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Livestock and Meat

OUTLOOK & SITUATION

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Commercial meat production and prices
(All Percent Changes Shown Are From a Year Earlier)

Item	1981				1982			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
					Million lbs			
PRODUCTION								
Beef	5,559	5,438	5,541	5,676	5,450	5,375	5,700	5,825
% change	+6	+4	+3	+2	−2	−1	+3	+3
Pork	4,076	3,880	3,606	4,155	3,696	3,550	3,150	3,325
% change	−1	−10	−4	−2	−9	−9	−13	−20
Lamb & mutton	84	77	79	88	90	82	85	92
% change	+5	0	+1	+9	+7	+6	+8	+5
Veal	100	94	105	115	106	100	100	110
% change	+10	+6	+11	+11	+7	+6	−5	−4
Total red meat	9,819	9,489	9,331	10,034	9,342	9,107	9,035	9,352
% change	+3	−2	0	0	−5	−4	−3	−7
Broilers[2]	2,849	3,096	3,081	2,880	2,886	3,050	3,100	2,920
% change	+3	+3	+10	+5	+1	−2	+1	+1
Turkeys[2]	398	553	785	773	410	540	720	725
% change	+5	+5	+10	+8	+3	−2	−8	−6
Total red meat & poultry	13,066	13,138	13,197	13,687	12,638	12,697	12,865	12,997
% change	+3	−1	+3	+2	−3	−4	−3	−5
PRICES								
Choice steers, Omaha, 900-1100 lb	61.99	66.68	66.53	60.17	63.36	70.50	66-70	66-70
Barrows & gilts, 7 mkts	41.13	43.63	50.42	42.63	48.17	56.50	55-59	54-58
Slaugh. lambs, Ch., San Ang.	57.33	65.45	59.43	51.38	55.23	65.25	57-61	56-60
					cents/lb			
Broilers, 9-city avg.[3]	49.3	46.7	47.0	42.1	44.8	45.0	47-51	47-51
Turkeys, NY[4]	61.3	63.6	62.7	55.1	55.2	59.0	63-67	71-75

[1]Forecast. [2]Federally inspected slaughter. [3]Wholesale weighted average. [4]Wholesale, 8- to 16-pound young hens.

In This Issue

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Summary

Meat Supplies to Continue Down

Total red meat and poultry production during first-half 1982 was 3 percent below year-earlier levels, contributing to higher cattle and hog prices than a year ago. Combined with lower feed costs, the improved prices created the most profitable situation for livestock producers since mid-1979. In the second half of the year, total meat production will continue well below a year ago as further declines in pork production more than offset modest gains in beef and broiler output.

After lagging gains in live animal prices, retail meat prices began to show larger increases this spring. The higher live animal prices will probably continue to be reflected in rising retail prices through at least mid-summer. Reduced production, some boost from the July 1 tax cut, and increased Social Security payments may help support these higher retail prices.

The *Hogs and Pigs* report released in late June indicated sharp cutbacks in pork production. The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1 was estimated 13 percent below a year ago and the lowest June inventory since 1975. The number of market hogs weighing 60 to 179 pounds, normally marketed in the summer quarter, declined 10 percent. Market hogs weighing under 60 pounds, which supply most of the marketings for the fall quarter, dropped 18 percent below a year ago.

Recent profits and prospects for large feed supplies are expected to encourage hog producers to begin expanding their breeding herds this summer and fall. Consequently, pork production is likely to decline 12 to 14 percent this summer and 19 to 21 percent this fall compared with a year ago. Production is not likely to pick up before mid-1983. Pork output during first-half 1982 was 9 percent below a year ago. The 7 market average price for barrows and gilts was $48.17 and $56.50 per cwt in the first and second quarters, well above the $41.13 and $43.63 recorded a year ago. Second half prices may average $55 to $58.

First-half beef production was about 2 percent below a year ago as average slaughter weights declined approximately 20 pounds and more than offset the 1-percent increase in slaughter. Profits in the first half of the year have encouraged increased feedlot placements. Through May, net placements in the 7 major cattle feeding states rose 15 percent over a year ago, and are expected to boost beef production 3 percent in the second half of 1982. Choice fed steer prices at Omaha averaged $63.36 per cwt in the first quarter and $70.50 in the second. Second-half prices may average $66 to $70 if cattle feeders keep feedlot inventories current and slaughter weights down, which they are likely to do as profits continue in 1982.

Livestock and Meat Situation

FACTORS AFFECTING THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

The recession that began last July appears to have bottomed out this spring. However, only a relatively mild recovery is expected in the second half of the year as interest rates and unemployment are likely to remain high. The second phase of the individual income tax reductions, a 10 percent reduction, went into effect on July 1. This cut, plus the July 1 increase in Social Security payments, will add $40 billion on an annual basis to consumer incomes. The increased purchasing power should help support retail prices in the meat sector as live-animal price increases are passed on to consumers.

A wet, cool spring set the stage for good grazing and forage prospects. Hay stocks on May 1 were 1 and 25 percent below 1981 and 1980 stocks, respectively. The stocks, which were pulled down during the severe winter, should be rebuilt this summer. Range and pasture conditions on July 1 were good to excellent, averaging 90 percent, 6 percentage points above a year ago and 9 percentage points above the 10-year average.

Although the wet, cool weather delayed planting and crop progress this spring, particularly in the western Cornbelt, most crops were advancing favorably in early July. This year's feed grain and soybean crops are expected to produce another large harvest. Stocks of the four feed grains on June 1 were 40 percent greater than a year earlier. Corn stocks were a record high 3.8 billion bushels, a 39-percent gain over 1981. The proportion of corn stocks stored on farms increased from 66 percent in 1981 to 70 percent this year reflecting the large movement of corn into the farmer-owned reserve in late winter this year, a 900-million bushel increase. Corn prices at the farm are expected to average $2.50 to $2.90 in 1982/83 compared with $2.50 this year. Soybean meal prices at Decatur are expected to average $185 per ton this year and may average $175 to $210 per ton in the 1982/83 crop year.

First-half 1982 broiler production was even with year-earlier levels. Second half production may rise 1 percent. Expansion likely will be limited this year because of a smaller hatchery supply flock. However, a 14-percent rise in pullet replacements in May suggests expansion in 1983.

Broiler prices in the 9 cities averaged about 45 cents a pound in the first half, compared with 48 cents average a year ago. Prices may move above year-earlier averages in the second half, ranging from 47 to 51 cents.

HOGS

The June *Hogs and Pigs* report indicates that producers continue to cut back the breeding herd as they have since early 1980, despite greatly improved returns during the first half of the year. Producers have been reducing the breeding herd since early 1980. The continued cutback reflects the financial losses sustained by producers from mid-1979 through 1981. In addition, it may partially reflect pork producers' need to sell hogs to reduce indebtedness or obtain money for current operating expenses without borrowing at relatively high interest rates. The improved returns reflect substantially higher hog prices and lower production costs—especially feed costs which were sharply lower than last year. The prices of the two principal feed components—corn and hog protein supplement—were 22 and 8 percent lower than a year earlier.

Commercial pork production in the second quarter is estimated at 3,550 million pounds, down 9 percent from a year ago. The drop in pork production, along with relatively unchanged supplies of competing meats resulted in continuing higher live-animal prices. Barrow and gilt prices rose through late May and remained in the high fifties on a weekly basis through the remainder of the quarter. Barrow and gilt prices at the 7 markets averaged $56.50 per cwt this spring, up 29 percent from a year earlier.

June Market Hog Inventory Down 13 Percent; Breeding Herd Falls 12 Percent

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs was estimated at 52.0 million head on June 1, down 13 percent from a year earlier and the lowest June inventory since 1975. Meanwhile, the breeding herd dropped 12 percent from a year ago and was 22 percent below 1980. The market hog inventory dropped 13 percent from last year and 20 percent from 2 years earlier.

The December 1981-May 1982 pig crop was down 14 percent from last year, and 13 percent fewer sows farrowed. Despite the cold winter, the 7.34 pigs saved per litter were down only 1 percent from last year's record high.

The weight distribution of the market hog inventory suggests that the year-to-year decline in slaughter numbers may increase as the year progresses. The inventory of market hogs weighing 60-179 pounds was down 10 percent. Most of these hogs will be marketed in the summer quarter, when hog slaughter is forecast to be down 13 to 15 percent from last year. Commercial pork production is forecast to be down only 12 to 14 percent as the average dressed weight is expected to increase from last year's relatively light 169 pounds. Last summer, hogs moved to market earlier and at lighter weights than normal. In addition, producers may begin to hold back gilts for the breeding herd, especially if corn crop prospects remain good. Also, sow slaughter is expected to drop sharply because of the already sharp reduction in the breeding herd and the likelihood of herd rebuilding this summer. Factors affecting producers' decisions about expansion are: corn crop prospects, the size of feeding margins and producers' financial conditions.

Fourth-quarter slaughter will be drawn largely from the inventory of hogs weighing under 60 pounds on June 1. This weight category was down 18 percent from a year earlier. Last year, part of the hogs that normally would have been marketed in early 1982 were marketed in fourth quarter 1981. The summer and fall of 1981 were relatively free of extreme weather conditions, which resulted in faster rates of gain and hogs being marketed in a shorter period of time. In addition, producers were reducing the breeding herd last fall. This fall, in contrast, producers may be rebuilding the breeding herd, further reducing available hogs for market. Commercial slaughter this fall is forecast to be 19 to 21 percent below last year.

Hog Prices To Average Sharply Higher Than a Year Ago

Sharply lower commercial pork production and lower stocks of frozen pork at the beginning of the second quarter have strengthened hog prices. In addition, supplies of competing meats were below levels of last year and may rise only modestly over a year earlier in the second half of the year. Pork production will remain below last year's level in the second half and, expected increases in consumer incomes should help support hog prices. Pork production will increase seasonally in the fourth quarter when prices could weaken a little. Barrow and gilt prices are expected to average $55 to $59 per cwt in the third quarter and $54 to $58 in the fourth.

If corn prices are weaken than expected this summer, producers may build up their breeding herds faster than expected from the June 1 farrowing intentions, cutting near-term pork production more than currently projected. This could cause hog prices to rise into the low $60's and average above the expected $55 to $59 per cwt for the third quarter. However, a sharp increase in the breeding herd this summer and fall would dampen hog prices, especially in the second half of 1983.

Historical 14-State Hogs and Pigs Quarterly Series Changed to 10 States

Effective with the *Hogs and Pigs* report released on June 22, the Crop Reporting Board cut its quarterly estimates of inventory, the pig crop, and breeding intentions from 14 States to 10. Estimates for the 10 Quarterly States account for about 79 percent of U.S. total inventory. The 10 quarterly reporting States are Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Ohio. Data for these 10 States back to 1973 are shown in the 10-State inventory table. Data for the individual 50 States will be available only in the December *Hogs and Pigs* report.

Pork Exports Weaker

Stronger domestic prices, weaker world economic conditions, and continued dollar strength have resulted in lower pork exports. During the first 5 months of 1982, pork exports totaled 114.4 million pounds (carcass weight) down 28 percent from a year earlier. Continuing higher pork prices will probably limit the anticipated recovery in pork exports during the coming months. Pork exports and shipments for 1982 are projected at 425 million pounds, down 6 percent from 1981.

Pork Production Decline To Continue into 1983

The June U.S. breeding inventory and farrowing intentions suggest that commercial production may continue to fall in the first half of 1983, resulting in higher hog and retail pork prices. In the June survey, producers indicated they intended to have 10 percent fewer sows farrow during June-November than in 1981. The resulting pig crop is projected to be 11 percent smaller, because pigs saved per litter may also be down 2 percent. The projected number of pigs saved is the average over the past 10 years with an allowance for trend.

In the 10 quarterly reporting States, producers indicated that farrowings would be 9 percent lower during June-August and September-November. Actual farrowings may differ significantly from intentions due to

Federally inspected hog slaughter

Week ended		1980	1981	1982
		Thousands		
Jan.	2[1]	1,377	1,297	1,428
	9	1,971	1,957	1,881
	16	1,762	1,885	1,656
	23	1,785	1,792	1,643
	30	1,777	1,816	1,623
Feb.	6	1,769	1,773	1,552
	13	1,760	1,731	1,650
	20	1,642	1,672	1,484
	27	1,776	1,698	1,652
Mar.	6	1,806	1,757	1,698
	13	1,898	1,832	1,676
	20	1,885	1,826	1,663
	27	1,858	1,840	1,705
Apr.	3	1,736	1,848	1,609
	10	1,919	1,914	1,606
	17	2,024	1,823	1,608
	24	2,028	1,727	1,656
May.	1	1,918	1,771	1,640
	8	1,972	1,763	1,596
	15	1,916	1,771	1,610
	22	1,891	1,694	1,553
	29	1,582	1,422	1,532
June	5	1,850	1,560	
	12	1,747	1,617	
	19	1,683	1,500	
	26	1,669	1,434	
July	3	1,268	1,324	
	10	1,573	1,401	
	17	1,600	1,444	
	24	1,530	1,442	
	31	1,573	1,496	
Aug.	7	1,553	1,539	
	14	1,611	1,554	
	21	1,612	1,576	
	28	1,656	1,590	
Sept.	4	1,497	1,658	
	11	1,867	1,456	
	18	1,812	1,785	
	25	1,707	1,699	
Oct.	2	1,759	1,742	
	9	1,791	1,769	
	16	1,864	1,817	
	23	1,861	1,786	
	30	1,890	1,788	
Nov.	6	1,955	1,814	
	13	1,810	1,789	
	20	2,022	1,841	
	27	1,514	1,511	
Dec.	4	1,952	1,947	
	11	1,841	1,884	
	18	1,816	1,864	
	25	1,815	1,223	

[1]Corresponding dates: January 5, 1980, January 3, 1981.

Hogs and pigs: Inventory number, March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1, 1973-82, 10 States[1]

Item	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
				1,000 Head		
Inventory number March 1						
All hogs and pigs	42,195	43,063	36,080	36,675	39,550	40 200
Kept for breeding	6,679	6,691	5,370	5,946	6,216	6,186
Market	35,516	36,372	30,710	30,729	33,334	34,014
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	13,268	13,010	10,809	12,103	12,664	13,057
60-119 pounds	8,161	8,526	7,351	7,002	7,728	8,094
120-179 pounds	8,362	8,619	7,288	6,690	7,674	7,582
180 pounds and over	5,725	6,217	5,262	4,934	5,268	5,281
Inventory number June 1						
All hogs and pigs	45,662	45,111	36,510	41,355	41,560	42,155
Kept for breeding	6,729	6,569	5,487	6,257	6,507	6,578
Market	38,933	38,542	31,023	35,098	35,053	35,577
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	18,599	17,970	13,871	16,647	16,467	15,898
60-119 pounds	9,326	9,402	7,696	8,646	8,311	8,666
120-179 pounds	6,302	5,989	5,297	5,659	5,999	6,324
180 pounds and over	4,706	5,181	4,159	4,146	4,276	4,689
Inventory number September 1						
All hogs and pigs	46,133	44,525	37,100	43,560	43,880	44,110
Kept for breeding	6,634	5,977	5,330	6,033	6,369	6,616
Market	39,499	38,548	31,770	37,527	37,511	37,494
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	15,700	14,594	12,748	15,065	15,435	15,608
60-119 pounds	10,326	10,366	8,020	9,483	8,485	9,397
120-179 pounds	8,210	8,080	6,491	7,698	7,316	7,199
180 pounds and over	5,263	5,508	4,511	5,281	5,275	5,290
Inventory number December 1						
All hogs and pigs	46,745	42,030	37,525	42,440	43,320	46,060
Kept for breeding	6,528	5,526	5,628	6,067	6,524	7,190
Market	40,217	36,504	31,897	36,373	36,796	38,870
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	15,546	13,545	12,203	14,417	14,833	16,085
60-119 pounds	10,622	9,759	8,581	9,597	9,561	10,107
120-179 pounds	7,972	7,578	6,360	6,976	7,084	7,330
180 pounds and over	6,077	5,622	4,753	5,383	5,318	5,348
Sows farrowing:						
December[2]-February	1,998	1,990	1,577	1,821	2,057	2,035
March-May	2,919	2,829	2,146	2,570	2,558	2,530
December[2]-May	4,917	4,819	3,723	4,391	4,615	4,565
June-August	2,214	2,120	1,854	2,219	2,288	2,342
September-November	2,238	2,005	1,859	2,250	2,277	2,477
June-November	4,452	4,125	3,713	4,469	4,565	4,819
Pig crop:						
December[2]-February	14,168	13,821	11,188	13,042	13,946	13,937
March-May	20,953	20,210	15,436	19,034	18,897	18,242
December[2]-May	35,121	34,031	26,624	32,076	32,843	32,179
June-August	15,789	14,993	13,331	16,214	16,452	16,854
September-November	15,912	14,251	13,384	15,973	16,321	17,723
June-November	31,701	29,244	26,715	32,187	32,773	34,577
				Number		
Pigs per litter:						
December[2]-February	7.09	6.95	7.09	7.16	6.78	6.85
March-May	7.18	7.14	7.19	7.41	7.39	7.21
December[2]-May	7.14	7.06	7.15	7.30	7.12	7.05
June-August	7.13	7.07	7.19	7.31	7.19	7.20
September-November	7.11	7.11	7.20	7.10	7.17	7.16
June-November	7.12	7.09	7.19	7.20	7.18	7.18

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Hogs and pigs: Inventory number, March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1, 1973-82, 10 States[1]—Continued

Item	1979	1980	1981	1982	1982 as % of 1980	1982 as % of 1981
	1,000 Head				*Percent*	
Inventory number March 1						
All hogs and pigs	45,595	48,935	45,275	40,610	83	90
Kept for breeding	7,402	7,148	6,500	5,578	78	86
Market	38,193	41,787	38,775	35,032	84	90
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	15,134	16,009	14,439	12,755	80	88
60-119 pounds	9,046	9,898	9,453	8,764	89	93
120-179 pounds	9,286	9,358	8,638	7,815	84	90
180 pounds and over	5,727	6,522	6,245	5,698	87	91
Inventory number June 1						
All hogs and pigs	49,520	49,060	46,200	41,190	84	89
Kept for breeding	7,677	6,961	6,355	5,689	82	90
Market	41,843	42,099	39,845	35,501	84	89
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	19,099	18,732	17,843	14,941	80	84
60-119 pounds	10,072	10,219	9,491	8,779	86	92
120-179 pounds	7,253	7,508	7,034	6,575	88	93
180 pounds and over	5,419	5,640	5,477	5,206	92	95
Inventory number September 1						
All hogs and pigs	50,930	49,205	47,170			
Kept for breeding	7,310	6,546	6,357			
Market	43,620	42,659	40,813			
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	18,270	16,579	16,473			
60-119 pounds	11,050	11,086	10,268			
120-179 pounds	8,515	8,795	8,183			
180 pounds and over	5,785	6,199	5,889			
Inventory number December 1						
All hogs and pigs	50,920	49,090	45,970			
Kept for breeding	7,114	6,840	6,021			
Market	43,806	42,250	39,949			
Market hogs and pigs by weight groups:						
Under 60 pounds	17,195	16,763	15,379			
60-119 pounds	11,769	10,661	10,124			
120-179 pounds	8,714	8,545	8,234			
180 pounds and over	6,128	6,281	6,212			
Sows farrowing:						
December[2]-February	2,364	2,428	2,192	1,977	81	90
March-May	3,088	2,988	2,750	2,391	80	87
December[2]-May	5,452	5,416	4,942	4,368	81	88
June-August	2,787	2,506	2,461	[3]2,237	89	91
September-November	2,673	2,605	2,418	[3]2,200	84	91
June-November	5,460	5,111	4,879	[3]4,437	87	91
Pig crop:						
December[2]-February	16,236	17,418	15,863	14,059	81	89
March-May	22,108	21,889	20,741	17,943	82	87
December[2]-May	38,344	39,307	36,604	32,002	81	87
June-August	19,886	18,001	18,134			
September-November	19,090	18,922	17,853			
June-November	38,976	36,923	35,987			
	Number					
Pigs per litter:						
December[2]-February	6.87	7.17	7.24	7.11	99	98
March-May	7.16	7.33	7.54	7.50	102	99
December[2]-February	7.03	7.26	7.41	7.33	101	99
June-August	7.14	7.18	7.37			
September-November	7.14	7.26	7.38			
June-November	7.14	7.22	7.38			

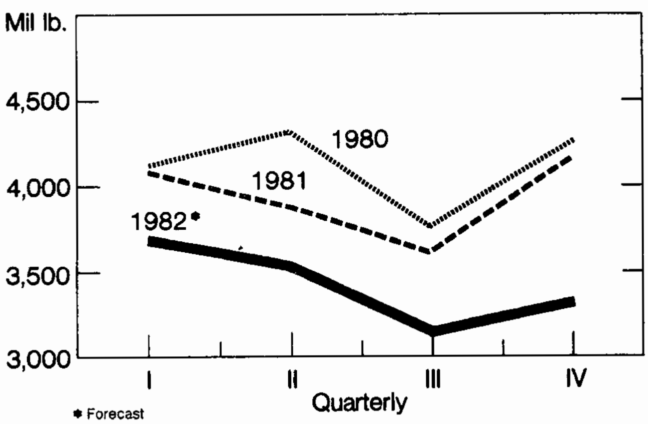
[1]Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio. [2]December preceding year. [3]Intentions.

Hogs on farms June 1, farrowings and pig crops, United States

Item	1980	1981	1982	1982/81
		1,000 head		*% change*
Inventory	65,255	59,740	51,990	−13
Breeding	9,481	8,358	7,389	−12
Market	55,774	51,382	44,601	−13
60 lb	25,002	23,069	18,941	−18
60-119 lb	13,550	12,204	10,954	−10
120-179 lb	9,781	9,041	8,200	−9
180 + lb	7,441	7,068	6,506	−8
Sows farrowing				
December-May	7,229	6,440	5,578	−13
June-November	6,829	[1]6,258	[1]5,637	−10
Pig crop				
December-May	52,286	47,600	40,956	−14
June-November	49,256	[1]46,176	[1]40,900	−11
Pigs per litter				
December-May	7.23	7.39	7.34	−1
June-November	7.21	7.38	[2]7.26	−2

[1]Intentions. [2]Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend.

Pork Production



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changing economic and weather conditions. Producers are surveyed for their farrowing intentions for 1 and 2 quarters in advance. For intentions indicated a second time these differences have exceeded 4 percent for about one-third of the quarterly sow farrowings during the last 8 years. For first intentions these differences have exceeded 7 percent for about one-third of the past 8 years. Even so, it appears that pork production will decline through the first half of 1983.

Retail Prices Higher; Rise to Continue

During the first 5 months of 1982, retail pork prices averaged 10 percent higher than a year ago. Farm-to-retail price spreads declined from 85.6 cents per pound in January to 77.6 cents in May as the net farm value rose from 72.6 cents to 92.0 cents. So, the gain is attributable to rising live-animal prices.

Although live-animal prices are not expected to rise on a sustainable basis above current levels, retail prices are expected to climb in the second half of the year and average about $1.75 per pound, 11 percent above a year ago.

In second half of the year, price spreads are expected to widen as live-animal prices remain steady and decline

Hog-corn price ratio, Omaha basis

Month	1979	1980	1981	1982
January	24.0	16.5	13.0	18.4
February	25.5	16.1	13.3	20.1
March	22.6	15.2	12.4	19.8
April	19.9	12.3	12.3	19.8
May	18.1	12.0	12.9	21.8
June	16.4	13.8	15.2	
July	14.2	15.3	15.9	
August	15.4	16.1	18.1	
September	16.2	15.6	19.8	
October	14.6	15.2	18.7	
November	15.3	13.8	17.5	
December	16.0	13.5	16.8	
Average	18.2	14.6	15.5	

Hog prices, costs, and net margins[1]

Year	Barrows & gilts, 7 markets	Feed and feeder	Break-even	Net margins
		$ per cwt		
1981				
January	41.42	39.74	49.76	−8.34
February	42.43	42.07	52.31	−9.88
March	39.54	42.90	53.15	−13.61
April	39.79	43.57	53.90	−14.11
May	42.05	40.11	50.40	−8.35
June	49.04	42.30	53.45	−4.41
July	50.66	41.60	52.75	−2.09
August	50.92	43.78	55.05	−4.13
September	49.68	42.15	53.17	−3.49
October	45.62	42.61	53.73	−8.11
November	42.20	40.27	51.22	−9.02
December	40.06	41.44	52.66	−12.60
1982				
January	45.63	39.95	51.25	−5.62
February	49.49	36.64	47.70	+1.79
March	49.38	35.21	46.16	+3.22
April	52.08	34.30	45.10	+6.98
May	58.14	35.98	46.93	+11.21
June		39.27	50.60	
July		44.81	56.69	
August		47.07	59.15	
September		48.29	60.47	

[1]Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 40- to 50-lb feeder pig to 220-lb slaughter hog in Corn Belt.

seasonally in the fourth quarter. The expected increase will reflect higher marketing costs and lower slaughter volume. The farm-to-retail spread for the year may average about the same as last year. So, there will be cost pressure to widen the spread in 1983.

