



Washington, D.C.

Sheep

Released July 22, 2005, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Sheep* call Scott Hollis at 202-720-4751, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

July 1 All Sheep and Lamb Inventory Up 2 Percent

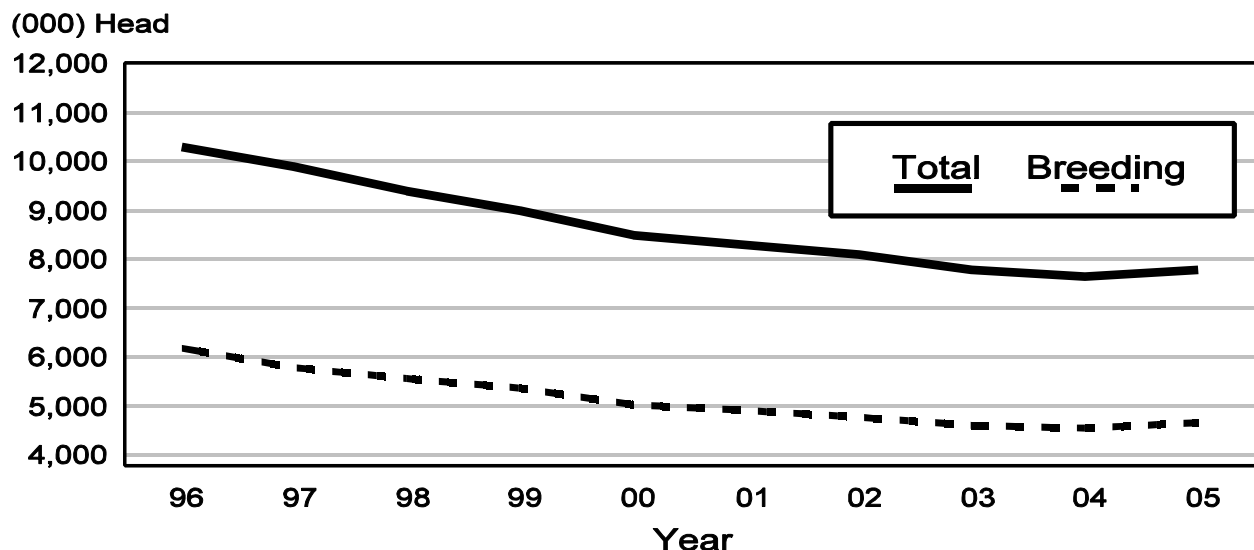
All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2005, totaled 7.80 million head, 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.66 million head on July 1, 2005 was 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs) at 3.14 million head, were 1 percent above last July.

The breeding herd consists of 3.79 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 680,000 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, 350,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 260,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 90,000.

The 2005 Lamb Crop in the United States is expected to total 4.12 million head, up 1 percent from the 2004 lamb crop of 4.10 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2005 totaled 3.65 million head or 89 percent of the yearly total. An additional 470,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2005.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 34.0 percent of all sheep and lambs. Region 2 (NM & TX) accounted for 19.2 percent, Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) for 16.7 percent, Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) for 15.4 percent, and Region 5 (all other States) for 14.7 percent.

United States Sheep and Lambs July 1, 1996 - 2005



**All Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2004-2005**

Regions ¹	All Sheep and Lambs		2005 as % of 2004	Breeding Sheep and Lambs		Market Sheep and Lambs	
	2004	2005		2004	2005	2004	2005
	<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	1,290	1,300	101	810	805	480	495
Region 2	1,470	1,500	102	960	1,000	510	500
Region 3	2,600	2,650	102	1,430	1,460	1,170	1,190
Region 4	1,180	1,200	102	650	665	530	535
Region 5	1,110	1,150	104	695	725	415	425
US	7,650	7,800	102	4,545	4,655	3,105	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.

**Breeding Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2004-2005**

Regions ¹	Breeding Sheep-One Year Old & Older				Replacement Lambs		Total Breeding Sheep and Lambs	
	Ewes		Rams		2004	2005	2004	2005
	2004	2005	2004	2005				
	<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	685	30	30	95	90	810	805
Region 2	800	815	40	45	120	140	960	1,000
Region 3	1,210	1,220	40	40	180	200	1,430	1,460
Region 4	525	535	30	30	95	100	650	665
Region 5	525	535	40	40	130	150	695	725
US	3,745	3,790	180	185	620	680	4,545	4,655

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**

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>	<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	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.

