



Livestock Slaughter

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Record Low Veal and Lamb and Mutton Production in December

December 2021 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

December 2022 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.47 billion pounds in December, down 7 percent from the 4.78 billion pounds produced in December 2021.

Beef production, at 2.22 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.68 million head, down 5 percent from December 2021. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,385 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.5 million pounds, 15 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,900 head, down 15 percent from December 2021. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 237 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.23 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.3 million head, down 7 percent from December 2021. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 292 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 7 percent from December 2021. Sheep slaughter totaled 176,100 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 122 pounds, down 1 pound from December a year ago.

January to December 2022 commercial red meat production was 55.5 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2021. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2021	November 2022	December 2022	December 2022 as % of		January to December		
				December 2021	November 2022	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,362.5	2,424.3	2,224.7	94	92	27,947.2	28,290.3	101
Veal	5.3	4.5	4.5	85	99	53.2	53.9	101
Pork	2,404.1	2,350.8	2,229.9	93	95	27,674.8	26,994.5	98
Lamb and mutton	11.7	11.0	10.9	93	99	138.4	130.9	95
Total red meat	4,783.6	4,790.6	4,470.0	93	93	55,813.5	55,469.6	99

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2021	November 2022	December 2022	December 2022 as % of		January to December		
				December 2021	November 2022	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,326.8	2,387.6	2,192.8	94	92	27,484.6	27,837.3	101
Veal	5.1	4.4	4.4	86	99	51.7	52.5	102
Pork	2,393.8	2,340.7	2,220.4	93	95	27,540.3	26,870.5	98
Lamb and mutton	10.5	10.0	9.8	93	98	122.2	116.2	95
Total red meat	4,736.2	4,742.8	4,427.4	93	93	55,198.9	54,876.6	99

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	December 2021	November 2022	December 2022	December 2022 as % of 2021	January to December		
					2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,772.2	2,854.8	2,636.7	95	33,184.4	33,664.4	101
Other 1,000	52.2	52.8	46.4	89	665.9	657.0	99
Commercial 1,000	2,824.3	2,907.6	2,683.1	95	33,850.3	34,321.5	101
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,395	1,387	1,388	99	1,374	1,372	100
Other pounds	1,217	1,214	1,217	100	1,218	1,215	100
Commercial pounds	1,392	1,384	1,385	99	1,371	1,369	100
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	38.1	30.7	32.4	85	383.9	362.2	94
Other 1,000	0.7	0.5	0.5	67	7.4	7.1	95
Commercial 1,000	38.8	31.2	32.9	85	391.3	369.2	94
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	235	250	236	101	234	251	107
Other pounds	370	342	324	88	381	361	95
Commercial pounds	237	251	237	100	237	253	107
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	11,005.1	10,862.6	10,246.6	93	128,287.8	124,673.7	97
Other 1,000	54.3	53.1	51.8	95	698.1	641.2	92
Commercial 1,000	11,059.4	10,915.7	10,298.4	93	128,985.9	125,314.8	97
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	292	290	292	100	288	290	101
Other pounds	260	260	251	97	264	265	100
Commercial pounds	292	290	292	100	288	289	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	165.2	155.6	154.2	93	1,927.1	1,758.4	91
Other 1,000	24.4	22.6	21.9	90	336.2	299.8	89
Commercial 1,000	189.5	178.2	176.1	93	2,263.2	2,058.2	91
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	127	126	126	99	126	131	104
Other pounds	97	94	97	101	97	98	101
Commercial pounds	123	122	122	100	122	126	103
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	49.1	44.1	46.8	95	493.6	498.9	101
Other 1,000	12.7	8.5	11.5	90	105.0	105.9	101
Commercial 1,000	61.8	52.6	58.3	94	598.5	604.8	101
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	65	65	102	65	65	100
Other pounds	83	84	85	102	87	85	98
Commercial pounds	68	68	69	102	69	68	100
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	5.9	6.3	6.4	108	66.2	72.2	109
Other 1,000	0.3	0.3	0.3	77	3.3	3.0	91
Commercial 1,000	6.2	6.6	6.6	106	69.4	75.1	108

