

# Sheep



**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

**Washington, D.C.**

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## **November 1, 1995, All Sheep and Lambs Totals 8.92 Million Head**

All sheep and lambs in the United States on November 1, 1995 totaled 8.92 million head, 18 percent below July 1, 1995. The number of breeding sheep and lambs on hand November 1, 1995 reached 6.20 million head, 4 percent below July 1, 1995. Market sheep and lambs (including newborns) at 2.72 million head were 39 percent below July 1, 1995.

Of the November 1 breeding herd, 5.12 million head were ewes one year old and older, 230,000 head were rams one year old and older, and 850,000 head were replacement lambs (including newborn lambs).

Of the total market lambs (including newborn lambs), 16.0 percent were under 65 pounds, 25.4 percent were 65 to 84 pounds, 36.3 percent were 85 to 105 pounds, and 22.2 percent were over 105 pounds on November 1.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 34.4 percent of the total sheep and lambs. Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) accounted for 21.3 percent followed closely by Region 2 (NM & TX) with 21.0 percent. Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) had 12.3 percent and the remainder was in Region 5 (all other States).

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

Regions 1/	All Sheep and Lambs		Nov as % of	Breeding Sheep and Lambs		Market Sheep and Lambs	
	Jul	Nov	Jul	Jul	Nov	Jul	Nov
	1,000 Head		Pct	1,000 Head			
Region 1	1,815	1,900	105	1,160	1,180	655	720
Region 2	2,325	1,875	81	1,570	1,505	755	370
Region 3	4,070	3,065	75	2,140	2,045	1,930	1,020
Region 4	1,395	1,100	79	765	695	630	405
Region 5	1,295	980	76	815	775	480	205
US	10,900	8,920	82	6,450	6,200	4,450	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.

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

Regions 1/	Breeding Sheep-One Year Old & Older				Replacement		Total Breeding Sheep and Lambs	
	Ewes		Rams		Lambs		Lambs	
	Jul	Nov	Jul	Nov	Jul	Nov	Jul	Nov
	1,000 Head							
Region 1	980	990	40	40	140	150	1,160	1,180
Region 2	1,315	1,250	60	55	195	200	1,570	1,505
Region 3	1,830	1,705	70	60	240	280	2,140	2,045
Region 4	625	580	30	30	110	85	765	695
Region 5	625	595	45	45	145	135	815	775
US	5,375	5,120	245	230	830	850	6,450	6,200

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							
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	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 4,000 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 1995 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 in January 26, 1996.

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