



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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APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during April 2018 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was up 13 percent from April 2017. 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 680,000 pounds live weight, up 10 percent from April 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 22 pounds from the previous year, at 1,079 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 175,000 pounds live weight, up 16 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 14 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 4.28 billion pounds in April, up 8 percent from the 3.97 billion pounds produced in April 2017.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.64 million head, up 7 percent from April 2017. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,334 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.1 million pounds, 4 percent above April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 42,800 head, up 10 percent from April 2017. The average live weight was down 12 pounds from last year, at 245 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.14 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.99 million head, up 7 percent from April 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.4 million pounds, was up 8 percent from April 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 181,000 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 9 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2018 commercial red meat production was 17.4 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

April 2017 contained 20 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

April 2018 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.