



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 6, 2019

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JANUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during January 2019 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 7 percent from January 2018. 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 937,000 pounds live weight, down 7 percent from January 2018. Cattle slaughter totaled 900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from the previous year, at 991 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 177,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 301 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 4.70 billion pounds in January, up 2 percent from the 4.59 billion pounds produced in January 2018.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, up 3 percent from January 2018. The average live weight was down 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,363 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.6 million pounds, 1 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 53,800 head, 10 percent above January 2018. The average live weight was down 22 pounds from last year, at 213 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.37 billion pounds, 4 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.0 million head, 3 percent above January 2018. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 288 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was slightly below January 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,800 head, 6 percent above last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, down 8 pounds from January a year ago.

January 2018 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.