



Livestock Slaughter

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Commercial Red Meat Production Down 11 Percent from Last Year

March 2023 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2024 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.38 billion pounds in March, down 11 percent from the 4.91 billion pounds produced in March 2023.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.51 million head, down 15 percent from March 2023. The average live weight was up 26 pounds from the previous year, at 1,392 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.6 million pounds, 15 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 18,900 head, down 28 percent from March 2023. The average live weight was up 46 pounds from last year, at 323 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.25 billion pounds, down 10 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.5 million head, down 9 percent from March 2023. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 289 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.3 million pounds, was down 5 percent from March 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 199,300 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 122 pounds, down 3 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2024 commercial red meat production was 13.7 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2023. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of		January to March		
				March 2023	February 2024	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,405.3	2,168.6	2,110.4	88	97	6,823.7	6,559.8	96
Veal	4.2	3.6	3.6	85	100	12.5	11.0	89
Pork	2,488.4	2,371.2	2,250.0	90	95	7,071.5	7,094.0	100
Lamb and mutton	13.0	10.9	12.3	95	113	33.4	33.8	101
Total red meat	4,911.0	4,554.3	4,376.3	89	96	13,941.1	13,698.6	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of		January to March		
				March 2023	February 2024	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,367.5	2,135.0	2,076.4	88	97	6,714.3	6,457.5	96
Veal	4.1	3.4	3.4	85	100	12.0	10.6	88
Pork	2,478.3	2,361.4	2,240.7	90	95	7,042.1	7,064.5	100
Lamb and mutton	11.7	9.8	11.1	95	113	30.2	30.5	101
Total red meat	4,861.5	4,509.7	4,331.6	89	96	13,798.6	13,563.2	98

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of 2023	January to March		
					2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,883.8	2,564.7	2,461.1	85	8,156.8	7,706.1	94
Other 1,000	55.6	48.5	48.7	88	160.2	147.3	92
Commercial 1,000	2,939.4	2,613.2	2,509.8	85	8,317.0	7,853.4	94
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,369	1,387	1,396	102	1,376	1,392	101
Other pounds	1,210	1,221	1,223	101	1,216	1,223	101
Commercial pounds	1,366	1,384	1,392	102	1,373	1,388	101
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	25.5	18.9	18.2	71	80.6	59.0	73
Other 1,000	0.8	0.8	0.7	91	2.3	2.2	96
Commercial 1,000	26.3	19.6	18.9	72	82.9	61.2	74
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	274	309	320	117	257	306	119
Other pounds	361	373	381	106	358	369	103
Commercial pounds	277	312	323	116	260	309	119
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	11,414.7	10,937.0	10,407.0	91	32,425.0	32,660.9	101
Other 1,000	50.6	48.6	48.8	97	146.3	149.2	102
Commercial 1,000	11,465.2	10,985.6	10,455.8	91	32,571.3	32,810.1	101
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	292	290	290	99	292	291	100
Other pounds	276	279	265	96	276	272	98
Commercial pounds	292	290	289	99	292	291	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	179.1	152.2	174.7	98	461.7	479.3	104
Other 1,000	27.4	19.6	24.7	90	65.3	63.6	97
Commercial 1,000	206.5	171.9	199.3	97	527.0	542.9	103
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	129	127	125	97	129	125	97
Other pounds	101	104	100	99	100	101	100
Commercial pounds	125	124	122	97	125	122	98
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	47.7	42.8	48.2	101	126.9	136.2	107
Other 1,000	8.5	9.7	9.8	116	23.0	29.0	126
Commercial 1,000	56.2	52.4	58.0	103	150.0	165.2	110
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	65	64	62	95	65	63	96
Other pounds	89	84	83	94	87	82	94
Commercial pounds	69	68	66	96	69	66	97
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	7.4	6.7	6.9	93	20.0	21.2	106
Other 1,000	0.4	0.3	0.3	86	1.0	0.9	87
Commercial 1,000	7.7	7.0	7.2	93	21.0	22.1	105

