



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture

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2010 COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

WEST VIRGINIA - Red meat production in commercial plants (commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton) totaled 8.0 million pounds during 2010. This was 5 percent below the 2009 production of 8.4 million. The number of Federally and Non- Federally inspected slaughter plants totaled 29 on January 1, 2011, an increase of 2 plants from January 1, 2010.

West Virginia with 2009 Comparisons:

- **Beef production** - 10.59 million pounds, down 8 percent.
- **Cattle slaughtered** - 10,200 head, down 4 percent or 400 head.
- **Pork production** - 1.59 million pounds, down 11 percent.
- **Hogs slaughtered** - 6,400 head, down 11 percent or 800 head.

Average live weight of cattle slaughtered in 2010 was 1,034 pounds, down 55 pounds. Average live weight of calves slaughtered in 2010 was 445 pounds, comparison data not available. The average live weight for hogs slaughtered in 2010 was 247 pounds, down 1 pound.

Sheep and lamb slaughter information was not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

UNITED STATES - Total red meat production for the United States totaled 49.2 billion pounds in 2010, slightly lower than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 49.0 billion pounds. On-farm slaughter totaled 144 million pounds.

Beef production totaled 26.4 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. **Veal production** totaled 145 million pounds, down 2 percent from last year. **Pork production**, at 22.5 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 168 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2009.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2010 totaled 34.2 million head, up 3 percent from 2009, with federal inspection comprising 98.4 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,279 pounds, down 14 pounds from a year ago. Steers comprised 49.2 percent of the total federally inspected cattle slaughter, heifers 29.8 percent, dairy cows 8.3 percent, other cows 10.8 percent, and bulls 1.8 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 878,600 head, 7 percent lower than a year ago with 98.4 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 262 pounds, up 12 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 110.3 million head, 3 percent lower than 2009 with 99.1 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year at 272 pounds. Barrows and gilts comprised 97.0 percent of the total federally inspected hog slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 2.46 million head, was down 2 percent from the previous year with 92.0 percent by federal inspection. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from 2009 at 134 pounds. Lambs and yearlings comprised 93.1 percent of the total federally inspected sheep slaughter.

There were 841 plants slaughtering under federal inspection on January 1, 2011 compared with 834 last year. Of these, 632 plants slaughtered at least one head of cattle during 2010 with the 14 largest plants slaughtering 55 percent of the total cattle killed. Hogs were slaughtered at 611 plants, with the 12 largest plants accounting for 57 percent of the total. Likewise, 5 of the 248 plants that slaughtered calves accounted for 56 percent of the total and 4 of the 506 plants that slaughtered sheep or lambs in 2010 comprised 64 percent of the total head.

Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas accounted for 49 percent of the United States commercial red meat production in 2010, down 1 percentage point from 2009.