



DECEMBER 2010

7218.0.55.001

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, AUSTRALIA

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
January 2011	11 March 2011
February 2011	7 April 2011
March 2011	18 May 2011



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.

EFFECT OF QUEENSLAND FLOODS ON FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

Flooding in Queensland began in late December 2010. It is expected that the first significant impact of this and floods in other states will be reflected in the February 2011 issue of this publication and future months.

The Livestock and Meat Survey collections for the December 2010 month were not affected by the floods.

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
no. number
t tonne

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Acting Australian Statistician

MAIN FEATURES

LIVESTOCK

In December 2010, the trend estimate for cattle slaughterings fell 1% from November 2010 to 613 thousand.

Calf slaughterings in December 2010 increased 2% compared to November 2010, but is still down 25% from December 2009.

The trend estimate for sheep slaughterings in December 2010 decreased to 474 thousand, a fall of 3% from November 2010 and a 27% fall from December 2009.

Lamb slaughterings remained steady in December 2010 compared to November 2010, but is still down 4% from December 2009.

In December 2010, the trend estimate for pig slaughterings remained steady at 386 thousand.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, Australia—December 2010

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
Cattle(a)	527 671	617 754	613 469
Calves	25 618	64 270	61 712
Sheep	480 106	427 908	473 678
Lambs	1 465 122	1 531 752	1 516 158
Pigs	422 786	386 674	385 545

(a) Excludes calves

MEAT

In December 2010, the trend estimate for beef production remained steady at 175 thousand tonnes.

Veal production rose 4% in December 2010, but is still down 19% from December 2009.

The production of mutton in December 2010 decreased to 11 thousand tonnes, a fall of 3% from November 2010 and a fall of 23% from December 2009.

In December 2010, production of lamb remained relatively steady at 33 thousand tonnes, but is still down 2% from December 2009.

The trend estimate for production of pig meat remained steady at 28 thousand tonnes in December 2010.

MEAT PRODUCED, Australia—December 2010

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
Beef	148 518	175 957	174 596
Veal	2 363	3 895	3 785
Mutton	11 325	10 015	10 782
Lamb	31 599	33 513	32 670
Pig meat	29 851	28 441	28 280

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.
- 3** From July 2010, on-farm slaughter was no longer included in estimates of livestock slaughterings or meat production. Historical data back to July 2007 were revised for all series. Calf and pig definitions were also aligned to current industry standards.
- 4** In October 2010 a coverage exercise was undertaken to refresh the sample frame used in the Livestock Slaughtered collection. The coverage exercise also enabled review of the constant factor applied to monthly slaughter and meat production estimates to account for the activities of small abattoirs. Together these activities serve to ensure the ongoing quality of estimates produced from this collection.
- 5** From October 2010, estimates of livestock slaughter and meat production included in this and the related publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat. no. 7215.0) reflect sample frame revisions and updates to the constant arising from the coverage exercise.
- 6** These changes have had only a minor impact on estimates and on comparability of data over time.
- 7** Further information on the October 2010 coverage exercise and related impacts can be obtained by contacting the Agricultural and Environment Business Statistics Centre on (03) 62225940 or via email <agriculture.statistics@abs.gov.au>.
- 8** Red meat is shown in carcass weight and excludes offal.
- 9** 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.
- 10** The figures in this publication have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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 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).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

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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