



JANUARY 2009

**7218.0.55.001**

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

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 6 MAR 2009

## **C O N T E N T S**

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

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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

## **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
February 2009	2 April 2009
March 2009	1 May 2009
April 2009	5 June 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 decreased for the sixth consecutive month, to 652,000, and was up 2% compared to the same period last year.
- The trend estimate for sheep slaughterings declined for the eighth consecutive month, to 884,000, and was down 11% compared to the same time last year.
- The trend estimate for lamb slaughterings increased for the eighth consecutive month, to 1.8 million, and was 3% higher than the same period in the previous year.
- The trend estimate for pig slaughterings increased compared to the previous month, to 378,000. This was a decrease of 13% compared to the same period last year.

### LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, AUSTRALIA, JANUARY 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
CATTLE (excl. calves)	550 815	666 821	652 073
CALVES	28 091	68 798	66 209
SHEEP	975 192	844 207	884 214
LAMBS	1 705 362	1 726 381	1 779 259
PIGS	352 546	380 436	378 115

### MEAT

- The trend estimate for beef production declined for the seventh consecutive month, to 175,000 tonnes, and was up 1% compared to the same period last year.
- The trend estimate for mutton production decreased for the ninth consecutive month, to 18,500 tonnes, and was down 15% compared to same time last year.
- The trend estimate for lamb production increased for the seventh consecutive month, to 36,000 tonnes, and was 1% lower than the same period last year.
- The trend estimate for pig production remained steady at 27,100 tonnes, and was 15% down compared to the previous year.

### MEAT PRODUCED, AUSTRALIA, JANUARY 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
BEEF	147 759	180 148	174 813
VEAL	1 508	2 376	2 224
MUTTON	20 611	17 639	18 525
LAMB	34 483	34 983	36 034
PIG MEAT	24 861	27 149	27 086

## 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

**16** 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)