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LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, AUSTRALIA - ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION AUSTRALIA

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CONTENTS

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory notes	4
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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 2010	7 June 2010
May 2010	7 July 2010
June 2010	6 August 2010



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 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
no. number
t tonne

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MAIN FEATURES

LIVESTOCK

- In March 2010, the trend estimate for cattle slaughterings increased for the first time since June 2009, up to 616 thousand.
- The trend estimate for sheep slaughterings continued to fall in March 2010, down to 621 thousand, a decrease of 33% from March 2009.
- The trend estimate for lamb slaughterings fell again in March 2010 to 1.5 million, a 14% decrease from March 2009.
- Pig slaughterings in March 2010 remained steady at 376 thousand.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, Australia—March 2010

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
Cattle (excl. calves)	703 017	620 707	615 896
Calves	52 627	73 131	73 675
Sheep	662 286	571 265	621 434
Lambs	1 680 550	1 538 627	1 518 901
Pigs	419 556	374 078	375 974

MEAT

- In March 2010, the trend estimate for beef production increased, up to 168 thousand tonnes, following 8 consecutive months of decline.
- The trend estimate for mutton production in March 2010 continued to decline, down to 13 thousand tonnes, a decrease of 32% from March 2009.
- The trend estimate for lamb production in March 2010 decreased for the seventh consecutive month, down to 32 thousand tonnes.
- Pig meat production remained steady in March 2010 at 27 thousand tonnes.

MEAT PRODUCED, Australia—March 2010

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
Beef	193 497	169 395	167 514
Veal	3 377	3 763	3 648
Mutton	14 204	12 251	13 238
Lamb	36 390	32 765	32 110
Pig meat	30 690	27 455	27 435

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*.

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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.

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FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

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

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