



Livestock Slaughter

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Record High Commercial Red Meat and Pork Production in February

February 2023 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

February 2024 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.55 billion pounds in February, up 7 percent from the 4.26 billion pounds produced in February 2023.

Beef production, at 2.17 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, up 3 percent from February 2023. The average live weight was up 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,384 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.6 million pounds, 6 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 19,600 head, down 24 percent from February 2023. The average live weight was up 57 pounds from last year, at 312 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.37 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.0 million head, up 10 percent from February 2023. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 290 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was up 8 percent from February 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 171,800 head, 11 percent above last year. The average live weight was 124 pounds, down 5 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2024 commercial red meat production was 9.32 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2023. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 6 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	February 2024 as % of		January to February		
				February 2023	January 2024	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,092.2	2,280.8	2,168.5	104	95	4,416.7	4,449.4	101
Veal	3.8	3.9	3.6	94	92	8.2	7.5	91
Pork	2,157.0	2,472.7	2,371.2	110	96	4,582.4	4,843.9	106
Lamb and mutton	10.1	10.6	10.9	108	103	20.3	21.5	106
Total red meat	4,263.1	4,768.0	4,554.2	107	96	9,027.5	9,322.2	103

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	February 2024 as % of		January to February		
				February 2023	January 2024	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,059.4	2,246.1	2,135.0	104	95	4,346.8	4,381.0	101
Veal	3.7	3.8	3.4	93	91	8.0	7.2	90
Pork	2,148.3	2,462.4	2,361.4	110	96	4,563.8	4,823.8	106
Lamb and mutton	9.3	9.6	9.8	106	102	18.5	19.4	105
Total red meat	4,220.7	4,721.9	4,509.6	107	96	8,937.1	9,231.5	103

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	February 2024 as % of 2023	January to February		
					2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,500.4	2,680.3	2,564.7	103	5,273.0	5,245.0	99
Other 1,000	47.9	50.1	48.5	101	102.1	98.6	97
Commercial 1,000	2,548.2	2,730.4	2,613.1	103	5,375.1	5,343.6	99
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,377	1,392	1,387	101	1,380	1,390	101
Other pounds	1,216	1,226	1,221	100	1,219	1,224	100
Commercial pounds	1,374	1,389	1,384	101	1,377	1,387	101
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	25.1	22.0	18.9	75	55.2	40.8	74
Other 1,000	0.5	0.7	0.8	142	1.1	1.4	129
Commercial 1,000	25.7	22.6	19.6	76	56.3	42.3	75
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	253	292	309	122	250	300	120
Other pounds	358	349	373	104	366	362	99
Commercial pounds	255	294	312	122	252	302	120
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,930.7	11,316.9	10,936.9	110	21,010.3	22,253.8	106
Other 1,000	43.6	51.8	48.6	111	94.4	100.4	106
Commercial 1,000	9,974.4	11,368.7	10,985.5	110	21,104.7	22,354.2	106
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	291	292	290	100	292	291	100
Other pounds	273	273	279	102	271	276	102
Commercial pounds	291	292	290	100	292	291	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	138.3	152.4	152.2	110	282.6	304.6	108
Other 1,000	16.4	19.3	19.6	120	34.9	39.0	112
Commercial 1,000	154.8	171.7	171.8	111	317.6	343.5	108
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	132	124	127	96	129	126	97
Other pounds	101	98	104	104	100	101	101
Commercial pounds	129	121	124	97	126	123	97
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	38.2	45.2	42.7	112	79.2	87.9	111
Other 1,000	7.0	9.5	9.7	139	14.4	19.2	133
Commercial 1,000	45.2	54.7	52.4	116	93.6	107.1	114
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	65	63	64	98	65	63	97
Other pounds	83	77	84	102	85	81	95
Commercial pounds	68	65	68	100	68	66	97
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	6.0	7.7	6.7	111	12.6	14.4	114
Other 1,000	0.3	0.3	0.3	91	0.6	0.6	95
Commercial 1,000	6.3	8.0	7.0	110	13.2	14.9	113

