



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released April 25, 2019, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Pork Production at Record High for March

March 2018 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

March 2019 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.43 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 4.52 billion pounds produced in March 2018.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.65 million head, down 2 percent from March 2018. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,339 pounds.

Veal production totaled 5.8 million pounds, 5 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 45,800 head, up 5 percent from March 2018. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from last year, at 219 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.30 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up slightly from March 2018. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.0 million pounds, was down 8 percent from March 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 190,700 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 3 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2019 commercial red meat production was 13.3 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2018.

Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down slightly, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 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: March 2018 and 2019	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: March 2018 and 2019.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: March 2018 and 2019.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: March 2018 and 2019.....	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: March 2019	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to March 2019.....	13
Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States.....	13
Statistical Methodology	14
Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates	15
Information Contacts	16

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	March 2019 as % of		January to March		
				March 2018	February 2019	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,203.5	1,987.6	2,117.7	96	107	6,466.3	6,414.2	99
Veal	6.1	6.1	5.8	95	94	18.5	18.4	100
Pork	2,296.8	2,167.5	2,297.2	100	106	6,645.0	6,838.3	103
Lamb and mutton	14.1	11.2	13.0	92	117	38.6	36.7	95
Total red meat	4,520.5	4,172.4	4,433.7	98	106	13,168.4	13,307.6	101

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	March 2019 as % of		January to March		
				March 2018	February 2019	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,174.7	1,960.8	2,090.0	96	107	6,379.5	6,329.6	99
Veal	5.9	6.0	5.6	95	94	18.0	18.0	100
Pork	2,285.2	2,157.3	2,286.4	100	106	6,611.0	6,806.4	103
Lamb and mutton	13.3	10.1	12.1	91	120	35.8	33.6	94
Total red meat	4,479.1	4,134.2	4,394.2	98	106	13,044.3	13,187.6	101

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	March 2019 as % of 2018	January to March		
					2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,660.5	2,416.0	2,609.4	98	7,752.5	7,811.4	101
Other 1,000	41.1	38.7	40.2	98	125.1	123.1	98
Commercial 1,000	2,701.6	2,454.7	2,649.5	98	7,877.6	7,934.5	101
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,360	1,354	1,341	99	1,370	1,354	99
Other pounds	1,220	1,207	1,198	98	1,212	1,198	99
Commercial pounds	1,358	1,352	1,339	99	1,368	1,351	99
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	43.0	47.9	45.1	105	131.8	146.1	111
Other 1,000	0.7	0.6	0.7	97	2.1	2.0	95
Commercial 1,000	43.7	48.5	45.8	105	133.9	148.1	111
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	237	218	217	91	236	215	91
Other pounds	380	364	359	94	386	373	97
Commercial pounds	240	219	219	91	239	217	91
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,660.7	10,051.0	10,667.1	100	30,891.6	31,702.4	103
Other 1,000	61.9	53.3	57.3	93	182.1	168.6	93
Commercial 1,000	10,722.6	10,104.2	10,724.4	100	31,073.7	31,871.0	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	287	287	287	100	286	287	100
Other pounds	257	262	258	100	256	259	101
Commercial pounds	286	287	287	100	286	287	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	185.2	146.1	170.3	92	493.2	482.1	98
Other 1,000	16.3	23.2	20.4	125	53.3	64.8	122
Commercial 1,000	201.5	169.3	190.7	95	546.5	546.8	100
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	142	138	142	99	145	139	96
Other pounds	111	98	95	85	109	99	91
Commercial pounds	140	132	137	98	141	134	95
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	42.4	36.6	41.0	97	117.2	120.5	103
Other 1,000	7.6	8.2	9.2	122	23.4	26.9	115
Commercial 1,000	49.9	44.8	50.2	100	140.6	147.4	105
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	63	65	65	103	64	65	102
Other pounds	81	80	80	99	80	81	101
Commercial pounds	66	68	68	103	67	68	102
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.6	3.8	4.5	97	12.2	13.2	108
Other 1,000	1.0	0.5	0.8	79	1.9	1.9	100
Commercial 1,000	5.6	4.3	5.3	94	14.1	15.1	107

