



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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MARCH RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during March 2022 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was down 5 percent from March 2021. 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 1,218,000 pounds live weight, down 8 percent from March 2021. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 35 pounds from the previous year, at 1,153 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 151,000 pounds live weight, down 15 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 324 pounds.

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

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.98 billion pounds in March, down 1 percent from the 5.05 billion pounds produced in March 2021.

Beef production, at 2.51 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.01 million head, up slightly from March 2021. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from the previous year, at 1,384 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.9 million pounds, 1 percent above March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,600 head, up 3 percent from March 2021. The average live weight was down 6 pounds from last year, at 261 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.46 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.2 million head, down 4 percent from March 2021. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 293 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.3 million pounds, was down 12 percent from March 2021. Sheep slaughter totaled 187,300 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, unchanged from March a year ago.

January to March 2022 commercial red meat production was 14.0 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2021. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 11 percent.

March 2021 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.