

SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

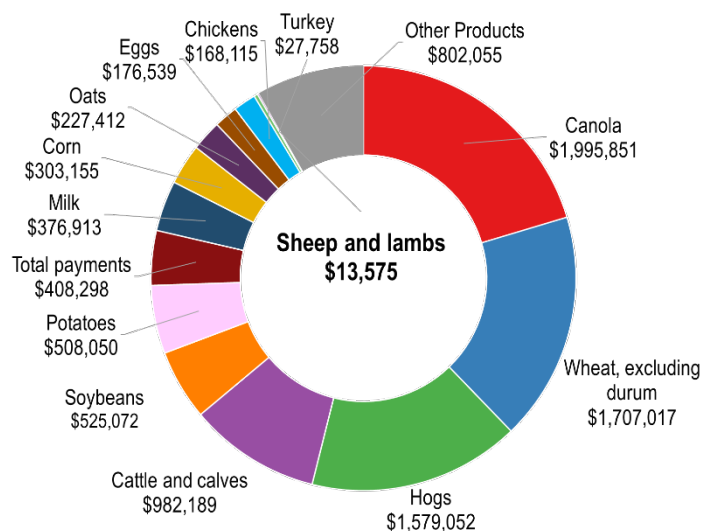
Sheep



Highlights

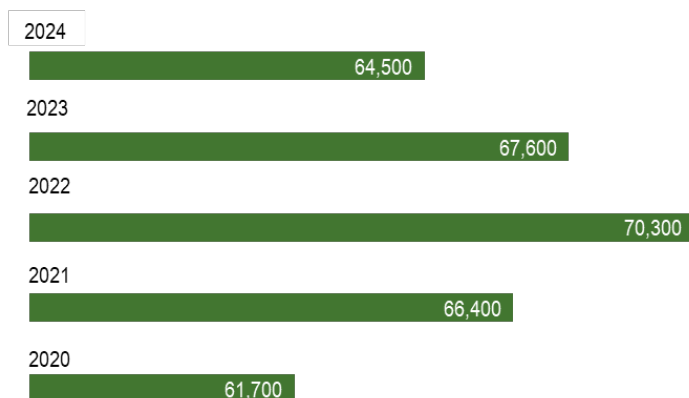
- In 2024, producers sold 64,500 head of sheep and lamb, generating \$13.6 million in cash receipts.
- Manitoba's sheep and lamb sales represent 7 per cent of the Canadian total.
- Annual lamb prices recovered in 2024, surpassing the 2023 average by 23 per cent.
- There were 500 sheep farms operating in Manitoba in 2024.
- The total farm value of wool was \$15,000 in 2023. Manitoba produces six per cent of the wool in Canada.
- Manitoba's affordable and resource-rich land provides an excellent base for sheep production, with flocks strategically located across the province.

Farm Cash Receipts (2024, '000 of dollars)



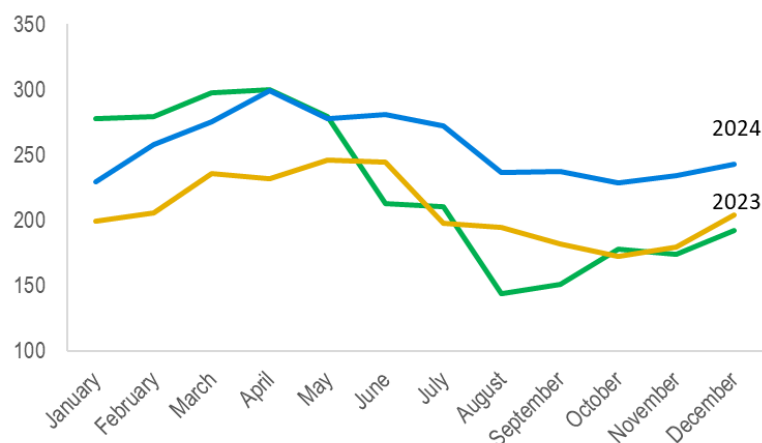
Source: Statistics Canada

Sales (head)



Source: Statistics Canada

Prices (lambs, dollars per cwt, monthly)



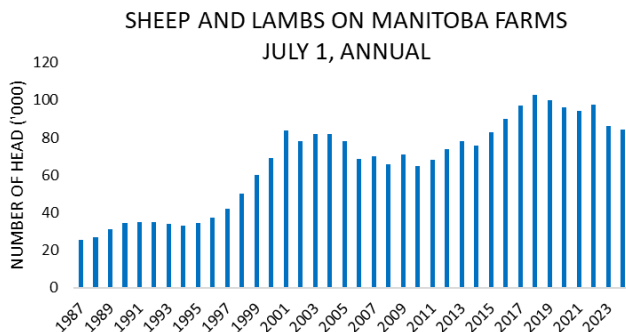
Source: Statistics Canada 32-10-0077-01

Inventory

- On July 1, 2024, there were 84,200 head of sheep and lambs on farms, a decrease of 2.5 per cent compared to the previous year.
- Manitoba has approximately eight per cent of the national number of sheep and lamb.

Sheep and Lamb on Farms

('000 head, July 1)



Source: Statistics Canada

Marketing, Processing and Trade

- In 2024, Manitoba sheep and lambs were sold to Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan for feeding and further processing.
- A total of 22,300 Manitoba origin sheep and lambs were processed in Canada in 2024.
- In 2024, 14 provincially licensed plants processed 5,409 sheep and lambs, representing 22 per cent of Manitoba origin harvested animals.
- The average lamb and mutton consumption in Canada is 1.23 kilogram per capita.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Sheep are known as “grazing herbivores” as they feed on plants in small increments throughout the day.
- Farmers use sheep to help control invasive plant species, improving and maintaining the quality of their land.
- Most of the 43,800 kg of wool produced in 2023 was sold to the Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers.
- Lanolin, a waterproof fatty oil found in sheep wool, is highly sought by cosmetic companies as a key ingredient in cosmetic products.
- The majority of lambs in Manitoba are born between April and June.
- Sheep’s milk is high in protein making it popular for health and fitness.

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Contact us

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