



## Texas Sheep and Wool

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Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Texas Sheep Inventory:** The Texas inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 655 thousand head on January 1, 2024, down 4 percent from last year's level of 680 thousand head. The inventory of breeding sheep and lambs totaled 515 thousand head, down 5 percent from 2023. Breeding ewes one year old and older were down 5 percent, at 405 thousand head. Replacement lambs were down from last year at 80 thousand head. The 2023 lamb crop at 335 thousand head was down 3 percent from 2022.

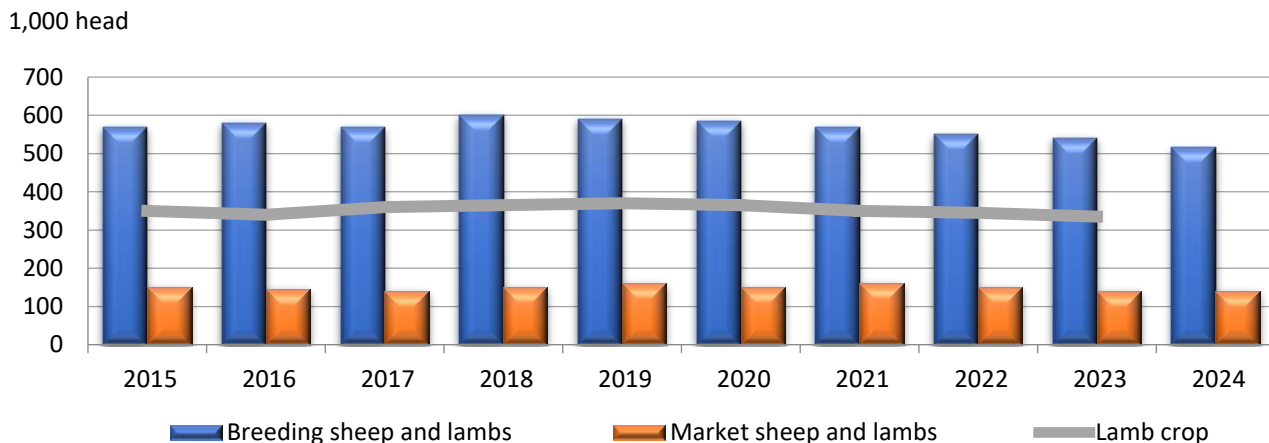
Market sheep and lambs in Texas were unchanged from last year, totaling 140 thousand head. Sheep for market totaled 5 thousand head, down 1 thousand head from 2023, while lambs for market totaled 135 thousand head, up 1 thousand head from last year.

**Sheep Inventory and Lamb Crop – Texas**

| Item                                 | 2022              | 2023              | 2024              | Percent of Previous Year |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|                                      | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> |                          |
| All Sheep and Lambs .....            | 700               | 680               | 655               | 96                       |
| Breeding sheep and lambs .....       | 550               | 540               | 515               | 95                       |
| Ewes 1 year and older .....          | 430               | 425               | 405               | 95                       |
| Rams 1 year and older .....          | 32                | 32                | 30                | 94                       |
| Replacement lambs under 1 year ..... | 88                | 83                | 80                | 96                       |
| Market sheep and lambs .....         | 150               | 140               | 140               | 100                      |
| Market sheep 1 year and older .....  | 6                 | 6                 | 5                 | 83                       |
| Lambs under 1 year .....             | 144               | 134               | 135               | 101                      |
| Lambs under 65 pounds .....          | 95                | 84                | 94                | 112                      |
| Lambs 65-84 pounds .....             | 26                | 25                | 22                | 88                       |
| Lambs 85-105 pounds .....            | 7                 | 10                | 7                 | 70                       |
| Lambs over 105 pounds .....          | 16                | 15                | 12                | 80                       |
| Lamb Crop <sup>1</sup> .....         | 350               | 345               | 335               | 97                       |

<sup>1</sup> Lamb crop refers to lambs born during the previous year.

**Sheep and Lambs Inventory and Lamb Crop – Texas**



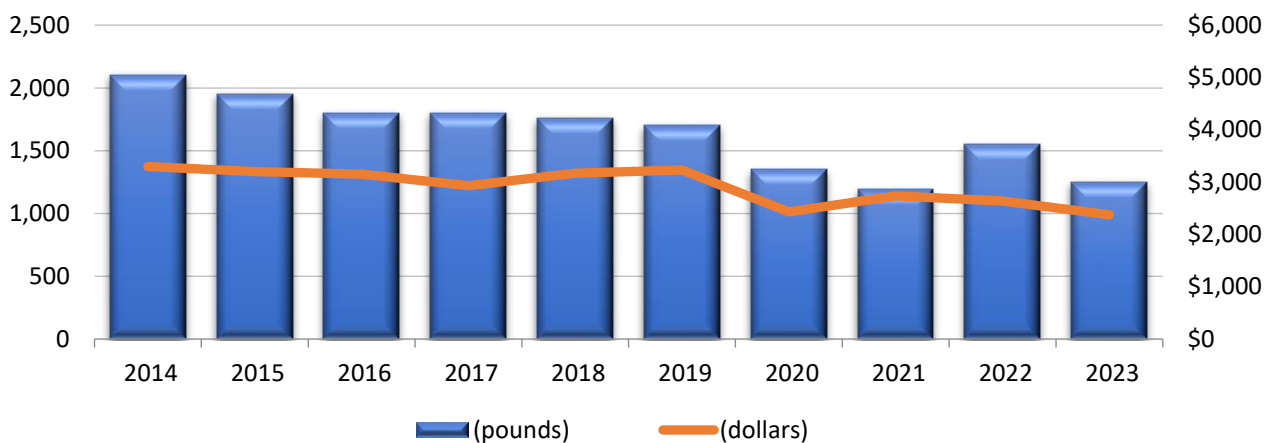
**Texas Wool Production:** Texas producers sheared 205 thousand sheep and lambs during 2023, down 15 percent from the previous year. Wool production totaled 1.25 million pounds during 2023, 19 percent below the previous year's total. Average fleece weights were down from 2022, at 6.1 pounds. Total value of the state's wool production was down 10 percent from the previous year to 2.38 million dollars. The price per pound averaged \$1.90 during 2023, 12 percent higher than the average for 2022.

