



# Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

---

Released November 21, 2018, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## All-Time Record High for Red Meat and Pork Production

**October 2017** contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**October 2018** contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.90 billion pounds in October, up 6 percent from the 4.64 billion pounds produced in October 2017.

**Beef production**, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 6 percent from October 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,363 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 7.2 million pounds, 13 percent above October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 53,800 head, up 22 percent from October 2017. The average live weight was down 18 pounds from last year, at 232 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.45 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.6 million head, up 6 percent from October 2017. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 283 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.1 million pounds, was up 10 percent from October 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 199,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, up 2 pounds from October a year ago.

**January to October 2018 commercial red meat production** was 44.4 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2017.

Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up 2 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 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: October 2017 and 2018.....	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018 .....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018 .....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018.....	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: October 2018.....	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to October 2018 .....	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	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	October 2018 as % of		January to October		
				October 2017	September 2018	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,303.0	2,158.1	2,429.2	105	113	21,748.8	22,438.1	103
Veal .....	6.4	6.0	7.2	113	120	61.4	62.6	102
Pork .....	2,316.5	2,013.0	2,450.2	106	122	21,104.3	21,735.1	103
Lamb and mutton .....	11.9	11.4	13.1	110	115	119.9	126.5	106
Total red meat .....	4,637.8	4,188.5	4,899.7	106	117	43,034.4	44,362.3	103

## Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	October 2018 as % of		January to October		
				October 2017	September 2018	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,270.1	2,129.1	2,395.7	106	113	21,466.8	22,155.9	103
Veal .....	6.2	5.9	7.0	113	120	59.8	61.1	102
Pork .....	2,302.5	2,000.4	2,436.6	106	122	20,979.0	21,618.6	103
Lamb and mutton .....	10.9	10.1	11.9	109	117	109.2	115.9	106
Total red meat .....	4,589.7	4,145.5	4,851.3	106	117	42,614.9	43,951.4	103

## Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	October 2018 as % of 2017	January to October		
					2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
				(percent)			(percent)
<b>Cattle</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	2,753.3	2,576.5	2,908.3	106	26,435.1	27,212.0	103
Other ..... 1,000	48.0	42.0	49.3	103	411.1	409.4	100
Commercial ..... 1,000	2,801.3	2,618.4	2,957.6	106	26,846.2	27,621.4	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,364	1,361	1,366	100	1,345	1,348	100
Other ..... pounds	1,189	1,196	1,187	100	1,189	1,198	101
Commercial ..... pounds	1,361	1,358	1,363	100	1,343	1,346	100
<b>Calves</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	43.2	47.8	52.9	122	416.0	463.5	111
Other ..... 1,000	0.8	0.8	0.9	107	7.4	7.2	97
Commercial ..... 1,000	44.0	48.6	53.8	122	423.5	470.7	111
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	248	213	229	92	247	228	92
Other ..... pounds	383	372	382	100	393	380	97
Commercial ..... pounds	250	215	232	93	250	230	92
<b>Hogs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	10,922.2	9,583.2	11,570.9	106	99,629.6	102,312.0	103
Other ..... 1,000	75.6	67.1	72.6	96	678.4	624.6	92
Commercial ..... 1,000	10,997.8	9,650.3	11,643.4	106	100,308.0	102,936.6	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	283	280	283	100	282	283	100
Other ..... pounds	254	257	258	102	253	256	101
Commercial ..... pounds	283	280	283	100	282	283	100
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	165.1	148.1	176.1	107	1,599.7	1,649.4	103
Other ..... 1,000	18.4	24.6	23.7	129	202.9	205.8	101
Commercial ..... 1,000	183.5	172.7	199.8	109	1,802.6	1,855.2	103
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	131	137	134	102	136	140	103
Other ..... pounds	112	105	104	93	109	106	98
Commercial ..... pounds	129	132	131	101	133	136	102
<b>Goats</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	43.2	36.8	45.9	106	399.7	417.6	104
Other ..... 1,000	8.6	8.6	9.9	115	89.3	81.6	91
Commercial ..... 1,000	51.8	45.4	55.8	108	489.0	499.2	102
Live weight per head							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	65	66	103	63	64	103
Other ..... pounds	85	84	81	96	82	82	99
Commercial ..... pounds	67	69	68	101	66	67	101
<b>Bison</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	4.5	3.5	4.4	98	44.1	43.0	97
Other ..... 1,000	0.7	0.5	0.5	81	5.7	4.7	82
Commercial ..... 1,000	5.1	4.0	4.9	96	49.8	47.7	96

## Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	October 2018 as % of 2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....	1.3	1.0	1.4	110
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	93
Arizona .....	39.4	37.3	44.0	112
Arkansas .....	0.4	0.3	0.4	94
California .....	126.8	112.3	130.6	103
Colorado .....	185.0	169.9	202.5	109
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.1	2.7	3.4	111
Florida .....	2.5	2.4	2.5	99
Georgia .....	13.7	13.1	15.2	111
Hawaii .....	0.7	0.6	0.7	106
Idaho .....	21.0	24.8	30.1	144
Illinois .....	301.2	265.4	312.9	104
Indiana .....	164.0	142.1	161.1	98
Iowa .....	653.7	601.7	725.0	111
Kansas .....	503.9	488.5	522.8	104
Kentucky .....	49.9	42.5	50.8	102
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.3	0.4	102
Michigan .....	65.1	78.8	92.1	141
Minnesota .....	256.8	221.6	258.7	101
Mississippi .....	0.5	0.5	0.6	115
Missouri .....	182.9	153.2	179.8	98
Montana .....	2.8	2.7	2.0	73
Nebraska .....	714.4	658.7	734.4	103
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	120
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.4	2.1	2.6	109
New Jersey .....	3.2	2.9	3.4	108
New Mexico .....	0.3	0.3	0.3	103
New York .....	3.3	2.9	3.8	115
North Carolina .....	239.9	149.1	243.2	101
North Dakota .....	0.7	0.5	0.7	101
Ohio .....	22.3	20.0	25.0	112
Oklahoma .....	100.3	94.0	104.1	104
Oregon .....	6.5	3.9	4.7	73
Pennsylvania .....	123.8	116.1	137.5	111
South Carolina .....	10.0	8.0	9.5	96
South Dakota .....	130.2	125.0	145.0	111
Tennessee .....	26.4	22.0	26.8	102
Texas .....	397.3	371.6	419.2	106
Utah .....	48.0	48.7	53.1	111
Virginia .....	45.1	35.1	50.2	111
Washington .....	83.8	72.6	85.9	102
West Virginia .....	1.2	0.8	1.2	100
Wisconsin .....	103.3	91.9	111.2	108
Wyoming .....	0.1	0.4	0.2	107
United States .....	4,637.8	4,188.5	4,899.7	106

