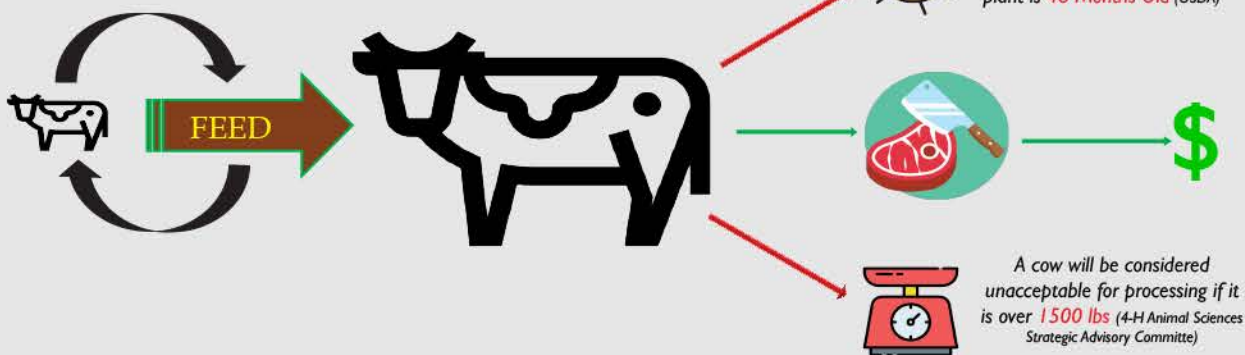


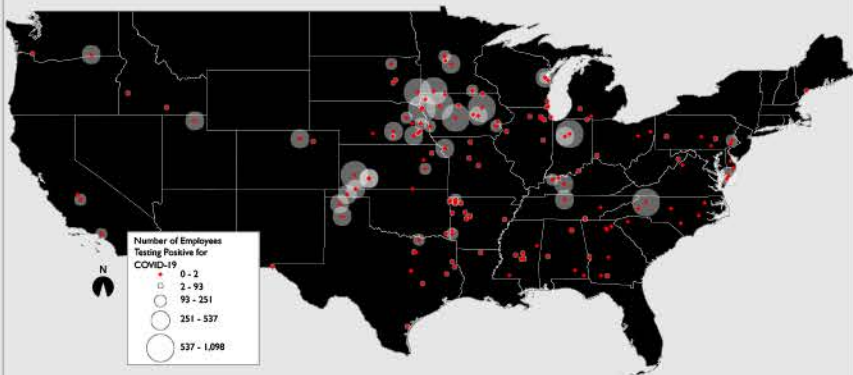
COVID-19 EXPOSES FLAWS IN THE AGRICULTURE SUPPLY CHAIN

Crops and Livestock Are Sacrificed Due to Closures

The goal for producers and ranchers is simple, grow crops and livestock as **quickly as possible**. Then get the product sent out to processing plants for further exporting and delivery to consumers.



The occurrences of positive COVID-19 cases **skyrocketed** in packaging plants throughout the USA, causing a halt in the supply chain.



Source: Midwest Center for Investigative Reporting

Percentage of Occurrences Within Processing Plants Compared to Total State COVID-19 Positive Instances



Source: Washington Post

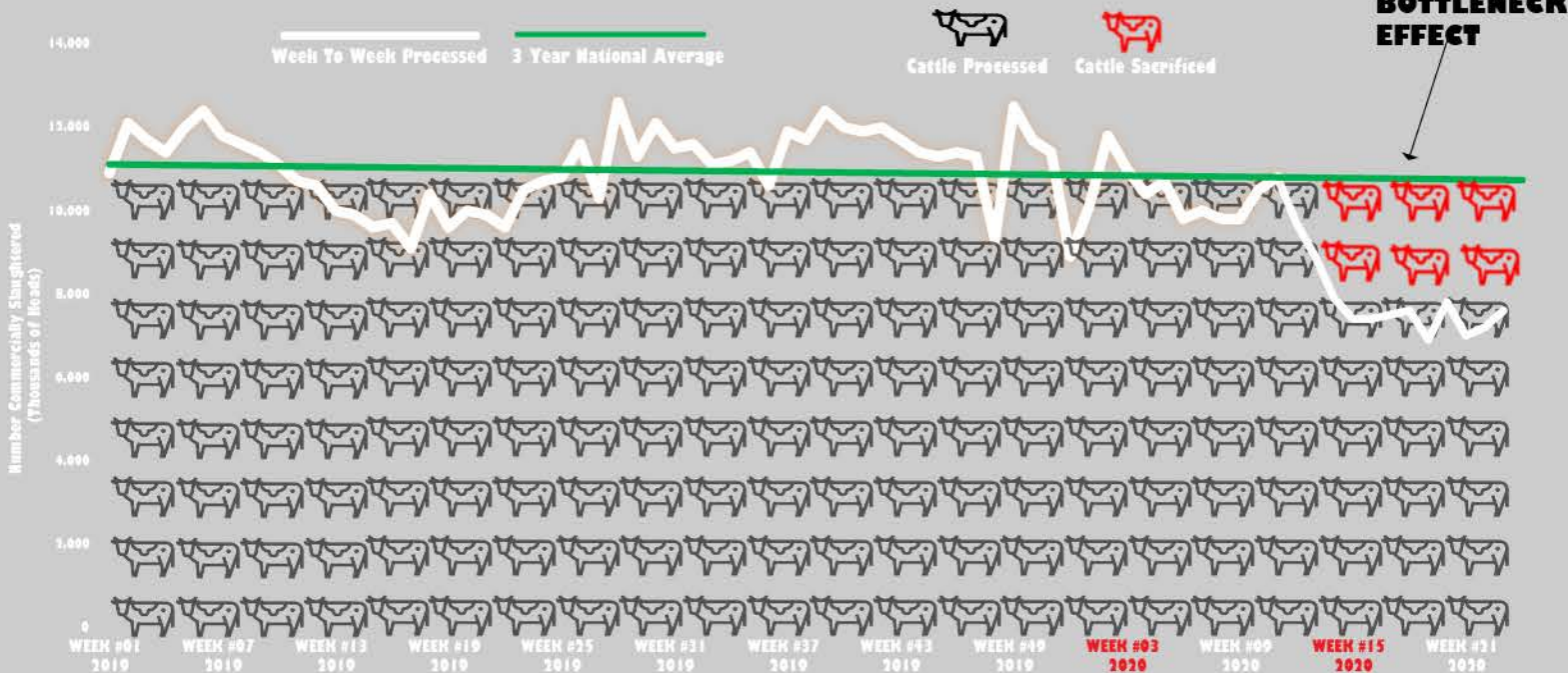
Due to the close proximity of working conditions in processing plants and the typical demographics of the employees, the areas were found to be a breeding ground for the spread of COVID-19 cases.