Cash Receipts Record High

Cash receipts from the sale of hogs and pigs in 1981 were a record high $9.8 billion, up 10 percent from 1980, and 9 percent higher than the previous record in 1979. Sharply higher hog prices this year may bring about a new record despite the expected large decline in marketings. Cash receipts could be 6 to 8 percent higher this year than in 1981. Cash receipts in the first half of the year are estimated about 15 percent higher than a year earlier because sharply higher hog prices more than offset the decline in marketings. In the second half of the year, a similiar situation will occur. However, cash receipts are expected to be only 3 to 5 percent higher than a year earlier.

Hog Feeding Margins Positive For Past 5 Months

The substantial rise in hog prices during the first half of the year combined with lower costs, resulted in positive finishing margins in the last 5 months for Corn Belt feeder pig finishers. The only other previous period of positive feeding margins, since mid-1979 was during July-November 1980. The feeding margin rose from $1.79 in February 1982 to $12.11 in May, then declined slightly in June. Hog prices averaged 24 percent higher in the first half of 1982 than a year ago. The breakeven point declined 9 percent largely due to lower feed costs.

Feeding margins are expected to remain positive through July, then may go negative in August and September as the high-priced feeder pigs of April and May are marketed. The average price for a southern Missouri 40-50 pound feeder pig rose from $31.70 per head in January to $57.84 in May. In June, the average price declined to about $50. Feeder pig prices may average in the high forties through fall.

CATTLE

Despite larger cattle slaughter than a year ago during first-half 1982, reduced slaughter weights held beef production below year-earlier levels. Reduced beef production combined with sharply reduced supplies of competing meats, caused fed cattle prices to average over $70 this spring. Larger beef supplies in the second half of the year will likely result in moderately lower prices.

Slaughter Weights Drop

Commercial cattle slaughter during first-half 1982 was 1 percent above a year earlier. However, beef production was about 2 percent lower because slaughter weights averaged nearly 20 pounds below the heavy weights of a year ago. The average dressed weight of federally inspected carcasses declined from about 640 pounds in early January to about 620 pounds in June. Slaughter weights at last year's heavy averages would have added more than 300 million pounds to production in the first half of this year, resulting in a 1-percent increase in production rather than a 2-percent decline. A change of this sort would have caused higher feeding costs and undoubtedly lower cattle prices.

Second quarter Choice steer prices at Omaha averaged $70.50 per cwt due to current feedlot inventories coupled with reduced meat production. This average was well above the $63.36 and $66.68 recorded during the first quarter of this year and the spring of 1981, respectively. In mid-May and again in early June, Choice fed steer prices averaged slightly above $73, the highest weekly average for the year. Prices declined to the upper $60's during June as prospects for larger beef supplies throughout the second half of the year were confirmed and concern over the economic recovery continued.

Prices for Choice 600 to 700 pound yearling feeder steers rose along with fed cattle prices during the first half, but the rise was smaller. Yearling feeder steers at Kansas City averaged slightly over $63 per cwt in the first quarter, about the same as Choice fed steers. However, in the second quarter, fed steers averaged over $70, and yearlings brought slightly less than $67. The price differential was even more dramatic in the High Plains commercial cattle feeding area, where Choice fed steers averaged near $75 in late May and early June, and yearling feeder steers averaged below $65. Large losses since mid-1979, and above 18-percent interest rates in the specialized commercial feeding areas caused cattle feeders to bid cautiously for replacement feedlot cattle despite profits this spring.

Steer prices, costs, and net margins[1]

Year and month	Steers, Omaha	Feed & feeder	Break-even	Net margin
	$ per cwt			
1981				
January	63.08	61.01	70.51	−7.43
February	61.50	64.07	73.87	−12.37
March	61.40	65.42	75.31	−13.91
April	64.92	64.32	74.21	−9.29
May	66.86	63.79	73.62	−6.76
June	68.26	64.16	74.00	−5.74
July	67.86	63.74	74.25	−6.39
August	66.37	62.60	73.32	−6.95
September	65.37	61.63	72.28	−6.91
October	61.45	62.10	72.63	−11.18
November	59.81	59.91	70.10	−10.29
December	59.24	59.15	69.32	−10.08
1982				
January	60.75	58.10	68.48	−7.73
February	63.54	58.10	68.53	−4.99
March	65.80	56.42	66.88	−1.08
April	69.11	54.60	65.09	+4.02
May	72.10	54.48	64.97	+7.13
June		52.50	62.72	
July		53.01	63.06	
August		54.61	64.84	
September		56.27	66.65	
October		57.00	67.46	
November		58.11	68.69	

[1]Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 600-lb steer to 1,050-lb slaughter

Utility cow prices at Omaha have also risen since the first of the year. Cow prices averaged $38 in the first quarter and over $42 this spring. Despite increased cattle prices, cow slaughter has remained above first-half 1981 levels. Slaughter rates have been above a year ago primarily in the Southeast, the Corn Belt-Lake States, and West Coast States. Poor financial conditions, high interest rates, and a need to generate internal capital to reduce debt load and fund current operating expenses, especially spring planting, may have forced increased culling this spring.

Placements Through May Rose 15 Percent

The first sustained feedlot profits since mid 1979 plus lower feed and moderating feeder cattle prices continue to encourage increased feedlot placements. Net placements (placements less other disappearance) in the 7 major cattle feeding States during the first quarter rose 23 percent above a year ago. April placements remained large, although below the record levels of a year ago. May placements increased 20 percent over a year earlier.

Feedlot marketings remained above a year earlier in April and May, keeping feedlot inventories current. Although the larger first-half placements portend increased marketings in the second half, the sharpest increases in placements have occurred in the commercial feeding areas where slaughter weights are likely to be held down. Placements in Iowa, the only State surveyed monthly that has a large farmer-feeding industry that

Great Plains custom cattle feeding

Purchased during / Marketed during	Selected costs at current rates[1]											
	June Dec.	July Jan.82	Aug. Feb.	Sept. Mar.	Oct. Apr.	Nov. May	Dec. June	Jan. 82 July	Feb. Aug.	Mar. Sept.	Apr. Oct.	May Nov.
	Dollars per head											
Expenses:												
600 lb feeder steer	379.20	369.72	384.96	390.66	375.00	385.02	363.00	364.68	382.68	388.44	384.42	387.00
Transportation to feedlot (300 miles)	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96
Commission	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Feed:												
Milo (1,500 lb)	82.95	82.20	70.95	64.05	67.35	67.95	67.80	68.70	68.55	67.65	69.75	76.05
Corn (1,500 lb)	94.80	94.80	82.50	76.95	76.95	75.45	73.50	77.70	77.55	77.70	80.25	87.00
Cottonseed meal (400 lb)	56.00	56.00	54.00	54.00	50.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	50.00	52.00	48.00	48.00
Alfalfa hay (800 lb)	51.00	46.40	46.00	46.00	48.00	46.40	47.20	47.20	48.00	46.80	46.40	44.80
Total feed cost	284.75	279.40	253.45	241.00	242.30	237.80	236.50	241.60	244.10	244.15	244.40	255.85
Feed handling & management charge	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Vet medicine	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Interest on feeder & 1/2 feed	54.77	56.67	57.68	57.51	49.62	45.98	42.71	43.09	46.69	48.14	46.86	47.63
Death loss (1.5 percent of purchase)	5.69	5.54	5.77	5.86	5.62	5.78	5.46	5.47	5.74	5.83	5.77	5.81
Marketing[2]	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.	f.o.b.
Total	755.37	742.29	732.82	725.99	703.50	705.54	678.63	685.80	710.17	717.52	712.41	727.25
	Dollars per cwt											
Selling price required to cover[3]												
Feed and feeder cost (1,056 lb)	62.87	61.47	60.46	59.82	58.46	58.98	56.77	57.41	59.35	59.90	59.55	60.88
All costs	71.53	70.29	69.40	68.75	66.62	66.68	64.26	64.94	67.25	67.95	67.46	68.87
Selling price $/cwt[4]	61.14	62.34	64.81	67.00	71.64	74.43						
Net margin/cwt	−10.39	−7.95	−4.59	−1.75	+5.02	+7.75						
Cost per 100 lb gain:												
Variable costs less interest	62.89	61.79	56.64	54.17	54.38	53.52	53.19	54.21	54.77	54.80	54.83	57.13
Feed costs	56.95	55.88	50.69	48.00	48.46	47.56	47.30	48.32	48.82	48.83	48.88	51.17
Unit Prices:												
Choice feeder steer 600-700 lb Amarillo $/cwt	63.20	61.62	64.16	65.11	62.50	64.17	60.50	60.78	63.78	64.74	64.07	64.50
Transportation rate $/cwt/100 miles[5]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Commission fee $/cwt	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50
Milo $/cwt[6]	5.53	5.48	4.73	4.27	4.49	4.53	4.52	4.58	4.57	4.51	4.65	5.07
Corn $/cwt[6]	6.32	6.32	5.50	5.13	5.13	5.03	4.90	5.18	5.17	5.18	5.35	5.80
Cottonseed meal $/cwt[7]	14.00	14.00	13.50	13.50	12.50	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.50	13.00	12.00	12.00
Alfalfa hay $/ton[8]	127.50	116.00	115.00	115.00	120.00	116.00	118.00	118.00	120.00	117.00	116.00	112.00
Feed handling & management charge $/ton	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Interest, annual rate	21.00	21.75	22.50	22.50	20.00	18.25	17.75	17.75	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50

[1]Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual feedlots. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level, and locality of operation. Steers are assumed to gain 500 lbs in 180 days at 2.8 lbs per day with feed conversion of 8.4 lbs per pound gain. [2]Most cattle sold f.o.b. at the feedlot with 4 percent shrink. [3]Sale weight 1,056 lbs (1,100 lbs less 4 percent shrink). [4]Choice slaughter steers, 900-1100 lbs, Texas-New Mexico direct. [5]Converted from cents per mile for a 44,000-lb haul. [6]Texas Panhandle elevator price plus $.15/cwt handling and transportation to feedlots. [7]Average prices paid by farmers in Texas. [8]Average price received by farmers in Texas plus $30/ton handling and transportation to feedlots.

7 States cattle on feed, placements, and marketings

Year	On feed	Change previous year	Net placements	Change previous year	Marketings	Change previous year
	1,000 head	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*
1981						
Jan.	7,863	−7.0	1,167	−0.7	1,525	−8.8
Feb.	7,505	−5.7	1,061	+0.5	1,440	−8.9
Mar.	7,126	−4.3	1,264	+6.0	1,538	+3.9
Apr.	6,837	−4.5	1,579	+42.6	1,386	−3.4
May	7,030	+3.0	1,424	+1.1	1,400	+1.2
June	7,054	+2.9	1,241	−6.8	1,439	+3.4
July	6,846	+0.8	1,017	−28.6	1,412	+4.9
Aug.	6,451	−6.3	1,364	−12.4	1,526	+9.1
Sept.	6,289	−10.7	1,759	+5.8	1,432	−0.3
Oct.	6,596	−9.0	1,962	−7.3	1,445	−8.3
Nov.	7,113	−8.7	1,510	−1.0	1,295	−4.3
Dec.	7,328	−8.0	1,203	6.6	1,330	−4.2
1982						
Jan.	7,201	−8.4	1,376	+17.9	1,522	−0.2
Feb.	7,055	−6.0	1,227	+15.6	1,413	−1.9
Mar.	6,869	−3.6	1,697	+34.3	1,542	−0.7
Apr.	7,024	+2.7	1,456	−7.8	1,414	+2.0
May	7,066	+0.5	1,710	+20.1	1,413	+0.9
June	7,363	+4.4				

tends to feed to heavier weights, were up only 2 percent during April-May. Although the number of cattle on feed in the 7 States on June 1 was 4 percent over last year, the number on feed declined 7 percent in Iowa. Cattle on feed were down 8 percent in Arizona, the only other State showing a decline. If feedlots inventories remain current, as they tend to in profitable situations, the larger second half marketings should not be burdensome given the lower total meat supplies expected.

Second-Half Prices To Decline Modestly

Larger fed cattle marketings and seasonal increases in nonfed slaughter may cause second-half beef production to rise 6 to 8 percent over first half levels, but only 3 percent above second-half 1981. The larger supplies are likely to result in moderate price declines, with second-half Choice steer prices at Omaha averaging $66 to $70 per cwt. Despite the larger beef supplies, second-half prices will be supported by the July 1 tax cut and increased Social Security payments. However, further evidence of at least a moderate, sustainable, economic recovery and continued current feedlot marketings at light weights will be necessary to approach the upper end of this range. Fed cattle prices are expected to remain above breakeven levels. Consequently, feedlot operators are likely to keep their marketings current.

Available feeder cattle supplies are likely to tighten this summer due to the large number already placed on feed and excellent grazing conditions throughout most of the stocker cattle regions. Even though feeder cattle supplies are tightening, feedlot inventories have increased and feedlot operators are likely to continue to be cautious bidders, limiting price gains for feeder cattle. Feeder cattle supplies will increase seasonally in late summer and fall, and another large grain crop would encourage larger placements. Consequently, yearling feeder steer prices at Kansas City will likely average in the mid $60's for the rest of the year.

Retail Beef Prices Continue To Rise

In May, retail beef prices finally broke out of the narrow $2.35 to $2.43 per pound range they had been in since mid-1980 when total meat supplies rose to record levels. Beef prices averaged $2.37 per pound in the first quarter, but moved up to $2.40 in April and $2.46 in May. However, retail beef price advances through May still lagged the increases in fed cattle prices. These higher prices will continue to be passed on to consumers through summer. Modest declines in second-half fed cattle prices from spring quarter highs will likely help moderate retail beef price increases this fall.

Pork: Retail, wholesale, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share, 1977 to present[1]

Year	Retail price[2]	Wholesale value[3]	Gross farm value[4]	Byproduct allowance[5]	Net farm value[6]	Farm-retail spread: Total	Farm-retail spread: Wholesale retail	Farm-retail spread: Farm whole-sale	Farmers' share[7]
					Cents/lb.				Percent
1977	125.4	99.0	70.2	4.6	65.6	59.8	26.4	33.4	52
1978	143.6	107.7	82.5	5.9	76.6	67.0	35.9	31.1	53
1979	144.1	100.4	72.2	5.6	66.6	77.5	43.7	33.8	46
1980	139.4	98.0	68.3	5.1	63.2	76.2	41.4	34.8	45
1981	152.4	106.7	75.5	5.2	70.3	82.1	45.7	36.4	46
1978									
I	137.0	104.8	80.7	5.6	75.1	61.9	32.2	29.7	55
II	142.4	105.6	81.3	5.8	75.5	66.9	36.8	30.1	53
III	144.7	107.6	82.4	6.0	76.4	68.3	37.1	31.2	53
IV	150.1	112.7	85.3	6.1	79.2	70.9	37.4	33.5	53
1979									
I	156.1	113.8	88.2	6.9	81.3	74.8	42.3	32.5	52
II	148.2	100.1	73.1	5.7	67.4	80.8	48.1	32.7	45
III	138.0	93.4	65.6	5.1	60.5	77.5	44.6	32.9	44
IV	134.3	94.1	62.0	4.7	57.3	77.0	40.2	36.8	43
1980									
I	133.9	90.9	61.8	4.6	57.2	76.7	43.0	33.7	43
II	125.3	82.3	53.1	3.8	49.3	76.0	43.0	33.0	39
III	144.2	107.7	78.6	5.7	72.9	71.3	36.5	34.8	51
IV	154.3	111.2	79.1	5.8	73.3	81.0	43.1	37.9	48
1981									
I	148.7	103.4	70.0	4.8	65.2	83.5	45.3	38.2	44
II[8]	144.7	104.1	73.9	5.0	68.9	75.8	40.6	35.2	48
III	157.5	113.6	85.8	5.9	79.9	77.6	43.9	33.7	51
IV	158.7	105.6	72.4	5.0	67.4	91.3	53.1	38.2	42
1982									
I	160.1	108.7	82.0	5.6	76.4	83.7	51.4	32.4	48
1981[8]									
Jan.	151.5	104.1	70.6	5.0	65.6	85.9	47.4	38.5	43
Feb.	148.4	104.6	72.1	4.8	67.3	81.1	43.8	37.3	45
Mar.	146.2	101.6	67.2	4.6	62.6	83.6	44.6	39.0	43
Apr.	142.7	101.2	67.4	4.6	62.8	79.9	41.5	38.4	44
May	144.9	101.5	71.1	4.8	66.3	78.6	43.4	35.2	46
June	146.6	109.5	83.1	5.6	77.5	69.1	37.1	32.0	53
July	154.9	114.5	86.8	5.9	80.9	74.0	40.4	33.6	52
Aug.	158.1	113.6	86.3	5.9	80.4	77.7	44.5	33.2	51
Sept.	159.5	112.7	84.3	6.0	78.3	81.2	46.8	34.4	49
Oct.	160.4	107.9	77.3	5.5	71.8	88.6	52.5	36.1	45
Nov.	158.2	105.3	71.8	5.0	66.8	91.4	52.9	38.5	42
Dec.	157.4	103.5	68.0	4.5	63.5	93.9	53.9	40.0	40
1982									
Jan.	158.2	107.0	77.8	5.2	72.6	85.6	51.2	34.4	46
Feb.	160.7	108.8	84.2	5.9	78.3	82.4	51.9	30.5	49
Mar.	161.4	110.4	84.0	5.8	78.2	83.2	51.0	32.2	48
Apr.	163.0	114.0	88.8	6.1	82.7	80.3	49.0	31.3	51
May	169.6	122.1	98.8	6.8	92.0	77.6	47.5	30.1	54

[1]Revised series. [2]Estimated weighted-average price of retail cuts from pork carcass. [3]Value of wholesale quantity equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts. A wholesale-carcass equivalent of 1.06 is used for all years. [4]Market values to producer for quantity of live-animal equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts. The farm-product equivalent of 2.12 was used prior to 1959; it was decreased gradually to 1.70 in 1977 and later. [5]Portion of gross farm value attributable to edible and inedible byproducts. [6]Gross farm value minus byproduct allowance. [7]Percent net farm value is of retail price. [8]ERS data through May 1981, BLS series since June.

Beef, Choice Yield Grade 3: Retail, carcass, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share, 1977 to present[1]

Year	Retail price[2]	Gross carcass value[3]	Carcass by-product allow-ance[4]	Net carcass value[5]	Gross farm value[6]	Farm by-product allow-ance[7]	Net farm value[8]	Farm-retail spread: Total	Farm-retail spread: Carcass-retail	Farm-retail spread: Farm-carcass	Farmers' share[9]
	Cents/lb										Percent
1977	148.4	95.7	1.9	93.8	97.3	11.8	85.5	62.9	54.6	8.3	58
1978	181.9	121.6	2.3	119.3	126.1	15.0	111.1	70.8	62.6	8.2	61
1979	226.3	153.3	2.8	150.5	163.4	22.6	140.8	85.5	75.8	9.7	62
1980	237.6	157.7	2.3	155.4	161.9	16.9	145.0	92.6	82.2	10.4	61
1981	238.7	151.5	2.1	149.3	154.5	16.0	138.5	100.2	89.4	10.8	58
1978											
I	162.7	108.5	2.0	106.4	110.4	12.6	97.8	64.9	56.3	8.6	60
II	185.7	129.1	2.2	126.9	133.8	14.2	119.6	66.1	58.8	7.3	64
III	189.4	124.3	2.4	121.9	129.3	16.2	113.1	76.3	67.5	8.8	60
IV	189.7	124.5	2.4	122.1	131.0	17.2	113.8	75.9	67.6	8.3	60
1979											
I	215.4	148.8	2.7	146.1	158.4	21.1	137.3	78.1	69.3	8.8	64
II	235.5	160.8	3.1	157.7	175.3	27.0	148.3	87.2	77.8	9.4	63
III	226.6	149.3	2.7	146.6	158.7	22.3	136.4	90.1	79.9	10.2	59
IV	227.7	154.4	2.6	151.8	160.9	17.9	141.0	86.7	75.9	10.8	62
1980											
I	235.2	155.8	2.2	153.6	160.4	17.2	143.2	92.0	81.6	10.4	61
II	231.4	154.4	2.1	152.3	156.5	14.2	142.3	89.1	79.1	10.0	62
III	241.6	165.4	2.5	162.9	171.1	18.2	152.9	88.7	78.7	10.0	63
IV	242.3	155.1	2.3	152.8	159.5	18.1	141.4	100.9	89.5	11.4	58
1981											
I	237.5	147.5	2.0	145.4	150.1	16.0	134.1	103.4	92.1	11.3	56
II[10]	234.7	155.5	2.1	153.4	160.8	16.6	144.2	90.5	81.3	9.2	61
III	243.1	158.3	2.3	156.0	160.8	16.3	144.5	98.6	87.1	11.5	59
IV	239.5	144.5	2.1	142.4	146.4	15.2	131.1	108.4	97.1	11.3	55
1982											
I	237.3	151.9	2.0	149.9	153.5	14.7	138.8	98.5	87.4	11.1	59
1981[10]											
Jan.	239.5	152.6	2.1	150.5	154.5	16.5	138.0	101.5	89.0	12.5	58
Feb.	237.5	146.6	2.0	144.6	149.2	15.3	133.9	103.6	92.9	10.7	56
Mar.	235.6	143.2	2.0	141.2	146.7	16.1	130.6	105.0	94.4	10.6	55
Apr.	230.9	148.7	2.0	146.7	155.0	17.1	137.9	93.0	84.2	8.8	60
May	234.3	157.3	2.2	155.1	162.3	16.7	145.6	88.6	79.1	9.5	62
June	238.9	160.6	2.2	158.4	165.2	16.0	149.2	89.7	80.5	9.2	63
July	242.9	162.2	2.3	159.9	164.2	16.3	147.9	95.0	83.0	12.0	62
Aug.	242.7	156.5	2.4	154.1	159.1	16.2	142.9	99.8	88.6	11.2	59
Sept.	243.8	156.2	2.3	153.9	159.1	16.3	142.8	101.0	89.9	11.1	59
Oct.	241.5	146.3	2.1	144.2	149.2	15.7	133.4	108.1	97.3	10.8	55
Nov.	239.0	144.3	2.2	142.1	146.6	15.2	131.4	107.6	96.9	10.7	55
Dec.	238.0	143.0	2.0	141.0	143.3	14.7	128.6	109.4	97.0	12.4	54
1982											
Jan.	236.9	147.1	2.0	145.1	146.3	14.5	131.8	105.1	91.8	13.3	56
Feb.	238.0	152.0	2.0	150.0	154.3	14.5	139.8	98.2	88.0	10.2	59
Mar.	237.0	156.7	2.1	154.6	160.0	15.1	144.9	92.1	82.4	9.7	61
Apr.	240.4	164.6	2.4	162.2	167.5	15.7	151.8	88.6	78.2	10.4	63
May	246.5	172.6	2.7	169.9	176.0	16.3	159.7	86.8	76.6	10.2	65

[1]Revised series. [2]Estimated weighted-average price of retail cuts from Choice Yield Grade 3 carcass. [3]Value of carcass-quantity equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts. A wholesale-carcass equivalent of 1.464 was used prior to 1970; it was increased gradually to 1.476 in 1976 and later years. [4]Portion of gross carcass value attributed to fat and bone trim. [5]Gross carcass value minus carcass byproduct allowance. [6]Market value to producer for quantity of live-animal equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts. The farm-product equivalent of 2.36 was used prior to 1970; it was increased gradually to 2.40 in 1976 and later years. [7]Portion of gross farm value attributed to edible and inedible byproducts. [8]Gross farm value minus farm byproduct allowance. [9]Percent net farm value is of retail price. [10]ERS data through May 1981, BLS series since June.