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 2021	November 2022	December 2022	December 2022 as % of 2021
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.0	1.2	1.0	104
Alaska	0.1	0.1	0.1	89
Arizona	43.2	41.5	39.6	92
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	0.4	81
California	145.1	147.4	153.1	106
Colorado	164.9	180.2	156.3	95
Delaware-Maryland	2.9	2.8	2.7	91
Florida	7.0	7.5	6.2	88
Georgia	14.9	14.1	14.4	97
Hawaii	0.9	0.8	0.8	92
Idaho	34.6	37.3	34.1	99
Illinois	287.3	278.4	262.3	91
Indiana	165.0	164.8	159.3	97
Iowa	776.5	752.6	687.1	88
Kansas	526.8	530.6	483.4	92
Kentucky	57.6	51.6	49.8	87
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	0.3	75
Michigan	102.8	109.6	106.8	104
Minnesota	273.2	263.5	239.4	88
Mississippi	0.8	0.8	0.7	96
Missouri	173.9	183.0	166.1	96
Montana	2.7	4.3	1.6	60
Nebraska	680.0	703.1	625.3	92
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
New England ¹	2.9	3.0	2.6	90
New Jersey	4.3	3.8	4.1	95
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.4	88
New York	3.5	3.4	3.5	99
North Carolina	234.1	246.7	248.8	106
North Dakota	0.7	0.7	0.7	94
Ohio	24.7	22.2	22.6	92
Oklahoma	108.0	103.6	104.3	97
Oregon	4.0	2.8	2.5	63
Pennsylvania	127.9	130.0	129.7	101
South Carolina	16.0	15.8	15.3	95
South Dakota	135.0	123.0	117.1	87
Tennessee	27.1	25.8	25.3	93
Texas	400.4	398.9	370.8	93
Utah	42.7	45.7	42.7	100
Virginia	1.9	1.6	1.3	70
Washington	79.7	81.2	78.5	99
West Virginia	1.0	1.0	0.9	90
Wisconsin	106.1	104.5	107.2	101
Wyoming	0.8	0.8	0.8	98
United States	4,783.6	4,790.6	4,470.0	93

(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: December 2021 and 2022

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.8	0.9	822	942	1,064	1,045
Alaska	0.1	0.1	91	79	998	1,101
Arizona	48.9	45.6	69,611	64,471	1,424	1,418
Arkansas	0.6	0.5	605	539	1,070	1,064
California	137.6	137.0	184,343	183,383	1,348	1,347
Colorado	178.4	171.7	256,396	245,366	1,439	1,430
Delaware-Maryland	3.0	2.6	4,203	3,729	1,395	1,409
Florida	10.9	10.1	13,416	11,705	1,239	1,167
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.2	1.1	1,466	1,362	1,212	1,230
Idaho	48.1	47.0	60,621	59,891	1,272	1,281
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.9	3.7	4,846	4,424	1,254	1,204
Iowa	(D)	44.8	(D)	63,200	(D)	1,412
Kansas	577.0	535.9	816,422	752,707	1,415	1,405
Kentucky	5.1	5.7	5,722	6,219	1,121	1,102
Louisiana	0.6	0.5	489	377	869	807
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.5	0.5	476	433	966	947
Missouri	18.7	26.5	21,689	30,770	1,164	1,169
Montana	3.0	2.0	4,016	2,466	1,323	1,254
Nebraska	589.6	546.1	868,195	805,067	1,474	1,476
Nevada	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
New England ¹	3.3	3.1	3,833	3,435	1,173	1,123
New Jersey	4.3	4.2	4,915	4,825	1,140	1,147
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	595	475	1,108	1,124
New York	3.7	3.7	4,511	4,406	1,236	1,199
North Carolina	6.9	5.9	8,449	7,239	1,234	1,233
North Dakota	0.8	0.9	1,104	1,118	1,308	1,306
Ohio	6.2	6.1	8,231	8,073	1,338	1,331
Oklahoma	5.9	4.4	6,628	5,348	1,122	1,228
Oregon	2.1	1.9	2,412	2,153	1,156	1,125
Pennsylvania	92.2	89.8	114,143	112,335	1,245	1,258
South Carolina	23.2	22.7	30,754	29,283	1,333	1,293
South Dakota	43.9	37.3	62,124	53,327	1,425	1,439
Tennessee	4.1	3.0	4,398	2,884	1,085	985
Texas	488.7	462.3	655,727	611,829	1,346	1,327
Utah	47.1	47.7	66,461	66,616	1,411	1,397
Virginia	1.7	1.5	1,827	1,676	1,097	1,088
Washington	93.5	93.0	131,220	129,431	1,407	1,394
West Virginia	1.5	1.2	1,475	1,263	1,013	1,039
Wisconsin	118.7	117.7	164,893	164,226	1,396	1,403
Wyoming	1.1	1.1	1,324	1,264	1,233	1,166
United States	2,824.3	2,683.1	3,922,297	3,706,534	1,392	1,385

