



# 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**



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Contact: Charmaine Wilson  
(304) 357-5126

## AUGUST RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production** during August 2016 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was up 12 percent from August 2015. 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 654,000 pounds live weight, up 7 percent from August 2015. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 31 pounds from the previous year, at 1,201 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 311,000 pounds live weight, up 23 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,200 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from the previous year, at 269 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 4.43 billion pounds in August, up 14 percent from the 3.90 billion pounds produced in August 2015.

**Beef production**, at 2.26 billion pounds, was 17 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, up 18 percent from August 2015. The average live weight was down 11 pounds from the previous year, at 1,352 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 6.1 million pounds, 6 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 40,900 head, up 19 percent from August 2015. The average live weight was down 63 pounds from last year, at 255 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.15 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.39 million head, up 11 percent from August 2015. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 276 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 12.6 million pounds, was up 7 percent from August 2015. Sheep slaughter totaled 193,700 head, 11 percent above last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, down 4 pounds from August a year ago.

**January to August 2016 commercial red meat production** was 32.7 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2015. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 8 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

**August 2015** contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

**August 2016** contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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