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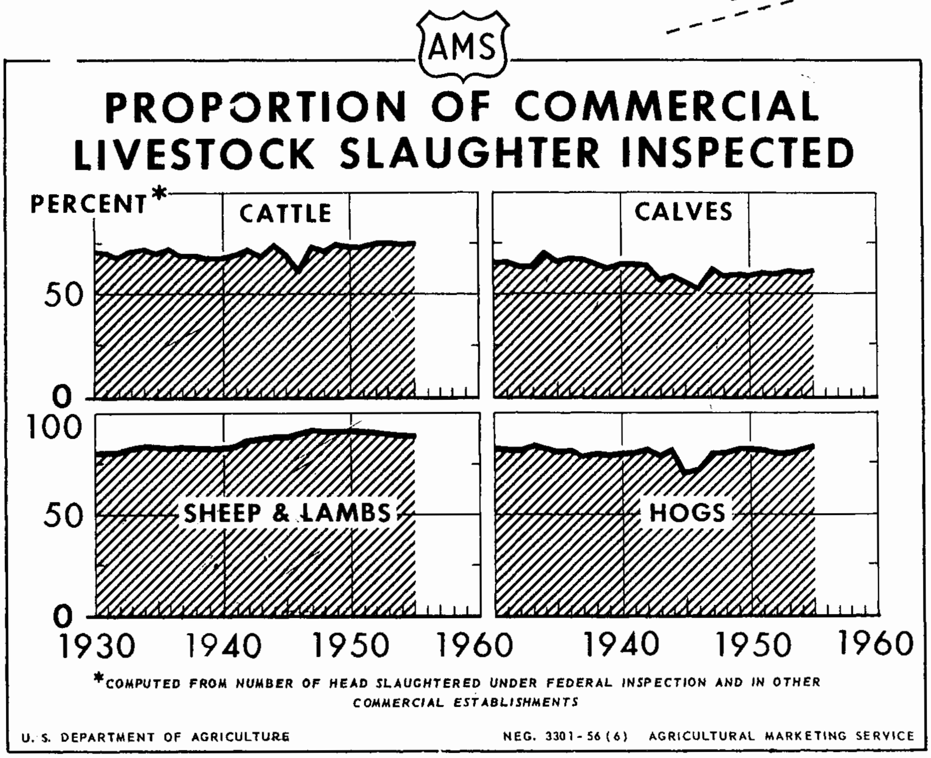
1956

The LIVESTOCK and MEAT SITUATION

LMS-84

In this issue:
Canned Meat Output by Regions
Trends in Inspected and
Noninspected Slaughter

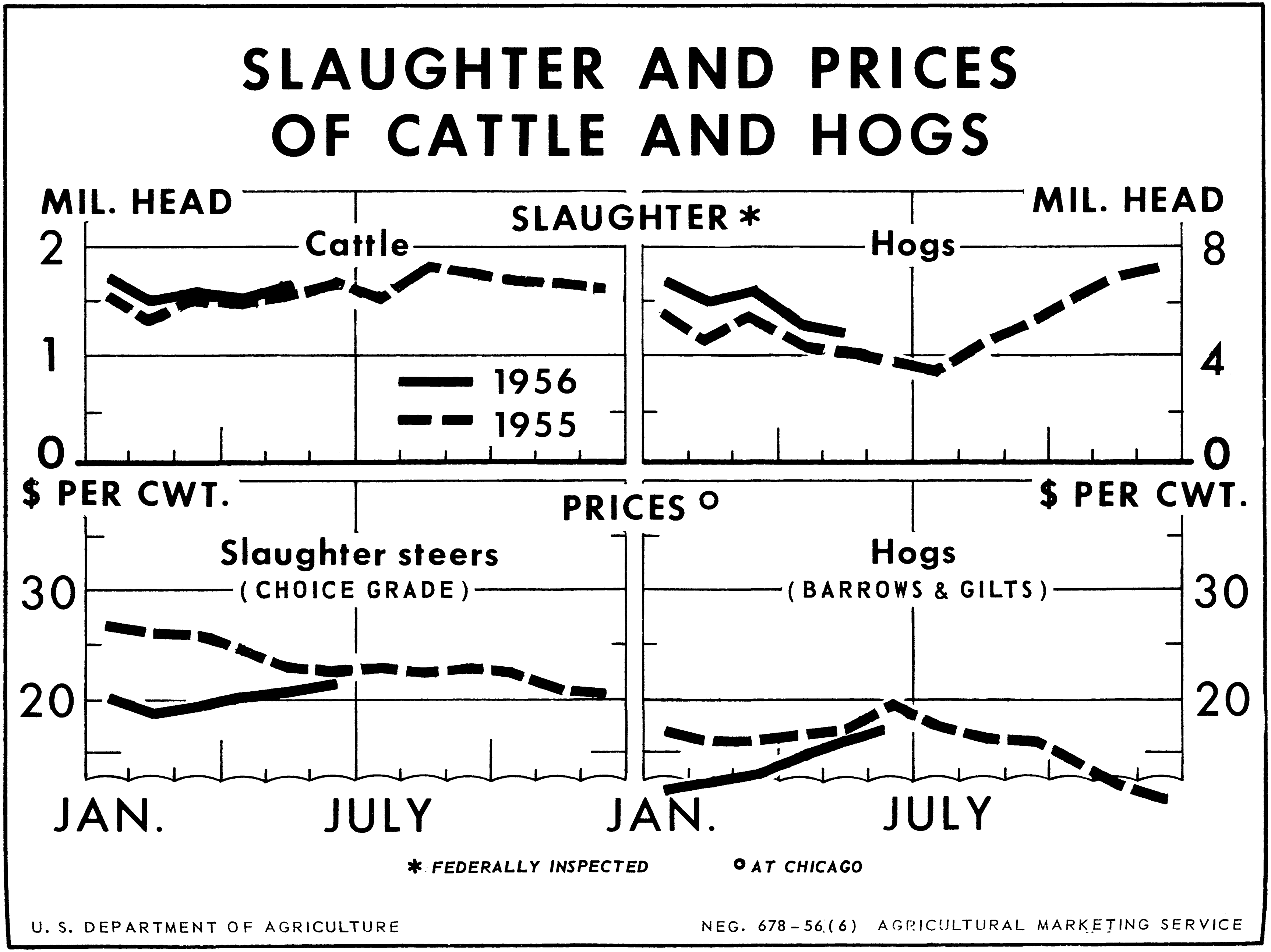


The relative size of inspected and noninspected slaughter of livestock changes only slowly over time. The long trend has been toward relatively more inspected and less noninspected slaughter of cattle and of sheep and lambs. For hogs the proportions have been more stable. For calves, the percent inspected increased during earlier years but has decreased since the mid-thirties.

Recently, noninspected slaughter has been relatively largest for calves and smallest for sheep and lambs.

In the last 12 months of expanding supply, inspected slaughter of cattle, calves and hogs increased more than did noninspected, and became a larger part of the commercial total. Inspected slaughter usually responds more quickly to year-to-year changes in supply of livestock than does noninspected. In addition, cattle and hog slaughter under inspection has been moving generally higher since its setback in the later years of wartime price control.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


SLAUGHTER AND PRICES
OF CATTLE AND HOGS
MIL. HEAD
SLAUGHTER *
MIL. HEAD
Cattle
Hogs
2
1
0
8
4
0
1956
1955
$ PER CWT.
PRICES o
$ PER CWT.
Slaughter steers
(CHOICE GRADE)
Hogs
(BARROWS & GILTS)
30
20
30
20
JAN.
JULY
JAN.
JULY
* FEDERALLY INSPECTED
o AT CHICAGO
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 678-56(6) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, June 29, 1956

SUMMARY

Hog production is declining while cattle production continues at record levels. Slaughter of hogs and of sheep and lambs this summer and fall will probably be below the same period last year while cattle slaughter may at least equal last year. Total meat output will drop under year-earlier levels toward the end of the year, but production for the year will set a new high.

The 1956 spring pig crop was 8 percent smaller than the 1955 spring crop. Also, producers planned on June 1 for 7 percent fewer sows to farrow this fall than last. If these plans are realized, the 1956 pig crop would total 88 million head, compared with 95-1/2 million last year and the recent low of 78 million in 1953.

Early spring farrowings were increased over last year, but late spring farrowings were reduced sharply, especially in the Western Corn Belt. That region plans relatively large cuts for fall pigs also.

Hog slaughter was still above last year's rate in late June. Around mid-summer it will probably be below that of a year earlier, and during the final months of the year should be significantly smaller than late in 1955.

Further seasonal price advances for hogs this summer will likely be limited by volume marketing of early spring pigs. The seasonal decline this fall will be less than the sharp reduction of last fall. Hog prices will likely be above 1955 prices during most of this period with the widest margin over a year earlier expected at the year's end.

Cattle slaughter in the first half of 1956 averaged about 4 percent above the corresponding period of 1955. It included more steers, slightly more heifers and fewer cows. Total slaughter in the second half is expected to equal or exceed the last half of 1955, but the quantity of beef is less likely to increase since carcass weights will be considerably lighter. Second half slaughter will include more cattle off grass and fewer from feedlots. This points to probable seasonal increases in prices for fed cattle, which may climb above their prices of a year earlier. Prices for grass cattle will decline seasonally. They are currently below last year and may stay below for a time. Reluctance of feeders to fill feedlots because of unsatisfactory profits last winter has been a price depressing factor. Feeder cattle prices this fall will depend not only on range and crop conditions.

Relatively small sheep and lamb slaughter in May brought a sharp rise in prices. Spring lambs made up a sizable part of total marketings at that time. Seasonal price declines are in prospect for the summer and fall as marketings off grass expand. Barring unusual drought conditions, marketings the rest of the year will likely average close to or slightly below a year earlier.

Total production of meat this year will probably be large enough to provide about 162 pounds for consumption per person, a pound more than last year. Consumption of beef is likely to rise about 2 pounds to around 83 pounds, the fourth new high in a row. Consumption of pork may decrease about 1 pound to 65 pounds.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Spring Pig Crop Down 8 Percent

The 1956 spring pig crop totaled 53.1 million head, 8 percent less than the 1955 crop. This number is greater than the spring crops of 1953 and 1954 but smaller than the four crops previous to 1953, and it is slightly less than the average for post-war years (table 1).

About 8 percent fewer sows farrowed this spring than last. The record 6.94 pigs saved per litter is slightly above the 6.90 saved in 1955.

Early spring litters were reduced least, continuing the trend toward early farrowing. Winter farrowings (Dec.-Feb.) were increased one percent and made up nearly one-third of all spring crop farrowings (table 2). As recently as 1950 less than 20 percent of the spring pigs were born in those months. March-May farrowings were down 13 percent from last spring.

The Western Corn Belt had 15 percent fewer pigs than last spring and the Eastern Corn Belt 4 percent fewer. The Mountain and Pacific States as a group reduced pigs saved by 9 percent. Although the South Atlantic and South Central States increased spring pigs by 5 and 6 percent, the total gain in number of pigs saved in those two regions was less than one-third the reduction in Iowa alone.

7 Percent Fewer Fall Farrowings Planned

Farmers planned in June to have 7 percent fewer sows farrow this fall than last. If these intentions for fall farrowings are realized and litters are of average size the 1956 fall crop would be around 35 million head.