Average retail price of meat per pound, United States, by months, 1979 to date[1]

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
						Beef, Choice grade[2]							
1979	204.9	215.3	225.9	232.8	240.2	233.6	232.2	220.9	226.6	224.3	226.2	232.6	226.3
1980	234.5	234.8	236.2	233.3	230.4	230.6	237.8	242.2	244.9	241.6	242.3	242.9	237.6
1981[3]	239.5	237.5	235.6	230.9	234.3	238.9	242.9	242.7	243.8	241.5	239.0	238.0	238.7
1982	236.9	238.0	237.0	240.4	246.5								
						Veal, retail cuts							
1979	247.0	254.8	252.2	273.1	289.1	294.4	294.1	293.2	294.2	296.6	298.5	299.8	282.3
1980	301.6	303.8	305.9	310.2	310.0	311.4	309.8	311.4	309.8	309.1	314.1	316.4	309.5
1981[4]	314.6	314.7	314.1	316.4	314.9								
						Pork[2]							
1980	135.3	133.2	133.3	127.8	123.6	124.4	136.2	145.7	150.7	153.8	156.3	153.8	139.5
1981[3]	151.5	148.4	146.2	142.7	144.9	146.6	154.9	158.1	159.5	160.4	158.2	157.4	152.4
1982	158.2	160.7	161.4	163.0	169.6								
						Lamb, Choice grade							
1980	249.0	249.1	252.9	252.8	247.2	250.1	253.9	254.4	255.0	256.2	256.2	255.8	252.7
1981[4]	253.1	252.3	251.8	250.5	255.0								

[1]Estimated weighted-average price of retail cuts. Compiled by ERS. [2]Series revised. See special article in LMS-222, August 1978. [3]ERS data through May, BLS series since June. [4]Discontinued.

Selected Marketings, slaughter and stock statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1981				1982				
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
					1,000 head				
FEDERALLY INSPECTED:[1]									
Slaughter									
Cattle	2,846	2,939	2,668	2,829	2,771	2,591	2,819		
Steers	1,343	1,392	1,274	1,406	1,399	1,332	1,446		
Heifers	880	888	775	763	761	683	758		
Cows	553	596	563	604	561	525	553		
Bulls and stags	71	64	55	55	50	51	63		
Calves	228	236	217	254	228	210	263		
Sheep and lambs	546	558	476	522	509	490	570		
Hogs	7,320	7,872	7,309	7,923	6,875	6,340	7,691		
					Percent				
Percentage sows	5.6	4.9	5.0	5.6	5.6	5.5	4.8		
					lbs				
Average live weight per head:									
Cattle	1,064	1,076	1,083	1,087	1,086	1,079	1,080		
Calves	206	212	205	208	210	208	203		
Sheep and lambs	107	109	111	112	111	113	115		
Hogs	240	243	246	247	243	239	239		
Average dressed weight:									
Beef	633	638	640	640	640	634	636		
Veal	125	129	125	128	127	129	124		
Lamb and Mutton	53	54	55	56	56	57	58		
Pork	170	172	174	175	173	170	170		
Production:									
Beef	1,795	1,870	1,703	1,803	1,766	1,636	1,786		
Veal	28	30	27	32	29	26	32		
Lamb and mutton	29	30	26	29	28	28	33		
Pork	1,241	1,347	1,271	1,385	1,186	1,074	1,301		
					1,000 head				
COMMERCIAL:[1,2]									
Slaughter:									
Cattle	3,024	3,126	2,855	3,012	2,936	2,744	2,989		
Calves	261	271	247	284	251	231	288		
Sheep and Lambs	570	574	490	535	520	499	582		
Hogs	7,612	8,143	7,600	8,282	7,163	6,595	7,966		
Production:									
Beef	1,892	1,971	1,803	1,902	1,854	1,718	1,878		
Veal	38	40	35	40	35	32	39		
Lamb and mutton	30	31	27	30	29	28	33		
Pork	1,287	1,391	1,319	1,445	1,234	1,116	1,346		
					Millions				
COLD STORAGE STOCKS[1] FIRST OF MONTH:[3]									
Beef	246	235	245	234	258	249	223		
Veal	7	6	7	7	10	10	8		
Lamb and mutton	14	13	13	11	11	10	8		
Pork	225	207	238	255	264	247	246		
Total meat and meat products[4]	539	509	547	552	583	554	524		
FOREIGN TRADE:									
Imports (carcass weight):									
Beef and veal	192	164	108	104	125	98	147	175	156
Pork	35	47	44	42	37	35	54	42	54
Lamb and mutton	6	2	(5)	(5)	(5)	1	2	2	
Exports (carcass weight):									
Beef and veal	18.9	22.8	20.3	18.2	15.0	19.1	22.2	20.6	25.2
Pork	16.6	20.3	29.3	27.6	27.6	15.6	14.5	21.0	35.7
Lamb and mutton	2.2	4.0	3.8	2.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1
					Number				
Live animal imports:									
Cattle	29,157	45,474	45,617	47,603	37,534	40,996	79,847	124,910	135,418
Hog	8,176	10,171	8,792	9,076	12,599	26,517	36,372	18,413	14,088
Sheep and lambs	536	4,361	18	436	14	14	4	14	100
Live animal exports:									
Cattle	5,261	5,729	10,508	7,148	6,982	7,125	3,085	3,268	5,634
Hogs	2,244	2,381	3,675	3,206	2,539	2,277	2,402	2,860	4,266
Sheep and lambs	8,660	26,375	26,089	33,738	24,204	23,600	18,215	32,418	21,266

[1]Due to reduction in SRS reports, monthly data will no longer be available. [2]Federally inspected and other commercial. [3]Beginning Jan. 1977, excludes beef and pork stocks in cooler. [4]Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the meats listed. [5]Less than 50,000 lbs.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1981 May	1981 June	1981 July	1981 Aug.	1981 Sept.	1981 Oct.	1981 Nov.	1981 Dec.	1982 Jan.	1982 Feb.	1982 Mar.	1982 Apr.	1982 May
	Dollars per 100 pounds												
SLAUGHTER STEERS:													
Omaha:													
Choice, 900-1100 lb	66.86	68.26	67.86	66.37	65.37	61.45	59.81	59.24	60.75	63.54	65.80	69.11	72.10
Good, 900-1100 lb	61.76	62.43	62.95	61.60	60.93	58.36	57.21	55.53	55.89	58.02	60.48	64.59	67.02
California, Choice 900-1100 lb	68.38	69.12	67.40	67.09	68.40	65.88	65.19	63.95	63.06	64.31	66.90	69.75	73.56
Colorado, Choice 900-1100 lb	67.94	69.88	68.02	66.28	66.44	62.60	62.26	60.34	60.94	64.14	66.51	70.40	73.91
Texas, Choice 900-1100 lb	69.04	70.60	68.53	66.96	67.47	63.97	63.09	61.14	62.34	64.81	67.00	71.64	74.43
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:													
Omaha:													
Choice, 900-1100 lb	65.72	66.32	65.82	63.57	62.74	58.44	58.20	57.83	59.17	61.98	64.24	67.50	71.21
Good, 700-900 lb	63.31	63.68	63.03	59.66	58.88	56.58	55.16	54.66	54.78	56.82	58.20	62.33	65.18
COWS:													
Omaha:													
Commercial	41.86	42.38	43.17	44.15	42.46	40.65	37.75	37.05	37.26	38.61	40.43	41.48	43.11
Utility	42.39	42.88	43.78	44.31	42.47	40.61	37.70	36.65	36.64	38.11	39.41	41.26	43.40
Cutter	42.40	42.80	43.48	42.44	40.47	38.29	35.28	34.03	34.41	36.11	36.97	39.85	40.72
Canner	40.31	41.01	41.36	40.80	38.58	35.76	32.32	30.82	31.24	32.60	32.52	35.40	36.65
VEALERS:													
Choice, So. St. Paul	84.25	82.88	76.00	77.25	77.30	71.75	68.88	67.50	69.00	67.50	71.50	78.00	82.88
FEEDER STEERS:[1]													
Kansas City:													
Medium No. 1, 400-500 lb	72.50	72.02	69.04	70.95	71.52	66.56	67.05	63.16	63.18	64.52	68.32	70.09	73.58
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb	65.79	65.12	63.22	65.75	66.16	64.07	64.02	60.06	60.08	63.28	65.78	66.08	67.78
Medium No. 2, 600-700 lb													
All weights and grades	63.10	63.51	61.51	64.15	64.58	62.52	61.77	58.96	59.22	62.37	63.96	64.72	66.07
Amarillo:													
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb	61.70	63.20	61.62	64.16	65.11	62.50	64.17	60.50	60.78	63.78	64.74	64.07	64.50
Georgia auctions:													
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb	56.75	58.38	55.30	56.62	57.00	56.38	56.38	55.00	55.12	57.38	61.90	59.25	60.12
Medium No. 2, 400-500 lb	58.25	59.50	55.30	57.25	56.00	54.88	57.50	55.33	55.75	58.00	59.80	59.38	59.38
FEEDER HEIFERS:													
Kansas City:													
Medium No. 1, 400-500 lb	60.99	60.87	58.08	61.22	59.75	55.06	55.58	52.62	53.62	54.51	56.18	58.42	60.38
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb	59.58	59.00	57.88	59.60	59.68	56.05	56.28	52.64	54.32	55.92	57.85	58.76	60.15
SLAUGHTER HOGS:													
Barrows and gilts:													
Omaha:													
No. 1 & 2, 200-230 lb	43.28	50.06	51.77	51.60	49.62	45.80	42.87	41.24	46.86	50.34	49.86	52.50	58.50
All weights	41.76	48.35	50.12	50.50	49.68	45.61	41.75	39.75	45.38	49.20	49.09	51.61	57.84
Sioux City	41.96	48.78	51.01	51.14	49.89	46.15	42.10	40.17	45.77	49.70	49.50	52.16	58.35
7 marktets[2]	42.05	49.04	50.66	50.92	49.68	45.62	42.20	40.06	45.63	49.49	49.38	52.08	58.14
Sows:													
7 markets[2]	37.42	43.12	43.74	44.78	46.47	43.24	38.63	33.77	39.70	44.84	46.28	50.71	52.91

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat—Cont.

Item	1981 May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1982 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
	Dollars per 100 pounds												
FEEDER PIGS:													
No. 1 & 2, So. Mo., 40-50 lb (per hd.)	36.10	37.88	32.88	38.55	40.23	34.20	31.88	29.11	31.70	39.96	52.04	55.94	57.84
SLAUGHTER LAMBS:													
Lambs, Choice, San Angelo	65.38	67.76	64.38	61.62	52.30	54.25	48.50	—	51.50	53.50	60.70	66.54	67.12
Lambs, Choice, So. St. Paul	64.20	65.20	58.47	53.15	49.40	50.52	45.37	45.36	48.05	52.68	60.52	60.85	65.30
Ewes, Good, San Angelo	21.81	23.12	26.75	21.12	21.00	24.50	24.94	25.25	28.50	26.50	31.80	26.12	21.44
Ewes, Good, So. St. Paul	11.85	11.65	16.16	16.00	14.26	11.90	11.65	13.06	14.70	15.00	15.00	15.10	12.60
FEEDER LAMBS:													
Choice, San Angelo	60.69	69.92	56.62	54.56	51.40	51.62	49.33	50.94	50.44	53.25	57.65	64.88	63.50
Choice, So. St. Paul	54.52	61.50	55.00	51.28	47.30	48.20	43.92	44.50	44.88	48.08	55.34	57.50	57.50
FARM PRICES:													
Beef cattle	60.50	61.40	60.50	59.70	58.80	55.70	54.50	52.00	53.60	56.10	58.60	60.10	62.60
Calves	66.00	66.30	62.00	62.30	61.40	59.00	59.40	57.70	57.10	58.90	61.90	62.30	65.10
Hogs	40.90	47.40	49.30	49.20	48.60	45.00	41.50	39.00	43.40	48.40	48.60	50.70	56.20
Sheep	19.50	20.30	23.00	20.40	20.30	19.70	19.10	19.20	25.10	21.30	27.20	22.20	21.90
Lambs	63.10	65.00	59.50	56.20	50.40	50.60	47.40	47.50	50.40	53.30	60.30	61.50	63.10
MEAT PRICES:													
Wholesale:													
Central U.S. markets													
Steer beef, Choice, 600-700 lb	103.32	106.52	107.23	103.90	102.96	96.02	94.56	93.70	97.42	101.24	103.82	109.50	115.14
Heifer beef, Choice 500-600 lb	102.12	104.05	104.08	99.98	99.48	93.98	92.14	91.61	94.39	98.58	101.40	105.62	111.70
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter	83.75	84.58	85.17	88.93	84.82	78.98	76.04	73.99	74.80	78.44	83.46	80.98	82.18
Pork loins, 8-14 lb	94.16	102.31	105.70	104.88	104.56	98.77	90.92	86.56	105.74	102.17	95.45	105.81	115.68
Pork bellies, 12-14 lb	45.07	55.26	54.74	59.54	60.07	55.43	56.68	51.35	62.22	67.84	66.67	74.38	80.82
Hams, skinned, 14-17 lb	70.96	78.08	82.88	84.33	84.67	84.20	86.14	86.31	74.03	78.40	90.69	81.62	86.78
East Coast:													
Lamb, Choice and Prime, 35-45 lb	138.04	143.61	138.12	128.94	116.12	118.00	113.77	111.80	114.43	120.19	132.33	137.50	147.21
Lamb, Choice and Prime, 55-56 lb	137.50	142.75	137.30	127.75	115.90	116.08	109.00	106.42	109.41	116.75	129.60	134.50	144.12
West Coast:													
Steer beef, Choice, 600-700 lb	109.46	110.27	110.14	108.18	110.81	105.50	103.64	103.13	103.00	103.82	113.10	113.01	116.83
Retail:													
Beef, Choice	234.3	238.9	242.9	242.7	243.8	241.5	239.0	238.0	236.9	238.0	237.0	240.4	246.5
Pork	144.9	146.6	154.9	158.1	159.5	160.4	158.2	157.4	158.2	160.7	161.4	163.0	169.6
Price Indexes (BLS, 1967=100):													
Retail meats	252.3	254.2	259.6	262.0	263.4	262.5	259.6	258.7	257.8	260.2	261.2	263.6	269.7
Beef and veal	270.3	271.1	274.5	275.9	277.1	274.9	271.5	270.5	269.4	271.5	271.7	274.8	281.1
Pork	217.3	221.2	231.5	235.3	238.1	238.6	235.6	234.3	234.7	238.9	239.5	241.6	249.9
Other meats	253.9	255.9	258.4	261.4	260.7	261.6	260.5	260.6	258.1	258.1	262.4	262.8	264.0
Poultry	194.7	196.8	204.8	202.0	199.7	196.6	192.3	191.7	194.2	195.7	194.7	193.3	196.0
LIVESTOCK-FEED RATIOS, OMAHA[3]													
Beef steer-corn	20.6	21.4	21.5	23.8	26.0	25.2	25.0	25.0	24.6	25.9	26.5	26.5	27.2
Hog-corn	12.9	15.2	15.9	18.1	19.8	18.7	17.5	16.8	18.4	20.1	19.8	19.8	21.8

[1]Reflects new feeder cattle grades. [2]St. Louis, N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, So. St. Joseph, So. St. Paul, and Indianapolis. [3]Bushels of No. 2 yellow corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds live weight.

USE OF AN ADULT-EQUIVALENT SCALE IN MEAT DEMAND ANALYSIS

Barbara Claffey[1]

Aggregate demand coefficents based on per capita consumption data are often criticized for not reflecting demographic changes. Critics suggest that using per capita data that reflect changes in consumption by different age and sex groups would result in significantly different aggregate demand coefficients. A new data set, an adult-equivalent scale (AES), corrects for demographic changes so that comparisons with the per capita consumption data for meat can be observed.

The concept of an AES is fairly simple and straightforward. In essence, it is an index expressing the consumption of a commodity by a person of a given age and sex as a proportion of that consumed by a "base" person. An AES series was computed for all meat products for the U.S. civilian population from 1965-1980. Intake data for all meat products, recorded during the Nationwide Food Consumption Survey (NFCS) in spring 1977, were used. A male, age 35 to 49, was selected as the base. All other individuals' consumption levels are expressed as a fraction of the base (table 1). Since the population has experienced certain structural changes (specifically, the post-World War II baby boom has reached adulthood, and the population growth has slowed considerably), consumption per "adult-equivalent unit" would differ significantly from consumption per person . Improvements in lifestyles and medical knowledge have also lengthened lifespans. The initial implication of these changes is an "older" population. The median age of the population has increased, from 28.3 years in 1965 to 30 years in 1980. Assuming adults consume more meat than children, this suggests that demand for meat products should expand as the median age increases.

To observe differences between per capita and per adult consumption levels, the civilian population is converted to adult equivalents. The weights for each age-sex category are multiplied by the number of persons in each category. This yields the number of adult equivalents based on meat intake levels. These adult equivalents are converted from population data from 1965 to 1980 and the projected population data from 1986 to 1995. For example, a male aged 10 to 14 years consumes about 72 percent as much meat as an adult male aged 35 to 49.[2] Thus, the civilian population was approximately 220.7 million persons in 1980, but 156.7 million on an AES basis (table 2).[3]

Once the two population measures are known, consumption levels (disappearance) are determined by dividing total supplies (retail weight) of meat and poultry by the civilian and adult-equivalent population. This provides a per capita and per adult intake (table 3).

Per capita consumption indicates meat use, assuming a homogenous population. Per adult-equivalent consumption indicates the level of meat use, after correcting for demographic change—as in our example, where the entire population is male and 35-49 years old. In absolute terms, per adult consumption measures are considerably greater than per capita estimates, because the adult-equivalent population is less than the civilian population (see table 3).

Table 1—Index of meat consumption, by age and sex[1]

Sex, age		Avg. daily meat intake[2] (grams)	Index
Male, female	0-4	97.1	34.9
Male, female	5-9	142.4	51.2
Male	10-14	199.2	71.7
Female	10-14	164.0	59.0
Male	15-19	271.9	97.8
Female	15-19	169.8	61.1
Male	20-24	290.6	104.5
Female	20-24	174.6	62.8
Male	25-34	271.0	97.5
Female	25-34	173.0	62.2
Male	35-49	278.0	100.0
Female	35-49	173.0	62.2
Male	50-59	254.7	91.6
Female	50-59	174.0	62.6
Male	60-74	226.3	81.4
Female 60-74	158.9	57.2	
Male	75 and over	191.0	68.7
Female	75 and over	130.0	46.8

[1]Based on 1977 NFCS results. [2]Includes intake of red meat and poultry.

Table 2—U.S. civilian and derived adult equivalent population

Year	Population	AES population
	Numbers in thousands	
1965	191,605	131,125.5
1966	193,420	132,664.1
1967	195,264	134,216.1
1968	197,113	135,818.5
1969	199,145	137,608.6
1970	201,722	139,817.6
1971	204,258	141,972.3
1972	206,461	143,981.4
1973	208,102	145,549.7
1974	209,683	147,104.2
1975	211,373	148,677.4
1976	213,011	150,223.2
1977	214,746	151,717.4
1978	216,600	153,140.4
1979	218,497	154,717.3
1980	220,700	156,697.0

A ratio of the adult to civilian population is calculated in table 4. The ratio of the adult to civilian population does increase but hovers around .70, ranging from .685 in 1965 to .71 in 1980. The stability of this ratio suggests that the pattern of consumption whether measured by adult equivalents or civilian population are quite similar in this study.

Further support for the similarity between these measures is provided by comparing the percentage changes of both population series and consumption estimates (table 5). For example, from 1970 to 1971, the total civilian population increased 1.3 percent; measured as adult equivalents, the population increased 1.5 percent over the same time. Per capita consumption during this period

[1]Agricultural Economist, Crops Branch, National Economics Division, Economic Research Service.

[2] Of course, these weights would vary by commodity.

[3]Numbers unrevised for Census undercount.

Table 3—Per capita and per adult consumption of meat products

Year	Per capita consumption	Per adult consumption
	Pounds per year	
1965	174.4	254.8
1966	180.9	263.7
1967	189.0	275.0
1968	192.8	279.8
1969	194.2	281.0
1970	199.6	288.0
1971	204.9	294.8
1972	203.7	292.1
1973	190.7	272.6
1974	200.8	286.2
1975	192.5	273.7
1976	205.8	291.8
1977	206.5	292.3
1978	202.6	286.6
1979	205.0	289.5
1980	212.4	299.1

Table 4—Adult equivalents as percentage of civilian population

Year	Adult equivalents as percentage of civilian population
1965	68.5
1970	69.3
1975	70.3
1980	71.0
1986	70.9
1990	70.7
1995	70.8

Table 5—Percentage change in population and consumption

Year	Civilian population	AES population	Per-capita consumption	Adult consumption
	Percent change from previous year			
1966	.95	1.17	3.7	3.5
1967	.95	1.17	4.5	4.3
1968	.95	1.19	2.0	1.7
1969	1.03	1.32	0.7	0.4
1970	1.29	1.60	2.9	2.5
1971	1.26	1.54	2.6	2.4
1972	1.08	1.42	−0.6	−0.9
1973	.80	1.09	−6.8	−7.2
1974	.76	1.07	5.3	5.0
1975	.81	1.07	−4.3	−4.6
1976	.78	1.04	6.9	6.6
1977	.81	1.00	0.3	0.2
1978	.87	.94	−1.9	−2.0
1979	.88	1.03	1.2	1.0
1980[1]	1.01	1.01	3.6	3.3
1981-86[2]	1.53	1.02		
1987	.91	.83		
1988	.89	.81		
1989	.87	.80		
1990	.84	.80		
1991	.81	.80		
1992	.78	.79		
1993	.74	.76		
1994	.71	.75		
1995	.67	.73		

[1]Numbers unrevised for Census undercount. Revised numbers not available by age and sex breakdown. [2]Annual average for the six year period.

increased 2.6 percent, while per adult consumption rose 2.4 percent.

Translating consumption data to an adult-equivalent unit is warranted in terms of the analytical results gained in cases of rapid demographic change or in cross-sectional comparisons between regions or countries with differing demographic properties. The value of such a system may well be found in interregional studies of demand for meat or in regional studies in which migration is changing the population's composition.

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United States Department of Agriculture

Economic Research Service

LMS-245

May 1982

Livestock and Meat

OUTLOOK & SITUATION

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COMMERCIAL MEAT PRODUCTION AND PRICES
(All Percent Changes Shown Are From a Year Earlier)

Item	1981				1982			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
				Mil. lb.				
PRODUCTION								
Beef	5,559	5,438	5,541	5,676	5,450	5,350	5,650	5,775
% change	+6	+4	+3	+2	-2	-2	+2	+2
Pork	4,076	3,880	3,606	4,155	3,696	3,525	3,125	3,275
% change	-1	-10	-4	-2	-9	-9	-13	-21
Lamb & Mutton	84	77	79	88	90	80	85	92
% change	+5	0	+10	+9	+7	+4	+8	+5
Veal	100	94	105	115	106	95	100	110
% change	+10	+6	+11	+11	+7	+1	-5	-4
Total Red Meat	9,819	9,489	9,331	10,034	9,342	9,050	8,960	9,252
% change	+3	-2	0	0	-5	-5	-4	-8
Broilers[2]	2,849	3,096	3,081	2,880	2,880	3,050	3,100	2,920
% change	+3	+3	+10	+5	+1	-1	+1	+1
Turkeys[2]	398	553	785	773	405	540	720	725
% change	+5	+5	+10	+8	+2	-2	-8	-6
Total Red Meat & Poultry	13,066	13,138	13,197	13,687	12,627	12,640	12,780	12,897
% change	+3	-1	+3	+2	-3	-4	-3	-6
				$/cwt.				
PRICES								
Choice steers, Omaha, 900-1100 lb.	61.99	66.68	66.53	60.17	63.36	67-70	66-70	66-70
Barrows & Gilts, 7 mkts	41.13	43.63	50.42	42.63	48.17	53-55	53-57	53-57
Slaugh. Lambs, Ch., San Ang.	57.33	65.45	59.43	51.38	55.23	63-65	55-59	53-57
				cents/lb.				
Broilers 9-city avg.[3]	49.3	46.7	47.0	42.1	44.8	45-47	47-51	47-51
Turkeys, NY[4]	61.3	63.6	62.7	55.1	55.2	56-58	63-67	71-75

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected. [3] Wholesale weighted average. [4] Wholesale, 8-16 lb. young hens.

In This Issue

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The *Livestock and Meat Situation* will be published in February, May, July, August, October, and November.

Summary

Livestock Prices Rise as Meat Supplies Decline

Livestock producers are showing the first sustainable positive feeding margins since mid-1979. By late April, hog prices had increased over 25 percent since the beginning of the year, while prices for Choice fed steers rose over 15 percent. In spite of continued weakness in consumers' purchasing power, the primary reason for the higher live animal prices is the sharp reduction in meat output that has resulted from poor feeding margins.

Higher live animal prices since the first of the year have resulted in a rapid decline in the farm-to-retail price spread. The spread also narrowed because retail price changes are usually less volatile and tend to lag behind those for live animals. Since December, the spread for pork has declined from 94 cents a retail pound to 83 cents in March. Meanwhile, the spread for Choice beef declined from $1.09 a pound to 92 cents. During this period, retail pork prices rose 4 cents a pound, while those for beef declined 1 cent. Live animal prices have continued to rise in April. Consequently, higher prices and marketing charges will likely be passed on to consumers in coming months.

