



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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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2020

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FEBRUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during February 2020 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 10 percent from February 2019. 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 734,000 pounds live weight, up 22 percent from February 2019. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 33 pounds from the previous year, at 1,070 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 136,000 pounds live weight, up 3 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 400 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 38 pounds from the previous year, at 325 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 4.45 billion pounds in February, up 7 percent from the 4.17 billion pounds produced in February 2019.

Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.58 million head, up 5 percent from February 2019. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,376 pounds.

Veal production totaled 5.1 million pounds, 17 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 39,700 head, down 18 percent from February 2019. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from last year, at 224 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.31 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up 6 percent from February 2019. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 288 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.7 million pounds, was down 4 percent from February 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,200 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, down 2 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2020 commercial red meat production was 9.41 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2019. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 7 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

February 2019 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.
February 2020 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.