	427	106	401	420	105
Commercial pounds	353	380	373	106	341	365	107
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,070.9	10,216.4	9,864.3	98	83,231.0	83,131.5	100
Other 1,000	55.8	47.1	56.1	100	381.0	352.5	93
Commercial 1,000	10,126.7	10,263.5	9,920.3	98	83,612.0	83,484.1	100
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	281	286	284	101	288	291	101
Other pounds	259	263	262	101	261	264	101
Commercial pounds	280	286	284	101	288	290	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	150.1	151.4	149.9	100	1,285.9	1,247.7	97
Other 1,000	25.1	21.2	24.4	97	205.1	167.9	82
Commercial 1,000	175.2	172.5	174.3	99	1,491.0	1,415.6	95
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	114	112	110	97	124	117	94
Other pounds	101	99	97	97	100	101	101
Commercial pounds	112	111	109	97	121	115	95
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	42.7	43.7	44.8	105	342.5	337.4	99
Other 1,000	9.3	9.5	9.3	100	71.8	69.9	97
Commercial 1,000	52.1	53.2	54.1	104	414.3	407.3	98
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	64	65	101	65	64	99
Other pounds	81	82	83	102	82	82	100
Commercial pounds	67	67	68	101	68	67	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.6	4.6	4.4	94	42.1	36.9	88
Other 1,000	0.2	0.1	0.2	75	2.1	2.2	102
Commercial 1,000	4.9	4.8	4.5	93	44.3	39.1	88

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	August 2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	0.9	1.0	1.3	138
Alaska	0.1	0.1	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	36.5	35.7	36.8	101
Arkansas	0.4	0.5	0.4	105
California	75.3	81.1	74.5	99
Colorado	171.9	111.8	109.5	64
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	1.9	2.1	108
Florida	4.4	4.3	4.7	108
Georgia	7.8	10.5	6.2	80
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.5	74
Idaho	47.0	45.3	43.8	93
Illinois	252.2	257.1	229.5	91
Indiana	149.5	162.0	164.0	110
Iowa	680.6	715.4	691.1	102
Kansas	430.7	501.1	485.2	113
Kentucky	49.9	48.9	46.4	93
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	0.3	98
Michigan	122.2	130.5	125.2	102
Minnesota	214.6	216.8	204.8	95
Mississippi	0.7	0.7	0.7	101
Missouri	159.0	172.9	174.6	110
Montana	2.0	1.7	1.8	92
Nebraska	594.9	616.9	597.3	100
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	79
New England ¹	2.6	2.2	2.2	87
New Jersey	4.3	4.6	4.5	105
New Mexico	0.4	0.3	0.4	106
New York	2.6	2.7	2.6	101
North Carolina	200.0	197.7	171.4	86
North Dakota	0.6	0.7	0.6	100
Ohio	24.1	26.9	25.8	107
Oklahoma	98.6	104.3	95.6	97
Oregon	2.4	2.3	2.2	92
Pennsylvania	121.3	123.5	95.8	79
South Carolina	12.1	11.8	11.6	96
South Dakota	108.6	108.6	111.5	103
Tennessee	23.6	23.9	22.0	93
Texas	335.9	339.7	329.5	98
Utah	46.6	49.0	47.2	101
Virginia	1.1	1.1	1.0	94
Washington	72.6	81.2	77.5	107
West Virginia	0.7	0.6	0.8	108
Wisconsin	82.5	87.9	90.7	110
Wyoming	0.9	0.8	0.9	97
United States	4,145.3	4,286.9	4,095.2	99

