



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released October 22, 2026, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Commercial Red Meat Production Down 4 Percent from Last Year

September 2025 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

September 2026 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.32 billion pounds in September, down 4 percent from the 4.51 billion pounds produced in September 2025.

Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.30 million head, down 7 percent from September 2025. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,447 pounds.

Veal production totaled 1.7 million pounds, 13 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 7,900 head, down 15 percent from September 2025. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from last year, at 359 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.27 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.6 million head, down 3 percent from September 2025. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 9.8 million pounds, was down 5 percent from September 2025. Sheep slaughter totaled 176,000 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 109 pounds, unchanged from September a year ago.

January to September 2026 commercial red meat production was 38.9 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2025. Accumulated beef production was down 5 percent from last year, veal was down 23 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

This page intentionally left blank.

Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States 4

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

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States 5

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States 6

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: September 2025 and 2026..... 7

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: September 2025 and 2026 8

Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: September 2025 and 2026 9

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

Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States 11

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

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: September 2026..... 12

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

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

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates 14

Statistical Methodology 15

Information Contacts 16

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	September 2026 as % of		January to September		
				September 2025	August 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,157.9	1,981.6	2,038.3	94	103	19,355.5	18,406.7	95
Veal	1.9	1.6	1.7	87	105	19.0	14.5	77
Pork	2,339.2	2,102.3	2,272.9	97	108	20,276.9	20,371.5	100
Lamb and mutton	10.3	9.7	9.8	95	101	101.6	92.6	91
Total red meat	4,509.3	4,095.2	4,322.7	96	106	39,753.0	38,885.4	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	September 2026 as % of		January to September		
				September 2025	August 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,122.7	1,953.3	2,004.7	94	103	19,063.3	18,127.8	95
Veal	1.8	1.5	1.6	87	105	18.0	13.6	76
Pork	2,328.6	2,091.5	2,263.6	97	108	20,193.8	20,294.1	100
Lamb and mutton	9.0	8.4	8.6	96	102	90.0	82.9	92
Total red meat	4,462.1	4,054.8	4,278.5	96	106	39,365.1	38,518.4	98

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	September 2026 as % of 2025	January to September		
					2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,416.6	2,203.3	2,256.7	93	21,897.1	20,317.3	93
Other 1,000	48.9	39.1	46.2	95	410.1	384.7	94
Commercial 1,000	2,465.5	2,242.3	2,302.9	93	22,307.2	20,702.0	93
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,437	1,444	1,451	101	1,427	1,460	102
Other pounds	1,250	1,251	1,252	100	1,239	1,258	102
Commercial pounds	1,433	1,441	1,447	101	1,424	1,456	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	8.8	6.9	7.5	85	90.1	64.2	71
Other 1,000	0.5	0.4	0.4	83	4.8	4.2	87
Commercial 1,000	9.3	7.3	7.9	85	94.9	68.3	72
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	348	370	356	102	339	360	106
Other pounds	401	427	416	104	401	419	104
Commercial pounds	351	373	359	102	342	364	106
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,925.3	9,864.3	10,591.2	97	94,156.3	93,722.7	100
Other 1,000	54.2	56.1	48.6	90	435.2	401.1	92
Commercial 1,000	10,979.4	9,920.3	10,639.8	97	94,591.5	94,123.9	100
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	286	284	287	100	288	290	101
Other pounds	268	262	264	98	262	264	101
Commercial pounds	286	284	287	100	288	290	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	159.2	149.9	152.5	96	1,445.1	1,400.3	97
Other 1,000	25.6	24.4	23.4	92	230.7	191.3	83
Commercial 1,000	184.8	174.3	176.0	95	1,675.8	1,591.6	95
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	111	110	111	100	123	116	95
Other pounds	98	97	97	98	100	100	100
Commercial pounds	109	109	109	100	119	114	96
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	46.0	44.8	46.5	101	388.5	383.9	99
Other 1,000	9.3	9.3	10.2	110	81.1	80.1	99
Commercial 1,000	55.3	54.1	56.7	103	469.6	464.0	99
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	65	64	99	65	64	99
Other pounds	82	83	81	99	82	82	100
Commercial pounds	67	68	67	99	68	67	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.9	4.4	4.1	84	47.0	41.0	87
Other 1,000	0.3	0.2	0.2	83	2.4	2.4	99
Commercial 1,000	5.1	4.5	4.3	84	49.4	43.4	88

