



Livestock Slaughter

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Red Meat Production Down 18 Percent from Last May

May 2019 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

May 2020 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.76 billion pounds in May, down 18 percent from the 4.57 billion pounds produced in May 2019.

Beef production, at 1.87 billion pounds, was 20 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.28 million head, down 23 percent from May 2019. The average live weight was up 51 pounds from the previous year, at 1,367 pounds.

Veal production totaled 5.2 million pounds, 18 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,400 head, down 30 percent from May 2019. The average live weight was up 39 pounds from last year, at 274 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.88 billion pounds, down 15 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.59 million head, down 17 percent from May 2019. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 294 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.6 million pounds, was down 7 percent from May 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 195,300 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago.

January to May 2020 commercial red meat production was 22.0 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2019. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 11 percent.

What animal species constitute "red meat" on this summary page?

What is "veal"? What is "mutton"?

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	May 2020 as % of		January to May		
				May 2019	April 2020	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,328.0	1,815.4	1,865.1	80	103	11,003.6	10,609.5	96
Veal	6.3	4.8	5.2	82	107	30.7	27.2	89
Pork	2,218.9	2,030.8	1,878.0	85	92	11,325.8	11,334.8	100
Lamb and mutton	13.5	11.1	12.6	93	114	65.4	58.5	89
Total red meat	4,566.6	3,862.2	3,760.8	82	97	22,425.5	22,030.1	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	May 2020 as % of		January to May		
				May 2019	April 2020	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,300.9	1,782.0	1,827.6	79	103	10,864.4	10,449.7	96
Veal	6.2	4.6	5.0	81	108	30.0	26.5	88
Pork	2,208.9	2,019.4	1,863.8	84	92	11,273.5	11,278.4	100
Lamb and mutton	12.1	9.9	11.3	93	114	59.4	53.0	89
Total red meat	4,528.0	3,815.9	3,707.7	82	97	22,227.3	21,807.6	98

How many million pounds of pork were produced in January–May 2020?

The "head" figures are counted by the 1,000. This means in May 2019 2,899,900 individual cattle (2899.9 x 1000), who were federally inspected, were killed. How many head of cattle were killed from January to May 2019? Did this number increase or decrease Jan–May 2020?

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	May 2020 as % of 2019	January to May		
					2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,899.9	2,189.1	2,222.5	77	13,500.1	12,679.5	94
Other 1,000	39.1	50.0	55.0	141	202.7	236.3	117
Commercial 1,000	2,938.9	2,239.1	2,277.5	77	13,702.8	12,915.8	94
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,317	1,357	1,371	104	1,341	1,372	102
Other pounds	1,205	1,188	1,197	99	1,195	1,192	100
Commercial pounds	1,316	1,353	1,367	104	1,339	1,369	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	45.5	32.6	31.7	70	233.8	195.0	83
Other 1,000	0.7	0.9	0.7	106	3.4	3.8	113
Commercial 1,000	46.2	33.5	32.4	70	237.1	198.8	84
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	233	249	272	116	223	236	106
Other pounds	364	364	394	108	362	367	101
Commercial pounds	235	252	274	117	225	239	106
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,301.3	9,352.8	8,516.3	83	52,529.5	52,182.3	99
Other 1,000	54.7	59.2	71.6	131	277.6	295.7	107
Commercial 1,000	10,356.0	9,412.0	8,587.8	83	52,807.2	52,478.0	99
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	287	290	294	102	287	290	101
Other pounds	249	265	271	109	258	262	101
Commercial pounds	287	289	294	102	287	290	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	182.0	154.1	166.6	91	868.6	789.5	91
Other 1,000	28.0	26.7	28.7	103	123.4	120.4	98
Commercial 1,000	210.0	180.8	195.3	93	992.0	910.0	92
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	132	128	135	102	136	134	98
Other pounds	101	93	95	94	99	95	95
Commercial pounds	128	123	129	101	132	129	98
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	49.3	36.1	39.9	81	217.8	201.2	92
Other 1,000	10.7	7.3	7.9	74	47.7	41.7	88
Commercial 1,000	59.9	43.4	47.8	80	265.5	242.9	91
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	64	64	99	65	64	99
Other pounds	84	86	87	103	82	85	103
Commercial pounds	68	68	67	100	68	68	100
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	4.6	5.4	5.7	123	22.5	26.3	117
Other 1,000	0.4	0.2	0.2	45	2.6	2.5	96
Commercial 1,000	5.0	5.6	5.9	116	25.1	28.8	115

How many head of "hogs" were killed in April 2020? If you multiplied that by 12 months, what would the annual slaughter total be?

