THE UNITED **STATES** MEAT **INDUSTRY** At a Glance

March 2011

1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20036 p. 202-587-4200 f. 202-587-4300 www.meatami.com



Feeding 307 Million Americans

The meat and poultry industry is the largest segment of U.S. agriculture. Total meat and poultry production in 2010 reached more than 92.1 billion pounds, up 1.2 billion pounds from 2009.

In 2009, the meat and poultry industry processed:

8.7 billion chickens 33.3 million cattle 246 million turkeys 2.2 million sheep 113.6 million hogs and lambs

In 2009, American meat companies produced:

26 billion pounds of beef 23 billion pounds of pork 5.7 billion pounds of turkey 309 million pounds of yeal, lamb and mutton 36 billion pounds of chicken

Top Livestock and Poultry Slaughtering States:

Cattle - Nebraska, Kansas, Texas Hog - Iowa, North Carolina, Minnesota Chicken - Georgia, Arkansas, Alabama Turkey - Minnesota, North Carolina, Arkansas

There are 6.278 federally inspected meat and poultry slaughtering and processing plants in the U.S.

Feeding Us Essential Nutrients

The 2010 U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend eating 5-7 oz. of meat per day as part of a healthy, balanced diet.

There are at least:

- -29 cuts of beef
- -6 cuts of pork
- And numerous poultry cuts that are leaner and have less calories than a 3 oz. serving of salmon

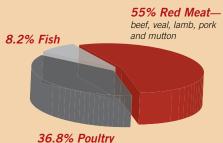
A 3-oz. serving of lean meat provides about 160-200 calories plus significant amounts of many key nutrients such as protein. These proteins contain all 9 essential amino acids needed for growth and good overall health, making meat a "complete" protein.

Meat is also a great source for iron, magnesium, zinc, niacin, selenium, riboflavin and B-vitamins that help your body turn food into energy.

New studies show meat can aid in weight loss by providing a sense of satisfaction that helps to control appetite and metabolize food more efficiently.

Average Meat Consumption in the U.S.

Fast Facts



American men on average eat 6.9 oz. of meat per day and women eat 4.4 oz.

Americans spend less than any other developed nation in the world on food broadly and on meat and poultry specifically.

See chart for percent of disposable income spent on food at home.

Feeding our Economy

In 2009, 526,290 workers were directly employed in the meat and

Through its production and

In all, companies involved in meat production, along with their suppliers, distributors, retailers and ancillary industries employ 6.2 million people in the U.S. with jobs that total \$200 billion in wages.

companies and their employees provide \$81.2 billion in revenues to federal, state and local governments. The consumption of meat

and poultry generates \$2.4 billion in state sales taxes.

The meat and poultry industry's economic ripple effect generates \$832.4 billion annually to the U.S. economy, or roughly 6% of the entire GDP.

sales totaled \$154.8 billion.

Feeding the World

The U.S. exported 1.07 million metric tons (MT*) of beef and beef variety meat in 2010, up 19% from 2009. Export value of beef and beef variety meat exports reached a record \$4.08 billion in 2010, up 32% from 2009 and broke the 2003 record of \$3.144 billion.

On a volume and value basis, the top three markets for U.S. beef in 2010 were Mexico. Canada and Japan. Records were also set in Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, the Caribbean, Central-South America regions, Canada and the Middle East.

The U.S. exported 1.92 million MT of pork and pork variety meat in 2010, up 3% from 2009. Annual total pork shipments were valued at \$4.78 billion, up 12% from 2009.

The top markets for U.S. pork in terms of volume were Mexico, Japan and China/Hong Kong, but in terms of value were Japan, Mexico and Canada.

The U.S. exported 3.7 million MT of poultry and poultry variety meats in 2010, down 4.4% from 2009. The value was down slightly .42% at \$4.25

Exports in 2010 accounted for 18.9 percent of U.S. pork production, 19.8 percent of poultry production and 9 percent of beef production.

*1 MT = 2204.6 lbs

poultry packing and processing industry. Their combined salaries totaled more than \$19 billion.

distribution linkages, the meat and poultry industry impacts firms in all 509 sectors of the U.S. economy, in every state and every congressional district in the country.

Through direct taxes paid, these

In 2009, meat and poultry industry

Average Earnings of Employees in Iowa (largest pork-producing state)

Employees in meat processing plants on average earn more than \$29,000 per year plus benefits, and employees in meat packing plants earn \$26,400 per year plus benefits, for jobs in rural areas with a low cost of living.



