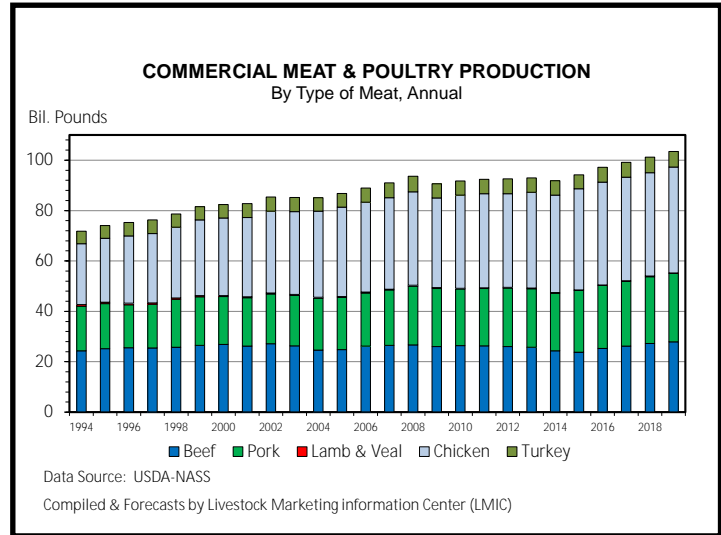


Yesterday, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) published their monthly Livestock Slaughter report with data for July. To Yesterday, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) published their monthly Livestock Slaughter report with data for July. To summarize, the report showed commercial red meat production for the month (same number of slaughter days as a year ago) up 3% year-over-year, U.S. commercial beef production was 2.11 billion pounds, up 4% compared to a year ago while pork tonnage totaled 1.86 billion pounds (up 2% from 2016's). The full report is posted [here](#).

Today we discuss the broader picture of total annual U.S. red meat and poultry production, supply, and disappearance. That compilation is often cited as "record high", which is correct this year and last, and the Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC) forecasts that situation to persist through 2019. However, production numbers need to be in context, which is often not done. Looking at the timeframe from 1960 through 2016 (56 years), 40 years set new all time highs in U.S. red meat and poultry production. That is 71% of the year's set new highs; records are the typical situation, not abnormal. The table below contains historical data from USDA and LMIC forecasts.

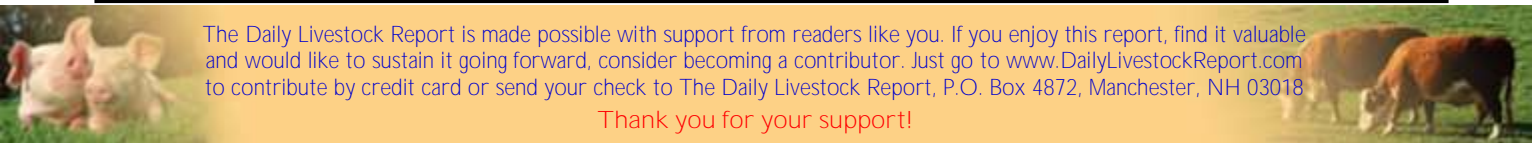
Interested readers can look at the details of annual imports and exports; we jump to the total domestic disappearance which tells a bit different story than production. Dividing disappearance

by U.S. population gives per person numbers. We draw readers attention to retail weight (weight estimated at the meat counter in the grocery store) and boneless equivalent. Retail weight in 2017 is projected to be the largest since 2008, not record large. Much of the growth in production has been chicken, which in the retail meat case has much more bone than do red meats (see boneless equivalent in the table).



TOTAL RED MEAT AND POULTRY SUPPLY AND UTILIZATION AND CONSUMPTION (DISSAPPEARANCE)												
Year	Production (million pounds)				Imports	Supply	Exports	Ending Stocks	Total Disappearance	Consumption or Dissappearance per person		
	Net Poultry	Commercial Red Meat	Farm Red Meat	Net Total Meat & Poultry						Weight	Retail Weight	Boneless Equivalent
2005	40934.9	45710.0	137.5	86782.4	4856.2	93786.1	9274.4	2184.9	82326.9	278.1	221.2	188.2
2006	41231.7	47537.7	137.2	88906.6	4343.5	95435.0	10069.6	2101.0	83264.4	278.6	221.7	188.4
2007	42143.1	48683.3	136.6	90963.0	4324.3	97388.3	11203.0	2150.6	84034.7	278.5	221.7	188.7
2008	43236.0	50225.0	130.6	93591.6	3669.7	99411.9	14444.1	2451.3	82516.5	271.0	216.0	183.6
2009	41219.6	49273.5	124.2	90617.3	3758.0	96826.6	13497.4	1994.0	81335.2	264.7	210.8	179.8
2010	42589.3	49038.7	116.2	91744.2	3459.1	97197.3	13960.8	2114.0	81122.5	261.9	208.8	177.3
2011	43040.2	49231.7	103.5	92375.4	3151.3	97640.7	15772.8	1965.0	79902.9	255.9	204.4	172.9
2012	43048.8	49439.4	103.3	92591.5	3310.8	97867.2	16003.0	2207.0	79657.3	253.3	202.1	171.3
2013	43678.2	49174.3	97.0	92949.5	3447.0	98603.5	15775.7	2143.0	80684.8	254.7	203.4	172.3
2014	44354.0	47344.8	101.3	91800.1	4299.4	98242.5	15853.3	2066.0	80323.2	251.6	201.3	169.9
2015	45695.7	48432.0	88.4	94216.1	4877.4	101159.5	14275.8	2361.0	84522.7	263.0	210.7	177.7
2016	46712.0	50387.8	93.2	97193.1	4505.9	104060.0	15172.6	2369.0	86518.5	266.9	213.9	180.4
2017	47018.0	52052.9	94.5	99165.4	4203.2	105737.6	15947.7	2264.0	87526.0	268.0	214.6	181.1
2018	47210.1	53896.7	96.9	101203.7	3941.2	107408.9	16425.9	2536.0	88447.0	268.7	215.0	181.8
2019	48169.6	55171.2	97.9	103438.7	3965.2	109939.9	17022.0	2771.0	90146.9	271.9	217.4	184.0

Historical Data Compiled by USDA-WAOB from Various USDA Agencies
2017 is Projected by Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC); Subsequent Years are Forecasted by LMIC



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