

Wool and Mohair



USDA
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1996 Wool Production Down 11 Percent

Shorn wool production in the United States during 1996 was 56.7 million pounds, down 11 percent from 1995. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 7.28 million head, a decrease of 11 percent from 1995. The average price paid for wool sold in 1996 was \$0.70 per pound for a total value of \$39.7 million, down 38 percent from \$64.3 million in 1995.

Mohair production in the four major producing states (Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) during 1996 was 8.05 million pounds, down 33 percent from 1995. Goats and kids clipped, at 1.20 million head, was down 26 percent from 1995. Average weight per clip was 6.7 pounds compared with 7.4 pounds a year earlier. Value of mohair production was \$15.5 million, down 30 percent from 1995.

Wool: Production, Price, and Value, United States, 1994-96

Year	Sheep Shorn 1/ 1,000 Head	Weight per Fleece Pounds	Shorn Wool Production 1,000 Pounds	Price per Pound Dollars	Value 1,000 Dollars
1994	8,877	7.73	68,577	.78	52,377
1995	*8,138	7.80	63,513	1.04	*64,277
1996	7,279	7.79	56,669	.70	39,659

* Revised.

1/ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards.

Mohair: Production, Price, and Value, 4-State Total, 1994-96

Year	Goats Clipped	Average Clip per Goat	Production	Price per Pound	Value
	1,000 Head	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1994	1,774	7.1	12,608	2.56	32,247
1995	1,618	7.4	*12,019	1.84	*22,089
1996	1,198	6.7	8,045	1.92	15,486

Mohair: Production, Price, and Value by Selected States and 4-State Total, 1995-96

State	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	1,000 Head		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
AZ	40	38	*4.5	4.2	*180	160	1.52	1.47	*274	235
NM	85	80	4.0	4.0	340	320	1.66	1.61	564	515
OK	23	10	7.8	7.5	180	75	1.73	1.73	311	130
TX	1,470	1,070	7.7	7.0	11,319	7,490	1.85	1.95	20,940	14,606
4 Sts	1,618	1,198	7.4	6.7	*12,019	8,045	1.84	1.92	*22,089	15,486

* Revised.

1/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price for individual States; 4-State value is summation of State values.

Wool: Number of Sheep and Lambs Shorn, Weight per Fleece,
and Production by State and United States, 1995-96

State	Sheep Shorn		Weight per Fleece		Production	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	--- 1,000 Head ---		--- Pounds ---		-- 1,000 Pounds --	
AL	7.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	42	30
AK	.9	1.0	*7.8	7.0	*7	7
AZ	140.0	125.0	6.8	6.0	950	750
CA	690.0	640.0	7.6	7.6	5,250	4,860
CO	540.0	605.0	7.3	7.1	3,960	4,318
CT	4.5	5.4	7.6	6.5	34	35
ID	233.0	239.0	9.3	9.3	2,164	2,228
IL	86.0	85.0	6.9	6.7	590	570
IN	70.0	67.0	6.8	6.4	475	430
IA	345.0	335.0	6.0	6.0	2,070	2,000
KS	144.0	111.0	7.0	7.0	1,010	780
KY	18.0	15.5	6.8	6.5	123	100
LA	10.0	9.0	5.5	6.1	55	55
ME	7.5	8.0	7.9	7.0	59	56
MD	21.0	24.0	8.7	6.7	182	161
MA	6.0	9.0	7.3	7.0	44	63
MI	85.0	81.0	7.7	7.6	658	615
MN	170.0	170.0	6.8	6.6	1,150	1,120
MO	90.0	77.0	*6.4	6.7	*572	513
MT	468.0	434.0	9.4	9.6	4,413	4,150
NE	90.0	97.0	7.6	7.4	680	720
NV	74.0	70.0	9.2	9.6	680	669
NH	*5.1	5.1	*7.1	7.1	*36	36
NJ	10.0	14.0	9.3	6.9	93	96
NM	340.0	305.0	8.8	9.0	3,000	2,753
NY	54.0	53.0	7.0	7.1	380	377
NC	10.5	10.6	6.9	6.7	72	71
ND	*115.0	110.0	9.1	8.8	*1,045	965
OH	*156.0	133.0	*7.1	6.8	*1,100	910
OK	52.0	36.0	6.3	6.4	330	230
OR	360.0	340.0	6.7	6.6	2,412	2,245
PA	81.0	72.0	6.9	6.9	560	500
SD	460.0	420.0	8.6	8.5	3,967	3,580
TN	10.0	10.0	7.5	6.0	75	60
TX	1,820.0	1,320.0	7.4	7.5	13,468	9,900
UT	*364.0	336.0	*9.6	9.2	3,500	3,090
VT	*12.5	14.5	*7.2	7.2	*90	105
VA	58.0	56.0	6.2	6.2	358	346
WA	44.0	48.0	8.5	8.9	375	426
WV	54.0	45.0	6.3	6.0	340	270
WI	67.0	63.0	7.8	7.5	525	470
WY	730.0	640.0	8.8	9.1	6,411	5,811
Oth Sts 1/	35.1	34.7	5.9	5.7	208	198
US	*8,138.1	7,278.8	7.8	7.8	*63,513	56,669

* Revised.

1/ AR, DE, FL, GA, HI, MS, RI, and SC.

