



# REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER – MARCH 2019 UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.43 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 4.52 billion pounds produced in March 2018.

**Beef production**, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.65 million head, down 2 percent from March 2018. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,339 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 5.8 million pounds, 5 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 45,800 head, up 5 percent from March 2018. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from last year, at 219 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.30 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up slightly from March 2018. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.0 million pounds, was down 8 percent from March 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 190,700 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 3 pounds from March a year ago.

**January to March 2019 commercial red meat production** was 13.3 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2018. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down slightly, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

For a full copy of the *Livestock Slaughter* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For state specific questions please contact:

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