



FEBRUARY 2009

7218.0.55.001

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT, AUSTRALIA - ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 2 APR 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
March 2009	1 May 2009
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



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 at 651 thousand.
- Sheep slaughterings declined to 881 thousand, a reduction of 12% compared to the same time last year.
- The trend estimate for lamb slaughterings remained steady at 1.8 million.
- At 375 thousand tonnes, pig slaughterings have declined 13% over the past year.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	no.	no.	no.
CATTLE (excl. calves)	647 010	659 786	651 165
CALVES	27 856	65 737	66 728
SHEEP	1 021 105	903 747	880 996
LAMBS	1 781 004	1 774 303	1 773 017
PIGS	342 046	372 282	375 141

MEAT

- The trend estimate for beef production rose to 175 thousand tonnes, with a 1% increase compared to the same period last year.
- At 18.5 thousand tonnes mutton production was down 1% compared to last month.
- Lamb production was 4% higher than twelve months ago, at 37 thousand tonnes.
- Estimates for pig production continued to decline to 27 thousand tonnes; down 15% compared to the same period the previous year.

MEAT PRODUCED, AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 2009

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	t	t	t
BEEF	176 056	178 027	175 476
VEAL	1 521	2 362	2 491
MUTTON	20 958	18 936	18 528
LAMB	37 460	36 680	36 642
PIG MEAT	24 206	26 863	26 933

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

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