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.5	1.2	1.4	96
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	44.8	40.3	38.8	87
Arkansas	0.7	0.6	0.6	99
California	122.9	96.1	97.2	79
Colorado	183.0	163.0	163.4	89
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.7	2.6	88
Florida	8.2	5.4	5.7	70
Georgia	13.1	15.0	13.0	99
Hawaii	0.8	0.8	0.7	84
Idaho	35.8	42.0	42.3	118
Illinois	285.8	281.4	272.6	95
Indiana	165.0	151.9	152.5	92
Iowa	799.7	809.9	765.2	96
Kansas	517.1	451.8	438.9	85
Kentucky	54.8	51.7	49.8	91
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	0.4	89
Michigan	117.1	119.2	120.4	103
Minnesota	278.6	237.4	222.0	80
Mississippi	0.9	0.8	0.9	101
Missouri	191.9	171.3	171.4	89
Montana	2.3	1.3	1.9	81
Nebraska	672.8	655.1	623.0	93
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
New England ¹	2.7	2.6	2.6	97
New Jersey	4.5	3.9	4.3	96
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.4	84
New York	3.7	2.9	3.3	90
North Carolina	286.5	226.0	201.5	70
North Dakota	0.8	0.8	0.7	92
Ohio	24.5	24.1	25.1	102
Oklahoma	117.8	118.1	110.9	94
Oregon	2.7	2.2	2.3	85
Pennsylvania	142.8	134.7	123.6	87
South Carolina	17.3	17.2	16.1	93
South Dakota	128.9	123.6	119.3	93
Tennessee	28.1	26.2	25.0	89
Texas	407.9	352.3	339.3	83
Utah	48.6	44.6	45.4	93
Virginia	1.5	1.5	1.4	90
Washington	84.9	75.1	75.6	89
West Virginia	1.1	1.0	0.9	79
Wisconsin	105.5	97.4	93.0	88
Wyoming	0.8	0.7	0.8	104
United States	4,911.0	4,554.3	4,376.3	89

(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: March 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.6	1.3	1,832	1,420	1,134	1,134
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	50.7	43.3	72,098	62,112	1,423	1,435
Arkansas	1.0	0.9	1,002	931	1,010	1,042
California	145.6	109.2	192,321	147,380	1,330	1,360
Colorado	207.8	176.8	286,429	254,824	1,379	1,443
Delaware-Maryland	3.0	2.6	4,081	3,603	1,364	1,400
Florida	12.9	8.5	15,687	10,687	1,217	1,268
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.2	1.0	1,401	1,154	1,166	1,137
Idaho	49.0	(D)	62,974	(D)	1,294	(D)
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	4.5	3.9	5,384	4,748	1,210	1,204
Iowa	51.7	44.9	73,110	64,574	1,414	1,438
Kansas	589.2	494.9	802,349	678,958	1,362	1,372
Kentucky	6.4	5.8	6,918	6,744	1,095	1,160
Louisiana	0.7	0.5	579	510	886	974
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.9	0.8	806	844	935	1,038
Missouri	27.8	12.3	33,251	14,112	1,203	1,149
Montana	3.0	2.1	3,806	2,655	1,288	1,266
Nebraska	598.8	535.2	857,408	785,602	1,433	1,469
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	77	(X)	1,187	(X)
New England ¹	3.0	2.7	3,588	3,341	1,197	1,226
New Jersey	4.8	4.7	5,442	5,411	1,148	1,157
New Mexico	0.5	0.5	603	520	1,163	996
New York	4.0	3.7	4,842	4,670	1,210	1,265
North Carolina	8.5	7.3	10,412	8,947	1,232	1,239
North Dakota	1.0	0.9	1,201	1,110	1,230	1,264
Ohio	6.9	6.3	9,216	8,334	1,331	1,328
Oklahoma	6.3	5.8	7,340	6,799	1,172	1,193
Oregon	1.9	1.3	2,262	1,601	1,218	1,217
Pennsylvania	100.9	85.3	130,224	110,990	1,297	1,306
South Carolina	24.9	22.9	33,878	31,586	1,365	1,390
South Dakota	37.7	39.3	53,170	58,842	1,418	1,503
Tennessee	3.6	3.8	3,563	3,924	1,009	1,055
Texas	508.3	416.7	670,974	554,595	1,324	1,334
Utah	54.4	49.6	76,049	70,727	1,398	1,426
Virginia	2.0	1.8	2,109	1,856	1,066	1,031
Washington	100.5	85.7	139,840	122,260	1,395	1,429
West Virginia	1.4	1.1	1,601	1,229	1,134	1,170
Wisconsin	114.3	98.9	159,792	139,281	1,407	1,417
Wyoming	1.0	1.0	1,208	1,241	1,185	1,229
United States	2,939.4	2,509.8	4,007,721	3,487,107	1,366	1,392

