World Sheep Production

In 2013 there were 1.62 billion head of sheep in the world at which time the United States had 5.34 million of that total.

Countries with Most Sheep

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Sheep (Head)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>175,000,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>75,547,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>63,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan (former)</td>
<td>52,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</td>
<td>50,220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>39,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>32,856,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>30,786,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>28,755,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>27,425,233</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) is a federation of 45 state sheep associations representing sheep producers nationwide with a common goal to promote the well-being and profitability of the U.S. sheep industry. From East to West, farm flocks to range operations, ASI works to represent the interests of the producer. A team of volunteer producer leaders directs the actions of the association through their involvement on the executive board, the board of directors and councils and committees.

1 USDA/NASS, Farms, Land in Farms and Livestock Operations 2012 Summary, February 2013
2 USDA/NASS, Sheep and Goats, Released Jan. 31, 2017
3 USDA/NASS, Livestock Slaughter 2016 Summary, April 2017
5 Dave Thomas, Ph.D., Animal Science Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison
6 USDA/NASS, Sheep and Goats Death Loss, September 2015
7 The American Sheep Industry Association
8 Sheep and Lamb Industry Economic Impact Analysis, Julie Stepaneck Shiflett, Ph.D., April 2008, Revised March 2011, Revised August 2017

American Sheep Industry Association
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Sheep Production

> In 2013, there were 88,338 sheep operations in the United States.1
> As of Jan. 1, 2017, there were 5.20 million head of sheep in the United States.2

States with Most Sheep2

- Texas .................. 700,000
- California .......... 585,000
- Colorado .......... 395,000
- Wyoming .......... 360,000
- Utah .................... 275,000
- California .......... 740,000
- Arizona .......... 725,000
- Texas ............... 660,000
- Oregon .......... 600,000

States with Most Sheep Operations1

- Texas .................. 10,674
- Arizona .......... 7,447
- California ......... 4,224
- Wyoming ........... 3,600
- Utah .............. 3,590
- Pennsylvania ....... 3,568
- Texas ............... 3,400
- Arizona .......... 3,300
- California ......... 3,000

Economic Impact8

> These retail receipts support an additional $2.02 billion in economic activity for a total economic impact of $5.8 billion.

Added Value of U.S. Sheep Industry8

- Retail Lamb Sales ........................................... $374,766,407
- Food Services Sales ..................................... $701,927,351
- Retail Wool: Military Purchases ...................... $117,295,721
- Wholesale Variety Meat & Rendered Products ........ $20,101,500
- Wholesale Pelts ........................................... $20,172,000
- Value Added Wool Exports ........................... $14,215,000

Wool Production2

> More than 3.56 million sheep were shorn in 2016, producing approximately 25.7 million pounds of wool.
> The average weight of a single U.S. fleece is 7.2 pounds.

U.S. Exports of all Wool Categories7

- 2004: 12.29
- 2005: 13
- 2006: 13
- 2007: 14
- 2008: 14
- 2009: 17
- 2010: 18
- 2011: 19
- 2012: 19
- 2013: 20
- 2014: 20
- 2015: 15
- 2016: 15

U.S. Micron Profile of Greasy Wool7

- 29 and coarser: 18.36%
- 26-28.9: 15.9%
- 23.6-25.9: 23.43%
- 22.1-23.5: 26.79%
- 20.56%

U.S. Average Lamb Carcass Weight (lbs.)

Source: USDA/NASS, ASI

Meat Production3

> An estimated 2.24 million lambs were processed in the U.S. in 2016.
> The average live weight of a market lamb in 2016 was 134 pounds.

Sheep Milk Production5

> In 2011, the United States produced approximately 3.0 million pounds of sheep milk cheese and imported more than 57 million pounds. Depending on the year, 45 to 55 percent of the world trade in sheep milk cheese comes to the United States.
> The price of sheep milk is $0.80 to $1.20 per pound, four to six times higher than the price of cow milk.
> Sheep milk is highly nutritious and richer in vitamins A, B and E, calcium, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium than cow milk.

Sheep/Lamb Death Loss to Predators6

> Death loss to predators is the single largest cause of mortality to sheep. In 2014, kills by predators resulted in the loss of $32 million to sheep farmers and ranchers.
> In 2014, more than 58 percent of farmers and ranchers used one or more nonlethal methods of predator control.

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