

Livestock Inventory & Production

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The total value of all cattle, hogs and sheep on Pennsylvania farms January 1, 2008, was \$2.2 billion, up 6 percent from the previous year. Cattle inventory was valued at \$2.09 billion on January 1, 2008, accounting for 95.7 percent of the total value of all livestock in Pennsylvania. Sheep inventory, valued at \$16.9 million, accounted for 0.8 percent of the total. Hog inventory, valued at \$78.2 million on December 1, 2007, accounted for 3.6 percent of the total livestock inventory value.

Cattle: All cattle in Pennsylvania totaled 1,610,000 head on January 1, 2008, up 10,000 head from January 1, 2007. Of the total, 710,000 were cows and heifers that had calved. Milk cow inventory totaled 552,000, a 2,000 head increase from one year earlier. The number of beef cows at 158,000 head, was up 8,000 head from last year. Heifers 500 pounds and over totaled 375,000, unchanged from January 1, 2007. There were 275,000 heifers for dairy replacement and 40,000 for beef cow replacement. Steers 500 pounds and over totaled 160,000. A total of 25,000 bulls 500 pounds and over were on hand. Calves under 500 pounds totaled 340,000, unchanged from the previous year. The 2007 Pennsylvania calf crop totaled 630,000 head, up 10,000 from the 2006 calf crop.

The gross income from cattle production was \$492 million in 2007, up 1.3 percent from the previous year. There were 27,000 Pennsylvania farms with cattle during 2007. Farms with milk cows decreased to 8,400 in 2007, down 300 operations. Pennsylvania ranked 4th in the United States in milk cow inventory on January 1, 2008, and 19th in cattle inventory.

Hogs: There were 1,160,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms as of December 1, 2007, 80,000 head above the previous year. Breeding hog inventory, at 100,000 head, was 5,000 head less than the previous year. A total of 1,060,000 market hogs and pigs were on hand as of December 1, 2007, 85,000 head above last year.

Pennsylvania's pig crop in 2007 totaled 1,731,000, up 55,000 head from 2006. A total of 188,000 sows farrowed in 2007, averaging 9.21 pigs per litter. The gross income from pork production was \$211.5 million for 2007, which was down 4 percent from 2006. Hog operations numbered 3,300 in 2007, up 100 from the previous year. Pennsylvania's hog inventory ranked 12th in the United States along with Texas on December 1, 2007.

Sheep: January 1, 2008 sheep and lamb inventory totaled 98,000 head, down 10,000 head from January 1, 2007. Commonwealth flocks included 82,000 breeding sheep and lambs. The total lamb crop for 2007 was 84,000 lambs, down 8,000 head from 2006. Wool production totaled 430,000 pounds, 30,000 pounds more than 2006 wool production.

The gross income from sheep production in 2007 was \$7.8 million, down 3 percent from 2006. The value of wool produced during the year was \$133,000, up \$13,000 from 2006. Sheep farms numbered 3,800, unchanged from last year. Pennsylvania ranked 14th in the United States in sheep and lamb inventory as of January 1, 2008.

Goats: January 1, 2008 milk and meat goat inventory totaled 53,000 head, up 3,200 head from January 1, 2007. Commonwealth herds included 40,000 meat and other goats and 13,000 milk goats.

Red Meat Production: Pennsylvania red meat production, dressed weight basis, in commercial slaughter establishments totaled 1.29 billion pounds in 2007, up 5.4 percent from 2006. There were 245 commercial slaughter plants in Pennsylvania on January 1, 2008. Pennsylvania ranked 1st among all states in the number of commercial slaughter plants.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 945,600 head in 2007, 10 percent above the previous year. Total live weight for cattle slaughtered was 1.18 billion pounds. Average live weight at 1,252 pounds was 14 pounds above the 2006 average. Slaughter of calves weighing less than 500 pounds totaled 171,500 head, down 4 percent from 2006. Total live weight for calves slaughtered was 67.3 million pounds. The average live weight for calves, at 393 pounds, is down 6 pounds from 2006.

A total of 2,956,900 hogs were slaughtered in Pennsylvania in 2007, down slightly from 2006. Total live weight for hogs slaughtered was 746.9 million pounds. The average live weight for hogs slaughtered was 253 pounds, up 3 pounds from 2006.

Sheep and lamb slaughter was at 55,000 head. Total live weight for sheep and lambs slaughtered was 5,273,000 pounds. Sheep and lambs slaughtered averaged 96 pounds live weight, up 3 pounds from the previous year.

Pennsylvania ranked 13th among all states in commercial red meat production in 2007. Pennsylvania's rankings by number of head slaughtered were: 8th for cattle, 1st for calves, 10th for hogs, and 7th for sheep.