



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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MAY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during May 2018 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was down 2 percent from May 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 623,000 pounds live weight, up 6 percent from May 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,104 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 153,000 pounds live weight, down 19 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 5 pounds from the previous year, at 295 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 4.50 billion pounds in May, up 5 percent from the 4.28 billion pounds produced in May 2017.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.91 million head, up 6 percent from May 2017. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,315 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.4 million pounds, 1 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 46,400 head, up 18 percent from May 2017. The average live weight was down 38 pounds from last year, at 237 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.17 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.2 million head, up 3 percent from May 2017. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.4 million pounds, was up 14 percent from May 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 196,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 6 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2018 commercial red meat production was 21.9 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 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

May 2017 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

May 2018 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.