(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: December 2021 and 2022

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
California	3.3	2.6	417	260	131	101
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	0.2	52	85	404	425
Georgia	0.1	0.2	67	80	475	480
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	0.1	0.1	30	37	328	362
Indiana	0.7	0.7	297	298	404	441
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Michigan	0.1	(D)	40	(D)	400	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.3	0.2	81	45	310	259
New Jersey	1.9	1.4	687	547	370	381
New Mexico	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New York	6.2	5.4	593	497	96	93
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	25	34	359	318
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	12.2	9.1	1,667	1,235	138	136
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	8.2	7.0	3,546	3,063	433	437
South Carolina	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	0.2	0.1	83	41	432	449
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	0.1	(D)	27	(D)	289
Washington	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
West Virginia	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Wisconsin	2.5	2.3	1,202	1,096	481	480
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	38.8	32.9	9,129	7,752	237	237

(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 2021 and 2022

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.9	1.9	812	790	426	416
Alaska	0.1	0.1	17	17	257	281
Arizona	0.1	(Y)	33	(X)	263	(X)
Arkansas	0.4	0.2	101	61	279	292
California	212.3	236.3	53,769	64,576	254	274
Colorado	2.1	3.5	385	510	182	148
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	2.0	479	527	257	261
Florida	5.7	4.6	675	598	119	129
Georgia	5.6	5.7	1,525	1,543	274	273
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	51	43	262	261
Idaho	15.1	12.0	4,020	3,481	267	290
Illinois	1,003.9	935.5	294,684	269,488	294	288
Indiana	753.0	743.5	216,665	208,790	288	281
Iowa	3,406.4	3,055.8	995,000	879,338	292	288
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.8	0.5	123	76	155	149
Michigan	288.1	301.5	86,310	89,810	300	298
Minnesota	1,131.1	983.3	318,653	276,915	282	282
Mississippi	4.4	4.0	639	636	145	157
Missouri	727.3	676.8	216,300	201,578	298	298
Montana	1.0	1.1	285	306	286	286
Nebraska	666.3	593.3	194,596	172,392	292	291
Nevada	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
New England ¹	2.8	2.2	739	602	268	268
New Jersey	10.4	11.0	918	914	89	83
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	43	40	253	244
New York	2.4	2.4	567	580	234	240
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.3	0.3	80	82	313	313
Ohio	88.0	79.5	25,316	23,099	288	291
Oklahoma	470.8	455.9	138,776	134,131	295	294
Oregon	11.6	4.6	3,084	1,323	267	290
Pennsylvania	277.1	288.0	79,110	82,486	286	286
South Carolina	4.3	4.2	891	876	206	210
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	83.9	80.5	37,304	35,774	445	445
Texas	28.1	26.4	6,571	6,220	234	236
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	1.7	1.4	458	375	265	261
West Virginia	0.4	0.6	143	172	334	287
Wisconsin	64.0	65.8	26,706	28,608	418	436
Wyoming	0.3	0.2	83	46	277	267
United States	11,059.4	10,298.4	3,227,799	3,001,218	292	292

