



Telephone: 1-800-535-7088  
Email: nass-wv@nass.usda.gov



National Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
West Virginia Field Office  
  
in cooperation with  
  
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**RED MEAT PRODUCTION**

**Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production** during October 2021 totaled 1.20 million pounds. This was down 19 percent from October 2020. 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 1,757,000 pounds live weight, down 21 percent from October 2020. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,700 head, down 500 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 25 pounds from the previous year, at 1,016 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 207,000 pounds live weight, down 30 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, down 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 296 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 4.75 billion pounds in October, down 7 percent from the 5.09 billion pounds produced in October 2020.

**Beef production**, at 2.37 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.85 million head, down 3 percent from October 2020. The average live weight was down 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,376 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 4.6 million pounds, 14 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 35,400 head, down 4 percent from October 2020. The average live weight was down 25 pounds from last year, at 226 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.37 billion pounds, down 9 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.1 million head, down 8 percent from October 2020. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 288 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 11.4 million pounds, was up 7 percent from October 2020. Sheep slaughter totaled 187,300 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 121 pounds, up 5 pounds from October a year ago.

**January to October 2021 commercial red meat production** was 46.2 billion pounds, up slightly from 2020. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 19 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

October 2020 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays. October 2021 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

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

**CATTLE ON FEED**

**United States - Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.9 million

head on November 1, 2021. The inventory was slightly below November 1, 2020.

**Placements** in feedlots during October totaled 2.25 million head, 2 percent above 2020. Net placements were 2.19 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 575,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 500,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 470,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 425,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 190,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 85,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during October totaled 1.79 million head, 5 percent below 2020.

**Other disappearance** totaled 59,000 head during October, 6 percent below 2020.



## CHICKENS AND EGGS

**United States - Egg production** totaled 9.61 billion during October 2021, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 8.32 billion table eggs, and 1.29 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.21 billion were broiler-type and 73.8 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during October 2021 totaled 390 million, up 1 percent from last year. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,465 eggs, up slightly from October 2020.

**Total layers** in the United States on November 1, 2021 totaled 392 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 392 million layers consisted of 327 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 61.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.97 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on November 1, 2021, averaged

79.5 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from November 1, 2020.

**Egg-type chicks** hatched during October 2021 totaled 45.9 million, down 9 percent from October 2020. Eggs in incubators totaled 46.7 million on November 1, 2021, up 5 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 252 thousand during October 2021, up 28 percent from October 2020.

**Broiler-type chicks** hatched during October 2021 totaled 811 million, up 1 percent from October 2020. Eggs in incubators totaled 701 million on November 1, 2021, up 5 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 8.57 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during October 2021, up 6 percent from October 2020.

## NOVEMBER CROP PRODUCTION

**United States - Corn production for grain** is forecast at 15.1 billion bushels, up less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 7 percent from 2020. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 177.0 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.5 bushel from the previous forecast and up 5.6 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 85.1 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 3 percent from the previous year.

The November 1 corn objective yield data indicate the third highest number of ears on record for the combined objective yield States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin). At 15.1 billion bushels, 2021 corn production for grain is forecast to be the second highest production on record for the United States. The forecasted yield, at a record high 177.0 bushels per acre, is up 3 percent from last year's final estimate of 171.4 bushels per acre. Record high yields are forecast in California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania.

**Soybean production for beans** is forecast at 4.42 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 5 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 51.2 bushels per harvested acre, down 0.3 bushel from the previous forecast, but up 0.2 bushel from 2020. Area harvested for beans in the United States is forecast at 86.4 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 5 percent from the previous year.

The November objective yield data for the combined 11 major soybean-producing States (Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, and South Dakota) indicate a lower pod count compared with the previous year. Compared with final counts for 2020, pod counts are down in 6 of the 11 published States. North Dakota showed the greatest decrease, down 433 pods per 18 square feet from the previous year.

If realized, the forecasted yield will be a record high in Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia.

## FARM LABOR

**United States** - There were 772,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2021, up 2 percent from the October 2020 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 797,000 during the week of July 11-17, 2021, up 3 percent from the July 2020 reference week.



Farm operators **paid their hired workers an average gross wage of \$16.59 per hour during the October 2021 reference week**, up 5 percent from the October 2020 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$16.08 per hour, up 5 percent. Livestock workers earned \$15.45 per hour, up 6 percent. The field and livestock worker combined gross wage rate, at \$15.92 per hour, was up 5 percent from the 2020 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 42.0 hours during the October 2021 reference week, down slightly from the hours worked during the October 2020 reference week.

Farm operators **paid their hired workers an average gross wage of \$16.59 per hour during the July 2021 reference week**, up 6 percent from the July 2020 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$16.10 per hour, up 7 percent, while livestock workers earned \$15.19 per hour, up 5 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined gross wage rate, at \$15.85 per hour, was up 7 percent from the July 2020 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 41.0 hours during the July 2021 reference week, down 1 percent from the hours worked during the July 2020 reference week.

**The 2021 all hired worker annual average gross wage rate was \$16.38 per hour**, up 6 percent from the 2020 annual average gross wage rate. The 2021 field worker annual average gross wage rate was \$15.77 per hour, up 7 percent from the 2020 annual average. The 2021 livestock worker annual average gross wage rate was \$15.08 per hour. The 2021 annual average combined gross wage for field and livestock workers was \$15.56, up 6 percent from the 2020 annual average of \$14.62 per hour.

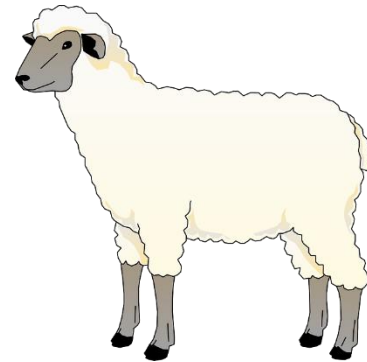
## JANUARY AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS ANNOUNCEMENT

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be conducting the January Cattle and Sheep and Goat surveys from December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 through January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Survey data are collected across the country and are used to set state and national estimates for cattle, sheep and goats.

Enumerators from the West Virginia Field Office will be collecting data on cattle, sheep and goat inventories. The cattle questions will cover milk and

beef cow numbers including replacement heifers, steers, cattle on feed, milk production, and calf crop. Sheep and goat questions will include breeding and market sheep and goat numbers, lamb and kid crops, 2021 wool and mohair production, and death totals. Results of the surveys will be published in the February edition of the *Mountain State Reporter* and on our website at <https://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>.

***Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. Your information matters!***



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Red Meat Production  
Chickens and Eggs

**KENT LEONHARDT, COMMISSIONER  
CHARMAINE WILSON, STATE STATISTICIAN**

**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305**