



# Livestock Slaughter

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## Record High Red Meat, Beef, and Pork Production in December

**December 2019** contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**December 2020** contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.85 billion pounds in December, up 3 percent from the 4.73 billion pounds produced in December 2019.

**Beef production**, at 2.32 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, up 1 percent from December 2019. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,389 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 5.6 million pounds, 14 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 40,600 head, down 19 percent from December 2019. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from last year, at 242 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.51 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.5 million head, up 1 percent from December 2019. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from the previous year, at 294 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 12.0 million pounds, was down 1 percent from December 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 197,800 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 121 pounds, down 2 pounds from December a year ago.

**January to December 2020 commercial red meat production** was 55.7 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2019. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 14 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 7 percent.

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## Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	December 2020 as % of		January to December		
				December 2019	November 2020	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,265.1	2,262.9	2,324.7	103	103	27,154.9	27,152.4	100
Veal .....	6.5	4.8	5.6	86	116	74.4	64.3	86
Pork .....	2,443.1	2,405.5	2,510.1	103	104	27,637.4	28,299.7	102
Lamb and mutton .....	12.1	10.6	12.0	99	113	148.6	138.0	93
Total red meat .....	4,726.8	4,683.8	4,852.5	103	104	55,015.3	55,654.3	101

## Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	December 2020 as % of		January to December		
				December 2019	November 2020	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,239.2	2,232.3	2,291.7	102	103	26,821.4	26,738.1	100
Veal .....	6.4	4.7	5.5	86	116	72.8	62.4	86
Pork .....	2,432.8	2,395.1	2,499.2	103	104	27,506.6	28,153.7	102
Lamb and mutton .....	11.0	9.3	10.7	97	114	133.8	122.9	92
Total red meat .....	4,689.4	4,641.5	4,807.1	103	104	54,534.6	55,077.1	101

## Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	December 2020 as % of 2019	January to December		
					2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
				(percent)			(percent)
<b>Cattle</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	2,712.6	2,657.1	2,733.8	101	33,069.4	32,151.3	97
Other ..... 1,000	38.5	44.6	48.2	125	485.9	605.9	125
Commercial ..... 1,000	2,751.1	2,701.7	2,782.0	101	33,555.3	32,757.2	98
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,376	1,391	1,392	101	1,347	1,376	102
Other ..... pounds	1,179	1,203	1,200	102	1,193	1,203	101
Commercial ..... pounds	1,373	1,388	1,389	101	1,344	1,373	102
<b>Calves</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	49.1	34.4	40.0	81	578.6	446.8	77
Other ..... 1,000	0.8	0.7	0.7	88	8.4	9.6	114
Commercial ..... 1,000	49.9	35.0	40.6	81	587.0	456.4	78
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	226	239	239	106	219	242	111
Other ..... pounds	361	356	389	108	368	365	99
Commercial ..... pounds	228	241	242	106	221	245	111
<b>Hogs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	11,336.3	10,961.0	11,419.2	101	129,210.7	130,781.9	101
Other ..... 1,000	57.8	53.9	58.1	100	702.3	764.7	109
Commercial ..... 1,000	11,394.1	11,014.8	11,477.3	101	129,913.0	131,546.6	101
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	288	294	294	102	285	289	101
Other ..... pounds	243	264	257	106	255	262	103
Commercial ..... pounds	288	294	294	102	285	289	101
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	172.9	152.2	168.4	97	2,020.4	1,894.7	94
Other ..... 1,000	23.6	28.2	29.4	125	301.3	324.4	108
Commercial ..... 1,000	196.5	180.4	197.8	101	2,321.7	2,219.1	96
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	127	122	126	100	132	129	98
Other ..... pounds	98	94	95	96	101	96	95
Commercial ..... pounds	123	118	121	99	128	124	97
<b>Goats</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	52.2	45.2	51.1	98	545.5	517.9	95
Other ..... 1,000	13.1	8.5	9.3	71	129.7	105.9	82
Commercial ..... 1,000	65.3	53.8	60.4	93	675.2	623.8	92
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	65	65	65	101	65	65	99
Other ..... pounds	81	84	84	105	82	85	103
Commercial ..... pounds	68	68	68	100	68	68	100
<b>Bison</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected ..... 1,000	4.6	5.0	5.4	118	54.3	62.7	116
Other ..... 1,000	0.5	0.2	0.3	66	5.5	4.1	75
Commercial ..... 1,000	5.1	5.3	5.7	113	59.8	66.8	112

## Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	December 2020 as % of 2019
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....	0.7	1.1	1.1	158
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	128
Arizona .....	39.7	37.6	41.9	105
Arkansas .....	0.4	0.4	0.5	128
California .....	143.1	143.5	152.5	107
Colorado .....	172.5	173.2	183.1	106
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.0	2.6	3.0	98
Florida .....	3.4	4.0	4.9	146
Georgia .....	13.5	13.3	15.0	111
Hawaii .....	0.8	0.9	1.0	127
Idaho .....	32.4	32.5	34.2	105
Illinois .....	302.5	290.7	300.5	99
Indiana .....	155.8	163.5	167.3	107
Iowa .....	770.4	760.4	775.8	101
Kansas .....	484.1	508.3	510.0	105
Kentucky .....	55.3	51.7	56.1	101
Louisiana .....	0.3	0.3	0.3	103
Michigan .....	99.5	104.3	111.8	112
Minnesota .....	247.7	248.7	264.1	107
Mississippi .....	0.6	0.7	0.7	118
Missouri .....	165.1	167.0	171.2	104
Montana .....	1.2	2.1	1.4	116
Nebraska .....	680.4	674.0	678.3	100
Nevada .....	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.2	2.9	3.1	137
New Jersey .....	3.8	3.4	4.0	107
New Mexico .....	0.3	0.3	0.4	116
New York .....	3.2	3.1	3.6	113
North Carolina .....	244.0	217.7	238.7	98
North Dakota .....	0.5	0.5	0.6	118
Ohio .....	21.7	23.7	25.3	117
Oklahoma .....	106.9	112.6	120.0	112
Oregon .....	3.8	4.1	4.1	108
Pennsylvania .....	132.2	119.6	131.9	100
South Carolina .....	13.1	15.1	15.3	117
South Dakota .....	130.9	128.3	134.3	103
Tennessee .....	25.7	25.5	27.7	108
Texas .....	382.7	378.1	383.1	100
Utah .....	46.0	45.6	49.4	107
Virginia .....	50.5	37.7	42.9	85
Washington .....	82.7	79.8	81.2	98
West Virginia .....	0.9	1.1	1.1	119
Wisconsin .....	102.7	103.1	110.4	108
Wyoming .....	0.4	0.5	0.6	153
United States .....	4,726.8	4,683.8	4,852.5	103

(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 Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: December 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 .....	0.4	1.0	438	1,059	1,009	1,042
Alaska .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	91	(X)	1,068
Arizona .....	46.8	48.0	64,784	67,760	1,386	1,415
Arkansas .....	0.4	0.6	418	643	948	1,034
California .....	137.4	136.4	180,709	180,796	1,324	1,333
Colorado .....	190.9	199.2	269,100	284,781	1,411	1,431
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.1	3.1	4,308	4,343	1,369	1,406
Florida .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii .....	1.1	1.4	1,192	1,592	1,111	1,134
Idaho .....	45.3	46.7	57,391	59,278	1,278	1,280
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana .....	2.7	3.8	3,124	4,466	1,173	1,176
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	536.4	562.8	749,582	789,751	1,398	1,404
Kentucky .....	3.7	3.8	3,818	4,247	1,038	1,114
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.4	324	355	755	793
Michigan .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi .....	0.3	0.4	276	390	948	971
Missouri .....	3.6	7.6	4,039	8,994	1,130	1,183
Montana .....	1.3	1.4	1,667	1,874	1,321	1,306
Nebraska .....	607.2	584.0	880,608	862,685	1,452	1,479
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	63	81	1,252	1,138
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.4	3.3	2,657	3,807	1,124	1,154
New Jersey .....	3.6	4.3	4,065	4,804	1,118	1,134
New Mexico .....	0.5	0.5	497	529	932	1,092
New York .....	3.1	3.7	3,713	4,527	1,193	1,246
North Carolina .....	6.3	7.4	7,765	9,090	1,235	1,232
North Dakota .....	0.6	0.7	743	887	1,245	1,286
Ohio .....	5.0	5.8	6,479	7,590	1,306	1,309
Oklahoma .....	2.6	4.1	2,770	4,430	1,054	1,077
Oregon .....	1.3	1.8	1,410	2,054	1,129	1,150
Pennsylvania .....	93.0	90.3	112,339	111,382	1,213	1,240
South Carolina .....	19.8	22.2	24,758	29,391	1,256	1,329
South Dakota .....	41.8	42.1	57,470	60,975	1,382	1,458
Tennessee .....	2.1	2.9	1,970	2,970	949	1,041
Texas .....	472.7	467.4	624,546	620,696	1,325	1,332
Utah .....	55.0	57.2	73,924	79,315	1,345	1,389
Virginia .....	1.3	1.5	1,387	1,711	1,062	1,105
Washington .....	97.2	95.2	135,753	133,474	1,401	1,406
West Virginia .....	1.4	1.7	1,370	1,737	953	1,036
Wisconsin .....	116.4	119.8	159,303	165,902	1,377	1,393
Wyoming .....	0.6	0.8	617	930	1,088	1,134
United States .....	2,751.1	2,782.0	3,769,575	3,855,090	1,373	1,389