Total red meat and poultry production during the first quarter declined 3 percent from a year earlier. During the rest of the year, output will likely drop 4 to 5 percent from 1981. Pork production declined 9 percent this past winter, and beef output dropped 2 percent. Broiler production rose only 1 percent. This spring, pork output will decline about 9 percent from a year ago and may fall 15 to 20 percent in the second half of the year. Beef production may be down about 2 percent this spring, before rising about 2 percent in the second half of the year, as fed cattle marketings increase. Broiler output may fall 1 to 2 percent before rising slightly in the second half.

Hog prices at the 7 markets averaged $48 per cwt during the first quarter and are expected to average $53 to $55 this spring. Prices may average in the mid-$50's in the second half. Choice fed steer prices at Omaha averaged $63 per cwt this winter. For spring, prices are forecast to increase to between $67 and $70 and may remain near this range in the second half. Wholesale broiler prices averaged near 45 cents a pound during the winter and are projected to average 45 to 47 cents this spring and 47 to 51 cents in the second half.

Consumer spendable income is not expected to improve until after the July 1 tax cut. A further increase in spendable income should come from economic improvement later this year. Retail meat prices are expected to rise through midsummer. However, by late summer, beef and broiler prices will likely stabilize as supplies increase. For the year, prices for these two meats should average 3 to 4 percent above 1981. Retail pork prices will climb throughout the year as supplies continue to fall well below a year earlier. Pork prices may increase 10 to 12 percent from 1981's $1.52 a pound.

Livestock and Meat Situation

FACTORS AFFECTING THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

Economic Considerations

The recession is expected to bottom out in the second quarter, followed by a modest recovery in the second half. Continued high interest rates suggest that the real GNP growth rate will likely be 3 to 4 percent in the second half of the year, which is modest by historical recovery rates. For the year, real GNP is expected to decline about 1 percent from last year.

The unemployment rate averaged 8.8 percent in the first quarter and will likely stay around 9 percent through the rest of the year if interest rates remain high, dampening economic growth.

The inflation rate continues to moderate. In the first quarter, the GNP implicit price deflator rose at an annual rate of 3.6 percent, compared with 9.5 percent in the fourth quarter. The underlying rate of inflation during 1982 is expected to average about 6 percent.

The net result of a combination of modest economic growth, a July tax reduction, and a moderating inflation rate will be a slight increase in consumer purchasing power for this year. In the first half of the year, real per capita disposable personal income is expected to remain unchanged from a year ago. However, in the second half, per capita purchasing power may rise 1 to 2 percent over a year earlier. In addition, moderating energy prices could make more household income available for meat expenditures.

Because of only modest growth in consumers' purchasing power, the upward retail price pressure will come mostly from reductions in the supply side. Per capita meat and poultry supplies may be down 5 to 7 percent for this year. The moderating rate of inflation, along with some wage concessions in the meat-packing industry, will lessen the pressure for wider farm-to-retail spreads. Consequently, the farm share of retail prices for meat products may rise.

Feed and Forage Prospects

Crop and pasture prospects are much improved from a year ago because of better moisture conditions. Pasture and range feed conditions on April 1 were rated good to excellent, 14 percentage points more than the very poor conditions recorded a year ago. Conditions for the eastern two-thirds of the country were much better than the extended drought of 1980/81, particularly in the Southeast, where the drought lasted until late 1981.

Adequate moisture and warming temperatures should provide the basis for favorable growing conditions in most areas. However, cool weather has held growing conditions below last year in most areas. On the other hand, moisture levels, particularly in the Northern Plains and Southeast, are adequate compared with last spring and point to good grazing conditions as temperatures rise. The only area with dry conditions at the first of April extended from western Texas to southeastern Colorado. However, much of this area, along with the rest of the Plains States, received moisture in late April. Additional rainfall will be needed in May to reestablish good pasture and range growth in the Great Plains.

Winter wheat was in mostly good condition and continued greening in the northernmost growing areas during late April. In the South, the crop was jointing and heading out. The Kansas wheat crop was generally in good to excellent condition, but was some winter kill was evident in the Northeast and East Central regions. The crop in Oklahoma was in good condition, but showing signs of stress due to dryness. Nebraska's crop was in fair to mostly good condition. Winter wheat in Texas was also rated fair to good. Dryness stressed nonirrigated fields in the Panhandle, and some fields are being grazed out. Rains in late April helped to alleviate the drought, but additional moisture is needed.

Farmers that are signing up for this year's acreage reduction program and are planting wheat, barley, or oat acreage before January 29, 1982, are allowed to graze or harvest for forage acreage designated to meet conservation requirements.

These weather developments, plus the signup rate and level of participation in the feed grain acreage reduction program, will be important factors determining grain supplies and prices in 1982. As of April 16, the end of the signup period for the acreage reduction program, enrollment covered 74 percent of the corn and sorghum base, 71 percent of the barley and oat base, and 84 percent of the wheat base. However, farmers won't decide on compliance until about 6 weeks before harvest. Grain prices have risen moderately since early winter, but corn prices remained nearly 23 percent below a year ago in mid-April. Feed grain stocks remain large, and corn prices at the farm are expected to average $2.45 to $2.55 a bushel this year, compared with $3.11 last year. Grain sorghum prices this year will likely average nearly 20 percent below the drought-supported $2.94 a bushel in 1980/81. Soybean stocks are expected to remain above last year's level at the end of the season, despite larger exports. Soybean meal prices at Decatur may average $185 a ton this year, nearly 15 percent below last year.

Broiler Supplies Stabilize

The year-to-year rate of increase in broiler production is expected to slow markedly this year. The rise in 1982 is expected to be less than 1 percent—well below the 6-percent increase in 1981.

Broiler production was slightly above a year ago in the first quarter. However, low returns to producers have prompted reduced production. Spring-quarter output may decline 1 percent from a year ago. Improved returns are expected this spring, as broiler prices rise because of lower supplies, and production costs continue below last year. This will likely encourage a slight percent rise in production during the second half of the year.

The 9-city broiler price averaged 44.8 cents a pound in the first quarter, down about a nickel from last winter. Prices are expected to rise above a year earlier beginning this spring. A slowdown in the rate of increase in broiler production, much smaller supplies of pork, and a strengthening economy should support stronger broiler prices. Prices may average 45 to 47 cents this spring and 47 to 51 in the second half of the year.

CATTLE

Declining total meat supplies, feedlots that are keeping current with their marketings, positive feeding margins, and good moisture conditions are a vast improvement over last year. Slaughter weights are well below last year's averages, and nonfed slaughter is declining.

Winter Beef Production Declined

Commercial beef production this past winter declined 2 percent from a year ago, as a 18-pound drop in dressed carcass weights more than offset a 1-percent increase in slaughter. First-quarter dressed carcass weights averaged 629 pounds, well below the 647 recorded a year ago. Steer and heifer slaughter declined 1 percent as nonfed slaughter increased slightly and fed slaughter declined 2 percent. Federally inspected dressed carcass weights for steers averaged 698 pounds, compared with 720 a year ago. Heifer carcass weights declined about 18 pounds to 600. The lower weights reflect the very current feedlot marketings and the severe weather that prevailed through much of the winter quarter.

Cow slaughter increased by 160,000 head, 10 percent above a year ago, as the severe winter forced more cows on the market. Lower dressed carcass weights for cows—519 versus 526 pounds—reflected the poorer condition of cows slaughtered.

The lower slaughter weights and higher prices are in sharp contrast to the heavy overweight cattle that burdened prices in the winter of 1981. The spread between Choice yield-grade 3 and 4 carcasses averaged about $7 per cwt this past winter, compared with a $12 discount on yield-grade 4 carcasses a year ago. During the 1981 winter, the spread narrowed from $14 to about $10 as the most burdensome numbers were worked off. This year, the spread remained near $6 to $7 through April because marketings remained current.

Cattle Prices Strengthen

Choice fed steer prices at Omaha averaged $63.36 per cwt during the first quarter, compared with the $61.99 recorded a year ago. Prices increased sharply during the quarter, rising from less than $60 in early January to over $66 in March. Reduced numbers on feed, current marketing weights, and declining supplies of competing meats put cattle feeders in a strong position to seek higher bids. Fed cattle grading Choice were in tight supply in late winter and early spring, supporting prices in the low $70's.

Feeder cattle prices have followed the course of those for fed cattle since the first of the year, in spite of larger supplies, as overwintered stocker-feeder cattle were marketed. Yearling feeder steer prices at Kansas City have moved almost in unison with fed cattle prices. Feeder steers weighing 400 to 500 pounds have retained a premium of about $2 to $3 per cwt throughout the period. Yearling and feeder heifer prices have averaged $7 and $11 per cwt, respectively, below steers in the same weight groups—about the same discount as last year.

Feeder Cattle Supply Declines

The increased movement of stocker and feeder cattle this winter was in sharp contrast to a year earlier. In 1981, overweight cattle and depressed prices resulted in reduced feedlot placements. Although forage conditions

Beef supplies and prices

Year	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]										Prices		
	Steers and heifers												
	Fed	Non-fed	Total	Cows	Bulls and stags	Total	Average dressed weight	Commercial production[2]	Per capita consumption[3]	Retail	Choice feeders 600-700 lb. Kansas City	Choice steers Omaha 900-1100 lb.	Farm[4]
	1,000 head						*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents/lb.*		*$/cwt.*	
1979:													
I	6,981	202	7,183	1,564	149	8,896	624	5,547	27.8	215.4	80.93	65.42	65.17
II	6,387	140	6,527	1,370	147	8,044	631	5,076	25.7	235.5	86.83	72.51	70.70
III	6,212	532	6,744	1,340	164	8,248	633	5,222	25.7	226.6	82.38	65.88	64.83
IV	5,986	679	6,665	1,656	169	8,490	638	5,416	26.3	227.7	82.18	67.18	64.30
Year	25,566	1,553	27,119	5,930	629	33,678	631	21,261	105.5	226.3	83.08	67.75	66.00
1980:													
I	6,313	219	6,532	1,450	163	8,145	644	5,249	25.5	235.2	80.44	66.88	65.07
II	5,847	798	6,645	1,375	174	8,194	641	5,251	25.4	231.4	70.44	64.65	60.80
III	5,922	885	6,807	1,608	200	8,615	625	5,384	25.9	241.6	75.77	70.82	63.53
IV	5,922	843	6,765	1,901	187	8,853	631	5,586	26.5	242.3	74.26	65.51	60.40
Year	24,004	2,745	26,749	6,334	724	33,807	635	21,470	103.3	237.6	75.23	66.96	62.48
1981:													
I	6,196	641	6,837	1,577	172	8,586	647	5,559	26.2	237.5	70.59	61.99	58.53
II	5,796	974	6,770	1,526	200	8,496	640	5,438	25.6	234.7	66.62	66.68	60.03
III	6,166	835	7,001	1,660	218	8,879	624	5,541	26.4	243.1	65.04	66.53	59.20
IV	5,660	1,267	6,927	1,880	185	8,992	631	5,676	26.2	239.5	62.72	60.17	54.10
Year	23,818	3,717	27,535	6,643	775	34,953	636	22,214	104.4	238.7	66.24	63.84	57.96
1982:													
I[5]	6,110	648	6,758	1,737	174	8,670	629	5,450	25.4	237.3	63.05	63.36	56.10

[1] Classes estimated. [2] May not add due to rounding. [3] Total, including farm production. [4] Annual is weighted. [5] Preliminary, 13-State expansion.

Federally inspected cattle slaughter

Week ended	Cattle		Steers		Cows	
	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982
			Thousands			
Jan. 3[1]	513	531	256	273	100	106
9	665	691	321	347	149	143
16	707	694	367	353	134	128
23	628	682	321	337	121	142
30	637	653	320	329	126	142
Feb. 6	628	640	322	322	111	130
13	637	680	336	352	111	134
20	604	617	304	312	112	130
27	610	655	314	344	110	133
Mar. 6	616	614	334	320	104	119
13	594	636	334	324	109	123
20	628	593	337	298	112	120
27	618	619	334	321	109	120
Apr. 3	607	596	323	304	105	119
10	613	590	309	329	108	110
17	591		304		108	
24	566		280		108	
May 1	628		322		121	
8	588		303		110	
15	640		343		109	
22	653		347		117	
29	559		296		99	
June 5	636		348		108	
12	632		338		105	
19	639		333		114	
26	612		307		116	
July 3	565		291		101	
10	598		299		105	
17	604		294		118	
24	632		317		113	
Aug. 31	621		309		112	
7	636		311		112	
14	653		314		117	
21	652		313		120	
28	676		323		128	
Sept. 4	688		335		137	
11	589		284		103	
18	664		307		125	
25	655		204		132	
Oct. 2	636		300		129	
9	664		321		127	
16	660		320		126	
23	665		311		140	
30	676		315		144	
Nov. 6	655		303		140	
13	660		310		139	
20	689		331		151	
27	544		273		108	
Dec. 4	651		314		148	
11	670		318		160	
18	657		336		131	
25	486		254		89	

[1]Corresponding date: January 3, 1981.

a year ago were much less favorable than this past winter, very mild weather and adequate hay stocks allowed producers in 1981 to carry many of their cattle into spring in hopes of higher prices. Much of this year's stocker-feeder cattle movement during the first half probably has already occurred. Most of last year's first-half movement did not occur until after the drought extended into spring.

The number of cattle outside feedlots on April 1, 1982, declined 1 percent from a year ago. The calf supply was about unchanged, but the yearling supply was down 8 percent. The feeder calf supply remained about unchanged, because a slight drop in the January 1 calf inventory and a 12-percent increase in calf slaughter nearly offset a 30-percent decline in the number of calves on feed. The slightly smaller feeder cattle supply, prospects for a good grazing season, and positive feeding margins may provide some additional strength for feeder cattle prices. However, price rises are expected to be moderate because feeder cattle supplies are adequate, and most buyers will remain conservative as interest rates continue high and second-half economic conditions remain uncertain.

Historical 13-State Cattle on Feed Series Changed

Data for the 13 major cattle-feeding States back to 1970 are shown in the quarterly cattle on feed table. The quarterly Statistical Reporting Service survey of the 23 major cattle-feeding States has been reduced to a 13-State survey. These 13 States represented 85 percent of the cattle on feed in the United States on January 1, 1981 and 1982, and 89 percent of the cattle on feed in the 23 major feeding States.

Winter Placements Rise Sharply

The number of cattle on feed in the 13 major feeding States on April 1 increased 2 percent from a year ago but was still 2 percent below 1980. This marks the first year-to-year increase for this date since 1978. The number of heifers on feed increased 10 percent above April 1, 1981, more than offsetting a 2-percent decline in the number of steers on feed. Feedlots continue very current, as indicated by the 14-percent decline in steers weighing 1,100 pounds and over and the 5-percent drop in heifers weighing 900 pounds and over. Overweight steers were still burdensome on April 1 last year, although heifer marketings were relatively current. A larger proportion of the cattle placed on feed during January-March 1982 continued to be yearlings carried over the winter on accumulated pasture, corn stalks, or wheat pasture. The number of steers weighing under 500 pounds was 36 percent below a year ago and 51 percent below 1980. The number of heifers weighing less than 500 pounds fell 21 and 32 percent, respectively,

Choice steer prices per 100 pounds, Omaha[1]

Month	1979	1980	1981	1982
		Dollars		
January	60.35	66.32	63.08	60.75
February	64.88	67.44	61.50	63.54
March	71.04	66.88	61.40	65.80
April	75.00	63.07	64.92	
May	73.99	64.58	66.86	
June	68.53	66.29	68.26	
July	67.06	70.47	67.86	
August	62.74	72.31	66.37	
September	67.84	69.68	65.37	
October	65.81	67.18	61.45	
November	67.00	65.05	59.81	
December	68.72	64.29	59.24	
Average	67.75	66.96	63.84	

[1]900-1100 lb.

Utility cow prices per 100 pounds, Omaha

Month	1979	1980	1981	1982
		Dollars		
January	47.33	47.94	41.61	36.64
February	50.81	51.22	43.65	38.11
March	52.94	48.80	43.12	39.41
April	57.00	45.73	43.95	
May	55.51	42.78	42.39	
June	50.60	44.06	42.88	
July	47.80	43.33	43.78	
August	48.33	45.53	44.31	
September	49.65	46.56	42.47	
October	47.71	45.93	40.61	
November	46.49	43.91	37.70	
December	46.98	42.92	36.65	
Average	50.10	45.73	41.93	

Feeder Cattle prices per 100 pounds, Kansas City

	Choice feeder steers 600-700 lbs.			Choice feeder steer calves[1]		
Month	1980	1981	1982	1980	1981	1982
			Dollars			
Jan.	80.52	72.58	60.08	91.64	77.45	63.18
Feb.	83.18	70.40	63.28	98.08	77.30	64.52
Mar.	77.62	68.80	65.78	90.39	77.65	68.32
Apr.	69.87	68.94		83.99	77.45	
May.	69.18	65.79		81.00	72.50	
June	72.25	65.12		79.65	72.02	
July.	73.32	63.22		77.12	69.04	
Aug.	76.40	65.75		83.65	70.95	
Sept.	77.60	66.16		87.90	71.52	
Oct.	76.05	64.07		84.32	66.56	
Nov.	73.75	64.02		80.57	67.05	
Dec.	72.98	60.06		77.38	63.16	
Av.	75.23	66.24		84.64	71.89	

[1]400-500 lbs.

below the 1981 and 1980 levels for this date. In mid-May, more cattle from the larger midweight groups should begin to be marketed.

During the first quarter, fed cattle marketings from the smaller January inventory declined 2 percent from a year ago and 4 percent from 1980. This was the smallest number marketed during the quarter since 1975.

Cattle feeders indicated intentions to market 2 percent more cattle this spring than a year ago. Marketings should range from even with to 2 percent more than a year ago. Feeders will have to keep their marketings very current if the 2-percent rise is to be attained. Cattle feeding is expected to remain profitable, which usually encourages current marketings. However, as marketings rise, modest price declines are likely, possibly creating some resistance to lower price bids and a slowdown in marketings.

Placements increased sharply during the winter quarter. The best pasture and range conditions since the early 1970's were recorded in late fall. In addition, wheat grazing conditions were the best since 1977. Consequently, the favorable forage, plus lower stocker cattle prices, encouraged producers to overwinter a larger number of stocker-feeder cattle. Many of these cattle were marketed through the winter as accumulated forage supplies were depleted. In March, cattle were removed from much of the wheat acreage as more rapid growth began. The larger marketings, strengthening fed cattle prices, and the first sustainable profits for cattle feeders since mid-1979 resulted in the largest first-quarter placement rate since 1978. Feedlot placements increased 16 percent above a year ago—net placements rose 19 percent. The sharpest year-to-year increases, all 20 percent or above, were recorded in Colorado, Nebraska, Texas, and Wash-

APRIL 1 FEEDER CATTLE SUPPLY

Item	1980	1981	1982	1982/81
	1,000 head			*% change*
Calves less than 500 lb.				
On farms Jan. 1	27,590	28,904	28,862	-0.1
Slaughter Jan.-Mar.	660	687	769	+11.9
On feed April 1[1]	624	510	359	-29.6
TOTAL	26,306	27,707	27,734	+0.1
Steers & heifers 500 lb. +[2]				
On farms Jan. 1	23,149	22,804	22,696	-0.5
Slaughter Jan.-Mar.	6,532	6,837	6,758	-1.2
On feed April 1[1]	10,000	9,641	10,092	+4.7
TOTAL	6,617	6,326	5,846	-7.6
TOTAL SUPPLY	32,923	34,033	33,580	-1.3

[1]Estimated U.S. steers and heifers. [2]Not including heifers for cow replacement.

Cattle on feed, placements, and marketings, 13 States

Item	1980	1981	1982	1982/1981
	1,000 head			*% change*
On feed Jan. 1	10,399	9,845	9,028	-8.3
Placements, Jan.-Mar.	4,849	4,816	5,567	+15.6
Marketings, Jan.-Mar.	5,691	5,557	5,438	-2.1
Other disappearance, Jan.-Mar.	515	438	339	-22.6
On feed Apr. 1	9,042	8,666	8,818	+1.8
Steer & steer Calves	6,010	5,800	5,668	-2.3
-500 lb.	326	249	159	-36.1
500-699 lb.	1,238	1,159	1,100	-5.1
700-899 lb.	1,871	1,963	2,045	+4.2
900-1,099 lb.	1,947	1,812	1,831	+1.0
1,100 + lb.	628	617	533	-13.6
Heifers & Heifer Calves	3,001	2,826	3,111	+10.1
-500 lb.	210	180	143	-20.6
500-699 lb.	1,081	966	1,254	+29.8
700-899 lb.	1,083	1,149	1,208	+5.1
900 + lb.	627	531	506	-4.7
Cows	31	40	39	-2.5
Marketings, Apr.-June	5,128	5,113	[1]5,212	+1.9

[1]Intentions.

7 States Cattle on Feed, Placements, and Marketings

Year	On feed	Change previous year	Net placements	Change previous year	Marketings	Change previous year
	1,000 head	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*
Jan.	7,863	−7.0	1,167	−0.7	1,525	−8.8
Feb.	7,505	−5.7	1,061	+0.5	1,440	−8.9
Mar.	7,126	−4.3	1,264	+6.0	1,538	+3.9
Apr.	6,837	−4.5	1,579	+42.6	1,386	−3.4
May	7,030	+3.0	1,424	+1.1	1,400	+1.2
June	7,054	+2.9	1,241	−6.8	1,439	+3.4
July	6,846	+0.8	1,017	−28.6	1,412	+4.9
Aug.	6,451	−6.3	1,364	−12.4	1,526	+9.1
Sept.	6,289	−10.7	1,759	+5.8	1,432	−0.3
Oct.	6,596	−9.0	1,962	−7.3	1,445	−8.3
Nov.	7,113	−8.7	1,510	−1.0	1,295	−4.3
Dec.	7,328	−8.0	1,203	6.6	1,330	−4.2
1982						
Jan.	7,201	−8.4	1,376	+17.9	1,522	−0.2
Feb.	7,055	−6.0	1,227	+15.6	1,413	−1.9
Mar.	6,869	−3.6	1,697	+34.3	1,542	−0.7
Apr.	7,024	+2.7				

13 States cattle on feed, placements, marketing and other disappearance

Year & Quarter	Cattle on feed[1]	Change previous year	Placed on feed	Change previous year	Fed Cattle Marketed	Change previous year	Other disappear- ance	Change previous year
	1,000 head	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*
1970:								
I	10,648	---	4,540	---	5,384	---	---	---
II	9,804	---	4,830	---	5,389	---	---	---
III	9,245	---	5,397	---	5,492	---	---	---
IV	9,150	---	6,753	---	5,545	---	---	---
Year	---	---	21,520	---	21,810	---	---	---
1971:								
I	10,358	-2.7	5,128	13.0	5,481	1.8	---	---
II	10,005	2.1	5,013	3.8	5,462	1.4	---	--
III	9,556	3.4	5,612	4.0	5,808	5.8	---	---
IV	9,360	2.3	7,558	11.9	5,560	.3	---	---
Year	---	---	23,311	8.3	22,311	2.3	---	---
1972:								
I	11,358	9.7	5,386	5.0	5,707	4.1	---	---
II	11,037	10.3	5,855	16.8	5,925	8.5	---	---
III	10,967	14.8	5,584	-.5	6,071	4.5	---	---
IV	10,480	12.0	7,692	1.8	6,174	11.0	---	---
Year	---	---	24,517	5.2	23,877	7.0	---	---
1973:								
I	11,998	5.6	5,506	2.2	5,906	3.5	---	---
II	11,598	5.1	5,248	-10.4	5,571	-6.0	---	---
III	11,275	2.8	4,782	-14.4	5,263	-13.3	---	---
IV	10,794	3.0	6,436	-16.3	5,878	-4.8	---	---
Year	---	---	21,972	-10.4	22,618	-5.3	---	---
1974:								
I	11,352	-5.4	5,262	-4.4	5,431	-8.0	477	---
II	10,706	-7.7	4,287	-18.3	5,574	.1	631	---
III	8,788	-22.1	4,427	-7.4	4,893	-7.0	279	---
IV	8,043	-25.5	5,583	-13.3	5,000	-14.9	480	---
Year	---	---	19,559	-11.0	20,898	-7.6	1,867	---
1975:								
I	8,146	-28.2	4,300	-18.3	4,932	-9.2	338	-29.1
II	7,176	-33.0	5,086	18.6	4,409	-20.9	399	-36.8
III	7,454	-15.2	5,400	22.0	4,450	-9.1	195	-30.1
IV	8,209	2.1	7,224	29.4	4,485	-10.3	329	-31.5
Year	---	---	22,010	12.5	18,276	-12.5	1,261	-32.5
1976:								
I	10,619	30.4	5,009	16.5	5,771	17.0	416	23.1
II	9,441	31.6	5,197	2.2	5,336	21.0	439	10.0
III	8,863	18.9	5,116	-5.3	5,591	25.6	230	17.9
IV	8,158	-0.6	7,635	5.7	5,169	15.3	352	7.0
Year	---	---	22,957	4.3	21,867	19.6	1,437	14.0
1977:								
I	10,272	-3.3	5,175	3.3	5,881	1.9	418	.5
II	9,148	-3.1	5,568	7.1	5,511	3.3	624	42.1
III	8,581	-3.2	5,820	13.8	5,543	-0.9	241	4.8
IV	8,617	5.6	8,519	11.6	5,606	8.5	395	12.2
Year	---	---	25,082	9.3	22,541	3.1	1,678	16.8
1978:								
I	11,135	8.4	6,016	16.3	6,164	4.8	695	66.3
II	10,292	12.5	6,152	10.5	5,986	8.6	682	9.3
III	9,776	13.9	6,774	16.4	5,946	7.3	358	48.5
IV	10,246	18.9	7,766	-8.8	6,225	11.0	554	40.3
Year	---	---	26,708	6.5	24,321	7.9	2,289	36.4
1979:								
I	11,233	.9	5,423	-9.9	6,281	.9	641	-7.8
II	9,797	-4.8	5,751	-6.5	5,619	-6.1	681	-0.1
III	9,248	-5.4	5,469	-19.3	5,434	-8.6	318	-11.2
IV	8,965	-12.5	7,280	-6.3	5,328	-14.4	518	-6.5
Year	---	---	23,923	-10.4	22,599	-7.1	2,158	-5.7
1980:								
I	10,399	-7.4	4,849	-10.6	5,691	-8.5	515	-19.7
II	9,042	-7.7	5,254	-8.6	5,128	-8.7	537	-21.1
III	8,631	-6.7	5,832	6.6	5,223	-3.9	265	-16.7
IV	8,975	0.1	6,613	-9.2	5,264	-1.2	479	-7.5
Year	---	---	22,548	-5.7	21,306	-5.7	1,796	-16.8
1981:								
I	9,845	-5.3	4,816	-.7	5,557	-2.4	438	-15.0
II	8,666	-4.2	5,590	6.4	5,113	-0.3	497	-7.4
III	8,646	.2	5,275	-9.6	5,460	4.5	251	-5.3
IV	8,210	-8.5	6,193	-6.4	5,034	-4.4	341	-28.8
Year	---	---	21,874	-3.0	21,164	-0.7	1,527	-15.0
1982:								
I	9,028	-8.3	5,567	15.6	5,438	-2.1	339	-22.6
II	8,818	1.8						

[1] Beginning of quarter.

ington. The number of placements declined 3, 4, 9, and 14 percent, respectively, in South Dakota, Arizona, Minnesota, and Idaho.