(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: March 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	0.2	0.1	111	45	476	466
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	0.2	0.2	49	99	340	424
Indiana	0.7	0.5	332	203	453	416
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	26	(X)	450
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.2	0.1	57	33	273	235
New Jersey	1.6	1.3	602	503	381	382
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	4.3	(D)	412	(D)	97	(D)
North Carolina	0.2	0.2	38	43	215	243
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	4.7	2.9	914	985	196	344
Oklahoma	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	6.8	7.6	2,912	3,323	429	439
South Carolina	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.2	0.2	102	82	428	475
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	(D)	29	(D)	304	(D)
Washington	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
West Virginia	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Wisconsin	2.1	(Y)	957	(X)	464	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	26.3	18.9	7,235	6,063	277	323

(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: March 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.7	2.2	654	920	391	411
Alaska	0.1	0.1	25	38	274	301
Arizona	0.1	(Y)	20	(X)	303	(X)
Arkansas	0.4	0.7	108	180	263	267
California	82.3	75.4	19,021	17,270	232	230
Colorado	3.2	2.7	517	433	164	162
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	1.5	505	450	285	293
Florida	4.8	4.5	702	632	145	141
Georgia	5.6	5.1	1,494	1,340	266	261
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	42	42	265	262
Idaho	13.1	10.9	3,337	2,740	255	253
Illinois	1,017.3	977.9	292,794	279,933	288	286
Indiana	770.4	716.2	215,333	199,478	280	279
Iowa	3,546.4	3,379.8	1,021,985	981,404	288	290
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	87	87	241	208
Michigan	334.8	382.4	99,235	111,475	296	292
Minnesota	1,177.8	944.8	330,558	264,117	281	280
Mississippi	3.4	3.3	608	587	179	180
Missouri	787.4	748.3	233,397	219,195	297	293
Montana	1.1	1.3	326	352	293	281
Nebraska	684.0	631.4	198,393	184,648	290	292
Nevada	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New England ¹	1.9	1.9	559	577	292	299
New Jersey	8.9	8.6	859	811	96	95
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	54	49	258	252
New York	2.7	1.8	707	436	260	247
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	57	61	320	280
Ohio	86.7	89.5	24,906	26,123	288	292
Oklahoma	504.5	471.0	149,864	140,142	297	298
Oregon	5.2	4.9	1,316	1,234	255	254
Pennsylvania	298.4	260.5	86,243	74,294	289	285
South Carolina	1.8	1.8	458	450	251	249
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	89.5	75.9	39,251	34,424	439	454
Texas	24.5	22.6	5,081	4,641	207	206
Utah	2.4	1.8	664	532	284	292
Virginia	1.0	0.9	328	300	316	329
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.8	0.6	239	184	295	306
Wisconsin	69.9	65.8	29,694	28,072	426	428
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	61	66	246	301
United States	11,465.2	10,455.8	3,342,118	3,025,549	292	289