(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 Calf Slaughter – States and United States: December 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 .....	4.2	4.3	563	596	140	142
Colorado .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida .....	0.1	0.1	30	50	421	379
Georgia .....	0.1	0.1	32	74	458	495
Hawaii .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho .....	2.8	1.6	244	139	87	86
Illinois .....	0.1	0.1	39	23	420	361
Indiana .....	0.4	0.6	125	230	326	414
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	301	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	0.3	0.2	74	67	240	278
New Jersey .....	2.2	1.7	836	641	380	388
New Mexico .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York .....	9.8	7.6	844	658	86	87
North Carolina .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	35	(X)	314
North Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio .....	14.0	12.3	2,050	1,841	148	150
Oklahoma .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Oregon .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	10.0	8.6	4,224	3,864	424	451
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Texas .....	0.2	0.2	91	96	432	440
Utah .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia .....	(D)	0.1	(D)	26	(D)	254
Washington .....	1.1	(D)	96	(D)	85	(D)
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	4.0	2.7	1,849	1,321	467	485
Wyoming .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States .....	49.9	40.6	11,307	9,744	228	242

(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: December 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 .....	1.7	1.9	713	763	409	398
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	30	17	264	276
Arizona .....	0.1	0.1	32	20	258	253
Arkansas .....	0.7	0.5	183	140	263	293
California .....	219.4	245.5	55,701	66,841	254	273
Colorado .....	1.3	1.3	303	356	235	270
Delaware-Maryland .....	1.7	1.7	436	479	251	280
Florida .....	7.0	4.9	809	718	115	148
Georgia .....	5.8	6.2	1,434	1,581	247	257
Hawaii .....	0.4	0.3	100	80	268	262
Idaho .....	15.1	15.9	4,073	4,552	270	286
Illinois .....	1,096.8	1,088.2	314,784	319,088	287	293
Indiana .....	729.1	786.6	205,265	220,190	282	280
Iowa .....	3,462.9	3,418.8	994,094	999,995	287	293
Kansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	1.0	0.8	143	129	149	161
Michigan .....	268.2	311.3	80,025	92,548	298	297
Minnesota .....	1,038.7	1,096.4	289,323	307,790	279	281
Mississippi .....	3.8	4.0	562	636	147	158
Missouri .....	728.5	734.1	217,935	221,686	299	302
Montana .....	0.9	1.0	245	296	287	286
Nebraska .....	670.6	687.2	190,272	198,005	284	288
Nevada .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	3.1	3.3	743	886	243	266
New Jersey .....	11.2	7.5	1,010	776	90	104
New Mexico .....	0.1	0.2	39	48	272	244
New York .....	2.2	2.7	488	679	219	250
North Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota .....	0.3	0.3	86	91	330	330
Ohio .....	79.3	94.1	22,592	26,606	285	283
Oklahoma .....	491.1	505.6	139,752	153,209	285	303
Oregon .....	13.2	12.0	3,556	3,403	270	284
Pennsylvania .....	302.8	296.5	86,501	85,580	286	289
South Carolina .....	4.7	4.3	1,022	880	220	207
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	81.4	90.2	37,077	39,255	456	436
Texas .....	32.3	28.4	6,399	6,927	198	244
Utah .....	5.5	3.4	600	610	109	181
Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington .....	1.2	2.1	323	538	264	254
West Virginia .....	0.6	0.6	188	191	296	316
Wisconsin .....	60.0	73.7	25,685	31,426	429	427
Wyoming .....	0.2	0.2	50	62	296	303
United States .....	11,394.1	11,477.3	3,279,660	3,370,188	288	294