Table 1 .- Number of sows farrowing, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, by regions, United States, 1950 to date

SPRING PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Sows farrowing:							
1950	150	2,554	4,568	631	1,048	228	9,179
1951	159	2,558	4,827	673	1,019	248	9,484
1952	162	2,342	4,014	700	881	212	8,311
1953	137	2,070	3,554	570	571	143	7,045
1954	130	2,220	3,915	582	665	157	7,669
1955	139	2,404	4,247	618	780	171	8,359
1956 1/	138	2,300	3,577	645	834	156	7,650
Pigs saved:							
1950	943	16,177	28,905	3,971	6,534	1,428	57,958
1951	1,038	16,798	31,279	4,211	6,386	1,586	61,298
1952	1,102	15,745	26,812	4,463	5,694	1,319	55,135
1953	941	14,271	24,322	3,730	3,737	939	47,940
1954	863	15,479	27,127	3,895	4,454	1,034	52,852
1955	937	16,678	29,630	4,097	5,220	1,128	57,690
1956 1/	909	16,006	25,314	4,287	5,545	1,024	53,085
Pigs saved per litter:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1950	6.29	6.33	6.33	6.29	6.23	6.26	6.31
1951	6.53	6.57	6.48	6.26	6.27	6.40	6.46
1952	6.80	6.72	6.68	6.38	6.46	6.22	6.63
1953	6.87	6.89	6.84	6.54	6.54	6.57	6.80
1954	6.62	6.97	6.93	6.70	6.70	6.59	6.89
1955	6.68	6.94	6.98	6.63	6.69	6.63	6.90
1956 1/	6.58	6.96	7.08	6.65	6.65	6.55	6.94

FALL PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
Sows farrowing:	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1950	123	1,970	2,183	561	924	166	5,927
1951	131	1,929	2,227	606	873	189	5,955
1952	123	1,677	1,939	533	654	141	5,067
1953	103	1,520	1,781	429	537	109	4,479
1954	111	1,696	1,975	481	626	125	5,014
1955	119	1,857	2,230	498	730	135	5,569
1956 2/	107	1,746	1,986	498	705	121	5,163
Pigs saved:							
1950	834	13,289	14,674	3,552	5,998	1,076	39,423
1951	901	12,929	14,624	3,943	5,667	1,224	39,288
1952	847	11,271	13,001	3,421	4,226	928	33,694
1953	701	10,259	11,893	2,855	3,543	723	29,974
1954	764	11,579	13,455	3,203	4,156	821	33,978
1955	809	12,749	15,233	3,310	4,908	905	37,914
1956							2/35,000
Pigs saved per litter:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1950	6.78	6.75	6.72	6.33	6.49	6.48	6.65
1951	6.88	6.70	6.57	6.51	6.49	6.48	6.60
1952	6.89	6.72	6.71	6.42	6.46	6.58	6.65
1953	6.81	6.75	6.68	6.66	6.60	6.63	6.69
1954	6.91	6.83	6.81	6.66	6.64	6.56	6.78
1955	6.79	6.87	6.83	6.65	6.72	6.66	6.81
1956							2/ 6.80

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Number indicated to farrow from intentions as of June 1, 1956. Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

Table 2 .-Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, spring season, 1950 to date

Year	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total
	Sows farrowing, spring						
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1950	249	418	1,090	2,804	3,085	1,533	9,179
1951	281	484	1,218	2,717	3,078	1,706	9,484
1952	259	464	1,163	2,332	2,550	1,543	8,311
1953	213	415	998	2,028	2,160	1,231	7,045
1954	255	480	1,313	2,288	2,104	1,229	7,669
1955	307	674	1,520	2,312	2,255	1,291	8,359
1956	400	723	1,414	2,151	1,917	1,045	7,650
	Percentage distribution of spring farrowings						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1950	2.7	4.6	11.9	30.5	33.6	16.7	100.0
1951	3.0	5.1	12.8	28.6	32.5	18.0	100.0
1952	3.1	5.6	14.0	28.0	30.7	18.6	100.0
1953	3.0	5.9	14.2	28.8	30.6	17.5	100.0
1954	3.3	6.3	17.1	29.9	27.4	16.0	100.0
1955	3.7	8.1	18.2	27.6	27.0	15.4	100.0
1956	5.2	9.4	18.5	28.1	25.1	13.7	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.

Largest reductions, percentagewise, are planned in the North Atlantic and West North Central States. Only five Southern States and Arizona indicated increases in the number of sows to farrow fall pigs.

A fall pig crop of 35 million head combined with the 53.1 million spring pigs would mean a year's crop of 88.1 million, 8 percent below the 1955 total but larger than the relatively small crops of 1953 and 1954.

Hog Slaughter to Drop Below Year Earlier

Hog slaughter each month so far this year has been substantially above the corresponding month of 1955. For January-June commercial slaughter averaged about 16 percent over last year. This was a high rate of slaughter in view of the 12 percent increase in pigs farrowed last fall. The reduction in spring farrowings helped to boost slaughter, since fewer gilts were withheld for breeding and more sows were sent to slaughter. Receipts of sows at 8 principal markets the first 6 months this year were 13 percent larger than last year.

Hog slaughter through midsummer will continue to come from pigs farrowed last fall. It will pass its seasonal low point in July or early August, then pick up as spring-farrowed pigs move to market in volume.

But during the fall increase, slaughter will be less than last year. The reduction will be most noticeable in the Western Corn Belt late in the fall, where supplies a year before outran available slaughter capacity. The greater cut in farrowings in that region than elsewhere will prevent a similar excessive supply from occurring this year.

The timing of marketings is governed by several factors, which were discussed in this Situation of May 9, 1955. Of these, several point to early marketings this year. Early farrowings are one such indication. Also, after last year's experience with collapsing prices, producers may be so distrustful of the late fall market that they will head many hogs for early sale. The smaller reduction in spring pigs in the Eastern than Western Corn Belt is another reason to expect fairly early marketings. On the other hand, farmers are a little short of "free" corn because of the large quantity held under the support program, and the price of corn has risen considerably the last few months. This could have conflicting effects. It would encourage some producers to sell at light weight, which means early sale. It would lead some others to hold considerable numbers of hogs for finishing on new corn, thereby delaying marketings. It is conceivable that marketings would be fairly sizable early in the marketing season, then increase a little more slowly until after new corn is harvested.

Hog Prices in June Below Last Year; To Be Above This Fall

Hog prices at the end of 1955 were at a postwar low. Prices have generally trended upward so far this year. By mid-year prices had gained $5.00 to $6.00 per 100 pounds from the December low. In late June barrow and gilt prices were still about $3.25 below mid-1955 (table 3). During much of this period, prices of heavy hogs compared better with a year earlier than did prices of lightweight hogs. Heavy weights and lower quality are often discounted less during a period of improving prices than they are during a time of mounting supplies and falling prices. Late in June the price spread between 180-200 pound and 240-270 pound barrows and gilts at Chicago was less than 10 cents per 100 pounds. Between light hogs and 360-400 pound sows the spread was less than $2.50. A year before, and more typically, these differences were approximately $1.00 and $5.00.

Hog prices are expected to be seasonally high during the summer period of reduced slaughter. They may rise a little from their late June levels and at midsummer will probably equal or exceed a year earlier. Prices will decrease seasonally this fall. However, if the outlook for more orderly marketings proves accurate prices will be above a year earlier. The increase over 1955 could be widest near year's end.

January-June Cattle Slaughter Up 4 Percent

Cattle slaughter so far this year has been about 4 percent larger than in 1955. Annual cattle slaughter has set successive records for the past 3 years, in line with record numbers of cattle on farms.

The increase in slaughter this year has been almost entirely in steers. Steer slaughter under Federal inspection for each of the first 5 months this year was a record for the month. (June data are not yet available.) The 5-months total was 22 percent above a year earlier (table 4). It includes substantial increases in both grass and fed steers slaughtered. The number of cattle and calves on feed this January 1 was only 1 percent greater than in 1955, but a larger part were of the weight and finish to be marketed before July 1. It is possible also that considerable numbers of the grass steers on farms January 1 have since been given at least a partial feed and sent to market.

Heifer slaughter the first 5 months was up slightly from last year's record high, in line with larger numbers on feed at the beginning of the year. Cow slaughter was 10 percent smaller than the high level of a year ago and about the same as in the early months of 1954.

Table 3.- Price per 100 pounds for selected classes of meat animals, by months, 1956 compared with 1955

Month	Choice slaughter steers at Chicago 1/		Choice feeder steers at Kansas City 2/		Barrows and gilts at 8 markets 3/		Choice and Prime slaughter lambs at Chicago 4/	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Jan.	20.02	26.98	19.08	22.25	11.70	16.82	19.12	21.21
Feb.	18.88	26.17	18.96	22.69	12.41	16.25	20.39	22.06
Mar.	19.41	25.80	19.19	23.50	13.20	16.09	20.61	23.24
Apr.	20.56	24.62	19.50	23.34	15.01	16.96	21.28	22.12
May	20.70	23.09	19.84	22.74	16.31	17.21	5/23.80	20.28
June	21.05	22.63	19.63	22.88		19.60	25.27	24.14
July		22.72		22.16		17.76		22.07
Aug.		22.43		20.82		16.40		21.79
Sept.		22.69		20.39		16.28		21.11
Oct.		22.01		20.31		14.40		20.58
Nov.		20.83		19.57		12.12		19.28
Dec.		20.35		18.62		10.67		18.31
Av.		23.16		21.61		15.19		21.35

1/ Sold out of first hands. 2/ 500-800 pounds. 3/ Average for all weights. Midwest markets. 4/ Spring lambs June-September; wooled lambs all other months. 5/ Shorn lambs.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Division

Changes in cattle marketings and slaughter this summer and fall will be largely seasonal. The number of fed cattle marketed will decrease and for the second half year will fall short of the number last year. Grass cattle marketings and slaughter will increase and will likely exceed last year. Total slaughter for the second half will probably be a little above last year but by less than the 4 percent increase recorded the first 6 months. Since carcass weights will be considerably lighter, the total outturn of beef is less likely to show an increase from a year previously.

Table 4 .- Number of cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection, by class, United States, by months 1956 compared with 1955

Month	Steers		Heifers		Cows		Calves	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Jan.	896	718	260	236	512	540	602	563
Feb.	803	618	230	221	426	450	586	517
Mar.	893	773	255	261	393	463	647	660
Apr.	899	737	227	238	391	444	604	596
May	969	810	202	201	439	509	606	588
June		861		215		518		610
July		749		201		538		550
Aug.		870		226		656		646
Sept.		857		215		638		710
Oct.		799		222		635		728
Nov.		729		213		681		700
Dec.		778		225		584		633
Year 1/		9,299		2,674		6,656		7,499

1/ Computed from unrounded numbers.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Division.

Weather and feed conditions may have much to do with the slaughter rate this fall. U.S. average pasture conditions on June 1 were the lowest for that date since the drought year 1934. Subsequent rainfall has improved prospects for pastures in some areas. However, pastures are crucially dry in much of the Central and Southern Plains States and Southwest and in some parts of the Western Corn Belt. Limited pasture feed in these or other areas could lead to heavy marketings of cattle off grass this summer.

Cattle Prices Relatively Stable

Cattle prices so far this year have been featured by an unusually narrow spread between prices of the top and bottom grades and relatively small price changes, particularly for fed cattle. Prices of Choice steers at Chicago in June averaged about $1.00 per 100 pounds above January, in contrast to an $4.35 decline during those months in 1955. During the same period this year, cow prices advanced $1.00 to $1.50, slightly less than the corresponding gain last year.

At mid-year prices of feeder cattle were roughly $3.00 or so per 100 pounds below a year before. Prices of cows and fed steers were about the same or only slightly below a year earlier.

Some increase in fed cattle prices is in prospect this summer, particularly for the top grades. The normal seasonal price movement for Choice steers at Chicago is a gain of 5 percent from June to September. The increase could be appreciably greater this year. This expectation is based on the probability of smaller marketings following large marketings to date.

