



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
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## SEPTEMBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production** during September 2024 totaled 1,200,000 pounds. This was down 5 percent from September 2023. 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 1,764,000 pounds live weight, down 2 percent from September 2023. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,600 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 35 pounds from the previous year, at 1,086 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 237,000 pounds live weight, down 24 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 800 head, down 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 288 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 4.45 billion pounds in September, up 2 percent from the 4.35 billion pounds produced in September 2023.

**Beef production**, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.57 million head, down 1 percent from September 2023. The average live weight was up 44 pounds from the previous year, at 1,406 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 3.1 million pounds, 16 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 16,100 head, down 26 percent from September 2023. The average live weight was up 37 pounds from last year, at 324 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.23 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.5 million head, up slightly from September 2023. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 10.6 million pounds, was up 4 percent from September 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 176,400 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 118 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

**January to September 2024 commercial red meat production** was 40.8 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2023. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 14 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

**September 2023** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.  
**September 2024** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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