(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: March 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	78
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.8	9	89	105	118
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	10	8	99	80
California	30.1	27.4	4,842	4,310	161	157
Colorado	43.6	37.1	7,059	6,241	162	168
Delaware-Maryland	2.4	1.9	203	194	85	103
Florida	3.4	3.2	177	167	52	52
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	16	10	146	146
Idaho	0.1	0.1	19	21	127	146
Illinois	6.0	6.7	539	530	89	79
Indiana	7.0	6.0	711	616	102	102
Iowa	0.1	0.1	15	18	140	127
Kansas	0.5	0.5	43	46	96	97
Kentucky	1.4	1.7	150	168	106	97
Louisiana	1.0	1.1	58	64	58	60
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.6	0.7	44	52	70	79
Mississippi	0.2	0.3	10	20	66	70
Missouri	0.8	1.3	62	105	75	83
Montana	0.3	0.3	38	45	142	143
Nebraska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	110
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	4.4	5.4	420	510	95	94
New Jersey	18.1	16.1	1,472	1,314	81	82
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	63	53	122	140
New York	6.8	7.4	577	662	85	90
North Carolina	2.5	3.4	166	213	66	62
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	7	(X)	145
Ohio	4.5	5.4	741	827	163	153
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.7	5.2	756	838	160	162
Pennsylvania	11.9	13.0	1,138	1,265	95	97
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.1	21	18	131	126
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	25.5	26.3	2,800	2,659	110	101
Utah	1.6	1.4	214	182	134	134
Virginia	1.0	1.3	74	90	74	69
Washington	1.1	0.9	151	122	133	134
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	3.0	0.8	437	96	147	117
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	11	11	121	163
United States	206.5	199.3	25,792	24,244	125	122

(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	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	January to March		March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	January to March	
				2023	2024				2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)
Cattle										
Steers	1,304.6	1,199.2	1,138.1	3,736.3	3,623.9	45.2	46.8	46.2	45.8	47.0
Heifers	942.9	812.4	819.4	2,564.4	2,466.0	32.7	31.7	33.3	31.4	32.0
All cows	591.5	516.2	466.1	1,740.2	1,510.3	20.5	20.1	18.9	21.3	19.6
Dairy cows	306.2	252.7	244.6	870.6	747.6	10.6	9.9	9.9	10.7	9.7
Other cows	285.2	263.4	221.4	869.6	762.6	9.9	10.3	9.0	10.7	9.9
Bulls	44.8	36.9	37.5	115.9	106.0	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4
Total	2,883.8	2,564.7	2,461.1	8,156.8	7,706.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	25.5	18.9	18.2	80.6	59.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	11,111.2	10,638.2	10,125.3	31,567.1	31,770.0	97.3	97.3	97.3	97.4	97.3
Sows	274.1	274.1	259.8	780.8	819.9	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5
Boars	29.3	24.7	22.0	77.0	71.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	11,414.7	10,937.0	10,407.0	32,425.0	32,660.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9.8	9.1	10.2	26.7	28.9	5.5	5.9	5.8	5.8	6.0
Lambs and yearlings	169.2	143.2	164.5	434.9	450.4	94.5	94.1	94.2	94.2	94.0
Total	179.1	152.2	174.7	461.7	479.3	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	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	January to March	
				2023	2024
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	823	834	846	825	840
Steers ¹	899	914	923	905	919
Heifers ¹	829	834	847	830	839
All cows ¹	640	645	648	642	645
Bulls ¹	865	873	889	853	877
Calves and vealers	160	183	190	150	181
Hogs	217	216	215	217	216
Barrows and gilts ²	215	214	213	215	214
Sows ²	298	299	298	296	297
Boars ²	190	224	226	192	224
Sheep	65	65	63	65	64
Mature sheep ³	64	65	64	63	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	65	65	63	65	64