Many of these placements, particularly the cattle taken off wheat pasture, were heavier, fleshy animals that could be marketed with minimal time on feed. Consequently, marketings are likely to rise in May.

The number of cattle on feed in the 7 major cattle-feeding States reporting monthly, increased 3 percent above April 1, 1981, but was 2 percent below 1980. Placements during March increased 30 percent; net placements rose 34 percent. Placements increased 31, 41, and 60 percent, respectively, in Nebraska, Colorado, and Texas. Marketings during March were 1 percent below a year ago.

Second-Half Outlook Less Promising

In late winter, cattle feeders began to show the first sustainable profits since mid-1979. The selling price required to cover feed and feeder costs moved below $60 per cwt in March and is expected to remain near this range through August. However, in August, the breakeven price is likely to rise to $60 to cover cash costs and to $67 to cover total costs. It is during this period that supplies of beef will be rising seasonally. Breakeven prices required to cover all costs in late summer through fall are likely to average $66 to $68, depending on feed and feeder cattle prices.

Beef production this spring is expected to average 1 to 2 percent below a year earlier. Beef supplies will remain relatively tight through the spring quarter, because cold storage stocks and imported beef supplies were well below a year ago in the first quarter. Beef production will rise by late May as fed cattle marketings increase. Fed cattle marketings are likely to rise 1 to 2 percent this spring, but lower slaughter weights and reduced nonfed slaughter could hold production down.

Steer prices, costs, and net margins[1]

Year and Month	Steers Omaha	Feed & Feeder	Break-even	Net margin
		$per cwt		
1981				
January	63.08	61.01	70.51	−7.43
February	61.50	64.07	73.87	−12.37
March	61.40	65.42	75.31	−13.91
April	64.92	64.32	74.21	−9.29
May	66.86	63.79	73.62	−6.76
June	68.26	64.16	74.00	−5.74
July	67.86	63.95	74.46	−6.60
August	66.37	62.60	73.32	−6.95
September	65.37	61.20	71.85	−6.48
October	61.45	62.10	72.63	−11.18
November	59.81	59.40	69.59	−9.78
December	59.24	59.29	69.46	−10.22
1982				
January	60.75	58.20	68.58	−7.83
February	63.54	58.20	68.63	−5.09
March	65.80	56.48	66.95	−1.15
April		54.67	65.15	
May		54.53	65.01	
June		52.50	62.72	
July		53.01	63.20	
August		54.61	64.98	
September				

[1]Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 600 lb. to 1,050 lb. slaughter in Corn Belt.

Fed cattle slaughter is expected to continue above year-earlier levels in the second half of the year. The sharpest year-to-year increases will occur late in the third and through the fourth quarters. Nonfed steer and heifer slaughter is likely to remain near to slightly below a year ago, especially if forage supplies and this year's crop development continue to be favorable. Cow slaughter is likely to rise seasonally during late summer through fall. A larger cow inventory and more heifers entering the herd for the first time this year (and consequently closer culling) are likely to push cow slaughter higher than a year ago.

This summer, beef production is likely to rise 2 percent above a year ago, with the sharpest rises occurring later in the quarter. Fall production may rise 2 to 3 percent from fourth-quarter 1981. Profitable but narrow feeding margins in the second half of the year are likely to keep fed marketings current. Even though supplies of competing meats will be below a year-earlier, cattle feeders will have to keep marketings current to support projected price gains.

Spring Price Peak Expected

Choice fed steer prices at Omaha may reach their peak for the year this spring. Prices averaged near $70 during April through early May, when a smaller number of fed cattle and even fewer well-finished cattle were available.

Because fed cattle supplies and slaughter weights have tightened since early winter, higher cattle prices and static retail prices resulted in a sharp decline in the farm-to-retail spread during the quarter. The spread declined from the relatively high $1.05 a retail pound in January to 92 cents in March. This is a typical spread pattern, because retail price changes lag behind price movements for live animals. However, retail prices are likely to increase this spring as higher animal prices and marketing costs are passed on to consumers. There will probably be some resistance at the retail level, as consumer purchasing power continues to be constrained. Cattle prices are expected to decline somewhat from the spring peak, and retail prices should rise from the $2.35-to-$2.42 range that has persisted since mid-1980.

Larger feedlot show lists in mid-May will be partially offset by reductions in pork output. For the spring quarter, prices may average in the upper $60's, and third-quarter prices may continue in this range until late summer. Prices during late summer through fall may average $65 to $69. Current marketings and slaughter weights, plus improved consumer purchasing power and confidence in a strengthening economy, will be necessary to reach or exceed the upper end of this range.

Feeder steer prices consistent with break-even, given corn and fed steer prices[1]

Corn (farm price)	Choice steers, $/cwt.				
	55	60	65	70	75
$/bu.	*Feeder steers, $/cwt.*				
2.25	47	55	64	73	82
2.50	44	53	62	71	80
2.75	42	51	60	69	77
3.00	40	49	58	67	75
3.25	38	47	56	64	73

[1]Assuming all other costs at March 1982 levels. Assumes milo equals 92 percent of the corn feeding value. (See Great Plains custom cattle feeding table).

Corn Belt cattle feeding

Selected costs at current rates[1]

Purchase during / Marketed during	Apr. / Oct.	May / Nov.	June / Dec.	July / Jan. 82	Aug. / Feb.	Sept. / Mar.	Oct. / Apr.	Nov. / May	Dec. / June	Jan. 82 / July	Feb. / Aug.	Mar. / Sept.
						Dollars per head						
Expenses:												
600 lb. feeder steer	413.64	394.74	390.72	379.32	394.50	396.96	384.42	384.12	360.36	360.48	379.68	394.68
Transportation to feedlot (400 miles)	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28
Corn (45 bu.)	146.25	141.75	142.65	141.75	129.60	112.50	108.45	106.20	108.00	112.50	108.90	109.80
Silage (1.7 tons)	44.25	41.79	43.01	42.84	40.46	37.09	36.06	36.75	37.23	38.22	38.39	39.25
Protein supplement (270 lb.)	36.05	34.70	34.70	35.78	35.10	35.24	34.02	33.62	33.62	33.35	33.75	33.89
Hay (400 lb.)	11.85	10.70	11.45	11.45	11.40	11.30	11.10	11.90	12.00	12.10	12.70	13.20
Labor (4 hours)	16.04	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80
Management[2]	8.02	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40
Vet medicine[3]	4.85	4.86	4.87	4.86	4.88	4.89	4.87	4.87	4.85	4.97	4.98	5.01
Interest on purchase (6 mo.)	34.19	32.62	32.29	34.66	34.99	35.21	35.67	35.65	33.44	31.99	33.70	35.03
Power, equip, fuel, shelter, depreciation[3]	22.60	22.64	22.73	22.69	22.75	22.80	22.73	22.73	22.60	23.19	23.24	23.39
Death loss (1% of purchase)	4.14	3.95	3.91	3.79	3.94	3.97	3.84	3.84	3.60	3.60	3.80	3.95
Transportation (100 miles)	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31
Marketing expenses	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35
Miscellaneous & indirect costs[3]	9.79	9.81	9.85	9.83	9.86	9.88	9.85	9.79	9.77	10.03	10.05	10.12
Total	762.59	730.68	729.30	720.09	720.60	702.96	684.11	682.65	658.61	663.57	682.33	701.46
						Dollars per cwt.						
Selling price/cwt. required to cover feed and feeder costs (1,050 lb.)	62.10	59.40	59.29	58.20	58.20	56.48	54.67	54.53	52.50	53.01	54.61	56.27
Selling price/cwt. required cover all costs (1,050 lb.)	72.63	69.59	69.46	68.58	68.63	66.95	65.15	65.01	62.72	63.20	64.98	66.81
Feed costs per 100 lb. gain	52.98	50.88	51.51	51.52	48.12	43.58	42.14	41.88	42.41	43.59	43.05	43.59
Choice steers, Omaha	61.45	59.81	59.24	60.75	63.54	65.80						
Net margin/cwt.	-11.18	-9.78	-10.22	-7.83	-5.09	-1.15						
Prices:												
Feeder steer, Choice (600-700 lb.) Kansas City/cwt.	68.94	65.79	65.12	63.22	65.75	66.16	64.07	64.02	60.06	60.08	63.28	65.78
Corn/bu[4]	3.25	3.15	3.17	3.15	2.88	2.50	2.41	2.36	2.40	2.50	2.42	2.44
Hay/ton[4]	59.25	53.50	57.25	57.25	57.00	56.50	55.50	59.50	60.00	60.50	63.50	66.00
Corn silage/ton[5]	26.03	25.58	25.30	25.20	23.80	21.82	21.21	21.62	21.90	22.48	22.58	23.09
32-36% Protein supp./cwt[6]	13.35	12.85	12.85	13.25	13.00	13.05	12.60	12.45	12.45	12.35	12.50	12.55
Farm Labor/hour	4.01	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70
Interest annual rate	16.53	16.53	16.53	17.74	17.74	17.74	18.56	18.56	18.56	17.75	17.75	17.75
Transportation rate/cwt. 100 mile[7]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Marketing expenses[8]	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35
Index of prices paid by farmers (1910-14=100)	1031	1033	1037	1035	1038	1040	1037	1037	1031	1058	1060	1067

[1] Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual for management, production level and locality of operation. [2] Assumes one hour at twice the labor rate. [3] Adjusted monthly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes and wage rates. [4] Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [5] Corn silage price derived from an equivalent price of 5 bushels corn and 330 lb. hay. [6] Average price paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [7] Converted from cents/mile for a 44,000 pound haul. [8] Yardage plus commission fees at a midwest terminal market.

Great Plains Custom cattle feeding

	Selected Costs at Current Rates[1]											
Purchased during Marketed during	Apr. Oct.	May Nov.	June Dec.	July Jan.82	Aug. Feb.	Sept. Mar.	Oct. Apr.	Nov. May	Dec. June	Jan. 82 July	Feb. Aug.	Mar. Sept.
						Dollars per head						
Expenses:												
600 lb. feeder steer	414.42	370.20	379.20	369.72	384.96	390.66	375.00	385.02	363.00	364.68	382.68	388.44
Transportation to feedlot (300 miles)	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96
Commission	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Feed:												
Milo (1,500 lb.)	82.95	84.45	82.95	82.20	70.95	64.05	67.35	67.95	67.80	68.70	68.55	67.65
Corn (1,500 lb.)	90.60	95.55	94.80	94.80	82.50	76.95	76.95	75.45	73.50	77.70	77.55	77.70
Cottonseed meal (400 lb.)	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	54.00	54.00	50.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	50.00	52.00
Alfalfa hay (800 lb.)	54.00	51.00	51.00	46.40	46.00	46.00	48.00	46.40	47.20	47.20	48.00	46.80
Total feed cost	283.55	287.00	284.75	279.40	253.45	241.00	242.30	237.80	236.50	241.60	244.10	244.15
Feed handling & management charge	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Vet medicine	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Interest on feeder & 1/2 feed	52.84	54.58	54.77	56.67	57.68	57.51	49.62	45.98	42.71	43.09	46.69	48.14
Death loss (1.5% of purchase)	6.22	5.55	5.69	5.54	5.77	5.86	5.62	5.78	5.46	5.47	5.74	5.83
Marketing[2]	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.
Total	787.99	748.29	755.37	742.29	732.82	725.99	703.50	705.54	678.63	685.80	710.17	717.52
						Dollars per cwt.						
Selling price required to cover[3]												
Feed and feeder cost (1,056 lb.)	66.10	62.23	62.87	61.47	60.46	59.82	58.46	58.98	56.77	57.41	59.35	59.90
All costs	74.62	70.86	71.53	70.29	69.40	68.75	66.62	66.68	64.26	64.94	67.25	67.95
Selling price \$/cwt.[4]	63.97	63.09	61.14	62.34	64.81	67.00						
Net margin/cwt.	-10.65	-7.77	-10.39	-7.95	-4.59	-1.75						
Cost per 100 lb. gain:												
Variable costs less interest	62.75	63.31	62.89	61.79	56.64	54.17	54.38	53.52	53.19	54.21	54.77	54.80
Feed costs	56.71	57.40	56.95	55.88	50.69	48.00	48.46	47.56	47.30	48.32	48.82	48.83
Unit Prices:												
Choice feeder steer 600-700 lb. Amarillo \$/cwt.	69.07	61.70	63.20	61.62	64.16	65.11	62.50	64.17	60.50	60.78	63.78	64.74
Transportation rate \$/cwt./100 miles[5]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Commission fee \$/cwt.	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50
Milo \$/cwt.[6]	5.53	5.63	5.53	5.48	4.73	4.27	4.49	4.53	4.52	4.58	4.57	4.51
Corn \$/cwt.[6]	6.04	6.37	6.32	6.32	5.50	5.13	5.13	5.03	4.90	5.18	5.17	5.18
Cottonseed meal \$/cwt.[7]	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.50	13.50	12.50	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.50	13.00
Alfalfa hay \$/ton[8]	135.00	127.50	127.50	116.00	115.00	115.00	120.00	116.00	118.00	118.00	120.00	117.00
Feed handling & management charge \$/ton	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Interest, annual rate	19.00	21.25	21.00	21.75	22.50	22.50	20.00	18.25	17.75	17.75	18.50	18.50

[1]Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual feedlots. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level, and locality of operation. Steers are assumed to gain 500 lb. in 180 days at 2.8 lb. per day with feed conversion of 8.4 lb. per pound gain. [2] Most cattle sold F.O.B. the feedlot with 4 percent shrink. [3]Sale weight 1,056 pounds (1,100 pounds less 4 percent shrink). [4]Choice slaughter steers, 900-1100 lb., Texas-New Mexico direct. [5]Converted from cents per mile for a 44,000 [6]Texas Panhandle elevator price plus \$.15/cwt. handling and transportation to feedlots. [7]Average prices paid by farmers in Texas. [8]Average price received by farmers in Texas plus \$30/ton handling and transportation to feedlots.

Feeder cattle prices will likely continue to follow closely with fed cattle prices. Tighter feeder cattle supplies, along with good forage and crop prospects, could contribute to a small premium in yearling feeder cattle. Lower interest rates and a stronger economy could allow prices to rise even higher. Prices for lighter weight stocker calves are expected to average $5 to $10 per cwt above fed cattle prices.

Calf Slaughter Rises

Calf slaughter continued large throughout the winter quarter. Slaughter was 5, 10, and 20 percent above a year ago in January, February, and March, respectively. For the quarter, commercial calf slaughter increased 12 percent, while veal production rose only 7 percent—the result of an 8-pound reduction in slaughter weights.

Increased feedlot demand and improved grazing conditions are expected to hold this spring's calf slaughter near last year's levels. A good fall grain harvest and a strengthening economy, along with reduced total meat supplies, are expected to encourage feedlot placements in the second half of 1982. This should reduce feeder calf supplies and, consequently, hold calf slaughter slightly below a year earlier.

Choice veal calf prices at South Saint Paul averaged $67.50 per cwt from the beginning of the year through mid-March. However, prices increased to $75 during late March through early April as veal production declined.

Beef Imports Decline

Beef imports were down sharply during late 1981 through February 1982. This decline was due largely to dock strikes and shipment problems in Australia. However, shipments from Australia increased in March. Through February, beef imports were 36 percent below a year ago, and at the end of March, the cumulative total was only about 15 percent less than first-quarter 1981. Beef imports for the year may average slightly below 1981 levels and 15 to 20 percent below 1980.

HOGS

Returns to hog producers have improved substantially since the beginning of the year. The last 3 years have generally been a period of financial losses for hog producers because pork output has been near record-large levels. The large production, along with abundant supplies of competing meats and a weakening in consumers' purchasing power, resulted in depressed hog prices. In addition, production costs were rising during most of the 3-year period. Because of poor returns, producers cut their breeding herds, which have shown year-to-year declines since early 1980. These reductions in the breeding herd are resulting in sharp year-to-year declines in pork production.

Although the costs/returns situation has improved for early 1982, high interest rates and cash flow problems from the immediate past have continued to plague many hog producers. In the middle and late 1970's, some hog producers made substantial capital investments in modernized and expanded production facilities. The larger capital investment and higher interest rates, combined with poor returns, put some of these hog producers into a financial squeeze. Many covered cash costs only, with no payment on the investment, while others who were caught in the squeeze were forced to either liquidate herds or restructure their finances by extending payments. Producers who restructured their debts will be under pressure to use the improved returns to repay their debts instead of expanding production. Returns to the average farrow-to-finish producer, although improved relative to recent years, are only covering cash costs and

Veal supply and prices

Year	Commercial				Prices		
	Slaughter	Av dr wt.	Production[1]	Per[2] capita	Retail	Choice vealers So. St. Paul	Farm[3]
	1,000 head	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents per lb.*	*$/cwt.*	*$/cwt.*
1979:							
I	807	140	114	.6	251.3	89.90	86.97
II	630	156	98	.5	285.5	103.05	96:67
III	676	146	99	.5	293.8	92.57	89.47
IV	710	141	100	.5	298.3	80.12	85.83
Year	2,823	146	411	2.1	282.3	91.14	88.70
1980:							
I	660	138	91	.4	303.8	71.59	86.80
II	570	156	89	.4	310.5	72.49	75.93
III	646	147	95	.4	310.3	79.04	75.10
IV	712	146	104	.5	313.2	79.01	72.10
Year	2,588	146	379	1.7	309.5	75.53	76.80
1981:							
I	687	146	100	.5	314.5	78.75	69.83
II	594	158	94	.4	N.A.	83.68	68.57
III	715	147	105	.5	N.A.	76.85	62.07
IV	802	143	115	.6	N.A.	69.38	58.93
Year	2,798	148	415	2.0	N.A.	77.16	64.85
1982:							
I[4]	769	138	106	.5	N.A.	69.33	59.30

[1]May not add due to rounding. [2]Total, including farm production. [3]Annual is weighted average. [4]Preliminary. N.A. = not available.

yielding a return to labor and management. They are not adequate to encourage new investment in facilities.

Hog Producton Declines Sharply

Hog producers in the 14 quarterly reporting States indicated on March 1 that they intend to continue the reduction in hog output. Farrowings in these States during December-February declined 10 percent from a year earlier and were down 4 percentage points from the December intentions. Also, producers indicated intentions to have 14 percent fewer sows farrow during March-May than a year earlier, instead of the 11-percent reduction indicated on December 1. Farrowing intentions reported for June-August were 12 percent below a year ago. If producers follow their March plans, pork production in the second half of the year is expected to decline sharply.

HOGS ON FARMS MARCH 1, FARROWINGS AND PIG CROPS, 14 SELECTED STATES

Item	1980	1981	1982	1982/81
	1,000 head			*Percent change*
Inventory	54,805	50,105	44,940	-10
Breeding	8,065	7,219	6,218	-14
Market	46,720	42,886	38,722	-10
60 lb.	18,012	15,985	14,121	-12
60-119 lb.	11,126	10,454	9,684	-7
120-179 lb.	10,362	9,561	8,647	-10
180 + lb.	7,220	6,886	6,270	-9
Sows farrowing				
December-February	2,740	2,434	2,197	-10
March-May	3,356	3,075	[1]2,646	-14
June-August	2,838	2,735	[1]4,843	-12
September-November	2,917	2,676		
Pig crops				
December-February	19,650	17,609	15,615	-11
March-May	24,600	23,202		
June-August	20,382	20,153		
September-November	21,211	19,757		
Pig per litter				
December-February	7.17	7.23	7.11	-2
March-May	7.33	7.55		
June-August	7.18	7.37		
September-November	7.27	7.38		

[1]Intentions.

Sow Slaughter Balance Sheet, 14 States

Item	1980	1981	1982
		Million head	
December 1 breeding[1]	8.1	7.7	6.7
December-February			
Comm. sow slaughter[2]	1.1	1.0	1.0
Gilts added	1.1	.5	.5
March 1 breeding	8.1	7.2	6.2
March-May			
Comm. sow slaughter[2]	1.1	.9	
Gilts added	.9	.8	
June 1 breeding	7.9	7.1	
June-August			
Comm. sow slaughter[2]	1.3	1.1	
Gilts added	.8	1.1	
September 1 breeding	7.4	7.1	
September-November			
Comm. sow slaughter	1.2	1.0	
Gilts added	1.5	.6	

[1]December previous year. [2]85% of estimated U.S. commercial sow slaughter.

The breeding herd in the 14 major producing States was estimated at 6.22 million head on March 1, down 14 percent from a year earlier. There was a wide variation in breeding herd changes among the 14 States. Breeding inventories in Wisconsin and Ohio declined 1 and 4 percent, respectively. In contrast, Texas and Georgia fell 24 and 45 percent, respectively. Returns to producers deteriorated from September to December, as hog prices fell from about $50 per cwt to near $40. However, returns improved in January and February, as production declined and hog prices rose from about $41 per cwt in early January to $50 per cwt in early February. Sow slaughter during December-February accounted for 5.16 percent of all slaughter, compared with 5.2 percent a year earlier. Producers added 549,000 head to the breeding herd during December-February, compared with 589,000 last year.

The December-February pig crop declined 11 percent, as sow farrowings fell 10 percent and the lower number of pigs saved—7.11 compared with 7.23 a year ago—further reduced the pig crop. The lower number of pigs saved was due, at least in part, to extremely cold weather and related disease problems. The smaller pig crop was reflected in the lower market hog inventory, which totaled 38.7 million head, down 10 percent from last year. The number of market hogs under 60 pounds fell 12 percent, corresponding to the 11-percent drop in the pig crop.

Pork Production Down; Sharper Declines Ahead

In the first quarter, commercial pork production totaled 3.7 billion pounds, down 9 percent from a year earlier. Commerical slaughter, at 21.7 million head, was down 8 percent, while the average dressed weight declined from 172 to 170 pounds. Hog slaughter in the second quarter will be drawn primarily from the March 1 inventory of market hogs weighing 60 to 179 pounds. This weight category was down 8 percent from a year ago, and hog slaughter is forecast to be 8 to 10 percent below a year earlier. Market hogs weighing 120 to 179 pounds on March 1 are normally slaughtered in April and the first half of May. This weight category was down 10 percent from a year ago. Slaughter data suggest that these hogs are moving to market according to normal patterns. Federally inspected slaughter in April was down about 11 percent. Hog slaughter in the second half of May and June will be drawn from the 7 percent smaller inventory of market hogs weighing 60 to 119 pounds on March 1.