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	February 2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.0	1.2	1.2	121
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
Arizona	40.6	42.2	40.3	99
Arkansas	0.6	0.6	0.6	104
California	106.8	102.1	96.1	90
Colorado	155.5	178.6	163.0	105
Delaware-Maryland	2.6	2.9	2.7	101
Florida	6.6	4.3	5.4	82
Georgia	11.0	13.8	14.9	136
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.8	115
Idaho	32.1	42.1	42.0	131
Illinois	251.2	294.3	281.3	112
Indiana	148.9	174.4	151.9	102
Iowa	698.4	811.5	809.9	116
Kansas	440.8	485.0	451.8	102
Kentucky	47.9	54.4	51.7	108
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	0.4	129
Michigan	101.1	127.4	119.2	118
Minnesota	230.9	250.9	237.4	103
Mississippi	0.7	0.8	0.8	115
Missouri	164.3	181.5	171.3	104
Montana	1.3	1.2	1.3	94
Nebraska	596.7	664.6	655.1	110
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
New England ¹	2.3	2.8	2.6	111
New Jersey	3.5	3.9	3.9	111
New Mexico	0.4	0.5	0.4	119
New York	3.1	3.0	2.9	93
North Carolina	249.4	245.7	226.0	91
North Dakota	0.7	0.9	0.8	110
Ohio	21.4	26.9	24.1	113
Oklahoma	101.4	116.9	118.1	116
Oregon	2.3	2.3	2.2	96
Pennsylvania	121.7	140.1	134.7	111
South Carolina	14.8	17.1	17.2	116
South Dakota	109.0	131.9	123.6	113
Tennessee	22.6	24.8	26.2	116
Texas	359.3	386.0	352.3	98
Utah	41.6	48.4	44.6	107
Virginia	1.5	1.5	1.5	97
Washington	73.8	76.9	75.1	102
West Virginia	1.0	1.2	1.0	95
Wisconsin	92.7	101.4	97.4	105
Wyoming	0.8	0.8	0.7	97
United States	4,263.1	4,768.0	4,554.2	107

(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: February 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.0	0.9	1,149	1,011	1,139	1,143
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	46.2	45.1	65,307	64,791	1,415	1,438
Arkansas	0.9	0.9	848	908	981	1,015
California	125.5	108.1	165,907	145,495	1,331	1,357
Colorado	178.5	178.2	245,817	255,332	1,378	1,435
Delaware-Maryland	2.6	2.6	3,718	3,749	1,407	1,419
Florida	10.6	8.2	12,786	10,081	1,206	1,229
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.0	1.2	1,156	1,330	1,191	1,148
Idaho	44.5	(D)	56,904	(D)	1,287	(D)
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.9	5.5	4,669	6,581	1,207	1,200
Iowa	44.0	45.5	62,232	64,543	1,417	1,419
Kansas	497.3	513.3	687,405	704,740	1,383	1,373
Kentucky	5.7	6.2	6,176	7,118	1,098	1,145
Louisiana	0.5	0.6	406	552	844	935
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.6	0.6	554	644	960	1,036
Missouri	22.5	18.3	28,151	22,344	1,256	1,225
Montana	1.8	1.5	2,216	1,838	1,228	1,252
Nebraska	530.1	569.9	766,215	829,248	1,447	1,457
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	2.8	2.8	3,184	3,416	1,158	1,210
New Jersey	3.8	4.3	4,364	4,845	1,145	1,143
New Mexico	0.5	0.6	545	639	1,178	1,093
New York	3.3	3.3	4,054	4,006	1,233	1,216
North Carolina	7.0	7.2	8,619	8,806	1,235	1,232
North Dakota	0.9	0.9	1,131	1,226	1,288	1,323
Ohio	6.5	6.0	8,622	7,964	1,326	1,332
Oklahoma	5.6	6.1	6,607	7,134	1,182	1,197
Oregon	1.5	1.3	1,844	1,543	1,196	1,204
Pennsylvania	87.6	89.2	111,770	115,522	1,283	1,301
South Carolina	21.7	24.6	28,855	33,734	1,336	1,377
South Dakota	32.7	37.7	47,229	55,413	1,449	1,476
Tennessee	3.5	3.7	3,270	3,682	959	1,019
Texas	448.5	437.1	593,334	577,691	1,327	1,325
Utah	46.7	49.4	65,122	70,078	1,396	1,420
Virginia	1.8	1.8	2,004	1,837	1,097	1,050
Washington	87.4	86.3	121,431	122,463	1,393	1,423
West Virginia	1.3	1.2	1,489	1,365	1,145	1,168
Wisconsin	98.4	102.8	138,279	144,630	1,414	1,415
Wyoming	1.0	1.0	1,187	1,150	1,204	1,170
United States	2,548.2	2,613.1	3,494,099	3,609,444	1,374	1,384

