



# **LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, AUSTRALIA - ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION** AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 3 FEB 2010

## CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes .....	2
Main features .....	3

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory notes .....	4
-------------------------	---

## 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
January 2010	4 March 2010
February 2010	8 April 2010
March 2010	6 May 2010
April 2010	7 June 2010
May 2010	7 July 2010
June 2010	6 August 2010



## INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistics on livestock slaughterings 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 now 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 5846.

## INQUIRIES

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



## ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics  
excl. excluding  
t tonne

Brian Pink  
Australian Statistician

## MAIN FEATURES

### LIVESTOCK

- In December 2009, the trend estimate for cattle slaughterings continued to decrease, down to 617 thousand.
- Sheep slaughterings in December 2009 fell for the ninth consecutive month, down to 772 thousand.
- In December 2009, lamb slaughterings remained steady at 1.7 million.
- Pig slaughterings remained steady at 388 thousand in December 2009.

### LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, Australia—December 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
Cattle (excl. calves)	539 565	628 864	616 913
Calves	27 529	72 306	67 254
Sheep	916 578	824 913	772 051
Lambs	1 574 614	1 643 485	1 672 279
Pigs	423 837	387 944	388 303

### MEAT

- In December 2009, the trend estimate for beef production declined for the sixth consecutive month, down to 167 thousand tonnes.
- The trend estimate for mutton production, in decline since May 2008, again fell to 17 thousand tonnes.
- In December 2009, lamb production remained steady at 35 thousand tonnes.
- Pig meat production remained steady in December 2009 at 28 thousand tonnes.

### MEAT PRODUCED, Australia—December 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
Beef	146 117	169 970	167 180
Veal	2 094	3 468	3 388
Mutton	19 794	17 424	16 692
Lamb	32 245	33 883	34 755
Pig meat	29 091	27 531	27 747

## 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 on farms and by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments.
- 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.

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

- 6** 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.
- 7** 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).
- 8** 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.
- 9** 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 estimates will be observed for recent periods. A more detailed review is conducted annually.
- 10** For further information, see *Time Series Analysis Frequently Asked Questions, 2003* (cat. no. 1346.0.55.002).
- 11** 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.
- 12** 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

- 13** 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.
- 14** For further information, see *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends, 2003* (cat. no. 1349.0).

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

- 15** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed under the Statistics and Themes 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.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

---

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS *continued*

**16** 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

**17** 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*.





## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

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

### INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

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.

*PHONE*                      1300 135 070

*EMAIL*                      [client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au)

*FAX*                              1300 135 211

*POST*                          Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

## FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

All statistics on the ABS website can be downloaded free of charge.

*WEB ADDRESS*      [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)