**Wool Production, Price and Value – Texas**

| Year       | Sheep Shorn       | Weight per Fleece | Shorn Wool Production | Price per Pound | Value <sup>1</sup>   |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
|            | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>pounds</i>     | <i>1,000 pounds</i>   | <i>dollars</i>  | <i>1,000 dollars</i> |
| 2015 ..... | 270               | 7.2               | 1,950                 | 1.64            | 3,198                |
| 2016 ..... | 260               | 6.9               | 1,800                 | 1.75            | 3,150                |
| 2017 ..... | 240               | 7.5               | 1,800                 | 1.63            | 2,934                |
| 2018 ..... | 240               | 7.3               | 1,760                 | 1.80            | 3,168                |
| 2019 ..... | 230               | 7.4               | 1,700                 | 1.90            | 3,230                |
| 2020 ..... | 180               | 7.5               | 1,350                 | 1.80            | 2,430                |
| 2021 ..... | 160               | 7.4               | 1,190                 | 2.30            | 2,737                |
| 2022 ..... | 240               | 6.5               | 1,550                 | 1.70            | 2,635                |
| 2023 ..... | 205               | 6.1               | 1,250                 | 1.90            | 2,375                |

<sup>1</sup> Production multiplied by marketing year average price.

**Wool Production and Value – Texas**



**U.S. Highlights:** Nationally, the inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 5.03 million head on January 1, 2024, down 2 percent from 2023. United States breeding sheep inventory was 3.67 million head. Ewes one year and older, at 2.87 million head, were 2 percent lower than last year. The 2023 lamb crop totaled 3.03 million head, down 2 percent from 2022. The 2023 lambing rate was 103 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older, 2 percent lower than 2022.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.36 million head on January 1, 2024. Market lambs weighing less than 65 pounds totaled 350 thousand head; lambs weighing 65 to 84 pounds totaled 195 thousand head; lambs weighing 85 to 105 pounds totaled 269 thousand head, and lambs weighing over 105 pounds totaled 465 thousand head. Market sheep account for the remaining 81 thousand head.

United States producers sheared 3.22 million sheep and lambs during 2023, down 2 percent from the previous year. Wool production totaled 22.7 million pounds during 2023, 2 percent below the previous year's total. Average fleece weights were unchanged from 2022, at 7.0 pounds. Total value of the nation's wool production was down 1 percent from the previous year to 35.3 million dollars. The price per pound averaged \$1.56 during 2023, 2 percent higher than the average for 2022.

**Sheep Inventory and Lamb Crop – United States**

| Item                                 | 2022              | 2023              | 2024              | Percent of Previous Year |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|                                      | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>percent</i>           |
| All Sheep and Lambs.....             | 5,065             | 5,130             | 5,030             | 98                       |
| Breeding sheep and lambs .....       | 3,710             | 3,740             | 3,670             | 98                       |
| Ewes 1 year and older .....          | 2,910             | 2,930             | 2,870             | 98                       |
| Rams 1 year and older .....          | 160               | 167               | 165               | 99                       |
| Replacement lambs under 1 year ..... | 640               | 644               | 635               | 99                       |
| Market sheep and lambs .....         | 1,355             | 1,390             | 1,360             | 98                       |
| Sheep 1 year old and over.....       | 78                | 87                | 81                | 93                       |
| Lambs under 1 year .....             | 1,277             | 1,303             | 1,279             | 98                       |
| Lambs under 65 pounds .....          | 345               | 343               | 350               | 102                      |
| Lambs 65-84 pounds .....             | 187               | 188               | 195               | 104                      |
| Lambs 85-105 pounds .....            | 266               | 283               | 269               | 95                       |
| Lambs over 105 pounds .....          | 479               | 490               | 465               | 95                       |
| Lamb Crop <sup>1</sup> .....         | 3,160             | 3,099             | 3,030             | 98                       |

<sup>1</sup> Lamb crop refers to lambs born during the previous year.

**Wool Production, Price and Value – United States**

| Year       | Sheep Shorn       | Weight per Fleece | Shorn Wool Production | Price per Pound | Value <sup>1</sup>   |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
|            | <i>1,000 head</i> | <i>pounds</i>     | <i>1,000 pounds</i>   | <i>dollars</i>  | <i>1,000 dollars</i> |
| 2021 ..... | 3,195             | 7.0               | 22,451                | 1.70            | 38,177               |
| 2022 ..... | 3,303             | 7.0               | 23,269                | 1.53            | 35,527               |
| 2023 ..... | 3,222             | 7.0               | 22,700                | 1.56            | 35,323               |

<sup>1</sup> Production multiplied by marketing year average price.

A random sample of U.S. producers was surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all sheep and goat producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. About 26,000 operators were contacted during the first half of January by mail, telephone and face-to-face personal interview and 60 percent of the reports were usable. Regardless of when operators responded, they were asked to report inventories as of January 1.

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