



# 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  
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## APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production** during April 2020 totaled 1,000,000 pounds. This was up 87 percent from April 2019. 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 1,443,000 pounds live weight, up 126 percent from April 2019. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,300 head, up 700 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 123 pounds from the previous year, at 1,140 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 242,000 pounds live weight, up 92 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 800 head, up 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year, at 320 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 3.86 billion pounds in April, down 15 percent from the 4.55 billion pounds produced in April 2019.

**Beef production**, at 1.82 billion pounds, was 20 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.24 million head, down 21 percent from April 2019. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,353 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 4.8 million pounds, 20 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 33,300 head, down 22 percent from April 2019. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from last year, at 250 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.03 billion pounds, down 10 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.41 million head, down 11 percent from April 2019. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 289 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 11.1 million pounds, was down 27 percent from April 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 180,900 head, 23 percent below last year. The average live weight was 123 pounds, down 6 pounds from April a year ago.

**January to April 2020 commercial red meat production** was 18.3 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2019. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 10 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 12 percent.

**April 2019** contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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*Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.*