Prices of feeder cattle will remain for some time under the influence of unsatisfactory profits realized in feeding cattle the past winter. They are expected to decline seasonally, and probably will be slow to regain last year's prices until more confidence reappears in cattle feeding.

Lamb Slaughter Low in May; Prices Rise Sharply, Then Turn Down

Slightly more sheep and lambs were marketed during the first half of the year than a year earlier. Slaughter during January and February was substantially larger but that in later months has been smaller than a year ago. The January 1 inventory of sheep and lambs on farms was down from the previous year with much of the reduction in the 8 percent fewer lambs on feed. Rapid clean-up of fed lambs resulted in sharply reduced slaughter supplies during May and early June. As a result, prices received by farmers for lambs, which in April were only $1.70 above the December price of $16.50 per 100 pounds (a postwar low), jumped sharply in May to $21.50. Spring lambs made up a sizable part of total marketings at that time. Some of this price gain was lost during June, and lamb prices in late June were about the same as a year earlier.

Prices to Decline Seasonally

Seasonal declines in prices of lambs are in prospect this summer and fall as marketings off grass expand. The level of prices will depend in part on pasture and range conditions. Prolonged dry weather would stimulate marketings of lambs as well as competing supplies of cattle. Barring extreme drought, sheep and lamb marketings and prices seem likely to average around year-earlier levels during most of the remaining months this year.

Second Half Meat Output to Drop Below 1955; Year's Total to be a Record

With more beef, more pork, about the same veal and a little less lamb and mutton, total meat production in the first half of the year set a new high for the period, nearly 9 percent above a year ago. Output in the last half year will likely fall below a year earlier, but the total for the year as a whole will be record large. Consumption of all meat per person in 1956 will be around 162 pounds, compared with 160.7 pounds in 1955. Consumption of beef may edge up two pounds to 83 pounds, while pork consumption may drop one pound to 65 pounds.

Table 5 presents data on supply and distribution of meat from 1950 to date, as revised on the basis of the 1954 Census of Agriculture.

1955 Shorn Wool Averages 42.8 Cents

Incentive payments to wool producers for shorn wool sold during the 1955 marketing season will be based on a national average price received by farmers of 42.8 cents a pound. As the incentive level is 62 cents, payments to individual producers will be 44.9 percent of the dollar returns received for the sale of shorn wool. (This is the percent by which 62 cents exceed 42.8 cents.)

Pulled wool payments are calculated according to liveweight. The payment rate on lambs will be 77 cents per hundredweight of live animals sold for slaughter.

Canned Pork and Lard to West Germany

The Department of Agriculture announced May 31 that awards had been made for supplying 475,200 pounds of canned pork luncheon meat and 1,344,000 pounds of lard for export to Western Germany under an International Cooperation Administration program. These products, together with more than a million pounds each of wheat flour, rice, and butter, and 880,000 pounds of cheese, are for feeding refugees from Iron Curtain Countries.

Table 5.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, 1950 to date

Year	Supply: Production	Supply: Beginning stocks	Supply: Imports	Distribution: Exports and shipments	Distribution: Armed forces	Distribution: Ending stocks	Civilian consumption: Total	Civilian consumption: Per person
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
Beef:								
1950	9,534	121	338	21	296	147	9,529	62.6
1951	8,837	147	472	18	748	218	8,472	55.3
1952	9,650	218	429	29	458	262	9,548	61.4
1953	12,407	262	271	1/58	520	249	12,113	76.5
1954	12,963	249	225	1/62	450	188	12,737	79.0
1955	13,568	188	222	65	403	205	13,305	80.9
1956 3/	14,200							83
Veal:								
1950	1,230	16	10	2	34	14	1,206	7.9
1951	1,059	14	12	2	63	17	1,003	6.5
1952	1,169	17	2/	1	62	24	1,099	7.1
1953	1,546	24	2/	2	62	21	1,485	9.4
1954	1,647	21	1	2	55	21	1,591	9.9
1955	1,578	21	2/	3	46	19	1,531	9.3
1956 3/	1,600							9.3
Lamb and mutton:								
1950	597	14	3	2	6	10	596	3.9
1951	521	10	7	1	6	14	517	3.4
1952	648	14	6	1	5	22	640	4.1
1953	729	22	3	2	5	12	735	4.6
1954	734	12	2	2	6	10	730	4.5
1955	758	10	2	1	5	11	753	4.6
1956 3/	725							4.3
Pork:								
1950	10,714	474	33	110	222	499	10,390	68.2
1951	11,481	499	51	136	489	549	10,857	70.9
1952	11,527	549	71	154	392	489	11,112	71.4
1953	10,006	489	164	134	298	327	9,900	62.6
1954	9,870	327	184	105	278	449	9,549	59.2
1955	10,991	449	175	126	234	421	10,834	65.9
1956 3/	11,100							65
All meat:								
1950	22,075	625	384	135	558	670	21,721	142.6
1951	21,898	670	542	157	1,306	798	20,849	136.1
1952	22,994	798	506	185	917	797	22,399	144.0
1953	24,688	797	438	1/196	885	609	24,233	153.1
1954	25,214	609	412	1/171	789	668	24,607	152.6
1955	26,895	668	399	195	688	656	26,423	160.7
1956 3/	27,625							162

1/ Includes 2 million pounds of beef in 1953 and 6 million pounds in 1954 for CARE. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 3/ Partly forecast.

Washington and Wisconsin Gain Brucellosis-Free Status

Washington and Wisconsin join Maine, New Hampshire and North Carolina as States which have been designated as "Modified Certified Brucellosis-Free." This status indicates that brucellosis is present in not more than 1 percent of the State's cattle and in not more than 5 percent of its herds.

These two States were the first to achieve this rank since the accelerated eradication program was initiated in 1954. Several other States are approaching the same status. The aim of the accelerated program is to achieve as quickly as possible a modified-certified ranking in all States, as the first step in eventual eradication of this highly contagious and costly disease of cattle.

New Standard Grade Adopted for Cattle and Beef

On June 1 a new Federal grade -- Standard -- was added to the official grades for live cattle and beef. The grade name Standard applies to younger cattle and to beef from them that formerly graded Commercial. The name Commercial is retained for older animals in the old Commercial grade, and for beef from those animals.

These revised Federal grade standards will eliminate at least in part the impracticability of merchandising under the same grade name young cattle or their carcasses with only a small quantity of fat together with older cattle or mature carcasses which have a higher finish.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Edible Offals

Table 6 adds 1955 data on the production and consumption of liver, heart, head meat, and other edible offals. Consumption of these products per person rose only slightly in 1955 as a sizable part of the increase in output was exported. The nature and sources of data have been explained in this Situation for previous years.

Production, Disposition, and Income Data; Meat Consumption

Tables 7 to 10 present data on production, disposition, and income from meat animals. These are standard tables previously published in this Situation. They include revised data for 1950-54 and preliminary data for 1955.

Table 11 presents summary data relating to meats, 1909 to date. This is a standard table showing production and consumption for each of the meats.

Table 6.- Edible offals: Supply and distribution, United States, 1940 to date

Year	Supply				Distribution				
							Domestic disappearance		
	Total production 1/	Beginning commercial stocks 2/	Imports	Total supply	Ending stocks 2/	Commercial exports and shipments 3/	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita 4/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1940	1,303	95	2	1,400	102	11	---	1,287	9.6
1941	1,338	102	4	1,444	105	8	---	1,331	10.0
1942	1,498	105	2	1,605	86	11	5/	1,508	11.3
1943	1,669	86	5/	1,755	137	22	2	1,594	12.2
1944	1,740	6/ 97	5/	1,837	37	68	2	1,730	13.3
1945	1,637	37	5/	1,674	41	3	3	1,627	12.4
1946	1,579	41	5/	1,620	56	1	5/	1,563	11.1
1947	1,615	56	5/	1,671	71	9	5/	1,591	11.0
1948	1,472	71	5	1,548	58	1	5/	1,489	10.1
1949	1,495	58	10	1,563	62	2	5/	1,499	10.0
1950	1,519	62	9	1,590	59	3	5/	1,528	10.0
1951	1,501	59	8	1,568	64	6	5/	1,498	9.8
1952	1,577	64	8	1,649	69	7/ 4	5/	1,576	10.1
1953	1,704	69	7	1,780	59	7/29	5/	1,692	10.7
1954	1,743	59	6	1,808	65	7/46	5/	1,697	10.5
1955	1,853	65	6	1,924	70	7/70	5/	1,784	10.8

1/ Production as percentage of dressed weight of meat production, including farm: Beef 6.7, veal 10.7, lamb and mutton 5.1, pork excluding lard 6.7. 2/ Trimmings included prior to July 1, 1944; excluded beginning that date. 3/ Exports only beginning 1951. 4/ Calculated from population eating out of civilian supplies July 1 adjusted for underenumeration. 5/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 6/ Adjusted by estimated 40 million pounds of trimmings previously reported in stocks. 7/ Includes small quantities of sausage ingredients reported by Bureau of Census classification "other meats except canned (including edible animal organs.)"

Data for 1934 to 1939 may be found in this Situation for July 8, 1954 on page 13.

Table 7.- Number of cattle and calves on farms, calf crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1936 to date 1/

Year	On hand, January 1		Calves born		Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/		Farm slaughter		Deaths		Live weight of farm production
	All cattle	All cows 2 years and over	Percentage of cows 2 years and over	Number		Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	Cattle	Calves	
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1936	67,847	36,244	78	28,201	4,990	19,991	10,029	613	888	1,349	2,070	14,438
1937	66,098	35,331	79	28,033	5,111	18,854	10,298	570	785	1,405	2,081	13,746
1938	65,249	34,598	80	27,787	5,635	18,552	9,560	569	725	1,308	1,928	14,047
1939	66,029	34,587	83	28,879	6,416	18,380	10,076	571	755	1,298	1,935	15,177
1940	68,309	35,616	84	29,886	7,026	18,413	10,365	571	728	1,397	1,992	15,702
1941	71,755	36,819	87	31,868	7,185	18,948	11,001	571	684	1,461	2,118	17,029
1942	76,025	38,891	88	34,388	8,514	20,740	11,787	646	641	1,560	2,349	18,568
1943	81,204	41,118	85	34,797	7,442	21,310	11,177	708	620	1,734	2,560	19,159
1944	85,334	43,225	86	37,040	7,233	23,627	14,323	854	724	1,734	2,772	19,708
1945	85,573	44,226	79	35,155	8,257	27,541	13,222	919	753	1,637	2,678	19,517
1946	82,235	42,929	81	34,643	8,774	26,267	13,026	943	766	1,549	2,547	18,999
1947	80,554	42,330	82	34,703	8,302	26,981	13,893	871	713	1,464	2,466	19,130
1948	77,171	40,625	82	33,125	7,595	23,417	12,607	791	611	1,388	2,247	18,402
1949	76,830	39,781	85	33,748	8,079	22,905	12,627	752	570	1,507	2,333	19,274
1950	77,963	40,596	86	34,899	8,896	22,664	12,028	713	528	1,445	2,297	21,185
1951	82,083	42,094	85	35,825	9,185	22,638	11,328	708	484	1,537	2,326	22,990
1952	88,072	43,923	87	38,273	9,091	23,652	12,246	769	494	1,603	2,431	24,933
1953	94,241	46,840	88	41,261	8,367	28,307	14,431	860	532	1,573	2,487	27,405
1954	95,679	48,946	87	42,601	9,907	30,622	15,514	872	524	1,574	2,489	27,580
1955	96,592	49,121	88	43,001	10,048	31,407	15,411	861	489	1,573	2,435	28,402
1956	97,465											

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of calf crop, inshipments and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Data for 1924-35 in the Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 20.

