



## 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.

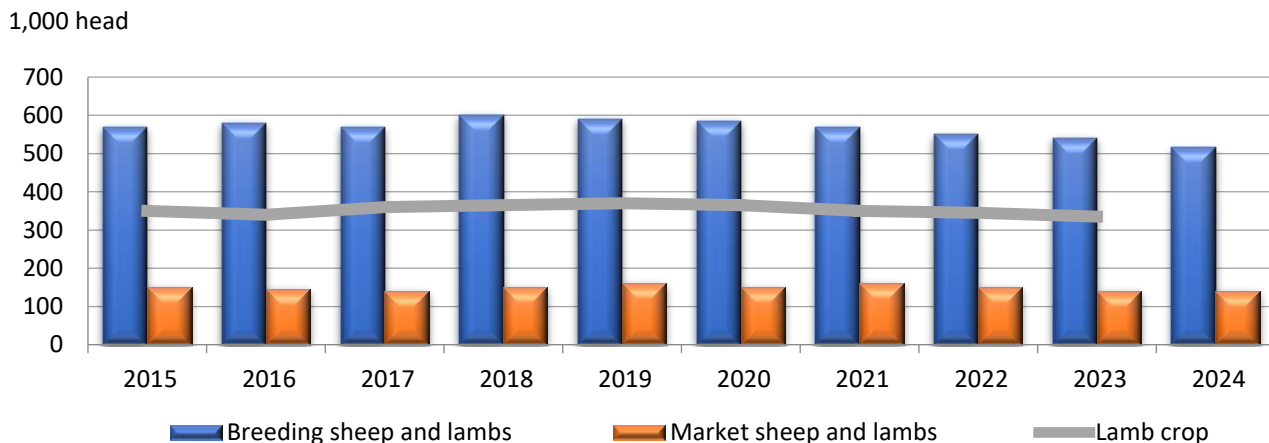
Market sheep and lambs in Texas were unchanged from last year, totaling 140 thousand head. Sheep for market totaled 5 thousand head, down 1 thousand head from 2023, while lambs for market totaled 135 thousand head, up 1 thousand head from last year.

**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**



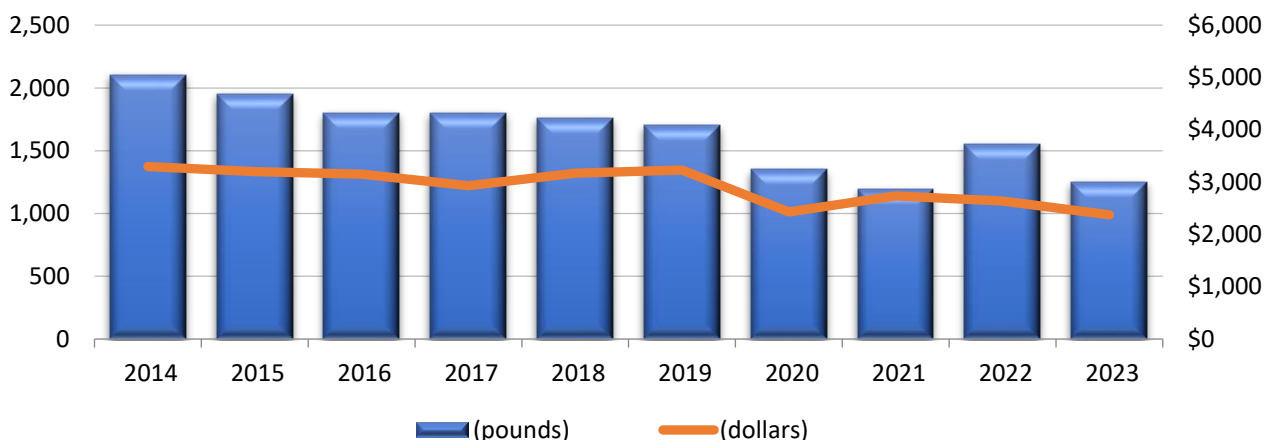
**Texas Wool Production:** Texas producers sheared 205 thousand sheep and lambs during 2023, down 15 percent from the previous year. Wool production totaled 1.25 million pounds during 2023, 19 percent below the previous year's total. Average fleece weights were down from 2022, at 6.1 pounds. Total value 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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