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	September 2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.1	1.3	1.5	133
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	38.2	36.8	38.0	100
Arkansas	0.5	0.4	0.5	108
California	79.8	74.5	79.7	100
Colorado	179.4	109.5	139.1	78
Delaware-Maryland	2.0	2.1	2.1	107
Florida	4.9	4.7	4.0	82
Georgia	8.9	6.2	7.5	85
Hawaii	0.7	0.5	0.6	78
Idaho	48.2	43.8	47.7	99
Illinois	276.0	229.5	205.7	75
Indiana	173.1	164.0	172.5	100
Iowa	750.1	691.1	753.6	100
Kansas	450.3	485.2	477.4	106
Kentucky	56.2	46.4	49.1	87
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	0.4	108
Michigan	134.2	125.2	131.4	98
Minnesota	242.5	204.8	233.2	96
Mississippi	0.8	0.7	0.8	100
Missouri	185.2	174.6	186.8	101
Montana	2.3	1.8	3.2	138
Nebraska	642.1	597.3	616.7	96
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	96
New England ¹	2.9	2.2	2.5	86
New Jersey	4.5	4.5	4.7	103
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	0.4	81
New York	2.8	2.6	3.0	107
North Carolina	224.4	171.4	192.3	86
North Dakota	0.7	0.6	0.8	117
Ohio	26.9	25.8	27.1	101
Oklahoma	96.7	95.6	102.1	106
Oregon	2.5	2.2	2.4	97
Pennsylvania	127.4	95.8	93.0	73
South Carolina	13.0	11.6	13.0	100
South Dakota	119.1	111.5	125.3	105
Tennessee	27.5	22.0	26.5	97
Texas	363.5	329.5	335.0	92
Utah	51.2	47.2	52.0	102
Virginia	1.1	1.0	1.3	114
Washington	76.8	77.5	82.6	108
West Virginia	1.0	0.8	1.1	101
Wisconsin	88.7	90.7	105.2	119
Wyoming	0.9	0.9	0.8	91
United States	4,509.3	4,095.2	4,322.7	96

(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: September 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.8	1.2	947	1,332	1,133	1,131
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	83	(X)	1,173	(X)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	0.7	0.7	756	809	1,092	1,110
California	81.8	85.5	115,052	114,318	1,417	1,347
Colorado	189.7	143.7	282,642	216,294	1,492	1,507
Delaware-Maryland	1.9	2.1	2,634	2,888	1,384	1,359
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.0	0.7	1,185	880	1,209	1,226
Idaho	58.5	57.5	80,015	78,448	1,377	1,374
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	10.2	10.6	12,807	13,654	1,266	1,296
Iowa	47.0	50.1	66,786	72,717	1,422	1,453
Kansas	472.0	496.8	690,156	735,693	1,462	1,481
Kentucky	6.8	6.6	8,029	7,967	1,195	1,211
Louisiana	0.5	0.5	446	526	983	1,090
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.5	0.6	508	567	1,024	997
Missouri	18.4	24.6	23,923	34,252	1,307	1,401
Montana	2.5	3.6	3,092	4,475	1,242	1,251
Nebraska	525.5	492.0	783,285	743,174	1,492	1,512
Nevada	(D)	0.1	(D)	147	(D)	1,107
New England ¹	3.0	2.8	3,718	3,498	1,229	1,266
New Jersey	4.6	4.9	5,343	5,709	1,171	1,175
New Mexico	0.5	0.5	608	488	1,110	1,046
New York	2.9	3.0	3,513	3,803	1,219	1,280
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.9	1.0	1,114	1,296	1,282	1,312
Ohio	7.0	6.1	9,395	8,143	1,335	1,338
Oklahoma	7.2	6.8	8,835	8,355	1,249	1,226
Oregon	1.4	1.4	1,750	1,706	1,242	1,244
Pennsylvania	85.3	47.0	113,269	57,478	1,332	1,228
South Carolina	18.6	19.5	25,398	25,358	1,371	1,308
South Dakota	29.1	(D)	45,707	(D)	1,571	(D)
Tennessee	3.2	2.6	3,228	2,860	1,022	1,106
Texas	429.7	383.6	589,883	540,148	1,376	1,412
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	1.3	1.5	1,435	1,677	1,114	1,135
Washington	83.3	88.7	122,033	131,188	1,469	1,482
West Virginia	1.2	1.1	1,360	1,460	1,181	1,273
Wisconsin	93.7	112.7	129,380	157,430	1,389	1,403
Wyoming	1.1	1.0	1,340	1,265	1,237	1,251
United States	2,465.5	2,302.9	3,526,227	3,326,448	1,433	1,447

