THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

Animal protein remains one of the most important ingredients in our diet. Meat and poultry production is the largest segment of U.S. agriculture. The U.S. meat and poultry industry processes, packages and delivers a variety of meats every day to nearly 40,000 grocery stores and 650,000 foodservice facilities.

Meat often plays a starring role in our meals. **Americans eat 25 billion pounds of pork each year!** Follow the journey below to see how pork gets from the farm to your plate.

SUPPLY



FARM

The farmer raises pigs

(average of six months old at market weight)

then live pigs are delivered to the plant.



PACKER

USDA inspected meat packing plants turn the pigs into pork products.

Pork plants are usually located in close proximity to where pigs are raised.



STORAGE

These cold storage locations safely store meat products until they are needed in the supply chain by their customers, such as: Walmart, McDonalds, etc.



RETAILER

The U.S. has
40,000 grocery
stores and more
than 650,000
foodservice
facilities where you
can find meat
products to
purchase.

DEMAND

Volume
of pigs
dictated by
demand

orders to the plants Orders to the warehouse **Consumer demand** at retail and foodservice