



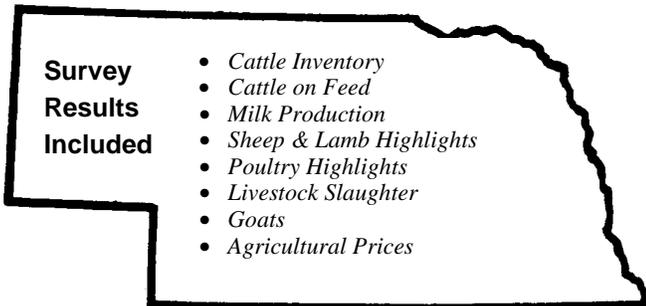
# Nebraska Agri-Facts

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Issue 03-2009

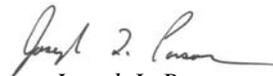
Released February 4, 2009



Dear Nebraska Farmers, Ranchers and Agribusinesses:

The following narrative and tables are from recently published reports by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board. These data are direct results of information provided by Nebraska producers and agribusinesses to the surveys conducted each month by this office.

Thank you for your response to these surveys.

  
Joseph L. Parsons  
Director

## Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves on hand January 1, 2009, in Nebraska totaled 6.35 million head, down 2 percent from 2008.

All cows on hand January 1, at 1.91 million head, were 2 percent below last year. The 2008 calf crop totaled 1.73 million head, down 2 percent from 2007.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all Nebraska feedlots on January 1 totaled a record 2.5 million head, down 7 percent from last year.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2009, totaled 94.5 million head, 2 percent below a year ago.

All cows and heifers that calved, at 41.0 million, were down 2 percent from the 41.7 million on January 1, 2008. The 2008 calf crop was estimated at 36.1 million head, down 2 percent from 2007.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1 were 13.9 million head, down 7 percent from 2008.

**Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop, Nebraska and United States, January 1, 2007-2009**

Class	Nebraska				United States <sup>1</sup>			
	2007	2008	2009	2009/2008	2007	2008	2009	2009/2008
	1,000 Head		Percent		1,000 Head		Percent	
Cattle and calves	6,650	6,450	6,350	98	97,003	96,035	94,491	98
Cows and heifers that have calved	2,000	1,940	1,910	98	42,023	41,692	41,005	98
Beef cows	1,940	1,883	1,851	98	32,891	32,435	31,671	98
Milk cows	60	57	59	104	9,132	9,257	9,333	101
Heifers 500 pounds and over	1,820	1,790	1,790	100	20,086	19,854	19,586	99
For beef cow replacement	330	300	320	107	5,877	5,647	5,526	98
For milk cow replacement	20	20	20	100	4,310	4,415	4,410	100
Other heifers	1,470	1,470	1,450	99	9,899	9,793	9,650	99
Steers 500 pounds and over	2,450	2,370	2,270	96	17,222	17,163	16,774	98
Bulls 500 pounds and over	100	90	95	106	2,215	2,207	2,184	99
Calves under 500 pounds	280	260	285	110	15,456	15,118	14,943	99
	2006	2007	2008	2008/2007	2006	2007	2008	2008/2007
Calves born	1,820	1,760	1,730	98	37,519	36,759	36,113	98

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle, January 30, 2009

**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance,  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2007-2009**

State	January 1 Number on Feed <sup>1</sup>			December Placements			December Marketings			December Other Disappearance <sup>2</sup>		
	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> 2008	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	368	358	97	26	29	112	24	29	121	1	1	100
California	560	490	88	67	59	88	60	60	100	2	4	200
Colorado	1,100	1,000	91	170	150	88	135	155	115	5	5	100
Idaho	235	220	94	39	36	92	42	39	93	2	2	100
Iowa	570	500	88	71	66	93	69	64	93	2	2	100
Kansas	2,480	2,270	92	385	380	99	390	405	104	15	15	100
Nebraska	2,530	2,370	94	355	345	97	335	340	101	10	15	150
New Mexico	160	164	103	26	16	62	13	18	138	2	2	100
Oklahoma	350	335	96	44	49	111	37	46	124	2	3	150
South Dakota	230	220	96	50	38	76	33	37	112	2	1	50
Texas	2,960	2,790	94	380	405	107	420	405	96	10	20	200
Washington	164	157	96	25	28	112	28	38	136	1	2	200
Other States	390	360	92	63	46	73	59	47	80	4	4	100
U.S.	12,097	11,234	93	1,701	1,647	97	1,645	1,683	102	58	76	131

<sup>1</sup> Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

<sup>2</sup> Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed, January 23, 2009

**Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, Nebraska, 23 States and United States, 2007-2008**

Item and Quarter	Nebraska		23 States		United States	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>	
Milk cows <sup>1</sup>						
July-September	58	59	8,331	8,465	9,159	9,278
October-December	57	59	8,371	8,471	9,198	9,283
	<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Milk production <sup>2</sup>						
July-September	260	272	42,541	43,288	46,110	46,835
October-December	261	278	42,433	43,052	46,015	46,640

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, January 16, 2009

**Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, January 1, 2008-2009 and  
Lamb Crop, Nebraska and United States, 2007-2008**

State	Total Breeding Sheep & Lambs		Total Market Sheep & Lambs		All Sheep & Lambs		Breeding Ewes 1 Year & Older Jan 1		Lambs per 100 Ewes 1+ Jan 1		Lamb Crop	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 Head</i>						<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>	
Nebraska	64	57	16	14	80	71	58	52	136	135	79	70
United States	4,432	4,247	1,519	1,500	5,950	5,747	3,620	3,540	108	105	3,895	3,710

Source: USDA NASS Sheep and Goats, January 30, 2009

## Challenging Times call For Powerful Facts

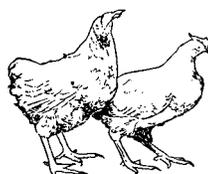
The Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) provided the facts policymakers used to craft the Farm Bill.

