



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
February 25, 2020

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JANUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during January 2020 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was up 15 percent from January 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 1,157,000 pounds live weight, up 23 percent from January 2019. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 91 pounds from the previous year, at 1,082 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 191,000 pounds live weight, up 8 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from the previous year, at 313 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 4.96 billion pounds in January, up 5 percent from the 4.70 billion pounds produced in January 2019.

Beef production, at 2.39 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.90 million head, up 2 percent from January 2019. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from the previous year, at 1,375 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.4 million pounds, 2 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 50,000 head, 7 percent below January 2019. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from last year, at 224 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.55 billion pounds, 8 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.8 million head, 7 percent above January 2019. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 290 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.9 million pounds, was 5 percent below January 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 182,200 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, down 4 pounds from January a year ago.

January 2019 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.