How many million pounds of “red meat” was produced in your home state in May 2020?

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	May 2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	0.7	0.9	1.0	134
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
Arizona	39.3	39.6	27.2	69
Arkansas	0.3	0.5	0.6	177
California	132.5	147.3	145.7	110
Colorado	180.0	90.4	154.6	86
Delaware-Maryland	3.3	2.4	3.1	96
Florida	3.1	3.1	4.4	143
Georgia	14.2	16.1	14.9	105
Hawaii	0.9	0.8	0.8	87
Idaho	28.7	29.6	31.1	108
Illinois	283.8	249.6	253.2	89
Indiana	148.4	115.1	118.1	80
Iowa	689.1	618.4	606.8	88
Kansas	518.6	391.1	421.9	81
Kentucky	46.1	50.7	46.5	101
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	0.6	153
Michigan	88.7	83.8	93.5	105
Minnesota	228.3	191.7	180.8	79
Mississippi	0.6	0.6	0.7	124
Missouri	163.7	148.2	117.7	72
Montana	1.9	1.5	2.1	107
Nebraska	685.6	548.7	462.3	67
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	93
New England ¹	2.4	2.8	3.1	128
New Jersey	4.1	2.9	3.6	89
New Mexico	0.3	0.5	0.5	162
New York	3.5	3.1	3.4	99
North Carolina	231.0	206.8	151.0	65
North Dakota	0.7	0.8	0.9	132
Ohio	20.1	22.4	28.6	142
Oklahoma	98.5	103.3	85.2	87
Oregon	4.2	3.7	4.5	107
Pennsylvania	125.1	93.2	131.9	105
South Carolina	13.1	15.0	16.5	126
South Dakota	125.3	56.9	70.7	56
Tennessee	21.6	29.3	28.7	133
Texas	400.2	363.1	303.0	76
Utah	50.4	50.4	46.4	92
Virginia	26.3	45.5	40.2	153
Washington	77.2	51.1	59.7	77
West Virginia	0.5	1.0	1.3	253
Wisconsin	103.6	79.2	93.5	90
Wyoming	0.3	0.5	0.6	213
United States	4,566.6	3,862.2	3,760.8	82

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Explore the following charts as you like; ask your own questions!

Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: May 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.6	0.9	581	963	1,038	1,082
Alaska	0.1	0.1	60	150	1,058	1,063
Arizona	47.8	32.4	63,435	44,273	1,328	1,369
Arkansas	0.4	0.7	410	702	949	953
California	126.5	138.7	165,776	184,846	1,319	1,341
Colorado	213.2	170.1	279,448	239,020	1,312	1,407
Delaware-Maryland	3.4	3.2	4,842	4,465	1,407	1,399
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.4	1.2	1,476	1,338	1,082	1,161
Idaho	39.1	41.1	49,845	54,331	1,288	1,336
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	2.7	4.1	3,213	4,831	1,170	1,187
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	617.7	474.0	805,925	652,958	1,305	1,378
Kentucky	3.0	4.6	3,205	5,099	1,089	1,126
Louisiana	0.5	0.8	384	745	788	895
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.4	0.6	344	541	813	926
Missouri	4.1	8.3	4,853	9,276	1,186	1,127
Montana	2.2	2.2	3,006	2,951	1,351	1,336
Nebraska	662.5	398.9	894,660	574,512	1,352	1,442
Nevada	0.2	0.1	161	170	1,045	1,157
New England ¹	2.5	3.5	3,026	4,118	1,189	1,182
New Jersey	4.3	4.1	4,720	4,599	1,112	1,125
New Mexico	0.4	0.7	412	784	1,053	1,152
New York	3.9	3.9	4,681	4,736	1,218	1,224
North Carolina	6.9	6.7	8,500	8,099	1,241	1,223
North Dakota	0.8	1.0	1,034	1,280	1,329	1,316
Ohio	5.3	8.0	6,941	10,384	1,299	1,306
Oklahoma	2.6	4.3	2,842	4,892	1,095	1,136
Oregon	1.5	2.2	1,702	2,714	1,117	1,216
Pennsylvania	96.0	90.1	116,811	111,918	1,221	1,247
South Carolina	20.1	22.9	25,220	31,990	1,263	1,400
South Dakota	40.7	39.2	57,079	55,178	1,410	1,418
Tennessee	1.1	3.9	1,124	4,199	1,048	1,100
Texas	506.7	377.3	649,719	498,322	1,286	1,326
Utah	62.3	54.7	81,105	74,707	1,304	1,369
Virginia	1.2	2.0	1,331	2,152	1,100	1,085
Washington	95.0	71.7	127,053	99,297	1,341	1,389
West Virginia	0.6	1.4	616	1,702	1,075	1,185
Wisconsin	115.2	95.5	158,715	130,588	1,386	1,375
Wyoming	0.4	0.6	409	697	1,106	1,127
United States	2,938.9	2,277.5	3,859,249	3,105,914	1,316	1,367