(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 Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: December 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)	1.4	(X)	94	(X)	68
Alaska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona .....	0.1	0.1	14	15	96	115
Arkansas .....	0.1	(Y)	6	(X)	119	(X)
California .....	24.9	28.4	3,569	3,986	144	141
Colorado .....	60.2	48.9	9,082	7,631	151	156
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.0	1.3	283	144	95	114
Florida .....	1.6	2.3	94	134	57	60
Georgia .....	2.7	1.6	174	123	65	77
Hawaii .....	0.1	0.1	9	13	123	111
Idaho .....	0.2	0.1	20	15	123	145
Illinois .....	4.2	5.1	326	383	77	75
Indiana .....	5.8	7.0	627	779	109	111
Iowa .....	0.1	0.2	20	28	151	152
Kansas .....	0.4	0.4	37	38	94	104
Kentucky .....	1.5	1.5	181	161	119	110
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.4	22	24	52	61
Michigan .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	0.5	0.5	50	50	93	93
Mississippi .....	0.6	0.4	38	27	62	62
Missouri .....	0.9	0.8	78	72	87	88
Montana .....	0.4	0.4	47	52	130	127
Nebraska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	7	(X)	149
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	3.5	4.7	320	433	92	92
New Jersey .....	15.4	17.2	1,189	1,362	77	79
New Mexico .....	0.4	0.5	57	69	137	142
New York .....	6.7	6.0	648	584	97	97
North Carolina .....	2.5	3.3	163	223	66	68
North Dakota .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Ohio .....	5.2	4.7	812	749	156	159
Oklahoma .....	1.0	1.1	87	104	86	94
Oregon .....	4.4	5.0	598	681	135	138
Pennsylvania .....	8.5	10.1	824	1,030	97	102
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	0.4	0.3	59	39	149	147
Tennessee .....	1.5	(D)	95	(D)	64	(D)
Texas .....	13.4	17.6	1,109	1,474	83	84
Utah .....	2.0	1.8	271	235	133	133
Virginia .....	0.7	1.6	54	112	73	69
Washington .....	1.4	1.6	186	217	131	139
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	1.3	5.2	177	762	138	148
Wyoming .....	0.1	0.1	11	16	137	136
United States .....	196.5	197.8	24,173	24,025	123	121

(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	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	January to December		December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	January to December	
				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)
<b>Cattle</b>										
Steers .....	1,291.0	1,292.4	1,323.0	16,297.8	15,856.2	47.6	48.6	48.4	49.3	49.3
Heifers .....	832.2	798.2	808.2	9,818.9	9,445.3	30.7	30.0	29.6	29.7	29.4
All cows .....	548.8	525.6	561.7	6,414.0	6,331.4	20.2	19.8	20.5	19.4	19.7
Dairy cows .....	265.4	229.4	273.5	3,224.2	3,063.5	9.8	8.6	10.0	9.7	9.5
Other cows .....	283.5	296.2	288.2	3,189.8	3,267.9	10.4	11.1	10.5	9.6	10.2
Bulls .....	40.5	40.9	40.9	538.7	518.3	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6
Total .....	2,712.6	2,657.1	2,733.8	33,069.4	32,151.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	49.1	34.4	40.0	578.6	446.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows and gilts .....	11,053.8	10,687.2	11,109.2	125,844.3	127,149.2	97.5	97.5	97.3	97.4	97.2
Sows .....	255.6	250.9	283.7	3,012.0	3,321.1	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.5
Boars .....	26.9	22.8	26.4	354.3	311.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total .....	11,336.3	10,961.0	11,419.2	129,210.7	130,781.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature sheep .....	10.3	8.7	10.7	114.8	113.0	5.9	5.7	6.3	5.7	6.0
Lambs and yearlings .....	162.6	143.5	157.8	1,905.6	1,781.7	94.1	94.3	93.7	94.3	94.0
Total .....	172.9	152.2	168.4	2,020.4	1,894.7	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	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	January to December	
				2019	2020
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
<b>Cattle</b> .....	827	842	840	813	834
Steers <sup>1</sup> .....	905	924	920	878	908
Heifers <sup>1</sup> .....	836	848	847	813	835
All cows <sup>1</sup> .....	629	628	639	639	641
Bulls <sup>1</sup> .....	851	865	859	878	879
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	131	139	139	127	141
<b>Hogs</b> .....	215	219	219	213	215
Barrows and gilts <sup>2</sup> .....	213	217	217	211	213
Sows <sup>2</sup> .....	301	300	297	304	303
Boars <sup>2</sup> .....	194	193	195	196	193
<b>Sheep</b> .....	63	61	63	66	65
Mature sheep <sup>3</sup> .....	64	63	64	65	65
Lambs and yearlings <sup>3</sup> .....	63	61	63	66	65

