



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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**Results** of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Pennsylvania Hog & Pig Inventory Down 20,000 Head From a Year Ago

HARRISBURG, PA, Mar 30, 2007 - - There were 1,090,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms on March 1, 2007, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). This estimated inventory was 20,000 head more than the December 1 inventory, but was 20,000 head less than the March 1, 2006 inventory.

Market hog inventory, at 990,000 head, increased 25,000 head since December; while breeding stock inventory, at 100,000 head, was down 5,000 head from December, but unchanged from last March. The December 2006-February 2007 pig crop totaled 387,000 head, down 78,000 head from March a year earlier and unchanged from the September-November 2006 pig crop. There were 43,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, down from 47,000 a year ago. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 43 percent of the breeding herd. The average litter rate was 9.0 pigs per litter, unchanged from December and down from the 9.90 pigs for March a year ago.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 46,000 sows farrow during the March-May 2007 period and 46,000 for the June-August quarter, 1,000 less than actually farrowed in March-May 2006 and 1,000 more than actually farrowed in the June-August period one year ago.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2007, was 61.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2006, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2006. Breeding inventory, at 6.08 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.0 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2006 - February 2007 U.S. pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 2 percent from 2006, and up 3 percent from 2005. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 2.87 million head, up 1 percent from both 2005 and 2006. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.08 for the December 2006-February 2007 period, compared to 9.03 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the March-May 2007 quarter, down slightly from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2006, but up 1 percent from 2005. Intended farrowings for June-August 2007, at 2.92 million sows, are virtually unchanged from both 2006 and 2005. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

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