



Livestock Slaughter

ISSN: 0499-0544

Released May 21, 2026, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Record High Pork Production in April

April 2025 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

April 2026 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.46 billion pounds in April, down 3 percent from the 4.60 billion pounds produced in April 2025.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.34 million head, down 9 percent from April 2025. The average live weight was up 36 pounds from the previous year, at 1,467 pounds.

Veal production totaled 1.5 million pounds, 29 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 7,100 head, down 31 percent from April 2025. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from last year, at 371 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.35 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, down 1 percent from April 2025. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 293 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.4 million pounds, was down 19 percent from April 2025. Sheep slaughter totaled 178,900 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 114 pounds, down 9 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2026 commercial red meat production was 17.7 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2025. Accumulated beef production was down 6 percent from last year, veal was down 25 percent, pork was up 1 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	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of		January to April		
				April 2025	March 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,242.3	2,096.2	2,097.0	94	100	8,786.2	8,244.5	94
Veal	2.1	1.7	1.5	71	88	8.7	6.6	75
Pork	2,343.2	2,401.5	2,346.9	100	98	9,299.6	9,397.3	101
Lamb and mutton	12.8	12.1	10.4	81	86	47.1	43.7	93
Total red meat	4,600.5	4,511.5	4,455.8	97	99	18,141.6	17,692.1	98

Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

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

Type	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of		January to April		
				April 2025	March 2026	2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef	2,209.5	2,063.4	2,064.2	93	100	8,653.6	8,116.8	94
Veal	2.0	1.6	1.4	71	88	8.2	6.1	74
Pork	2,334.5	2,393.0	2,339.1	100	98	9,264.1	9,365.0	101
Lamb and mutton	11.4	11.1	9.4	83	85	42.0	39.6	94
Total red meat	4,557.4	4,469.2	4,414.1	97	99	17,967.9	17,527.6	98

Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

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

Species	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of 2025	January to April		
					2025	2026	2026 as % of 2025
				(percent)			(percent)
Cattle							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	2,526.0	2,291.4	2,296.4	91	9,910.8	9,050.4	91
Other 1,000	45.8	44.9	45.1	98	186.0	176.3	95
Commercial 1,000	2,571.8	2,336.4	2,341.5	91	10,096.7	9,226.7	91
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,434	1,475	1,471	103	1,436	1,471	102
Other pounds	1,249	1,265	1,263	101	1,243	1,264	102
Commercial pounds	1,431	1,471	1,467	103	1,432	1,467	102
Calves							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	9.8	7.9	6.7	68	43.6	30.1	69
Other 1,000	0.6	0.5	0.4	77	2.4	2.1	85
Commercial 1,000	10.3	8.3	7.1	69	46.1	32.1	70
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	354	355	367	104	322	347	108
Other pounds	377	422	430	114	393	409	104
Commercial pounds	355	359	371	104	326	351	108
Hogs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	10,760.4	10,970.4	10,704.2	99	42,666.7	42,831.1	100
Other 1,000	45.6	43.7	40.6	89	185.0	166.5	90
Commercial 1,000	10,806.0	11,014.1	10,744.8	99	42,851.7	42,997.6	100
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	291	292	293	101	291	293	101
Other pounds	263	265	265	101	263	265	101
Commercial pounds	291	292	293	101	291	293	101
Sheep and lambs							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	177.5	178.5	160.0	90	652.7	647.6	99
Other 1,000	27.7	18.7	18.9	68	96.7	77.6	80
Commercial 1,000	205.1	197.2	178.9	87	749.4	725.2	97
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	127	122	115	91	127	120	95
Other pounds	99	104	102	103	104	103	99
Commercial pounds	123	121	114	93	124	118	96
Goats							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	42.3	47.0	38.8	92	174.0	169.0	97
Other 1,000	8.7	9.0	8.0	92	35.9	33.9	94
Commercial 1,000	51.0	56.1	46.8	92	209.9	203.0	97
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	64	64	64	101	65	64	99
Other pounds	84	79	81	96	83	82	100
Commercial pounds	68	66	67	100	68	67	99
Bison							
Number of head							
Federally inspected 1,000	5.5	4.8	5.1	92	22.6	18.5	82
Other 1,000	0.2	0.4	0.3	169	1.2	1.4	116
Commercial 1,000	5.7	5.2	5.4	94	23.8	19.9	83

