



NASS

FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

Sheep and Goats

Released July 20, 2007, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Sheep and Goats* call Scott Hollis at 202-720-4751, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

All Sheep and Lamb Inventory Down 1 Percent

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2007 totaled 7.73 million head, down slightly from July 1, 2006, and 1 percent below July 1, 2005. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.61 million head on July 1, 2007 was down slightly from July 1, 2006. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.12 million head, were also down slightly from last July.

The breeding herd consists of 3.76 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 665,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). **Market lamb** inventory at 3.06 million head was comprised of 1.81 million lambs under 65 pounds, 635,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 360,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 250,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 65,000 head.

The 2007 lamb crop in the United States is expected to total 4.12 million head, up 1 percent from the 2006 lamb crop of 4.09 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2007 totaled 3.64 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 480,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2007.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 34.5 percent of all sheep and lambs. Region 2 (NM & TX) accounted for 18.4 percent, Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) for 16.3 percent, Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) for 15.5 percent, and Region 5 (all other States) for 15.3 percent.

Total Goat and Kid Inventory Up 4 Percent

All goat inventory on July 1, 2007 totaled 3.60 million head, up 4 percent from the previous July. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.69 million head, up 4 percent from July 2006. **All market goats and kids** totaled 905,000 head, up 2 percent from the previous July. On July 1, 2007 **meat and all other goats** totaled 3.00 million head, up 5 percent from July 2006. **Milk goat** inventory was also up 5 percent increasing to 335,000 head while **angora goat** numbers fell 9 percent to 260,000 head. The 2007 **kid crop** is expected to total 2.03 million head, up 6 percent from the 2006 kid crop of 1.92 million head.

Contents

Page

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory, July 1, 2006-2007	1
Breeding Sheep and Lambs Inventory, July 1, 2006-2007	1
Market Sheep and Lambs Inventory, July 1, 2006-2007	3
Lamb Crop, 2007	4
Goats, Number by Class, July 1, 2006-2007	5
Reliability	6
Information Contacts	7

**All Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2006-2007**

Regions ¹	All Sheep and Lambs		2007 as % of 2006	Breeding Sheep and Lambs		Market Sheep and Lambs	
	2006	2007		2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Region 1	1,280	1,260	98	800	785	480	475
Region 2	1,470	1,420	97	980	950	490	470
Region 3	2,650	2,670	101	1,460	1,470	1,190	1,200
Region 4	1,200	1,200	100	665	665	535	535
Region 5	1,170	1,180	101	730	740	440	440
US	7,770	7,730	99	4,635	4,610	3,135	3,120

¹ States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

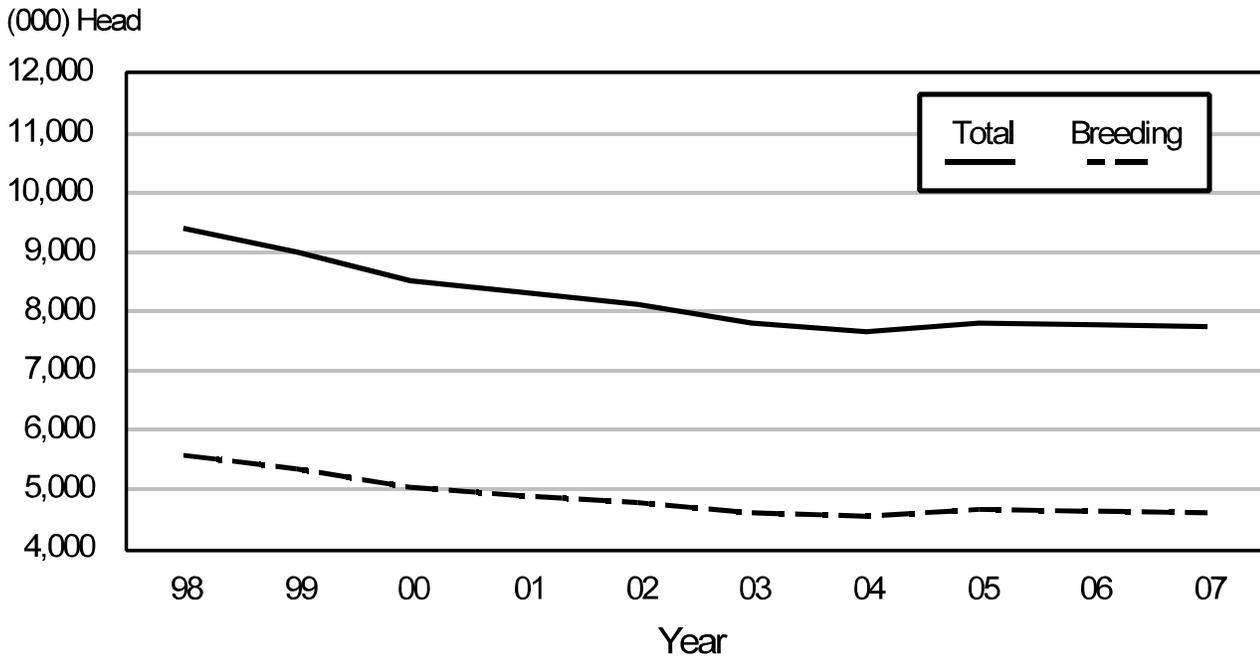
**Breeding Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2006-2007**

