

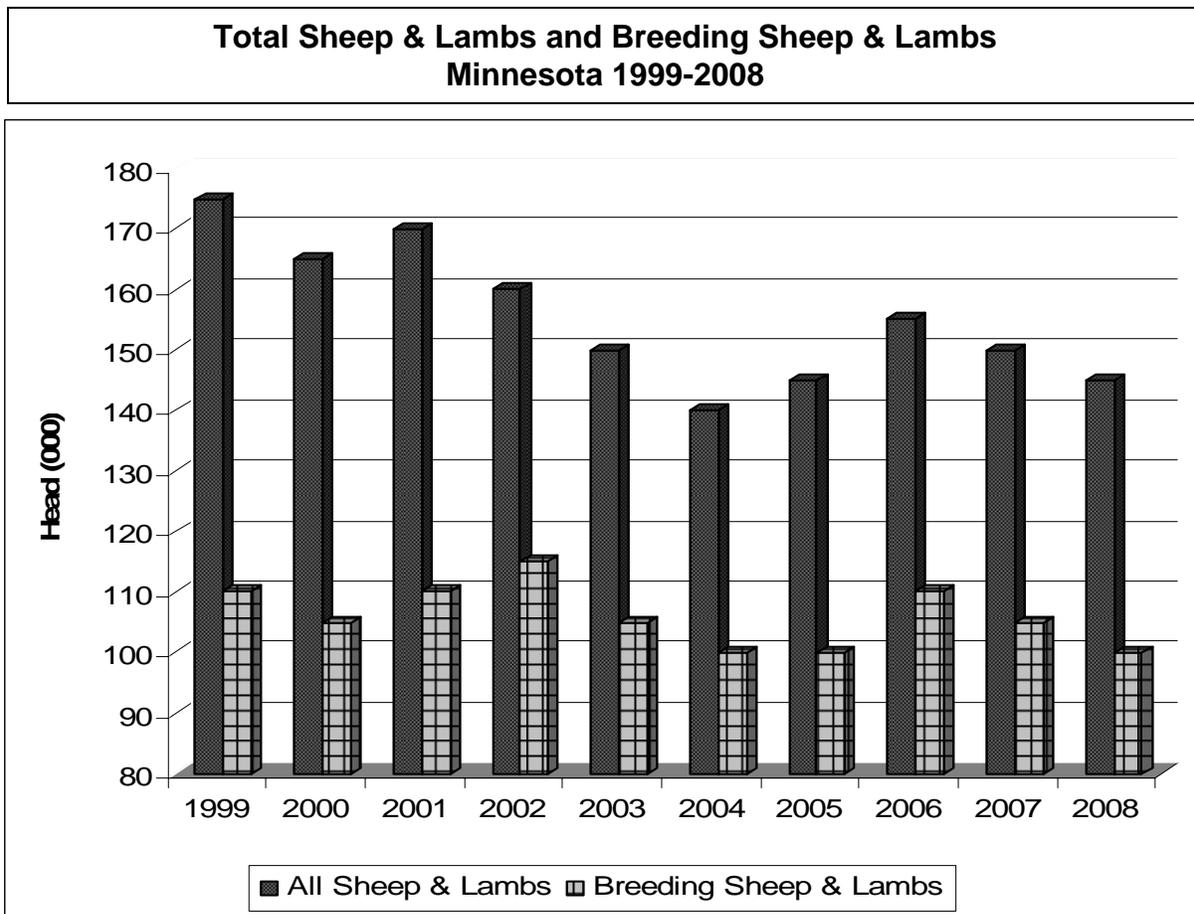


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**MINNESOTA'S SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY DOWN 3 PERCENT**

Minnesota's January 1, 2008 sheep and lamb inventory was down 3 percent from last year to 145,000 head, according to USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. Breeding stock numbers were down 5 percent at 100,000. The remaining inventory of 45,000 market lambs and sheep was unchanged from last year. Of the 45,000 total lambs and sheep for slaughter market, 1,000 were mature sheep (1 year old and older) and the remaining 44,000 were lambs under 1 year. Market lambs by weight group were estimated as follows: under 65 pounds: 11,000; 65-84 pounds: 10,000; 85-105 pounds: 13,000; over 105 pounds: 10,000.