(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: February 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023 (1,000 head)	2024 (1,000 head)	2023 (1,000 pounds)	2024 (1,000 pounds)	2023 (pounds)	2024 (pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
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	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	0.2	0.1	89	37	480	481
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	0.2	0.3	63	105	361	409
Indiana	0.6	0.5	243	229	423	419
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	0.1	(X)	29	(X)	438
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.2	0.2	32	39	206	251
New Jersey	1.3	1.3	506	484	377	378
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	4.0	(D)	368	(D)	93	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.2	35	47	290	304
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	5.1	2.6	832	787	164	303
Oklahoma	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	6.3	7.8	2,696	3,450	429	445
South Carolina	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas	0.1	0.2	59	112	421	488
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	(D)	27	(D)	315	(D)
Washington	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
West Virginia	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Wisconsin	2.0	(Y)	881	(X)	453	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	25.7	19.6	6,525	6,091	255	312

(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: February 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023 (1,000 head)	2024 (1,000 head)	2023 (1,000 pounds)	2024 (1,000 pounds)	2023 (pounds)	2024 (pounds)
Alabama	1.2	2.2	464	913	399	424
Alaska	0.1	0.1	16	34	238	277
Arizona	0.1	0.1	14	17	266	295
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	106	108	286	254
California	75.2	81.5	17,965	18,487	239	227
Colorado	2.5	3.2	399	491	160	154
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.8	488	528	286	292
Florida	4.2	4.7	522	619	125	131
Georgia	4.8	5.0	1,276	1,375	266	277
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	37	33	252	268
Idaho	11.0	10.8	2,871	2,715	261	252
Illinois	896.8	1,008.1	256,958	290,845	287	289
Indiana	695.8	706.7	194,798	197,648	280	280
Iowa	3,117.3	3,574.5	894,594	1,043,570	287	292
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.3	0.3	56	71	215	226
Michigan	294.3	374.3	86,213	108,968	293	291
Minnesota	981.2	1,004.6	274,434	280,974	280	280
Mississippi	3.0	3.6	549	623	183	171
Missouri	680.7	722.6	200,312	213,863	294	296
Montana	0.6	0.8	180	215	298	286
Nebraska	594.5	670.7	172,168	197,417	290	294
Nevada	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New England ¹	1.7	2.0	483	583	285	293
New Jersey	7.0	9.5	666	892	95	94
New Mexico	0.1	0.2	32	53	238	253
New York	2.1	1.6	557	380	260	244
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	71	74	304	305
Ohio	74.3	87.0	21,209	25,407	286	293
Oklahoma	437.2	496.4	128,969	148,631	295	299
Oregon	4.5	5.0	1,157	1,268	259	253
Pennsylvania	253.2	298.0	73,028	85,887	288	288
South Carolina	1.7	1.7	429	413	256	247
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	71.8	80.1	31,356	36,498	437	456
Texas	20.8	23.4	4,690	4,688	225	201
Utah	2.2	1.7	615	474	285	273
Virginia	1.1	1.3	359	402	339	310
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.7	0.7	189	204	291	303
Wisconsin	65.2	71.7	27,776	31,193	427	436
Wyoming	0.2	0.2	58	47	256	261
United States	9,974.4	10,985.5	2,899,396	3,189,250	291	290

