

LiveLink

Live export statistics

This edition of LiveLink includes the latest trends in Australian live export trade statistics and prices. Please note that all export data over the past nine months may later be revised.

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Feeder and slaughter cattle exports in May totaled almost 77,000 head, bringing the year-to-date total to 291,000 head, 37% below year-ago volumes. However, May exports were the largest monthly shipment of feeder and slaughter cattle this calendar year, underpinned by a significant increase in exports to Vietnam.

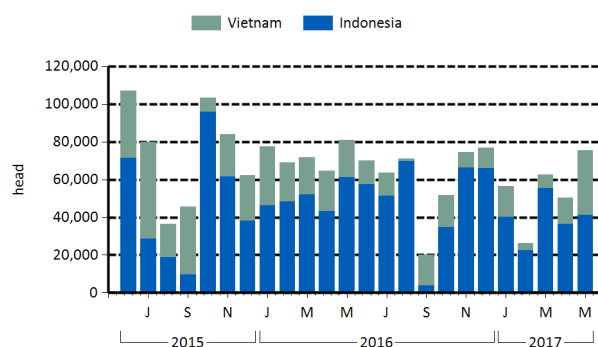
Cattle exports continue to be restricted by high prices and reduced availability, as well as a variety of in-market challenges. Vietnamese and Indonesian importers remain reluctant to enter the market with the high prices on offer.

While greater in May, high Australian cattle prices continue to limit shipments to Vietnam; year-to-May exports were 35% lower year-on-year, at 72,000 head.

Year-to-May shipments to Indonesia were back 21%, at 198,000 head, notwithstanding a modest increase in exports month-on-month. The presence of Indian Buffalo Meat (IBM) and supply limitations out of Australia remain prominent factors in reduced livestock exports to the region.

Current wet market prices for IBM in the Greater Jakarta area continue to vary and range from IDR 75,000-110,000/kg, while fresh beef trades at a premium from IDR 105,000-125,000/kg.

Figure 1 Feeder and slaughter cattle exports



Source: ABS, DAWR

Table 1 Feeder and slaughter cattle exports by destination

Unit: head	2017			12 months ending 2017 May	12 months ending 2016 May	% change	head change
	May	Apr	Mar				
Brunei		896		4,509	5,869	-23%	-1,360
Cambodia				2,800			2,800
China				1,358	330	312%	1,028
Egypt					18,500	-100%	-18,500
Indonesia	41,343	36,281	55,541	545,442	575,323	-5%	-29,881
Israel				52,406	82,706	-37%	-30,300
Japan	960	1,080	1,320	8,634	9,630	-10%	-996
Jordan					2,233	-100%	-2,233
Kuwait	55	100	50	454	300	51%	154
Malaysia		1,578	2,279	22,830	39,978	-43%	-17,148
Mexico					6,677	-100%	-6,677
Philippines				7,130	25,903	-72%	-18,773
Qatar	200	200	200	1,300	750	73%	550
Russian Federation					43,812	-100%	-43,812
Thailand				1,461	3,849	-62%	-2,388
Turkey				50,900	7,000	627%	43,900
UAE	15			15	405	-96%	-390
Vietnam	34,123	14,085	6,866	152,969	306,864	-50%	-153,895
Total volume	76,696	54,220	66,256	851,088	1,130,129	-25%	-279,041

Table 2 Feeder and slaughter cattle exports by port

Unit: head Year		Total	Darwin	Unknown*	Townsville	Fremantle	Broome	Port Adelaide	Wyndham	Other
2015	Dec	68,387	39,850		10,294	11,482				6,761
2016	Jan	106,257	19,902		21,280	49,300				15,775
	Feb	81,156	20,033		35,114	13,131		6,397		6,481
	Mar	91,917	43,892		17,146	6,643			5,209	19,027
	Apr	98,095	14,656		33,340	8,878	24,494	5,020	3,741	7,966
	May	86,659	33,519		21,290	3,000	17,427		8,012	3,411
	Jun	99,096	45,283		12,014	12,728	17,599	6,631	2,733	2,108
	Jul	81,052	46,016		6,528	12,420	13,327		2,761	
	Aug	83,307	33,917		19,797	7,990	9,463		5,363	6,777
	Sep	29,931	9,743		12,983	5,016				2,189
	Oct	71,368	20,104		19,141	17,225	8,277			6,621
	Nov	89,499	36,350		3,646	36,117	2,830	3,500		7,056
	Dec	102,634	43,722		13,388	40,536		2,000		2,988
2017	Jan	59,655	12,332		31,995	8,822				6,506
	Feb	38,613	17,941			19,472				1,200
	Mar	66,256	30,168		34,518	250				1,320
	Apr	54,220	26,156		16,244	300	7,519		2,921	1,080
	May **	76,696								

