



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Kentucky Field Office



# News Release

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Cooperating with Kentucky Department of Agriculture  
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## **KENTUCKY SHEEP INVENTORY INCREASES; GOAT INVENTORY DECLINES**

Sheep and lamb inventories increased and goat inventories decreased in **Kentucky** from last year according to the Kentucky Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The total number of sheep in Kentucky on January 1, 2012, was estimated at 40,000 head, an increase of 6,000 from the previous year's estimate. All breeding sheep and lambs were estimated at 34,000 head and all market sheep and lambs were estimated at 6,000 head. Breeding ewes increased by 5,000 to 27,000, and breeding rams increased by 500 to 2,000 head. Replacement lambs numbered 5,000, an increase of 500 from 2011. Lamb crop for 2011 increased by 5,000 from last year to 30,000 head.

All meat and other goats in Kentucky were estimated at 68,000 head, down 4,500 head from January 2011. Milk goats at 7,000 head, was up 1,500 head from the previous year's estimate.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2012, totaled 5.35 million head, down 2 percent from 2011. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 3.98 million head on January 1, 2012, down 3 percent from 4.08 million head on January 1, 2011. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.16 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2012, totaled 1.37 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2011. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Twenty-two percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 22 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 38 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory. The 2011 lamb crop of 3.51 million head, was down 2 percent from 2010. The 2011 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2011, an increase of 2 percent from 2010.

All goat inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2012, totaled 2.86 million head, down 4 percent from 2011. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.38 million head down 4 percent from 2011. Does one year old and older, at 1.78 million head, were 3 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 487,000 head, down 5 percent from a year ago. Kid crop for 2011 totaled 1.88 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2010. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.36 million head on January 1, 2012, down 4 percent from 2011. Milk goat inventory was 360,000 head, unchanged from January 1, 2011, while angora goats were down 15 percent, totaling 146,000 head.

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