



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
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MARCH RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during March 2019 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was up 8 percent from March 2018. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 717,000 pounds live weight, up 16 percent from March 2018. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,051 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 166,000 pounds live weight, down 6 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 22 pounds from the previous year, at 260 pounds.

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

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.43 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.

March 2018 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

March 2019 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.