

ArrowStream

Pork - Last week's hog slaughter was estimated at 2.61 million head, the second largest weekly kill ever. Despite expanded production schedules, pork prices have fared well throughout the week. Retail ads for holiday hams were disappointing, at best, as retail ham features were down 27% vs. 2017, but the feature price was nearly 7% over year ago. Perhaps retailers are waiting until this weekend to break big ads ahead of two back-to-back holiday weeks. During Q1, hog slaughter is likely to slow, but production is still expected to increase 3% year-over-year.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Hogs	Decreasing	Ample	Lower
Sow	Decreasing	Ample	Lower
Belly (bacon)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Sparerib(4.25 lb & down)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Ham (20-23 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Ham (23-27 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Loin (bone in)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Babyback Rib (1.75 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin (1.25 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Boston Butt, untrmd (4-8 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Picnic, untrmd	Increasing	Good	Lower
SS Picnic, smoker trm box	Increasing	Good	Lower
42% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Higher
72% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Lower

