

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics, ring Mr Warren Richter on Canberra 525342 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

SHEEP NUMBERS, SHEARING AND WOOL PRODUCTION FORECAST, 1976-77 SEASON

This bulletin contains the latest estimates (as at 16 December 1976) of sheep numbers shearing and wool production for the 1976-77 season, made by the Australian and State Wool Production Committees. For comparative purposes, statistics for earlier seasons, derived from the Annual Agricultural Cens is conducted by this Bureau, have also been included.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

**TABLE 1. SHEEP AND LAMBS SHORN, WOOL PRODUCTION (a)
 AND AVERAGE FLEECE WEIGHTS, AUSTRALIA**

Season	Sheep and lambs shorn	Average weight of fleece (b)	Shorn wool (including crutchings)	Dead and felmongered wool	Wool exported on skins	Total wool production
	'000	Kg	mil. kg	mil. kg	mil. kg	mil. kg
1972-73	155,411	4.14	643.6	7.8	83.8	735.2
1973-74	150,631	4.28	644.3	4.0	52.6	700.9
1974-75	161,885	4.48	725.3	2.0	66.2	793.5
1975-76(c)	159,623	4.27	681.4	72.8		754.3
1976-77(d)	156,036	4.16	648.8	75.7		724.5
Percentage change, 1976-77 on 1975-76	-2.2	-2.6	-4.8	4.0		-4.0

(a) Greasy basis. (b) Sheep and lambs combined. (c) Preliminary, subject to revision. (d) Estimates issued by the Federal and State Wool Forecast Conferences.

**TABLE 2. TOTAL WOOL PRODUCTION
 (mil. kg)**

Season	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
1972-73	226.2	172.3	70.2	100.9	146.9	18.2	735.2
1973-74	213.2	155.4	63.8	100.9	149.4	17.5	700.9
1974-75	254.3	165.5	66.3	108.0	180.0	18.9	793.5
1975-76(b)	240.3	137.9	66.2	105.6	183.6	20.0	754.3
1976-77(c)	240.0	127.8	64.3	100.4	174.0	17.4	724.5

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (b) Preliminary, subject to revision (c) Estimates issued by the Federal and State Wool Forecast Conferences.

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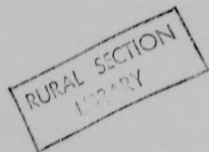


TABLE 3. SHEEP NUMBERS, SHEARING AND SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION, STATES

Year ended 30 June	Number at 31 March			Number shorn			Production of shorn wool from			Average fleece weight		
	Sheep	Lambs	Total	Sheep	Lambs	Total	Sheep	Lambs	Total	Sheep	Lambs	Sheep and lambs
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000 kg	'000 kg	'000 kg	kg	kg	kg
NEW SOUTH WALES												
1973	41,527	10,510	52,037	45,043	7,294	52,337	195,378	10,563	205,941	4.34	1.45	3.93
1974	40,557	12,739	53,296	41,484	7,529	49,013	190,658	12,023	202,681	4.60	1.60	4.14
1975	41,615	13,368	54,983	44,623	8,977	53,600	217,236	15,045	232,281	4.87	1.68	4.33
1976(a)	40,858	12,342	53,200	44,620	8,380	53,000	203,780	13,420	217,201	4.57	1.60	4.10
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	44,200	8,400	52,600	204,200	13,100	217,300	4.62	1.56	4.13
VICTORIA												
1973	19,120	4,985	24,105	27,267	6,346	33,613	121,220	7,855	129,075	4.45	1.24	3.84
1974	20,396	5,392	25,787	24,565	5,983	30,548	120,961	8,257	129,218	4.92	1.38	4.23
1975	20,789	5,621	26,410	26,385	6,591	32,976	128,613	9,887	138,500	4.87	1.50	4.20
1976(a)	19,960	5,435	25,395	23,271	5,839	29,110	102,798	8,020	110,818	4.42	1.37	3.81
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	21,800	5,500	27,300	91,800	7,200	99,000	4.21	1.31	3.63
QUEENSLAND												
1973	11,195	2,151	13,346	11,600	1,700	13,300	57,831	3,593	61,424	4.99	2.11	4.62
1974	10,412	2,707	13,119	11,288	1,641	12,929	55,167	3,263	58,430	4.89	1.99	4.52
1975	11,323	2,585	13,908	12,004	1,829	13,833	58,014	3,762	61,776	4.83	2.06	4.47
1976(a)	11,487	2,113	13,599	12,149	1,572	13,721	58,193	3,283	61,476	4.79	2.09	4.48
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	11,800	1,700	13,500	55,930	3,570	59,500	4.74	2.10	4.41
SOUTH AUSTRALIA												
1973	12,045	3,607	15,651	14,356	3,800	18,156	85,867	6,549	92,416	5.98	1.72	5.09
1974	12,599	3,832	16,431	14,170	3,977	18,147	87,833	7,427	95,260	6.20	1.87	5.25
1975	13,404	4,217	17,621	14,749	4,445	19,195	94,181	8,760	102,941	6.39	1.97	5.36
1976(a)	13,288	3,991	17,279	15,867	4,540	20,407	91,513	7,918	99,432	5.77	1.74	4.87
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	15,800	3,800	19,600	87,388	6,612	94,000	5.53	1.74	4.79
WESTERN AUSTRALIA												
1973	25,009	5,910	30,919	28,200	5,400	33,600	130,781	7,425	138,206	4.64	1.38	4.11
1974	25,225	7,227	32,451	28,945	6,818	35,763	132,850	9,250	142,100	4.59	1.36	3.97
1975	26,306	8,171	34,476	30,348	7,644	37,992	161,057	11,036	172,093	5.31	1.44	4.53
1976(a)	26,692	8,079	34,771	31,363	7,526	38,889	163,230	10,757	173,987	5.20	1.43	4.47
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	31,700	6,700	38,400	153,400	9,400	162,800	4.84	1.40	4.24
TASMANIA												
1973	2,865	960	3,824	3,413	838	4,251	15,038	935	15,973	4.41	1.12	3.76
1974	2,966	998	3,964	3,280	821	4,101	15,010	1,011	16,021	4.58	1.23	3.91
1975	3,102	1,034	4,136	3,417	736	4,153	16,182	965	17,147	4.74	1.31	4.13
1976(a)	3,167	1,082	4,249	3,579	772	4,352	16,930	1,032	17,962	4.73	1.34	4.13
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3,737	754	4,491	14,800	800	15,600	4.00	1.10	3.49
AUSTRALIA (c)												
1973	111,879	28,149	140,029	130,013	25,398	155,411	606,660	36,940	643,600	4.67	1.45	4.14
1974	112,255	32,921	145,175	123,845	26,786	150,631	603,006	41,250	644,256	4.87	1.54	4.28
1975	116,632	35,020	151,652	131,635	30,250	161,885	675,795	49,503	725,298	5.13	1.64	4.48
1976(a)	115,566	37,077	148,643	130,973	28,650	159,623	636,987	44,461	681,449	4.86	1.55	4.27
1977(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	129,161	26,875	156,036	608,060	40,713	648,773	4.71	1.51	4.16

(a) Preliminary, subject to revision. (b) Estimates issued by the Australian Wool Production Committee. (c) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

n.a. not available.