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 2018	February 2019	March 2019	March 2019 as % of 2018
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.3	0.9	1.0	72
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	0.1	99
Arizona	39.3	27.5	36.2	92
Arkansas	0.3	0.3	0.3	103
California	121.9	114.3	129.7	106
Colorado	184.9	153.0	171.6	93
Delaware-Maryland	3.2	2.9	2.9	90
Florida	2.6	2.7	3.0	114
Georgia	13.8	13.1	14.6	106
Hawaii	0.8	0.7	0.8	104
Idaho	25.0	26.6	30.3	121
Illinois	296.9	278.1	278.6	94
Indiana	164.5	150.0	146.8	89
Iowa	660.4	650.9	721.0	109
Kansas	471.4	424.3	455.1	97
Kentucky	48.7	45.2	46.2	95
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	0.3	81
Michigan	80.3	81.2	84.3	105
Minnesota	241.9	222.8	245.4	101
Mississippi	0.6	0.5	0.6	92
Missouri	181.7	158.5	164.1	90
Montana	1.9	1.1	2.2	112
Nebraska	673.0	611.3	623.2	93
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	115
New England ¹	1.9	1.8	1.8	98
New Jersey	3.3	3.0	3.3	99
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	0.2	87
New York	3.2	2.8	2.9	91
North Carolina	226.3	217.5	227.1	100
North Dakota	0.7	0.7	0.7	103
Ohio	21.4	19.8	19.7	92
Oklahoma	102.3	96.5	98.4	96
Oregon	4.6	3.6	4.0	87
Pennsylvania	128.1	115.2	125.0	98
South Carolina	9.2	9.5	11.0	120
South Dakota	134.5	125.6	131.5	98
Tennessee	22.5	19.1	19.7	88
Texas	379.9	344.8	363.5	96
Utah	42.9	43.4	45.5	106
Virginia	45.1	41.9	37.9	84
Washington	73.0	69.0	75.2	103
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	0.6	108
Wisconsin	105.6	90.6	107.0	101
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	90
United States	4,520.5	4,172.4	4,433.7	98

(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 2018 and 2019

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2018 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (pounds)	2019 (pounds)
Alabama	0.7	0.7	708	719	1,038	1,087
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	54	(X)	1,036	(X)
Arizona	47.7	43.8	64,929	58,501	1,364	1,337
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	354	386	954	943
California	120.3	125.5	163,316	161,908	1,367	1,298
Colorado	206.7	188.6	284,109	263,275	1,376	1,397
Delaware-Maryland	3.3	3.0	4,422	4,176	1,336	1,380
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.0	1.1	1,207	1,284	1,153	1,145
Idaho	32.8	41.7	43,736	53,414	1,349	1,294
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	2.7	2.7	3,081	3,106	1,152	1,172
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	542.1	537.2	726,790	707,446	1,341	1,317
Kentucky	2.1	3.3	2,318	3,448	1,082	1,064
Louisiana	0.5	0.4	409	336	868	758
Michigan	48.0	(D)	67,930	(D)	1,425	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.4	0.4	324	341	906	871
Missouri	4.5	4.5	5,253	5,202	1,169	1,169
Montana	2.1	2.4	2,867	3,123	1,357	1,287
Nebraska	600.8	567.3	852,392	793,506	1,420	1,400
Nevada	0.1	0.1	107	147	1,023	1,117
New England ¹	1.9	2.0	2,224	2,313	1,185	1,179
New Jersey	3.2	3.3	3,488	3,631	1,112	1,114
New Mexico	0.3	0.3	352	275	1,063	1,039
New York	3.2	3.1	3,856	3,742	1,226	1,212
North Carolina	6.3	6.5	7,780	7,945	1,239	1,233
North Dakota	0.9	0.9	1,148	1,153	1,340	1,279
Ohio	5.2	5.1	6,774	6,648	1,306	1,303
Oklahoma	2.5	2.8	2,855	3,002	1,145	1,084
Oregon	2.1	1.3	2,580	1,460	1,242	1,129
Pennsylvania	91.6	92.6	113,260	114,044	1,240	1,236
South Carolina	14.0	17.0	17,401	21,165	1,247	1,251
South Dakota	37.1	39.1	54,333	56,704	1,473	1,458
Tennessee	5.3	1.0	4,995	1,074	962	1,038
Texas	475.1	461.0	619,353	595,637	1,308	1,296
Utah	51.0	55.0	69,049	73,014	1,357	1,330
Virginia	1.6	1.5	1,653	1,557	1,037	1,050
Washington	87.2	91.8	120,557	124,275	1,387	1,358
West Virginia	0.6	0.7	619	717	1,059	1,051
Wisconsin	115.0	119.2	160,591	164,403	1,405	1,386
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	558	533	1,141	1,122
United States	2,701.6	2,649.5	3,660,741	3,539,164	1,358	1,339

