



# 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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## AUGUST RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production** during August 2023 totaled 1,000,000 pounds. This was up 6 percent from August 2022. 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 1,329,000 pounds live weight, up 5 percent from August 2022. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,163 pounds.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published because data were less than level of precision shown or not applicable.

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 315,000 pounds live weight, up 20 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,100 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 275 pounds.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**United States – Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.67 billion pounds in August, down 3 percent from the 4.83 billion pounds produced in August 2022.

**Beef production**, at 2.36 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.89 million head, down 6 percent from August 2022. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,351 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 4.2 million pounds, 9 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 26,600 head, down 22 percent from August 2022. The average live weight was up 31 pounds from last year, at 273 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.29 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.1 million head, up 1 percent from August 2022. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 10.5 million pounds, was down 10 percent from August 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 183,800 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 113 pounds, down 14 pounds from August a year ago.

**January to August 2023 commercial red meat production** was 36.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2022. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

**August 2022** contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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