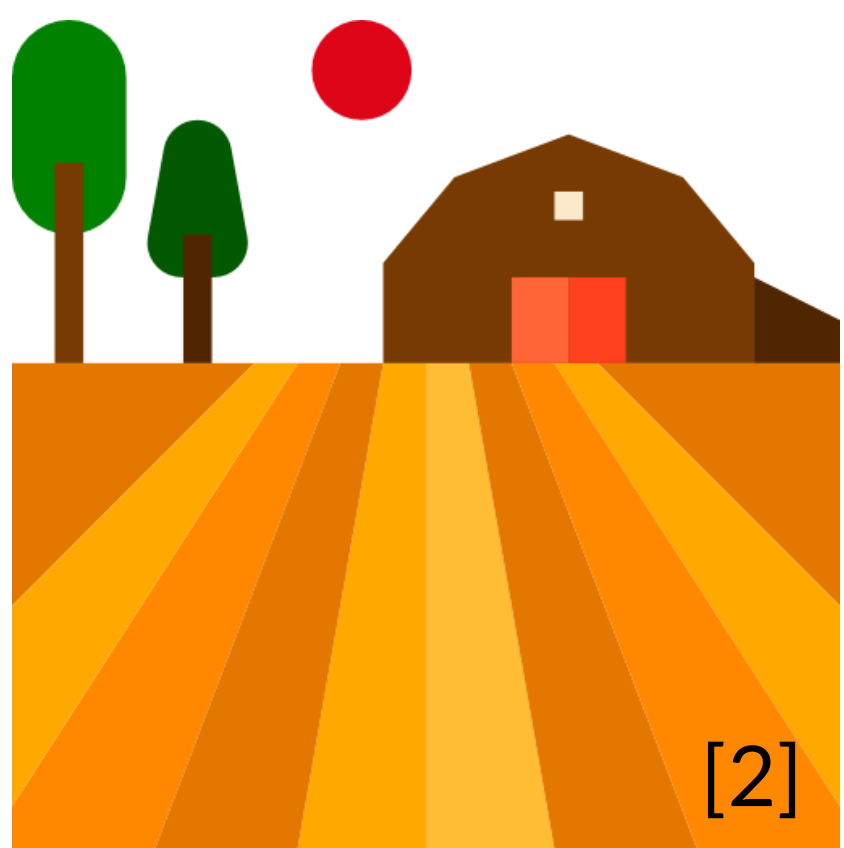


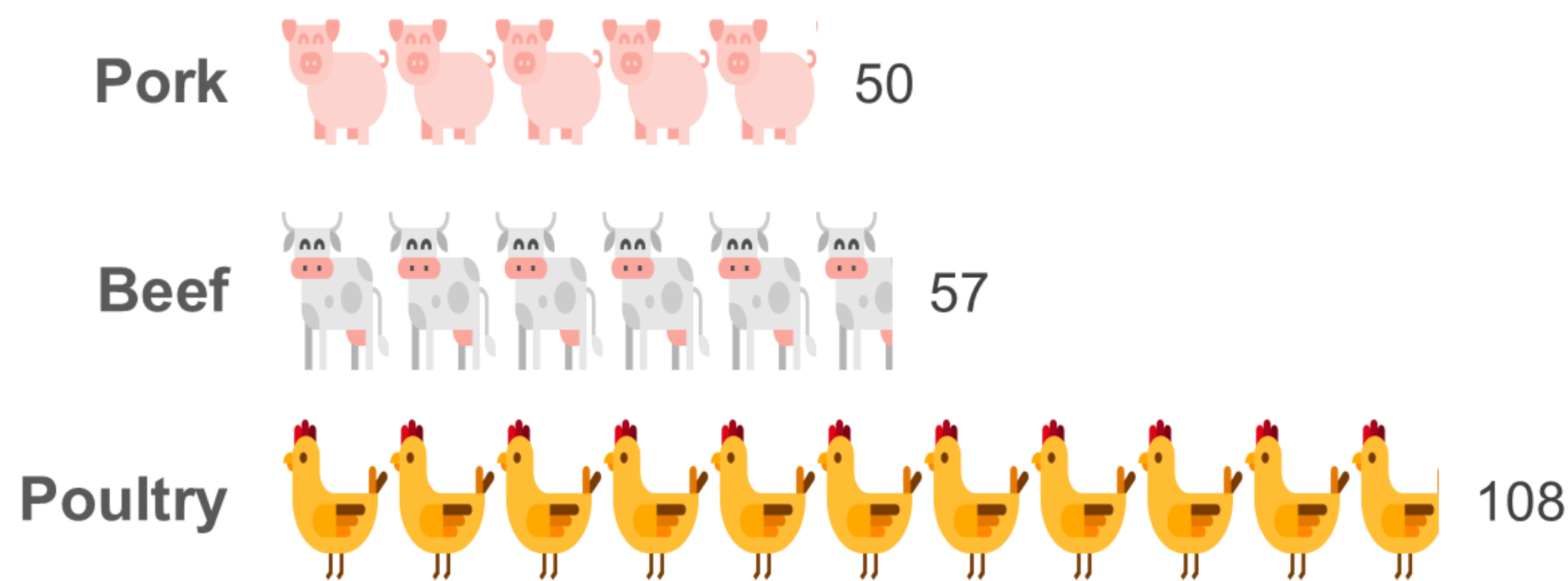
Animal Agriculture in the US

An overview of the current state of animal agriculture and its scope in the US.