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 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of 2025
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	1.2	1.1	1.2	100
Alaska	(Y)	0.1	0.1	(X)
Arizona	43.2	44.7	42.4	98
Arkansas	0.5	0.5	0.5	103
California	85.8	82.1	78.5	92
Colorado	185.3	105.7	133.2	72
Delaware-Maryland	2.1	1.9	1.8	83
Florida	4.5	4.6	4.7	106
Georgia	7.0	9.2	9.0	130
Hawaii	0.7	0.7	0.7	98
Idaho	47.4	46.6	44.6	94
Illinois	283.2	280.0	275.0	97
Indiana	166.5	177.4	170.6	102
Iowa	758.1	783.7	763.7	101
Kansas	486.9	478.9	480.2	99
Kentucky	53.3	54.0	53.8	101
Louisiana	0.4	0.4	0.4	112
Michigan	127.3	140.9	136.4	107
Minnesota	235.2	235.2	233.0	99
Mississippi	0.9	0.9	0.9	99
Missouri	184.7	182.7	183.3	99
Montana	1.7	2.1	2.1	120
Nebraska	655.7	634.9	620.4	95
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	90
New England ¹	2.6	2.3	2.2	84
New Jersey	4.0	4.9	4.3	107
New Mexico	0.4	0.4	0.4	93
New York	2.6	3.0	2.8	110
North Carolina	220.2	234.1	228.0	104
North Dakota	0.9	0.8	0.8	89
Ohio	25.7	26.4	25.1	98
Oklahoma	115.7	108.7	109.0	94
Oregon	2.4	2.3	2.2	93
Pennsylvania	130.6	132.5	130.4	100
South Carolina	16.7	11.2	10.9	65
South Dakota	122.9	123.6	119.9	98
Tennessee	25.2	27.8	24.0	95
Texas	376.3	335.9	328.1	87
Utah	48.4	50.2	51.7	107
Virginia	1.3	1.3	1.2	95
Washington	76.7	82.0	83.2	108
West Virginia	0.9	0.7	0.9	94
Wisconsin	94.4	94.1	93.0	98
Wyoming	0.9	0.8	0.9	99
United States	4,600.5	4,511.5	4,455.8	97

(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 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.0	1.1	1,191	1,226	1,136	1,115
Alaska	0.1	0.1	55	89	1,093	1,180
Arizona	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	0.7	0.7	772	749	1,093	1,115
California	85.9	79.4	124,681	111,463	1,462	1,414
Colorado	195.1	136.2	289,711	206,752	1,486	1,520
Delaware-Maryland	2.2	1.7	3,021	2,439	1,400	1,423
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii	0.9	0.9	1,149	1,122	1,219	1,238
Idaho	56.8	52.5	79,913	72,890	1,415	1,399
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	9.0	10.1	11,177	13,055	1,257	1,306
Iowa	45.8	45.1	66,173	65,884	1,444	1,463
Kansas	526.4	498.4	747,869	739,169	1,421	1,483
Kentucky	6.7	6.5	7,982	7,903	1,199	1,215
Louisiana	0.5	0.5	482	594	1,046	1,098
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi	0.7	0.7	698	732	1,070	1,043
Missouri	6.9	21.6	8,501	29,938	1,237	1,397
Montana	2.0	2.4	2,493	3,006	1,267	1,274
Nebraska	541.6	489.1	808,341	750,037	1,494	1,535
Nevada	(D)	0.1	(D)	124	(D)	1,177
New England ¹	2.7	2.4	3,377	2,994	1,250	1,273
New Jersey	4.2	4.3	4,800	4,991	1,161	1,167
New Mexico	0.5	0.5	595	533	1,144	1,050
New York	2.5	2.8	3,211	3,648	1,291	1,291
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	1.1	0.9	1,381	1,240	1,282	1,315
Ohio	6.7	6.2	9,053	8,213	1,343	1,333
Oklahoma	7.2	7.4	8,880	9,150	1,247	1,245
Oregon	1.3	1.2	1,610	1,481	1,260	1,253
Pennsylvania	89.8	87.9	120,930	120,208	1,351	1,371
South Carolina	22.8	15.5	32,591	21,071	1,434	1,364
South Dakota	31.3	(D)	49,537	(D)	1,582	(D)
Tennessee	3.1	3.4	3,277	3,574	1,070	1,058
Texas	448.0	370.8	611,457	529,878	1,369	1,433
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	1.6	1.4	1,645	1,580	1,058	1,139
Washington	83.8	90.3	122,290	133,133	1,463	1,478
West Virginia	1.0	1.0	1,262	1,259	1,207	1,310
Wisconsin	100.5	95.6	141,502	135,075	1,415	1,420
Wyoming	1.0	1.0	1,310	1,303	1,276	1,303
United States	2,571.8	2,341.5	3,671,651	3,426,834	1,431	1,467