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: March 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	2.4	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
2	8.4	2.1	2.3	3.8	3.0	0.7	0.2	3.0
3	87.6	35.1	4.2	42.9	32.3	10.6	5.4	7.8
4	70.5	5.0	2.4	55.0	14.2	40.8	8.2	0.4
5	241.5	116.1	(D)	88.2	56.3	31.8	(D)	3.5
6	417.6	185.3	138.2	85.0	33.8	51.2	9.1	(D)
7	1,076.1	553.3	(D)	60.2	6.9	53.3	(D)	0.1
8	264.1	130.5	(D)	22.8	7.0	15.8	(D)	(Y)
9	152.8	57.2	29.9	64.1	58.8	5.4	1.6	(D)
10	140.2	52.6	42.3	43.7	32.1	11.6	1.6	(D)
United States	2,461.1	1,138.1	819.4	466.1	244.6	221.4	37.5	18.2
	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	1.7	1.7	(Y)	(Y)	5.3	0.2	5.1	
2	10.3	10.3	(Y)	(Y)	23.0	2.1	20.8	
3	261.6	261.4	(D)	(D)	17.3	1.9	15.4	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	11.9	1.0	11.0	
5	3,156.3	3,044.3	107.4	4.5	27.9	1.6	26.3	
6	489.6	489.5	0.1	0.1	18.3	0.5	17.8	
7	4,771.1	4,683.3	75.2	12.6	1.4	(Y)	1.4	
8	(D)	(D)	0.5	(Y)	38.2	0.8	37.4	
9	71.6	71.6	(Y)	(Y)	26.0	1.9	24.1	
10	17.1	17.0	0.1	(Y)	5.5	0.2	5.3	
United States	10,407.0	10,125.3	259.8	22.0	174.7	10.2	164.5	

(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 March 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	7.7	3.1	2.2	1.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.5
2	23.5	6.1	6.5	10.2	8.6	1.7	0.7	10.3
3	274.4	108.1	12.3	138.9	105.1	33.8	15.1	23.5
4	217.5	13.9	7.1	173.4	46.1	127.3	23.1	1.2
5	753.3	349.3	(D)	287.5	175.3	112.1	(D)	11.5
6	1,334.6	577.8	451.0	280.3	101.6	178.7	25.4	(D)
7	3,385.9	1,810.0	(D)	206.5	20.7	185.9	(D)	0.2
8	812.1	415.5	(D)	71.9	20.3	51.6	(D)	(Y)
9	469.9	182.2	79.7	203.3	176.0	27.4	4.6	(D)
10	427.3	157.8	128.4	136.5	93.0	43.5	4.5	(D)
United States	7,706.1	3,623.9	2,466.0	1,510.3	747.6	762.6	106.0	59.0
	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	5.8	5.7	0.1	(Y)	13.0	0.6	12.4	
2	32.3	32.1	0.1	(Y)	59.9	5.9	53.9	
3	867.6	866.8	(D)	(D)	47.8	5.7	42.0	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	33.5	2.9	30.6	
5	9,878.0	9,519.2	345.3	13.6	78.4	4.5	73.8	
6	1,514.6	1,514.0	0.4	0.2	50.4	1.6	48.7	
7	14,732.7	14,456.5	234.1	42.1	3.3	(Y)	3.3	
8	(D)	(D)	1.2	0.1	109.1	2.3	106.7	
9	225.8	225.7	0.1	(Y)	69.4	4.7	64.6	
10	53.6	53.4	0.1	(Y)	14.7	0.5	14.2	
United States	32,660.9	31,770.0	819.9	71.0	479.3	28.9	450.4	

(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	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	January to March	
				2023	2024
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1
Calves	96.9	96.0	96.1	97.3	96.4
Hogs	99.6	99.6	99.5	99.6	99.5
Sheep	86.7	88.6	87.6	87.6	88.3

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 1,000 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 1,850 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
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Kim Dapra – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(512) 501-3266
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3347
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@usda.gov.

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