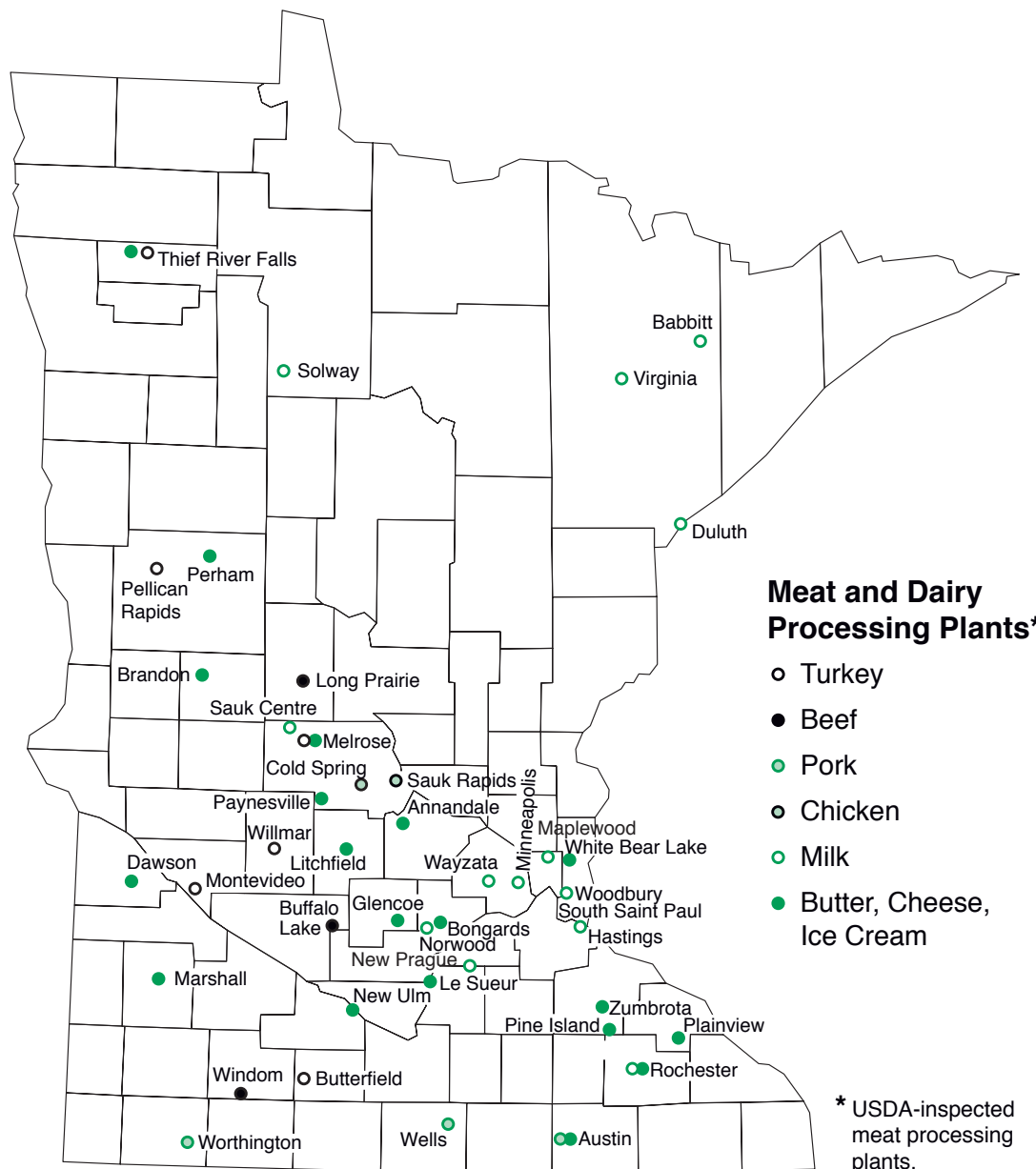


## Meat and Dairy Processing, 2005

Minnesota has long been a leading state in animal agriculture. In 2004, Minnesota ranked first nationally in turkey production, third in swine production, sixth in both milk and red meat production and tenth in all chickens.

In addition to the USDA-inspected processing plants shown here, Minnesota has about 300 smaller meat processing facilities vital to the state's animal agriculture industry. About 65 of these smaller facilities participate in a State Meat Inspection Program begun in 1999. The state program maximizes food safety while enabling producers to receive more individualized service from smaller processors, retain ownership of the meat, and more easily market it directly to consumers under a family brand name.

Minnesota has about 5,500 dairy farms licensed to sell milk to plants, representing an annual decline of about 5%. The state's share of national milk production has remained steady at about 5% to 6%.



\* USDA-inspected meat processing plants.

Data source: Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture  
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