



HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

2006 Annual Livestock Slaughter
Farms & Land in Farms

Louisiana Annual Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during 2006 totaled 8.9 million pounds, down 26 percent from 2005.

There were 10,300 head of **cattle** slaughtered during 2006, down 21 percent from 2005. Average live weight per head, at 825 pounds, was down 59 pounds from the previous year. Total live weight at 8.5 million pounds was down 26 percent from the year before.

Calves slaughtered totaled 3,400 head during 2006, down 41 percent from the previous year. Live weight averaged 497 pounds per head, up seven pounds from 2005. Total live weight was 1.68 million pounds, down 41 percent from 2005.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during 2006 totaled 18,600 head, down 11 percent from the previous year. Live weight averaged 190 pounds per head, unchanged from 2005. Total live weight was 3.54 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2005.

Sheep slaughtered during 2006 totaled 1,700 head, unchanged from 2005. Live weight averaged 89 pounds per head, down three pounds from the previous year. Total live weight was 150,000 pounds, down five percent from 2005.

United States Annual Livestock Slaughter

Red meat production for the United States totaled 47.7 billion pounds in 2006, four percent higher than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 47.5 billion pounds. **On farm** production totaled 139 million pounds.

Beef production totaled 26.3 billion pounds, up six percent from the previous year. **Veal production** totaled 155 million pounds, down six percent from 2005.

Pork production, at 21.1 billion pounds, was two percent above the previous year. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 190 million pounds, down one percent from 2005.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2006 totaled 33.7 million head, up four percent from 2005, with federal inspection comprising 98.4 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,275 pounds, up 19 pounds from the previous year. **Steers** comprised 52.7 percent of the total federally inspected cattle slaughter, **heifers** 29.6 percent, **dairy cows** 7.1 percent, **other cows** 9.0 percent and **bulls** 1.5 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 711,300 head, three percent lower than the year before, with 98.2 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 345 pounds, down eight pounds from 2005.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 104.7 million head, one percent higher than 2005, with 99.0 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 269 pounds. **Barrows and gilts** comprised 96.6 percent of the total federally inspected hog slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 2.70 million head, was up slightly from 2005 with 94.4 percent slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was down one pound from 2005, to 137 pounds. **Lambs and yearlings** comprised 95.4 percent of the total federally inspected sheep slaughter.

There were 793 plants slaughtering under federal inspection on January 1, 2007, compared with 806 on January 1, 2006. Of these, 636 plants slaughtered at least one head of cattle during 2006, with the 14 largest plants slaughtering 56 percent of the total cattle killed. Hogs were slaughtered at 614 plants, with the 10 largest plants accounting for 47 percent of the total. Likewise, five of the 238 plants that slaughtered calves accounted for 54 percent of the total, and four of the 484 plants that slaughtered sheep or lambs in 2006 accounted for 68 percent of the total head.

Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Texas accounted for 52 percent of the United States commercial red meat production in 2006, similar to 2005.

2006 Annual Louisiana Livestock Slaughter¹

Month	Cattle Slaughtered		Calves Slaughtered		Hogs Slaughtered		Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered		Red Meat Production ²
	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Number of Head	Average Live Weight	Thousand Pounds
January	600	792	300	493	1,400	212	100	90	600
February	800	863	300	510	1,700	208	200	122	800
March	900	883	300	497	2,000	212	200	106	900
April	700	874	300	531	1,500	190	100	92	700
May	800	784	200	498	1,500	194	100	80	700
June	900	768	200	458	1,300	191	100	83	700
July	800	777	200	494	1,100	190	100	79	600
August	900	786	300	492	1,200	201	100	79	700
September	900	789	300	485	1,200	200	100	74	600
October	1,100	847	300	497	1,600	180	200	82	900
November	1,000	864	300	492	2,000	164	100	88	900
December	700	866	300	505	2,200	156	200	69	700
Year ³	10,300	825	3,400	497	18,600	190	1,700	89	8,900

¹Includes slaughter in federally inspected and other slaughter plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

²Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton, excluding farm slaughter.

³Total may not add due to rounding.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms and Average Farm Size by State and United States, 2004-2006¹

Selected States	Number of Farms			Land in Farms			Average Farm Size		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
	----- Number -----			----- 1,000 Acres -----			----- Acres -----		
Alabama	44,000	43,500	43,000	8,750	8,600	8,600	199	198	200
Arkansas	47,500	47,000	46,500	14,400	14,400	14,300	303	306	308
Georgia	49,000	49,000	49,000	10,700	10,500	10,800	218	214	220
Louisiana	27,000	26,800	26,800	7,850	7,800	7,800	291	291	291
Mississippi	42,200	42,200	42,000	11,050	11,050	11,000	262	262	262
Oklahoma	83,500	83,000	83,000	33,700	33,700	33,700	404	406	406
Texas	229,000	230,000	230,000	130,000	129,800	129,700	568	564	564
United States	2,112,970	2,098,690	2,089,790	936,295	933,210	932,430	443	445	446

¹A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

United States Farms and Land in Farms: 2006 Summary

The number of farms in the United States in 2006 is estimated at 2.09 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2005. Total land in farms, at 932.4 million acres, decreased 780 thousand acres, or 0.8 percent, from 2005. The average farm size was 446 acres during 2006, an increase of one acre from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these “sales classes” by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000 and \$500,000.

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