Because of this, ranchers and other producers were unable to get their livestock processed and ultimately exported to the market.

This led to many farmers having to destroy their crops, dump milk and, most devastatingly, **euthanize** livestock in order to deal with capacity issues.

Cattle and Calves Commercially Slaughtered Head Count Week by Week

Nationally From January 2019 to June 2020



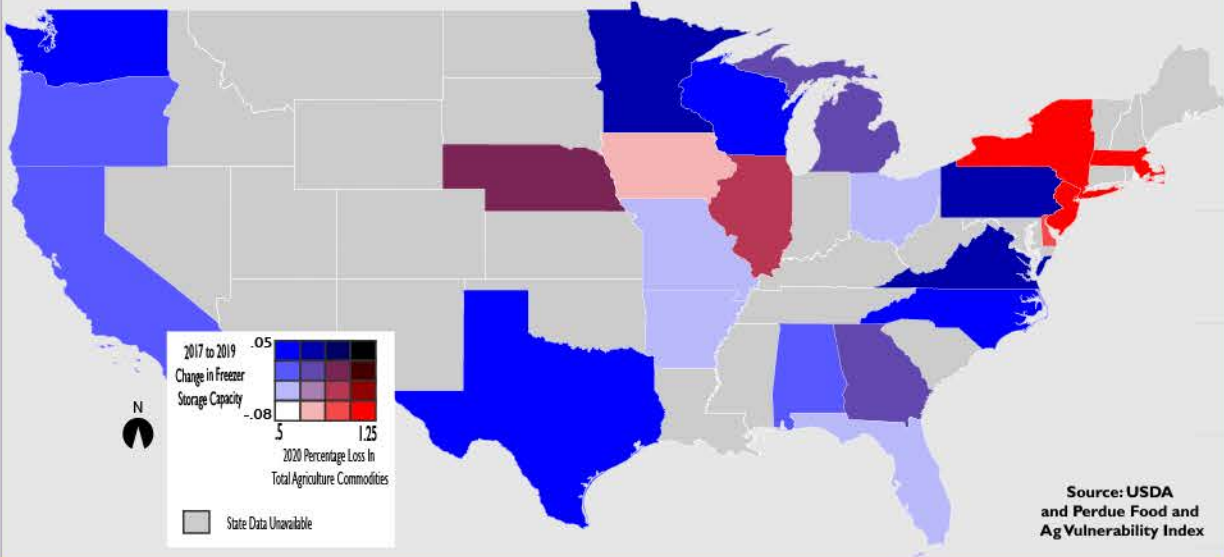
Source: USDA

Which States Proved to Be Economically Vulnerable?

First Instance of a Positive COVID-19 Test in U.S.A (New England Journal)

First Instance Within a Meat Processing Plant (Investigate Midwest)

Correlation Between Percentage of Commodity Loss Due to Covid-19 and Change in Freezer Storage Capacity from 2017 to 2019



Disclaimer: This infographic focuses in a lot on cows, however the impact to the hog industry is significantly more detrimental in terms of euthanasia and on-farm slaughtering

Certain states like Wisconsin, North Carolina and Washington took initiative to increase their usable cold storage capacities from 2017 to 2019.

Meanwhile other states like Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey neglected increasing their storage capacity leading to larger commodity losses when the shutdown initiated.

(US Census)



Source: USDA and Perdue Food and Ag Vulnerability Index

Looking forward, the USA can learn from the mistakes and lack of preparation the pandemic exposed.

Click [HERE](#) For Potential Solutions and Sources for COVID Relief

Click [HERE](#) For a Full List of References