

As of Jan. 31, 2025, there were 5.05 million head of sheep in the United States¹.

Sheep are produced in all 50 states. The most prolific sheep-producing states are located west of the Mississippi River, where a majority of the larger sheep ranches reside. The eastern part of the country supports a greater number of smaller, pasture-based operations.

Following is a state ranking of the **total number of sheep and lambs** as of Jan. 31, 2025:

1. Texas670,000	18. Kansas.....80,000
2. California.....510,000	18. Virginia80,000
3. Colorado405,000	18. Wisconsin.....80,000
4. Wyoming300,000	21. New Mexico.....75,000
5. Utah.....280,000	22. Indiana74,000
6. Idaho.....235,000	22. Nebraska.....74,000
7. South Dakota205,000	24. Oklahoma.....73,000
8. Montana185,000	25. Kentucky.....72,000
9. Iowa161,000	26. Nevada.....65,000
10. Oregon.....150,000	27. North Dakota62,000
11. Ohio145,000	28. Illinois.....58,000
12. Minnesota113,000	29. Tennessee.....48,000
13. Missouri.....104,000	30. Washington.....47,000
14. Pennsylvania.....98,000	31. West Virginia.....36,000
15. Arizona95,000	32. North Carolina...33,000
16. Michigan.....85,000	33. Other States*....215,000
17. New York82,000	34. New England**...55,000

* Other States includes Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland (number of sheep and lambs listing only), Mississippi, New Jersey and South Carolina. NASS does not report individual numbers for these states.

** New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

¹Source: USDA, NASS, Sheep & Goats, Jan. 31, 2025.

FAST FACTS

ABOUT SHEEP PRODUCTION

In 2022, there were 88,853 sheep farms and ranches in the United States².

Following is a ranking of the **total sheep operations per state** based on 2022 data¹ (most current data):

1. Texas12,344	26. South Dakota.....1,233
2. Arizona7,047	27. Idaho.....1,208
3. Ohio4,133	28. Arkansas1,140
4. California.....3,096	29. Montana1,118
5. Pennsylvania3,067	30. West Virginia1,041
6. New Mexico.....2,949	31. Alabama.....1,008
7. Missouri.....2,837	32. Georgia999
8. Kentucky.....2,744	33. Nebraska.....953
9. Oregon2,709	34. New Jersey841
10. Wisconsin2,506	35. Maryland813
11. Iowa.....2,482	36. Louisiana794
12. Indiana2,456	37. South Carolina694
13. Michigan.....2,362	38. Mississippi.....676
14. Virginia2,311	38. Vermont.....676
15. Minnesota2,137	40. Wyoming637
16. Tennessee.....2,083	41. Massachusetts.....631
17. Oklahoma1,976	42. Maine530
18. Washington1,722	43. New Hampshire506
19. Utah.....1,717	44. North Dakota.....482
20. New York.....1,627	45. Hawaii457
21. Illinois1,612	46. Connecticut.....332
22. North Carolina1,536	47. Nevada281
23. Colorado1,480	48. Rhode Island99
24. Florida.....1,358	49. Delaware.....74
25. Kansas.....1,281	50. Alaska.....58

²Source: USDA, NASS, 2022 Census of Agriculture, February 2024.