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: December 2021 and 2022

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.1	10	10	119	98
Arkansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	114
California	23.7	23.9	3,291	3,592	139	150
Colorado	42.3	31.4	6,666	5,115	158	163
Delaware-Maryland	2.4	2.0	238	198	100	99
Florida	3.0	2.5	148	128	50	51
Georgia	1.8	1.7	126	111	69	66
Hawaii	0.2	0.1	23	9	133	137
Idaho	0.2	0.3	22	44	146	152
Illinois	6.1	6.4	463	546	75	85
Indiana	6.9	6.3	759	694	110	111
Iowa	0.2	0.2	27	23	148	153
Kansas	0.4	0.3	37	30	95	90
Kentucky	1.3	1.2	143	117	108	101
Louisiana	0.5	0.8	26	41	54	53
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.5	0.6	46	53	84	83
Mississippi	0.5	0.1	30	9	64	84
Missouri	0.6	0.7	48	63	85	85
Montana	0.5	0.4	68	54	139	131
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	10	9	125	134
Nevada	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
New England ¹	4.3	4.5	367	403	85	89
New Jersey	17.8	17.1	1,456	1,384	82	81
New Mexico	0.6	0.6	82	87	140	141
New York	6.5	7.2	651	692	100	96
North Carolina	1.9	2.5	135	160	70	63
North Dakota	0.1	(Y)	10	(X)	152	(X)
Ohio	5.4	4.0	852	641	158	159
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.1	4.1	539	510	133	125
Pennsylvania	9.3	10.6	985	1,079	106	102
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.3	37	42	159	141
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	22.0	19.6	2,607	2,181	118	111
Utah	1.8	1.8	233	245	132	140
Virginia	1.5	0.9	103	64	70	70
Washington	1.2	1.2	164	163	136	137
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	4.3	2.6	631	398	148	152
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	6	10	116	140
United States	189.5	176.1	23,253	21,503	123	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	December 2021	November 2022	December 2022	January to December		December 2021	November 2022	December 2022	January to December	
				2021	2022				2021	2022
	(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	1,312.7	1,287.8	1,194.8	16,147.3	15,810.5	47.4	45.1	45.3	48.7	47.0
Heifers	823.0	925.9	814.0	9,825.0	10,291.8	29.7	32.4	30.9	29.6	30.6
All cows	593.5	594.7	587.0	6,668.4	6,997.9	21.4	20.8	22.3	20.1	20.8
Dairy cows	267.8	250.9	266.3	3,106.4	3,047.3	9.7	8.8	10.1	9.4	9.1
Other cows	325.6	343.8	320.7	3,562.0	3,950.6	11.7	12.0	12.2	10.7	11.7
Bulls	42.9	46.5	40.9	543.7	564.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7
Total	2,772.2	2,854.8	2,636.7	33,184.4	33,664.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	38.1	30.7	32.4	383.9	362.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,720.7	10,589.5	9,975.2	124,861.1	121,314.1	97.4	97.5	97.4	97.3	97.3
Sows	258.2	251.2	250.1	3,114.2	3,066.7	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5
Boars	26.2	21.9	21.3	312.5	292.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	11,005.1	10,862.6	10,246.6	128,287.8	124,673.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9.9	8.8	9.5	141.0	110.2	6.0	5.6	6.1	7.3	6.3
Lambs and yearlings	155.3	146.8	144.7	1,786.1	1,648.2	94.0	94.4	93.9	92.7	93.7
Total	165.2	155.6	154.2	1,927.1	1,758.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Federally Inspected Slaughter Average Dressed Weight by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	December 2021	November 2022	December 2022	January to December	
				2021	2022
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	841	838	834	830	829
Steers ¹	927	928	923	906	909
Heifers ¹	852	851	846	833	836
All cows ¹	635	622	632	637	631
Bulls ¹	860	849	842	885	871
Calves and vealers	136	145	137	136	146
Hogs	218	216	217	215	216
Barrows and gilts ²	216	214	215	213	214
Sows ²	295	299	295	300	299
Boars ²	196	196	195	196	193
Sheep	64	64	64	63	66
Mature sheep ³	61	62	63	65	64
Lambs and yearlings ³	64	64	64	63	66

