

lamb crop wool



1972

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LAMB CROP

The 1972 United States lamb crop is estimated at 12,442,000 head, down 4 percent from the 1971 crop of 12,929,000 head, according to the Crop Reporting Board.

The January 1, 1972 number of breeding ewes 1 year old and older totaled 12,854,000, a decrease of 6 percent from a year earlier, while ewe lambs under 1 year were down 14 percent.

The lambing percentage for 1972 (number of lambs saved per 100 ewes 1 year old and older on hand January 1), at 97, is 2 points above 1971.

The lamb crop was larger than a year earlier in New Mexico, Nebraska, Texas, South Dakota, Ohio and Utah. All remaining States for which estimates are available showed declines from last year. The number of early lambs (dropped before March 15) in 12 Western States (11 Western excluding Washington, plus South Dakota, and Texas) was down 12 percent from 1971.

SHORN WOOL

Wool shorn and to be shorn in the United States during 1972 is estimated at 152,513,000 pounds, grease basis. This is a decrease of 4 percent from the 1971 production of 159,084,000 pounds. The 1972 production is equivalent to 72,749,000 pounds, clean basis, compared with 75,883,000 in 1971 based on a conversion factor of 47.7 percent.

The number of sheep shorn and to be shorn, estimated at 18,135,000, declined 4 percent from the 18,944,000 shorn in 1971. The 1972 average fleece weight is 8.41 pounds, compared with 8.40 pounds last year.

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The following change in sheep and lamb estimates announced October 1971 is effective with this report. Individual State estimates for the lamb crop and wool production have been discontinued for 24 minor sheep States. Combined estimates for these 24 States, individual estimates for 25 major States and estimates for the U. S. are provided. Hawaii is not included in the estimating program for sheep and lambs. Individual State estimates for all States will be available in the annual reports issued in early 1973. The Lamb Crop and Wool reports previously issued separately have been combined into a single issue effective with this report.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD
Mt An 5-1 (7-72) WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Lamb Crop: 1970-72

State	Breeding ewes 1 year and older, January 1			Lambs saved per 100 ewes 1 + January 1 1/			Lambs saved 1/			1972 as % of 1971
	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	
	1,000 head			Number			1,000 head			Percent
Pa.	122	120	113	101	101	98	123	121	111	92
Ohio	490	470	456	97	101	105	473	474	480	101
Ind.	181	169	153	110	114	110	200	192	169	88
Ill.	226	195	190	110	110	109	248	215	208	97
Mich.	151	157	144	106	108	107	160	170	154	91
Minn.	347	323	297	114	112	112	397	361	333	92
Iowa	526	505	456	106	106	105	555	533	479	90
Mo.	198	185	168	105	105	107	207	194	180	93
N. Dak.	245	235	233	112	114	112	275	268	262	98
S. Dak.	836	836	829	102	104	106	853	869	879	101
Nebr.	184	178	174	104	101	106	191	180	184	102
Kans.	220	205	198	100	107	106	221	219	209	95
Va.	151	143	130	116	115	119	175	165	155	94
W. Va.	130	125	123	112	112	110	145	140	135	96
Texas	2,590	2,720	2,530	92	84	91	2,383	2,285	2,302	101
Mont.	827	810	739	93	93	96	769	753	709	94
Idaho	544	544	539	112	115	111	609	626	598	96
Wyo.	1,343	1,334	1,294	83	84	83	1,115	1,121	1,074	96
Colo.	703	640	572	102	102	100	717	653	572	88
N. Mex.	600	569	550	82	77	85	493	440	468	106
Ariz.	321	326	311	79	80	79	254	261	245	94
Utah	821	780	758	95	91	94	780	710	713	100
Nev.	163	150	143	94	95	92	153	143	132	92
Oreg.	360	342	339	101	99	99	364	339	336	99
Calif.	1,024	992	885	91	92	92	932	913	814	89
Other 24 States 2/	605	570	530	103	102	102	621	584	541	93
U. S.	13,908	13,623	12,854	96	95	97	13,413	12,929	12,442	96

1/ Lambs saved defined as lambs living July 1, or sold before July 1 in the Native States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

2/ State estimates not available in July.

Wool shorn 1970-1972, by States

State	Number sheep shorn 1/			Weight per fleece 2/			Wool production		
	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972
	1,000 head			Pounds			1,000 pounds		
Pa.	152	144	138	7.3	7.3	7.3	1,110	1,051	1,007
Ohio	642	612	600	8.3	8.2	8.5	5,318	5,015	5,107
Ind.	233	220	193	7.7	7.4	7.7	1,794	1,628	1,477
Ill.	314	276	270	7.3	7.3	7.3	2,296	2,010	1,983
Mich.	219	208	188	8.2	8.2	8.6	1,803	1,708	1,619
Minn.	448	428	389	8.1	8.1	8.1	3,643	3,468	3,158
Iowa	707	678	611	7.6	7.6	7.6	5,349	5,160	4,649
Mo.	245	230	211	7.7	7.9	8.5	1,895	1,820	1,799
N. Dak.	297	305	289	9.7	9.4	9.3	2,878	2,873	2,680
S. Dak.	1,025	1,031	1,035	9.3	9.3	9.4	9,509	9,585	9,702
Nebr.	372	348	340	7.4	7.5	7.4	2,736	2,610	2,500
Kans.	320	310	310	8.1	8.8	8.5	2,606	2,715	2,634
Va.	178	165	155	6.2	6.2	6.2	1,104	1,023	961
W. Va.	150	140	135	5.9	5.7	5.8	885	798	783
Texas	4,048	4,164	4,134	7.6	7.3	7.2	30,784	30,397	29,765
Mont.	972	939	880	9.7	9.6	10.1	9,468	9,016	8,871
Idaho	630	633	625	10.9	10.9	10.8	6,845	6,911	6,754
Wyo.	1,656	1,634	1,552	10.1	9.9	10.2	16,756	16,185	15,842
Colo.	1,220	1,384	1,237	8.9	8.7	8.5	10,817	12,081	10,564
N. Mex.	781	752	703	8.7	9.1	9.2	6,833	6,858	6,458
Ariz.	477	497	479	7.5	7.6	7.7	3,559	3,772	3,666
Utah	985	960	911	10.1	9.5	10.0	9,922	9,167	9,127
Nev.	181	170	158	10.1	10.3	10.0	1,828	1,751	1,580
Oreg.	568	589	583	7.8	7.3	7.3	4,430	4,312	4,264
Calif.	1,553	1,423	1,349	7.5	8.1	7.5	11,665	11,580	10,363
Other 24 States 3/	762	704	660	7.73	7.94	7.88	5,893	5,590	5,200
U. S.	19,135	18,944	18,135	8.45	8.40	8.41	161,726	159,084	152,513

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards. 2/ For Texas and California the weight per fleece is the average per animal and not the average per shearing since some sheep are shorn more than once each year. 3/ State estimates not available in July.

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Texas, the leading wool producing State, expects a wool clip of 29,765,000 pounds compared with 30,397,000 pounds in 1971. Wyoming, the second ranking wool producing State, expects to have 15,842,000 pounds of wool produced in 1972, a decrease of 2 percent from 1971.

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