



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
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## DECEMBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production** during December 2007 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was up 8 percent from December 2006 and down 9 percent from November 2007 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 1,177,000 pounds live weight, up 4 percent from December 2006. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,036 pounds, was down 24 pounds from a year ago.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Commercial hog slaughter totaled** 175,000 pounds live weight, up 25 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 263 pounds, was up 10 pounds from the previous year.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.06 billion pounds in December, up 5 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in December 2006.

**Beef production**, at 2.06 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.65 million head, up 1 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,302 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 10.4 million pounds, 21 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 61,000 head, down 11 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was down 35 pounds from last year, at 289 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.97 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.69 million head, up 9 percent from December 2006. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.4 million pounds, was down 1 percent from December 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 229,100 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 1 pound from December a year ago.

**January to December 2007 commercial red meat production** was 48.7 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

**December 2006** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

**December 2007** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.