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	0.6	0.6	607	657	1,030	1,037
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	107	111	1,047	1,051
Arizona .....	47.4	51.8	65,767	71,466	1,389	1,382
Arkansas .....	0.5	0.4	419	391	907	947
California .....	114.6	125.5	152,851	166,100	1,343	1,334
Colorado .....	205.6	223.4	285,395	312,355	1,389	1,399
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.3	3.7	4,324	4,970	1,308	1,346
Florida .....	3.8	(D)	4,362	(D)	1,169	(D)
Georgia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii .....	0.8	1.1	981	1,171	1,180	1,115
Idaho .....	28.5	41.6	35,813	53,029	1,275	1,285
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana .....	3.4	3.7	3,798	4,204	1,103	1,149
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	563.3	593.3	778,372	811,570	1,382	1,368
Kentucky .....	1.8	2.5	2,009	2,516	1,141	1,016
Louisiana .....	0.5	0.6	467	443	850	753
Michigan .....	44.9	49.6	62,415	67,921	1,400	1,379
Minnesota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi .....	0.3	0.4	252	348	856	918
Missouri .....	4.0	4.2	4,607	4,825	1,141	1,139
Montana .....	2.8	2.4	3,841	2,841	1,357	1,201
Nebraska .....	643.1	652.6	915,932	945,081	1,426	1,450
Nevada .....	0.1	0.2	147	182	1,017	1,041
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.2	2.7	2,472	2,878	1,120	1,087
New Jersey .....	3.1	3.5	3,437	3,901	1,124	1,114
New Mexico .....	0.4	0.4	433	385	1,098	988
New York .....	3.3	3.7	3,871	4,370	1,191	1,195
North Carolina .....	5.9	6.3	7,323	7,747	1,237	1,233
North Dakota .....	0.8	0.8	1,041	1,068	1,235	1,270
Ohio .....	5.3	6.7	6,113	8,699	1,162	1,297
Oklahoma .....	2.4	2.2	2,421	2,335	1,020	1,078
Oregon .....	(D)	1.9	(D)	2,104	(D)	1,122
Pennsylvania .....	85.3	97.6	101,406	116,207	1,194	1,195
South Carolina .....	15.6	15.4	18,843	17,991	1,213	1,171
South Dakota .....	37.2	39.9	52,413	56,669	1,416	1,426
Tennessee .....	6.8	2.1	6,383	2,051	960	988
Texas .....	500.3	525.1	646,376	679,989	1,296	1,298
Utah .....	55.9	62.8	77,117	84,465	1,382	1,347
Virginia .....	1.7	1.6	1,730	1,613	1,026	1,035
Washington .....	98.8	99.9	137,477	140,053	1,395	1,405
West Virginia .....	1.7	1.7	1,584	1,622	950	952
Wisconsin .....	113.6	124.6	156,770	170,571	1,389	1,377
Wyoming .....	0.2	0.2	186	200	1,127	1,092
United States .....	2,801.3	2,957.6	3,804,095	4,021,551	1,361	1,363

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

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Arkansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California .....	7.4	9.9	710	887	97	91
Colorado .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida .....	0.1	0.1	22	25	422	431
Georgia .....	0.1	0.1	66	50	471	462
Hawaii .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho .....	1.8	2.9	150	242	82	83
Illinois .....	0.1	0.1	25	25	405	387
Indiana .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Michigan .....	0.1	0.1	30	33	300	307
Minnesota .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Nevada .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	0.3	0.3	48	52	160	187
New Jersey .....	1.9	2.0	692	740	370	373
New Mexico .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York .....	5.4	8.4	559	950	104	114
North Carolina .....	0.1	0.1	27	28	416	355
North Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio .....	11.7	13.9	2,072	2,403	178	174
Oklahoma .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	9.1	9.8	3,913	4,158	429	424
South Carolina .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Tennessee .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas .....	0.2	0.3	105	135	426	407
Utah .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia .....	0.1	(D)	27	(D)	312	(D)
Washington .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	4.4	5.0	2,175	2,417	490	482
Wyoming .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States .....	44.0	53.8	10,971	12,398	250	232

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.



## Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	3.5	3.8	1,400	1,553	403	413
Alaska .....	0.2	0.1	43	30	259	307
Arizona .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas .....	0.7	0.7	194	179	269	270
California .....	216.5	198.6	55,293	50,425	256	254
Colorado .....	1.8	1.7	421	433	232	248
Delaware-Maryland .....	1.9	1.8	499	474	261	257
Florida .....	4.7	6.6	598	755	127	115
Georgia .....	6.4	6.2	1,524	1,529	240	246
Hawaii .....	0.7	0.4	170	92	246	247
Idaho .....	14.4	15.7	3,848	4,184	267	266
Illinois .....	1,084.3	1,136.3	307,874	322,308	284	284
Indiana .....	771.7	771.5	214,775	211,656	278	274
Iowa .....	2,965.8	3,310.0	839,610	934,699	283	282
Kansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	0.9	0.8	167	191	191	239
Michigan .....	126.2	245.4	38,316	71,441	304	291
Minnesota .....	1,101.8	1,091.2	301,739	300,378	274	275
Mississippi .....	(D)	3.2	(D)	539	(D)	166
Missouri .....	831.3	820.4	240,341	236,579	289	289
Montana .....	2.1	1.6	572	403	279	249
Nebraska .....	713.8	728.1	199,149	204,247	279	281
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	18	17	259	266
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	4.2	4.2	1,136	1,127	273	268
New Jersey .....	8.7	8.7	898	837	103	96
New Mexico .....	0.3	0.3	78	86	262	260
New York .....	3.1	3.1	751	805	242	257
North Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota .....	0.5	0.4	126	123	274	277
Ohio .....	85.6	90.0	23,810	25,185	279	280
Oklahoma .....	476.1	488.8	130,311	136,142	274	279
Oregon .....	14.7	15.9	3,903	4,243	266	266
Pennsylvania .....	302.8	321.7	82,660	90,598	273	282
South Carolina .....	(D)	3.0	(D)	713	(D)	240
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	76.6	85.0	34,425	38,377	450	452
Texas .....	28.3	28.6	6,936	7,083	245	248
Utah .....	4.8	5.5	874	909	185	165
Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington .....	0.9	1.2	240	307	268	263
West Virginia .....	1.2	1.0	348	306	295	299
Wisconsin .....	64.2	66.6	27,868	28,759	435	433
Wyoming .....	0.1	0.2	42	46	286	287
United States .....	10,997.8	11,643.4	3,106,009	3,291,449	283	283

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

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: October 2017 and 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017 (1,000 head)	2018 (1,000 head)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (pounds)	2018 (pounds)
Alabama .....	0.1	(Y)	5	(X)	71	(X)
Alaska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	7	(X)	103
California .....	24.2	29.7	3,319	4,070	138	137
Colorado .....	66.9	65.5	10,116	10,671	151	163
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.5	3.4	320	314	91	93
Florida .....	1.3	1.2	84	71	64	58
Georgia .....	1.0	2.1	70	132	71	64
Hawaii .....	(D)	0.1	(D)	9	(D)	113
Idaho .....	0.3	0.4	39	54	134	141
Illinois .....	4.6	4.6	454	448	100	96
Indiana .....	3.3	4.0	384	462	116	115
Iowa .....	0.4	0.4	60	64	162	162
Kansas .....	0.4	0.4	47	47	109	111
Kentucky .....	1.2	1.5	143	185	123	121
Louisiana .....	0.3	0.3	17	20	50	59
Michigan .....	18.1	16.8	2,512	2,289	138	136
Minnesota .....	0.5	0.6	50	63	104	102
Mississippi .....	1.0	0.9	63	53	65	59
Missouri .....	0.9	1.0	83	80	89	83
Montana .....	0.6	0.5	94	63	146	128
Nebraska .....	0.2	0.2	23	27	139	133
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	13	13	120	122
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.9	3.0	276	301	94	100
New Jersey .....	11.5	12.8	914	1,021	80	80
New Mexico .....	0.6	0.8	84	112	137	141
New York .....	4.9	4.9	487	485	100	100
North Carolina .....	1.2	1.2	82	87	71	74
North Dakota .....	0.1	0.1	10	12	137	128
Ohio .....	3.1	4.1	393	618	129	149
Oklahoma .....	0.5	0.6	53	82	115	127
Oregon .....	3.9	4.7	525	664	135	141
Pennsylvania .....	7.1	8.1	748	823	105	102
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	0.4	0.4	63	52	162	135
Tennessee .....	1.0	0.9	83	62	81	70
Texas .....	7.9	12.8	770	1,080	97	84
Utah .....	1.9	2.1	252	284	134	136
Virginia .....	0.8	1.0	62	68	77	71
Washington .....	1.2	1.4	161	197	135	138
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	4.0	4.9	633	759	158	157
Wyoming .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
United States .....	183.5	199.8	23,724	26,126	129	131