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 2022

[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	2.7	1.2	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
2	7.9	2.4	1.9	3.3	2.8	0.5	0.3	6.8
3	92.4	34.1	3.8	49.8	42.1	7.8	4.8	7.2
4	71.8	4.3	2.5	56.9	13.4	43.5	8.2	0.5
5	277.5	122.1	(D)	112.8	65.8	47.0	(D)	12.1
6	462.2	181.1	152.8	119.6	33.2	86.4	8.7	(Y)
7	1,142.7	601.1	458.7	76.6	7.7	68.9	6.2	(Y)
8	255.2	140.1	(D)	23.8	4.4	19.3	(D)	(D)
9	183.2	75.0	22.6	83.6	65.4	18.2	1.9	2.5
10	141.1	33.6	45.3	60.2	31.3	29.0	2.0	(D)
United States	2,636.7	1,194.8	814.0	587.0	266.3	320.7	40.9	32.4
	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	2.0	2.0	(Y)	(Y)	4.4	0.1	4.3	
2	13.4	13.3	0.1	(Y)	23.7	2.5	21.3	
3	290.0	289.7	(D)	(D)	14.2	1.1	13.1	
4	(D)	(D)	75.2	(D)	9.7	0.7	9.0	
5	3,087.1	2,970.0	111.5	5.6	29.0	2.1	26.9	
6	478.5	478.4	(D)	(D)	12.2	0.4	11.8	
7	4,338.1	4,264.5	62.3	11.3	0.9	(Y)	0.8	
8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	32.9	1.1	31.8	
9	230.6	230.5	(Y)	(Y)	22.7	1.2	21.5	
10	17.8	17.8	(Y)	(Y)	4.5	0.2	4.3	
United States	10,246.6	9,975.2	250.1	21.3	154.2	9.5	144.7	

(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 2022

[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	34.8	14.6	11.7	5.5	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.3
2	93.1	29.7	19.9	39.7	36.0	3.7	3.8	71.1
3	1,143.3	457.8	37.0	589.1	486.4	102.7	59.3	89.2
4	928.6	65.2	26.5	732.5	160.4	572.0	104.5	5.1
5	3,363.8	1,567.6	(D)	1,253.8	735.1	518.8	(D)	125.3
6	6,101.9	2,570.3	1,973.5	1,452.1	355.6	1,096.5	106.0	0.5
7	14,683.7	7,965.7	5,690.0	933.0	95.6	837.4	95.0	0.5
8	3,382.4	1,759.9	(D)	310.6	55.8	254.8	(D)	(D)
9	2,210.4	914.6	317.0	951.8	719.7	232.1	27.1	34.9
10	1,722.4	465.1	488.1	729.9	399.7	330.2	39.3	(D)
United States	33,664.4	15,810.5	10,291.8	6,997.9	3,047.3	3,950.6	564.2	362.2
	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	25.5	25.0	0.3	0.1	47.2	2.2	45.0	
2	126.8	126.2	0.5	0.1	232.3	24.9	207.3	
3	3,262.5	3,252.6	(D)	(D)	159.4	16.7	142.6	
4	(D)	(D)	891.5	(D)	107.7	9.4	98.4	
5	37,257.2	35,832.6	1,352.8	71.8	327.6	22.9	304.7	
6	5,501.1	5,498.4	(D)	(D)	138.1	5.7	132.4	
7	54,205.8	53,243.6	800.9	161.3	10.0	0.3	9.7	
8	(D)	(D)	(D)	0.5	412.5	11.2	401.3	
9	2,511.2	2,510.7	0.4	0.1	263.6	14.4	249.3	
10	274.3	273.7	0.4	0.1	60.0	2.5	57.5	
United States	124,673.7	121,314.1	3,066.7	292.9	1,758.4	110.2	1,648.2	

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

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 2021	November 2022	December 2022	January to December	
				2021	2022
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.2	98.2	98.3	98.0	98.1
Calves	98.2	98.5	98.6	98.1	98.1
Hogs	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
Sheep	87.2	87.3	87.6	85.1	85.4

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 900 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 1,900 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 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
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
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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