Regions ¹	Breeding Sheep-One Year Old & Older				Replacement Lambs		Total Breeding Sheep and Lambs	
	Ewes		Rams		2006	2007	2006	2007
	2006	2007	2006	2007				
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Region 1	680	670	30	30	90	85	800	785
Region 2	805	780	45	40	130	130	980	950
Region 3	1,220	1,230	40	40	200	200	1,460	1,470
Region 4	535	535	30	35	100	95	665	665
Region 5	540	545	40	40	150	155	730	740
US	3,780	3,760	185	185	670	665	4,635	4,610

¹ States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

United States Sheep and Lambs

July 1, 1998-2007



**Market Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2007**

Regions ¹	Market Lambs					Market Sheep	Market Sheep and Lambs
	Under 65 Pounds	65 to 84 lbs	85 to 105 lbs	Over 105 Pounds	Total		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>						
Region 1	145	150	120	50	465	10	475
Region 2	320	100	25	15	460	10	470
Region 3	830	155	90	110	1,185	15	1,200
Region 4	240	140	85	55	520	15	535
Region 5	275	90	40	20	425	15	440
US	1,810	635	360	250	3,055	65	3,120

¹ States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

**Market Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2006**

Regions ¹	Market Lambs					Market Sheep	Market Sheep and Lambs
	Under 65 Pounds	65 to 84 lbs	85 to 105 lbs	Over 105 Pounds	Total		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>						
Region 1	140	140	125	60	465	15	480
Region 2	330	105	20	15	470	20	490
Region 3	810	155	95	110	1,170	20	1,190
Region 4	240	140	85	55	520	15	535
Region 5	275	90	45	20	430	10	440
US	1,795	630	370	260	3,055	80	3,135

¹ States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

**Lamb Crop: Per 100 Ewes 1+, Number by Region
and United States, 2007 ¹**

Regions ²	Lambs Born Jan-Jun ³	Lambs Expected Jul-Dec ⁴	Total Lamb Crop	Breeding Ewes 1+ Jan 1	Lambs per 100 Ewes 1+ Jan 1
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>
Region 1	550	190	740	717	103
Region 2	530	120	650	765	85
Region 3	1,280	20	1,300	1,101	118
Region 4	620	60	680	502	135
Region 5	660	90	750	621	121
US	3,640	480	4,120	3,706	111

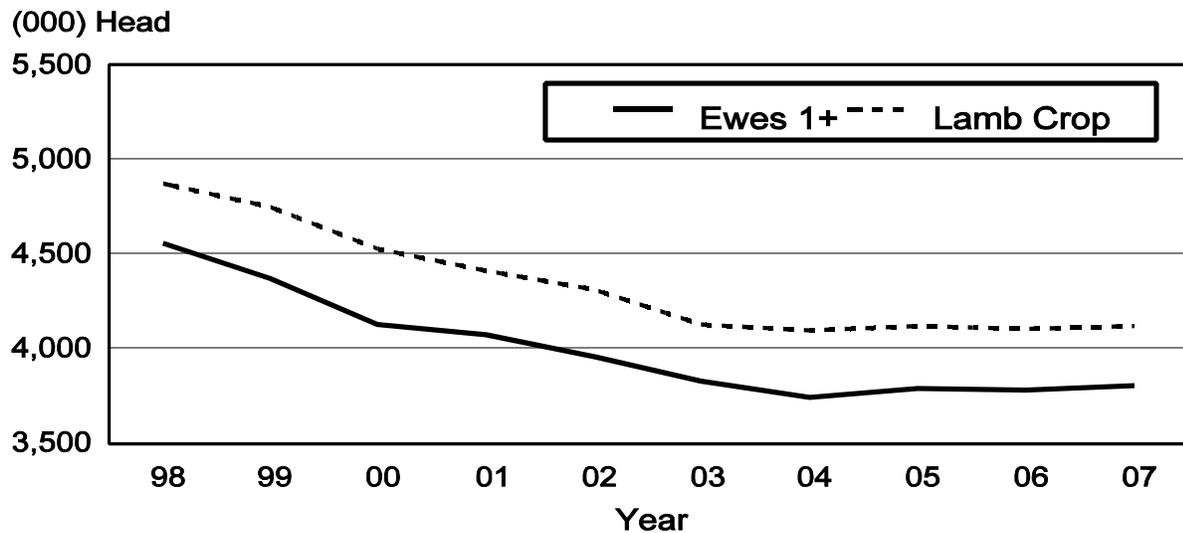
¹ Lamb crop is lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