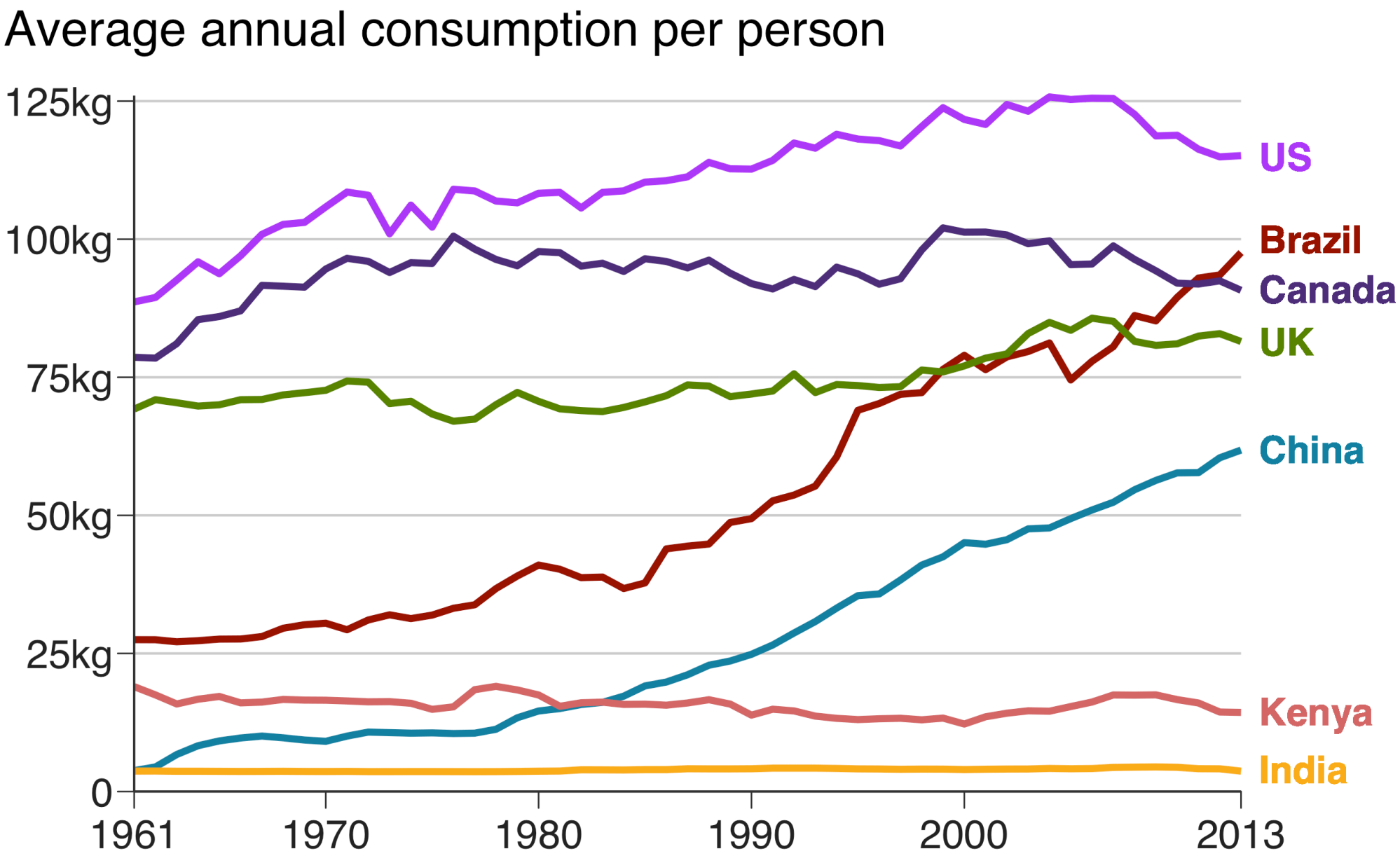
In 2017, the average American consumed approximately 48.8 kg of chicken, 25.8 kg of beef, and 23.6 kg of pork [1]. Together, that's about 217 pounds of meat in one year.

