



Livestock Slaughter

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All-Time Record Low Veal Production in April

April 2023 contained 20 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

April 2024 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.64 billion pounds in April, up 10 percent from the 4.20 billion pounds produced in April 2023.

Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 11 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.73 million head, up 7 percent from April 2023. The average live weight was up 41 pounds from the previous year, at 1,395 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.5 million pounds, 2 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 17,500 head, down 20 percent from April 2023. The average live weight was up 59 pounds from last year, at 338 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.32 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up 10 percent from April 2023. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 290 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.4 million pounds, was up 4 percent from April 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 188,800 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 119 pounds, up 2 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2024 commercial red meat production was 18.3 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2023.

Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

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Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	April 2024 as % of		January to April		
				April 2023	March 2024	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,069.3	2,110.4	2,303.3	111	109	8,892.9	8,863.2	100
Veal	3.6	3.6	3.5	98	98	16.0	14.5	91
Pork	2,119.6	2,250.1	2,317.3	109	103	9,191.1	9,411.3	102
Lamb and mutton	11.0	12.3	11.4	104	92	44.4	45.2	102
Total red meat	4,203.4	4,376.4	4,635.5	110	106	18,144.4	18,334.2	101

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	April 2024 as % of		January to April		
				April 2023	March 2024	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,034.8	2,076.5	2,269.3	112	109	8,749.1	8,726.9	100
Veal	3.5	3.4	3.3	97	98	15.5	14.0	90
Pork	2,110.3	2,240.7	2,308.1	109	103	9,152.4	9,372.6	102
Lamb and mutton	9.7	11.1	10.1	104	91	39.9	40.6	102
Total red meat	4,158.2	4,331.7	4,590.8	110	106	17,956.8	18,154.1	101

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	April 2024 as % of 2023	January to April		
					2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,493.2	2,461.2	2,680.5	108	10,650.0	10,386.7	98
Other 1,000	50.5	48.7	48.7	96	210.8	196.0	93
Commercial 1,000	2,543.7	2,509.9	2,729.2	107	10,860.8	10,582.7	97
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,357	1,396	1,398	103	1,372	1,393	102
Other pounds	1,209	1,223	1,227	101	1,214	1,224	101
Commercial pounds	1,354	1,392	1,395	103	1,369	1,390	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	21.4	18.2	16.8	79	102.0	75.9	74
Other 1,000	0.5	0.7	0.7	134	2.8	2.9	103
Commercial 1,000	21.9	18.9	17.5	80	104.8	78.7	75
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	277	320	336	121	262	313	120
Other pounds	353	381	391	111	358	374	105
Commercial pounds	279	323	338	121	264	315	119
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9,724.3	10,407.1	10,700.9	110	42,149.3	43,361.9	103
Other 1,000	46.7	48.8	48.2	103	193.0	197.4	102
Commercial 1,000	9,770.9	10,455.9	10,749.1	110	42,342.3	43,559.4	103
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	291	290	290	100	292	291	100
Other pounds	274	265	262	96	276	270	98
Commercial pounds	291	289	290	99	292	291	100
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	156.7	174.7	164.5	105	618.4	643.8	104
Other 1,000	29.0	24.7	24.3	84	94.3	87.9	93
Commercial 1,000	185.7	199.4	188.8	102	712.8	731.7	103
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	122	125	121	99	127	124	98
Other pounds	89	100	105	117	97	102	105
Commercial pounds	117	122	119	102	123	121	99
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	41.8	48.2	47.5	114	168.7	183.7	109
Other 1,000	7.3	9.8	9.0	123	30.4	38.0	125
Commercial 1,000	49.1	58.0	56.5	115	199.1	221.7	111
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	62	64	99	65	63	97
Other pounds	86	83	79	92	86	81	94
Commercial pounds	68	66	66	98	68	66	97
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	5.8	6.9	6.6	112	25.8	27.8	108
Other 1,000	0.2	0.3	0.3	104	1.3	1.2	91
Commercial 1,000	6.1	7.2	6.8	112	27.1	28.9	107

