

Sheep



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November 1, 1996, All Sheep and Lambs Totals 8.45 Million Head

All sheep and lambs in the United States on November 1, 1996 totaled 8.45 million head, 5 percent below November 1, 1995. The number of breeding sheep and lambs on hand November 1, 1996 reached 5.89 million head, 5 percent below November 1, 1996. Market sheep and lambs (including newborns) at 2.56 million head were 6 percent below November 1, 1995.

Of the November 1 breeding herd, 4.79 million head were ewes one year old and older, 220,000 head were rams one year old and older, and 885,000 head were replacement lambs (including newborn lambs).

Of the total market lambs (including newborn lambs), 15.3 percent were under 65 pounds, 33.1 percent were 65 to 84 pounds, 34.7 percent were 85 to 105 pounds and 16.9 percent were over 105 pounds on November 1.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 32.7 percent of the total sheep and lambs. Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) accounted for 21.4 percent followed closely by Region 2 (NM & TX) with 20.7 percent. Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) had 13.4 percent and the remainder was in Region 5 (all other States).

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, November 1, 1995-96

Regions 1/	All Sheep and Lambs		96 as % of	Breeding Sheep and Lambs		Market Sheep and Lambs	
	1995	1996	95	1995	1996	1995	1996
	1,000 Head		Pct	1,000 Head			
Region 1	1,900	1,805	95	1,180	1,130	720	675
Region 2	1,875	1,745	93	1,505	1,440	370	305
Region 3	3,065	2,760	90	2,045	1,860	1,020	900
Region 4	1,100	1,130	103	695	705	405	425
Region 5	980	1,010	103	775	755	205	255
US	8,920	8,450	95	6,200	5,890	2,720	2,560

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, November 1 1995-96

Regions 1/	Breeding Sheep-One Year Old & Older				Replacement		Total Breeding Sheep and Lambs	
	Ewes		Rams		Lambs		Lambs	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	1,000 Head							
Region 1	990	915	40	40	150	175	1,180	1,130
Region 2	1,250	1,170	55	55	200	215	1,505	1,440
Region 3	1,705	1,535	60	50	280	275	2,045	1,860
Region 4	580	580	30	30	85	95	695	705
Region 5	595	585	45	45	135	125	775	755
US	5,120	4,785	230	220	850	885	6,200	5,890

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, November 1, 1996

Market Lambs							
Regions 1/	Under 65 Pounds	65 to 84 lbs	85 to 105 lbs	Over 105 Pounds	Total	Market Sheep	Market Sheep and Lambs
1,000 Head							
Region 1	140	195	250	60	645	30	675
Region 2	50	160	60	30	300	5	305
Region 3	40	245	380	220	885	15	900
Region 4	95	135	100	90	420	5	425
Region 5	55	85	70	20	230	25	255
US	380	820	860	420	2,480	80	2,560

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, November 1, 1995

Market Lambs							
Region 1/	Under 65 Pounds	65 to 84 lbs	85 to 105 lbs	Over 105 Pounds	Total	Market Sheep	Market Sheep and Lambs
1,000 Head							
Region 1	180	170	200	160	710	10	720
Region 2	70	140	110	35	355	15	370
Region 3	40	195	475	295	1,005	15	1,020
Region 4	75	115	130	80	400	5	405
Region 5	60	55	50	20	185	20	205
US	425	675	965	590	2,655	65	2,720

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.

Reliability of November 1 Sheep Estimates

Survey Procedures: A random sample of U. S. producers was surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all sheep producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. About 3,000 operators were contacted during the first half of November by mail, telephone and face-to-face personal interview. Regardless of when operators responded, they were asked to report inventories as of November 1.

Estimation Procedures: These sheep 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 1996 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 Commerce's five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

The next **"Sheep"** report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on January 31, 1997.

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