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

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

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: May 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019 (1,000 head)	2020 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2020 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (pounds)	2020 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Arkansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California	7.0	4.7	702	598	101	132
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	0.1	0.1	30	44	376	422
Georgia	0.1	0.1	49	55	430	486
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	3.1	2.6	277	192	89	76
Illinois	0.1	0.1	36	44	359	347
Indiana	0.4	0.4	122	143	286	360
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Louisiana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Michigan	0.1	0.1	30	40	300	400
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(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	0.3	0.2	71	74	239	312
New Jersey	1.9	1.3	739	503	384	376
New Mexico	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York	7.0	5.5	584	435	83	80
North Carolina	0.1	(Y)	29	(X)	273	(X)
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	10.5	5.2	1,597	1,348	153	261
Oklahoma	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	9.9	8.6	4,223	3,773	426	438
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.1	0.2	48	98	410	421
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	0.1	(D)	37	(D)	304
Washington	0.4	(D)	28	(D)	76	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	4.4	2.7	2,075	1,327	470	486
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	46.2	32.4	10,823	8,825	235	274

(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: May 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019 (1,000 head)	2020 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2020 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (pounds)	2020 (pounds)
Alabama	1.6	1.7	594	642	365	370
Alaska	0.1	0.1	15	24	255	282
Arizona	0.1	0.2	31	50	293	277
Arkansas	0.4	0.7	114	211	290	284
California	200.4	207.0	51,656	54,215	258	262
Colorado	1.4	1.7	352	459	245	266
Delaware-Maryland	1.2	1.6	293	451	250	290
Florida	4.4	4.0	561	710	128	180
Georgia	5.2	5.3	1,246	1,395	239	264
Hawaii	0.4	0.2	103	57	256	290
Idaho	14.4	13.9	3,901	3,720	272	268
Illinois	986.4	890.4	284,338	262,220	288	295
Indiana	691.0	531.4	193,881	153,064	281	288
Iowa	3,101.0	2,630.4	887,600	771,946	286	294
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.7	0.5	159	128	215	268
Michigan	224.9	273.1	65,985	79,635	293	292
Minnesota	943.9	782.4	260,274	216,881	276	277
Mississippi	3.1	3.0	471	553	153	183
Missouri	727.7	502.3	213,872	149,910	294	299
Montana	0.9	1.6	265	440	285	282
Nebraska	643.1	511.1	183,539	150,210	285	294
Nevada	0.1	0.1	28	17	264	276
New England ¹	2.5	2.7	652	777	262	287
New Jersey	8.8	3.8	841	567	95	149
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	51	47	270	268
New York	2.0	1.9	499	522	246	272
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.6	73	182	318	286
Ohio	70.9	103.5	20,327	29,027	287	281
Oklahoma	451.4	361.2	126,897	109,257	281	303
Oregon	14.6	13.1	3,980	3,501	272	268
Pennsylvania	264.6	303.0	73,119	84,539	276	279
South Carolina	2.3	2.4	572	597	247	249
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	69.2	90.3	31,396	39,721	454	440
Texas	24.6	23.3	4,996	4,924	203	211
Utah	4.7	2.9	751	861	161	297
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	1.2	2.1	290	517	252	247
West Virginia	0.5	1.8	142	533	291	300
Wisconsin	59.8	81.4	26,165	34,657	439	427
Wyoming	0.2	0.8	46	242	271	291
United States	10,356.0	8,587.8	2,968,016	2,520,315	287	294

