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LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, AUSTRALIA - ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION AUSTRALIA

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I N Q U I R I E S

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
April 2009	5 June 2009
May 2009	3 July 2009
June 2009	4 August 2009
July 2009	4 September 2009
August 2009	6 October 2009
September 2009	4 November 2009



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 contacting the ABS or by referring to the quarterly ABS publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat. no. 7215.0).



ABBREVIATIONS

'000 thousand
ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
t tonne

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

MAIN FEATURES

LIVESTOCK

- The trend estimate for cattle slaughterings remained steady at 653 thousand.
- Sheep slaughterings have decreased 9% since March 2008 to 932 thousand.
- For the fifth consecutive month, lamb slaughterings remained stable at 1.8 million.
- At 367 thousand, pig slaughterings have declined 14% over the past year

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, Australia, March 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
Cattle (excl. calves)	706 490	658 787	653 279
Calves	50 154	71 127	69 504
Sheep	1 161 438	989 162	932 464
Lambs	1 823 745	1 802 813	1 782 435
Pigs	373 083	357 871	366 736

MEAT

- The trend estimate for beef production remained consistent at 176 thousand tonnes.
- At 19.4 thousand tonnes, mutton production was down 12% compared to the same time last year.
- Lamb production remained steady at 37 thousand tonnes.
- Pig meat production continued to decline to 26.4 thousand tonnes; down 15% compared to the same period the previous year.

MEAT PRODUCED, Australia, March 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
Beef	193 146	177 745	176 270
Veal	2 098	2 542	2 615
Mutton	23 386	20 559	19 440
Lamb	38 049	37 294	36 980
Pig Meat	27 095	25 893	26 424

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 prior to the September release, using data up to and including the August release.
- 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).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

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

GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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