(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 2018 and 2019

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2018 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (pounds)	2019 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
California	6.6	8.3	664	824	103	101
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	0.1	31	24	442	393
Georgia	0.2	0.1	75	57	451	435
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	2.0	4.3	164	344	81	81
Illinois	0.1	0.1	24	31	379	408
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	111	(D)	303
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	33	34	302	308
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
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	0.2	0.2	47	43	193	210
New Jersey	1.8	1.8	687	667	377	379
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	7.3	7.2	745	679	102	96
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	27	23	378	364
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	10.8	9.9	1,847	1,418	172	144
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	8.2	8.5	3,440	3,524	418	417
South Carolina	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
South Dakota	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.2	0.2	88	94	444	409
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	4.8	4.3	2,246	1,941	473	458
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	43.7	45.8	10,422	9,968	240	219

(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 2018 and 2019

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	3.5	2.1	1,443	848	410	399
Alaska	0.1	0.1	31	30	241	260
Arizona	(D)	0.2	(D)	40	(D)	259
Arkansas	0.6	0.6	167	159	280	274
California	167.3	195.6	42,191	51,980	252	266
Colorado	1.4	1.3	355	335	257	264
Delaware-Maryland	1.6	1.4	461	373	284	271
Florida	3.7	4.4	634	736	170	166
Georgia	5.0	5.7	1,292	1,416	257	247
Hawaii	0.3	0.3	84	81	243	257
Idaho	14.0	13.8	3,724	3,885	266	281
Illinois	1,067.9	1,034.5	309,189	296,154	290	286
Indiana	763.6	691.3	215,384	192,412	282	278
Iowa	2,968.7	3,267.7	850,331	933,972	287	286
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	1.1	0.8	226	180	214	237
Michigan	183.5	218.8	54,809	64,020	299	293
Minnesota	1,004.8	1,031.6	277,527	284,455	276	276
Mississippi	3.1	2.7	558	467	181	170
Missouri	817.3	733.9	237,156	214,824	290	293
Montana	1.2	1.7	316	433	270	262
Nebraska	706.3	655.3	201,527	188,187	285	287
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	16	(X)	269	(X)
New England ¹	2.4	2.0	634	549	268	269
New Jersey	9.4	8.7	937	850	100	97
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	42	51	270	260
New York	2.0	1.8	498	433	245	246
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	68	71	294	303
Ohio	77.1	72.4	22,039	20,330	286	281
Oklahoma	472.7	460.3	132,058	127,522	279	277
Oregon	14.4	13.8	3,813	3,872	265	281
Pennsylvania	293.5	272.4	80,195	76,172	273	280
South Carolina	2.5	2.0	640	493	251	242
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	66.6	63.6	29,848	28,656	449	451
Texas	22.5	26.0	5,560	5,623	247	216
Utah	4.4	4.5	764	875	174	197
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	1.0	0.8	256	201	265	260
West Virginia	0.6	0.6	176	166	282	260
Wisconsin	63.6	63.7	27,583	27,460	435	433
Wyoming	0.3	0.2	77	57	283	275
United States	10,722.6	10,724.4	3,070,933	3,075,291	286	287