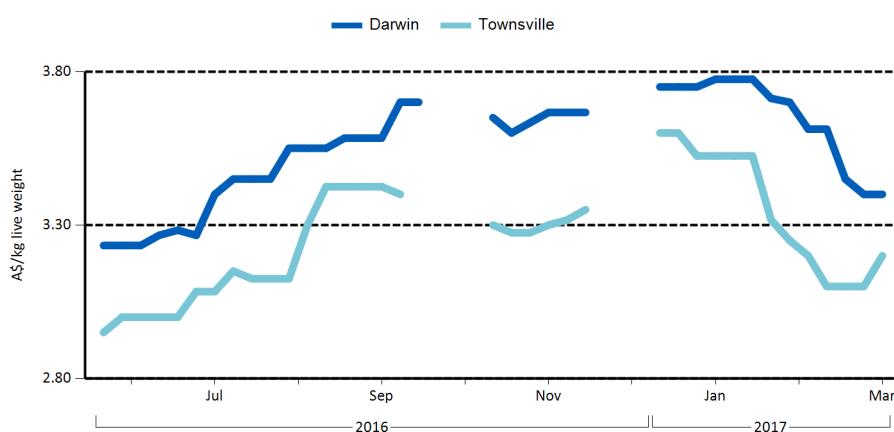
Data specifications

Due to the timing of live export trade data being released, both Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) data is used in this report. The most recent month and, at times, second most recent month trade data comes from DAWR. This data is then updated when ABS data is released.

* In October 2015, the ABS did not disclose feeder and slaughter cattle trade data to Vietnam, China and Japan. For this month, individual country shipments have been estimated by MLA. In addition, trade data by individual port was also not disclosed in October 2015 – this data is aggregated under “Unknown” port.

** DAWR does not report on individual ports. Port data is updated when released by the ABS.

All pricing data is collected by Meat and Livestock Australia from a range of sources.

Figure 2 Live export feeder cattle prices

Source: MLA live exporter survey

Please note, prices include up to the end of the previous month and may not include the latest trends

For more detailed live export price information, in addition to other northern cattle markets, click here to access the latest edition of the [North of the Tropic Beef Report](#)

Figure 3 Feeder and slaughter cattle exports***

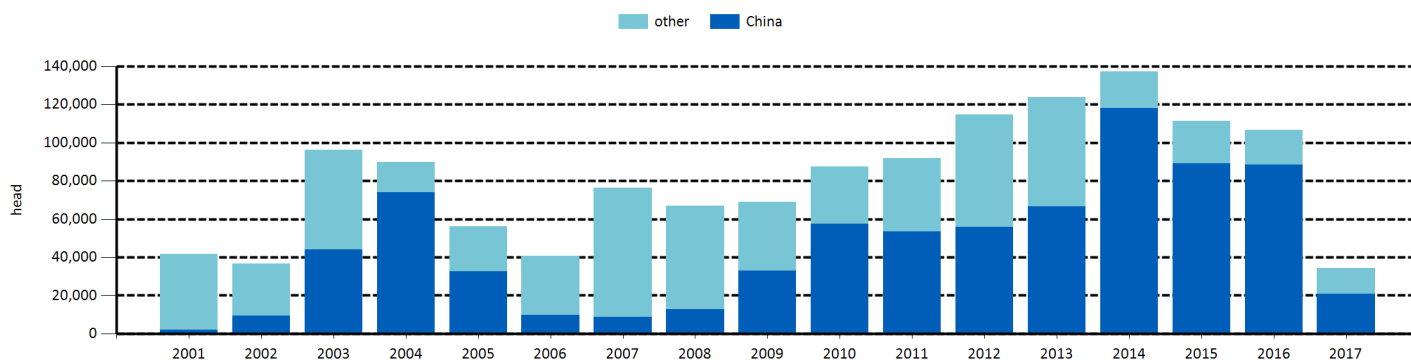
Source: ABS, DAWR ***the current year total is up to and including the most recently reported month