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	April 2024 as % of 2023
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.3	1.4	1.2	95
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
Arizona	39.4	38.8	40.4	103
Arkansas	0.6	0.6	0.6	105
California	102.3	97.2	98.2	96
Colorado	142.2	163.4	179.8	126
Delaware-Maryland	2.4	2.6	2.5	101
Florida	7.2	5.8	7.0	98
Georgia	12.5	13.0	11.3	90
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.8	109
Idaho	30.8	42.3	43.1	140
Illinois	247.6	272.6	281.1	113
Indiana	144.4	152.5	159.2	110
Iowa	698.5	765.2	774.4	111
Kansas	450.7	438.9	509.7	113
Kentucky	47.9	49.8	53.7	112
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	0.4	109
Michigan	100.3	120.4	118.7	118
Minnesota	231.1	222.0	227.6	98
Mississippi	0.8	0.9	0.8	110
Missouri	166.5	171.4	166.2	100
Montana	2.2	1.9	2.2	102
Nebraska	569.5	623.0	661.0	116
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(X)
New England ¹	2.5	2.6	2.6	103
New Jersey	3.8	4.3	4.2	109
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.4	97
New York	3.3	3.3	3.2	96
North Carolina	244.3	201.5	221.5	91
North Dakota	0.8	0.7	0.8	112
Ohio	21.3	25.1	26.4	124
Oklahoma	98.9	110.9	123.1	124
Oregon	2.3	2.3	2.2	94
Pennsylvania	119.5	123.6	133.8	112
South Carolina	15.0	16.1	16.6	110
South Dakota	106.0	119.3	123.1	116
Tennessee	21.2	25.0	26.6	126
Texas	349.1	339.3	379.2	109
Utah	42.6	45.4	48.0	113
Virginia	1.3	1.4	1.2	93
Washington	76.9	75.6	80.4	105
West Virginia	0.9	0.9	0.9	99
Wisconsin	93.3	93.0	100.7	108
Wyoming	0.7	0.8	0.7	107
United States	4,203.4	4,376.4	4,635.5	110

(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: April 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	1.5	1.2	1,683	1,324	1,154	1,133
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	52	(X)	962
Arizona	44.6	44.8	63,257	64,527	1,422	1,443
Arkansas	0.8	0.8	840	839	993	1,025
California	120.1	109.7	159,930	148,831	1,341	1,367
Colorado	163.2	197.0	222,077	280,514	1,362	1,425
Delaware-Maryland	2.5	2.5	3,463	3,514	1,389	1,409
Florida	11.4	10.5	13,873	13,584	1,223	1,301
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	1.0	1.2	1,175	1,294	1,171	1,115
Idaho	41.6	(D)	53,698	(D)	1,298	(D)
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	3.9	4.8	4,767	5,725	1,210	1,204
Iowa	45.0	46.9	62,644	66,273	1,392	1,416
Kansas	518.6	571.8	698,804	788,834	1,348	1,380
Kentucky	5.9	7.0	6,285	8,106	1,076	1,164
Louisiana	0.6	0.6	474	570	831	980
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.7	0.6	658	630	933	983
Missouri	25.8	12.5	30,490	14,141	1,187	1,134
Montana	2.8	2.6	3,493	3,269	1,244	1,250
Nebraska	518.7	579.9	732,255	848,580	1,413	1,465
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	70	(X)	1,252	(X)
New England ¹	2.6	2.7	3,129	3,296	1,188	1,208
New Jersey	4.1	4.5	4,659	5,139	1,148	1,157
New Mexico	0.5	0.5	553	542	1,149	1,079
New York	3.8	3.6	4,509	4,333	1,185	1,226
North Carolina	7.0	8.1	8,601	9,966	1,238	1,242
North Dakota	0.9	1.0	1,198	1,337	1,271	1,291
Ohio	6.2	6.6	8,233	8,704	1,336	1,325
Oklahoma	6.2	7.0	7,353	8,112	1,200	1,177
Oregon	1.6	1.3	1,949	1,551	1,231	1,228
Pennsylvania	85.3	90.8	108,763	118,644	1,280	1,313
South Carolina	21.4	23.2	29,241	32,387	1,370	1,400
South Dakota	33.9	40.4	47,816	60,832	1,415	1,511
Tennessee	3.4	3.7	3,376	3,835	1,000	1,062
Texas	438.8	462.8	572,830	622,132	1,309	1,347
Utah	48.0	52.2	66,573	74,840	1,387	1,434
Virginia	1.7	1.6	1,828	1,619	1,075	1,041
Washington	90.4	91.7	126,171	130,035	1,399	1,420
West Virginia	1.2	1.1	1,330	1,287	1,125	1,196
Wisconsin	101.7	106.7	142,215	150,053	1,407	1,413
Wyoming	0.8	0.9	1,012	1,098	1,203	1,212
United States	2,543.7	2,729.2	3,435,939	3,799,021	1,354	1,395