(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: February 2023 and 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.7	10	77	97	112
Arkansas	0.1	0.2	8	14	122	80
California	21.9	23.5	3,305	3,633	151	154
Colorado	33.2	36.1	5,655	6,041	170	168
Delaware-Maryland	1.8	1.4	171	136	97	97
Florida	2.4	2.8	127	143	53	50
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	10	19	151	139
Idaho	0.1	0.2	22	24	157	154
Illinois	4.3	5.4	404	455	94	84
Indiana	4.9	4.8	503	496	103	103
Iowa	0.1	0.1	17	14	147	125
Kansas	0.4	0.4	33	36	87	97
Kentucky	1.0	1.4	106	151	103	105
Louisiana	0.6	0.7	35	45	62	61
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.5	0.7	39	53	80	79
Mississippi	0.1	0.2	6	15	62	79
Missouri	0.6	0.7	46	62	73	84
Montana	0.2	0.2	19	18	124	120
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	3.0	3.8	290	362	96	96
New Jersey	13.0	13.1	1,071	1,085	82	83
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	65	51	143	140
New York	4.9	5.8	442	509	91	88
North Carolina	1.7	3.1	112	191	65	61
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	93
Ohio	4.5	5.0	739	759	164	153
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.3	4.2	665	674	154	161
Pennsylvania	9.6	11.1	931	1,096	97	99
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.1	20	15	123	114
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	17.7	21.3	2,123	2,315	120	109
Utah	1.5	1.4	200	189	136	137
Virginia	0.6	1.3	48	80	77	64
Washington	1.1	1.1	152	153	138	137
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	2.2	0.7	344	83	153	117
Wyoming	0.1	0.2	9	21	135	119
United States	154.8	171.8	19,940	21,363	129	124

(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	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	January to February		February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	January to February	
				2023	2024				2023	2024
	(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	1,160.8	1,286.6	1,199.2	2,431.7	2,485.7	46.4	48.0	46.8	46.1	47.4
Heifers	773.5	834.1	812.4	1,621.5	1,646.5	30.9	31.1	31.7	30.8	31.4
All cows	532.8	528.0	516.2	1,148.8	1,044.2	21.3	19.7	20.1	21.8	19.9
Dairy cows	266.5	250.2	252.7	564.4	503.0	10.7	9.3	9.9	10.7	9.6
Other cows	266.4	277.8	263.4	584.4	541.2	10.7	10.4	10.3	11.1	10.3
Bulls	33.2	31.6	36.9	71.1	68.5	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.3
Total	2,500.4	2,680.3	2,564.7	5,273.0	5,245.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	25.1	22.0	18.9	55.2	40.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,666.6	11,006.6	10,638.1	20,455.9	21,644.7	97.3	97.3	97.3	97.4	97.3
Sows	239.9	286.0	274.1	506.7	560.1	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5
Boars	24.3	24.3	24.7	47.7	49.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	9,930.7	11,316.9	10,936.9	21,010.3	22,253.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	7.3	9.7	9.0	16.9	18.7	5.3	6.4	5.9	6.0	6.1
Lambs and yearlings	131.0	142.7	143.1	265.7	285.8	94.7	93.6	94.1	94.0	93.9
Total	138.3	152.4	152.2	282.6	304.6	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	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	January to February	
				2023	2024
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	826	840	834	826	837
Steers ¹	904	921	914	909	918
Heifers ¹	829	836	834	831	835
All cows ¹	647	644	645	643	644
Bulls ¹	846	868	873	845	871
Calves and vealers	148	172	183	145	177
Hogs	216	218	216	217	217
Barrows and gilts ²	215	216	214	215	215
Sows ²	294	295	299	295	297
Boars ²	194	223	224	194	223
Sheep	67	63	65	65	64
Mature sheep ³	65	64	65	63	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	67	63	65	66	64