If producers follow their March 1 farrowing intentions, the breeding herd inventory on June 1 will need to be maintained near the March 1 level. So, this is one factor that won't contribute to pork production in the second quarter. Last year, the breeding herd in the 14 quarterly reporting States was reduced by 114,000 head between March 1 and June 1.

Third-quarter slaughter will be drawn mainly from market hogs that weighed less than 60 pounds on March 1. This inventory was down 12 percent. Therefore, the number of hogs slaughtered is forecast to be 13 to 15 percent below last year's 21.3 million head. Also, this summer, producers are expected to be saving gilts to be added to the breeding herd, and this would help constrain production. However, commercial pork production may not decline as sharply as slaughter if the average dressed weight increases a little from last year's relatively light 169 pounds.

Fourth-quarter slaughter is drawn largely from the March-May pig crop. If producers' farrowing intentions are realized, fourth-quarter hog slaughter may be down about a fifth. The expected number of pigs saved per litter will likely be nearer the 10-year average of 7.3 than the 7.55 of last year. The sharp fourth-quarter decline in production also reflects a return to more normal production and marketing patterns than occurred last year.

In addition, because of favorable weather last summer and fall, part of the summer pig crop that normally would have been marketed in early 1982 was marketed in fourth-quarter 1981. Barrow and gilt slaughter as a percentage of the March-May pig crop was 85 percent, compared with the decade average of 78 percent. Also, producers were reducing the breeding herd, especially in the last half of November and throughout December. This year, they will probably be rebuilding the breeding herd.

Federally inspected hog slaughter

Week ended	1980	1981	1982
		Thousands	
Jan. 2[1]	1,377	1,297	1,428
9	1,971	1,957	1,881
16	1,762	1,885	1,656
23	1,785	1,792	1,643
30	1,777	1,816	1,623
Feb. 6	1,769	1,773	1,552
13	1,760	1,731	1,650
20	1,642	1,672	1,484
27	1,776	1,698	1,652
Mar. 6	1,806	1,757	1,698
13	1,898	1,832	1,676
20	1,885	1,826	1,663
27	1,858	1,840	1,705
Apr. 3	1,736	1,848	1,609
10	1,919	1,914	
17	2,024	1,823	
24	2,028	1,727	
May. 1	1,918	1,771	
8	1,972	1,763	
15	1,916	1,771	
22	1,891	1,694	
29	1,582	1,422	
June 5	1,850	1,560	
12	1,747	1,617	
19	1,683	1,500	
26	1,669	1,434	
July 3	1,268	1,324	
10	1,573	1,401	
17	1,600	1,444	
24	1,530	1,442	
31	1,573	1,496	
Aug. 7	1,553	1,539	
14	1,611	1,554	
21	1,612	1,576	
28	1,656	1,590	
Sept. 4	1,497	1,658	
11	1,867	1,456	
18	1,812	1,785	
25	1,707	1,699	
Oct. 2	1,759	1,742	
9	1,791	1,769	
16	1,864	1,817	
23	1,861	1,786	
30	1,890	1,788	
Nov. 6	1,955	1,814	
13	1,810	1,789	
20	2,022	1,841	
27	1,514	1,511	
Dec. 4	1,952	1,947	
11	1,841	1,884	
18	1,816	1,864	
25	1,815	1,223	

[1]Corresponding dates: 1978, January 7; 1979, January 1, 1980, January 5, 1981 January 3.

Hog Prices To Rise

Lower commercial pork production and lower stocks of frozen pork are putting upward pressure on hog prices. In addition, supplies of competing meats show little year-to-year change. However, sluggish economic conditions are dampening the rise in prices, especially at the retail level.

Hog prices have been above last year. Barrow and gilt prices at the 7 markets averaged $48.17 per cwt in the first quarter, up $7 from a year ago. Second-quarter hog prices may average $53 to $55, ranging from about $50 at the beginning of the quarter to the mid-$50's at the end of April. Prices are expected to remain in the mid-$50's for the remainder of the quarter. During this quarter, prices will be strengthened by the need to build up stocks. Third-quarter prices are expected to average $53 to $57, with some short periods when prices may increase into the high $50's. Fourth-quarter prices are expected to average in the same range.

Stocks of frozen pork on March 31 were 24 percent lower than a year earlier, while stocks of pork bellies

Hog prices, costs, and net margin[1]

Year	Barrows & gilts 7 markets	Feed and feeder	Break-even	Net margins
		$ per cwt.		
1981				
January	41.42	39.74	49.76	-8.34
February	42.43	42.07	52.31	-9.88
March	39.54	42.90	53.15	-13.61
April	39.79	43.57	53.90	-14.11
May	42.05	40.36	50.65	-8.60
June	49.04	42.34	53.48	-4.44
July	50.66	41.55	52.70	-2.04
August	50.92	43.82	55.08	-4.16
September	49.68	42.15	53.17	-3.49
October	45.62	42.51	53.63	-8.01
November	42.20	40.27	51.22	-9.02
December	40.06	41.44	52.66	-12.60
1982				
January	45.63	39.95	51.25	-5.62
February	49.49	36.64	47.70	+1.79
March	49.38	35.21	46.16	+3.22
April		34.30	45.10	
May		35.98	46.97	
June		39.27	50.64	
July				

[1]Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 40-50 lb. feeder pig to 220 lb. slaughter hog in Corn Belt.

Pork supplies and prices

Year	Estimated commercial slaughter[1] Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Average dressed weight	Commercial production[2]	Per capita consumption[3]	Prices Retail	Barrows and gilts 7 markets	Farm
	1,000 head				*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents*	*$/cwt. per lb.*	
1979:										
I	18,903	949	188	20,040	169	3,395	15.5	156.1	51.98	50.53
II	20,512	1,008	220	21,740	173	3,754	16.8	148.2	43.04	42.30
III	20,388	1,444	250	22,082	171	3,775	17.3	138.0	38.52	37.10
IV	23,365	1,602	270	25,237	172	4,346	19.1	134.3	36.40	35.07
Year	83,168	5,003	928	89,099	171	15,270	68.7	144.1	42.48	41.25
1980:										
I	22,778	1,200	258	24,236	170	4,125	18.6	133.9	36.31	35.43
II	23,395	1,353	292	25,040	172	4,299	19.1	125.3	31.18	29.90
III	20,379	1,483	296	22,158	170	3,756	17.3	144.2	46.23	44.50
IV	23,008	1,361	271	24,640	173	4,252	18.5	154.6	46.44	45.57
Year	89,560	5,397	1,117	96,074	171	16,432	73.5	139.5	40.04	38.85
1981:										
I	22,268	1,145	265	23,678	172	4,076	18.1	148.7	41.13	40.30
II	21,164	1,145	285	22,594	172	3,880	17.1	144.7	43.63	42.43
III	19,725	1,277	276	21,278	169	3,606	16.6	157.5	50.42	49.03
IV	22,534	1,236	255	24,025	173	4,155	18.1	158.7	42.63	41.83
Year	85,691	4,803	1,081	91,575	172	15,719	69.9	152.4	44.45	43.40
1982:										
I[4]	20,305	1,144	274	21,723	170	3,696	16.4	160.1	48.17	46.80

[1]Classes estimated. [2]Totals may not add due to rounding. [3]Total, including farm production. [4]Preliminary.

Feeder pig prices consistent with break-even all cost, given corn and market hog prices[1]

Corn (Farm price)	Market hogs, $/cwt. 40	45	50	55	60
$/bu.	*Feeder pigs, $ per head*				
1.75	23	34	45	56	67
2.00	20	31	42	53	64
2.25	17	28	39	50	61
2.50	14	25	36	47	58
2.75	12	23	34	45	56
3.00	9	20	31	42	63
3.25	6	17	28	39	50
3.50	3	14	25	36	47

[1] Assuming protein and other costs at March 1982 levels.

Hog-corn price ratio, Omaha basis

Month	1979	1980	1981	1982
January	24.0	16.5	13.0	18.4
February	25.5	16.1	13.3	20.1
March	22.6	15.2	12.4	19.8
April	19.9	12.3	12.3	
May	18.1	12.0	12.9	
June	16.4	13.8	15.2	
July	14.2	15.3	15.9	
August	15.4	16.1	18.1	
September	16.2	15.6	19.8	
October	14.6	15.2	18.7	
November	15.3	13.8	17.5	
December	16.0	13.5	16.8	
Average	18.2	14.6	15.5	

were down 37 percent. However, ending stocks of frozen pork are expected to increase from the end of the first quarter to the end of the second quarter, in contrast to the decline of last year.

The Hog Feeding Margin Turns Positive

The substantial rise in hog prices from December to February, combined with declining costs, resulted in a positive finishing margin for feeder pigs in the Corn Belt. This was the first positive hog feeding margin since November 1980. The February feeding margin was $1.79 per cwt, compared with a negative $12.60 in December 1981. From December to February, hog prices rose 24 percent, while feed and feeder costs declined 12 percent. Other costs have dropped 1 percent.

Feeding margins are expected to remain positive through the second quarter. The large increase in feeder pig prices from January to March, along with expected higher costs of feed and other inputs, may put feeder pig finishers in a nearly breakeven position by July.

Pork Exports To Rise; Imports May Decline

In March, Denmark had an outbreak of foot and mouth disease. As a result, the United States, Japan, and Canada suspended imports of fresh pork from that country. Due to the Japanese suspension, the United States may be able to increase pork exports to that country to fill the void. The United States' suspension of Danish imports may result in a decline in pork imports. However, U.S. imports of canned pork products are not affected by the suspension. The net change in the U.S. pork trade may decrease the available supply for domestic consumption by about 90 million pounds, which is expected to have little effect on retail and live animal prices.

Corn Belt hog feeding[1]

Purchase during / Marketed during	Feb. June	Mar. July	Apr. Aug.	May Sept.	June Oct.	July Nov.	Aug. Dec.	Sept. Jan. 82	Oct. Feb.	Nov. Mar.	Dec. Apr.	Jan. 82 May	Feb. June	Mar. July
	Selected costs at current rates[2]													
	Dollars per head													
Expenses:														
40 lb. feeder pig	36.86	36.33	39.33	36.10	37.88	32.88	38.55	40.23	34.20	31.88	29.11	31.70	39.96	52.04
Corn (11 bu.)	35.09	34.54	35.75	34.65	34.65	34.65	31.68	27.50	26.51	25.96	26.40	27.50	26.62	26.84
Protein supplement (130 lb.)	21.19	20.54	21.32	21.97	21.00	21.06	20.93	20.15	19.89	19.63	19.96	19.96	19.82	19.70
Labor & management (1.3 hr)	10.43	10.43	10.43	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19	10.19
Vet medicine[3]	2.41	2.43	2.44	2.45	2.46	2.45	2.46	2.46	2.46	2.46	2.44	2.51	2.51	2.53
Interest on purchase (4 mo.)	2.13	2.10	2.17	1.99	2.09	1.94	2.28	2.38	2.12	1.97	1.80	1.88	2.36	3.08
Power, equip., fuel, shelter, depreciation[3]	5.86	5.90	5.94	5.95	5.97	5.96	5.99	5.99	5.97	5.97	5.94	6.09	6.11	6.15
Death loss (4% of purchase)	1.47	1.45	1.57	1.44	1.52	1.32	1.54	1.61	1.37	1.27	1.16	1.27	1.60	2.08
Transportation (100 miles)	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48
Marketing expenses	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
Miscel. & indirect costs[3]	.60	.60	.61	.61	.61	.61	.61	.61	.61	.61	.61	.62	.62	.63
Total	117.66	115.94	121.18	116.97	117.99	112.68	115.85	112.74	104.94	101.56	99.23	103.34	111.41	124.86
	Dollars per cwt.													
Selling price/cwt. required to cover feed and feeder costs (220 lb.)	42.34	41.55	43.82	42.15	42.51	40.27	41.44	39.95	36.64	35.21	34.30	35.98	39.27	44.81
Selling price/cwt. required to cover all costs (220 lb.)	53.48	52.70	55.08	53.17	53.63	51.23	52.66	51.25	47.70	46.15	45.10	46.97	50.64	56.75
Feed cost per 100 lb. gain	31.27	30.60	31.71	31.46	30.92	30.95	29.23	26.47	25.78	25.33	25.76	26.37	25.80	25.86
Barrows and gilts 7 marketing/cwt.	49.04	50.66	50.92	49.68	45.62	42.20	40.06	45.63	49.49	49.38				
Net margin/cwt.	−4.44	−2.04	−4.16	−3.49	−8.01	−9.02	−12.60	−5.62	+1.79	+3.22				
Prices:														
40 lb. feeder pig (So. Missouri)	36.86	36.33	39.33	36.10	37.88	32.88	38.55	40.23	34.20	31.88	29.11	31.70	39.96	52.04
Corn[4] $/bu.	3.19	3.14	3.25	3.27	3.15	3.15	2.88	2.50	2.41	2.36	2.40	2.50	2.42	2.44
38–42% protein supp.[5] $/cwt.	16.30	15.80	16.40	16.90	16.15	16.20	16.10	15.50	15.30	15.10	15.35	15.35	15.25	15.15
Labor & management[6] $/hr.	8.02	8.02	8.02	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84	7.84
Interest rate (annual)	17.34	17.34	16.53	16.53	16.53	17.74	17.74	17.74	18.56	18.56	18.56	17.75	17.75	17.75
Transportation rate/cwt. (100 miles)[7]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Marketing expenses[8]	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
Index of prices paid by farmers (1910–14=100)	1,017	1,024	1,031	1,033	1037	1035	1038	1040	1037	1,037	1,031	1,058	1,060	1,067

[1]Although a majority of hog feeding operations in the Corn Belt are from farrow to finish, relative fattening expenses will be similar. [2]Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed rations and expense items do not necessarily concide with the experience of individual feeders. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management production level, and locality of operation. [3]Adjusted monthly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes and wage rates. [4]Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [5]Average prices paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [6]Assumes an owner-operator receiving twice the farm labor rate. [7]Converted to cents/cwt. from cents/mile for a 44,000 pound haul. [8]Yardage plus commission fees at a midwest terminal market.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Choice lamb prices at San Angelo rose sharply from the depressed $51.50 per cwt in January to $60.70 in March, averaging $55.23 for the quarter—$2 below a year earlier. This price increase during the quarter reflects the seasonal demand because of Easter and Passover. These holidays were in early April this year. The production of lamb and mutton in the first quarter was the largest since 1976. Output totaled 90 million pounds, up 7 percent from last year. However, competing beef and broiler supplies were about the same as a year earlier, creating a favorable market for lamb and mutton.

As of March 1, sheep and lambs on feed in seven selected States totaled 680,000, up 2 percent from a year ago. Producers in all the States except California reported more lambs than a year ago. About two-thirds of the lambs on feed were in two weight groups—100 pounds and over and 90 to 99 pounds. These heavier lambs were for the Easter/Passover market. Lambs on feed increased in every weight category except the 90- to 99-pound group, which declined by a fourth.

The early lamb crops in California, Kansas, and Texas totaled 1.43 million head this year, down 1 percent from a year ago. The lamb crop in California was unchanged, while Kansas and Texas reported 2-percent declines.

Commercial production of lamb and mutton in the second quarter is forecast to be 3 to 5 percent higher than a year earlier, and competing meat supplies are expected to be about the same as last year. However, the

Lamb supplies and prices

Year	Commercial slaughter[1] Lambs and yearling	Sheeps	Total	Average dressed weight	Commercial production[2]	Per capita consumption[3]	Prices Retail	San Angelo Choice slaughter	San Angelo Choice feeder	Farm[4]
	1,000 head			Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Cents/lb.	Dollars per/cwt.		
1979:										
I	1,154	56	1,210	59	71	.4	241.4	68.97	85.02	69.63
II	1,159	106	1,265	56	71	.4	250.1	73.55	79.01	68.83
III	1,167	96	1,262	55	69	.4	245.9	65.41	71.83	64.03
IV	1,193	87	1,280	57	73	.4	245.2	67.08	74.28	65.83
Year	4,672	345	5,017	57	284	1.6	245.7	68.75	77.54	66.70
1980:										
I	1,310	69	1,379	58	80	.4	250.3	67.44	75.79	65.97
II	1,258	113	1,371	56	77	.4	250.0	65.42	62.27	61.37
III	1,251	126	1,377	52	72	.4	254.4	68.83	66.15	65.93
IV	1,348	104	1,452	56	81	.4	256.1	63.97	69.25	60.87
Year	5,167	412	5,579	56	310	1.6	252.7	66.42	68.36	63.60
1981:										
I	1,383	66	1,449	58	84	.4	252.4	57.33	61.00	55.23
II	1,315	124	1,439	54	77	.4	N.A.	65.45	61.64	61.83
III	1,392	129	1,521	52	79	.4	N.A.	59.43	54.19	55.37
IV	1,499	100	1,599	55	88	.4	N.A.	51.38	50.63	48.50
Year	5,589	419	6,008	55	328	1.6	N.A.	58.40	56.86	55.30
1982:										
I[5]	1,522	80	1,602	56	90	.4	N.A.	55.23	53.78	54.67

[1]Class estimated. [2]May not add due to rounding. [3]Total, including farm production. [4]Annual average weighted. [5]Preliminary. N.A.=not available.

economy will likely be sluggish. For the second quarter, Choice lamb prices at San Angelo may average $63 to $65 per cwt, slightly lower than a year earlier.

CONSUMPTION AND RETAIL PRICES

Year-Over-Year Consumption Declining

Per capita red meat and poultry consumption is expected to drop 5 to 7 percent in 1982, as compared with a year earlier. Beef consumption should decrease about 1 to 2 percent, and pork may decline 14 to 16 percent. Poultry per capita consumption should decline 1 to 2 percent, with broilers dropping less than 1 percent and turkeys declining 2 to 3 percent.

Per capita consumption of red meat and poultry in first-quarter 1981 was down 4 to 5 percent from a year ago. Beef per capita consumption was down about 3 percent from first-quarter 1981, and pork consumption declined about 9 percent. Poultry consumption was about even with a year ago.

Second-quarter prospects indicate that per capita red meat and poultry consumption will be down 4 to 6 percent below a year earlier. The largest decline will be in pork, with year-over-year declines of 10 to 11 percent in second-quarter consumption. Beef consumption is expected to decline 2 to 3 percent from a year earlier, and broiler consumption is expected to decline 2 to 3 percent.

Second-Half Consumption to Drop Sharply, Led by Pork

Indications of available meat supplies for the second half of 1982 suggest a large drop in red meat and poultry consumption. Available supplies of pork may decline around 20 percent on a per capita basis. With beef consumption dropping about 1 percent in the second half, total red meat consumption may be 9 to 10 percent below a year ago. Broiler consumption is expected to remain level with a year earlier, and turkey consumption should decline from 1981's high.

Second-Half Retail Prices To Rise

Retail prices for Choice beef in first-quarter 1982 averaged $2.37 a pound, down 1 cent from first-quarter 1981. Retail pork prices should averaged $1.60 a pound in the first quarter of 1982, up from $1.49 a year ago. A weak economy helped hold down all prices, as indicated by the moderating rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index. Increased farm prices for both cattle and hogs have not been passed on to the retail level, as indicated by a decline in the farm-to-retail price spread from December to March. The ability to pass on higher farm prices to the consumer will influence any price strength at the farm level.

The farm-to-retail price spread for beef dropped from $1.08 a pound in the fourth quarter of 1981 to 98 cents a pound in the first quarter of 1982. The average farm-to-retail price spread for 1981 was $1.00. A decline in the farm-to-retail price spread for pork also occurred, with the spread declining from 91 cents a pound in fourth-quarter 1981 to 84 cents in first quarter 1982.

Second-quarter retail prices are expected to average above year ago. Retail prices for Choice beef may average in the mid-$2.40's, while retail pork prices are expected to average slightly above $1.60 a pound. A reduction in available supplies of meat and the accompaning high live animal prices are the major factors influencing expected retail price strength.

Retail price increases in the second half are largely dependent on the economy strengthening. A lower inflation rate, along with the July tax cut, will further increase individuals' real disposable income. The amount of increase allocated to food items, and especially meat products, will dictate how much price strength will occur from the reduction in meat and poultry supplies in the second half. Retail prices for Choice beef are expected to average slightly above $2.50 a pound, with pork retail prices increasing to around $1.75 a pound.

Proportion of Income Spent on Meat Declines

Expenditures on red meat and poultry as a percent of disposable income declined for the second straight year in 1981. This trend has been continuing over time and reflects the declining percent of disposable income spent on all food and beverages. In general, the decline in the proportion of income spent on food and beverages is expected to continue.

Total expenditures on red meat and poultry (beef, pork, broilers, and turkeys) rose in nominal terms, from $320 in 1980 to $329 in 1981. However, as a percent of disposable income, 1981 expenditures were 3.72 percent, down from 3.97 percent in 1980. Increasing poultry consumption, which led to record-large total red meat and poultry consumption, coupled with a weak economy, created little strength in retail prices for red meat.

Total expenditures on red meat and poultry are expected to remain stable in 1982. Declining per capita consumption of red meat and poultry, coupled with only slightly higher retail prices, should further reduce the proportion of income spent on red meat and poultry.

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CHANGES LIVESTOCK ESTIMATING PROGRAM

The Statistical Reporting Service (SRS) announced on March 10 that it will eliminate, cut back, or alter selected portions of its crop and livestock estimating programs. These changes are necessary to stay within fiscal 1982 funding.

SRS will reduce the number of State estimates included in these livestock reports:

Cattle The July issue will carry inventory and expected calf crop estimates at the national level only, and not by separate States. The State estimates will be eliminated beginning with the July report, which will be released July 26.

Cattle on Feed The quarterly reports now provide data for the number on feed, placements, and marketings for only 13 principal States, rather than 23. The State estimates eliminated were Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin—effective with the April report, released on April 19.

