

Sheep



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released July 21, 1995, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Inventory estimates refer to July 1, 1995 and lamb crop refers to calendar year 1995.

July 1, 1995, All Sheep and Lambs Totals 10.9 Million Head

All sheep and lambs in the United States on July 1, 1995 totaled 10.9 million head, 23 percent above January 1, 1995 but 5 percent below July 1, 1994. The number of breeding sheep and lambs on hand on July 1, 1995 reached 6.45 million head, virtually unchanged from January 1995. Market sheep and lambs (including newborns), at 4.45 million head, were 81 percent above January 1995.

Of the July 1 breeding herd, 5.38 million head were ewes one year old and older, 245,000 head were rams one year old or older, and 830,000 head were replacement lambs (including newborn lambs).

Of the total market lambs (including newborn lambs), 63.1 percent were under 65 pounds, 19.7 percent were 65 to 84 pounds, 11.0 percent were 85 to 105 pounds, and the remainder, 6.2 percent, were over 105 pounds on July 1.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 37.3 percent of the total sheep and lambs. Region 2 (NM & TX) accounted for 21.3 percent, Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) for 16.7 percent, Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) for 12.8 percent, and Region 5 (all other States) accounted for 11.9 percent.

The lamb crop in the United States during 1995 is expected to total 5.70 million head, down 3 percent from the 1994 actual lamb crop of 5.90 million head. Lambs born during January - June 1995 totaled 4.96 million head while 740,000 lambs are expected to be born during July - December.

For information call Linda Simpson at (202) 720-3578. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

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All Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, January 1 and July 1, 1995

Regions 1/	All Sheep and Lambs		Jul as % of	Breeding Sheep and Lambs		Market Sheep and Lambs	
	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul
	1,000 Head		Pct	1,000 Head			
Region 1	1,967	1,815	92	1,232	1,160	735	655
Region 2	2,015	2,325	115	1,615	1,570	400	755
Region 3	2,800	4,070	145	2,003	2,140	797	1,930
Region 4	1,055	1,395	132	737	765	318	630
Region 5	1,058	1,295	122	853	815	205	480
US	8,895	10,900	123	6,440	6,450	2,455	4,450

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, January 1 and July 1, 1995

Regions 1/	Breeding Sheep-One Year Old & Older				Replacement		Total Breeding Sheep and Lambs	
	Ewes		Rams		Lambs		Lambs	
	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul
	1,000 Head							
Region 1	994	980	45	40	193	140	1,232	1,160
Region 2	1,310	1,315	70	60	235	195	1,615	1,570
Region 3	1,702	1,830	60	70	241	240	2,003	2,140
Region 4	614	625	31	30	92	110	737	765
Region 5	684	625	52.1	45	116.9	145	853	815
US	5,304	5,375	258.1	245	877.9	830	6,440	6,450

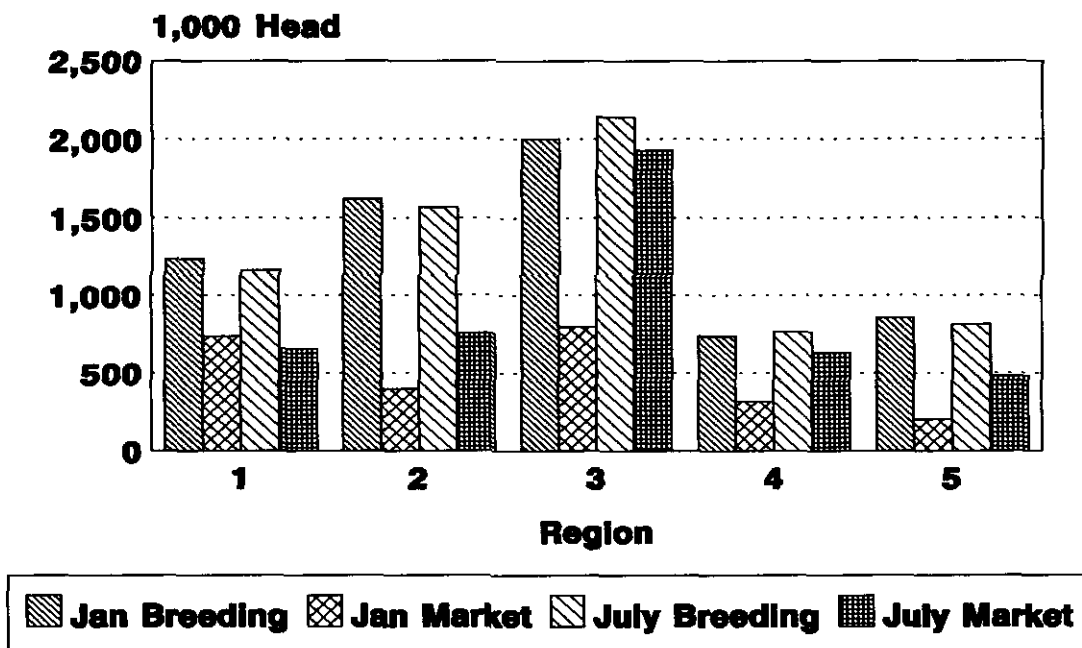
1/ States included in regions as follows: 1 - AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA; 2 - NM & TX; 3 - CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY; 4 - IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK; 5 - all other States.