**Market Sheep and Lambs Inventory: By Region
and United States, July 1, 2004**

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>	<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	130	155	130	50	465	15	480
Region 2	340	115	30	15	500	10	510
Region 3	830	150	70	100	1,150	20	1,170
Region 4	240	135	85	55	515	15	530
Region 5	260	80	40	20	400	15	415
US	1,800	635	355	240	3,030	75	3,105

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, 2005 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	540	200	740	700	106
Region 2	580	110	690	747	92
Region 3	1,260	30	1,290	1,058	122
Region 4	610	50	660	489	135
Region 5	660	80	740	579	128
US	3,650	470	4,120	3,573	115

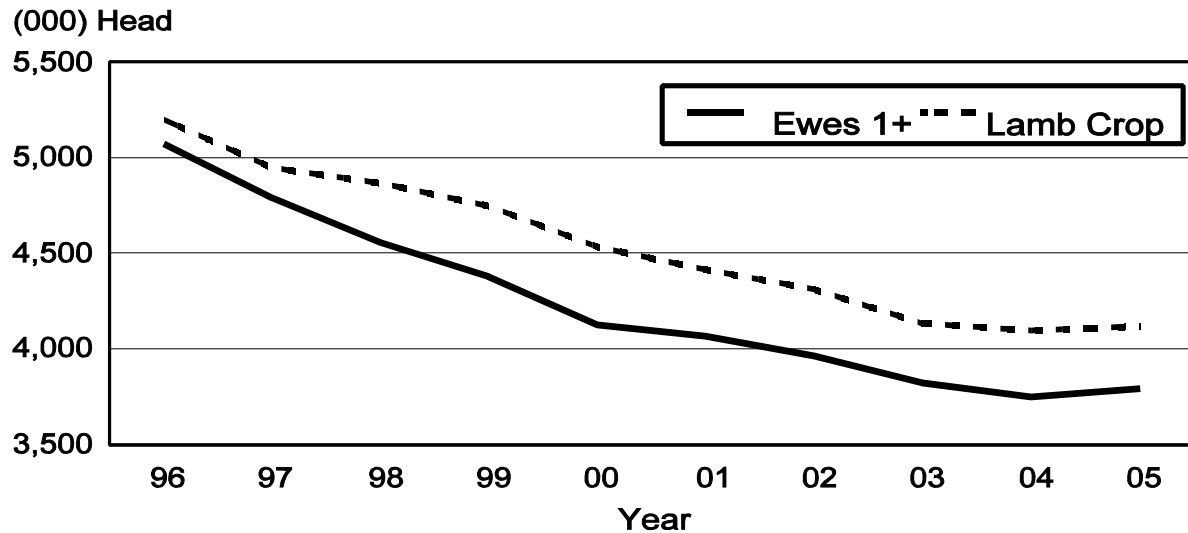
¹ Lamb crop is lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

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, 2005.

⁴ Lambs expected to be born July through December 2005.

United States Total Breeding Ewes 1+ and Lamb Crop July 1, 1996-2005



The 1996-2004 Lamb Crop is the January estimate. The 2005 estimate is the July forecast.

Reliability of July 1 Sheep and Lamb 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. Data were collected during the first half of June from about 39,700 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 2005.

Estimation Procedures: These sheep and lamb 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 2005 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 lambs 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 3.0 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 3.0 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 105,000 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
Lamb Crop	<i>Percent</i> 3.0	<i>Percent</i> 5.4	<i>1,000 Head</i> 223.0	<i>1,000 Head</i> 105	<i>1,000 Head</i> 4	<i>1,000 Head</i> 406	<i>Number</i> 1	<i>Number</i> 9

¹ Based on data for the past 10 years.

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.usda.gov/nass/. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

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.usda.gov/nass/, click on **Publications**, then click on the **Subscribe by E-mail** button which takes you to the page describing e-mail delivery of reports. Finally, click on **Go to the Subscription Page** and follow the instructions.

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, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.