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> 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	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	January to October		October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	January to October	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	2017	2018	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	(percent of total)	2017	2018
<b>Cattle</b>				(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)				(percent of total)	(percent of total)
Steers .....	1,397.9	1,311.3	1,449.2	14,117.5	14,010.8	50.8	50.9	49.8	53.4	51.5
Heifers .....	795.3	742.1	841.6	7,070.4	7,589.5	28.9	28.8	28.9	26.7	27.9
All cows .....	513.1	479.2	567.3	4,783.1	5,154.0	18.6	18.6	19.5	18.1	18.9
Dairy cows .....	261.0	247.4	288.2	2,497.4	2,623.7	9.5	9.6	9.9	9.4	9.6
Other cows .....	252.1	231.9	279.1	2,285.8	2,530.3	9.2	9.0	9.6	8.6	9.3
Bulls .....	47.0	43.8	50.1	464.0	457.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7
Total .....	2,753.3	2,576.5	2,908.3	26,435.1	27,212.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	43.2	47.8	52.9	416.0	463.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows and gilts .....	10,630.2	9,324.8	11,254.6	96,864.0	99,472.6	97.3	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.2
Sows .....	258.7	226.6	279.3	2,460.5	2,521.9	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5
Boars .....	33.3	31.7	36.9	305.1	317.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total .....	10,922.2	9,583.2	11,570.9	99,629.6	102,312.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature sheep .....	8.0	7.9	9.3	85.9	87.7	4.8	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.3
Lambs and yearlings .....	157.1	140.2	166.8	1,513.9	1,561.7	95.2	94.7	94.7	94.6	94.7
Total .....	165.1	148.1	176.1	1,599.7	1,649.4	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	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	January to October	
	2017	2018	2018	2017	2018
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
<b>Cattle</b> .....	826	828	826	814	816
Steers <sup>1</sup> .....	898	897	898	872	876
Heifers <sup>1</sup> .....	825	824	830	806	813
All cows <sup>1</sup> .....	628	639	629	643	648
Bulls <sup>1</sup> .....	875	891	868	900	893
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	145	123	134	145	133
<b>Hogs</b> .....	211	209	211	211	211
Barrows and gilts <sup>2</sup> .....	209	207	208	208	209
Sows <sup>2</sup> .....	307	304	305	308	305
Boars <sup>2</sup> .....	200	183	185	202	192
<b>Sheep</b> .....	66	69	67	68	70
Mature sheep <sup>3</sup> .....	66	67	66	68	68
Lambs and yearlings <sup>3</sup> .....	66	69	68	68	70

<sup>1</sup> Included in cattle average dressed weight.

<sup>2</sup> Included in hog average dressed weight.