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

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

Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: April 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025 (1,000 head)	2026 (1,000 head)	2025 (1,000 pounds)	2026 (1,000 pounds)	2025 (pounds)	2026 (pounds)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
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	0.1	0.1	51	17	400	338
Georgia	0.1	(D)	36	(D)	478	(D)
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	(D)	0.1	(D)	31	(D)	434
Illinois	0.2	0.1	80	59	428	420
Indiana	(D)	0.3	(D)	132	(D)	416
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	0.1	(Y)	23	(X)	433	(X)
Kentucky	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Louisiana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Mississippi	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Missouri	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	0.1	0.1	21	14	201	258
New Jersey	1.4	1.0	564	406	390	388
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	0.1	0.1	24	29	366	382
North Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	4.6	(D)	1,918	(D)	418	(D)
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas	0.1	0.1	36	54	479	482
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Wyoming	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	10.3	7.1	3,639	2,620	355	371

(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 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	1.9	1.8	793	744	419	413
Alaska	0.1	(Y)	20	(X)	301	(X)
Arizona	0.1	0.1	33	31	266	260
Arkansas	0.4	0.4	107	118	278	281
California	82.4	82.3	19,088	19,595	232	238
Colorado	2.2	2.0	379	324	170	160
Delaware-Maryland	1.3	1.2	379	367	287	301
Florida	4.8	2.3	626	290	130	126
Georgia	5.6	4.7	1,443	1,289	257	273
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	48	49	286	281
Idaho	12.3	13.7	3,117	3,560	254	259
Illinois	1,008.5	1,011.2	290,180	291,655	288	289
Indiana	751.9	756.2	213,513	217,174	284	287
Iowa	3,292.8	3,320.4	966,615	972,803	294	293
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	0.3	0.2	65	60	197	261
Michigan	395.9	417.8	115,003	123,468	291	296
Minnesota	994.9	984.3	279,109	280,339	281	285
Mississippi	3.8	3.5	684	637	179	185
Missouri	822.3	759.5	240,348	223,335	292	294
Montana	1.0	1.2	305	330	292	287
Nebraska	706.1	687.5	206,122	200,587	292	292
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	2.0	1.5	537	421	274	280
New Jersey	8.4	9.4	839	1,008	100	107
New Mexico	0.2	0.2	46	58	233	260
New York	1.8	1.7	442	448	252	261
North Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota	0.2	0.2	58	60	294	290
Ohio	92.3	91.6	26,887	27,003	292	295
Oklahoma	486.8	446.8	145,213	135,064	298	302
Oregon	5.7	5.2	1,443	1,345	254	260
Pennsylvania	274.5	(D)	76,848	(D)	280	(D)
South Carolina	1.9	1.7	486	430	259	256
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	75.7	72.3	34,975	33,390	462	463
Texas	21.7	22.7	4,338	4,658	200	206
Utah	1.6	2.1	427	391	260	184
Virginia	1.0	1.0	309	306	305	312
Washington	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia	0.6	0.5	183	147	309	270
Wisconsin	62.6	68.3	26,895	30,155	430	442
Wyoming	0.3	0.3	85	86	292	268
United States	10,806.0	10,744.8	3,143,818	3,143,278	291	293

