



Minnesota Ag News – Sheep and Goats

Upper Midwest Regional Field Office · 210 Walnut St, Ste 833 · Des Moines, IA 50309 · (651) 728-3113

www.nass.usda.gov/mn Media Contact: Dan Lofthus

Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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All sheep and lambs inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2025, totaled 113,000 head, up 2,000 head from 2024, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total **breeding stock**, at 79,000 head, was unchanged from one year ago. **Market sheep and lambs** increased 6 percent from a year ago and totaled 34,000 head. The 2024 **lamb crop** was estimated at 87,000 head, up 2 percent from the 2023 lamb crop. **Wool** production for 2024 was 610,000 pounds, up 2 percent from 2023, with fleece weights averaging 6.2 pounds.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Minnesota: January 1



Sheep Inventory, Lamb Crop, and Wool Production – Minnesota and United States: 2023-2025

Inventory by Class	Minnesota			United States		
	Jan 1, 2024	Jan 1, 2025	2025 as % of 2024	Jan 1, 2024	Jan 1, 2025	2025 as % of 2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	111.0	113.0	102	5,030.0	5,050.0	100
Total breeding sheep	79.0	79.0	100	3,670.0	3,680.0	100
Ewes	63.0	63.0	100	2,870.0	2,880.0	100
Rams	4.0	4.0	100	165.0	165.0	100
Replacement lambs	12.0	12.0	100	635.0	635.0	100
Total market	32.0	34.0	106	1,360.0	1,370.0	101
Lamb Crop	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	85.0	87.0	102	3,030.0	3,040.0	100
Wool	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023	2023	2024	2024 as % of 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Sheep shorn	98.0	98.0	100	3,222.0	3,170.0	98
Weight per fleece	6.1	6.2	102	7.1	7.1	100
Production	600	610	102	22,740	22,480	99
Price per pound	0.30	0.30	100	1.56	1.43	92
Value ¹	180	183	102	35,387	32,097	91

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

Milk goat inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2025, was 15,500 head, 11 percent above January 2024. Total **meat and other goat** inventory was 33,000 head, 3 percent below the previous year.

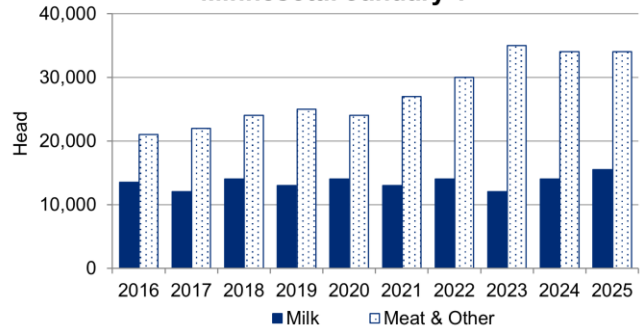
Goat Inventory - Selected States and United States: January 1, 2024 and 2025

	Milk goats		Meat & other goats	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
California	37,000	38,000	72,000	74,000
Iowa	24,000	29,000	45,000	46,000
Minnesota	14,000	15,500	34,000	33,000
Texas	26,000	22,000	700,000	720,000
Wisconsin ¹	74,000	78,000	(NA)	32,000
United States	415,000	430,000	1,950,000	1,975,000

(NA) Not available.

¹ Meat & Other Goats estimates began in 2024.

Goat Inventory By Type
Minnesota: January 1



United States Sheep and Goats

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2025 totaled 5.05 million head, up slightly from 2024. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.68 million head on January 1, 2025, increased slightly from 3.67 million head on January 1, 2024. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.88 million head, were slightly above last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2025 totaled 1.37 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2024. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2024 lamb crop of 3.04 million head was up slightly from 2023. The 2024 lambing rate was 106 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2024, up 3 percent from 2023.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2024 was 22.5 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2023. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.17 million head, down 2 percent from 2023. The average price paid for wool sold in 2024 was \$1.43 per pound for a total value of 32.1 million dollars, down 9 percent from 35.4 million dollars in 2023. As of January 1, 2025, 27 percent of the total sheep and lambs were hair sheep or wool hair crosses.

Sheep death loss during 2024 totaled 200,000 head, unchanged from 2023. Lamb death loss increased 1 percent from 365,000 head to 370,000 head in 2024.

All goats and kids inventory in the United States on January 1, 2025 totaled 2.51 million head, up 1 percent from 2024. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.07 million head, up 1 percent from 2024. Does one year old and older, at 1.54 million head, were 2 percent above last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 442,000 head, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Kid crop for 2024 totaled 1.52 million head for all goats, down 1 percent from 2023.

Meat and all other goats totaled 1.98 million head on January 1, 2025, up 1 percent from 2024. Milk goat inventory was 430,000 head, up 4 percent from January 1, 2024, while angora goats were down 3 percent, totaling 102,000 head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2024 was 500,000 pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 92,000 head. Average weight per clip was 5.4 pounds. Mohair price was \$6.48 per pound with a value of 3.24 million dollars.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