(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: April 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)	(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	87	45	487	458
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	0.1	0.2	38	78	339	413
Indiana	0.6	0.5	277	189	458	412
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
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	0.1	41	27	236	236
New Jersey	1.2	1.4	458	535	381	382
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	3.0	(D)	295	(D)	100	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	30	39	292	269
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	3.4	2.8	775	1,060	227	377
Oklahoma	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	5.7	7.2	2,474	3,158	431	440
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	32	89	392	481
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	0.1	(D)	17	(D)	270	(D)
Washington	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
West Virginia	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Wisconsin	1.9	(Y)	883	(X)	473	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	21.9	17.5	6,087	5,892	279	338

(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: April 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	1.4	1.7	510	690	375	404
Alaska	0.1	0.1	23	22	264	314
Arizona	0.1	0.1	24	24	261	288
Arkansas	0.4	0.6	112	146	252	240
California	70.3	81.0	15,532	18,488	221	229
Colorado	2.6	2.3	410	385	157	167
Delaware-Maryland	1.4	1.5	401	425	280	282
Florida	4.9	4.2	613	559	124	135
Georgia	4.6	4.8	1,240	1,281	272	266
Hawaii	0.2	0.1	45	37	267	259
Idaho	11.6	11.1	2,817	2,804	244	253
Illinois	873.1	1,004.5	251,554	288,414	288	287
Indiana	676.1	743.0	188,552	207,810	279	280
Iowa	3,093.9	3,415.1	891,999	992,606	288	291
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.3	0.2	61	55	201	257
Michigan	285.4	385.3	84,469	111,858	296	290
Minnesota	982.9	964.8	274,647	269,097	279	279
Mississippi	2.9	3.5	518	630	176	178
Missouri	678.1	724.5	201,426	212,354	297	293
Montana	1.2	1.2	354	340	304	279
Nebraska	545.3	629.1	158,856	182,787	291	291
Nevada	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New England ¹	2.0	1.9	590	552	292	288
New Jersey	6.1	8.3	645	838	105	102
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	48	50	257	244
New York	2.0	1.8	522	458	267	262
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	60	67	315	301
Ohio	76.0	93.4	21,487	27,500	283	295
Oklahoma	420.8	519.7	124,916	155,310	297	299
Oregon	4.6	4.8	1,138	1,223	246	254
Pennsylvania	250.2	289.0	71,897	81,836	287	283
South Carolina	1.8	1.8	456	453	256	248
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	65.1	80.6	29,119	36,867	448	458
Texas	21.1	24.6	4,725	5,186	224	211
Utah	1.8	2.0	459	591	251	300
Virginia	0.9	0.9	281	281	313	305
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.6	0.6	182	186	282	306
Wisconsin	57.3	69.9	24,545	30,268	430	434
Wyoming	0.3	0.3	84	80	282	266
United States	9,770.9	10,749.1	2,845,296	3,114,441	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: April 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)	0.1	(X)	7	(X)	85
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.2	0.7	23	84	107	127
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	5	15	98	109
California	23.6	22.5	3,645	3,312	155	147
Colorado	31.4	34.4	5,144	5,804	164	169
Delaware-Maryland	2.3	1.6	220	163	94	101
Florida	3.0	3.3	155	172	51	52
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	11	10	140	141
Idaho	0.1	0.2	17	32	139	148
Illinois	6.0	7.7	504	621	84	81
Indiana	6.6	5.9	661	589	100	101
Iowa	0.1	0.1	19	16	138	122
Kansas	0.3	0.3	28	28	90	93
Kentucky	1.3	1.6	133	170	103	107
Louisiana	0.8	0.8	47	45	59	57
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.6	0.6	44	49	80	76
Mississippi	0.1	0.2	6	15	61	68
Missouri	0.7	1.0	59	89	80	87
Montana	0.2	0.3	25	39	105	132
Nebraska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New England ¹	5.9	5.4	515	508	87	95
New Jersey	18.3	16.7	1,473	1,341	80	80
New Mexico	0.5	0.4	73	62	139	143
New York	7.7	7.2	608	642	79	89
North Carolina	2.0	3.5	127	218	63	63
North Dakota	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	114
Ohio	4.3	5.6	713	861	165	154
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.1	4.7	658	751	159	160
Pennsylvania	13.4	14.0	1,228	1,353	92	97
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.2	0.1	25	16	126	131
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	24.3	24.0	2,197	2,507	91	105
Utah	1.5	1.3	196	178	133	134
Virginia	0.6	1.6	47	104	75	67
Washington	1.5	1.6	200	222	136	135
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	3.4	0.6	470	70	140	114
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	15	20	125	162
United States	185.7	188.8	21,737	22,433	117	119

