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United States Commercial Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.59 billion pounds in May 2023, up 2 percent from the 4.49 billion pounds produced in May 2022.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.84 million head, up 1 percent from May 2022.

Veal production totaled 4.2 million pounds, 7 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 24,200 head, down 12 percent from May 2022.

Pork production totaled 2.27 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.6 million head, up 5 percent from May 2022.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.4 million pounds, was up 6 percent from May 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,500 head, 13 percent above last year.

Pacific Region Commercial Slaughter

California's production of red meat during May 2023 totaled 114.2 million pounds (dressed weight), 19 percent below May 2022. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and state-inspected plants, but excludes farm slaughter. In May 2023, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered in California was 1,351 pounds, sheep and lambs averaged 150 pounds, and hogs averaged 220 pounds. In Hawaii, 700 thousand pounds of red meat were produced in May 2023, and 100 thousand pounds of red meat were produced in Nevada.

Specie and State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	pounds	pounds
Cattle						
California	135.0	133.4	181,803	179,047	1,355	1,351
Hawaii	1.3	1.1	1,562	1,207	1,189	1,137
Nevada	0.1	0.1	74	82	1,197	1,173
United States	2,815.6	2,839.7	3,795,076	3,824,019	1,351	1,349
Calves						
California	3.0	(D)	349	(D)	122	(D)
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States	27.4	24.2	7,598	7,043	279	292
Sheep and lambs						
California	21.1	23.9	3,255	3,569	155	150
Hawaii	0.2	0.2	26	23	135	133
Nevada	0.1	(Y)	9	(X)	167	(X)
Jnited States	165.0	186.5	21,430	22,645	130	121
Hogs						
California	190.8	76.3	49,074	16,731	257	220
Hawaji	0.2	0.1	48	39	264	260
Nevada	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Jnited States	10,034.5	10,583.7	2,922,987	3,052,621	291	289

Commercial Slaughter – States and United States: May 2022 and 2023

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

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

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

State	May 2022	April 2023	May 2023	May 2023 as % 2022	
	million pounds	million pounds	million pounds	percent	
California Hawaii Nevada	140.9 0.9 0.1	102.2 0.7 (Y)	114.2 0.7 0.1	81 80 110	
United States	4,485.8	4,203.4	4,592.6	102	

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