(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: August 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.7	1.0	799	1,150	1,148	1,137
Alaska	0.1	0.1	79	66	1,213	1,152
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	0.6	0.6	617	653	1,064	1,106
California	76.4	79.7	107,157	106,149	1,413	1,341
Colorado	185.5	114.8	270,462	170,323	1,460	1,485
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	2.0	2,534	2,822	1,397	1,386
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.0	0.7	1,184	833	1,152	1,198
Idaho	57.2	52.3	78,342	71,600	1,378	1,378
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	9.4	10.3	11,701	13,187	1,249	1,288
Iowa	39.7	44.6	55,045	64,463	1,388	1,446
Kansas	456.6	508.0	656,960	748,345	1,439	1,474
Kentucky	6.5	6.1	7,723	7,455	1,205	1,214
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	485	458	1,004	1,073
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.4	0.5	417	498	1,008	1,016
Missouri	14.3	21.8	18,600	29,736	1,304	1,368
Montana	2.0	1.8	2,531	2,244	1,275	1,262
Nebraska	501.2	488.3	729,421	728,602	1,457	1,493
Nevada	(D)	0.1	(D)	109	(D)	1,134
New England ¹	2.7	2.4	3,380	3,060	1,237	1,264
New Jersey	4.6	4.6	5,286	5,370	1,153	1,166
New Mexico	0.4	0.5	460	510	1,167	1,063
New York	2.7	2.6	3,328	3,312	1,243	1,264
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.7	0.7	906	956	1,321	1,328
Ohio	6.0	5.6	7,957	7,583	1,336	1,345
Oklahoma	6.7	6.4	7,846	7,865	1,186	1,224
Oregon	1.3	1.3	1,655	1,557	1,252	1,235
Pennsylvania	84.3	56.9	110,595	71,724	1,317	1,266
South Carolina	17.4	17.3	23,621	22,737	1,367	1,324
South Dakota	25.1	(D)	38,793	(D)	1,545	(D)
Tennessee	3.1	2.0	3,116	2,194	1,023	1,088
Texas	401.0	375.4	544,152	530,459	1,360	1,416
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	1.2	1.1	1,381	1,286	1,109	1,125
Washington	79.1	84.6	115,577	123,783	1,465	1,467
West Virginia	0.7	0.7	812	917	1,180	1,293
Wisconsin	88.3	95.0	121,949	132,770	1,389	1,404
Wyoming	1.0	0.9	1,264	1,070	1,208	1,228
United States	2,333.5	2,242.3	3,289,796	3,225,256	1,413	1,441

(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: August 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(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	0.1	(Y)	45	(X)	391	(X)
Georgia	0.1	(D)	24	(D)	434	(D)
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Illinois	0.1	0.2	56	87	391	420
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	160	(D)	416
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(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	19	21	216	245
New Jersey	1.5	1.2	580	465	380	387
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	20	19	344	382
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	3.8	(D)	1,591	(D)	418	(D)
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	0.1	0.1	40	44	478	482
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(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	9.4	7.3	3,301	2,694	353	373

(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: August 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.7	2.2	743	949	428	432
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.1	36	34	246	242
Arkansas	0.3	0.3	89	74	261	276
California	83.8	80.0	19,417	18,844	232	236
Colorado	3.3	2.9	635	574	191	200
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	1.7	525	473	280	283
Florida	3.9	5.8	455	536	117	92
Georgia	4.6	4.9	1,264	1,319	274	267
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	36	36	268	273
Idaho	12.0	13.2	2,992	3,434	250	260
Illinois	937.5	949.9	258,182	267,430	275	282
Indiana	683.0	735.7	190,464	208,102	279	283
Iowa	3,084.6	3,082.0	870,989	875,371	282	284
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.1	0.2	34	47	230	252
Michigan	396.1	382.9	112,444	108,165	284	283
Minnesota	935.9	881.0	260,436	247,438	278	281
Mississippi	3.4	3.0	622	567	181	186
Missouri	699.9	739.0	199,435	209,151	285	283
Montana	2.1	2.1	546	565	265	269
Nebraska	651.4	652.4	183,484	184,448	282	283
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	2.2	1.9	573	491	264	257
New Jersey	8.0	8.2	840	1,054	104	128
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	66	76	252	241
New York	1.8	2.0	427	490	235	243
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.3	0.3	76	73	277	286
Ohio	87.5	99.2	25,552	28,374	292	286
Oklahoma	465.2	416.2	124,507	119,519	268	287
Oregon	5.6	5.2	1,412	1,337	250	258
Pennsylvania	272.6	(D)	73,153	(D)	268	(D)
South Carolina	1.6	1.4	412	350	252	248
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	71.7	66.7	32,873	31,236	459	469
Texas	23.3	22.0	4,237	4,169	182	190
Utah	2.6	2.8	539	479	210	174
Virginia	0.9	0.9	255	265	297	311
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.7	0.9	198	239	267	274
Wisconsin	61.3	64.1	25,952	28,097	425	439
Wyoming	0.7	1.2	177	295	250	253
United States	10,126.7	9,920.3	2,839,909	2,817,090	280	284

