



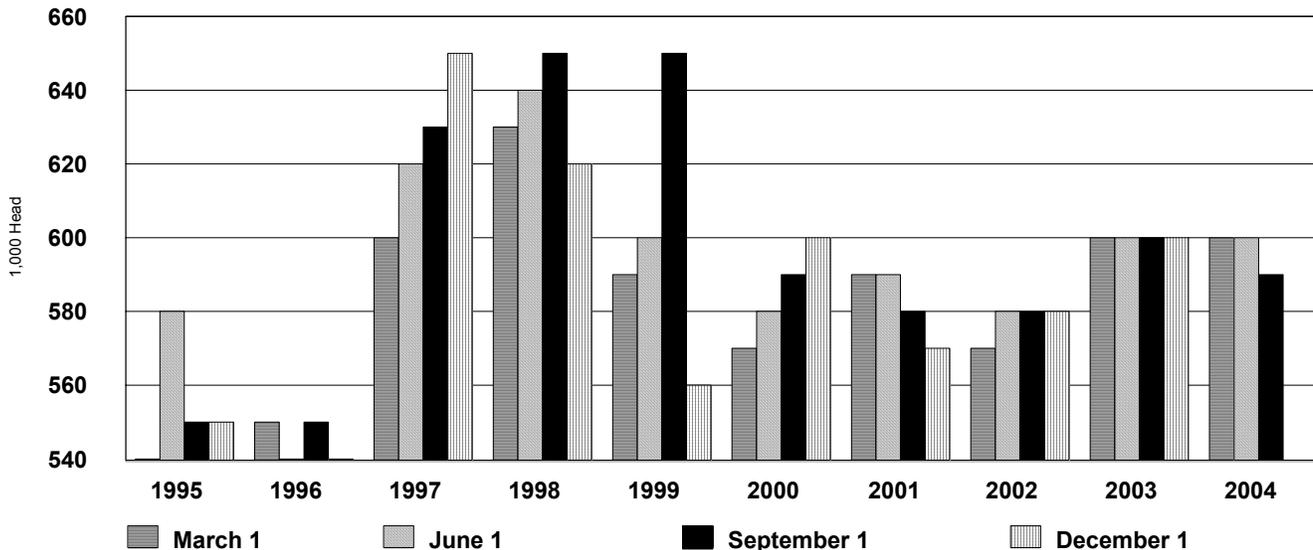
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**MINNESOTA HOG NUMBERS UP 2 PERCENT**

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 6,600,000 hogs and pigs on September 1, 2004, up 2 percent from a year earlier and unchanged from the revised June 1, 2004 figure, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is a record inventory for September 1. Breeding hogs totaled 590,000, down 2 percent from a year earlier and 6,010,000 were market hogs and pigs, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Market hogs in the under 60 pound weight group were up 5 percent from last year. Those in the 60-119 pound weight group were down 5 percent. Hog numbers in the 120-179 pound group were down 2 percent from last year, while the 180+ pound group were up 10 percent from a year ago.

**Breeding Herd Inventories  
Minnesota 1995-2004**



**STATE PIG CROP UP 5 PERCENT**

Minnesota's June-August 2004 pig crop totaled 2,579,000 head, up 5 percent from a year earlier but down 1 percent from the March-May 2004 pig crop. This is a record pig crop for the September quarter. The 285,000 sows that farrowed averaged 9.05 pigs per litter, up from 8.90 a year ago.

**SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2004 AND DECEMBER 2004-FEBRUARY 2005 INTENTIONS**

Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 280,000 sows during the September-November 2004 quarter. If realized this would be unchanged from last year. Producers intend to farrow 280,000 sows during the December 2004-February 2005 quarter. If realized, this would be down 2 percent from the previous year.

*(See back page for U.S. highlights)*

## U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2004 was 61.4 million head. This was 1 percent above both September 1, 2003 and June 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory, at 5.98 million head, was up 1 percent from September 1, 2003, and also up 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.4 million head, was 1 percent above last year and 2 percent above last quarter.

The June - August 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 26.0 million head, was up 1 percent from both 2003 and 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, 1 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.00 for the June - August 2004 period, compared to 8.90 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the September - November 2004 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2003 and 2002. Intended farrowings for December 2004 - February 2005, at 2.85 million sows, are up 1 percent from the same period in 2004, and up 3 percent from the same period in 2003.

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, up from 35 percent last year.

### Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 2003 through June 2004 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, small adjustments of less than one-half of one percent were made to September 2003 inventory components, December 2003 inventory components, September-November 2003 pig crop, and March 2004 inventory components. Adjustments of less than one percent were made to the December 2003-February 2004 pig crop and to the June 2004 inventory.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter, and Pig Crop,  
United States, December-November 2003-2004<sup>1/2/</sup>**

| Month            | Sows Farrowing |            | Pigs per Litter |        | Pig Crop   |            |
|------------------|----------------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|------------|
|                  | 2003           | 2004       | 2003            | 2004   | 2003       | 2004       |
|                  | 1,000 Head     | 1,000 Head | Number          | Number | 1,000 Head | 1,000 Head |
| Dec <sup>1</sup> | 907            | 931        | 8.75            | 8.84   | 7,940      | 8,231      |
| Jan              | 930            | 956        | 8.82            | 8.83   | 8,202      | 8,442      |
| Feb              | 932            | 940        | 8.86            | 8.88   | 8,257      | 8,348      |
| Mar              | 946            | 953        | 8.85            | 8.92   | 8,372      | 8,505      |
| Apr              | 966            | 953        | 8.88            | 8.94   | 8,581      | 8,518      |
| May              | 973            | 951        | 8.91            | 8.93   | 8,674      | 8,497      |
| Jun              | 961            | 968        | 8.91            | 8.99   | 8,567      | 8,703      |
| Jul              | 974            | 966        | 8.90            | 9.00   | 8,670      | 8,691      |
| Aug              | 971            | 954        | 8.89            | 9.03   | 8,632      | 8,611      |
| Sep              | 962            |            | 8.91            |        | 8,571      |            |
| Oct              | 949            |            | 8.93            |        | 8,478      |            |
| Nov              | 930            |            | 8.93            |        | 8,305      |            |
| Total            | 11,401         |            | 8.88            |        | 101,250    |            |

<sup>1</sup> December preceding year.

<sup>2</sup> Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.