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

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

Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: May 2019 and 2020

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2019 (1,000 head)	2020 (1,000 head)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2020 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (pounds)	2020 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	0.2	(X)	13	(X)	86
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.5	0.2	69	26	152	123
Arkansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	7	(X)	135
California	28.8	26.5	4,150	3,943	144	149
Colorado	61.0	57.2	10,189	9,960	167	174
Delaware-Maryland	3.6	3.1	330	288	91	94
Florida	1.9	2.1	110	125	58	58
Georgia	3.1	1.9	206	131	67	68
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	15	9	119	136
Idaho	0.1	0.1	15	18	150	132
Illinois	5.8	4.3	522	317	90	74
Indiana	5.2	7.1	577	766	112	108
Iowa	0.1	0.1	19	18	161	148
Kansas	0.4	0.4	36	37	83	84
Kentucky	1.5	1.8	178	210	121	120
Louisiana	0.6	0.4	29	24	51	55
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.4	0.4	35	38	93	86
Mississippi	1.6	1.1	92	67	58	61
Missouri	1.2	0.9	102	73	81	85
Montana	0.3	0.4	46	50	135	133
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	0.1	0.1	18	7	161	106
New England ¹	4.3	4.0	422	362	99	91
New Jersey	18.0	15.3	1,417	1,196	79	78
New Mexico	0.7	0.5	102	67	147	140
New York	4.9	4.2	509	434	105	103
North Carolina	1.8	3.6	117	232	66	64
North Dakota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio	5.2	5.6	845	932	164	166
Oklahoma	1.0	1.7	91	146	91	85
Oregon	3.7	4.6	511	676	137	148
Pennsylvania	7.8	8.6	807	877	103	103
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.4	0.2	44	24	112	144
Tennessee	1.4	(D)	83	(D)	58	(D)
Texas	17.3	20.2	1,447	1,657	84	82
Utah	2.0	1.9	268	272	136	142
Virginia	1.0	1.0	73	66	76	66
Washington	1.7	1.0	237	131	137	137
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.9	1.1	307	156	159	144
Wyoming	(Y)	0.1	(X)	12	(X)	140
United States	210.0	195.3	26,926	25,219	128	129

(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	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	January to May		May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	January to May	
				2019	2020				2019	2020
	(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	1,523.5	1,024.7	1,096.2	6,672.7	6,086.2	52.5	46.8	49.3	49.4	48.0
Heifers	802.1	629.0	603.3	3,949.9	3,750.8	27.7	28.7	27.1	29.3	29.6
All cows	526.2	499.3	483.5	2,672.6	2,651.7	18.1	22.8	21.8	19.8	20.9
Dairy cows	258.1	279.4	233.3	1,406.4	1,365.3	8.9	12.8	10.5	10.4	10.8
Other cows	268.1	219.9	250.2	1,266.3	1,286.4	9.2	10.0	11.3	9.4	10.1
Bulls	48.1	36.1	39.4	204.8	190.8	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5
Total	2,899.9	2,189.1	2,222.5	13,500.1	12,679.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	45.5	32.6	31.7	233.8	195.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,015.8	9,032.9	8,218.7	51,111.3	50,660.0	97.2	96.6	96.5	97.3	97.1
Sows	252.6	291.9	277.7	1,256.9	1,384.1	2.5	3.1	3.3	2.4	2.7
Boars	32.9	28.0	19.8	161.4	138.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Total	10,301.3	9,352.8	8,516.3	52,529.5	52,182.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	10.9	9.1	9.1	45.7	44.1	6.0	5.9	5.5	5.3	5.6
Lambs and yearlings	171.2	145.0	157.4	823.0	745.4	94.0	94.1	94.5	94.7	94.4
Total	182.0	154.1	166.6	868.6	789.5	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	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	January to May	
				2019	2020
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	795	816	824	807	826
Steers ¹	847	889	896	867	898
Heifers ¹	788	823	828	807	830
All cows ¹	645	652	652	648	652
Bulls ¹	894	889	885	883	874
Calves and vealers	136	144	159	129	137
Hogs	215	216	219	215	216
Barrows and gilts ²	212	213	216	213	214
Sows ²	307	305	303	304	304
Boars ²	194	197	200	187	194
Sheep	66	64	68	68	67
Mature sheep ³	66	66	66	65	66
Lambs and yearlings ³	67	64	68	69	67