(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 2025 and 2026

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	0.1	(Y)	4	(X)	72	(X)
Alaska	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona	0.8	(D)	84	(D)	106	(D)
Arkansas	0.1	0.1	12	10	92	106
California	24.2	17.3	3,919	2,473	162	143
Colorado	39.5	31.9	6,909	5,290	175	166
Delaware-Maryland	1.7	1.7	163	165	99	96
Florida	3.1	2.7	158	134	52	49
Georgia	3.3	3.5	217	239	65	68
Hawaii	0.1	0.1	18	8	138	115
Idaho	0.1	0.2	23	23	161	150
Illinois	8.2	7.2	695	558	84	78
Indiana	5.9	5.3	614	512	104	97
Iowa	0.2	0.2	22	16	114	98
Kansas	0.2	0.3	23	23	105	83
Kentucky	1.0	0.7	113	80	109	116
Louisiana	0.8	0.6	43	33	58	55
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	0.5	0.6	43	51	80	78
Mississippi	0.1	0.2	10	14	70	76
Missouri	1.7	1.7	132	126	77	73
Montana	0.2	0.3	29	39	131	124
Nebraska	(Y)	0.1	(X)	6	(X)	106
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England ¹	6.1	4.1	560	368	91	91
New Jersey	16.2	17.6	1,280	1,564	79	89
New Mexico	0.6	0.6	88	79	143	142
New York	7.3	7.9	712	761	97	97
North Carolina	5.0	7.0	296	425	59	61
North Dakota	0.1	(Y)	9	(X)	137	(X)
Ohio	5.5	4.1	851	615	154	151
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4.3	4.4	716	689	168	157
Pennsylvania	14.5	12.3	1,533	1,254	106	102
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	0.1	0.2	17	17	119	109
Tennessee	(D)	1.2	(D)	108	(D)	89
Texas	25.6	20.7	2,306	1,547	90	75
Utah	1.2	1.1	168	146	139	130
Virginia	1.1	1.0	85	72	78	72
Washington	1.3	0.9	180	116	135	136
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	0.7	0.7	70	64	102	86
Wyoming	0.1	0.1	19	12	185	143
United States	205.1	178.9	25,198	20,376	123	114

(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 2025	March 2026	April 2026	January to April		April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	January to April	
				2025	2026				2025	2026
	(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	1,232.9	1,124.2	1,110.7	4,823.6	4,406.9	48.8	49.1	48.4	48.7	48.7
Heifers	845.4	726.0	766.3	3,248.3	2,908.5	33.5	31.7	33.4	32.8	32.1
All cows	410.6	408.5	384.2	1,705.2	1,609.3	16.3	17.8	16.7	17.2	17.8
Dairy cows	207.2	239.2	215.1	889.9	938.4	8.2	10.4	9.4	9.0	10.4
Other cows	203.4	169.3	169.2	815.3	671.0	8.1	7.4	7.4	8.2	7.4
Bulls	37.1	32.8	35.1	133.6	125.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.4
Total	2,526.0	2,291.4	2,296.4	9,910.8	9,050.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Calves and vealers	9.8	7.9	6.7	43.6	30.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hogs										
Barrows and gilts	10,476.2	10,693.0	10,441.2	41,551.0	41,778.1	97.4	97.5	97.5	97.4	97.5
Sows	262.0	256.3	243.5	1,026.7	973.0	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3
Boars	22.2	21.1	19.5	89.0	80.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	10,760.4	10,970.4	10,704.2	42,666.7	42,831.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep										
Mature sheep	11.9	11.0	10.9	40.5	43.8	6.7	6.2	6.8	6.2	6.8
Lambs and yearlings	165.6	167.5	149.0	612.2	603.8	93.3	93.8	93.2	93.8	93.2
Total	177.5	178.5	160.0	652.7	647.6	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	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	January to April	
				2025	2026
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	877	902	901	875	899
Steers ¹	945	984	980	949	983
Heifers ¹	872	900	900	870	896
All cows ¹	674	677	667	670	668
Bulls ¹	933	927	936	913	930
Calves and vealers	210	209	217	190	204
Hogs	217	218	219	217	219
Barrows and gilts ²	215	216	217	215	217
Sows ²	303	300	302	298	300
Boars ²	222	227	233	222	228
Sheep	64	62	59	64	61
Mature sheep ³	65	64	62	66	63
Lambs and yearlings ³	64	62	59	64	61