<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: December 2020

[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 .....	3.0	1.3	(D)	0.4	0.2	0.3	(D)	0.2	
2 .....	7.8	2.5	1.6	3.4	3.2	0.1	0.4	9.2	
3 .....	93.5	33.7	2.6	53.2	45.9	7.3	4.0	8.7	
4 .....	68.5	3.9	1.7	53.8	15.4	38.4	9.1	0.3	
5 .....	286.0	127.1	(D)	117.6	68.4	49.1	(D)	15.6	
6 .....	466.5	217.3	148.4	92.9	26.9	66.1	7.9	0.1	
7 .....	1,184.8	653.0	459.5	65.9	10.6	55.3	6.5	(Y)	
8 .....	295.9	158.4	102.3	33.8	7.5	26.3	1.5	(Y)	
9 .....	185.3	78.3	22.5	82.5	67.2	15.3	2.0	4.1	
10 .....	142.6	47.5	34.2	58.4	28.3	30.1	2.5	1.6	
United States .....	2,733.8	1,323.0	808.2	561.7	273.5	288.2	40.9	40.0	
	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 .....	2.9	2.9	(Y)	(Y)	4.5	0.3	4.2		
2 .....	10.1	10.0	(Y)	(Y)	22.6	2.5	20.1		
3 .....	477.5	476.2	(D)	(D)	13.6	1.1	12.5		
4 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	10.5	1.4	9.1		
5 .....	3,427.9	3,295.2	127.9	4.9	30.0	2.4	27.7		
6 .....	529.0	528.9	0.1	(Y)	3.7	0.5	3.1		
7 .....	4,853.7	4,769.4	68.0	16.4	1.0	(Y)	1.0		
8 .....	(D)	(D)	0.3	(Y)	50.4	1.4	49.0		
9 .....	240.6	240.6	(Y)	(Y)	26.5	0.7	25.8		
10 .....	29.5	29.5	(Y)	(Y)	5.6	0.3	5.3		
United States .....	11,419.2	11,109.2	283.7	26.4	168.4	10.7	157.8		

(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 December 2020

[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 .....	33.6	14.6	(D)	6.2	2.9	3.3	(D)	2.8
2 .....	87.3	26.8	18.4	37.8	35.4	2.4	4.4	101.9
3 .....	1,024.7	352.9	36.0	593.7	487.9	105.8	42.0	94.9
4 .....	793.9	55.4	18.4	616.1	174.8	441.2	104.1	3.3
5 .....	3,268.1	1,550.4	(D)	1,212.8	732.5	480.3	(D)	152.3
6 .....	5,624.3	2,639.4	1,777.4	1,113.9	334.5	779.4	93.7	1.1
7 .....	14,087.3	7,913.8	5,362.9	717.2	94.2	623.0	93.4	0.5
8 .....	3,457.6	1,848.1	1,181.9	410.9	95.4	315.5	16.6	(Y)
9 .....	2,165.5	921.1	251.9	963.9	761.1	202.8	28.6	52.7
10 .....	1,608.8	533.7	381.6	658.9	344.7	314.2	34.7	37.3
United States .....	32,151.3	15,856.2	9,445.3	6,331.4	3,063.5	3,267.9	518.3	446.8
	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 .....	31.9	31.5	0.4	0.1	43.9	3.1	40.8	
2 .....	97.5	97.0	0.4	0.1	227.1	24.3	202.8	
3 .....	5,608.0	5,595.0	(D)	(D)	153.0	14.4	138.6	
4 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	128.0	13.7	114.3	
5 .....	38,542.1	36,949.0	1,536.0	57.1	313.9	24.4	289.5	
6 .....	6,127.2	6,125.2	1.7	0.2	57.8	3.9	53.9	
7 .....	57,090.4	56,126.8	778.5	185.1	13.8	0.2	13.6	
8 .....	(D)	(D)	7.5	0.3	612.6	17.4	595.2	
9 .....	2,662.8	2,662.4	0.4	0.1	288.2	8.7	279.5	
10 .....	347.4	346.9	0.4	0.1	56.4	3.0	53.4	
United States .....	130,781.9	127,149.2	3,321.1	311.6	1,894.7	113.0	1,781.7	

(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	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020	January to December	
				2019	2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	98.6	98.3	98.3	98.6	98.2
Calves .....	98.5	98.1	98.4	98.6	97.9
Hogs .....	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.4
Sheep .....	88.0	84.3	85.2	87.0	85.4

## 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 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 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](mailto: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](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 [www.nass.usda.gov](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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