(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: August 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	80
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.5	(D)	66	(D)	121	(D)
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	8	10	106	100
California	18.8	19.0	2,636	2,462	140	130
Colorado	27.7	27.8	4,149	3,997	150	144
Delaware-Maryland	1.4	1.7	143	163	99	99
Florida	2.9	3.1	145	157	49	51
Georgia	3.2	3.4	206	250	65	73
Hawaii	0.1	0.2	9	28	132	135
Idaho	0.3	0.3	39	42	137	138
Illinois	6.9	5.8	584	499	85	86
Indiana	6.1	5.8	607	567	100	98
Iowa	0.2	0.2	22	22	123	102
Kansas	0.4	0.3	46	36	113	110
Kentucky	0.7	0.7	76	77	103	117
Louisiana	0.7	0.6	38	32	58	54
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.6	0.9	50	74	80	79
Mississippi	0.2	0.3	16	20	78	71
Missouri	1.8	1.6	132	126	74	81
Montana	0.4	0.4	52	52	136	129
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	8	9	127	118
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	4.2	3.2	404	306	95	96
New Jersey	15.3	15.8	1,319	1,410	86	89
New Mexico	0.6	0.6	84	74	131	132
New York	6.4	7.2	648	722	101	100
North Carolina	7.3	6.3	453	398	62	63
North Dakota	0.1	0.1	21	10	141	125
Ohio	5.0	4.3	731	661	146	152
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.8	4.2	701	577	145	136
Pennsylvania	9.8	10.5	986	1,078	100	103
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.2	29	20	132	101
Tennessee	(D)	1.3	(D)	121	(D)	91
Texas	21.7	23.3	1,919	1,792	89	77
Utah	1.5	1.3	192	165	130	130
Virginia	1.0	0.9	74	67	73	77
Washington	1.2	1.0	166	135	134	134
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.3	1.4	157	161	119	112
Wyoming	0.2	0.3	25	38	145	152
United States	175.2	174.3	19,663	18,927	112	109

(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	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	January to August		August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	January to August	
				2025	2026				2025	2026
	(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	1,160.1	1,231.4	1,190.4	9,675.0	9,124.8	50.7	52.9	54.0	49.7	50.5
Heifers	709.0	660.8	611.7	6,236.0	5,537.0	31.0	28.4	27.8	32.0	30.7
All cows	382.6	396.8	365.4	3,282.0	3,125.2	16.7	17.1	16.6	16.8	17.3
Dairy cows	217.4	227.6	221.1	1,718.8	1,786.9	9.5	9.8	10.0	8.8	9.9
Other cows	165.1	169.2	144.3	1,563.2	1,338.3	7.2	7.3	6.5	8.0	7.4
Bulls	38.7	36.9	35.7	287.5	273.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5
Total	2,290.3	2,325.9	2,203.2	19,480.4	18,060.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	9.0	6.3	6.9	81.3	56.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,827.4	9,960.2	9,630.3	81,063.3	81,067.9	97.6	97.5	97.6	97.4	97.5
Sows	224.4	234.9	214.0	1,997.6	1,901.5	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3
Boars	19.1	21.3	19.9	170.1	162.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	10,070.9	10,216.4	9,864.3	83,231.0	83,131.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	10.5	10.4	9.3	83.6	85.5	7.0	6.9	6.2	6.5	6.9
Lambs and yearlings	139.6	140.9	140.6	1,202.3	1,162.2	93.0	93.1	93.8	93.5	93.1
Total	150.1	151.4	149.9	1,285.9	1,247.7	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	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	January to August	
				2025	2026
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	869	886	888	871	895
Steers ¹	947	964	967	944	976
Heifers ¹	859	877	876	865	890
All cows ¹	645	650	645	664	661
Bulls ¹	916	947	931	922	939
Calves and vealers	207	223	218	200	213
Hogs	209	214	212	215	217
Barrows and gilts ²	207	211	210	213	215
Sows ²	298	308	306	299	303
Boars ²	236	232	226	227	231
Sheep	58	57	56	63	60
Mature sheep ³	63	64	64	65	64
Lambs and yearlings ³	58	57	56	63	59

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: August 2026

[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	2.2	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1
2	7.2	2.4	(D)	2.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	1.4
3	58.8	15.9	(D)	35.8	28.7	7.2	(D)	(D)
4	47.4	5.0	2.5	35.8	13.2	22.6	4.1	0.1
5	205.6	104.4	17.1	(D)	57.3	(D)	(D)	(D)
6	378.1	172.7	130.1	66.3	33.8	32.6	8.9	(D)
7	1,054.1	654.3	351.2	(D)	(D)	29.7	(D)	(Y)
8	189.3	126.0	51.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	123.3	48.7	18.1	55.3	41.9	13.4	1.1	(D)
10	137.4	60.2	37.1	37.3	29.4	7.9	2.8	(Y)
United States	2,203.2	1,190.4	611.7	365.4	221.1	144.3	35.7	6.9
	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	1.7	1.7	(Y)	(Y)	3.2	0.2	3.0	
2	10.2	10.1	(Y)	(Y)	22.5	2.3	20.3	
3	(D)	(D)	0.2	(D)	13.6	1.0	12.5	
4	(D)	(D)	68.3	(D)	13.4	0.9	12.5	
5	3,087.4	3,001.2	80.5	5.8	28.0	1.5	26.5	
6	435.3	435.2	0.1	0.1	16.0	1.2	14.8	
7	4,480.8	4,405.8	64.7	10.2	1.6	0.1	1.5	
8	(D)	(D)	(Y)	(D)	28.8	(D)	(D)	
9	76.7	76.6	0.1	(Y)	18.3	(D)	(D)	
10	19.2	19.2	(Y)	(Y)	4.5	0.1	4.3	
United States	9,864.3	9,630.3	214.0	19.9	149.9	9.3	140.6	