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 2026

[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	2.1	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	
2	7.0	2.2	(D)	2.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	1.4	
3	89.4	38.2	(D)	40.9	31.1	9.8	(D)	(D)	
4	53.4	6.4	2.6	39.5	12.2	27.3	5.0	0.2	
5	237.9	116.8	29.4	(D)	56.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	
6	372.9	159.5	141.6	62.3	27.6	34.7	9.5	(D)	
7	1,044.6	570.0	418.8	(D)	(D)	39.2	(D)	(Y)	
8	220.0	107.8	96.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	
9	125.8	58.4	18.6	47.5	39.4	8.2	1.3	(D)	
10	143.2	50.6	52.0	38.9	31.8	7.1	1.7	0.1	
United States	2,296.4	1,110.7	766.3	384.2	215.1	169.2	35.1	6.7	
	Hogs				Sheep				
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)		
1	1.3	1.3	(Y)	(Y)	4.0	0.1	3.9		
2	11.1	11.0	(Y)	(Y)	25.0	2.9	22.2		
3	(D)	(D)	0.2	(D)	15.8	1.8	14.0		
4	(D)	(D)	76.0	(D)	13.9	1.1	12.8		
5	3,312.6	3,214.3	93.4	4.8	28.4	1.6	26.8		
6	465.8	465.6	0.1	0.1	17.0	0.9	16.1		
7	4,783.2	4,698.5	73.5	11.2	1.9	0.1	1.8		
8	(D)	(D)	(Y)	(D)	32.9	(D)	(D)		
9	79.5	79.4	(Y)	(Y)	16.4	(D)	(D)		
10	20.1	20.1	(Y)	(Y)	4.6	0.1	4.5		
United States	10,704.2	10,441.2	243.5	19.5	160.0	10.9	149.0		

(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 2026

[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	8.5	3.2	2.1	2.2	1.6	0.6	0.9	0.3
2	29.5	8.9	(D)	11.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	6.8
3	342.5	138.4	(D)	168.5	133.8	34.7	(D)	(D)
4	213.4	23.5	8.9	161.4	55.5	105.8	19.7	0.7
5	942.6	451.6	117.3	(D)	238.1	(D)	(D)	(D)
6	1,482.0	642.4	535.5	269.4	124.8	144.7	34.7	(D)
7	4,050.3	2,220.4	1,601.1	(D)	(D)	162.0	(D)	0.2
8	910.8	478.3	377.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)
9	518.2	220.0	72.3	221.6	191.2	30.4	4.2	(D)
10	552.8	220.1	169.8	157.3	126.7	30.6	5.5	0.2
United States	9,050.4	4,406.9	2,908.5	1,609.3	938.4	671.0	125.7	30.1
	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	6.2	6.1	0.1	(Y)	14.3	0.7	13.6	
2	45.2	45.0	0.2	0.1	92.0	11.8	80.2	
3	(D)	(D)	0.7	(D)	57.4	4.3	53.1	
4	(D)	(D)	320.3	(D)	52.8	3.8	49.0	
5	13,249.7	12,867.8	360.3	21.6	117.2	6.4	110.8	
6	1,794.7	1,794.0	0.3	0.4	64.3	4.9	59.4	
7	19,252.1	18,916.6	290.7	44.8	7.2	0.5	6.8	
8	(D)	(D)	0.2	(D)	150.4	(D)	(D)	
9	310.1	309.8	0.2	0.1	72.5	(D)	(D)	
10	81.3	81.2	0.1	(Y)	19.6	0.4	19.3	
United States	42,831.1	41,778.1	973.0	80.0	647.6	43.8	603.8	

(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	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	January to April	
				2025	2026
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	98.2	98.1	98.1	98.2	98.1
Calves	94.5	94.3	93.9	94.7	93.6
Hogs	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6
Sheep	86.5	90.5	89.4	87.1	89.3

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 1,125 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and about 1,800 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
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Shulonda Blackmon – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage	(202) 720-3240
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

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.
- The national 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” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov 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.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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