



Washington, D.C.

Sheep and Goats

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All Sheep and Lamb Inventory Shows Slight Decrease

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2006 totaled 7.77 million head, down slightly from July 1, 2005, but 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.64 million head on July 1, 2006 was down slightly from July 1, 2005. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.14 million head, were also down slightly from last July.

The breeding herd consists of 3.78 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 670,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). **Market lamb** inventory at 3.06 million head was comprised of 1.80 million lambs under 65 pounds, 630,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 370,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 260,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 80,000 head.

The 2006 lamb crop in the United States is expected to total 4.10 million head, down 1 percent from the 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2006 totaled 3.62 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 2006.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 34.1 percent of all sheep and lambs. Region 2 (NM & TX) accounted for 18.9 percent, Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) for 16.5 percent, Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) for 15.4 percent, and Region 5 (all other States) for 15.1 percent.

Total Goat and Kid Inventory Up 3 Percent

This is the first publication of July 1 estimates of total goat inventory and kid crop for the United States. Estimates for July 2006 and 2005 are being published. Survey procedures can be found on page 6 of this report.

All goat inventory on July 1, 2006 totaled 3.47 million head, up 3 percent from the previous July. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.58 million head, up 3 percent from July 2005. **All market goats and kids** totaled 890,000 head, up 5 percent from the previous July. On July 1, 2006 **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.86 million head, up 4 percent from July 2005. **Milk goat** inventory remained steady at 320,000 head while **angora goat** numbers fell 2 percent to 285,000 head. The 2006 **kid crop** is expected to total 1.97 million head, up 7 percent from the 2005 kid crop of 1.84 million head.

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**All Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2005-2006**

Regions ¹	All Sheep and Lambs		2006 as % of 2005	Breeding Sheep and Lambs		Market Sheep and Lambs	
	2005	2006		2005	2006	2005	2006
	<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	1,300	1,280	98	805	800	495	480
Region 2	1,500	1,470	98	1,000	980	500	490
Region 3	2,650	2,650	100	1,460	1,460	1,190	1,190
Region 4	1,200	1,200	100	665	665	535	535
Region 5	1,150	1,170	102	725	730	425	440
US	7,800	7,770	100	4,655	4,635	3,145	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.

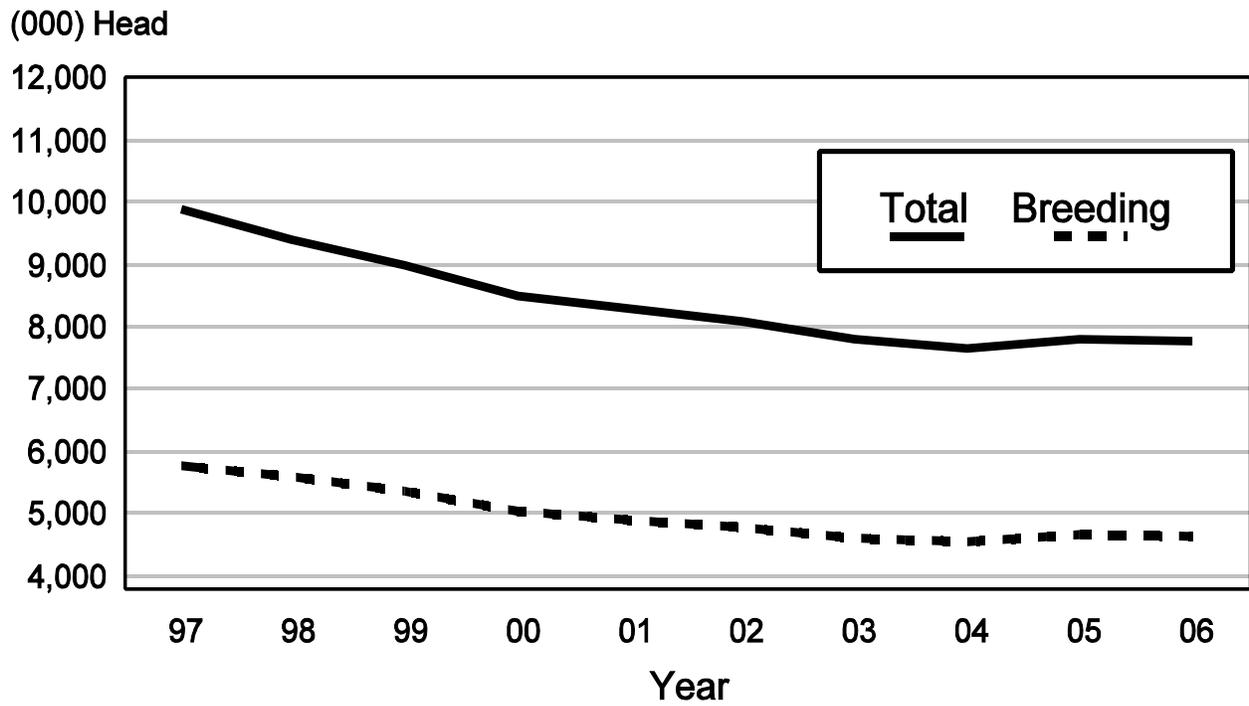
**Breeding Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2005-2006**

