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LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, AUSTRALIA - ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION AUSTRALIA

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INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

RELEASE DATE

August 2010	8 October 2010
September 2010	9 November 2010
October 2010	7 December 2010
November 2010	17 January 2011

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INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistics on livestock slaughtering and meat production. These statistics are based on a monthly collection from abattoirs and other major slaughtering establishments. More detailed information on this series can be obtained by referring to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) quarterly publication, *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat. no. 7215.0).

Additional time series spreadsheets containing state/territory and national data are available from the Downloads tab for this publication. These spreadsheets contain original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for slaughtering and meat production for bulls, bullocks and steers, cows and heifers, cattle (excluding calves), calves, sheep, lambs and pigs.

The ABS welcomes any comments from readers regarding the usefulness, range and quality of the statistics presented in this publication. Comments can be forwarded to: The Environment and Agriculture Business Statistics Centre, Australian Bureau of Statistics, GPO Box 66, Hobart TAS 7001. Alternatively email <agriculture.statistics@abs.gov.au> or phone (03) 6222 5939.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

As a result of the ongoing quality review of this collection and following consultation with key users, a new methodology and revised definitions have been adopted for producing estimates of livestock slaughtering and meat production. For further information please refer to paragraphs 6 - 10 of the Explanatory Notes.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
excl. excluding
no. number
t tonne

Peter Harper
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MAIN FEATURES

LIVESTOCK

- In July 2010, the trend estimate for cattle slaughterings continued to increase, up 1% from June 2010 to 654 thousand.
- Compared to June 2010, the trend estimate for sheep slaughterings in July 2010 remained relatively steady at 473 thousand, but was still down 40% from July 2009.
- Lamb slaughterings in July 2010 increased by 2% from June 2010.
- In July, the trend estimate for pig slaughterings continued to increase, up 1% from June 2010 to 393 thousand.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED (a), Australia—July 2010

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
Cattle(b)	670 446	651 500	653 741
Calves	83 154	67 949	69 415
Sheep	328 565	515 589	472 607
Lambs	1 439 845	1 659 397	1 657 714
Pigs	409 018	401 843	392 539

- (a) A new methodology and revised definitions have been adopted for producing estimates of livestock slaughtering and meat production. For further details refer to the Explanatory Notes.
- (b) Excludes calves

MEAT

- In July 2010, the trend estimate for beef production rose 1% from June 2010, to 181 thousand tonnes.
- Compared to June 2010, the trend estimate for mutton production remained steady at 11 thousand tonnes, but was down 33% from July 2009.
- In July 2010 lamb production increased 2% from June 2010.
- Pig meat production continued to increase, up 1% from June 2010 and 7% from July 2009.

MEAT PRODUCED (a), Australia—July 2010

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
Beef	185 470	179 168	180 740
Veal	4 304	3 934	4 173
Mutton	7 449	11 858	11 077
Lamb	31 331	36 693	36 767
Pig meat	30 706	29 836	28 896

- (a) A new methodology and revised definitions have been adopted for producing estimates of livestock slaughtering and meat production. For further details refer to the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication contains information on livestock slaughterings and meat production.
- 2** The statistics on slaughterings for red meat production are based on a monthly collection from abattoirs and other major slaughtering establishments and include estimates of animals slaughtered by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments. This reflects a revised methodology adopted from July 2010. Refer below for further details.
- 3** Red meat is shown in carcass weight and excludes offal.
- 4** Care should be taken when using this information as the figures only relate to slaughterings for human consumption and do not include animals condemned, slaughtered for pet food or those killed for boiling down.
- 5** The figures in this publication have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

- 6** Estimates published in previous editions of this publication included a small, stable component to represent the on-farm slaughter of livestock. Following a quality review of this collection and consultation with the key users of these data, on-farm slaughter has now been removed. Historical data back to July 2007 have been revised for all series.
- 7** The quality review has also aligned the collection's calf and pig definitions to current industry standards.
- 8** These changes impact on livestock slaughtering and meat production estimates published in this and future editions of *Livestock and Meat, Australia*. Related estimates published in future editions of *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat.no. 7215.0) will also be affected.
- 9** As a result of these changes the estimates included in this release cannot be directly compared to those published in previous editions. To assist users in accounting for the associated breaks in the time series, re-based historical estimates to July 2007 have been made available in the Downloads tab of the electronic version of this publication on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.
- 10** Further information on the new methodology and revised definitions may be obtained by contacting The Environment and Agricultural Business Centre, Australian Bureau of Statistics, GPO Box 66, Hobart TAS 7001. Alternatively, email <agriculture.statistics@abs.gov.au> or phone(03) 6222 5940.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

- 11** Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised.
- 12** In the seasonal adjustment of the livestock estimates, account has been taken of both normal seasonal factors and 'trading day' effects, where significant. Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular influences (e.g. abnormal weather, industrial disputes).
- 13** As for the seasonally adjusted state components, the state component trend estimates have been produced independently and therefore may not add up to the Australian group totals.
- 14** In this publication, the seasonally adjusted estimates are produced by the concurrent seasonal adjustment method which takes account of the latest available original estimates. This method improves the estimation of seasonal factors and, therefore, the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for the current and previous months. As a result of this improvement, revisions to the seasonally adjusted and trend

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

estimates will be observed for recent periods. A more detailed review is conducted annually.

15 For further information, see *Time Series Analysis Frequently Asked Questions, 2003* (cat. no. 1346.0.55.002).

16 From September 2007, improved methods of producing seasonally adjusted estimates, focused on the application of Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modelling techniques, were implemented. The ARIMA modelling technique can be used to extend original estimates beyond the end of a time series.

17 For further information on ARIMA modelling, see the feature article '*Use of ARIMA modelling to reduce revisions*' in Australian Economic Indicators, Oct 2004 (cat. no. 1350.0).

TREND ESTIMATES

18 A trend estimate is obtained by reducing the irregular component from the seasonally adjusted series. For monthly data, trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. Revisions of trend estimates will occur with revisions to the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors.

19 For further information, see *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends, 2003* (cat. no. 1349.0).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

20 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed under the Statistics and Topics @ a Glance pages on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

21 Other ABS publications containing livestock data include:

- *Agricultural Commodities, Australia* (cat. no. 7121.0)
- *Agricultural Commodities: Small Area Data, Australia* (cat. no. 7125.0)
- *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat. no. 7215.0)
- *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia* (cat. no. 7503.0)

GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

22 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated. Without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

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www.abs.gov.au the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

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Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our website. Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

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