



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
June 29, 2015

Contact: Charmaine Wilson
(304) 357-5126

MAY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during May 2015 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was up 18 percent from May 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 389,000 pounds live weight, up 6 percent from May 2014. Cattle slaughter totaled 400 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from the previous year, at 1,068 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 144,000 pounds live weight, up 53 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 272 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 3.81 billion pounds in May, down 4 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in May 2014.

Beef production, at 1.92 billion pounds, was 7 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.38 million head, down 10 percent from May 2014. The average live weight was up 33 pounds from the previous year, at 1,332 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.6 million pounds, 16 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 33,200 head, down 29 percent from May 2014. The average live weight was up 50 pounds from last year, at 335 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.86 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.75 million head, up 1 percent from May 2014. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 284 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.9 million pounds, was down 14 percent from May 2014. Sheep slaughter totaled 168,500 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, down 2 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2015 commercial red meat production was 19.7 billion pounds, up slightly from 2014. Accumulated beef production was down 5 percent from last year, veal was down 22 percent, pork was up 6 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

May 2014 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

May 2015 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.