

# **lamb crop wool**

1973



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## **LAMB CROP**

The 1973 United States lamb crop is estimated at 11.4 million head, down 9 percent from the 1972 crop of 12.5 million head, according to the Crop Reporting Board.

The January 1, 1973 number of breeding ewes 1 year old and older totaled 12.1 million, a decrease of 6 percent from a year earlier, while ewe lambs under 1 year were down 4 percent.

The lambing percentage for 1973 (number of lambs saved per 100 ewes 1 year old and older on hand January 1), at 94, is 3 points below 1972.

All States for which estimates are available showed declines in their lamb crops from last year except Pennsylvania which had no change. The number of early lambs (dropped before March 15) for 12 Western States (11 Western States excluding Washington, plus South Dakota, and Texas) was down 13 percent from 1972.

## **SHORN WOOL**

Wool shorn and to be shorn in the United States during 1973 is estimated at 144.0 million pounds, grease basis. This is a decrease of 9 percent from the 1972 production of 157.9 million pounds. The 1973 production is equivalent to 69 million pounds, clean basis, compared with 75 million in 1972 based on a conversion factor of 47.7 percent.

The number of sheep shorn and to be shorn, estimated at 17.4 million, was down 7 percent from the 18.8 million shorn in 1972. The 1973 average fleece weight is 8.29 pounds, compared with 8.41 pounds last year.

Texas, the leading wool producing State, expects a wool clip of 26,118,000 pounds compared with 29,430,000 pounds in 1972. Wyoming, the second ranking wool producing State, expects to have 14,232,000 pounds of wool produced in 1973, a decrease of 11 percent from 1972.

Lamb Crop: 1971-73

State	Breeding ewes 1 year older, January 1			Lambs saved per 100 ewes 1+ January 1 1/			Lambs saved 1/ 1973 as % of 1972			
	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1973 as % of 1972
	1,000 head			Number			1,000 head			percent
Pa.	120	113	108	101	98	103	121	111	111	100
Ohio	470	456	426	101	105	102	474	480	433	90
Ind.	179	174	165	113	110	109	203	192	180	94
Ill.	189	182	176	110	109	109	208	199	191	96
Mich.	158	144	138	109	107	110	173	154	152	99
Minn.	323	297	274	112	112	115	361	333	316	95
Iowa	479	456	410	106	105	105	506	479	431	90
Mo.	168	153	145	105	107	106	177	164	154	94
N. Dak.	254	251	235	112	112	114	285	280	269	96
S. Dak.	848	845	845	104	106	105	882	896	887	99
Nebr.	178	174	170	101	106	97	180	184	165	90
Kans.	211	198	187	104	106	107	219	209	200	96
Va.	156	144	141	113	120	120	176	173	169	98
W. Va.	133	130	115	112	110	112	149	143	129	90
Texas	2,720	2,530	2,310	84	91	85	2,285	2,302	1,964	85
Mont.	747	697	657	93	96	95	695	669	625	93
Idaho	583	580	547	115	111	109	670	644	596	93
Wyo.	1,334	1,282	1,200	84	84	77	1,121	1,077	924	86
Colo.	661	611	594	102	100	99	674	611	590	97
N. Mex.	528	510	523	77	85	74	409	435	389	89
Ariz.	326	311	294	80	79	79	261	245	232	95
Utah	780	758	713	91	94	89	710	713	635	89
Nev.	150	143	124	95	92	97	143	132	120	91
Oreg.	349	345	306	99	99	104	346	342	318	93
Calif.	992	885	831	92	92	89	913	814	740	91
Other 24 States 2/	573	532	483	103	105	103	589	556	498	90
U. S.	13,609	12,901	12,117	95	97	94	12,930	12,537	11,418	91

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 1971-73, by States

State	Number sheep shorn 1/			Weight per fleece 2/			Wool production		
	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973
	1,000 head			Pounds			1,000 pounds		
Pa.	144	138	132	7.3	7.3	7.1	1,051	1,007	937
Ohio	612	608	562	8.2	8.2	8.2	5,015	4,959	4,596
Ind.	224	216	205	7.4	7.7	8.0	1,659	1,657	1,640
Ill.	282	280	255	7.3	7.3	7.4	2,060	2,071	1,877
Mich.	211	221	200	8.0	8.3	8.2	1,682	1,841	1,644
Minn.	428	423	364	8.1	8.1	8.1	3,468	3,430	2,939
Iowa	703	717	624	7.5	7.7	7.5	5,292	5,545	4,694
Mo.	211	212	190	7.9	8.2	8.1	1,662	1,740	1,533
N. Dak.	325	315	306	9.3	9.3	9.2	3,020	2,930	2,818
S. Dak.	1,051	1,160	1,148	9.3	9.1	8.8	9,779	10,504	10,100
Nebr.	348	363	336	7.5	7.3	7.3	2,610	2,644	2,460
Kans.	310	320	310	8.8	8.8	8.3	2,715	2,800	2,572
Va.	177	163	161	6.2	6.1	6.0	1,097	994	966
W. Va.	149	141	133	5.7	5.7	5.7	849	804	758
Texas	4,164	4,145	3,655	7.3	7.1	7.1	30,397	29,430	26,118
Mont.	902	853	797	9.6	10.0	10.0	8,657	8,501	7,958
Idaho	690	659	607	10.7	10.5	10.5	7,370	6,949	6,397
Wyo.	1,634	1,576	1,455	10.1	10.2	9.8	16,512	16,062	14,232
Colo.	1,410	1,360	1,327	8.8	8.4	8.2	12,365	11,473	10,877
N. Mex.	705	668	687	9.4	9.2	9.3	6,635	6,134	6,410
Ariz.	497	492	469	7.6	7.5	7.4	3,772	3,692	3,450
Utah	960	896	818	9.5	10.3	9.8	9,167	9,218	8,038
Nev.	170	158	140	10.3	10.3	10.3	1,751	1,627	1,442
Oreg.	595	621	558	7.3	7.8	7.5	4,360	4,823	4,159
Calif.	1,423	1,390	1,304	8.1	8.4	8.0	11,580	11,655	10,478
Other 24 States 3/	711	683	635	7.92	7.89	7.8	5,632	5,391	4,953
U. S.	19,036	18,778	17,378	8.41	8.41	8.29	160,157	157,881	144,046

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.