(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 2018 and 2019

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2018 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (pounds)	2019 (pounds)
Alabama	0.1	0.1	7	4	62	70
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	(D)	0.4	(D)	47	(D)	130
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	26.0	27.6	4,146	4,400	160	159
Colorado	75.6	67.2	13,037	10,984	173	164
Delaware-Maryland	4.5	2.3	408	212	90	93
Florida	1.1	1.5	64	83	61	57
Georgia	1.6	1.8	95	127	58	70
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	22	9	149	101
Idaho	0.1	(Y)	18	(X)	161	(X)
Illinois	4.5	3.9	388	373	85	96
Indiana	3.8	3.8	437	439	115	114
Iowa	0.1	0.1	25	18	170	166
Kansas	0.5	0.4	45	28	95	79
Kentucky	1.5	1.3	184	152	126	122
Louisiana	0.4	0.3	24	22	68	64
Michigan	18.8	(D)	2,660	(D)	142	(D)
Minnesota	0.3	0.4	30	40	105	101
Mississippi	0.8	0.9	44	53	57	62
Missouri	1.0	0.9	88	71	91	79
Montana	0.3	0.4	48	52	137	131
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	15	(X)	168	(X)
New England ¹	2.9	2.5	266	258	91	101
New Jersey	13.8	12.4	1,048	976	76	79
New Mexico	0.7	0.7	110	105	152	149
New York	6.9	4.2	624	423	91	102
North Carolina	1.3	1.1	95	79	75	73
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	147
Ohio	5.0	4.9	806	798	161	163
Oklahoma	0.5	1.1	52	120	112	109
Oregon	4.0	3.5	606	496	150	144
Pennsylvania	8.7	6.4	902	662	103	104
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.3	45	39	156	151
Tennessee	0.8	0.8	53	49	65	58
Texas	7.6	13.5	740	1,058	97	78
Utah	1.8	1.6	255	225	140	137
Virginia	0.8	0.7	61	51	75	74
Washington	1.1	1.1	157	145	138	138
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.8	4.6	299	759	164	167
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	16	7	137	145
United States	201.5	190.7	28,169	26,040	140	137

(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 2018	February 2019	March 2019	January to March		March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	January to March	
				2018	2019				2018	2019
	(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	1,327.7	1,156.4	1,221.8	3,887.6	3,732.9	49.9	47.9	46.8	50.1	47.8
Heifers	754.4	723.4	797.3	2,186.3	2,358.0	28.4	29.9	30.6	28.2	30.2
All cows	533.1	504.1	550.4	1,558.3	1,610.6	20.0	20.9	21.1	20.1	20.6
Dairy cows	286.9	278.9	302.4	837.3	879.8	10.8	11.5	11.6	10.8	11.3
Other cows	246.2	225.1	248.0	721.0	730.9	9.3	9.3	9.5	9.3	9.4
Bulls	45.3	32.2	39.9	120.3	109.9	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.4
Total	2,660.5	2,416.0	2,609.4	7,752.5	7,811.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	43.0	47.9	45.1	131.8	146.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,372.3	9,788.0	10,384.9	30,043.4	30,858.2	97.3	97.4	97.4	97.3	97.3
Sows	257.5	234.0	249.1	756.9	748.5	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.4
Boars	30.9	29.0	33.1	91.4	95.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	10,660.7	10,051.0	10,667.1	30,891.6	31,702.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	8.5	7.0	8.3	22.5	23.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.6	4.9
Lambs and yearlings	176.7	139.1	162.0	470.7	458.6	95.4	95.2	95.1	95.4	95.1
Total	185.2	146.1	170.3	493.2	482.1	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 2018	February 2019	March 2019	January to March	
				2018	2019
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	819	814	803	825	812
Steers ¹	878	879	867	885	878
Heifers ¹	820	819	807	828	817
All cows ¹	666	650	648	662	648
Bulls ¹	901	872	881	896	876
Calves and vealers	139	126	125	138	124
Hogs	214	215	214	214	215
Barrows and gilts ²	212	213	212	212	213
Sows ²	304	304	303	304	302
Boars ²	196	182	185	193	183
Sheep	72	69	71	73	70
Mature sheep ³	67	65	66	68	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	72	69	71	73	70

