



Cooperating with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

2007 Annual Livestock Slaughter
Farms & Land in Farms

Louisiana Annual Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during 2007 totaled 7.5 million pounds, down 16 percent from 2006.

There were 7,800 head of **cattle** slaughtered during 2007, down 24 percent from 2006. Average live weight, at 822 pounds, was down 3 pounds from the previous year. Total live weight, at 6.4 million pounds, was down 25 percent from the year before.

Calves slaughtered totaled 3,300 head during 2007, down 3 percent from the previous year. Live weight averaged 500 pounds per head, up three pounds from 2006. Total live weight was 1.7 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2006.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during 2007 totaled 17,400 head, down 6 percent from the previous year. Live weight averaged 192 pounds per head, up three pounds from 2006. Total live weight was 3.3 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2006.

Sheep slaughtered during 2007 totaled 3,300 head, up 94 percent from 2006. Live weight averaged 83 pounds per head, down six pounds from the previous year. Total live weight was 273,900 pounds, up 81 percent from 2006.

United States Annual Livestock Slaughter

Red meat production for the United States totaled 48.8 billion pounds in 2007, 2 percent higher than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 48.7 billion pounds. **On-farm production** totaled 135 million pounds.

Beef production totaled 26.5 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. **Veal production** totaled 146 million pounds, down 6 percent from last year.

Pork production, at 22.0 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 188 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2006.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2007 totaled 34.3 million head, up 2 percent from 2006, with federal inspection comprising 98.4 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,269 pounds, down 2 pounds from a year ago. **Steers** comprised 51.3 percent of the total federally inspected cattle slaughter, **heifers** 30.3 percent, **dairy cows** 7.4 percent, other cows 9.4 percent and **bulls** 1.6 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 758,100 head, 7 percent higher than a year ago, with 98.2 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 303 pounds, down 39 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 109.2 million head, 4 percent higher than in 2006, with 99.1 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federally inspected. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 269 pounds. **Barrows and gilts** comprised 96.5 percent of the total federally inspected hog slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 2.69 million head, was down slightly from the previous year with 93.9 percent federally inspected. The average live weight was unchanged from 2006 at 136 pounds. **Lambs and yearlings** comprised 95.4 percent of the total federally inspected sheep slaughter.

There were 808 plants slaughtering under federal inspection on January 1, 2008, compared with 795 last year. Of these, 626 plants slaughtered at least one head of cattle during 2007, with the 14 largest plants slaughtering 54 percent of the total cattle killed. Hogs were slaughtered at 618 plants, with the 11 largest plants accounting for 51 percent of the total. Six of the 232 plants that slaughtered calves accounted for 63 percent of the total and 4 of the 480 plants that slaughtered sheep or lambs in 2007 handled 68 percent of the total head.

Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Texas accounted for 51 percent of the United States' commercial red meat production in 2007, similar to 2006.

2007 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	800	830	300	518	1,500	187	100	82	700
February	700	944	300	525	1,600	211	300	101	800
March	700	876	400	489	2,000	222	400	99	900
April	700	860	300	506	1,600	186	300	86	700
May	600	792	200	500	1,200	197	200	75	500
June	600	781	200	467	1,100	194	200	84	500
July	600	739	100	469	1,000	193	200	91	500
August	600	846	200	495	1,100	206	400	74	600
September	600	822	300	514	1,000	194	300	81	500
October	600	744	400	486	1,600	178	300	74	600
November	600	779	400	500	1,700	183	200	76	600
December	500	770	200	503	2,000	158	300	68	500
Year ³	7,800	822	3,300	500	17,400	192	3,300	83	7,500

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, 2005-2007¹

Selected States	Number of Farms			Land in Farms			Average Farm Size		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
	----- Number -----			----- 1,000 Acres -----			----- Acres -----		
Alabama	43,500	43,000	43,000	8,600	8,600	8,600	198	200	200
Arkansas	47,000	46,500	46,500	14,400	14,300	14,300	306	308	308
Georgia	49,000	49,000	47,500	10,500	10,800	10,000	214	220	211
Louisiana	26,800	26,800	26,800	7,800	7,800	7,800	291	291	291
Mississippi	42,200	42,000	41,700	11,050	11,000	11,000	262	262	264
Oklahoma	83,000	83,000	82,500	33,700	33,700	33,700	406	406	408
Texas	230,000	230,000	229,000	129,800	129,700	129,500	564	564	566
United States	2,098,690	2,088,790	2,075,510	933,210	932,430	930,920	445	446	449

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: 2007 Summary

The number of farms in the United States in 2007 is estimated at 2.1 million, 0.6 percent fewer than in 2006. Total land in farms, at 930.9 million acres, decreased 1.5 million acres, or 0.16 percent, from 2006. The average farm size was 449 acres during 2007, an increase of three acres 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.

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