(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: September 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	(Y)	49	(X)	379	(X)
Georgia	0.1	(D)	30	(D)	516	(D)
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Illinois	0.2	0.2	65	91	383	424
Indiana	(D)	0.4	(D)	160	(D)	420
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.1	0.1	22	30	237	220
New Jersey	1.8	1.2	700	480	388	390
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	27	30	352	409
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	3.7	(D)	1,552	(D)	417	(D)
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	0.1	0.1	51	52	480	479
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	9.3	7.9	3,253	2,839	351	359

(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: September 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.9	2.3	817	1,020	433	447
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	19	(X)	282	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.1	28	35	263	241
Arkansas	0.3	0.4	93	98	267	275
California	82.9	83.1	19,466	20,023	235	241
Colorado	2.9	2.7	514	473	179	173
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.7	489	467	287	278
Florida	5.5	5.3	583	596	105	113
Georgia	5.2	5.0	1,419	1,359	271	271
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	39	38	267	276
Idaho	12.8	13.9	3,284	3,672	256	265
Illinois	1,015.1	940.4	285,110	263,792	281	281
Indiana	770.8	771.8	220,670	219,195	286	284
Iowa	3,321.5	3,315.1	954,941	953,080	288	288
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.2	0.2	53	47	242	255
Michigan	424.5	432.5	123,536	123,571	291	286
Minnesota	1,042.5	984.8	294,119	280,152	282	284
Mississippi	3.7	3.5	671	618	184	179
Missouri	795.2	774.5	231,070	221,457	291	286
Montana	2.0	2.2	557	602	274	274
Nebraska	702.5	700.1	202,094	200,554	288	286
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	2.8	2.1	752	542	266	260
New Jersey	8.4	9.1	955	1,060	114	117
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	62	57	256	244
New York	2.1	2.4	525	624	248	255
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.3	59	75	281	279
Ohio	95.4	101.1	28,191	29,733	296	294
Oklahoma	444.7	456.2	121,231	128,128	273	281
Oregon	5.6	6.1	1,425	1,550	256	254
Pennsylvania	288.4	(D)	79,253	(D)	275	(D)
South Carolina	1.7	1.7	417	420	251	250
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	83.7	78.8	38,440	37,458	460	476
Texas	26.5	23.1	4,987	4,367	188	189
Utah	3.4	1.4	495	332	146	240
Virginia	0.9	1.0	273	303	299	302
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.8	0.7	227	187	279	276
Wisconsin	67.7	67.5	28,807	29,340	426	436
Wyoming	0.5	0.4	136	112	273	263
United States	10,979.4	10,639.8	3,140,790	3,048,496	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: September 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.1	0.1	7	10	87	83
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.7	(D)	76	(D)	117	(D)
Arkansas	0.1	0.2	12	15	92	96
California	17.5	19.5	2,323	2,499	133	128
Colorado	29.4	31.6	4,245	4,544	144	144
Delaware-Maryland	1.6	1.7	160	162	99	97
Florida	3.1	2.7	153	145	49	53
Georgia	2.9	3.1	201	224	68	72
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	17	6	132	126
Idaho	0.2	0.3	32	36	137	136
Illinois	7.0	6.2	575	525	82	85
Indiana	6.2	5.6	646	543	105	97
Iowa	0.3	0.2	31	24	124	100
Kansas	0.3	0.5	31	44	115	98
Kentucky	0.8	0.7	83	75	108	110
Louisiana	0.8	0.6	44	31	58	54
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.8	0.9	68	73	86	79
Mississippi	0.2	0.3	14	26	75	84
Missouri	1.8	1.6	133	125	73	76
Montana	0.4	0.6	57	68	132	120
Nebraska	0.1	0.1	11	11	112	115
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	4.7	3.2	463	298	99	94
New Jersey	16.2	15.7	1,384	1,401	86	89
New Mexico	0.7	0.6	88	79	127	134
New York	7.1	7.3	729	723	103	100
North Carolina	8.0	6.4	476	407	60	64
North Dakota	0.1	0.1	7	6	139	118
Ohio	6.1	3.9	867	583	142	148
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	5.4	3.9	748	522	137	135
Pennsylvania	10.3	10.5	1,052	1,089	102	104
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.3	0.2	44	24	147	107
Tennessee	(D)	1.2	(D)	110	(D)	89
Texas	24.0	22.6	2,044	1,719	85	76
Utah	1.2	1.1	163	148	132	133
Virginia	1.0	0.9	72	67	74	75
Washington	1.2	1.2	162	157	132	135
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.1	1.2	125	119	109	103
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	14	12	151	140
United States	184.8	176.0	20,162	19,186	109	109