(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	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	January to April		April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	January to April	
				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	1,146.6	1,138.1	1,256.3	4,882.9	4,880.2	46.0	46.2	46.9	45.8	47.0
Heifers	799.5	819.4	899.5	3,363.9	3,365.5	32.1	33.3	33.6	31.6	32.4
All cows	504.7	466.1	478.6	2,244.9	1,988.9	20.2	18.9	17.9	21.1	19.1
Dairy cows	243.6	244.6	238.2	1,114.2	985.8	9.8	9.9	8.9	10.5	9.5
Other cows	261.1	221.5	240.3	1,130.7	1,003.0	10.5	9.0	9.0	10.6	9.7
Bulls	42.4	37.5	46.1	158.3	152.1	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.5
Total	2,493.2	2,461.2	2,680.5	10,650.0	10,386.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	21.4	18.2	16.8	102.0	75.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	9,472.8	10,125.3	10,403.3	41,039.9	42,173.4	97.4	97.3	97.2	97.4	97.3
Sows	227.7	259.8	274.1	1,008.6	1,093.9	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.5
Boars	23.7	22.0	23.6	100.7	94.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	9,724.3	10,407.1	10,700.9	42,149.3	43,361.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	9.9	10.2	12.1	36.6	41.1	6.3	5.8	7.4	5.9	6.4
Lambs and yearlings	146.9	164.5	152.3	581.8	602.7	93.7	94.2	92.6	94.1	93.6
Total	156.7	174.7	164.5	618.4	643.8	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	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	January to April	
				2023	2024
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	818	846	848	823	842
Steers ¹	892	923	920	902	919
Heifers ¹	826	847	849	829	842
All cows ¹	630	648	651	639	647
Bulls ¹	874	889	912	858	888
Calves and vealers	163	190	200	153	185
Hogs	217	215	216	217	216
Barrows and gilts ²	215	213	214	215	214
Sows ²	298	298	301	296	298
Boars ²	192	226	220	192	223
Sheep	62	63	61	64	63
Mature sheep ³	65	64	65	64	65
Lambs and yearlings ³	62	63	61	65	63