Hogs and Pigs The March and September estimates of inventory, the pig crop, and breeding intentions will be cut from 14 States to 10. The June estimates will be reduced from all major States to only 10 and a national estimate. The State estimates eliminated from the March and September reports are Kentucky, South Dako-

Expenditures Per Person for Red Meat and Poultry

	Beef		Pork		Red Meat		Broilers		Turkeys		Poultry		Total	
Year and Quarter	Expenditures	Percent of Income	Expenditures	Percent of Income	Expenditures	Percent of Income	Expenditures	Percent of Income	Expenditures	Percent of Income	Expenditures	Percent of Income	Expenditures	Percent of Income
1977														
I	33.40	2.34	17.81	1.25	51.21	3.58	5.80	0.41	0.96	0.07	6.76	0.47	57.97	4.05
II	32.94	2.25	16.41	1.12	49.35	3.36	6.64	0.45	1.07	0.07	7.71	0.53	57.06	3.89
III	34.72	2.30	17.37	1.15	52.09	3.45	6.90	0.46	1.74	0.12	8.64	0.57	60.72	4.02
IV	34.82	2.25	19.51	1.26	54.33	3.51	6.08	0.39	3.38	0.22	9.46	0.61	63.79	4.13
Year	135.88	2.28	71.10	1.19	206.98	3.48	25.43	0.43	7.14	0.12	32.57	0.55	239.55	4.02
1978														
I	35.96	2.28	19.10	1.21	55.05	3.49	6.23	0.40	0.94	0.06	7.17	0.46	62.22	3.95
II	40.11	2.48	19.38	1.20	59.49	3.67	7.75	0.48	1.34	0.08	9.08	0.56	68.58	4.23
III	40.72	2.45	19.69	1.18	60.41	3.64	7.99	0.48	1.83	0.11	9.83	0.59	70.24	4.23
IV	41.54	2.43	22.06	1.29	63.61	3.72	7.20	0.42	3.53	0.21	10.72	0.63	74.33	4.34
Year	158.33	2.41	80.24	1.22	238.57	3.63	9.16	0.44	7.64	0.11	36.81	0.56	275.37	4.19
1979														
I	44.16	2.51	22.63	1.28	66.79	3.79	7.81	0.44	1.29	0.07	9.10	0.52	75.8	4.31
II	44.74	2.49	23.05	1.28	67.79	3.78	8.84	0.49	1.73	0.10	10.57	0.59	78.36	4.37
III	43.05	2.33	22.09	1.20	65.15	3.53	8.23	0.45	2.07	0.11	10.30	0.56	75.45	4.09
IV	44.40	2.35	23.84	1.26	68.24	3.61	7.39	0.39	3.73	0.20	11.12	0.59	79.36	4.19
Year	176.36	2.42	91.61	1.26	267.97	3.68	2.27	0.44	8.82	0.12	41.09	0.56	309.06	4.24
1980														
I	44.45	2.28	23.16	1.19	67.62	3.47	8.04	0.41	1.60	0.08	9.64	0.50	77.26	3.97
II	43.50	2.22	22.18	1.13	65.68	3.35	8.13	0.41	1.68	0.09	9.82	0.50	75.50	3.85
III	46.39	2.30	23.13	1.15	69.52	3.44	8.87	0.44	2.31	0.11	11.18	0.55	80.70	4.00
IV	47.49	2.23	26.67	1.25	74.16	3.49	8.69	0.41	3.86	0.18	12.56	0.59	86.72	4.08
Year	181.83	2.26	95.14	1.18	76.97	3.44	3.74	0.42	9.45	0.12	43.19	0.54	320.17	3.97
1981														
I	46.07	2.13	25.06	1.16	71.13	3.29	8.93	0.41	1.60	0.07	10.53	0.49	81.66	3.78
II	44.36	2.00	22.95	1.03	67.31	3.04	9.04	0.41	1.91	0.09	10.94	0.49	78.25	3.53
III	47.65	2.15	24.29	1.09	71.93	3.24	9.55	0.43	2.58	0.12	12.13	0.55	84.07	3.79
IV	46.46	2.05	26.73	1.18	73.19	3.23	8.29	0.37	4.30	0.19	12.59	0.56	85.78	3.79
Year	184.54	2.08	99.02	1.12	283.56	3.20	5.80	0.40	10.39	0.12	46.19	0.52	329.75	3.72

Per capita meat consumption by quarters[1]

Year	Carcass weight First	Second	Third	Fourth	Year	Retail weight First	Second	Third	Fourth	Year
	Pounds									
Beef										
1977	31.20	30.40	31.50	30.70	123.80	23.10	22.50	23.30	22.70	91.60
1978	29.90	29.20	29.10	29.60	117.80	22.10	21.60	21.50	21.90	87.80
1979	27.80	25.70	25.70	26.30	105.50	20.50	19.00	19.00	19.50	78.00
1980	25.50	25.40	25.90	26.50	103.30	18.90	18.80	19.20	19.60	76.50
1981	26.20	25.60	26.40	26.20	104.40	19.40	18.90	19.60	19.40	77.30
Pork										
1977	15.90	14.70	14.40	16.50	61.50	14.78	13.48	13.26	15.22	56.74
1978	15.00	14.70	14.70	15.90	60.30	13.94	13.61	13.61	14.70	55.86
1979	15.50	16.80	17.30	19.10	68.70	14.50	15.55	16.01	17.75	63.81
1980	18.60	19.10	17.30	18.50	73.50	17.30	17.70	16.04	17.25	68.29
1981	18.10	17.10	16.60	18.10	69.90	16.85	15.86	15.42	16.84	64.97
Lamb and Mutton										
1977	0.50	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.70	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.60
1978	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.60	0.40	0.30	0.30	0.30	1.30
1979	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.60	0.30	0.40	0.30	0.30	1.30
1980	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.60	0.40	0.30	0.30	0.30	1.30
1981	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.60	0.40	0.30	0.40	0.40	1.50
Veal										
1977	1.00	0.90	1.00	1.00	3.90	0.90	0.80	0.80	0.90	3.40
1978	0.90	0.70	0.70	0.70	3.00	0.80	0.60	0.60	0.60	2.60
1979	0.60	0.50	0.50	0.50	2.10	0.50	0.40	0.40	0.50	1.80
1980	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.50	1.70	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.50	1.70
1981	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.60	2.00	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.50	1.70
Red Meat										
1977	48.60	46.40	47.30	48.60	190.90	39.18	37.18	37.76	39.22	153.34
1978	46.20	45.00	44.90	46.60	182.70	37.24	36.11	36.01	37.50	146.86
1979	44.30	43.40	43.90	46.30	177.90	35.80	35.35	35.71	38.05	144.91
1980	44.90	45.30	44.00	45.90	180.10	37.00	37.20	35.94	37.65	147.79
1981	45.20	43.50	43.90	45.30	177.90	37.05	35.46	35.82	37.14	145.47
Broiler										
1977	9.64	10.69	10.75	9.99	41.06	9.64	10.69	10.75	9.99	41.06
1978	10.34	11.36	11.34	10.73	43.76	10.34	11.36	11.34	10.73	43.76
1979	11.22	12.57	12.48	11.39	47.66	11.22	12.57	12.48	11.39	47.66
1980	11.71	12.46	11.63	11.22	47.03	11.71	12.46	11.63	11.22	47.03
1981	11.76	12.51	12.65	11.66	48.58	11.76	12.51	12.65	11.66	48.58
Turkey										
1977	1.26	1.46	2.25	4.15	9.11	1.26	1.46	2.25	4.15	9.11
1978	1.26	1.68	2.17	4.02	9.14	1.26	1.68	2.17	4.02	9.14
1979	1.43	1.90	2.31	4.23	9.87	1.43	1.90	2.31	4.23	9.87
1980	1.81	2.00	2.64	4.03	10.49	1.81	2.00	2.64	4.03	10.49
1981	1.63	1.94	2.54	4.64	10.75	1.63	1.94	2.54	4.64	10.75
Other Chicken										
1977	0.89	0.81	0.63	0.73	3.07	0.89	0.81	0.63	0.73	3.07
1978	0.85	0.79	0.58	0.69	2.91	0.85	0.79	0.58	0.69	2.91
1979	0.77	0.70	0.68	0.75	2.91	0.77	0.70	0.68	0.75	2.91
1980	0.98	0.75	0.60	0.73	3.05	0.98	0.75	0.60	0.73	3.05
1981	0.82	0.76	0.71	0.81	3.10	0.82	0.76	0.71	0.81	3.10
Poultry										
1977	11.79	12.96	13.63	14.87	53.24	11.79	12.96	13.63	14.87	53.24
1978	12.46	13.83	14.09	15.44	55.82	12.46	13.83	14.09	15.44	55.82
1979	13.43	15.16	15.47	16.38	60.44	13.43	15.16	15.47	16.38	60.44
1980	14.50	15.22	14.87	15.98	60.58	14.50	15.22	14.87	15.98	60.58
1981	14.20	15.21	15.91	17.11	62.43	14.20	15.21	15.91	17.11	62.43
Red Meat and Poultry										
1977	60.39	59.36	60.93	63.47	244.14	50.97	50.14	51.39	54.09	206.58
1978	58.66	58.83	58.99	62.04	238.52	49.70	49.94	50.10	52.94	202.68
1979	57.73	58.56	59.37	62.68	238.34	49.23	50.51	51.18	54.43	205.35
1980	59.40	60.52	58.87	61.88	240.68	51.50	52.42	50.81	53.63	208.37
1981	59.40	58.71	59.81	62.41	240.33	51.25	50.67	51.73	54.25	207.90

[1]Total consumption including farm, 50 states.

ta, Texas, and Wisconsin—effective with the September report, which will be released September 22, 1982. The estimates eliminated from the June report are Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin. These changes begin with the June report, which will be released June 22.

Sheep and Lamb Reports, Lamb Crop and Wool (July), and *Sheep and Lambs on Feed* have been eliminated. The last *Sheep and Lambs on Feed* was released on March 17.

SRS will cut back the frequency it issues the following quarterly reports:

Cold Storage will change from a monthly to quarterly report for end-of-month holdings in March, June, September, and December. The first quarterly issue will be for June 30, 1982, which will be released July 19.

Livestock Slaughter will change from a monthly to a quarterly report. The first quarterly issue will cover April-June 1982 and will be released July 22.

Beef, Choice yield Grade 3: Retail, carcass, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share, 1977 to present[1]

Year	Retail price[2]	Gross carcass value[3]	Carcass by-product allowance[4]	Net carcass value[5]	Gross farm value[6]	Farm by-product allowance[7]	Net farm value[8]	Farm-retail spread: Total	Farm-retail spread: Carcass-retail	Farm-retail spread: Farm-carcass	Farmers' share[9]
	Cents/lb.										Percent
1977	148.4	95.7	1.9	93.8	97.3	11.8	85.5	62.9	54.6	8.3	58
1978	181.9	121.6	2.3	119.3	126.1	15.0	111.1	70.8	62.6	8.2	61
1979	226.3	153.3	2.8	150.5	163.4	22.6	140.8	85.5	75.8	9.7	62
1980	237.6	157.7	2.3	155.4	161.9	16.9	145.0	92.6	82.2	10.4	61
1981	238.7	151.5	2.1	149.3	154.5	16.0	138.5	100.2	89.4	10.8	58
1978											
I	162.7	108.5	2.0	106.4	110.4	12.6	97.8	64.9	56.3	8.6	60
II	185.7	129.1	2.2	126.9	133.8	14.2	119.6	66.1	58.8	7.3	64
III	189.4	124.3	2.4	121.9	129.3	16.2	113.1	76.3	67.5	8.8	60
IV	189.7	124.5	2.4	122.1	131.0	17.2	113.8	75.9	67.6	8.3	60
1979											
I	215.4	148.8	2.7	146.1	158.4	21.1	137.3	78.1	69.3	8.8	64
II	235.5	160.8	3.1	157.7	175.3	27.0	148.3	87.2	77.8	9.4	63
III	226.6	149.3	2.7	146.6	158.7	22.3	136.4	90.1	79.9	10.2	59
IV	227.7	154.4	2.6	151.8	160.9	17.9	141.0	86.7	75.9	10.8	62
1980											
I	235.2	155.8	2.2	153.6	160.4	17.2	143.2	92.0	81.6	10.4	61
II	231.4	154.4	2.1	152.3	156.5	14.2	142.3	89.1	79.1	10.0	62
III	241.6	165.4	2.5	162.9	171.1	18.2	152.9	88.7	78.7	10.0	63
IV	242.3	155.1	2.3	152.8	159.5	18.1	141.4	100.9	89.5	11.4	58
1981											
I	237.5	147.5	2.0	145.4	150.1	16.0	134.1	103.4	92.1	11.3	56
II[10]	234.7	155.5	2.1	153.4	160.8	16.6	144.2	90.5	81.3	9.2	61
III	243.1	158.3	2.3	156.0	160.8	16.3	144.5	98.6	87.1	11.5	59
IV	239.5	144.5	2.1	142.4	146.4	15.2	131.1	108.4	97.1	11.3	55
1982											
I	237.3	151.9	2.0	149.9	153.5	14.7	138.8	98.5	87.4	11.1	59
1981[10]											
Jan.	239.5	152.6	2.1	150.5	154.5	16.5	138.0	101.5	89.0	12.5	58
Feb.	237.5	146.6	2.0	144.6	149.2	15.3	133.9	103.6	92.9	10.7	56
Mar.	235.6	143.2	2.0	141.2	146.7	16.1	130.6	105.0	94.4	10.6	55
Apr.	230.9	148.7	2.0	146.7	155.0	17.1	137.9	93.0	84.2	8.8	60
May	234.3	157.3	2.2	155.1	162.3	16.7	145.6	88.6	79.1	9.5	62
June	238.9	160.6	2.2	158.4	165.2	16.0	149.2	89.7	80.5	9.2	63
July	242.9	162.2	2.3	159.9	164.2	16.3	147.9	95.0	83.0	12.0	62
Aug.	242.7	156.5	2.4	154.1	159.1	16.2	142.9	99.8	88.6	11.2	59
Sept.	243.8	156.2	2.3	153.9	159.1	16.3	142.8	101.0	89.9	11.1	59
Oct.	241.5	146.3	2.1	144.2	149.2	15.7	133.4	108.1	97.3	10.8	55
Nov.	239.0	144.3	2.2	142.1	146.6	15.2	131.4	107.6	96.9	10.7	55
Dec.	238.0	143.0	2.0	141.0	143.3	14.7	128.6	109.4	97.0	12.4	54
1982											
Jan.	236.9	147.1	2.0	145.1	146.3	14.5	131.8	105.1	91.8	13.3	56
Feb.	238.0	152.0	2.0	150.0	154.3	14.5	139.8	98.2	88.0	10.2	59
Mar.	237.0	156.7	2.1	154.6	160.0	15.1	144.9	92.1	82.4	9.7	61

[1]Revised series. [2]Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts from Choice Yield Grade 3 carcass. [3]Value of carcass quantity equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. A wholesale carcass equivalent of 1,464 was used prior to 1970 it was increased gradually to 1,476 in 1976 and later years. [4]Portion of gross carcass value attributed to fat and bone trim. [5]Gross carcass value minus carcass byproduct allowance. [6]Market value to producer for quantity of live animal equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. The farm product equivalent of 2.36 was used prior to 1970; it was increased gradually to 2.40 in 1976 and later years. [7]Portion of gross farm value attributed to edible and inedible byproducts. [8]Gross farm value minus farm byproduct allowance. [8]Percent net farm value is of retail price. [10]ERS data through May, BLS series since June.

Pork: Retail, wholesale, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share, 1977 to present[1]

						Farm-Retail Spread			
Year	Retail price[2]	Wholesale value[3]	Gross farm value[4]	Byproduct allowance[5]	Net farm value[6]	Total	wholesale retail	Farm whole-sale	Farmers' share[7]
				Cents/lb.					*Percent*
1977	125.4	99.0	70.2	4.6	65.6	59.8	26.4	33.4	52
1978	143.6	107.7	82.5	5.9	76.6	67.0	35.9	31.1	53
1979	144.1	100.4	72.2	5.6	66.6	77.5	43.7	33.8	46
1980	139.4	98.0	68.3	5.1	63.2	76.2	41.4	34.8	45
1981	152.4	106.7	75.5	5.2	70.3	82.1	45.7	36.4	46
1978									
I	137.0	104.8	80.7	5.6	75.1	61.9	32.2	29.7	55
II	142.4	105.6	81.3	5.8	75.5	66.9	36.8	30.1	53
III	144.7	107.6	82.4	6.0	76.4	68.3	37.1	31.2	53
IV	150.1	112.7	85.3	6.1	79.2	70.9	37.4	33.5	53
1979									
I	156.1	113.8	88.2	6.9	81.3	74.8	42.3	32.5	52
II	148.2	100.1	73.1	5.7	67.4	80.8	48.1	32.7	45
III	138.0	93.4	65.6	5.1	60.5	77.5	44.6	32.9	44
IV	134.3	94.1	62.0	4.7	57.3	77.0	40.2	36.8	43
1980									
I	133.9	90.9	61.8	4.6	57.2	76.7	43.0	33.7	43
II	125.3	82.3	53.1	3.8	49.3	76.0	43.0	33.0	39
III	144.2	107.7	78.6	5.7	72.9	71.3	36.5	34.8	51
IV	154.3	111.2	79.1	5.8	73.3	81.0	43.1	37.9	48
1981									
I	148.7	103.4	70.0	4.8	65.2	83.5	45.3	38.2	44
II[8]	144.7	104.1	73.9	5.0	68.9	75.8	40.6	35.2	48
III	157.5	113.6	85.8	5.9	79.9	77.6	43.9	33.7	51
IV	158.7	105.6	72.4	5.0	67.4	91.3	53.1	38.2	42
1982									
I	160.1	108.7	82.0	5.6	76.4	83.7	51.4	32.4	48
1981[8]									
Jan.	151.5	104.1	70.6	5.0	65.6	85.9	47.4	38.5	43
Feb.	148.4	104.6	72.1	4.8	67.3	81.1	43.8	37.3	45
Mar.	146.2	101.6	67.2	4.6	62.6	83.6	44.6	39.0	43
Apr.	142.7	101.2	67.4	4.6	62.8	79.9	41.5	38.4	44
May	144.9	101.5	71.1	4.8	66.3	78.6	43.4	35.2	46
June	146.6	109.5	83.1	5.6	77.5	69.1	37.1	32.0	53
July	154.9	114.5	86.8	5.9	80.9	74.0	40.4	33.6	52
Aug.	158.1	113.6	86.3	5.9	80.4	77.7	44.5	33.2	51
Sept.	159.5	112.7	84.3	6.0	78.3	81.2	46.8	34.4	49
Oct.	160.4	107.9	77.3	5.5	71.8	88.6	52.5	36.1	45
Nov.	158.2	105.3	71.8	5.0	66.8	91.4	52.9	38.5	42
Dec.	157.4	103.5	68.0	4.5	63.5	93.9	53.9	40.0	40
1982									
Jan.	158.2	107.0	77.8	5.2	72.6	85.6	51.2	34.4	46
Feb.	160.7	108.8	84.2	5.9	78.3	82.4	51.9	30.5	49
Mar.	161.4	110.4	84.0	5.8	78.2	83.2	51.0	32.2	48

[1]Revised series. [2]Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts from pork carcass. [3]Value of wholesale quantity equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. A wholesale carcass equivalent of 1.06 is used for all years. [4]Market values to producer for quantity of live animal equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. The farm product equivalent of 2.12 was used prior to 1959; it was decreased gradually to 1.70 in 1977 and later. [5]Portion of gross farm value attributable to edible and inedible byproducts. [6]Gross farm value minus byproduct allowance. [7]Percent net farm value is of retail price. [8]ERS data through May, BLS series since June.

Average retail price of meat per pound, United States, by months, 1979 to date[1]

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
						Beef, Choice grade[2]							
1979	204.9	215.3	225.9	232.8	240.2	233.6	232.2	220.9	226.6	224.3	226.2	232.6	226.3
1980	234.5	234.8	236.2	233.3	230.4	230.6	237.8	242.2	244.9	241.6	242.3	242.9	237.6
1981[3]	239.5	237.5	235.6	230.9	234.3	238.9	242.9	242.7	243.8	241.5	239.0	238.0	238.7
1982	236.9	238.0	237.0										
						Veal, retail cuts							
1979	247.0	254.8	252.2	273.1	289.1	294.4	294.1	293.2	294.2	296.6	298.5	299.8	282.3
1980	301.6	303.8	305.9	310.2	310.0	311.4	309.8	311.4	309.8	309.1	314.1	316.4	309.5
1981[4]	314.6	314.7	314.1	316.4	314.9								
						Pork[2]							
1980	135.3	133.2	133.3	127.8	123.6	124.4	136.2	145.7	150.7	153.8	156.3	153.8	139.5
1981[3]	151.5	148.4	146.2	142.7	144.9	146.6	154.9	158.1	159.5	160.4	158.2	157.4	152.4
1982	158.2	160.7	161.4										
						Lamb, Choice grade							
1980	249.0	249.1	252.9	252.8	247.2	250.1	253.9	254.4	255.0	256.2	256.2	255.8	252.7
1981[4]	253.1	252.3	251.8	250.5	255.0								

[1]Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts. Compiled by Economics Research Service. [2]Series revised. See Special Article in LMS-222, August 1978. [3]ERS data through May, BLS series since June. [4]Discontinued.

Average retail price of specified meat cuts, per pound, by months, 1980 to date[1]

Year and item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
CHOICE BEEF:												
Ground Chuck												
1980	1.89	1.89	1.90	1.88	1.88	1.86	1.89	1.93	1.96	1.95	1.94	1.95
1981	1.93	1.92	1.89	1.86	1.84							
1980	1.82	1.84	1.86	1.82	1.81	1.79	1.78	1.84	1.86	1.86	1.85	1.86
1981	1.86	1.83	1.82	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.76	1.80	1.82	1.80	1.81	1.81
1982	1.79	1.80	1.77									
Chuck Roast, Bone In												
1980	1.61	1.61	1.63	1.58	1.55	1.50	1.57	1.60	1.59	1.62	1.63	1.61
1981	1.62	1.57	1.59	1.53	1.58							
1980	1.78	1.82	1.85	1.80	1.76	1.73	1.80	1.81	1.86	1.86	1.89	1.87
1981	1.86	1.85	1.83	1.78	1.79	1.79	1.82	1.82	1.84	1.81	1.83	1.78
1982	1.77	1.81	1.77									
Round Roast, Boneless												
1980	2.57	2.56	2.59	2.60	2.51	2.53	2.59	2.63	2.65	2.64	2.65	2.66
1981	2.64	2.67	2.61	2.60	2.64							
1980	2.61	2.62	2.58	2.57	2.58	2.56	2.60	2.62	2.64	2.66	2.66	2.61
1981	2.64	2.62	2.60	2.59	2.62	2.62	2.64	2.65	2.63	2.64	2.63	2.63
1982	2.58	2.62	2.61									
Rib Roast, Bone In												
1980	2.93	2.92	2.92	2.89	2.88	2.91	3.01	3.06	3.12	3.08	3.06	3.04
1981	3.05	3.01	2.95	2.90	2.98							
1980	2.92	2.91	2.92	2.84	2.85	2.86	2.91	2.98	3.05	3.05	3.02	3.04
1981	3.03	2.95	2.96	2.91	3.00	2.98	3.06	3.07	3.12	3.07	3.07	3.09
1982	3.12	3.07	3.07									
Round Steak, Boneless												
1980	2.57	2.52	2.53	2.54	2.51	2.51	2.57	2.58	2.58	2.58	2.60	2.62
1981	2.58	2.56	2.48	2.46	2.51							
1980	2.72	2.72	2.74	2.73	2.71	2.70	2.77	2.79	2.83	2.81	2.87	2.81
1981	2.83	2.84	2.80	2.80	2.82	2.86	2.89	2.90	2.86	2.94	2.92	2.90
1982	2.88	2.84	2.90									
Sirloin Steak, Bone In												
1980	3.17	3.18	3.22	3.20	3.24	3.32	3.44	3.46	3.46	3.36	3.32	3.33
1981	3.25	3.23	3.23	3.20	3.26							
1980	2.85	2.80	2.83	2.86	2.84	3.00	3.04	3.10	3.14	2.97	3.00	2.93
1981	2.92	2.88	2.89	2.88	3.04	3.06	3.21	3.12	3.16	3.04	2.84	2.85
1982	2.88	2.92	2.92									

Continued—

Average retail price of specified meat cuts, per pound, by months, 1980 to date[1] Continued–

Year and item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chuck Steak, Bone In												
1980	1.73	1.73	1.76	1.71	1.64	1.60	1.65	1.68	1.70	1.74	1.73	1.73
1981	1.73	1.69	1.69	1.65	1.64							
1980	1.70	1.72	1.76	1.72	1.66	1.60	1.61	1.65	1.74	1.75	1.78	1.74
1981	1.73	1.73	1.71	1.72	1.77	1.69	1.69	1.73	1.76	1.78	1.76	1.74
1982	1.74	1.78	1.82									
T-Bone Steak, Bone In												
1980	3.36	3.41	3.45	3.40	3.48	3.50	3.60	3.69	3.74	3.59	3.59	3.57
1981	3.54	3.48	3.42	3.42	3.51							
1980	3.46	3.42	3.44	3.46	3.50	3.61	3.76	3.86	3.88	3.69	3.65	3.63
1981	3.63	3.51	3.56	3.58	3.71	3.79	4.00	3.96	3.90	3.82	3.72	3.61
1982	3.62	3.59	3.61									
Porterhouse Steak, Bone In												
1980	3.48	3.48	3.53	3.50	3.59	3.59	3.68	3.79	3.82	3.67	3.67	3.65
1981	3.66	3.57	3.54	3.52	3.62							
1980	3.40	3.59	3.56	3.60	3.62	3.80	3.76	3.97	3.96	3.81	3.86	3.78
1981	3.75	3.74	3.76	3.68	3.80	3.96	4.12	3.97	3.98	3.84	3.71	3.79
1982	3.76	3.77	3.71									
						Cents						
PORK												
Bacon, Sliced												
1980	1.35	1.32	1.32	1.26	1.24	1.22	1.38	1.53	1.64	1.65	1.70	1.70
1981	1.63	1.63	1.58	1.50	1.55							
1980	1.45	1.41	1.36	1.32	1.27	1.27	1.37	1.47	1.62	1.64	1.68	1.71
1981	1.67	1.64	1.60	1.53	1.55	1.60	1.67	1.69	1.75	1.78	1.77	1.75
1982	1.75	1.81	1.82									
Chops, Center Cut												
1980	2.01	2.00	1.96	1.92	1.84	1.87	2.00	2.07	2.09	2.15	2.18	2.15
1981	2.16	2.11	2.12	2.10	2.08							
1980	1.96	1.91	1.88	1.87	1.80	1.82	1.93	2.01	2.07	2.06	2.06	2.07
1981	2.11	2.08	2.07	2.06	2.01	2.08	2.20	2.23	2.22	2.23	2.16	2.13
1982	2.20	2.21	2.18									
Ham, Rump or Shank Half												
1980	1.25	1.22	1.22	1.20	1.13	1.15	1.21	1.28	1.32	1.38	1.39	1.37
1981	1.35	1.26	1.25	1.22	1.26							
1980	1.25	1.19	1.21	1.13	1.11	1.08	1.12	1.25	1.29	1.35	1.40	1.40
1981	1.33	1.27	1.23	1.19	1.23	1.23	1.34	1.37	1.40	1.38	1.36	1.38
1982	1.38	1.35	1.40									
Ham, Rump Portion												
1980	1.21	1.16	1.19	1.14	1.07	1.08	1.18	1.24	1.29	1.37	1.38	1.34
1981	1.30	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.24							
1980	1.18	1.14	1.19	1.10	.99	1.02	1.08	1.20	1.22	1.27	1.30	1.28
1981	1.23	1.15	1.14	1.07	1.07	1.14	1.16	1.22	1.24	1.24	1.26	1.26
1982	1.25	1.28	1.31									
Ham, Shank Portion												
1980	1.10	1.05	1.09	1.03	.96	.97	1.07	1.13	1.17	1.26	1.25	1.22
1981	1.19	1.14	1.12	1.09	1.13							
1980	1.11	1.06	1.06	.97	.88	.88	.98	1.05	1.08	1.15	1.18	1.17
1981	1.10	1.06	1.04	1.00	1.02	1.04	1.07	1.12	1.14	1.16	1.16	1.18
1982	1.12	1.13	1.15									
Shoulder Roast, Blade Boston												
1980	1.29	1.28	1.28	1.20	1.15	1.15	1.28	1.44	1.46	1.48	1.47	1.46
1981	1.46	1.42	1.38	1.38	1.34							
1980	1.29	1.24	1.24	1.18	1.12	1.13	1.26	1.37	1.42	1.40	1.42	1.44
1981	1.42	1.37	1.32	1.34	1.31	1.35	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.51	1.41
1982	1.42	1.46	1.46									
Sirloin Roast, Bone In												
1980	1.41	1.41	1.38	1.36	1.31	1.33	1.43	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.55	1.51
1981	1.53	1.50	1.52	1.52	1.50							
1980	1.42	1.42	1.36	1.34	1.30	1.31	1.41	1.47	1.52	1.53	1.55	1.55
1981	1.56	1.52	1.51	1.50	1.50	1.52	1.63	1.64	1.61	1.63	1.58	1.60
1982	1.59	1.60	1.62									
Shoulder Picnic, Bone In												
1980	1.02	1.02	1.00	.96	.90	.91	.98	1.03	1.08	1.08	1.12	1.10
1981	1.11	1.08	1.05	1.02	1.01							
1980	1.01	.98	1.00	.98	.84	.84	.91	1.00	1.07	1.06	1.10	1.07
1981	1.07	1.00	1.00	.99	.98	1.01	1.05	1.08	1.11	1.09	1.08	1.07
1982	1.10	1.09	1.08									

