



United States Department of Agriculture
**Sheep and Lamb Losses
 by Cause**

National
 Agricultural
 Statistics
 Service

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Utah farmers and ranchers lost 44,500 sheep and lambs to all causes in 2007. This was valued at \$3,591 million. **Lambs lost before docking** totaled 15,500, **lambs lost after docking** totaled 18,000 and **sheep one year old and older** lost totaled 11,000. Coyotes accounted for 37.4 percent of all lambs lost before docking, at 5,800 head. This accounted for the largest single cause of death in lambs before docking. Coyotes also accounted for the largest number of lambs lost after docking at 8,600 head, 47.8 percent of the after docking loss. Coyotes accounted for 2,000 head of the **Sheep one year old and older** losses, and were the largest predator cause, accounting for 18.2 percent. Total losses to coyotes equaled 16,400 head, which was 36.9 percent of all losses to sheep and lambs in the state.

Losses of Lambs Before Docking: Utah 2002-2007²

Cause of Loss	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Head						
Bear	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	600
Bobcat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Coyote	4,700	4,200	6,100	4,300	6,500	5,800
Dog	NA	NA	NA	NA	600	NA
Fox	600	NA	NA	500	500	NA
Mountain Lion	600	500	600	600	600	500
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	1,300	1,100	2,200	1,100	800	900
Other/Unknown	2,000	3,000	900	900	400	2,900
Total Predators	9,200	8,800	9,800	7,400	9,400	10,700
Diseases	1,600	800	500	1,200	500	600
Enterotoxemia ¹	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Weather conditions	3,900	3,100	3,300	3,800	2,000	1,900
Lambing Complications	1,700	2,300	1,800	3,500	2,000	1,000
Old Age	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	2,600	2,000	4,400	2,100	1,100	1,300
Total Non-Predators	9,800	8,200	10,000	10,600	5,600	4,800
TOTAL LOSSES	19,000	17,000	19,800	18,000	15,000	15,500

¹ Enterotoxemia first published in 2003.

² NA are less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of Lambs After Docking: Utah 2002-2007²

Cause of Loss	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Head						
Bear	1,500	1,100	1,500	1,200	1,300	2,100
Bobcat	500	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Coyote	10,300	8,900	9,500	6,700	8,300	8,600
Dog	600	NA	NA	NA	NA	600
Fox	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mountain Lion	2,800	3,500	2,600	2,000	2,200	2,000
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	800	1,800	1,200	1,200	1,100	600
Total Predators	16,500	15,300	14,800	11,100	12,900	13,900
Diseases	900	500	NA	500	700	600
Enterotoxemia ¹	NA	500	NA	500	500	500
Weather conditions	NA	NA	NA	800	700	900
Lambing Complications	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Old Age	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	600	NA	NA	500	500	500
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	3,000	2,700	3,200	1,600	2,700	1,600
Total Non-Predators	4,500	3,700	3,200	3,900	5,100	4,100
TOTAL LOSSES	21,000	19,000	18,000	15,000	18,000	18,000

¹ Enterotoxemia first published in 2003.

² NA are less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of All Lambs by Cause: Utah, 2002-2007^{1 3}

Cause of Loss	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Head						
Bear	1,900	1,300	1,600	1,400	1,400	2,700
Bobcat	800	NA	NA	NA	NA	500
Coyote	15,000	13,100	15,600	11,000	14,800	14,400
Dog	800	600	500	600	900	800
Fox	1,000	600	800	800	800	600
Mountain Lion	3,400	4,000	3,200	2,600	2,800	2,500
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	1,400	1,500	2,300	1,200	1,100	1,000
Other/Unknown	1,400	3,000	600	900	500	2,100
Total Predators	25,700	24,100	24,600	18,500	22,300	24,600
Diseases	2,500	1,300	700	1,700	1,200	1,200
Enterotoxemia ²		700	NA	800	700	600
Weather Conditions	4,300	3,500	3,600	4,600	2,700	2,800
Lambing Complications	1,700	2,300	1,800	3,500	2,000	1,000
Old Age	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	700	NA	NA	600	600	600
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	5,100	4,100	7,100	3,300	3,500	2,700
Total Non-Predators	14,300	11,900	13,200	14,500	10,700	8,900
Total Losses	40,000	36,000	37,800	33,000	33,000	33,500

