



# 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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## SEPTEMBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production** during September 2018 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was down 6 percent from September 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 956,000 pounds live weight, down 8 percent from September 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,000 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 38 pounds from the previous year, at 961 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 260,000 pounds live weight, down 12 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 298 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 4.19 billion pounds in September, down 5 percent from the 4.41 billion pounds produced in September 2017.

**Beef production**, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.62 million head, down 3 percent from September 2017. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,358 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 6.0 million pounds, 1 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 48,600 head, up 11 percent from September 2017. The average live weight was down 26 pounds from last year, at 215 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.01 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.65 million head, down 6 percent from September 2017. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 280 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 11.4 million pounds, was up 1 percent from September 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 172,700 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 4 pounds from September a year ago.

**January to September 2018 commercial red meat production** was 39.5 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 5 percent.

**September 2017** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

**September 2018** contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

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