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## **LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, 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
March 2011	18 May 2011
April 2011	14 June 2011
May 2011	8 July 2011

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## 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 and include estimates of animals slaughtered by country butchers and other small 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

Flooding in Queensland began in late December 2010. Flooding has had a small impact on response rates with 97% achieved against a target of 100%. This has had a minor impact on the estimates.

## 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
ARIMA	autoregressive integrated moving average
no.	number
t	tonne

Peter Harper  
Acting Australian Statistician

## MAIN FEATURES

### LIVESTOCK

The trend estimate for cattle slaughterings in February 2011 rose 1% from January 2011 to 619 thousand.

Calf slaughterings in February 2011 rose 4% to 72 thousand compared to January 2011 and fell 14% compared to February 2010.

In February 2011, the trend estimate for sheep slaughterings fell 3% to 438 thousand from January 2011 and decreased 24% compared to February 2010.

Lamb slaughterings fell 1% to 1.5 million in February 2011 compared to January 2011.

The trend estimate for pig slaughterings in February 2011 was little changed from January 2011 at 379 thousand.

### LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, Australia—February 2011

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
Cattle(a)	647 027	671 475	619 303
Calves	35 429	73 687	71 687
Sheep	505 540	444 505	437 798
Lambs	1 362 512	1 424 395	1 456 357
Pigs	347 800	381 088	379 460

(a) Excludes calves

### MEAT

In February 2011, the trend estimate for beef production rose 1% to 177 thousand tonnes compared to January 2011.

Veal production rose 5% to 5 thousand tonnes in February 2011 compared to January 2011.

In February 2011, the production of mutton decreased to 10 thousand tonnes, a fall of 3% from January 2011 and a fall of 21% from February 2010.

Lamb production was little changed in February 2011 at 32 thousand tonnes compared to January 2011.

In February 2011, the trend estimate for production of pig meat remained steady at 28 thousand tonnes compared to January 2011.

### MEAT PRODUCED, Australia—February 2011

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
Beef	187 347	192 522	176 986
Veal	3 390	4 693	4 557
Mutton	11 119	10 073	10 013
Lamb	30 378	31 055	31 648
Pig meat	25 290	28 115	27 951

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

- 1** 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 and include estimates of animals slaughtered by country butchers and other small 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).
- 2** 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.
- 3** 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.
- 4** 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.
- 5** These changes have had only a minor impact on estimates and on comparability of data over time.
- 6** 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) 6222 5940 or via email <agriculture.statistics@abs.gov.au>.
- 7** Red meat is shown in carcass weight and excludes offal.
- 8** 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.
- 9** The figures in this publication have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

- 10** 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.
- 11** 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).
- 12** 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.
- 13** For further information, see *Time Series Analysis Frequently Asked Questions, 2003* (cat.no. 1346.0.55.002).
- 14** 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.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT *continued*

**15** 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

**16** 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.

**17** 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.

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

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**19** 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.

**20** 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

**21** 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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