Table 8.- Number of sheep and lambs on farms, lamb crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States 1936 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Lambs saved		Inshipments 2/		Marketings 3/		Farm slaughter		Deaths		Live weight of farm production
		Number	Percentage of ewes 1 year and over	Sheep	Lambs	Sheep	Lambs	Sheep	Lambs	Sheep	Lambs	
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1936	51,136	29,762	84	666	6,037	4,627	24,206	305	332	4,373	2,910	1,852
1937	50,848	29,170	84	742	6,564	4,579	24,245	295	303	4,172	2,667	1,932
1938	51,063	30,420	88	862	6,606	4,565	25,767	295	315	3,891	2,770	2,038
1939	51,348	29,913	86	1,107	6,839	4,415	25,459	292	305	3,951	2,678	2,029
1940	52,107	31,082	87	1,060	7,186	4,384	25,846	272	299	3,910	2,804	2,101
1941	53,920	32,610	90	935	7,440	4,231	26,510	292	290	4,191	3,178	2,251
1942	56,213	32,312	86	828	8,020	6,064	28,598	291	287	4,029	2,954	2,313
1943	55,150	30,924	83	639	7,624	7,818	27,505	289	287	4,350	3,306	2,108
1944	50,782	28,642	84	576	6,844	7,362	25,349	279	283	4,095	2,956	1,938
1945	46,520	27,042	86	601	6,994	7,333	24,983	274	297	3,418	2,490	1,912
1946	42,362	24,489	89	737	6,718	6,758	24,088	265	289	3,125	2,283	1,762
1947	37,498	21,858	88	652	5,910	5,224	20,937	229	270	2,845	2,076	1,567
1948	34,337	19,594	85	627	5,486	4,828	18,947	213	261	2,916	1,936	1,383
1949	30,943	18,298	87	721	5,242	3,473	16,784	177	227	2,898	1,819	1,278
1950	29,826	17,905	89	730	5,965	2,640	16,486	177	215	2,558	1,717	1,336
1951	30,633	17,978	88	753	5,880	3,244	15,457	146	195	2,495	1,725	1,372
1952	31,982	18,479	88	696	5,660	3,220	17,086	133	209	2,533	1,736	1,471
1953	31,900	19,497	90	612	4,857	2,945	17,939	131	223	2,494	1,778	1,538
1954	31,356	20,340	95	670	5,316	2,826	18,832	125	210	2,365	1,742	1,607
1955	31,582	20,187	95	732	4,785	2,827	18,804	125	213	2,451	1,757	1,612
1956	31,109											

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of lamb crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Data for 1924-35 in the Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 22.

Table 9.- Number of hogs on farms, pig crops and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1936 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Pigs saved: Spring	Pigs saved: Fall	Pigs saved: Total	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/	Farm slaughter	Deaths	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1936	42,975	41,422	24,303	65,725	639	44,809	14,295	7,152	12,976
1937	43,083	38,525	23,994	62,519	367	40,665	13,333	7,446	12,506
1938	44,525	43,289	28,566	71,855	516	46,089	13,325	7,470	14,372
1939	50,012	53,238	33,714	86,952	637	52,906	13,890	9,550	17,079
1940	61,165	49,584	30,282	79,866	607	64,262	14,155	8,868	17,043
1941	54,353	49,368	35,584	84,952	741	57,695	12,789	8,955	17,489
1942	60,607	61,093	43,810	104,903	600	67,423	12,533	12,273	21,105
1943	73,881	74,223	47,584	121,807	771	83,187	14,016	15,515	25,375
1944	83,741	55,754	30,905	86,659	658	86,289	13,551	11,845	20,584
1945	59,373	52,216	34,611	86,827	464	61,035	13,631	10,692	18,843
1946	61,306	52,191	30,503	82,694	464	64,409	13,721	9,544	18,744
1947	56,810	52,199	31,090	83,289	497	63,499	12,072	10,435	18,159
1948	54,590	50,468	33,358	83,826	459	61,790	11,200	9,628	18,222
1949	56,257	56,969	36,275	93,244	541	69,249	10,236	11,705	19,457
1950	58,937	57,958	39,423	97,381	580	72,673	9,720	12,236	20,214
1951	62,269	61,298	39,288	100,586	755	79,142	9,479	12,872	21,436
1952	62,117	55,135	33,694	88,829	740	80,448	8,882	10,601	19,727
1953	51,755	47,940	29,974	77,914	812	68,572	7,455	9,340	16,800
1954	45,114	52,852	33,978	86,830	1,116	66,012	6,668	9,906	18,218
1955	50,474	57,690	37,914	95,604	1,079	74,832	6,842	10,047	19,972
1956	55,088	53,085	4/35,000	88,085					

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of pig crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipment and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Indicated by farmers' intentions on June 1 at average size of litters as adjusted for trend.

Data for 1924-35 in the Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 21.

Table 10.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1934 to date

Year	Live weight of mktgs. 1/: Cattle and calves	Live weight of mktgs. 1/: Sheep and lambs	Live weight of mktgs. 1/: Hogs	Meat animal marketings Index no., 1935-39=100	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Cattle and calves	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Sheep and lambs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Hogs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: All meat animals 3/	Gross income 2/ 4/: Cattle and calves	Gross income 2/ 4/: Sheep and lambs	Gross income 2/ 4/: Hogs	Gross income 2/ 4/: All meat animals 3/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds		Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1934	20,350	2,555	11,878	115	813	132	520	1,465	828	134	646	1,608
1935	17,037	2,316	7,330	89	1,062	152	682	1,896	1,084	155	890	2,129
1936	18,318	2,314	9,973	103	1,114	166	991	2,271	1,134	168	1,234	2,536
1937	17,051	2,321	9,146	96	1,239	186	925	2,350	1,261	188	1,161	2,610
1938	17,057	2,460	10,638	102	1,162	157	870	2,189	1,184	159	1,065	2,408
1939	17,385	2,431	12,327	110	1,290	172	810	2,272	1,312	174	981	2,467
1940	17,529	2,448	14,837	120	1,376	180	836	2,391	1,400	182	984	2,566
1941	18,628	2,563	13,765	119	1,705	226	1,302	3,233	1,732	229	1,518	3,479
1942	20,472	2,925	16,300	135	2,263	306	2,198	4,766	2,300	309	2,507	5,116
1943	20,866	3,042	20,748	154	2,562	342	2,929	5,834	2,606	346	3,302	6,254
1944	23,117	2,801	20,825	161	2,604	300	2,800	5,705	2,652	304	3,133	6,089
1945	26,675	2,842	15,494	151	3,318	319	2,263	5,901	3,375	323	2,640	6,337
1946	25,270	2,694	15,984	148	3,761	363	2,917	7,041	3,833	367	3,400	7,600
1947	26,099	2,278	15,722	149	4,967	402	3,926	9,295	5,054	406	4,523	9,983
1948	23,105	2,083	15,280	137	5,285	409	3,660	9,354	5,381	414	4,202	9,998
1949	23,593	1,777	16,747	144	4,849	351	3,125	8,324	4,932	355	3,513	8,800
1950	23,618	1,688	17,398	145	5,680	387	3,214	9,281	5,774	392	3,570	9,735
1951	23,679	1,663	19,007	151	7,005	466	3,889	11,360	7,128	471	4,278	11,877
1952	24,937	1,802	19,082	155	6,206	391	3,464	10,061	6,325	395	3,793	10,512
1953	29,448	1,845	16,026	157	4,878	317	3,483	8,678	4,972	320	3,819	9,111
1954	31,428	1,905	15,762	162	5,088	325	3,455	8,868	5,190	328	3,776	9,295
1955	32,558	1,924	17,692	173	5,167	316	2,688	8,171	5,271	319	2,921	8,511

1/ Excludes interfarm sales. 2/ Does not include Government payments. 3/ Computed from unrounded figures.
4/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.

Table 11 --Total Meat production and consumption in the United States, 1909-55 1/

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork (excluding lard)			All meats			Lard		
	Production	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per capita	Production	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per capita	Production	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per capita	Production	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per capita	Production	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per capita	Production	Consumption 2/: Total	Consumption 2/: Per capita
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.
1909.....	6,915	6,713	73.1	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.6	6,557	6,065	66.1	14,740	14,044	153.0	1,628	1,127	12.3
1910.....	6,647	6,508	69.5	667	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.4	13,998	13,527	144.4	1,553	1,156	12.3
1911.....	6,549	6,426	67.5	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.2	6,961	6,482	68.1	14,869	14,264	149.8	1,747	1,138	12.0
1912.....	6,234	6,153	63.6	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	65.7	14,453	13,901	143.8	1,658	1,102	11.4
1913.....	6,182	6,157	62.5	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.1	6,979	6,501	65.9	14,475	13,968	141.7	1,653	1,073	10.9
1914.....	6,017	6,144	61.1	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.2	14,103	13,877	138.1	1,554	1,090	10.8
1915.....	6,075	5,668	55.6	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	65.6	14,886	13,561	133.0	1,689	1,198	11.7
1916.....	6,460	6,003	58.1	655	656	6.3	585	595	5.7	8,207	7,037	68.1	15,907	14,291	138.2	1,706	1,228	11.9
1917.....	7,239	6,687	63.7	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.1	15,501	13,988	133.3	1,451	1,091	10.4
1918.....	7,726	7,167	67.6	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.2	17,341	14,811	139.7	1,899	1,291	12.2
1919.....	6,756	6,462	60.7	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.0	16,642	14,596	137.1	1,920	1,174	11.8
1920.....	6,306	6,293	58.3	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	62.6	15,334	14,489	134.2	1,958	1,319	12.2
1921.....	6,022	6,024	54.7	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.0	7,697	7,029	63.9	15,178	14,539	132.1	2,108	1,217	11.1
1922.....	6,588	6,503	58.3	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	64.8	16,138	15,162	135.9	2,302	1,503	13.5
1923.....	6,721	6,671	58.8	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.2	9,483	8,310	73.2	17.708	16,492	145.3	2,718	1,643	14.5
1924.....	6,877	6,786	58.7	972	977	8.4	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.0	17,595	16,810	145.3	2,660	1,663	14.4
1925.....	6,878	6,888	58.6	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.1	8,128	7,734	65.8	16,598	16,220	138.0	2,153	1,453	12.4
1926.....	7,089	7,074	59.4	955	959	8.0	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.3	16,649	16,199	136.1	2,206	1,465	12.3
1927.....	6,395	6,484	53.7	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.2	8,430	8,058	66.8	16,321	16,048	133.0	2,263	1,541	12.8
1928.....	5,771	5,872	48.1	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.4	9,041	8,545	69.9	16,248	15,860	129.8	2,458	1,626	13.3
1929.....	5,871	6,048	49.0	761	766	6.2	682	686	5.5	8,833	8,484	68.7	16,147	15,984	129.4	2,461	1,598	12.9
1930.....	5,917	6,021	48.2	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.6	8,482	8,246	66.1	16,016	15,885	127.3	2,227	1,584	12.7
1931.....	6,009	6,025	47.9	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.0	8,739	8,477	67.4	16,456	16,212	128.9	2,307	1,706	13.6
1932.....	5,789	5,830	46.0	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	69.7	16,418	16,359	129.2	2,380	1,814	14.3
1933 3/..	6,440	6,469	50.8	891	891	7.0	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	69.8	17,417	17,094	134.3	2,475	1,772	13.9
1934 3/..	8,345	8,066	63.0	1,246	1,182	9.2	851	798	6.2	8,397	8,141	63.6	18,839	18,187	142.0	2,091	1,648	12.9
1935 3/..	6,608	6,770	52.5	1,023	1,087	8.4	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	47.7	14,427	14,935	115.8	1,276	1,226	9.5
1936 3/..	7,358	7,742	59.7	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.5	7,474	7,061	54.4	16,761	16,727	128.9	1,679	1,449	11.2
1937.....	6,798	7,107	54.4	1,108	1,108	8.5	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,185	55.0	15,709	16,257	124.5	1,431	1,361	10.4
1938.....	6,908	7,058	53.6	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.4	16,479	16,500	125.4	1,728	1,440	10.9
1939.....	7,011	7,159	53.9	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.5	8,660	8,474	63.9	17,534	17,493	131.8	2,037	1,671	12.6
1940.....	7,175	7,257	54.2	981	981	7.3	876	873	6.5	10,044	9,701	72.4	19,076	18,812	140.4	2,288	1,924	14.4
1941.....	8,082	8,021	60.0	1,036	1,005	7.5	923	901	6.7	9,528	9,007	67.4	19,569	18,934	141.6	2,228	1,879	14.1
1942.....	8,843	8,049	60.4	1,151	1,084	8.1	1,042	950	7.1	10,876	8,368	62.8	21,912	18,451	138.4	2,401	1,760	13.2
1943.....	8,571	6,860	52.5	1,167	1,059	8.1	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	77.9	24,482	18,921	144.9	2,865	1,819	13.9
1944.....	9,112	7,146	54.9	1,738	1,594	12.2	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	78.5	25,178	19,827	152.2	3,054	1,824	14.0
1945.....	10,276	7,665	58.6	1,664	1,536	11.7	1,054	943	7.2	10,697	8,598	65.7	23,691	18,742	143.2	2,066	1,622	12.4
1946.....	9,373	8,533	60.8	1,443	1,382	9.8	968	923	6.6	11,150	10,506	74.9	22,934	21,344	152.1	2,136	1,667	11.9
1947.....	10,432	9,916	68.6	1,605	1,545	10.7	799	762	5.2	10,502	9,919	68.6	23,338	22,142	153.1	2,402	1,904	13.2
1948.....	9,075	9,163	62.3	1,423	1,384	9.4	747	733	5.0	10,055	9,840	66.8	21,300	21,120	143.5	2,321	1,972	13.4
1949.....	9,439	9,439	63.1	1,334	1,310	8.7	603	609	4.1	10,286	9,991	66.8	21,662	21,349	142.7	2,534	1,892	12.6
1950.....	9,534	9,529	62.6	1,230	1,206	7.9	597	596	3.9	10,714	10,390	68.2	22,075	21,721	142.6	2,631	2,096	13.8
1951.....	8,837	8,472	55.3	1,059	1,003	6.5	521	517	3.4	11,481	10,857	70.9	21,898	20,849	136.1	2,863	2,102	13.7
1952.....	9,650	9,548	61.4	1,169	1,099	7.1	648	640	4.1	11,527	11,112	71.4	22,994	22,399	144.0	2,881	2,079	13.4
1953.....	12,407	12,113	76.5	1,546	1,485	9.4	729	735	4.6	10,006	9,900	62.6	24,688	24,233	153.1	2,355	2,010	12.7
1954.....	12,963	12,737	79.0	1,647	1,591	9.9	734	730	4.5	9,870	9,549	59.2	25,214	24,607	152.6	2,330	1,777	11.0
1955 4/..	13,568	13,305	80.9	1,578	1,531	9.3	758	753	4.6	10,991	10,834	65.9	26,895	26,423	160.7	2,660	1,994	12.1

