



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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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FEBRUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during February 2023 totaled 1,000,000 pounds. This was up 20 percent from February 2022. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 1,489,000 pounds live weight, up 20 percent from February 2022. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,300 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,145 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 189,000 pounds live weight, up 44 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 38 pounds from the previous year, at 291 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 4.26 billion pounds in February, down 4 percent from the 4.43 billion pounds produced in February 2022.

Beef production, at 2.09 billion pounds, was 7 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.55 million head, down 5 percent from February 2022. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,374 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.8 million pounds, 10 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 25,700 head, down 16 percent from February 2022. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from last year, at 255 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.16 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.97 million head, up slightly from February 2022. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.1 million pounds, was up 9 percent from February 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 154,800 head, 8 percent above last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, up 1 pound from February a year ago.

January to February 2023 commercial red meat production was 9.03 billion pounds, up slightly from 2022. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 7 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

February 2022 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.
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Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.