Minnesota's 2007 lamb crop totaled 140,000 head, up 4 percent from the previous year. The 2007 lambing rate was 175 per 100 ewes one year old and older on hand January 1, 2007, compared with 159 per 100 ewes in 2006.



**MINNESOTA WOOL PRODUCTION UP 8 PERCENT FROM 2006**

Minnesota's 2007 wool output increased 8 percent with production totaling 980,000 pounds compared with 910,000 pounds in 2006. Minnesota is ranked 11th in 2007 U.S. wool production. The 150,000 sheep and lambs shorn in 2007 were up 7 percent from 2006. Fleece weight averaged 6.5 pounds, unchanged from the previous year. Value of the state's 2007 wool production was \$333,000, up 8 percent from the previous year's value of \$309,000. Average price per pound for 2007 was 34 cents, unchanged from the 2006 price.

## MINNESOTA'S MEAT AND OTHER GOAT INVENTORY DOWN 11 PERCENT

Minnesota's January 1, 2008 meat and other goat inventory, at 11,000, was down 11 percent from the January 1, 2007 figure. The milk goat inventory, at 6,600, was up 3 percent from the 2007 figure, while angora goats, at 1,500, were up 15 percent from last year.

## U.S. TOTAL SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

**All sheep and lamb inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 6.06 million head, down 2 percent from 2007. After consecutive increases in 2005 and 2006, inventory has now declined for the past two years.

**Breeding sheep inventory** decreased to 4.51 million head on January 1, 2008, down 2 percent from 4.61 million head on January 1, 2007. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.62 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

**Market sheep and lambs** on January 1, 2008, totaled 1.55 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2007. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 26 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings.

**The 2007 lamb crop** of 4.05 million head, was down slightly from 2006. The 2007 lambing rate was 110 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2007, down 1 percent from 2006.

**Shorn wool production** in the United States during 2007 was 34.5 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.71 million head, down 3 percent from 2006. The average price paid for wool sold in 2007 was \$0.88 per pound for a total value of 30.3 million dollars, up 23 percent from 24.5 million dollars in 2006.

## U.S. TOTAL GOAT INVENTORY UP 3 PERCENT

**All goat inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 3.02 million head, up 3 percent from 2007. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.50 million head up 2 percent from 2007. **All market goats and kids** totaled 520,000 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2008 **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.50 million head, up 4 percent from 2007. **Milk goat** inventory increased 4 percent to 305,000 head while **angora goats** were down 12 percent totaling 210,000 head. The 2007 **kid crop** totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, up 1 percent from 2006.

**Mohair production** in the United States during 2007 was 1.14 million pounds. **Goats and kids clipped** totaled 185,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.20 pounds. **Mohair price** was \$3.78 per pound with a value of 4.31 million dollars.

### Goats: Number by Class, United States, January 1, 2007-2008

Item	Total <i>Head</i>	Breeding <i>Head</i>	Market <i>Head</i>	Kid Crop <sup>1</sup> <i>Head</i>
2007				
Angora	238,000	207,000	31,000	129,000
Milk	294,000	266,000	28,000	214,000
Meat	2,402,000	1,963,000	439,000	1,574,000
All	2,934,000	2,436,000	498,000	1,917,000
2008				
Angora	210,000	182,000	28,000	108,000
Milk	305,000	277,000	28,000	220,000
Meat	2,500,000	2,036,000	464,000	1,610,000
All	3,015,000	2,495,000	520,000	1,938,000

<sup>1</sup> Kid Crop for 2007 refers to kids born in 2006. Kid Crop for 2008 refers to kids born in 2007.