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	January to September		September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	January to September	
				2025	2026				2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)
Cattle										
Steers	1,230.8	1,190.4	1,188.6	10,905.8	10,313.4	50.9	54.0	52.7	49.8	50.8
Heifers	729.1	611.7	631.3	6,965.0	6,168.2	30.2	27.8	28.0	31.8	30.4
All cows	414.1	365.4	400.8	3,696.1	3,526.0	17.1	16.6	17.8	16.9	17.4
Dairy cows	227.2	221.1	234.8	1,946.0	2,021.7	9.4	10.0	10.4	8.9	10.0
Other cows	186.9	144.3	166.0	1,750.1	1,504.3	7.7	6.5	7.4	8.0	7.4
Bulls	42.7	35.7	36.1	330.1	309.7	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5
Total	2,416.6	2,203.3	2,256.7	21,897.1	20,317.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	8.8	6.9	7.5	90.1	64.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,663.3	9,630.3	10,338.4	91,726.6	91,406.2	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.4	97.5
Sows	241.6	214.0	233.0	2,239.2	2,134.6	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.3
Boars	20.3	19.9	19.8	190.5	181.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	10,925.3	9,864.3	10,591.2	94,156.3	93,722.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	11.8	9.3	10.0	95.4	95.6	7.4	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.8
Lambs and yearlings	147.4	140.6	142.5	1,349.7	1,304.7	92.6	93.8	93.4	93.4	93.2
Total	159.2	149.9	152.5	1,445.1	1,400.3	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	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	January to September	
				2025	2026
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	880	888	890	872	894
Steers ¹	963	967	978	946	976
Heifers ¹	871	876	883	865	889
All cows ¹	646	645	636	662	658
Bulls ¹	909	931	928	920	938
Calves and vealers	205	218	209	201	213
Hogs	213	212	214	215	217
Barrows and gilts ²	211	210	212	212	215
Sows ²	301	306	308	299	304
Boars ²	234	226	233	227	231
Sheep	57	56	57	62	59
Mature sheep ³	63	64	65	65	64
Lambs and yearlings ³	56	56	56	62	59

¹ Included in cattle average dressed weight.

² Included in hog average dressed weight.

³ Included in sheep average dressed weight.