1/ Data for 1899-1908 may be found in The Livestock and Meat Situation for March 3, 1955, page 20. Beginning 1940, data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands. Beginning 1941, consumption is civilian only. Units are carcass-weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.

2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.

3/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs.

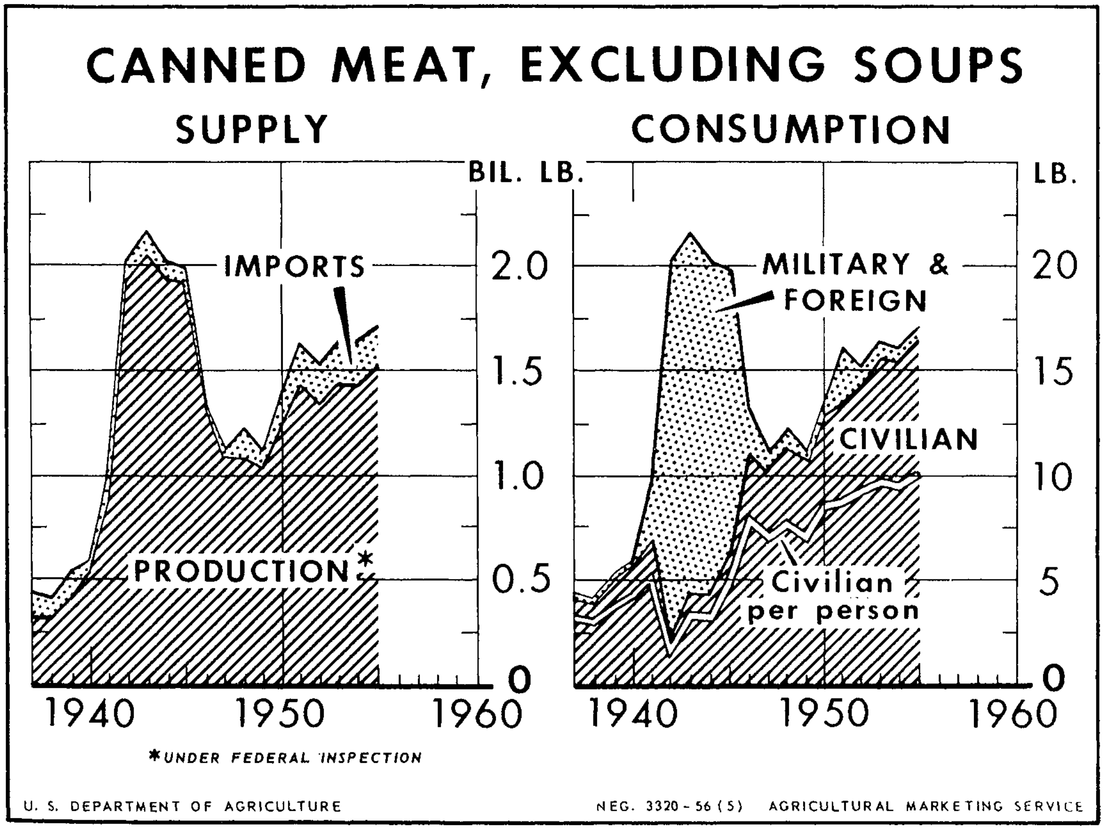
4/ Preliminary.

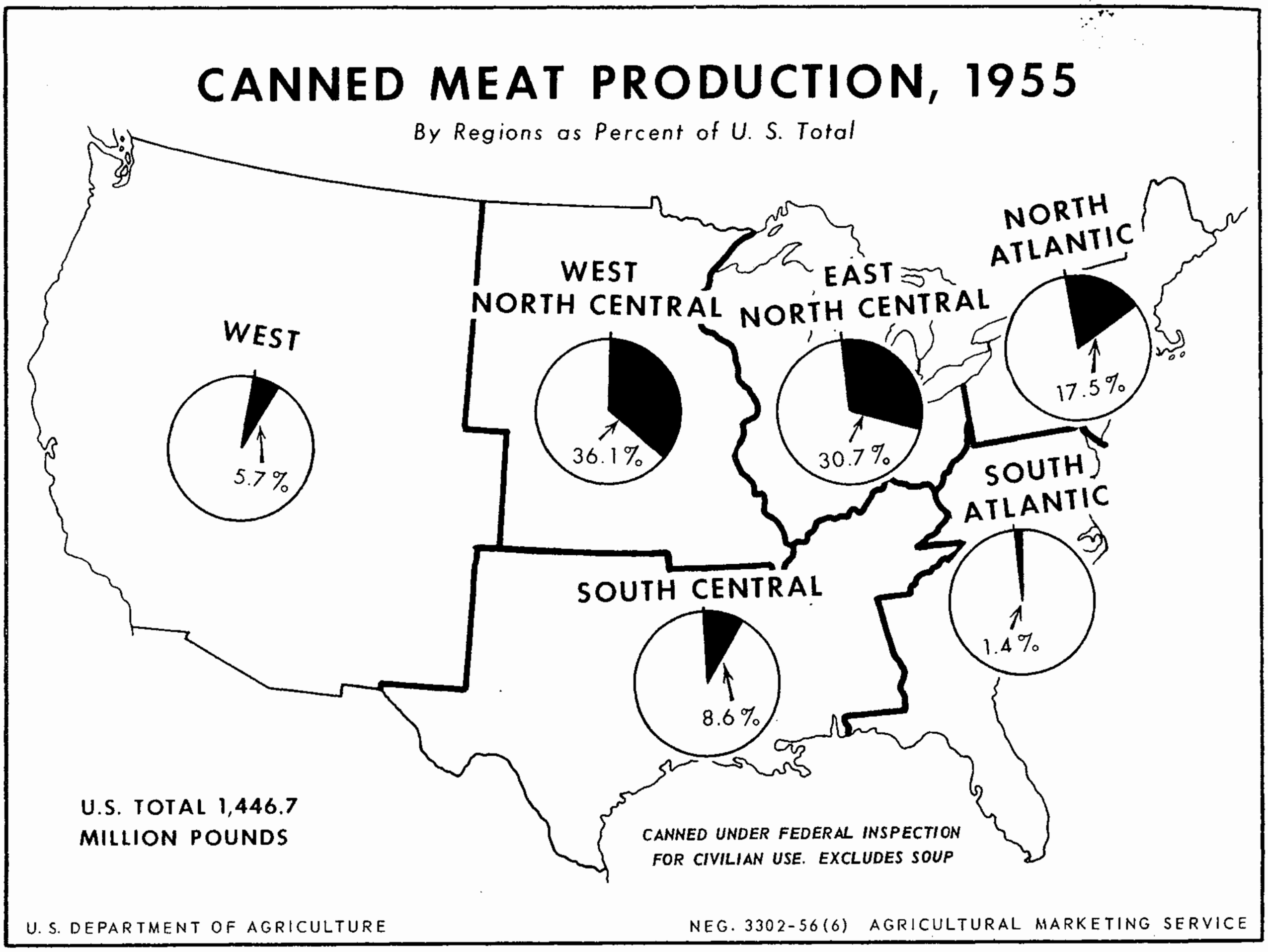
CANNED MEAT OUTPUT BY REGIONS
by Earl E. Miller

Canned Meat Output 1-1/2 Billion Pounds in 1955

Production of canned meat under Federal inspection topped 2 billion pounds in 1943, declined sharply after the war and trended upward after 1949. In 1955 total output was 1,508 million pounds, of which 1,447 million was for civilian use.

Military and foreign uses were a predominant part of total production during the war. Since then such utilization has dropped sharply and civilian consumption has risen, reaching 10 pounds per person last year.





Trends in the supply and distribution of canned meats are shown in the chart on page 19 and in table 3 of the previous issue of the Livestock and Meat Situation (released May 9). Canned meat, as reported by the Meat Inspection Branch, includes total "inspected pounds" of meat and meat food products canned. For these tabulations soups are excluded but the totals still include products such as spaghetti with meat sauce or baby foods that may contain relatively small proportions of meat.

Imports of canned meat have expanded in recent years, with declines in canned beef more than offset by larger pork imports (largely hams).

