

Cattle Slaughter In Federally Inspected Establishments

April 15, 1965

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, through the Meat Inspection Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, is now collecting data on classes of cattle slaughtered in Federally inspected plants. Beginning on December 28, 1964, Federal Meat Inspectors started reporting current data on the classes of cattle slaughtered. The percentages of cattle slaughtered by classes on a weekly basis are published in this report.

Also shown in this report are the monthly series of data on classes of cattle slaughtered in Federally inspected plants. These data have been published for a number of years. This monthly series is based on reports voluntarily submitted by the meat packing plants.

The weekly series based on reports from the Federal meat inspectors differs somewhat from the monthly tabulations of reports from packing plants.

This difference results from several factors:

1. Difference in reporting period. Some plants report on a calendar month, while others report on a four or five week fiscal reporting period.
2. The monthly series is based on a sample of reports, while the weekly data are a complete tabulation. The monthly series is based on reports representing about three-fourths of the number of head slaughtered.
3. There are some differences in classification between calves and cattle and heifers and cows that are inherent in the two series.

To provide the industry with current weekly data and also data that are comparable with previous data, the Department will publish both series during 1965. The monthly estimates of cattle slaughter will be based on the monthly reports from packing plants as in the past. The weekly data will be based on the reports from the Meat Inspection Division and will be released first in the weekly report, "Livestock Meat & Wool Market News, Weekly Summary and Statistics," Livestock Division, C. & M. S. Both the monthly series and the weekly series will be included in the report, "Commercial Livestock Slaughter" issued monthly by the Statistical Reporting Service.

There will be a lag of approximately one week in the release of the weekly data from the Meat Inspection Division because of the time required for transmission and summarization of the reports.

These reports are made possible through the combined efforts of the Consumer and Marketing Service and the Statistical Reporting Service.

Table 1 shows the weekly percentages, while Table 2 shows the monthly percentages.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Table 1.--Cattle: Percentages of number slaughtered in Federally inspected establishments, by classes, by weeks, 1965 1/

Week ending	Percentages of total slaughter			
	Cows	Bulls	Heifers	Steers
<u>1965</u>				
Jan. 2	24.1	1.3	22.8	51.8
Jan. 9	26.7	1.5	22.4	49.4
Jan. 16	24.4	1.4	22.2	52.0
Jan. 23	23.8	1.4	23.0	51.8
Jan. 30	23.6	1.5	23.2	51.7
Feb. 6	23.0	1.5	22.8	52.7
Feb. 13	22.7	1.6	22.2	53.5
Feb. 20	21.9	1.6	23.4	53.1
Feb. 27	20.9	1.4	23.0	54.7
Mar. 6	19.2	1.4	23.0	56.4
Mar. 13	22.8	1.6	22.4	53.2
Mar. 20	20.5	1.5	23.1	54.9
Mar. 27	18.9	1.4	23.7	56.0
April 3	21.5	1.5	23.7	53.3

1/ As reported by Meat Inspectors, M.I.D., C&MS.

Table 2.--Cattle: Percentages of number slaughtered in Federally inspected establishments by classes, by months, 1965 1/

Month	Percentages of total slaughter				Total number slaughtered
	Cows	Bulls	Heifers	Steers	
January	23.1	1.2	20.4	55.3	1,000 head <u>2,166</u>
February	21.6	1.2	20.9	56.3	1,919

1/ Based on voluntary reports from Federally Inspected slaughtering plants.