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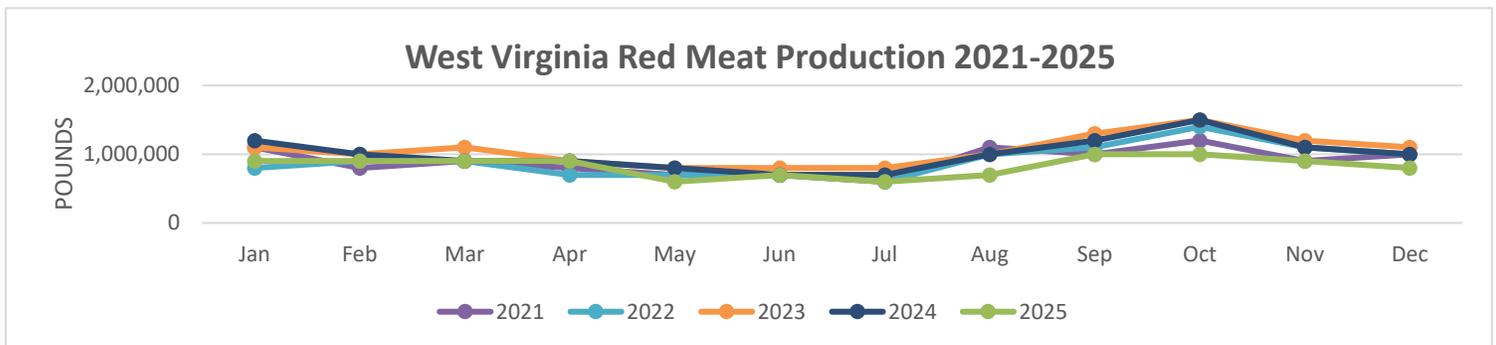
Released: February 2026

Volume 39, Number 2

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production in West Virginia during December 2025 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was down 17 percent from December 2024. 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 1,081,000 pounds live weight, down 22 percent from December 2024. Cattle slaughter totaled 900 head, down 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 80 pounds from the previous year, at 1,217 pounds. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 105,000 pounds live weight, down 24 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 67 pounds from the previous year, at 218 pounds.



CATTLE INVENTORY

Cattle inventory in West Virginia as of January 1, 2026 totaled 365,000 head, unchanged from the January 1, 2025 inventory. **All cows and heifers that have calved** totaled 192,000 head, down 1,000 head from January 1, 2025. The 2025 **calf crop** totaled 183,000 head, down 3,000 head from the 2024 calf crop.

CATTLE - January 1 Inventory ¹

CLASS	West Virginia			UNITED STATES		
	2025	2026	Percent Change	2025	2026	Percent Change
	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>
All Cattle and Calves	365.0	365.0	0	86,472.2	86,155.3	0
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	193.0	192.0	-1	37,272.8	37,175.5	0
CLASS	2024	2025	Percent Change	2024	2025	Percent Change
	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>
Calf Crop	186	183	-2	33,417	32,896	-2

¹Totals may not add due to rounding.

SHEEP AND LAMBS INVENTORIES

All sheep and lambs inventory in West Virginia as of January 1, 2026 was 37,000 head, up 1,000 head from January 1, 2025.

Breeding sheep and lambs inventory totaled 31,000 head on January 1, 2026, up 1,000 head from 2025. Ewes totaled 26,000 head, up 1,000 head from 2025. Rams totaled 1,000 head, unchanged from 2025. Replacement lambs totaled 4,000 head, unchanged from 2025.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2026 totaled 6,000 head, unchanged from January 1, 2025. Market sheep totaled 1,200 head, up 200 head from the previous year. Market lambs totaled 4,800 head, down 200 head from the previous year. Of these, 2,200 were under 65 pounds, 1,000 were 65 - 84 pounds, 700 were 85 - 105 pounds, and 900 were over 105 pounds.

The 2025 lamb crop totaled 30,000 head, unchanged from 2024. The 2025 lambing rate was 120 per 100 ewes one year old and older, on hand January 1, 2025, down from the total of 125 lambs per 100 ewes in 2024.

Shorn wool production during 2025 was 80,000 pounds, up 3,000 pounds from 2024. Sheep shorn totaled 16,000 head, up 1,000 head from 2024. Weight per fleece was 5.0 pounds in 2025, down from 5.10 pounds in 2024. The average price paid for wool sold in 2025 was 80 cents per pound, unchanged from the average price paid in 2024. Value was 64,000 dollars, up 2,000 dollars from the value of 62,000 dollars in 2024.

Sheep death loss during 2025 totaled 1,100 head, down 800 head from 2024. Lamb death loss during 2025 totaled 4,000 head, down 500 head from 2024.

SHEEP & LAMB - January 1 Inventory ¹

CLASS	West Virginia			UNITED STATES		
	2025	2026	Percent Change	2025	2026	Percent Change
	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>
All Sheep & Lambs	36.0	37.0	+3	5,025	4,990	-1
Market Sheep & Lambs	6.0	6.0	0	1,365	1,380	+1
Lambs Under 65 lbs	2.0	2.2	+10	350	355	+1
Lambs 65-84 lbs	1.0	1.0	0	190	195	+3
Lambs 85-105 lbs	1.0	0.7	-30	275	275	0
Lambs Over 105 lbs	1.0	0.9	-10	470	475	+1
Sheep	1.0	1.2	+20	80	80	0
Breeding	30.0	31.0	+3	3,660	3,610	-1
Ewes	25.0	26.0	+4	2,880	2,850	-1
Rams	1.0	1.0	0	165	160	-3
Replacement Lambs	4.0	4.0	0	615	600	-2

CLASS	2024	2025	Percent Change	2024	2025	Percent Change
	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>+/-</i>
Lamb Crop ²	30.0	30.0	0	3040.0	3030.0	0

¹Totals may not add due to rounding. ²Lamb crop is defined as lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

To look for West Virginia Statistics, visit our webpage:
[USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service - West Virginia](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/West_Virginia/)

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Suicide & Crisis Lifeline