North Central States Lead in Canned Output

Table 12 and the chart above show the regional distribution of production of canned meat products for civilian use in 1955. The distribution is roughly similar to that for livestock slaughter, but it shows an even higher concentration in the North Central region and relatively more in the Northeast. The West North Central States produced 36 percent of all canned meat in 1955, and the East North Central 31 percent, for a combined

Table 12.- Canned meat: Production of selected items under Federal inspection, by regions, 1955 1/

Region	Luncheon meat	Beef hash	Hamburger, roasted or corned beef, and meat and gravy	All other	Total
	Quantity				
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
North Atlantic	1,958	3,960	10,724	236,267	252,909
East North Central	81,946	49,854	5,161	307,101	444,062
West North Central	192,974	15,268	6,182	308,046	522,470
South Atlantic	835	1,532	4,143	14,032	20,542
South Central	3,489	1,176	3,869	115,220	123,754
Western	737	2,294	2,241	77,548	82,820
United States	281,939	74,084	32,320	1,058,214	1,446,557
	Percentage distribution				
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
North Atlantic	0.7	5.3	33.2	22.3	17.5
East North Central	29.1	67.3	16.0	29.0	30.7
West North Central	68.4	20.6	19.1	29.2	36.1
South Atlantic	.3	2.1	12.8	1.3	1.4
South Central	1.2	1.6	12.0	10.9	8.6
Western	.3	3.1	6.9	7.3	5.7
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Canned for civilian use. Excludes soup.
Meat Inspection Branch, Agricultural Research Service.

total of more than two-thirds the United States output. The same region turns out nearly 60 percent of all carcass meat. The North Atlantic States produced 17.5 percent of all canned meat last year, giving that region a higher position for canning than for slaughter since only 10 percent of all meat is produced there. Canned meat output in other regions is much smaller.

Of the 227 canners of meat products (not counting soups) many are not slaughterers of livestock but processors only. Also, a number are highly specialized. As a consequence, regional distribution of output varies somewhat by products. The West North Central region leads in the production of canned luncheon meat. More beef hash is produced in the East North Central States than in all other regions. The New England States rank first in the output of hamburger, roasted or corned beef, meat and gravy.

Data in table 12 provide data by regions for only five major products. Similar data for other products could not be published without disclosing operations of individual canners.

TRENDS IN FEDERALLY INSPECTED, NONINSPECTED, AND FARM SLAUGHTER

Over many years, slaughter of livestock on farms has decreased a great deal relative to that in commercial establishments. Of total commercial slaughter, noninspected slaughter of cattle and sheep has declined relative to inspected slaughter, that of hogs has held its own, while that of calves first declined then gained. In the past year's expansion of slaughter, however, noninspected has generally lagged behind inspected slaughter.

Noninspected firms still account for 40 percent of commercial slaughter of calves and 26 percent of cattle, but only 17 to 18 percent of hogs and 11 percent of sheep and lambs (tables 13-16).

Farm Slaughter Relatively Largest for Hogs

Slaughter of hogs on farms once exceeded 16 million head a year, and was 25 percent of total slaughter. Except for brief recoveries during mid-depression and the war, it has dropped steadily to last year's 6,842,000 head. 1/ This was 8.4 percent of the total. Farm slaughter has never been as important for cattle as for hogs, but it has held up better. Locker plants, which developed fast during the 1930's, gave it a lift, and home freezers have done the same since the war. With declining cattle prices an added factor, farm slaughter of cattle has increased a little since 1951. Last year's number was 3.2 percent of the total.

Slaughter of calves on farms has held up well the last 5 years, but is less than half the kill of years ago. About the same is true for sheep and lambs. Farm slaughter of calves is less than 4 percent of total slaughter, and of sheep and lambs, 2 percent.

Noninspected Slaughter Gained During Price Control

The livestock slaughtering industry has long included a great number of firms, including local slaughterers and individual butchers, that do not ship their product across State lines and do not receive Federal inspection. During the 1910's and 1920's their volume of slaughter was virtually stable. Development of locker plants, which brought added local facilities for slaughter and for private cold storage of meat, aided a later growth of noninspected slaughter, especially for cattle and calves. During the war, transfer of many plants to Federal inspection under the Fulmer Act reduced the proportion of noninspected slaughter and stepped up that for inspected slaughter, which reached highs in 1944. But about 1945, slaughter in the small noninspected plants increased

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1/ "Farm slaughter" is that by or for farmers, whether done on the farm or not.

Table 13.- Number of cattle slaughtered by class of slaughter, with percentage distribution, United States, 1907 to date

Year	Number of head slaughtered					Percentage of total slaughter			Percentage of commercial slaughter	
	Total	Commercial			Farm	Commercial		Farm	Federally inspected	Other
		Total	Federally inspected 1/	Other		Federally inspected	Other			
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1907	13,886	12,486	7,633	4,853	1,400	55.0	34.9	10.1	61.1	38.9
1908	13,569	12,169	7,279	4,890	1,400	53.6	36.1	10.3	59.8	40.2
1909	14,135	12,726	7,714	5,012	1,409	54.6	35.4	10.0	60.6	39.4
1910	14,140	12,740	7,808	4,932	1,400	55.2	34.9	9.9	61.3	38.7
1911	13,817	12,442	7,619	4,823	1,375	55.1	34.9	10.0	61.2	38.8
1912	13,386	12,036	7,253	4,783	1,350	54.2	35.7	10.1	60.3	39.7
1913	12,939	11,639	6,978	4,661	1,300	53.9	36.0	10.1	60.0	40.0
1914	12,676	11,401	6,757	4,644	1,275	53.3	36.6	10.1	59.3	40.7
1915	12,901	11,726	7,153	4,573	1,175	55.5	35.4	9.1	61.0	39.0
1916	13,793	12,668	8,310	4,358	1,125	60.2	31.6	8.2	65.6	34.4
1917	15,741	14,666	10,350	4,316	1,075	65.8	27.4	6.8	70.6	29.4
1918	17,093	16,043	11,829	4,214	1,050	69.2	24.7	6.1	73.7	26.3
1919	15,027	14,077	10,091	3,986	950	67.2	26.5	6.3	71.7	28.3
1920	13,470	12,520	8,609	3,911	950	63.9	29.0	7.1	68.8	31.2
1921	12,428	11,478	7,608	3,870	950	61.2	31.1	7.7	66.3	33.7
1922	13,706	12,756	8,678	4,078	950	63.3	29.8	6.9	68.0	32.0
1923	14,283	13,383	9,163	4,220	900	64.2	29.5	6.3	68.5	31.5
1924	14,750	13,917	9,593	4,324	833	65.0	29.3	5.7	68.9	31.1
1925	14,704	13,975	9,853	4,122	729	67.0	28.0	5.0	70.5	29.5
1926	14,781	14,132	10,180	3,952	649	68.9	26.7	4.4	72.0	28.0
1927	13,413	12,820	9,520	3,300	593	71.0	24.6	4.4	74.3	25.7
1928	12,028	11,544	8,467	3,077	484	70.4	25.6	4.0	73.3	26.7
1929	12,038	11,578	8,324	3,254	460	69.2	27.0	3.8	71.9	28.1
1930	12,056	11,569	8,170	3,399	487	67.8	28.2	4.0	70.6	29.4
1931	12,096	11,576	8,108	3,468	520	67.0	28.7	4.3	70.0	30.0
1932	11,980	11,263	7,625	3,638	717	63.6	30.4	6.0	67.7	32.3
1933	13,107	12,317	8,655	3,662	790	66.0	27.9	6.1	70.3	29.7
1934 2/	19,509	18,681	13,277	5,404	828	68.1	27.7	4.2	71.1	28.9
1935 2/	14,805	14,173	9,853	4,320	632	66.6	29.1	4.3	69.5	30.5
1936 2/	15,901	15,288	10,976	4,312	613	69.0	27.1	3.9	71.8	28.2
1937	15,254	14,684	10,070	4,614	570	66.0	30.3	3.7	68.6	31.4
1938	14,822	14,253	9,776	4,477	569	66.0	30.2	3.8	68.6	31.4
1939	14,621	14,050	9,446	4,604	571	64.6	31.5	3.9	67.2	32.8
1940	14,958	14,387	9,743	4,644	571	65.1	31.1	3.8	67.7	32.3
1941	16,419	15,848	10,932	4,916	571	66.6	29.9	3.5	69.0	31.0
1942	18,033	17,387	12,340	5,047	646	68.4	28.0	3.6	71.0	29.0
1943	17,845	17,137	11,721	5,416	708	65.7	30.4	3.9	68.4	31.6
1944	19,844	18,990	13,955	5,035	854	70.3	35.4	4.3	73.5	26.5
1945	21,694	20,775	14,531	6,244	919	67.0	28.8	4.2	69.9	30.1
1946	19,824	18,881	11,402	7,479	943	57.5	37.7	4.8	60.4	39.6
1947	22,404	21,533	15,524	6,009	871	69.3	26.8	3.9	72.1	27.9
1948	19,177	18,386	12,994	5,392	791	67.8	28.1	4.1	70.7	29.3
1949	18,765	18,013	13,222	4,791	752	70.5	25.5	4.0	73.4	26.6
1950	18,614	17,901	13,103	4,798	713	70.4	25.8	3.8	73.2	26.8
1951	17,084	16,376	11,879	4,497	708	69.5	26.3	4.2	72.5	27.5
1952	18,625	17,856	13,165	4,691	769	70.7	25.2	4.1	73.7	26.3
1953	24,465	23,605	17,629	5,976	860	72.1	24.4	3.5	74.7	25.3
1954	25,889	25,017	18,476	6,541	872	71.3	25.3	3.4	73.9	26.1
1955	26,583	25,722	19,055	6,667	861	71.7	25.1	3.2	74.1	25.9
1956										

1/ Excludes slaughter in Hawaii and Virgin Islands beginning 1940. Includes slaughter in war-duration or "Fulmer" plants 1942-46 representing an increase in the number of federally inspected slaughter plants.

2/ Includes slaughter for Government account.

Table 14.- Number of calves slaughtered by class of slaughter, with percentage distribution, United States, 1907 to date