Average American Meat Consumption in 2017 (Pounds) [1]



Average chicken consumption has doubled while beef consumption has fallen by over a third since 1970 [2][3].

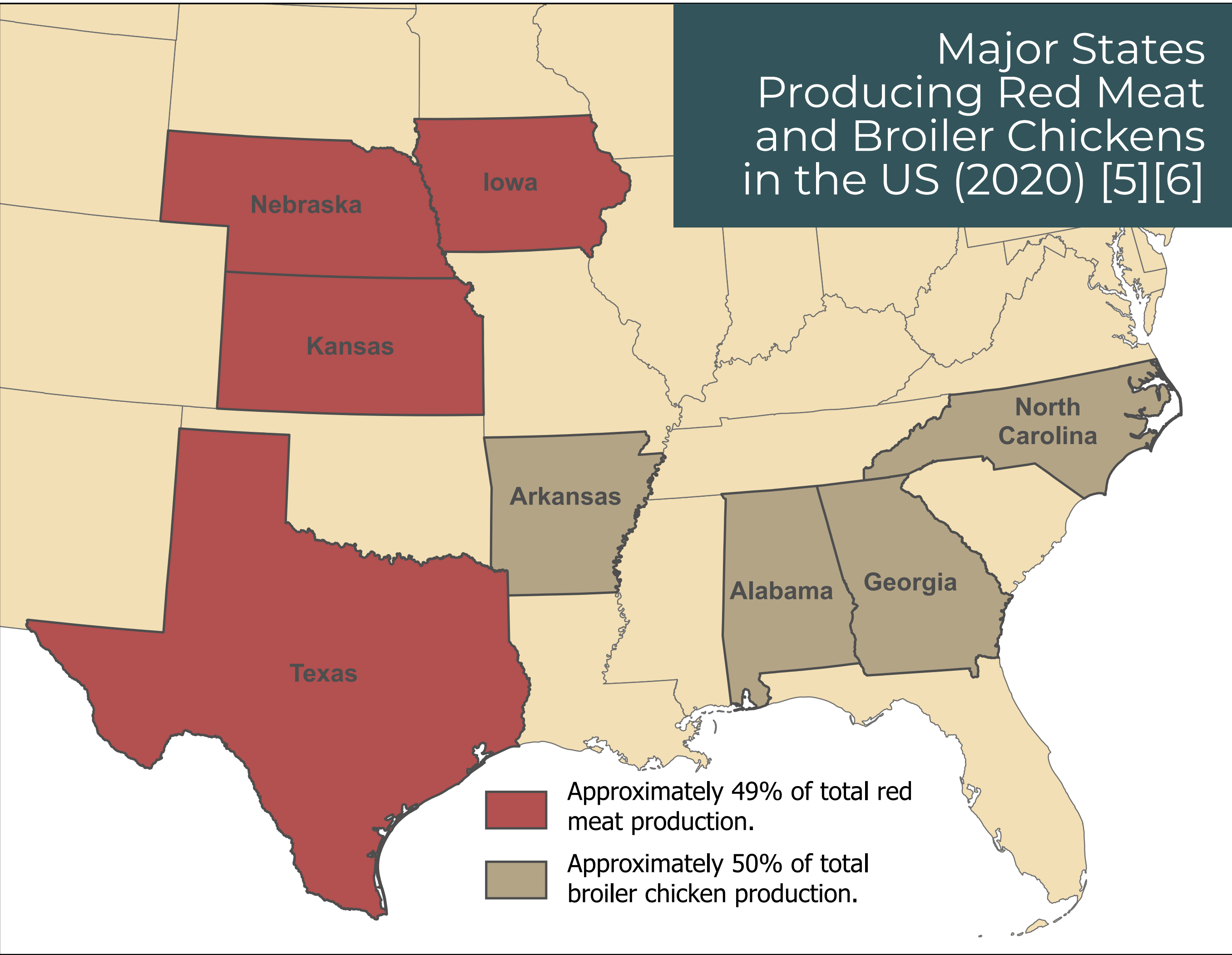
Meat consumption by selected country



Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization / Our World in Data [B][B][C]

Chart from BBC [4].

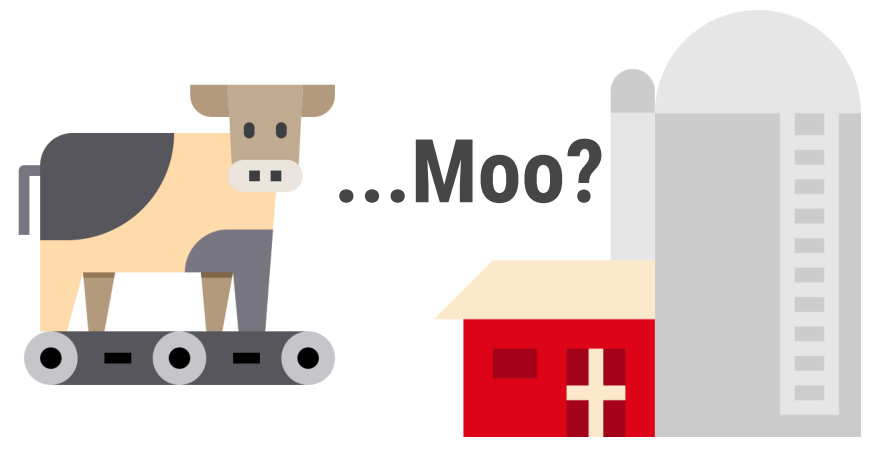
Despite seeing a decline in overall meat consumption, the US ranks higher than other countries in average annual meat consumption per person.



*** Please note: these states do not represent the entirety of meat production in the US. Meat processing facilities are scattered across the entire US, but these states produce a larger sum of the total red meat and broiler chicken production in the US.***

This is a lot of meat. How does the US manage to produce enough meat to reach this demand?

CAFOs



...Moo?

[2]

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) are a larger scaled subset of Animal Feeding Operations that meet specific size thresholds (number of animals confined in a facility at a given time). These thresholds are defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [7]. It is estimated that 99% of farmed animals in the US are living in CAFOs [8].

EPA Defined CAFO Size Thresholds [9]

Animal	Large	Medium*	Small*
Cattle or cow / calf pairs	1,000+	300 - 999	< 300
Swine (weighing over 55 pounds)	2,500+	750 - 2,499	< 750
Laying hens or broilers***	30,000+	9,000 - 29,999	< 9,000

*Must meet specific criteria first before being designated as a CAFO.
**Only 3 listed here but more size data available on EPA website.
*** Using liquid manure handling systems.

References

[1] OECD (2022), Meat consumption (indicator). doi: 10.1787/fa290fd0-en (Accessed on 06 March 2022)

[2] Icons made by mynamepong from www.flaticon.com

[3] How America's diet has changed over time | Pew Research Center

[4] Which countries eat the most meat? - BBC News

[5] Livestock Slaughter 2020 Summary 04/21/2021 (cornell.edu).

[6] Poultry - Production and Value 2020 Summary 04/29/2021 (usda.gov).

[7] Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) | US EPA

[8] Sentience Institute | US Factory Farming Estimates

[9] Regulatory Definitions of Large CAFOs, Medium CAFO, and Small CAFOs (epa.gov).

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