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 2019

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle						Calves	
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	1.8	0.5	(D)	0.3	0.2	0.1	(D)	0.2
2	6.3	1.6	1.3	2.9	2.7	0.2	0.6	8.9
3	95.1	31.8	2.1	57.6	46.3	11.3	3.6	8.7
4	55.5	3.7	1.3	43.3	14.8	28.5	7.3	0.3
5	274.5	120.8	(D)	120.0	80.7	39.3	(D)	14.5
6	459.3	201.5	153.5	95.8	35.9	59.9	8.6	0.1
7	1,131.9	609.7	456.4	58.6	6.2	52.5	7.2	0.1
8	280.6	136.5	106.9	36.1	9.2	26.9	1.1	(Y)
9	170.0	73.4	14.0	80.6	70.8	9.8	1.9	8.1
10	134.4	42.3	34.7	55.2	35.7	19.6	2.1	4.3
United States	2,609.4	1,221.8	797.3	550.4	302.4	248.0	39.9	45.1
	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	1.8	1.8	(Y)	(Y)	2.5	0.2	2.3	
2	10.4	10.3	0.1	(Y)	16.1	1.6	14.5	
3	441.1	440.2	(D)	(D)	9.9	0.9	9.0	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	7.4	0.9	6.5	
5	3,088.9	2,965.1	118.9	4.9	30.0	2.0	28.1	
6	480.7	480.6	0.1	(Y)	4.1	0.5	3.7	
7	4,671.5	4,588.2	61.9	21.4	1.2	(Y)	1.1	
8	(D)	(D)	0.7	(Y)	68.6	1.3	67.4	
9	191.9	191.8	(Y)	(Y)	26.7	0.9	25.8	
10	28.2	28.1	(Y)	(Y)	3.8	0.2	3.6	
United States	10,667.1	10,384.9	249.1	33.1	170.3	8.3	162.0	

(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 2019

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	5.4	1.8	(D)	1.1	0.5	0.5	(D)	0.6
2	18.9	4.8	4.1	8.5	8.0	0.5	1.4	29.2
3	281.2	91.9	5.6	173.9	139.2	34.7	9.8	26.3
4	157.9	10.8	3.7	124.4	43.6	80.8	19.0	0.7
5	809.2	366.2	(D)	338.7	225.2	113.5	(D)	53.3
6	1,379.2	629.4	446.4	278.2	109.2	169.0	25.2	0.3
7	3,438.7	1,862.9	1,373.2	182.7	21.2	161.5	19.9	0.1
8	841.3	427.8	300.6	109.7	27.2	82.6	3.2	(Y)
9	486.4	207.5	41.6	232.5	206.9	25.6	4.7	23.4
10	393.2	129.8	95.9	160.9	98.7	62.2	6.6	12.1
United States	7,811.4	3,732.9	2,358.0	1,610.6	879.8	730.9	109.9	146.1
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	6.0	5.8	0.1	(Y)	6.7	0.3	6.4	
2	31.4	31.2	0.2	0.1	46.1	4.5	41.6	
3	1,408.1	1,405.2	(D)	(D)	31.4	3.1	28.3	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	21.2	2.5	18.7	
5	9,199.5	8,833.6	352.5	13.3	74.7	5.0	69.7	
6	1,463.3	1,463.0	0.2	0.1	11.2	1.4	9.8	
7	13,634.1	13,389.4	183.7	61.0	3.0	(Y)	3.0	
8	(D)	(D)	1.7	0.1	197.0	3.8	193.2	
9	542.8	542.7	0.1	(Y)	79.8	2.3	77.5	
10	86.0	85.8	0.1	(Y)	10.9	0.5	10.4	
United States	31,702.4	30,858.2	748.5	95.6	482.1	23.5	458.6	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	January to March	
				2018	2019
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.5	98.4	98.5	98.4	98.4
Calves	98.4	98.9	98.5	98.4	98.6
Hogs	99.4	99.5	99.5	99.4	99.5
Sheep	91.9	86.3	89.3	90.2	88.2

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 800 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,900 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 15). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

Revision Policy: Number of head slaughtered, live weights, and dressed weights are subject to revision the following month after the monthly release. Annual totals are published in the slaughter summary each April which includes any revisions made to current and previous year's published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports received from slaughter plants and are usually less than one-half of one percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year's data after the publication of the annual summary in April.

