



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Alissa Cowell-Mytar
(304) 357-5126

OCTOBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during October 2023 totaled 1.5 million pounds, this was up 12 percent from October 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 2,220,000 pounds live weight, up 11 percent from October 2022. Cattle slaughter totaled 2,100 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,035 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 352,000 pounds live weight, up 12 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,200 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 299 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 4.77 billion pounds in October, up slightly from the 4.76 billion pounds produced in October 2022.

Beef production, at 2.34 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, down 3 percent from October 2022. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,374 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.2 million pounds, 8 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 23,100 head, down 24 percent from October 2022. The average live weight was up 49 pounds from last year, at 308 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.42 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.4 million head, up 5 percent from October 2022. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.3 million pounds, was up 7 percent from October 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 193,500 head, 14 percent above last year. The average live weight was 115 pounds, down 7 pounds from October a year ago.

January to October 2023 commercial red meat production was 45.2 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2022. Accumulated beef production was down 5 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.

October 2022 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.
October 2023 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.