Percent of Total by Cause						
Bear	4.8	3.6	4.2	4.2	4.2	8.1
Bobcat	2.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.5
Coyote	37.5	36.4	41.3	33.3	44.8	43.0
Dog	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.8	2.7	2.4
Fox	2.5	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.4	1.8
Mountain Lion	8.5	11.1	8.5	7.9	8.5	7.5
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	3.5	4.2	6.1	3.6	3.3	3.0
Other/Unknown	3.5	8.3	1.6	2.7	1.5	6.3
Total Predators	64.3	66.9	65.1	56.1	67.6	73.4
Diseases	6.3	3.6	1.9	5.2	3.6	3.6
Enterotoxemia ²		1.9	NA	2.4	2.1	1.8
Weather Conditions	10.8	9.7	9.5	13.9	8.2	8.4
Lambing Complications	4.3	6.4	4.8	10.6	6.1	3.0
Old Age	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	1.8	NA	NA	1.8	1.8	1.8
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	12.8	11.4	18.8	10.0	10.6	8.1
Total Non-Predators	35.8	33.1	34.9	43.9	32.4	26.6
Total Losses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Dollar Value of Losses by Cause (000)						
Bear	78	65	93	92	83	160
Bobcat	33	NA	NA	NA	NA	30
Coyote	615	659	903	719	875	851
Dog	33	30	29	39	53	47
Fox	41	30	46	52	47	35
Mountain Lion	139	201	185	170	165	148
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	57	75	133	78	65	59
Other/Unknown	57	151	35	59	30	124
Total Predators	1,053	1,212	1,424	1,210	1,318	1,454
Diseases	102	65	41	111	71	71
Enterotoxemia ²		35	NA	52	41	35
Weather Conditions	176	176	208	301	160	165
Lambing Complications	70	116	104	229	118	59
Old Age	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	29	NA	NA	39	35	35
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	209	206	411	216	207	160
Total Non-Predators	586	598	764	948	632	526
Total Losses	1,639	1,810	2,189	2,158	1,950	1,980

¹ Lamb losses include both before and after docking losses.

² Enterotoxemia first published in 2003.

³ NA are less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of Sheep by Cause: Utah, 2002-2007 ²

Cause of Loss	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Head						
Bear	900	600	700	600	2,400	1,200
Bobcat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Coyote	4,800	2,900	3,200	2,400	2,600	2,000
Dog	700	NA	NA	NA	NA	500
Fox	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mountain Lion	1,300	800	1,300	700	1,200	800
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	400	1,100	500	600	500	200
Total Predators	8,100	5,400	5,700	4,300	5,300	4,700
Diseases	900	600	500	700	700	900
Enterotoxemia ¹		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Weather Conditions	900	NA	NA	700	700	500
Lambing Complications	800	700	600	1,000	1,000	800
Old Age	1,900	1,200	1,200	2,000	2,200	2,400
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	600	800	500	NA	1,500	500
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	600
Other/Unknown	1,800	2,300	2,500	2,300	1,600	600
Total Non-Predators	6,900	5,600	5,300	6,700	7,700	6,300
Total Losses	15,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	13,000	11,000

Percent of Total by Cause						
Bear	6.0	5.5	6.4	5.5	18.5	10.9
Bobcat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Coyote	32.0	26.4	29.1	21.8	20.0	18.2
Dog	4.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.5
Fox	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mountain Lion	8.7	7.3	11.8	6.4	9.2	7.3
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	2.7	10.0	4.5	5.5	3.8	1.8
Total Predators	54.0	49.1	51.8	39.1	40.8	42.7
Diseases	6.0	5.5	4.5	6.4	5.4	8.2
Enterotoxemia ¹		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Weather Conditions	6.0	NA	NA	6.4	5.4	4.5
Lambing Complications	5.3	6.4	5.5	9.1	7.7	7.3
Old Age	12.7	10.9	10.9	18.2	16.9	21.8
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	4.0	7.3	4.5	NA	11.5	4.5
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.5
Other/Unknown	12.0	20.9	22.7	20.9	12.3	5.5
Total Non-Predators	46.0	50.9	48.2	60.9	59.2	57.3
Total Losses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Dollar Value of Losses by Cause (000)						
Bear	80	65	89	89	154	176
Bobcat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Coyote	425	314	408	355	399	293
Dog	62	NA	NA	NA	NA	73
Fox	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mountain Lion	115	87	166	104	184	117
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other/Unknown	36	120	64	89	76	30
Total Predators	717	585	727	636	814	689
Diseases	80	65	64	104	107	132
Enterotoxemia ¹		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Weather Conditions	80	NA	NA	104	107	73
Lambing Complications	71	76	77	148	154	117
Old Age	168	130	153	296	338	352
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	53	87	64	NA	230	73
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	88
Other/Unknown	160	249	320	339	246	88
Total Non-Predators	610	607	676	992	1,182	923
Total Losses	1,327	1,192	1,404	1,628	1,996	1,612

¹ Enterotoxemia first published in 2003.

