



REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MOUNTAIN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER – DECEMBER 2024

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.54 billion pounds in December, down slightly from the 4.55 billion pounds produced in December 2023.

Beef production, at 2.20 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, down 2 percent from December 2023. The average live weight was up 30 pounds from the previous year, at 1,431 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.1 million pounds, 20 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 16,100 head, down 28 percent from December 2023. The average live weight was up 36 pounds from last year, at 329 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.33 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, down 1 percent from December 2023. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.0 million pounds, was up 12 percent from December 2023. Sheep slaughter totaled 201,500 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 117 pounds, up 2 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2024 commercial red meat production was 55.0 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2023. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

For a full copy of the *Livestock Slaughter* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov. For state specific questions, please contact the following State Statisticians at 1-800-392-3202:

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