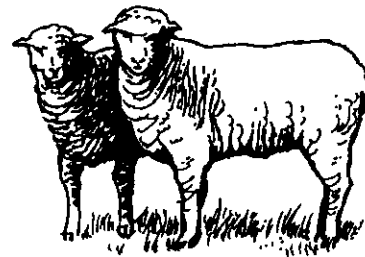


# WOOL



SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION 1968

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July 26, 1968

## WOOL PRODUCTION DOWN 7 PERCENT

Wool shorn and to be shorn in the United States during 1968 is estimated at 175,871,000 pounds, grease basis, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is 7 percent below the 1967 production of 188,155,000 pounds. The 1968 production is equivalent to 83,890,000 pounds, clean basis, compared with 89,750,000 pounds for 1967, based on a conversion factor of 47.7 percent.

The number of sheep and lambs shorn and to be shorn during 1968 is estimated at 20,580,000 head, a 6-percent decrease from the 21,982,000 head shorn in 1967. The 1968 average weight per fleece is 8.55 pounds compared with 8.56 pounds last year.

## WESTERN STATES DOWN 6 PERCENT

Shorn wool production in the Western Sheep States (11 Western States, South Dakota, and Texas) is estimated at 133,042,000 pounds, 6 percent below the 1967 clip of 141,616,000 pounds. Wool production is smaller in all Western States, except Idaho.

Sheep shorn and to be shorn in 1968 are estimated at 15,252,000 head, 6 percent less than the 16,243,000 head shorn in 1967. The average fleece weight is 8.72 pounds, the same as a year earlier.

Texas, the leading wool producing State, expects a total clip of 35,200,000 pounds, 5 percent less than the 1967 production of 36,998,000 pounds. Texas sheep and lambs shorn and to be shorn, at 4,574,000 head, is 8 percent smaller, while the average fleece weight of 7.7 pounds is 0.3 pounds heavier than in 1967. Wyoming, the second ranking wool producing State, expects a production of 17,542,000 pounds, 7 percent smaller than the 18,867,000 pounds produced in 1967. Wool production in California, the third leading State, is expected to total 13,468,000 pounds, 4 percent below 1967.

## NATIVE STATES

A wool clip of 42,553,000 pounds is estimated in the 35 Native or "fleece" wool States (excluding 13 Western States and Alaska). This is 8 percent less than the 46,293,000 pounds shorn in 1967. The smaller 1968 clip results from a 7-percent decline in the number of sheep and lambs shorn and a fleece weight of 8.02 pounds, 0.08 pound lighter than the 8.10 pounds in 1967.

Wool shorn 1967 and 1968, by States

State	Number sheep shorn 1/			Weight per fleece 2/			Wool production		
	5-year			5-year			5-year		
	average	1967	1968	average	1967	1968	average	1967	1968
	1962-66			1962-66			1962-66		
	1,000	1,000	1,000	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000	1,000	1,000
	head	head	head				pounds	pounds	pounds
Maine	25	18	16	7.1	7.5	7.2	180	135	115
N. H.	5.8	4.8	4.8	6.8	7.1	7.1	40	34	34
Vt.	8.2	6.8	6.1	7.7	8.2	8.1	63	56	49
Mass.	10	9.5	9.0	7.2	7.3	7.4	74	69	67
R. I.	2.1	1.8	1.7	6.9	7.2	7.3	15	13	12
Conn.	5.7	4.8	5.0	7.1	7.3	7.2	40	35	36
N. Y.	106	90	86	7.9	8.1	7.6	833	725	652
N. J.	11	8.6	8.0	7.3	7.4	7.7	77	64	62
Pa.	183	162	158	7.4	7.5	7.5	1,357	1,215	1,185
Ohio	784	692	684	8.5	8.8	8.6	6,686	6,106	5,899
Ind.	325	275	256	7.8	8.0	8.0	2,535	2,189	2,057
Ill.	523	363	335	7.4	7.9	7.7	3,882	2,854	2,592
Mich.	291	240	221	8.5	8.6	8.3	2,465	2,073	1,833
Wis.	170	150	143	7.7	8.2	8.2	1,339	1,233	1,175
Minn.	697	580	477	7.8	8.0	8.1	5,459	4,657	3,869
Iowa	1,118	823	758	7.6	8.2	8.1	8,531	6,739	6,157
Mo.	444	328	306	7.8	8.1	7.9	3,457	2,672	2,428
N. Dak.	477	354	323	9.6	9.8	9.8	4,569	3,483	3,180
S. Dak.	1,434	1,216	1,150	9.0	9.4	9.7	12,981	11,401	11,115
Nebr.	505	392	373	7.6	7.9	7.9	3,825	3,100	2,937
Kans.	532	421	404	8.2	8.6	8.5	4,339	3,612	3,415
Del.	2.7	2.4	1.9	7.1	7.1	7.4	19	17	14
Md.	22	17	17	6.9	7.1	7.1	150	121	121
Va.	228	196	189	5.9	6.2	6.1	1,349	1,218	1,153
W. Va.	200	164	158	5.6	5.9	5.9	1,128	968	932
N. C.	30	19	18	6.2	7.0	6.5	187	133	117
S. C.	4.9	2.4	1.8	6.6	7.1	6.7	32	17	12
Ga.	10	5.5	5.1	6.3	6.3	6.1	63	35	31
Fla.	6.2	5.1	5.5	4.7	6.5	5.1	29	33	28
Ky.	218	135	117	7.1	7.2	7.4	1,535	972	866
Tenn.	110	60	48	5.6	5.8	6.2	611	348	298
Ala.	13	7.0	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.0	77	42	37
Miss.	30	19	17	5.1	5.1	5.0	151	97	85
Ark.	17	8.7	7.5	6.7	7.1	7.3	117	62	55
La.	49	28	25	4.6	4.7	4.6	223	132	115
Okla.	145	125	112	8.1	8.3	8.3	1,168	1,034	935
Texas	5,565	4,993	4,574	7.7	7.4	7.7	43,015	36,998	35,200
Mont.	1,331	1,134	1,092	10.0	9.9	9.9	13,304	11,277	10,840
Idaho	840	696	703	10.3	10.6	10.6	8,689	7,346	7,446
Wyo.	1,955	1,768	1,707	10.3	10.7	10.3	20,115	18,867	17,542
Colo.	1,438	1,271	1,121	9.1	8.9	8.4	13,103	11,335	9,389
N. Mex.	1,014	884	821	9.4	9.6	9.2	9,535	8,462	7,580
Ariz.	513	472	441	7.2	7.0	6.9	3,684	3,317	3,037
Utah	1,071	1,009	988	9.9	10.1	9.9	10,561	10,227	9,748
Nev.	245	212	205	9.8	9.8	10.0	2,386	2,082	2,050
Wash.	233	159	143	9.2	9.4	9.0	2,129	1,492	1,293
Oreg.	741	571	537	7.8	8.3	8.1	5,806	4,735	4,334
Calif.	2,017	1,858	1,770	7.7	7.6	7.6	15,487	14,077	13,468
48 States	25,702	21,961	20,556	8.46	8.56	8.54	217,401	187,909	175,595
Alaska	16	21	24	11.8	11.7	11.5	185	246	276
Hawaii	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
U. S.	25,718	21,982	20,580	8.46	8.56	8.55	217,586	188,155	175,871

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.