



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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JANUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during January 2021 totaled 1,100,000 pounds. This was up 36 percent from January 2020. 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 1,716,000 pounds live weight, up 48 percent from January 2020. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,600 head, up 500 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,092 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 222,000 pounds live weight, up 16 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 309 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 4.80 billion pounds in January, down 3 percent from the 4.96 billion pounds produced in January 2020.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.74 million head, down 5 percent from January 2020. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,399 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.6 million pounds, 28 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,300 head, 35 percent below January 2020. The average live weight was up 23 pounds from last year, at 247 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.48 billion pounds, 3 percent below the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.2 million head, 5 percent below January 2020. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 295 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.4 million pounds, was 12 percent below January 2020. Sheep slaughter totaled 161,800 head, 11 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 1 pound from January a year ago.

January 2020 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

January 2021 contained 21 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.