(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 – Regions and United States: January to August 2026

[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	16.8	6.3	4.0	4.8	3.3	1.6	1.6	0.6
2	57.5	18.5	(D)	21.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	12.1
3	657.2	261.4	(D)	322.7	251.9	70.8	(D)	(D)
4	419.5	45.8	17.8	318.1	104.2	214.0	37.8	1.1
5	1,848.3	904.4	215.4	(D)	462.6	(D)	(D)	(D)
6	3,011.8	1,341.6	1,072.4	526.2	238.7	287.5	71.7	(D)
7	8,264.0	4,725.8	3,092.2	(D)	(D)	305.8	(D)	0.4
8	1,664.8	936.0	619.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	1,017.9	427.6	150.7	430.3	348.5	81.8	9.3	(D)
10	1,102.8	457.5	318.8	311.2	246.4	64.8	15.4	0.3
United States	18,060.6	9,124.8	5,537.0	3,125.2	1,786.9	1,338.3	273.6	56.7
	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	12.3	12.1	0.1	0.1	25.9	1.3	24.6	
2	87.8	87.3	0.3	0.2	184.3	22.8	161.4	
3	(D)	(D)	1.5	(D)	109.9	8.2	101.7	
4	(D)	(D)	629.4	(D)	108.6	7.6	101.0	
5	25,633.2	24,880.7	709.8	42.7	230.4	12.9	217.5	
6	3,560.3	3,559.0	0.7	0.7	131.1	10.1	121.1	
7	37,532.1	36,881.5	558.8	91.8	14.5	0.7	13.8	
8	(D)	(D)	0.4	(D)	260.9	(D)	(D)	
9	623.8	623.3	0.3	0.2	143.8	(D)	(D)	
10	160.2	160.0	0.1	0.1	38.3	0.8	37.5	
United States	83,131.5	81,067.9	1,901.5	162.1	1,247.7	85.5	1,162.2	

(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	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	January to August	
				2025	2026
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.1	98.3	98.3	98.2	98.2
Calves	95.4	93.4	94.6	95.0	93.8
Hogs	99.4	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.6
Sheep	85.7	87.7	86.0	86.2	88.1

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 1,125 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,800 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, Poultry, and Grain Market News**, Actual Slaughter Under Federal Inspection, 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.

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - Estimation Branch Contacts

For more information about specific data items, please contact the Estimation Branch staff members below. You can also email inquiries to nass@usda.gov.

Anthony Prillaman, Associate Deputy Administrator (202) 720-2127

Darin Jantzi, Section Chief..... (701) 412-5953

Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Eggs, Hogs and Pigs, Layers, Sheep and Goats

Jeff Lemmons, Section Chief..... (202) 973-3272

Cattle, Cattle on Feed, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage

Fleming Gibson, Section Chief (Acting)..... (202) 236-2428

Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Dairy Products, Livestock Slaughter, Poultry Slaughter, Trout, Turkey Hatchery, Turkey Raised

Julie Weber, Section Chief (202) 317-0165

Cost of Pollination, Egg Products, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Milk Production

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.
- The national 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” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- 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.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



USDA Virtual Data Users' Meeting
October 14, 2026
12:00 PM ET

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will host a virtual USDA Fall Data Users' Meeting on October 14, 2026, starting at 12:00 p.m. ET. This Data Users' Meeting is free of charge and open to the public.

The event is regularly held to share recent and pending updates to USDA data and statistical products with the public and to solicit input on agency programs important to agriculture. It is organized by NASS in cooperation with the World Agricultural Outlook Board, Farm Service Agency, Economic Research Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, and the U.S. Census Bureau. Leaders from each agency will be available to take questions and comments.

To view the complete agenda and register for the meeting, please visit www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users. For more information, contact Shareefah Williams at Shareefah.williams@usda.gov.