<sup>3</sup> Included in sheep average dressed weight.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: October 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1 .....	2.4	1.0	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
2 .....	7.1	2.1	1.3	3.1	2.9	0.2	0.6	10.3
3 .....	100.5	31.7	2.0	62.3	49.1	13.2	4.5	10.1
4 .....	55.6	3.6	1.4	42.7	12.3	30.4	7.9	0.2
5 .....	299.9	134.6	(D)	121.2	80.4	40.8	(D)	19.2
6 .....	523.1	256.9	156.5	101.5	31.5	70.0	8.3	0.1
7 .....	1,275.9	726.9	476.7	61.2	5.8	55.4	11.0	(Y)
8 .....	323.5	167.2	(D)	36.6	9.6	27.0	(D)	(Y)
9 .....	177.9	78.4	12.6	84.1	68.4	15.7	2.8	9.7
10 .....	142.4	46.8	38.0	54.3	28.0	26.3	3.4	2.9
United States .....	2,908.3	1,449.2	841.6	567.3	288.2	279.1	50.1	52.9
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1 .....	3.8	3.8	(Y)	(Y)	2.8	0.1	2.7	
2 .....	11.7	11.6	(Y)	(Y)	17.2	1.7	15.6	
3 .....	557.3	556.1	(D)	(D)	13.2	1.1	12.1	
4 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	8.0	1.3	6.7	
5 .....	3,367.5	3,240.7	122.7	4.1	28.8	2.0	26.9	
6 .....	512.9	512.5	0.2	0.2	3.9	0.6	3.3	
7 .....	4,870.3	4,780.8	65.0	24.4	1.2	(Y)	1.1	
8 .....	(D)	(D)	0.4	0.1	67.2	1.6	65.6	
9 .....	195.7	195.6	(Y)	(Y)	28.4	0.8	27.6	
10 .....	32.3	32.2	0.1	(Y)	5.3	0.2	5.1	
United States .....	11,570.9	11,254.6	279.3	36.9	176.1	9.3	166.8	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> 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 October 2018

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	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 .....	18.3	7.5	4.7	4.2	1.9	2.4	1.8	2.1
2 .....	65.0	17.5	11.6	30.1	28.4	1.7	5.8	93.6
3 .....	925.5	317.4	19.3	549.2	437.7	111.5	39.6	84.9
4 .....	517.2	35.5	11.4	403.4	121.7	281.7	66.8	2.8
5 .....	2,760.4	1,319.0	(D)	1,062.9	699.9	363.0	(D)	178.6
6 .....	4,883.0	2,453.0	1,400.8	942.8	281.1	661.7	86.4	0.9
7 .....	12,137.1	7,035.5	4,412.9	591.5	52.0	539.4	97.2	0.4
8 .....	3,009.8	1,673.6	(D)	310.3	79.4	230.8	(D)	(Y)
9 .....	1,638.9	683.3	135.1	790.8	655.1	135.6	29.8	73.8
10 .....	1,256.8	468.6	290.2	468.8	266.4	202.4	29.2	26.4
United States .....	27,212.0	14,010.8	7,589.5	5,154.0	2,623.7	2,530.3	457.7	463.5
	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)	(1,000 head)
1 .....	25.9	25.3	0.5	0.1	25.0	1.1	23.9	
2 .....	106.9	106.2	0.6	0.2	171.3	14.9	156.4	
3 .....	4,796.8	4,786.5	(D)	(D)	127.0	12.6	114.4	
4 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	73.6	11.4	62.2	
5 .....	30,184.9	28,964.5	1,173.9	46.5	285.7	19.9	265.7	
6 .....	4,861.0	4,857.5	1.6	1.9	37.7	5.4	32.3	
7 .....	43,067.9	42,246.2	628.6	193.2	11.7	0.4	11.3	
8 .....	(D)	(D)	6.4	0.5	619.7	13.6	606.1	
9 .....	1,707.1	1,706.3	0.7	0.1	255.4	6.2	249.1	
10 .....	285.9	285.3	0.5	0.1	42.4	2.1	40.3	
United States .....	102,312.0	99,472.6	2,521.9	317.6	1,649.4	87.7	1,561.7	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> 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	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018	January to October	
				2017	2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	98.3	98.4	98.3	98.5	98.5
Calves .....	98.2	98.4	98.4	98.2	98.5
Hogs .....	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.3	99.4
Sheep .....	90.0	85.8	88.1	88.7	88.9

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).





United States Department of Agriculture

USDA's  
95th Annual

# Agricultural Outlook Forum

## Growing Locally, Selling Globally



February 21-22, 2019

Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

[www.usda.gov/oce/forum](http://www.usda.gov/oce/forum)

Follow us on Social Media (#AgOutlook)



@USDA



@usdagov



@USDA