² NA are less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of Sheep and Lambs Combined, by Cause: Utah, 2002-2007^{1 3}

Cause of Loss	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Head						
Bear	2,800	1,900	2,300	2,000	1,000	3,900
Bobcat	900	500	NA	500	NA	600
Coyote	19,800	16,000	18,800	13,400	17,400	16,400
Dog	1,500	900	800	900	1,200	1,300
Fox	1,000	600	800	900	800	600
Mountain Lion	4,700	4,800	4,500	3,300	4,000	3,300
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	1,400	1,500	2,300	1,200	1,100	1,000
Other/Unknown	1,700	3,300	800	600	700	2,200
Total Predators	33,800	29,500	30,300	22,800	27,600	29,300
Diseases	3,400	1,900	1,200	2,400	1,900	2,100
Enterotoxemia ²		1,100	NA	1,100	1,000	700
Weather Conditions	5,200	3,900	3,700	5,300	3,400	3,300
Lambing Complications	2,500	3,000	2,400	4,500	3,000	1,800
Old Age	1,900	1,200	1,200	2,000	2,200	2,400
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	1,300	1,100	800	1,000	2,100	1,100
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	900
Other/Unknown	6,900	5,300	9,200	4,900	4,800	2,900
Total Non-Predators	21,200	17,500	18,500	21,200	18,400	15,200
Total Losses	55,000	47,000	48,800	44,000	46,000	44,500

Percent of Total by Cause						
Bear	5.1	4.0	4.7	4.5	2.2	8.8
Bobcat	1.6	1.1	NA	1.1	NA	1.3
Coyote	36.0	34.0	38.5	30.5	37.8	36.9
Dog	2.7	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.6	2.9
Fox	1.8	1.3	1.6	2.0	1.7	1.3
Mountain Lion	8.5	10.2	9.2	7.5	8.7	7.4
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	2.5	3.2	4.7	2.7	2.4	2.2
Other/Unknown	3.1	7.0	1.6	1.4	1.5	4.9
Total Predators	61.5	62.8	62.1	51.8	60.0	65.8
Diseases	6.2	4.0	2.5	5.5	4.1	4.7
Enterotoxemia ²		2.3	NA	2.5	2.2	1.6
Weather Conditions	9.5	8.3	7.6	12.0	7.4	7.4
Lambing Complications	4.5	6.4	4.9	10.2	6.5	4.0
Old Age	3.5	2.6	2.5	4.5	4.8	5.4
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	2.4	2.3	1.6	2.3	4.6	2.5
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.0
Other/Unknown	12.5	11.3	18.9	11.1	10.4	6.5
Total Non-Predators	38.5	37.2	37.9	48.2	40.0	34.2
Total Losses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Dollar Value of Losses by Cause (000)						
Bear	157	130	182	180	236	335
Bobcat	42	31	NA	41	NA	44
Coyote	1,039	973	1,312	1,075	1,274	1,144
Dog	95	63	67	84	99	121
Fox	41	30	46	67	47	35
Mountain Lion	254	288	351	274	350	265
Wolves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eagle	57	75	133	78	65	59
Other/Unknown	84	207	60	48	60	139
Total Predators	1,770	1,797	2,152	1,846	2,131	2,142
Diseases	182	130	104	215	178	203
Enterotoxemia ²		79	NA	97	87	50
Weather Conditions	256	219	221	404	267	239
Lambing Complications	140	192	181	377	272	176
Old Age	168	130	153	296	338	352
On Back	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Poison	82	102	81	98	266	109
Theft	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	106
Other/Unknown	369	354	700	453	406	215
Total Non-Predators	1,196	1,205	1,441	1,940	1,814	1,449
Total Losses	2,966	3,002	3,592	3,786	3,946	3,591

¹ Lamb losses include both before and after docking losses.

² Enterotoxemia first published in 2003.

³ NA are less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.