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: February 2024

[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	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
2	7.5	1.9	2.1	3.2	2.8	0.4	0.3	3.1
3	91.4	34.5	4.5	47.1	35.0	12.0	5.4	8.0
4	75.9	4.2	2.4	61.0	16.7	44.3	8.3	0.3
5	252.4	114.3	(D)	99.1	60.3	38.8	(D)	3.3
6	439.0	190.7	144.4	95.2	34.5	60.7	8.6	(D)
7	1,135.9	612.0	(D)	70.7	6.7	64.1	(D)	0.1
8	263.4	128.4	(D)	24.6	7.0	17.6	(D)	(Y)
9	153.8	60.0	25.1	67.2	57.6	9.6	1.5	(D)
10	142.8	52.2	41.5	47.6	31.8	15.8	1.5	(D)
United States	2,564.7	1,199.2	812.4	516.2	252.7	263.4	36.9	18.9
	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)	(1,000 head)
1	1.7	1.7	(Y)	(Y)	3.7	0.2	3.5	
2	11.0	10.9	(Y)	(Y)	18.3	2.0	16.3	
3	299.3	299.1	(D)	(D)	14.7	1.6	13.0	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	10.9	0.9	9.9	
5	3,231.5	3,114.4	112.0	5.1	24.8	1.5	23.4	
6	515.7	515.5	0.1	0.1	14.8	0.5	14.3	
7	4,980.9	4,886.2	79.7	14.9	1.0	(Y)	1.0	
8	(D)	(D)	0.4	(Y)	37.3	0.8	36.5	
9	78.1	78.0	(Y)	(Y)	22.2	1.3	20.9	
10	17.0	16.9	(Y)	(Y)	4.5	0.1	4.4	
United States	10,936.9	10,638.1	274.1	24.7	152.2	9.0	143.1	

(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 February 2024

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions ¹	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total
				All	Dairy	Other		
(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1	5.2	2.1	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4
2	15.2	3.9	4.3	6.5	5.6	0.9	0.5	7.2
3	186.8	73.0	8.1	96.0	72.8	23.2	9.6	15.7
4	147.0	8.9	4.8	118.4	31.9	86.5	14.9	0.8
5	511.8	233.2	(D)	199.3	119.0	80.3	(D)	8.1
6	917.0	392.5	312.8	195.4	67.8	127.6	16.3	(D)
7	2,309.8	1,256.7	(D)	146.3	13.8	132.6	(D)	0.1
8	548.1	285.1	(D)	49.2	13.4	35.8	(D)	(Y)
9	317.1	125.0	49.8	139.2	117.2	22.0	3.0	(D)
10	287.1	105.2	86.1	92.8	60.9	31.9	2.9	(D)
United States	5,245.0	2,485.7	1,646.5	1,044.2	503.0	541.2	68.5	40.8
	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	4.1	4.0	0.1	(Y)	7.7	0.4	7.3	
2	21.9	21.8	0.1	(Y)	36.9	3.8	33.1	
3	605.9	605.4	(D)	(D)	30.5	3.8	26.7	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	21.5	1.9	19.6	
5	6,721.8	6,474.9	237.8	9.1	50.5	3.0	47.5	
6	1,025.0	1,024.5	0.3	0.1	32.1	1.1	30.9	
7	9,961.6	9,773.2	158.9	29.5	1.9	(Y)	1.8	
8	(D)	(D)	0.7	(Y)	70.9	1.5	69.3	
9	154.2	154.1	0.1	(Y)	43.4	2.8	40.5	
10	36.5	36.4	0.1	(Y)	9.3	0.3	8.9	
United States	22,253.8	21,644.7	560.1	49.0	304.6	18.7	285.8	

(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	February 2023	January 2024	February 2024	January to February	
				2023	2024
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.1	98.2	98.1	98.1	98.2
Calves	97.9	97.1	96.0	98.0	96.6
Hogs	99.6	99.5	99.6	99.6	99.6
Sheep	89.4	88.7	88.6	89.0	88.7

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 950 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 1,950 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 14). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Information Contacts

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

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Kim Dapra – Milk Production and Milk Cows.....	(512) 501-3266
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3347
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448

Access to NASS Reports

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

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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

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2024 USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

April 16, 2024

**Register at: nass.usda.gov/go/data_users
Free and open to the public**

USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting Join Us Online or in Chicago April 16, 2024

University of Chicago – Gleacher Center
450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive
Chicago, IL 60611

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2024 Spring Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users).