Regions ¹	Breeding Sheep-One Year Old & Older				Replacement Lambs		Total Breeding Sheep and Lambs	
	Ewes		Rams		2005	2006	2005	2006
	2005	2006	2005	2006				
	<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	685	680	30	30	90	90	805	800
Region 2	815	805	45	45	140	130	1,000	980
Region 3	1,220	1,220	40	40	200	200	1,460	1,460
Region 4	535	535	30	30	100	100	665	665
Region 5	535	540	40	40	150	150	725	730
US	3,790	3,780	185	185	680	670	4,655	4,635

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, 1997 - 2006



**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.

**Market Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2005**

Region 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	150	120	55	465	30	495
Region 2	335	115	25	15	490	10	500
Region 3	820	150	80	120	1,170	20	1,190
Region 4	240	135	85	55	515	20	535
Region 5	275	85	40	15	415	10	425
US	1,810	635	350	260	3,055	90	3,145

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, 2006¹**

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	530	200	730	703	104
Region 2	540	120	660	792	83
Region 3	1,280	20	1,300	1,074	121
Region 4	600	60	660	489	135
Region 5	670	80	750	599	125
US	3,620	480	4,100	3,657	112

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

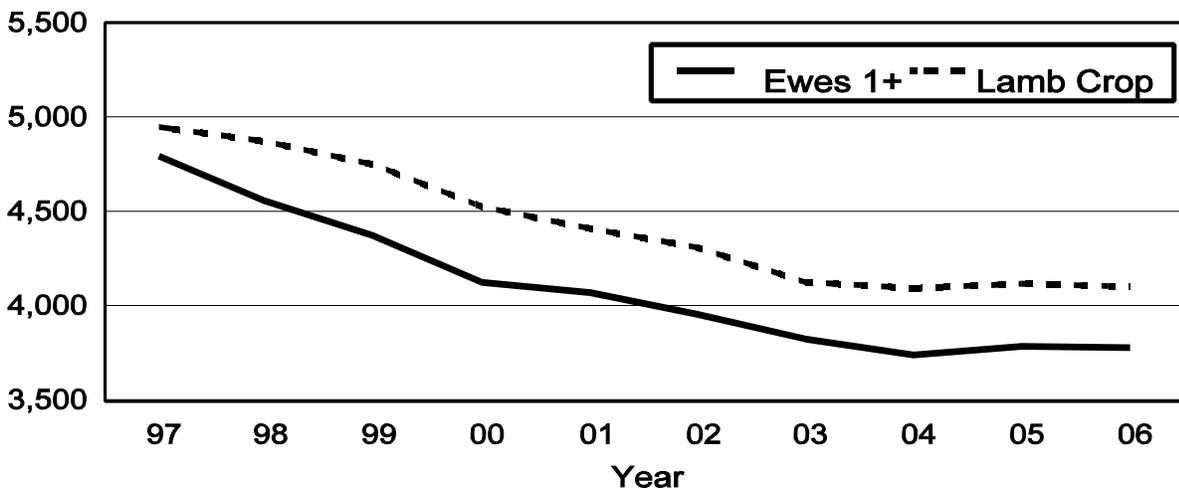
² States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

³ Lambs born alive between January 1, through June 30, 2006.

⁴ Lambs expected to be born July through December 2006.

**United States Total Breeding Ewes 1+ and Lamb Crop
July 1, 1997-2006**

(000) Head



The 1997-2005 Lamb Crop is the January estimate. The 2006 estimate is the July forecast.

Goats: Number by Class, United States, July 1, 2005-2006

Item	Total	Breeding	Market	Kid Crop ¹
	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>
2005				
Angora	290,000	230,000	60,000	148,100
Milk	320,000	270,000	50,000	199,500
Meat	2,740,000	2,000,000	740,000	1,488,100
All	3,350,000	2,500,000	850,000	1,835,700
2006				
Angora	285,000	225,000	60,000	150,000
Milk	320,000	270,000	50,000	215,000
Meat	2,860,000	2,080,000	780,000	1,600,000
All	3,465,000	2,575,000	890,000	1,965,000

¹ Kid Crop for 2005 refers to the actual kids born during 2005. Kid Crop for 2006 is the kids born alive during January 1, through June 30, 2006 plus the kids expected to be born July through December 2006

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 4,600 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 2006.

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 2006 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 2.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 4.10 million head by more than 2.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 5.4 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 100,000 head, ranging from 4,000 to 406,000 head. The initial inventory estimate of Lamb Crop has been below the latest estimate 10 times and above the latest estimate 0 times 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
Lamb Crop	<i>Percent</i> 2.9	<i>Percent</i> 5.4	<i>1,000 Head</i> 221.0	<i>1,000 Head</i> 100	<i>1,000 Head</i> 4	<i>1,000 Head</i> 406	<i>Number</i> 0	<i>Number</i> 10

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
- William Weaver, 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 (202) 720-4751
 - Mike Miller - Cattle, Cattle on Feed (202) 720-3040
 - Katy Paulsen - Livestock Slaughter (515) 284-4340
 - Charmaine Wilson - Dairy Products Prices (202) 690-2168

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