Procedures and Reliability: The livestock slaughter data is obtained electronically on a daily basis and summarized approximately two weeks after the week of slaughter. A computer program compares each plant's data with the historical data for that plant. Data are checked for unusual values for head kill, patterns of kill, average weights, and dressing percent, based on each plant's past operating profile. In addition, the computer program provides a listing of missing reports for follow-up contact with FSIS. Average live and dressed weights and dressing percentages by State are compared with the previous weeks as an additional check. Fluctuations are frequently the result of plants permanently or temporarily closing and a shift in the species reported.

The FSIS District Veterinary Medical Specialists (DVMS) are contacted by e-mail or telephone for missing or potentially erroneous slaughter data. This assures that plants slaughtering a large number of head or several species are accounted for each week. Any corrections FSIS makes to the slaughter data are included in the summary.

Computer imputation may be necessary for incomplete reports. The imputation of live and dressed weights is based on the current week reported data of plants of similar size and location. Imputation for live and dressed weight data for cattle and hogs is less than 10 percent and 7 percent, respectively. The imputation for calves and sheep is more frequent and variable. If no data is received electronically or by other means, for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species, data are imputed. The imputation of head for any plant is based on the historical data for that particular plant. The imputation of head slaughtered is rare but when necessary, the imputed head kill for missing plants usually is less than 1 percent of the United States head kill totals.

FI data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release. These weekly totals are published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) in **Livestock, Meat, Wool Market News**, Weekly Summary, and statistics are also available on the NASS website. NFI data are summarized monthly only.

Livestock slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications and mistakes in reporting, recording and processing the data. These errors are minimized through rigid quality controls in the computer edit program and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

No data are published when an individual plant's data could be divulged. If not published, as indicated with a (D), these data are still included in United States and region totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine the publishable data.

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates

Average Live Weight: The weight of the whole animal, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Commercial Production: Includes slaughter and meat production in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms. Based on packers' dressed weights.

Custom-Exempt Plants: Plants that do not sell meat but operate on a custom basis only are custom-exempt. The animals and meat are not inspected, but the facilities must meet health standards. These are considered NFI plants and head kill is included in NFI totals.

Dressed Weight: The weight of a chilled animal carcass. Beef with kidney knob in; veal with hide off; lamb and mutton with pluck out; pork with leaf fat and kidneys out, jowls on and head off.

Dressing Percent: Usually expressed as a percentage yield of chilled carcass in relation to the weight of the live animal on hoof. For example, a live hog that weighed 200 pounds on hoof and yielded a carcass weighing 140 pounds would have a dressing percentage of 70.

Federally Inspected (FI) Plants: Plants that transport meat interstate must employ federal inspectors to assure compliance with USDA standards. Any state whose commercial plants operate entirely under federal inspection may still have custom-exempt establishments for which NFI estimates are made.

Food and Meat Inspection: Includes examination, checking, or testing of a carcass and/or meat against established government standards and involves checking the facility for cleanliness, health of animals, or parts of animals and quality of the meat produced.

Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) Plants: Plants which sell and transport only intrastate. State inspectors assure compliance with individual state standards for these NFI plants. Mobile slaughtering units are excluded and are considered farm slaughter.

Number of Head: Includes post-mortem condemnations.

Plant, Slaughter: An establishment where animals are killed and butchered.

Red Meat: Red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter excluding condemnation and is comprised of beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. The FI red meat production is equal to the total carcass weight after slaughter. The NFI meat production formula is $(\text{NFI head kill}) \times (\text{live weight}) \times (\text{FI dressing percentage}) = \text{NFI red meat production}$.

Slaughter: Killing and butchering of animals primarily for food.

Slaughter, Farm: Animals slaughtered on farms primarily for home consumption. Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments, but includes mobile slaughtering on farms. These estimates appear only in the annual slaughter release.

Talmedge-Aiken (TA) Plants: Slaughter plants in which USDA is responsible for inspection. However, federal inspection is carried out by State employees. These plants are considered to be federally inspected.

Total Live Weight: The total weight of live animals, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

Wholesome Meat Act: Legislation that specifies that all meat produced for sale in the United States must be inspected. Meat that is transported interstate must be inspected in compliance with Federal (USDA) Standards.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-0585
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
Heidi Gleich – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106

Access to NASS Reports

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

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

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

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.