



News Release

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Sheep and Goats
February 1, 2008

Sheep and Goats

North Dakota

All sheep and lamb inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2008 totaled 95,000 head, down 5 percent from the previous year's 100,000 head, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. This is the smallest flock since records began in 1920. Sheep and lamb operations totaled 840 during 2007, down from 910 operations in 2006 but above the record low 770 operations in 2004.

Breeding sheep inventory totaled 72,000 head on January 1, 2008, down 8 percent from last year's 78,000 head. Ewes one year and older, at 58,000 head, were down 4,000 head from the previous year. Rams at 2,000 head, were down 500 head from last year. Replacement lambs totaled 12,000 head, down 1,500 head from a year earlier.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 23,000 head, up from 22,000 head on January 1, 2007. Only 1,000 head were mature sheep (one year old and older) while the remaining 22,000 were under one year. Sixty-eight percent of the market lambs weighed 85 pounds or more, down from 74 percent last year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 2,000 lambs were under 65 pounds; 5,000 were 65-84 pounds; 9,000 were 85-105 pounds; 6,000 were over 105 pounds.

The 2007 lamb crop totaled 80,000, unchanged from 2006. This ties 2006 as the smallest lamb crop since records began in 1924. The 2007 lambing rate was 129 per 100 ewes one year and older on January 1, 2007, compared with 136 per 100 ewes in 2006.

Shorn wool production during 2007 was 625,000 pounds, down 10 percent from 2006. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 72,000 head, down from 80,000 head during 2006. Average price paid for wool sold in 2007 was \$0.65 cent per pound, compared to \$0.60 in 2006. The total value of wool was \$406,000, down 3 percent from \$417,000 in 2006.

All meat and other goat and kid inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2008, totaled 2,250, down 100 head from January 1, 2007. This is the fourth year of published estimates for North Dakota's goat data in the Sheep and Goat release. North Dakota angora and milk goats data are not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

United States

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 6.06 million head, down 2 percent from 2007. After consecutive increases in 2005 and 2006, inventory has now declined for the past two years.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.51 million head on January 1, 2008, down 2 percent from 4.61 million head on January 1, 2007. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.62 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2008, totaled 1.55 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2007. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 26 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings.

The 2007 lamb crop of 4.05 million head, was down slightly from 2006. The 2007 lambing rate was 110 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2007, down 1 percent from 2006.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2007 was 34.5 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.71 million head, down 3 percent from 2006. The average price paid for wool sold in 2007 was \$0.88 per pound for a total value of 30.3 million dollars, up 23 percent from 24.5 million dollars in 2006.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 3.02 million head, up 3 percent from 2007. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.50 million head, up 2 percent from 2007. **All market goats and kids** totaled 520,000 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2008 **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.50 million head, up 4 percent from 2007. **Milk goat inventory** increased 4 percent to 305,000 head while **angora goats** were down 12 percent totaling 210,000 head. The 2007 **kid crop** totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, up 1 percent from 2006.

**Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class and Lamb Crop
North Dakota and United States, January 1, 2007-2008**

Class	North Dakota		United States	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
All Sheep and Lambs	100.0	95.0	6,165.0	6,055.0
Total Market	22.0	23.0	1,555.0	1,550.0
Lambs	21.0	22.0	1,466.0	1,470.0
Under 65 Pounds	2.5	2.0	362.1	352.2
65 to 84 Pounds	3.0	5.0	200.8	209.0
85 to 105 Pounds	7.5	9.0	372.6	377.4
Over 105 Pounds	8.0	6.0	530.5	531.4
Sheep	1.0	1.0	89.0	80.0
Total Breeding	78.0	72.0	4,610.0	4,505.0
Ewes, One Year and Older	62.0	58.0	3,696.0	3,617.0
Rams, One Year and Older	2.5	2.0	195.0	193.0
Replacement Lambs	13.5	12.0	719.0	695.0
Lamb Crop ^{1/}	80.0	80.0	4,065.0	4,050.0
From Breeding Ewes 1 yr + Jan 1 ^{1/}	59.0	62.0	3,661.0	3,696.0
Rate Per 100 Ewes 1 yr ^{1/}	136	129	111	110
Number of Operations ^{1/}	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
All Sheep	910	840	69,470	70,590

1/ Preceding year.

**Wool: Production, Price and Value
Selected States and United States, 2006-2007**

State	Sheep Shorn ^{1/}		Weight per Fleece		Production		Price per Pound		Value ^{2/}	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
North Dakota	80	72	8.7	8.7	695	625	60	65	417	406
California	490	460	7.1	6.7	3,500	3,100	72	85	2,520	2,635
Colorado	380	400	6.8	6.8	2,600	2,700	75	100	1,950	2,700
Minnesota	140	150	6.5	6.5	910	980	34	34	309	333
Montana	255	255	9.2	9.2	2,350	2,350	91	130	2,139	3,055
South Dakota	335	295	7.2	7.7	2,415	2,270	63	85	1,521	1,930
Texas	700	600	7.0	7.3	4,900	4,400	91	121	4,459	5,324
Wyoming	370	360	9.6	9.2	3,550	3,325	92	126	3,266	4,190
United States	4,852	4,705	7.4	7.3	36,019	34,533	68	88	24,510	30,258

1/ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. 2/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price.

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~ Compiled and Published by ~

USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

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