

# Gordon Food Service Market Updates

---

## Meat | Pork

Kills are forecast to be 2.7 million this week, consistent with the past 4 months.

Retail demand has slowed slightly in the last week. Perhaps plans are now made for Thanksgiving and the protein has been or is planned for the meal.

Processors are reporting some slowdown as a result of employees calling off days of work. Thus far the call ins are limited to specific plants and not industry wide.

Prices for butts have increased in the last week, possibly as a result of export interest. Loins and bellies/bacon prices are decreasing and could level off for the month of November. Ribs prices are stable this week.

## Meat | Beef

Over the past few weeks, we have seen a slight slowdown in production compared to the previous year; to the tune of around 2%. The cause is both cattle availability due to small placements of cattle on feed from earlier in the year, and COVID cases at the packing plant level starting to affect labor. Both of these factors will continue to affect production numbers throughout November along with the short Thanksgiving holiday week. More recent cattle on feed reports show close in placements are up around 4% which could lead to large cattle supplies through part of 2021. Demand continues to be strong at retail, food service is still soft and could continue if further restrictions are put in place. Rib demand is strong and with more at-home Thanksgiving some are trading up from ham or turkey. Expect to see another small bump in pricing as we normally do in early December. Tenderloins continue to be soft, we should start to see some small moves upward as we get closer to December. Grinds are in a good price range right now and continue to move well. With large cattle creating more 50% trim and increases in imports of

lean trim, the price range we are currently at could continue if demand continues stable. Briskets are mainly being held up by retail features as foodservice demand is still soft. End cuts such as inside rounds are showing some strength as retail features have been strong. Expect some softening as we move closer to the Thanksgiving holiday.