² States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

³ Lambs born alive between January 1, through June 30, 2007.

⁴ Lambs expected to be born July through December 2007.

United States Total Breeding Ewes 1+ and Lamb Crop July 1, 1998-2007



The 1998-2006 Lamb Crop is the January estimate. The 2007 estimate is the July forecast.

Goats: Number by Class, United States, July 1, 2006-2007

Item	Total	Breeding	Market	Kid Crop ¹
	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>
2006				
Angora	285,000	225,000	60,000	130,000
Milk	320,000	270,000	50,000	215,000
Meat	2,860,000	2,080,000	780,000	1,573,000
All	3,465,000	2,575,000	890,000	1,918,000
2007				
Angora	260,000	205,000	55,000	120,000
Milk	335,000	285,000	50,000	230,000
Meat	3,000,000	2,200,000	800,000	1,680,000
All	3,595,000	2,690,000	905,000	2,030,000

¹ Kid Crop for 2006 refers to the actual kids born during 2006. Kid Crop for 2007 is the kids born alive between January 1 and June 30, 2007 plus the kids expected to be born July through December 2007.

Reliability of July 1 Sheep and Goats Estimates

Survey Procedures: A random sample of U.S. producers was surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all sheep and goat producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Data were collected during the first half of June from about 39,000 operations. These operators were contacted by face-to-face personal interviews. About 4,700 producers and feedlots were contacted during the first half of July by mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interviews. Operators were asked to report inventories as of the first of the month and lamb crop for the entire year of 2007.

Estimation Procedures: These sheep and goat estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board. National and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness and with estimates from past years. A projected balance sheet for calendar year 2007 was also used. The balance sheet begins with the previous inventory estimate, adds estimates of births and imports, and subtracts estimates of slaughter, exports and deaths. This indicated ending inventory level is compared with the Agricultural Statistics Board estimate for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve the current estimate. Previous year estimates are subject to revision when current estimates are made. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the Department of Agriculture's five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Since all operations raising sheep and goats are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors, such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating reliability of the estimates in this report, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown for lamb crop in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between the first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for lamb crop estimates over the past 10 years is 2.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 4.12 million head by more than 2.8 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 5.1 percent.

Also shown in the table is a 10-year record showing the range between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate. Estimate changes for Lamb Crop between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate during the past 10 years have averaged 82,200 head, ranging from 4,000 to 406,000 head. The initial inventory estimate of Lamb Crop has been below the latest estimate 9 times and above the latest estimate 1 time in the last 10 years.

Reliability of U.S. July 1 Sheep and Lamb Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Final Estimates			Number of Years	
		Percent	Head	Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Final	First Below Final
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Lamb Crop	2.8	5.1	210	82	4	406	1	9

¹ Based on data for the past 10 years.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

- Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch (202) 720-3570
- Shawn Clark, Head, Livestock Section..... (202) 720-3570
 - Bruce Boess - Hogs and Pigs (202) 720-3106
 - Shawn Clark - Dairy Products (202) 690-3236
 - Jason Hardegree - Milk Production and Milk Cows (202) 720-3278
 - Scott Hollis - Sheep & Lambs, Goats & Kids (202) 720-4751
 - Mike Miller - Cattle, Cattle on Feed (202) 720-3040
 - Benita Hodge - Livestock Slaughter (515) 284-4340
 - Charmaine Wilson - Dairy Products Prices (202) 690-2168

ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: **www.nass.usda.gov**.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Starting with the NASS Home Page at **www.nass.usda.gov**, under the right navigation, *Receive reports by Email*, click on **National** or **State**. Follow the instructions on the screen.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 703-605-6220 FAX: 703-605-6900
(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)

ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: **nass@nass.usda.gov**.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.