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: May 2020

[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	3.1	1.3	(D)	0.6	0.3	0.3	(D)	0.2
2	7.9	2.4	1.8	3.3	3.1	0.3	0.3	6.8
3	93.8	37.6	4.0	48.9	38.9	10.1	3.2	8.9
4	68.1	6.4	1.8	51.9	16.4	35.4	8.1	0.3
5	220.0	118.0	(D)	66.2	42.8	23.4	(D)	8.4
6	375.4	175.5	95.0	96.6	29.0	67.6	8.4	0.1
7	906.8	505.4	337.9	56.5	6.5	50.0	7.1	(Y)
8	261.4	145.3	81.8	32.5	9.8	22.7	1.9	(Y)
9	171.6	75.0	19.9	74.1	56.3	17.8	2.6	4.4
10	114.3	29.4	29.3	52.9	30.2	22.7	2.8	2.6
United States	2,222.5	1,096.2	603.3	483.5	233.3	250.2	39.4	31.7
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1	2.4	2.4	(Y)	(Y)	3.9	0.2	3.6	
2	5.7	5.6	(Y)	(Y)	19.1	2.1	17.0	
3	479.3	478.0	(D)	(D)	12.9	1.1	11.9	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	11.4	1.2	10.1	
5	2,629.6	2,481.5	143.6	4.5	23.9	2.1	21.8	
6	380.5	380.4	0.1	(Y)	5.5	0.3	5.2	
7	3,646.3	3,583.6	52.9	9.9	1.1	(Y)	1.1	
8	(D)	(D)	1.1	(Y)	58.8	1.4	57.4	
9	204.9	204.8	(Y)	(Y)	25.2	0.7	24.5	
10	28.8	28.7	(Y)	(Y)	4.8	0.1	4.7	
United States	8,516.3	8,218.7	277.7	19.8	166.6	9.1	157.4	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to May 2020

[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	12.8	5.4	(D)	2.6	1.3	1.3	(D)	1.4
2	35.5	10.0	8.2	15.6	14.5	1.1	1.7	45.4
3	450.3	147.6	17.1	269.7	216.9	52.8	15.9	41.0
4	326.5	22.1	7.6	258.6	79.2	179.4	38.3	1.2
5	1,252.5	583.0	(D)	483.5	297.0	186.5	(D)	62.7
6	2,259.6	1,071.5	693.7	454.1	160.8	293.4	40.3	0.5
7	5,425.1	2,979.9	2,118.0	294.9	41.4	253.5	32.4	0.3
8	1,360.6	685.0	491.5	178.8	44.2	134.6	5.3	(Y)
9	923.8	394.5	98.0	419.5	351.0	68.5	11.8	21.5
10	632.7	187.3	159.3	274.3	159.1	115.2	11.8	20.9
United States	12,679.5	6,086.2	3,750.8	2,651.7	1,365.3	1,286.4	190.8	195.0
	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	11.3	11.1	0.2	0.1	15.9	0.8	15.1	
2	36.2	36.0	0.2	(Y)	85.6	9.3	76.2	
3	2,466.7	2,461.2	(D)	(D)	59.8	6.5	53.3	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	50.4	5.3	45.0	
5	15,173.7	14,490.6	658.8	24.3	120.6	9.1	111.5	
6	2,411.4	2,411.0	0.4	0.1	22.3	1.2	21.1	
7	22,697.4	22,300.7	315.2	81.5	5.8	0.1	5.7	
8	(D)	(D)	3.9	0.1	294.3	7.9	286.5	
9	1,088.2	1,088.0	0.2	(Y)	113.4	2.9	110.5	
10	144.1	143.8	0.3	0.1	21.5	0.9	20.5	
United States	52,182.3	50,660.0	1,384.1	138.2	789.5	44.1	745.4	

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

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

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

Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	May 2019	April 2020	May 2020	January to May	
				2019	2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.7	97.8	97.6	98.5	98.2
Calves	98.5	97.3	97.7	98.6	98.1
Hogs	99.5	99.4	99.2	99.5	99.4
Sheep	86.7	85.2	85.3	87.6	86.8

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@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-0585
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
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: www.nass.usda.gov
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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

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