Year	Number of head slaughtered: Total	Number of head slaughtered: Commercial: Total	Number of head slaughtered: Commercial: Federally inspected 1/	Number of head slaughtered: Commercial: Other	Number of head slaughtered: Farm	Percentage of total slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Percentage of total slaughter: Commercial: Other	Percentage of total slaughter: Farm	Percentage of commercial slaughter: Federally inspected	Percentage of commercial slaughter: Other
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent
1907	6,395	5,395	2,024	3,371	1,000	31.7	52.7	15.6	37.5	62.5
1908	6,546	5,496	1,958	3,538	1,050	29.9	54.1	16.0	35.6	64.4
1909	6,864	5,732	2,189	3,543	1,132	31.9	51.6	16.5	38.2	61.8
1910	6,917	5,817	2,238	3,579	1,100	32.4	51.7	15.9	38.5	61.5
1911	6,855	5,755	2,184	3,571	1,100	31.9	52.1	16.0	37.9	62.1
1912	6,828	5,778	2,278	3,500	1,050	33.4	51.2	15.4	39.4	60.6
1913	6,305	5,305	1,902	3,403	1,000	30.2	54.0	15.8	35.9	64.1
1914	5,927	4,952	1,697	3,255	975	28.6	54.9	16.5	34.3	65.7
1915	6,054	5,079	1,819	3,260	975	30.1	53.8	16.1	35.8	64.2
1916	6,628	5,653	2,367	3,286	975	35.7	49.6	14.7	41.9	58.1
1917	7,372	6,397	3,143	3,254	975	42.6	44.2	13.2	49.1	50.9
1918	7,485	6,535	3,456	3,079	950	46.2	41.1	12.7	52.9	47.1
1919	8,201	7,251	3,969	3,282	950	48.4	40.0	11.6	54.7	45.3
1920	8,481	7,556	4,058	3,498	925	47.8	41.3	10.9	53.7	46.3
1921	8,394	7,469	3,808	3,661	925	45.4	43.6	11.0	51.0	49.0
1922	8,832	7,932	4,182	3,750	900	47.3	42.5	10.2	52.7	47.3
1923	9,327	8,427	4,500	3,927	900	48.3	42.1	9.6	53.4	46.6
1924	9,804	8,971	4,935	4,036	833	50.3	41.2	8.5	55.0	45.0
1925	9,936	9,131	5,353	3,778	805	53.9	38.0	8.1	58.6	41.4
1926	9,354	8,575	5,153	3,422	779	55.1	36.6	8.3	60.1	39.9
1927	8,478	7,743	4,876	2,867	735	57.5	33.8	8.7	63.0	37.0
1928	7,651	6,997	4,680	2,317	654	61.2	30.3	8.5	66.9	33.1
1929	7,406	6,779	4,489	2,290	627	60.6	30.9	8.5	66.2	33.8
1930	7,761	7,084	4,595	2,489	677	59.2	32.1	8.7	64.9	35.1
1931	8,057	7,302	4,717	2,585	755	58.5	32.1	9.4	64.6	35.4
1932	7,970	7,178	4,492	2,686	792	56.4	33.7	9.9	62.6	37.4
1933	8,564	7,722	4,907	2,815	842	57.3	32.9	9.8	63.5	36.5
1934 2/	11,759	10,774	7,455	3,319	985	63.4	28.2	8.4	69.2	30.8
1935 2/	9,632	8,766	5,718	3,048	866	59.4	31.6	9.0	65.2	34.8
1936 2/	10,008	9,120	6,070	3,050	888	60.6	30.5	8.9	66.6	33.4
1937	10,304	9,519	6,281	3,238	785	61.0	31.4	7.6	66.0	34.0
1938	9,306	8,581	5,492	3,089	725	59.0	33.2	7.8	64.0	36.0
1939	9,191	8,436	5,264	3,172	755	57.3	34.5	8.2	62.4	37.6
1940	9,089	8,361	5,358	3,003	728	59.0	33.0	8.0	64.1	35.9
1941	9,252	8,568	5,461	3,107	684	59.0	33.6	7.4	63.7	36.3
1942	9,718	9,077	5,760	3,317	641	59.3	34.1	6.6	63.5	36.5
1943	9,940	9,320	5,209	4,111	620	52.4	41.4	6.2	55.9	44.1
1944	14,242	13,518	7,769	5,749	724	54.5	40.4	5.1	57.5	42.5
1945	13,657	12,904	7,020	5,884	753	51.4	43.1	5.5	54.4	45.6
1946	12,176	11,410	5,841	5,569	766	48.0	45.7	6.3	51.2	48.8
1947	13,726	13,013	7,933	5,080	713	57.8	37.0	5.2	61.0	39.0
1948	12,378	11,767	6,907	4,860	611	55.8	39.3	4.9	58.7	41.3
1949	11,398	10,828	6,449	4,379	570	56.6	38.4	5.0	59.6	40.4
1950	10,501	9,973	5,850	4,123	528	55.7	39.3	5.0	58.7	41.3
1951	8,902	8,418	4,985	3,433	484	56.0	38.6	5.4	59.2	40.8
1952	9,388	8,894	5,294	3,600	494	56.4	38.3	5.3	59.5	40.5
1953	12,200	11,668	7,013	4,655	532	57.5	38.1	4.4	60.1	39.9
1954	13,270	12,746	7,573	5,173	524	57.1	39.0	3.9	59.4	40.6
1955	12,866	12,377	7,499	4,878	489	58.3	37.9	3.8	60.6	39.4

1/ Excludes slaughter in Hawaii and Virgin Islands beginning 1940. Includes slaughter in war-duration or "Fulmer" plants 1942-46 representing an increase in the number of federally inspected slaughter plants.

2/ Includes slaughter for Government account.

Table 15.- Number of hogs slaughtered by class of slaughter, with percentage distribution, United States, 1907 to date

Year	Number of head slaughtered					Percentage of total slaughter			Percentage of commercial slaughter	
	Total	Commercial			Farm	Commercial		Farm	Federally inspected	Other
		Total	Federally inspected 1/	Other		Federally inspected	Other			
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1907	56,527	41,227	32,885	8,342	15,300	58.2	14.7	27.1	79.8	20.2
1908	63,463	47,863	38,643	9,220	15,600	60.9	14.5	24.6	80.7	19.3
1909	54,986	39,611	31,395	8,216	15,375	57.1	14.9	28.0	79.3	20.7
1910	48,215	33,415	26,014	7,401	14,800	54.0	15.3	30.7	77.9	22.1
1911	57,000	42,669	34,133	8,536	14,331	59.9	15.0	25.1	80.0	20.0
1912	55,500	41,440	33,053	8,387	14,060	59.6	15.1	25.3	79.8	20.2
1913	57,000	42,764	34,199	8,565	14,236	60.0	15.0	25.0	80.0	20.0
1914	55,000	40,858	32,532	8,326	14,142	59.2	15.1	25.7	79.6	20.4
1915	62,000	47,064	38,381	8,683	14,936	61.9	14.0	24.1	81.6	18.4
1916	67,000	51,905	43,084	8,821	15,095	64.3	13.2	22.5	83.0	17.0
1917	56,500	41,126	33,910	7,216	15,374	60.0	12.8	27.2	82.5	17.5
1918	65,100	48,761	41,214	7,547	16,339	63.3	11.6	25.1	84.5	15.5
1919	65,795	48,991	41,812	7,179	16,804	63.6	10.9	25.5	85.3	14.7
1920	61,502	44,806	38,019	6,787	16,696	61.8	11.0	27.2	84.9	15.1
1921	61,818	45,937	38,982	6,955	15,881	63.0	11.3	25.7	84.9	15.1
1922	66,201	50,998	43,114	7,884	15,203	65.1	11.9	23.0	84.5	15.5
1923	77,508	62,808	53,334	9,474	14,700	68.8	12.2	19.0	84.9	15.1
1924	76,809	62,314	52,873	9,441	14,495	68.8	12.3	18.9	84.8	15.2
1925	65,508	51,284	43,043	8,241	14,224	65.7	12.6	21.7	83.9	16.1
1926	62,585	48,674	40,636	8,038	13,911	64.9	12.9	22.2	83.5	16.5
1927	66,195	52,340	43,633	8,707	13,855	65.9	13.2	20.9	83.4	16.6
1928	72,889	59,294	49,795	9,499	13,595	68.3	13.0	18.7	84.0	16.0
1929	71,012	57,759	48,445	9,314	13,253	68.2	13.1	18.7	83.9	16.1
1930	67,272	53,732	44,266	9,466	13,540	65.8	14.1	20.1	82.4	17.6
1931	69,233	54,895	44,772	10,123	14,338	64.7	14.6	20.7	81.6	18.4
1932	71,425	55,845	45,245	10,600	15,580	63.4	14.8	21.8	81.0	19.0
1933 2/	79,681	64,437	53,637	10,800	15,244	67.3	13.6	19.1	83.2	16.8
1934	68,760	53,650	43,876	9,774	15,110	63.8	14.2	22.0	81.8	18.2
1935	46,011	32,663	26,057	6,606	13,348	56.6	14.4	29.0	79.8	20.2
1936	58,730	44,435	36,055	8,380	14,295	61.4	14.3	24.3	81.1	18.9
1937	53,715	40,382	31,642	8,740	13,333	58.9	16.3	24.8	78.4	21.6
1938	58,927	45,602	36,186	9,416	13,325	61.4	16.0	22.6	79.4	20.6
1939	66,561	52,581	41,368	11,213	13,980	62.2	16.8	21.0	78.7	21.3
1940	77,610	63,455	50,398	13,057	14,155	65.0	16.8	18.2	79.4	20.6
1941	71,397	58,608	46,520	12,088	12,789	65.2	16.9	17.9	79.4	20.6
1942	78,547	66,014	53,897	12,177	12,533	68.6	15.4	16.0	81.6	18.4
1943	95,226	81,210	63,431	17,779	14,016	66.6	18.7	14.7	78.1	21.9
1944	98,068	84,517	69,017	15,500	13,551	70.4	15.8	13.8	81.7	18.3
1945	71,891	58,260	40,960	17,300	13,631	57.0	24.1	18.9	70.3	29.7
1946	76,115	62,394	44,394	18,000	13,721	58.3	23.7	18.0	71.2	28.8
1947	74,001	61,929	49,116	12,813	12,072	66.4	17.3	16.3	79.3	20.7
1948	70,869	59,669	47,615	12,054	11,200	67.2	17.0	15.8	79.8	20.2
1949	74,997	64,761	53,032	11,729	10,236	70.7	15.6	13.7	81.9	18.1
1950	79,263	69,543	56,964	12,579	9,720	71.8	15.9	12.3	81.9	18.1
1951	85,540	76,061	62,054	14,007	9,479	72.5	16.4	11.1	81.6	18.4
1952	86,572	77,690	62,451	15,239	8,882	72.1	17.6	10.3	80.4	19.6
1953	74,368	66,913	53,813	13,100	7,455	72.4	17.6	10.0	80.4	19.6
1954	71,495	64,827	52,894	11,933	6,668	74.0	16.7	9.3	81.6	18.4
1955	81,058	74,216	61,370	12,846	6,842	75.7	15.9	8.4	82.7	17.3

1/ Excludes slaughter in Hawaii and Virgin Islands beginning 1940. Includes slaughter in war-duration or "Fulmer" plants 1942-46 representing an increase in the number of federally inspected slaughter plants.
2/ Includes slaughter for Government account.

Table 16.- Number of sheep and lambs slaughtered by class of slaughter, with percentage distribution, United States, 1907 to date