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: September 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	2.5	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1
2	7.8	2.7	(D)	3.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	1.5
3	49.0	10.6	(D)	32.4	25.9	6.5	(D)	(D)
4	54.1	6.0	2.4	41.5	16.0	25.6	4.2	0.1
5	199.4	95.0	12.2	(D)	62.2	(D)	(D)	(D)
6	385.5	171.3	131.9	74.2	35.3	38.9	8.1	(D)
7	1,053.7	652.9	348.5	(D)	(D)	34.7	(D)	(Y)
8	226.3	139.6	73.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	131.8	46.3	19.6	64.7	47.9	16.8	1.2	(D)
10	146.8	63.1	39.5	41.4	31.7	9.7	2.8	(Y)
United States	2,256.7	1,188.6	631.3	400.8	234.8	166.0	36.1	7.5
	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	1.9	1.9	(Y)	(Y)	3.1	0.1	3.0	
2	11.5	11.4	(Y)	(Y)	22.5	2.4	20.1	
3	(D)	(D)	0.2	(D)	14.0	1.6	12.3	
4	(D)	(D)	81.1	(D)	13.0	0.9	12.1	
5	3,276.5	3,184.4	85.1	7.0	27.5	1.4	26.1	
6	476.5	476.3	0.1	0.1	15.2	1.2	14.0	
7	4,799.4	4,723.8	66.5	9.1	1.9	0.1	1.8	
8	(D)	(D)	(Y)	(D)	32.5	(D)	(D)	
9	80.3	80.3	(Y)	(Y)	18.6	(D)	(D)	
10	21.3	21.2	(Y)	(Y)	4.2	0.1	4.1	
United States	10,591.2	10,338.4	233.0	19.8	152.5	10.0	142.5	

(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 September 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	19.2	7.3	4.5	5.6	3.7	1.9	1.9	0.8
2	65.2	21.2	(D)	25.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	13.6
3	706.2	272.1	(D)	355.1	277.8	77.2	(D)	(D)
4	473.6	51.8	20.2	359.7	120.2	239.5	42.0	1.2
5	2,047.6	999.4	227.5	(D)	524.9	(D)	(D)	(D)
6	3,397.3	1,512.9	1,204.3	600.4	273.9	326.4	79.8	(D)
7	9,317.7	5,378.7	3,440.8	(D)	(D)	340.5	(D)	0.4
8	1,891.0	1,075.7	693.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	1,149.7	473.9	170.2	495.0	396.3	98.7	10.5	(D)
10	1,249.5	520.6	358.2	352.6	278.0	74.5	18.2	0.3
United States	20,317.3	10,313.4	6,168.2	3,526.0	2,021.7	1,504.3	309.7	64.2
	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	14.2	14.0	0.2	0.1	29.1	1.5	27.6	
2	99.2	98.7	0.3	0.2	206.8	25.3	181.5	
3	(D)	(D)	1.7	(D)	123.9	9.8	114.0	
4	(D)	(D)	710.5	(D)	121.6	8.6	113.1	
5	28,909.7	28,065.1	794.9	49.8	257.9	14.3	243.6	
6	4,036.8	4,035.3	0.8	0.7	146.3	11.2	135.1	
7	42,331.5	41,605.2	625.3	100.9	16.4	0.8	15.6	
8	(D)	(D)	0.4	(D)	293.4	(D)	(D)	
9	704.1	703.5	0.3	0.2	162.4	(D)	(D)	
10	181.4	181.2	0.2	0.1	42.5	1.0	41.5	
United States	93,722.7	91,406.2	2,134.6	181.9	1,400.3	95.6	1,304.7	

(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 Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	September 2025	August 2026	September 2026	January to September	
				2025	2026
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.0	98.3	98.0	98.2	98.1
Calves	94.5	94.6	94.7	95.0	93.9
Hogs	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.5	99.6
Sheep	86.1	86.0	86.7	86.2	88.0

Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Number of Head: Includes post-mortem condemnations.

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

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

Slaughter: Killing and butchering of animals primarily for food.

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

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

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

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

Statistical Methodology

Data Sources: Primary data for the *Livestock Slaughter* publication are obtained from electronic reports completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide daily counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants, in addition to total live and dressed weights. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates.

There are approximately 1,125 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,800 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 14). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

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

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

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

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

FI data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release. These weekly totals are published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) in **Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News**, Actual Slaughter Under Federal Inspection, and statistics are also available on the NASS website. NFI data are summarized monthly only.

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

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

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - Estimation Branch Contacts

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Julie Weber, Section Chief (202) 317-0165

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

Access to NASS Reports

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

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov.
- The national specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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

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

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

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

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

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