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: April 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	2.4	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1
2	7.9	2.1	2.3	3.2	2.7	0.5	0.4	2.9
3	93.2	38.2	4.6	44.1	32.4	11.7	6.4	7.4
4	70.6	6.3	2.8	53.0	12.1	40.8	8.6	0.4
5	252.7	118.0	(D)	90.1	58.7	31.4	(D)	3.4
6	463.9	216.2	141.6	95.1	33.2	61.9	10.9	(D)
7	1,200.7	625.1	(D)	63.1	5.6	57.6	(D)	0.1
8	288.2	137.2	(D)	24.4	7.6	16.8	(D)	(Y)
9	155.1	61.6	28.3	62.8	55.5	7.4	2.4	(D)
10	145.8	50.6	50.6	42.2	30.2	12.0	2.4	(D)
United States	2,680.5	1,256.3	899.5	478.6	238.2	240.3	46.1	16.8
	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	1.7	1.6	(Y)	(Y)	5.3	0.3	5.0	
2	9.9	9.9	(Y)	(Y)	23.4	2.2	21.2	
3	290.4	290.2	(D)	(D)	17.9	2.3	15.5	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	12.1	1.1	11.0	
5	3,239.8	3,125.1	110.5	4.3	25.7	1.8	23.9	
6	539.9	539.7	0.1	0.1	17.1	0.9	16.2	
7	4,783.8	4,688.6	81.0	14.3	1.1	(Y)	1.1	
8	(D)	(D)	0.7	0.1	35.6	0.7	34.8	
9	77.3	77.2	(Y)	(Y)	21.2	2.5	18.7	
10	17.2	17.1	0.1	(Y)	5.1	0.2	4.9	
United States	10,700.9	10,403.3	274.1	23.6	164.5	12.1	152.3	

(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 April 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	10.1	4.0	2.8	2.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.6
2	31.5	8.2	8.8	13.4	11.2	2.2	1.1	13.2
3	367.6	146.3	16.9	183.0	137.5	45.5	21.4	30.9
4	288.2	20.2	9.9	226.3	58.2	168.2	31.7	1.6
5	1,005.9	467.4	(D)	377.5	234.0	143.5	(D)	14.9
6	1,798.5	794.1	592.6	375.5	134.8	240.6	36.3	(D)
7	4,586.6	2,435.1	(D)	269.7	26.2	243.4	(D)	0.3
8	1,100.3	552.7	(D)	96.3	28.0	68.4	(D)	(Y)
9	625.0	243.8	108.0	266.2	231.4	34.8	7.0	(D)
10	573.1	208.4	179.0	178.7	123.2	55.5	6.9	(D)
United States	10,386.7	4,880.2	3,365.5	1,988.9	985.8	1,003.0	152.1	75.9
	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	7.5	7.4	0.1	(Y)	18.3	0.9	17.4	
2	42.2	42.0	0.1	(Y)	83.2	8.1	75.1	
3	1,158.0	1,157.0	(D)	(D)	65.7	8.1	57.6	
4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	45.6	4.0	41.6	
5	13,117.9	12,644.3	455.7	17.9	104.1	6.3	97.8	
6	2,054.5	2,053.7	0.6	0.3	67.4	2.5	64.9	
7	19,516.6	19,145.1	315.0	56.4	4.4	0.1	4.3	
8	(D)	(D)	1.9	0.1	144.6	3.1	141.5	
9	303.1	302.9	0.1	(Y)	90.5	7.2	83.3	
10	70.7	70.5	0.2	(Y)	19.9	0.7	19.1	
United States	43,361.9	42,173.4	1,093.9	94.6	643.8	41.1	602.7	

(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	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	January to April	
				2023	2024
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.0	98.1	98.2	98.1	98.1
Calves	97.6	96.1	96.0	97.3	96.4
Hogs	99.5	99.5	99.6	99.5	99.5
Sheep	84.4	87.6	87.1	86.8	88.0

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 1,000 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 1,850 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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