Year	Number of head slaughtered: Total	Commercial: Total	Commercial: Federally inspected 1/	Commercial: Other	Farm	Percentage of total slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Commercial: Other	Farm	Percentage of commercial slaughter: Federally inspected	Other
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent
1907	13,799	13,221	10,252	2,969	578	74.3	21.5	4.2	77.5	22.5
1908	14,200	13,611	10,305	3,306	589	72.6	23.3	4.1	75.7	24.3
1909	15,464	14,917	11,343	3,574	547	73.4	23.1	3.5	76.0	24.0
1910	15,332	14,802	11,408	3,394	530	74.4	22.1	3.5	77.1	22.9
1911	18,177	17,667	14,020	3,647	510	77.1	20.1	2.8	79.4	20.6
1912	19,131	18,661	14,979	3,682	470	78.3	19.2	2.5	80.3	19.7
1913	18,375	17,905	14,406	3,499	470	78.4	19.0	2.6	80.5	19.5
1914	18,035	17,565	14,229	3,336	470	78.9	18.5	2.6	81.0	19.0
1915	15,576	15,106	12,212	2,894	470	78.4	18.6	3.0	80.8	19.2
1916	15,160	14,690	11,941	2,749	470	78.8	18.1	3.1	81.3	18.7
1917	12,128	11,658	9,345	2,313	470	77.0	19.1	3.9	80.2	19.8
1918	13,220	12,745	10,320	2,425	475	78.1	18.3	3.6	81.0	19.0
1919	15,784	15,304	12,691	2,613	480	80.4	16.6	3.0	82.9	17.1
1920	13,984	13,494	10,982	2,512	490	78.5	18.0	3.5	81.4	18.6
1921	16,742	16,252	13,005	3,247	490	77.7	19.4	2.9	80.0	20.0
1922	14,373	13,863	10,929	2,934	510	76.0	20.4	3.6	78.8	21.2
1923	15,146	14,631	11,529	3,102	515	76.1	20.5	3.4	78.8	21.2
1924	15,578	15,035	11,991	3,044	543	77.0	19.5	3.5	79.8	20.2
1925	15,430	14,922	12,001	2,921	508	77.8	18.9	3.3	80.4	19.6
1926	16,444	15,932	12,961	2,971	512	78.8	18.1	3.1	81.4	18.6
1927	16,113	15,625	12,883	2,742	488	80.0	17.0	3.0	82.5	17.5
1928	17,076	16,594	13,488	3,106	482	79.0	18.2	2.8	81.3	18.7
1929	17,483	17,020	14,023	2,997	463	80.2	17.1	2.7	82.4	17.6
1930	21,125	20,651	16,697	3,954	474	79.1	18.7	2.2	80.9	19.1
1931	23,133	22,542	18,071	4,471	591	78.1	19.3	2.6	80.2	19.8
1932	23,043	22,319	17,899	4,420	724	77.7	19.2	3.1	80.2	19.8
1933	21,833	21,067	17,354	3,713	766	79.5	17.0	3.5	82.4	17.6
1934 2/	21,784	20,994	17,411	3,583	790	79.9	16.5	3.6	82.9	17.1
1935	22,000	21,320	17,644	3,676	680	80.2	16.7	3.1	82.8	17.2
1936	21,555	20,918	17,216	3,702	637	79.9	17.2	2.9	82.3	17.7
1937	21,455	20,857	17,270	3,587	598	80.5	16.7	2.8	82.8	17.2
1938	22,423	21,813	18,060	3,753	610	80.6	16.7	2.7	82.8	17.2
1939	21,614	21,017	17,241	3,776	597	79.8	17.5	2.7	82.0	18.0
1940	21,571	21,000	17,349	3,651	571	80.4	16.9	2.7	82.6	17.4
1941	22,309	21,727	18,122	3,605	582	81.2	16.2	2.6	83.4	16.6
1942	25,585	25,007	21,624	3,383	578	84.5	13.2	2.3	86.5	13.5
1943	27,073	26,497	23,363	3,134	576	86.3	11.6	2.1	88.2	11.8
1944	25,355	24,793	21,875	2,918	562	86.3	11.5	2.2	88.2	11.8
1945	24,639	24,068	21,218	2,850	571	86.1	11.6	2.3	88.2	11.8
1946	22,788	22,234	19,884	2,350	554	87.3	10.3	2.4	89.4	10.6
1947	18,706	18,207	16,667	1,540	499	89.1	8.2	2.7	91.5	8.5
1948	17,371	16,897	15,343	1,554	474	88.3	9.0	2.7	90.8	9.2
1949	13,780	13,376	12,136	1,240	404	88.1	9.0	2.9	90.7	9.3
1950	13,244	12,852	11,739	1,113	392	88.6	8.4	3.0	91.3	8.7
1951	11,416	11,075	10,056	1,019	341	88.1	8.9	3.0	90.8	9.2
1952	14,304	13,962	12,694	1,268	342	88.7	8.9	2.4	90.9	9.1
1953	16,321	15,967	14,283	1,684	354	87.5	10.3	2.2	89.5	10.5
1954	16,255	15,920	14,148	1,772	335	87.0	10.9	2.1	88.9	11.1
1955	16,553	16,215	14,383	1,832	338	86.9	11.1	2.0	88.7	11.3

1/ Excludes slaughter in Hawaii and Virgin Islands beginning 1940. Includes slaughter in war-duration or "Fulmer" plants 1942-46 representing an increase in the number of federally inspected slaughter plants.
2/ Includes slaughter for Government account.

considerably. It dropped after price control was discontinued in 1946, only to recover, relatively, during the 1951-52 period when price control was again in effect. In the last few years noninspected slaughter has tended to decline relatively. These trends apply especially to cattle and hogs. They are less applicable to calves and sheep.

Over a great many years, slaughter in the smaller, noninspected firms has lost volume relative to inspected slaughter for cattle, decreasing from about 40 percent to 26 percent of the commercial total; and for sheep and lambs, falling from more than 20 percent to 11 percent. It has fluctuated above and below 20 percent for hogs, without definite trend. For calves noninspected slaughter dropped from more than 60 to about 35 percent of the commercial total by the mid-thirties, but has since advanced to about 40 percent.

Noninspected Cattle and Hog Slaughter Lags in Past Year

In 1955, when slaughter of cattle and hogs under inspection increased, slaughter in plants not under inspection rose less rapidly. It lagged noticeably late in the year, a time of very large slaughter of both cattle and hogs. It has continued to lag in 1956. In the first 5 months of 1956, inspected slaughter of cattle was up 8 percent from 1955 but noninspected was about the same. Inspected slaughter of hogs was 20 percent greater than last year, while noninspected numbers increased only 4 percent.

Noninspected slaughter has traditionally been more stable from year to year than has slaughter under Federal inspection, except during certain emergency periods. Apparently the smaller slaughterers are less responsive to sudden changes in supplies and prices of livestock than are the larger firms operating under inspection.

Probable Future Trends

Slaughter of livestock on farms will probably continue to decrease, if only because the number of farms and the number of people on them steadily go down.

Several current and prospective developments will bear on future trends in noninspected slaughter. As noted previously, relative trends in inspected and noninspected slaughter have varied by species of livestock, though in total there has been a slow trend toward the inspected segment. Doubtless some changes have taken place within each category, as within noninspected slaughter many butchers and local slaughterers have given way to the larger, wholesale type of establishment. Of relevance to future trends in noninspected slaughter are the current differences of opinion with respect to Federal grading of meat, since Federal grades are usually considered more directly helpful to smaller than to larger packers. The larger firms can probably establish their own brands for fresh meat in lieu of grades more readily than can the smaller ones.

But developments in processing of meat may have more bearing on the relative position of inspected and noninspected slaughterers. Selling by established private brand names is much more adapted to processed than to fresh meats. Past increases in processing -- in canned meats, which have expanded by four times since prewar, and in processed sausages and other items -- have probably favored the larger, federally inspected packers to some degree. Several new advances now under study involve new forms of processing. These include irradiation and quick freezing. Both would permit fabrication of cuts at the packing plant, reduce perishability, and facilitate sale by private brands. These developments, if successful, would doubtless realign competitive relationships between large and small slaughterers.

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The Livestock and Meat Situation is published six times a year. Release dates for the rest of 1956 are August 17 and November 15.

Selected price statistics for meat animals

Item	Unit	1955 May	1955 June	1956 April	1956 May	1956 June
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	25.65	24.15	23.51	22.82	22.29
Choice	do.	23.09	22.63	20.56	20.70	21.05
Good	do.	20.66	20.44	18.34	18.78	19.41
Commercial	do.	17.65	17.22	15.83	15.99	16.50
Utility	do.	15.10	14.64	14.20	14.39	14.81
All grades	do.	22.18	22.15	19.87	20.12	20.79
Omaha, all grades	do.	20.91	20.75	18.66	19.04	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	20.90	20.88	18.93	19.16	19.68
Cows, Chicago						
Commercial	do.	14.02	14.08	13.37	13.48	13.32
Utility	do.	12.39	12.51	12.12	12.19	12.23
Canner and Cutter	do.	10.73	10.91	10.80	10.96	10.94
Vealers, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	25.12	22.67	24.18	24.27	20.86
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	do.	20.01	19.03	17.81	17.68	17.02
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	16.30	16.40	15.00	15.40	15.60
Calves	do.	17.10	17.30	16.80	17.30	16.70
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	17.09	18.76	14.12	15.62	15.79
180-200 pounds	do.	18.13	20.24	15.16	16.59	16.75
200-220 pounds	do.	18.08	20.24	15.44	16.81	17.00
220-240 pounds	do.	17.83	19.97	15.43	16.76	16.90
240-270 pounds	do.	17.14	19.11	15.16	16.44	16.55
270-300 pounds	do.	16.47	18.19	14.87	16.12	16.22
All weights	do.	17.24	19.51	15.13	16.36	16.73
8 markets 2/	do.	17.21	19.60	15.01	16.31	
Sows, Chicago	do.	13.80	15.20	12.84	13.73	13.81
Price received by farmers	do.	16.40	17.70	14.30	15.50	15.60
Hog-corn price ratio 3/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	11.6	13.2	10.4	10.7	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	11.7	12.6	10.8	11.2	11.0
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	5.94	5.26	7.45	4/5.24	4.41
Price received by farmers	do.	5.93	5.77	6.28	6.00	5.60
Lambs						
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	20.28	24.14	21.28	4/23.80	25.27
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	---	---	17.25	20.00	19.55
Price received by farmers	do.	18.40	19.90	18.20	21.50	20.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers						
(1910-14=100)		260	271	237	251	252
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	38.22	37.63	33.86	34.27	35.52
Lamb carcass, Choice, 40-50 pounds	do.	40.61	49.00	40.54	48.50	5/50.72
Composite hog products:						
Including lard						
71.90 pounds fresh	Dollars	19.62	21.11	17.32	18.44	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	27.30	29.36	24.09	25.65	
71.01 pounds fresh and cured	do.	22.91	24.69	20.46	21.76	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.26	34.77	28.81	30.64	
Excluding lard						
55.99 pounds fresh and cured	do.	20.58	22.44	18.15	19.30	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	36.76	40.08	32.42	34.47	
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	67.2	67.5	61.4	62.6	
Pork, excluding lard	do.	49.3	51.5	44.5	45.6	
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1947-49=100)		84.1	90.2	76.6	79.6	
Retail (1947-49=100) 6/		101.4	103.3	93.6	95.5	

1/ Average all weights and grades.
2/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.
3/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
4/ Shorn.
5/ 45-55 pounds.
6/ Includes beef and veal, pork, leg of lamb and other meats.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats

Item	Unit	1955 May	1955 June	1956 April	1956 May	1956 June
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1935-39=100)		162	140	164	169	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 9 Corn Belt States						
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	236	149	216	196	
Sheep and lambs	do.	113	96	115	121	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	1,560	1,641	1,545	1,646	
Steers	do.	810	861	899	969	
Heifers	do.	201	215	227	202	
Cows	do.	509	518	391	439	
Calves	do.	588	610	604	606	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,228	1,205	1,129	1,063	
Hogs	do.	4,164	3,713	5,252	4,875	
Percentage sows	Percent	15	28	8	14	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	961	960	1,005	998	
Calves	do.	219	233	209	229	
Sheep and lambs	do.	96	91	99	93	
Hogs	do.	252	264	235	240	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	534	534	569	567	
Veal, per head	do.	122	130	117	128	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	47	44	48	45	
Pork, per head 1/	do.	141	148	130	134	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 1/	do.	56	56	56	56	
Lard, per head	do.	38	39	35	36	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	15	15	
Total production						
Beef	Million pounds	830	874	875	929	
Veal	do.	71	79	70	77	
Lamb and mutton	do.	58	53	54	47	
Pork 1/	do.	587	550	682	651	
Lard	do.	156	144	183	174	
Total commercial slaughter 2/						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	1,000 head	2,102	2,237	2,068	2,211	
Calves	do.	962	.009	958	951	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,367	1,366	1,272	1,219	
Hogs	do.	5,098	4,608	6,267	5,876	
Total production						
Beef	Million pounds	1,075	1,144	1,121	1,195	
Veal	do.	118	130	112	121	
Lamb and mutton	do.	64	60	60	54	
Pork 1/	do.	707	667	813	778	
Lard	do.	181	167	207		
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	132	119	188	172	157
Veal	do.	12	11	17	16	14
Lamb and mutton	do.	10	10	10	9	8
Pork	do.	539	477	514	510	459
Total meat and meat products 3/	do.	822	740	879	861	786

1/ Excludes lard.
2/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
3/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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