Market Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 1995

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	200	180	180	85	645	10	655
Region 2	500	175	45	25	745	10	755
Region 3	1,435	230	135	105	1,905	25	1,930
Region 4	330	165	80	40	615	15	630
Region 5	285	110	40	15	450	30	480
US	2,750	860	480	270	4,360	90	4,450

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 All Sheep and Lambs By Class, By Region, January and July 1995

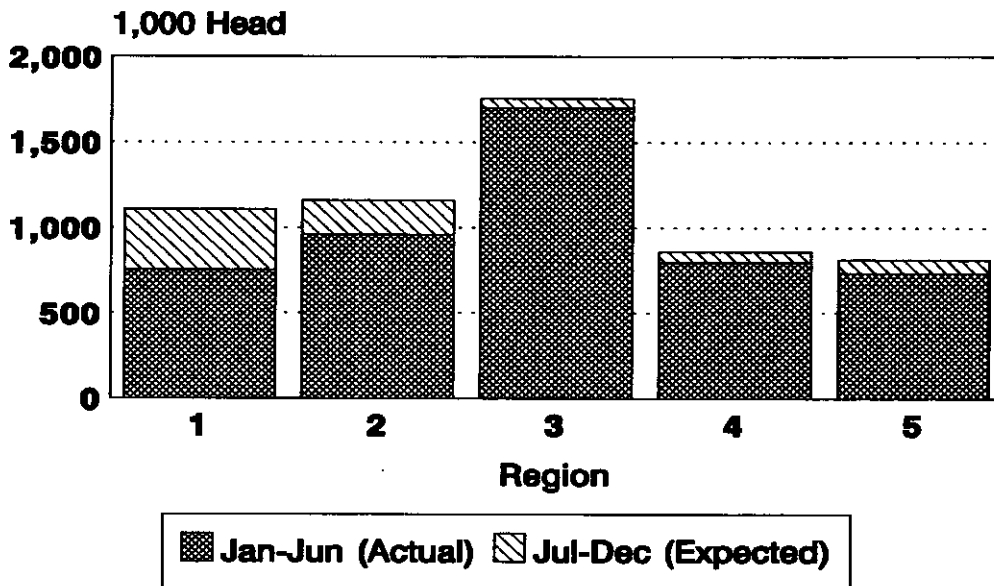


Lamb Crop: Per 100 Ewes 1+ and Number by Region
and United States, 1995 1/

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
	----- 1,000 Head -----				Number
Region 1	760	350	1,110	994	112
Region 2	960	200	1,160	1,310	89
Region 3	1,700	55	1,755	1,702	103
Region 4	800	60	860	614	140
Region 5	740	75	815	684	119
US	4,960	740	5,700	5,304	107

- 1/ Lamb crop is lambs born in the Native 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, 1995.
 4/ Lambs expected to be born July through December 1995.

United States Lamb Crop Actual and Expected By Region, 1995



Reliability of July 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 4,000 operators were contacted during the first half of July by mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interview. Regardless of when operators responded, they were asked to report inventories as of July 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 balance sheet for the first six months of 1995 was used as well as a projected balance sheet for calendar year 1995. The balance sheets begin with the previous inventory estimates, add estimates of births and imports, and subtract 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.

Terms and Definitions

Native States: States east of the Rocky Mountains and Alaska and Hawaii. They usually contain farm flock operations.

Western States: Twelve states containing the Rocky Mountains and the Western United States. They are Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. This area usually contains range type operations.

The next "Sheep" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on November 17, 1995.

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