Keep your leaders informed. If you are selected for this survey, please respond to show agriculture's economic status today.



### NASS

Fact Finders for Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Nebraska Field Office



### Poultry

During December 2008, layers in Nebraska totaled 9.8 million birds, a decrease of 5 percent from the previous year. The number of layers in the United States during December 2008 totaled 341 million, down slightly from December 2007.

#### Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, December 2008 with Comparisons

Item	2007	2008	2008/2007
	<i>Millions</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Number of Layers			
Nebraska	10.2	9.8	95
United States	345.0	341.0	99
Table Eggs Produced			
Nebraska	244	234	96
United States	6,654	6,712	101
Chickens Hatched			
United States			
Egg-type	35.9	36.4	101
Broiler	821.3	779.2	95
Hatched thru December			
United States			
Egg-type	446.1	467.2	105
Broiler	9,574.8	9,443.0	99

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, January 23, 2009

## What Does ARMS Tell Us?

Several examples of the facts revealed in ARMS demonstrate the broad range of information it generates. The data also can be used to demonstrate the diversity within the farm sector, by farm size, geographic region, household characteristics, and commodities produced.

- **Production expenses:** ARMS collects data on the costs of fertilizer, fuel, rent, seed, labor, custom applications, pesticides, and other production inputs for selected crops. U.S. farm cash production expenses totalled \$254 billion in 2007, up 8.8 percent from 2006.
- **Farm business values:** Over 90% of reporting farm businesses in 2007 had healthy debt-to-asset ratios of less than 30 percent.
- **Contracting:** Marketing and production contracts (advance agreements) between farmers and commodity buyers accounted for 39 percent of the value of U.S. agriculture production in 2007.
- **Farm household income sources:** Farm households, like many other households, draw livelihoods from a variety of work, savings, and investments. The relative importance of the different components of farm household income varies by farm type, but off-farm income is most important for a majority of farm households.

### Commercial Livestock Slaughter

December 2008 output and changes from last year and last month are shown below. December 2007 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. December 2008 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

#### Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, December 2008 with Comparisons

Item	Total <sup>1</sup>	Dec. 2008 percent of	
		Dec. 2007	Nov. 2008
Nebraska	<i>1,000 Head</i>		
Cattle, head	544.8	99	102
Hogs, head	693.0	107	108
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	592.1	102	103
United States			
Cattle, head	2,671.3	101	106
Calves, head	94.1	154	116
Hogs, head	10,144.6	105	107
Sheep & Lambs, head	230.8	101	119
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	4,162.7	103	108

<sup>1</sup> Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, January 23, 2009

**Goats: Number by Class,  
Nebraska and United States, January 1, 2008- 2009**

Class	Nebraska		United States	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>
Angora Goats	1,000	NA	205,000	185,000
Milk Goats	2,500	1,900	323,000	335,000
Meat and Other Goats	30,000	27,000	2,590,000	2,550,000
Total Goats	33,500	28,900	3,118,000	3,070,000

NA = Not Available.

Source: USDA NASS Sheep and Goats, January 30, 2009

**Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary January 2009 with Comparisons**

Commodity	Unit	Nebraska			United States				
		Jan 2008 <sup>1</sup>	Dec 2008 <sup>1</sup>	Jan 15, 2009	Jan 2008 <sup>1</sup>	Dec 2008 <sup>1</sup>	Jan 15, 2009	% of Parity	Parity Price <sup>2</sup>
		<i>Dollars</i>			<i>Dollars</i>				
Wheat, All	Bushel	7.00	5.47	5.50	7.96	5.97	5.90	44	13.50
Corn	Bushel	4.00	4.03	4.05	3.98	4.10	4.15	50	8.32
Oats	Bushel	3.41	2.12	2.10	2.88	3.10	2.30	42	5.50
Grain Sorghum	Cwt	7.22	4.98	5.30	7.40	5.13	5.29	36	14.90
Soybeans	Bushel	10.10	8.85	9.75	9.95	9.24	9.92	49	20.20
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	87.00	90.00	89.00	126.00	141.00	136.00		
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	90.00	93.00	93.00	136.00	155.00	149.00		
Other, Baled	Ton	78.00	74.00	76.00	111.00	113.00	110.00		
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt	26.80	39.10	<sup>3</sup>	27.40	34.50	32.30	50	65.00
Hogs	Cwt	38.70	42.60	42.50	37.20	41.90	41.90	32	130.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt	39.10	42.50	42.40	38.10	41.90	41.80		
Sows	Cwt	20.70	46.90	48.20	18.50	43.40	44.10		
Beef Cattle	Cwt	93.40	86.00	86.90	87.30	79.80	80.50	34	238.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	94.80	87.30	88.20	93.40	85.60	86.30		
Cows	Cwt	49.20	43.70	46.10	46.30	40.40	42.20		
Calves	Cwt	120.00	106.00	111.00	117.00	100.00	105.00	31	340.00
Sheep	Cwt	33.70	30.70		31.90	31.70			103.00
Lambs	Cwt	89.50	101.00		97.50	100.00			268.00

<sup>1</sup> Entire month average except hay.

<sup>2</sup> Parity price based on data for January 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Insufficient sales to establish a price.

Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices, January 30, 2009

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