



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, West Virginia 25305



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 22, 2015

Contact: Charmaine Wilson
(304) 357-5126

APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during April 2015 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 7 percent from April 2014. 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 510,000 pounds live weight, down 9 percent from April 2014. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 43 pounds from the previous year, at 1,041 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 181,000 pounds live weight, up 99 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 275 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 4.02 billion pounds in April, up 1 percent from the 3.98 billion pounds produced in April 2014.

Beef production, at 1.93 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.38 million head, down 8 percent from April 2014. The average live weight was up 32 pounds from the previous year, at 1,338 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.6 million pounds, 21 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 35,400 head, down 27 percent from April 2014. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from last year, at 318 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.07 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.68 million head, up 9 percent from April 2014. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 284 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was down 10 percent from April 2014. Sheep slaughter totaled 198,200 head, 11 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 1 pound from April a year ago.

January to April 2015 commercial red meat production was 15.9 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2014. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 23 percent, pork was up 7 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

April 2014 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

April 2015 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.