



# NEWS RELEASE

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

**Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production** during May 2022 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 4 percent from May 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 919,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent from May 2021. Cattle slaughter totaled 800 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight went down 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,181 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 124,000 pounds live weight, up 11 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 400 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 319 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 4.48 billion pounds in May, up 4 percent from the 4.30 billion pounds produced in May 2021.

**Beef production**, at 2.29 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.81 million head, up 4 percent from May 2021. The average live weight was down 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,351 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 4.4 million pounds, 22 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 27,400 head, up 8 percent from May 2021. The average live weight was up 30 pounds from last year, at 279 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.18 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.0 million head, up 4 percent from May 2021. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 10.8 million pounds, was down 3 percent from May 2021. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,300 head, 10 percent below last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, up 9 pounds from May a year ago.

**January to May 2022 commercial red meat production** was 23.0 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2021. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was up 3 percent, pork was down 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

**May 2021** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

**May 2022** contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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