

# Gordon Food Service Market Updates

---

## Meat | Pork

This week's holiday reduced kill is projected to be near 2.3 million, 2% larger than the holiday week last year. Butt prices have eased slightly this week and are expected to modestly decline this month. Loins have strengthened this week, look for prices to increase slightly the remainder of the month. Belly prices continue to press higher, despite recent gains, prices are forecast to weaken later this month. Seasonal demand and boning constraints for hams support higher prices. Rib prices are higher at this time this year compared to last, retail and carryout demand has increased in the current environment.

## Meat | Beef

After a smaller than expected production week, most likely due to packers anticipating slowdowns in demand after Labor Day, we are now into Labor Day week and production will be small due to a missed day of production. We would normally see prices move higher with two weeks back to back reduced run time, however, historically we see reduced demand the weeks following Labor Day until we get into October where things start to pick up again. Reports are showing that retail demand was extremely strong over the last week leading into Labor Day, and foodservice is just about to bump into 2019 numbers. We would expect to see both retail and foodservice slow down some for most of September which will most likely drive the cutout slightly lower. Expect to see middle meats back off over the next few weeks with the exception of tenderloins; big box retailers have done a great job keeping tenderloins moving. The other loin cuts will continue to fall through October. Chuck and end cuts seem to be flat to lower with nothing exciting happening. Briskets have been moving well, although forward sales suggest there isn't much demand in October as of yet so there is a possibility for a flat market next month. Thin meats are mixed and will be affected short term by the recent small

production weeks. Ground beef has alright taken a dive and should continue to be soft over much of the next month.