



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

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2003 COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

WEST VIRGINIA – Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 7.1 million pounds during 2003. This was 8 percent below the 2002 production of 7.7 million. The number of Federally and Non Federally inspected slaughter plants totaled 34 on January 1, 2004, unchanged from January 1, 2003.

West Virginia with 2002 Comparisons:

- **Beef production** - 9.76 million pounds, down 5 percent.
- **Cattle slaughtered** - 10,400 head, down 5 percent.
- **Pork production** - 2.18 million pounds, down 11 percent.
- **Hogs slaughtered** - 8,800 head, up 8 percent.
- **Lamb and mutton production** - 43 thousand pounds, not disclosed in 2002.
- **Sheep and lambs slaughtered** - 400 head, not disclosed in 2002.

Average live weight of cattle slaughtered in 2003 was 939 pounds, up 3 pounds. The average live weight for hogs was 249 pounds, down 7 pounds. The average live weight for sheep and lambs was 107 pounds in 2003.

Calves information was not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

UNITED STATES – Red meat production for the United States totaled 46.8 billion pounds in 2003, 1.2 percent below last year's record high. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in **commercial plants** totaled 46.6 billion pounds. **On farm** production totaled 136 million pounds.

United States with 2002 Comparisons:

- **Beef production** - 26.3 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous record high set last year.
- **Veal production** - 201.1 million pounds, down 2 percent from last year, and set a new record low.
- **Pork production** - 20.0 billion pounds, 2 percent above last year, setting a new record high.
- **Lamb and mutton production** - 203.4 million pounds, 9 percent below the previous record low set a year ago.
- **Cattle slaughtered** - 35.5 million head, down 1 percent from 2002.
- **Calves slaughtered** - 1.0 million head, down 4 percent from a year ago.
- **Hogs slaughtered** - 100.9 million head, up 1 percent from 2002.
- **Sheep and lambs slaughtered** - 2.98 million head, down 9 percent from 2002.

Average live weight of cattle slaughtered in 2003 was 1,231 pounds, down 20 pounds from a year ago. The calf slaughter average live weight was 318 pounds, up 6 pounds from the a year earlier. The average live weight for hogs was 266 pounds, up 1 pound from last year. Sheep and lambs average live weight was up 1 pound from 2002 to 134 pounds.