Wool: Price and Value by State and United States, 1995-96

State	Price per Pound		Value 1/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996
	Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
AL	1.15	.38	48	11
AK	1.25	.90	*9	6
AZ	.62	.61	589	458
CA	1.02	.67	5,355	3,256
CO	1.09	.73	4,316	3,152
CT	.78	.40	27	14
ID	.88	.62	1,904	1,381
IL	.55	.34	325	194
IN	.55	.31	261	133
IA	.60	.39	1,242	780
KS	.83	.51	838	398
KY	.70	.33	86	33
LA	.68	.33	37	18
ME	.76	.45	45	25
MD	.81	.49	147	79
MA	.80	.40	35	25
MI	.68	.36	447	221
MN	.64	.43	736	482
MO	.64	.36	*366	185
MT	1.23	.94	5,428	3,901
NE	.65	.49	442	353
NV	1.08	.69	734	462
NH	.98	.60	*35	22
NJ	.76	.78	71	75
NM	1.17	.85	3,510	2,340
NY	.84	.55	319	207
NC	.85	.62	61	44
ND	.94	.70	*982	676
OH	.65	.39	*715	355
OK	.79	.50	261	115
OR	.80	.45	1,930	1,010
PA	.78	.49	437	245
SD	1.08	.77	4,284	2,757
TN	.82	.42	62	25
TX	1.15	.84	15,488	8,316
UT	1.01	.65	3,535	2,009
VT	.84	.60	*76	63
VA	.88	.48	315	166
WA	.84	.60	315	256
WV	.88	.51	299	138
WI	.62	.42	326	197
WY	1.20	.86	7,693	4,997
Oth Sts 2/	.70	.40	146	79
US	1.04	.70	*64,277	39,659

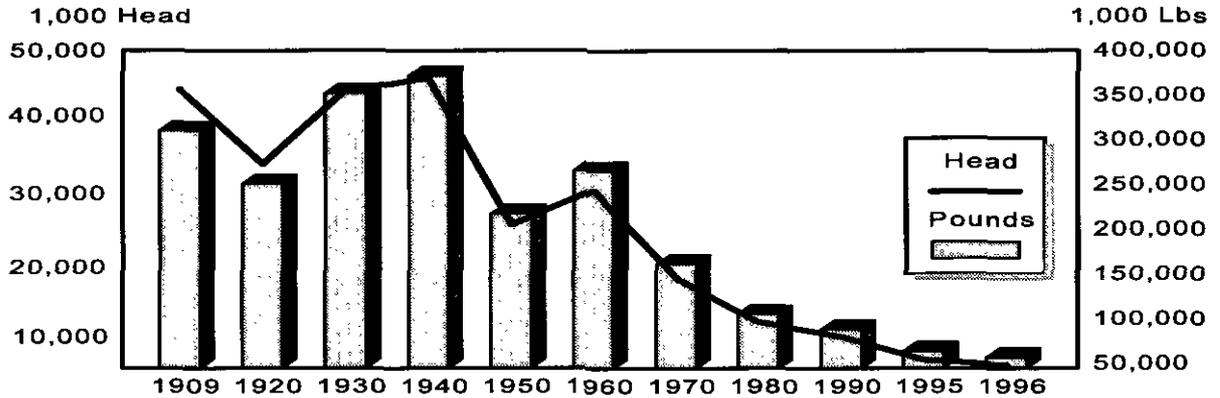
* Revised.

1/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. U.S. value is summation of State values.

2/ AR, DE, FL, GA, MS, RI, SC.

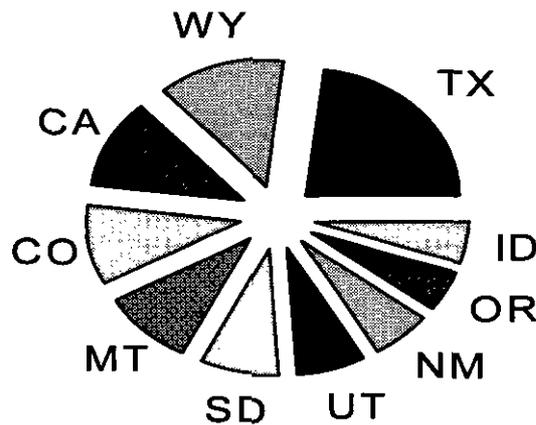
Sheep & Lambs Shorn & Wool Production

1909 - 1996
United States



Wool Production Top Ten Producing States

1996



Reliability of Wool and Mohair Production Estimates

Survey Procedures: A random sample of U. S. producers was surveyed to provide data for the number of sheep shorn and production estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all sheep and goat producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. Data were collected from about 16,000 operators during the first half of January by mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interviews.

Estimation Procedures: These sheep shorn, wool and mohair production estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by each State office. National and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from past years.

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. Inventory estimates will also be reviewed after data from the Department of Commerce'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 for the inventory and production estimates, survey data are subject to sampling variability. Survey results for inventory and production estimates 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 the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown for selected items in the table below. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for sheep shorn estimates over the past 10 years is 0.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 7.3 million head by more than 0.5 percent, or about 36,500 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 percent, or about 72,800 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

Also shown in the table is a 10-year record showing the range between the first estimate and the latest estimate. Using estimates for Sheep and Lambs Shorn as an example, changes between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate during the past 10 years have averaged 44,100 head, ranging from 4,400 to 104,000 head. The inventory estimate of Sheep and Lambs Shorn has been below the latest estimate 6 times and above 4 times in the last 10 years.

Reliability of U.S. Sheep Shorn and Wool Production Estimates 1/

Item	Square Error	Confidence Level	Difference Between			Number of	
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Above Latest	Below Latest
Sheep Shorn	.5	90%	44.1	4.4	104.8	4	6
Wool Prod	.6	90%	359.3	16.0	1,307.0	4	6

1/ Based on data from 1996 through 1995.

The next "Wool and Mohair" report will be released in March 1998.

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