Continued–

Average retail price of specified meat cuts, per pound, by months, 1980 to date[1] Continued–

Year and item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Sausage, Fresh, Pork, Loose												
1980	1.16	1.20	1.20	1.18	1.15	1.13	1.16	1.26	1.36	1.41	1.40	1.41
1981	1.41	1.38	1.36	1.33	1.34							
1980	1.41	1.34	1.37	1.35	1.32	1.30	1.31	1.38	1.50	1.54	1.56	1.56
1981	1.59	1.58	1.57	1.56	1.53	1.52	1.60	1.65	1.64	1.66	1.66	1.69
1982	1.72	1.76	1.79									
						Cents						
MISCELLANEOUS CUTS												
Ham, Canned, 3 or 5 lbs.												
1980	2.31	2.30	2.33	2.26	2.24	2.19	2.20	2.28	2.33	2.42	2.50	2.50
1981	2.54	2.50	2.45	2.38	2.40	2.38	2.39	2.42	2.48	2.50	2.52	2.54
1982	2.56	2.59	2.57									
Frankfurters, all Meat												
1980	1.68	1.71	1.72	1.69	1.64	1.62	1.60	1.71	1.79	1.82	1.84	1.84
1981	1.82	1.81	1.77	1.74	1.69	1.72	1.74	1.80	1.77	1.78	1.79	1.78
1982	1.76	1.76	1.74									
Bologna												
1980	1.97	2.00	2.00	1.94	1.89	1.86	1.92	2.00	2.09	2.11	2.18	2.20
1981	2.21	2.18	2.11	2.10	2.03	2.06	2.10	2.12	2.11	2.13	2.10	2.11
1982	2.08	2.09	2.15									
Beef Liver												
1980	1.22	1.19	1.21	1.14	1.14	1.12	1.08	1.11	1.17	1.21	1.20	1.23
1981	1.20	1.17	1.12	1.13	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.12	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.07
1982	1.00	1.02	1.05									

[1]Data from two series are included, the discontinued series (effective May, 1981) and a Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) series which replaces it. The cut name listed is the BLS cut terminology and the last three lines (1980, 1981, 1982) are the BLS data for this cut. Where available data for a similar cut from the discontinued series are listed above (1980, 1981) the BLS data. For additional information, contact Karen Parham, (202) 447-4997.

Supply and distribution of commercially produced meat, by months, carcass weight[1]

Meat and period	Supply: Production	Supply: Beginning stocks[2]	Supply: Imports	Distribution: Exports and shipments	Distribution: Ending stocks	Distribution: Military	Civilian consumption: Total[3]	Civilian consumption: Per person[4]
	Million pounds							*Pounds*
Beef:								
1981								
January	1,937	328	168	22	361	18	2,032	9.0
February	1,722	361	165	23	348	14	1,863	8.2
March	1,900	348	115	27	342	17	1,977	8.7
April	1,813	342	146	21	339	15	1,926	8.5
May	1,764	339	127	18	329	11	1,872	8.2
June	1,861	329	145	18	297	32	1,988	8.7
July	1,821	297	157	16	273	17	1,969	8.6
August	1,828	273	161	20	245	19	1,978	8.7
September	1,892	245	190	21	235	17	2,054	9.0
October	1,971	235	160	25	245	12	2,084	9.1
November	1,803	245	106	20	232	13	1,889	8.3
December	1,902	232	103	21	257	10	1,949	8.5
1982								
January	1,854	257	124	18	249	8	1,960	8.6
February	1,718	249	97	23	223	10	1,809	7.9
March	1,878	223			213			
Veal:								
1981								
January	35	9	2	1	9	1	36	.2
February	30	9	3	1	8	(6)	33	.1
March	35	8	1	1	10	1	32	.1
April	32	10	1	(6)	10	1	32	.1
May	30	10	1	1	9	1	30	.1
June	32	9	(6)	1	8	2	31	.1
July	34	8	1	1	8	1	34	.2
August	33	8	1	1	7	1	33	.1
September	38	7	2	1	7	1	38	.2
October	40	7	4	(6)	8	1	42	.2
November	35	8	3	(6)	9	1	35	.2
December	40	9	1	(6)	9	(6)	40	.2
1982								
January	35	9	1	(6)	10	(6)	35	.2
February	32	10	1	(6)	8	1	33	.1
March	39	8			8			
Lamb and Mutton:								
1981								
January	29	9	1	(6)	9	(6)	30	.1
February	26	9	1	(6)	8	(6)	28	.1
March	29	8	2	1	8	(6)	31	.1
April	29	8	5	(6)	10	(6)	31	.1
May	24	10	5	1	10	(6)	28	.1
June	24	10	4	1	12	(6)	25	.1
July	24	12	3	(6)	13	(6)	26	.1
August	25	13	2	(6)	14	(6)	25	.1
September	30	14	6	(6)	13	(6)	36	.2
October	31	13	2	1	13	(6)	33	.1
November	27	13	(6)	1	11	(6)	28	.1
December	30	11	(6)	(6)	10	(6)	31	.1
1982								
January	29	10	(6)	(6)	10	(6)	30	.1
February	28	10	1	(6)	8	(6)	30	.1
March	33	8			9			

Continued

Supply and distribution of commercially produced meat, by months, carcass weight[1] Continued

Meat and period	Supply			Distribution			Civilian consumption	
	Production	Beginning stocks[2]	Imports	Exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Military	Total[3]	Per person[4]
	Million pounds							*Pounds*
Pork[5]								
1981								
January	1,416	349	48	40	351	10	1,412	6.2
Feburary	1,235	351	42	47	356	8	1,217	5.4
March	1,425	256	47	50	361	11	1,406	6.2
April	1,425	361	45	39	404	7	1,381	6.1
May	1,254	404	46	53	394	7	1,250	5.5
June	1,201	394	47	41	347	17	1,237	5.4
July	1,162	347	48	25	284	10	1,238	5.4
August	1,157	284	51	29	225	11	1,227	5.4
September	1,287	225	35	28	207	14	1,298	5.7
October	1,391	207	47	25	238	8	1,374	6.0
November	1,319	238	44	30	255	10	1,306	5.7
December	1,445	255	42	46	264	7	1,425	6.2
1982								
January	1,234	264	37	39	247	4	1,244	5.4
February	1,116	247	35	25	246	7	1,120	4.9
March	1,346	246			274			
Total meat:								
1981								
January	3,417	696	219	62	730	29	3,511	15.5
February	3,013	730	211	72	720	22	3,140	13.8
March	3,389	720	165	78	720	30	3,447	15.2
April	3,299	720	197	61	763	23	3,370	14.8
May	3,072	763	178	72	742	19	3,180	14.0
June	3,118	742	196	59	665	51	3,281	14.4
July	3,041	665	209	42	577	28	3,268	14.4
August	3,043	577	214	50	491	31	3,263	14.3
September	3,247	491	233	51	462	32	3,425	15.0
October	3,433	462	212	51	503	20	3,533	15.5
November	3,184	503	153	50	507	24	3,259	14.3
December	3,417	507	147	68	541	18	3,444	15.1
1982								
January	3,152	541	163	58	515	13	3,269	14.3
February	2,894	515	135	48	486	17	2,993	13.1
March	3,296	486			504			

[1]Excludes production from farm slaughter. [2]Beginning 1977, excludes beef and pork stocks in cooler. [3]Totals may not add due to rounding. [4]Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies. Figures revised for 1980 U.S. Census. [5]Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the meats listed. [6]Less than 500,000 lb.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1981												1982		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
	Dollars per 100 pounds														
SLAUGHTER STEERS:															
Omaha:															
Choice, 900-1100 lb.	63.08	61.50	61.40	64.92	66.86	68.26	67.86	66.37	65.37	61.45	59.81	59.24	60.75	63.54	65.80
Good, 900-1100 lb.	59.71	58.48	58.62	60.33	61.76	62.43	62.95	61.60	60.93	58.36	57.21	55.53	55.89	58.02	60.48
California, Choice 900-1100 lb.	68.75	66.12	64.12	68.35	68.38	69.12	67.40	67.09	68.40	65.88	65.19	63.95	63.06	64.31	66.90
Colorado, Choice 900-1100 lb.	65.25	62.20	60.94	66.35	67.94	69.88	68.02	66.28	66.44	62.60	62.26	60.34	60.94	64.14	66.51
Texas, Choice 900-1100 lb.	66.08	63.99	62.02	66.35	69.04	70.60	68.53	66.96	67.47	63.97	63.09	61.14	62.34	64.81	67.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:															
Omaha:															
Choice, 900-1100 lb.	61.40	60.09	60.08	63.17	65.72	66.32	65.82	63.57	62.74	58.44	58.20	57.83	59.17	61.98	64.24
Good, 700-900 lb.	57.86	56.71	56.85	60.84	63.31	63.68	63.03	59.66	58.88	56.58	55.16	54.66	54.78	56.82	58.20
COWS:															
Omaha:															
Commercial	41.28	42.85	52.51	42.93	41.86	42.38	43.17	44.15	42.46	40.65	37.75	37.05	37.26	38.61	40.43
Utility	41.61	43.65	43.12	43.95	42.39	42.88	43.78	44.31	42.47	40.61	37.70	36.65	36.64	38.11	39.41
Cutter	40.10	42.95	42.94	43.81	42.40	42.80	43.48	42.44	40.47	38.29	35.28	34.03	34.41	36.11	36.97
Canner	37.81	40.68	40.65	41.50	40.31	41.01	41.36	40.80	38.58	35.76	32.32	30.82	31.24	32.60	32.52
VEALERS:															
Choice, S. St. Paul	77.38	78.00	80.88	83.90	84.25	82.88	76.00	77.25	77.30	71.75	68.88	67.50	69.00	67.50	71.50
FEEDER STEERS:[1]															
Kansas City:															
Medium No. 1, 400-500 lb.	77.45	77.30	77.65	77.45	72.50	72.02	69.04	70.95	71.52	66.56	67.05	63.16	63.18	64.52	68.32
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	72.58	70.40	68.80	68.94	65.79	65.12	63.22	65.75	66.16	64.07	64.02	60.06	60.08	63.28	65.78
Medium No. 2, 600-700 lb.															
All weight and grades	68.56	68.14	65.47	66.28	63.10	63.51	61.51	64.15	64.58	62.52	61.77	58.96	59.22	62.37	63.96
Amarillo:															
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	71.88	70.22	68.91	69.07	61.70	63.20	61.62	64.16	65.11	62.50	64.17	60.50	60.78	63.78	64.74
Georgia Auctions:															
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	64.50	64.75	62.88	63.55	56.75	58.38	55.30	56.62	57.00	56.38	56.38	55.00	55.12	57.38	61.90
Medium No. 2, 400-500 lb.	65.00	66.88	66.25	65.70	58.25	59.50	55.30	57.25	56.00	54.88	57.50	55.33	55.75	58.00	59.80
FEEDER HEIFERS:															
Kansas City:															
Medium No. 1, 400-500 lb.	65.80	65.95	64.12	64.59	60.99	60.87	58.08	61.22	59.75	55.06	55.58	52.62	53.62	54.51	56.81
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	64.08	63.60	61.88	62.24	59.58	59.00	57.88	59.60	59.68	56.05	56.28	52.64	54.32	55.92	57.85
SLAUGHTER HOGS:															
Barrows and Gilts:															
Omaha:															
Nos. 1 & 2, 200-230 lb.	42.57	43.55	40.31	40.83	43.28	50.06	51.77	51.60	49.62	45.80	42.87	41.24	46.86	50.34	49.86
All weights	41.35	42.39	39.42	39.74	41.76	48.35	50.12	50.50	49.68	45.61	41.75	39.75	45.38	49.20	49.09
Sioux City	41.67	42.78	39.88	40.15	41.96	48.78	51.01	51.14	49.89	46.15	42.10	40.17	45.77	49.70	49.50
7 marktets[2]	41.42	42.43	39.54	39.79	42.05	49.04	50.66	50.92	49.68	45.62	42.20	40.06	45.63	49.49	49.38
Sows:															
7 markets[2]	38.03	39.05	36.89	36.73	37.42	43.12	43.74	44.78	46.47	43.24	38.63	33.77	39.70	44.84	46.28
FEEDER PIGS:															
Nos. 1 & 2, So. Mo., 40-50 lb. (per hd.)	31.00	36.86	36.33	39.33	36.10	37.88	32.88	38.55	40.23	34.20	31.88	29.11	31.70	39.96	52.04

Continued

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat—(Con)

Item	1981												1982		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
	Dollars per 100 pounds														
SLAUGHTER LAMBS:															
Lambs, Choice, San Angelo	57.50	57.75	56.75	63.20	65.38	67.76	64.38	61.62	52.30	54.25	48.50	---	51.50	53.50	60.70
Lambs, Choice, So. St. Paul	50.22	52.45	53.22	60.98	64.20	65.20	58.47	53.15	49.40	50.52	45.37	45.36	48.05	52.68	60.52
Ewes, Good, San Angelo	30.50	34.12	34.00	26.70	21.81	23.12	26.75	21.12	21.00	24.50	24.94	25.25	28.50	26.50	31.80
Ewes, Good, So. St. Paul	19.50	20.32	20.88	17.74	11.85	11.65	16.16	16.00	14.26	11.90	11.65	13.06	14.70	15.00	15.00
FEEDER LAMBS:															
Choice, San Angelo	61.75	62.25	59.00	61.30	60.69	69.92	56.62	54.56	51.40	51.62	49.33	50.94	50.44	53.25	57.65
Choice, So. St. Paul	57.30	57.15	54.65	53.00	54.52	61.50	55.00	51.28	47.30	48.20	43.92	44.50	44.88	48.08	55.34
FARM PRICES:															
Beef cattle	59.30	59.40	58.20	61.00	59.00	60.80	59.70	59.00	58.90	55.80	54.50	52.00	53.60	56.10	58.60
Calves	69.20	70.60	68.80	69.60	68.80	66.20	62.00	62.40	61.80	59.40	59.60	57.80	57.10	58.90	61.90
Hogs	40.80	41.30	38.80	39.00	40.90	47.40	49.30	49.20	48.60	45.00	41.50	39.00	43.40	48.40	48.60
Sheep	25.90	29.00	26.10	23.40	18.40	21.00	23.00	20.30	20.10	19.60	19.60	19.20	25.10	21.30	27.20
Lambs	53.70	55.40	56.50	58.80	62.50	65.00	59.50	56.20	50.40	50.60	47.40	47.50	50.40	53.30	60.30
MEAT PRICES:															
Wholesale:															
Central U.S.[2] markets															
Steer beef Choice, 600-700 lb.	99.80	96.80	94.32	99.68	103.32	106.52	107.23	103.90	102.96	96.02	94.56	93.70	97.42	101.24	103.82
Heifer beef, Choice 500-600 lb.	97.60	94.21	92.82	97.69	102.12	104.05	104.08	99.98	99.48	93.98	92.14	91.61	94.39	98.58	101.40
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter	86.25	91.12	87.50	87.62	83.75	84.58	85.17	88.93	84.82	78.98	76.04	73.99	74.80	78.44	83.46
Pork loins, 8-14 lb.	97.50	96.36	91.12	85.84	94.16	102.31	105.70	104.88	104.56	98.77	90.92	86.56	105.74	102.17	95.45
Pork bellies 12-14 lb.	50.40	50.18	40.19	48.58	45.07	55.26	54.74	59.54	60.07	55.43	56.68	51.35	62.22	67.84	66.67
Hams, skinned, 14-17 lb.	65.01	67.42	68.28	72.68	70.96	78.08	82.88	84.33	84.67	84.20	86.14	86.31	74.03	78.40	90.69
East Coast:															
Lamb, Choice and Prime, 35-45 lb.	127.00	127.83	128.00	126.70	138.04	143.61	138.12	128.94	116.12	118.00	113.77	111.80	114.43	120.19	132.33
Lamb, Choice and Prime, 55-56 lb.	108.12	113.06	113.56	122.62	137.50	142.75	137.30	127.75	115.90	116.08	109.00	106.42	109.41	116.75	129.60
West Coast:															
Steer Beef, Choice, 600-700 lb.	108.59	105.17	101.02	106.54	109.46	110.27	110.14	108.18	110.81	105.50	103.64	103.13	103.00	103.82	113.10
Retail:															
Beef, Choice	239.5	237.5	235.6	230.9	234.3	238.9	242.9	242.7	243.8	241.5	239.0	238.0	236.9	238.0	237.0
Pork	151.5	148.4	146.2	142.7	144.9	146.6	154.9	158.1	159.5	160.4	158.2	157.4	158.2	160.7	161.4
Price Indexes (BLS, 1967=100):															
Retail meats	259.7	256.4	254.4	251.0	252.3	254.2	259.6	262.0	263.4	262.5	259.6	258.7	257.8	260.2	261.2
Beef and veal	275.3	272.3	270.3	267.4	270.3	271.1	274.5	275.9	277.1	274.9	271.5	270.5	269.4	271.5	271.7
Pork	228.2	223.6	221.6	217.4	217.3	221.2	231.5	235.3	238.1	238.6	235.6	234.3	234.7	238.9	239.5
Other meats	262.9	260.5	258.3	255.4	253.9	255.9	258.4	261.4	260.7	261.6	260.5	260.6	258.1	258.1	262.4
Poultry	202.4	203.7	201.6	196.8	194.7	196.8	204.8	202.0	199.7	196.6	192.3	191.7	194.2	195.7	194.7
LIVESTOCK-FEED RATIOS, OMAHA[3]															
Beef steer-corn	19.2	19.3	19.4	20.0	20.6	21.4	21.5	23.8	26.0	25.2	25.0	25.0	24.6	25.9	26.5
Hog-corn	13.0	13.3	12.4	12.3	12.9	15.2	15.9	18.1	19.8	18.7	17.5	16.8	18.4	20.1	19.8

[1] Reflects new feeder cattle grades. [2] St. Louis, N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis. [3] Bushels of No. 2 yellow corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds liveweight.

Selected Marketings, slaughter and stock statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1981 July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1982 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
					1,000 head				
FEDERALLY INSPECTED:									
Slaughter									
Cattle	2,765	2,772	2,846	2,939	2,668	2,829	2,771	2,591	2,819
Steers	1,376	1,336	1,343	1,392	1,274	1,406	1,399	1,332	1,446
Heifers	814	862	880	888	775	763	761	683	758
Cows	507	507	553	596	563	604	561	525	553
Bulls and stags	68	67	71	64	55	55	50	51	63
Calves	204	198	228	236	217	254	228	210	263
Sheep and lambs	439	467	546	558	476	522	509	490	570
Hogs	6,539	6,580	7,320	7,872	7,309	7,923	6,875	6,340	7,691
					Percent				
Percentage sows	6.4	6.1	5.6	4.9	5.0	5.6	5.6	5.5	4.8
					Pounds				
Average liveweight per head:									
Cattle	1,060	1,057	1,064	1,076	1,083	1,087	1,086	1,079	1,080
Calves	223	215	206	212	205	208	210	208	203
Sheep and lambs	106	106	107	109	111	112	111	113	115
Hogs	242	239	240	243	246	247	243	239	239
Average dressed weight:									
Beef	630	629	633	638	640	640	640	634	636
Veal	136	130	125	129	125	128	127	129	124
Lamb and Mutton	52	52	53	54	55	56	56	57	58
Pork	172	170	170	172	174	175	173	170	170
Production:									
Beef	1,736	1,738	1,795	1,870	1,703	1,803	1,766	1,636	1,786
Veal	27	25	28	30	27	32	29	26	32
Lamb and mutton	23	24	29	30	26	29	28	28	33
Pork	1,118	1,113	1,241	1,347	1,271	1,385	1,186	1,074	1,301
					1,000 head				
COMMERCIAL:									
Slaughter:									
Cattle	2,920	2,934	3,024	3,126	2,855	3,012	2,936	2,744	2,989
Calves	228	226	261	271	247	284	251	231	288
Sheep and Lambs	460	491	570	574	490	535	520	499	582
Hogs	6,812	6,854	7,612	8,143	7,600	8,282	7,163	6,595	7,966
Production:									
Beef	1,821	1,828	1,892	1,971	1,803	1,902	1,854	1,718	1,878
Veal	34	33	38	40	35	40	35	32	39
Lamb and mutton	24	25	30	31	27	30	29	28	33
Pork	1,162	1,157	1,287	1,391	1,319	1,445	1,234	1,116	1,346
					Mil. lb.				
COLD STORAGE STOCKS FIRST OF MONTH:[2]									
Beef	298	273	246	235	245	234	258	249	223
Veal	8	7	7	6	7	7	10	10	8
Lamb and mutton	12	13	14	13	13	11	11	10	8
Pork	347	283	225	207	238	255	264	247	246
Total meat and meat products[3]	717	628	539	509	547	552	583	554	524
FOREIGN TRADE:									
Imports: (carcass weight)									
Beef and veal	158	162	192	164	108	104	125	98	147
Pork	48	51	35	47	44	42	37	35	54
Lamb and mutton	3	2	6	2	([4])	([4])	([4])	1	2
Exports: Carcass weight):									
Beef and veal	13.1	16.6	18.9	22.8	20.3	18.2	15.0	20.0	22.2
Pork	14.1	13.9	16.6	20.3	29.3	27.6	27.6	15.6	14.5
Lamb and mutton	.1	.1	2.2	4.0	3.8	2.1	.1	.1	.1
					Number				
Live animal imports:									
Cattle	27,458	20,254	29,157	45,474	45,617	47,603	37,534	40,996	79,847
Hog	7,938	8,981	8,176	10,171	8,792	9,076	12,599	26,517	36,372
Sheep and lambs	40	1,150	536	4,361	18	436	14	14	4
Live animal exports:									
Cattle	8,152	4,844	5,261	5,729	10,508	7,148	6,982	7,125	3,085
Hogs	2,498	1,252	2,244	2,381	3,675	3,206	2,539	2,277	2,402
Sheep and lambs	18,062	15,049	8,660	26,375	26,089	33,738	24,204	23,600	18,215

[1]Federally inspected and other commercial. [2]Beginning Jan. 1977: excludes beef and pork stocks in cooler. [3]Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the meats listed. [4]Less than 50,000 lbs.

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