Table 3 Beef and dairy breeder cattle exports by destination

Unit: head		2017			12 months ending	12 months ending	%	head
Destination market		May	Apr	Mar	2017	2016	change	change
					May	May		
Bangladesh					4	70	-94%	-66
China			3,079	8,501	70,063	108,959	-36%	-38,896
Indonesia		1,813	3,198		7,480	1,307	472%	6,173
Japan		197	641	1,301	2,139	305	601%	1,834
Kuwait					255	3,204	-92%	-2,949
Laos						930	-100%	-930
Malaysia		73	192	56	1,179	2,558	-54%	-1,379
Pakistan				1,650	6,502	3,507	85%	2,995
Philippines		240			480			480
Qatar						360	-100%	-360
Russian Federation						1,152	-100%	-1,152
Sri Lanka						2,498	-100%	-2,498
Taiwan		225	169	220	1,978	628	215%	1,350
Thailand					235	2	11650%	233
Turkey					3,475			3,475
UAE			155		378	366	3%	12
Vietnam					2,454	2,617	-6%	-163
Total volume		2,552	7,434	10,427	95,355	128,463	-26%	-33,108

Table 4 Beef and dairy breeder cattle exports by port

Unit: head		Total	Portland	Geelong	Sydney	Melbourne	Port Adelaide	Fremantle	Darwin	Other
Year										
2016	Jun	12,696	8,721		30	470	3,475			
	Jul	9,479	3,904	4,020	40	71			930	514
	Aug	8,486	8,267		219					
	Sep	10,461	9,924		48				489	
	Oct	4,422	4,000			222				200
	Nov	1,111			230	460				421
	Dec	15,735	9,887	2,000	202	789		2,651		206
2017	Jan	6,558	6,125		82	351				
	Feb	5,994	5,689		79	226				
	Mar	10,427	4,636	4,159	56	220		1,226		130
	Apr	7,434	3,079		193	965			3,000	197
	May **	2,552								

Figure 4 Beef and dairy breeder cattle exports***

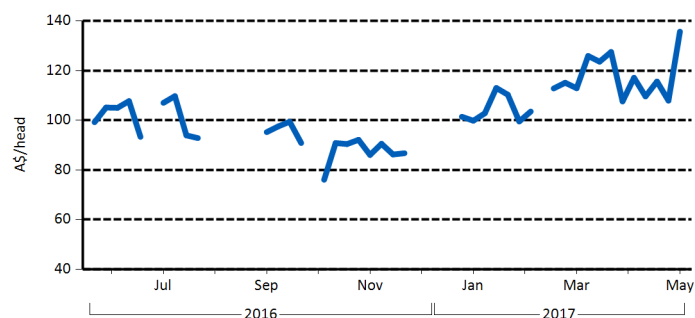
Source: ABS, DAWR ***the current year total is up to and including the most recently reported month

Table 5 Sheep exports by destination

Unit: head Destination market	2017			12 months ending 2017 May	12 months ending 2016 May	% change	head change
	May	Apr	Mar				
Argentina			19	38	41	-7%	-3
Bahrain					145,000	-100%	-145,000
Bangladesh					50	-100%	-50
Brunei				300	831	-64%	-531
Chile			6	6			6
China	1,520	1,380		7,956	12,090	-34%	-4,134
Egypt					9,500	-100%	-9,500
Fiji					77	-100%	-77
Indonesia				24			24
Israel				100,651	108,948	-8%	-8,297
Japan				81			81
Jordan				157,500	154,200	2%	3,300
Kazakhstan					7	-100%	-7
Kuwait	36,313	100,556	49,909	628,901	695,470	-10%	-66,569
Lebanon				12,000			12,000
Malaysia	3,406	2,798	3,191	57,654	57,213	1%	441
New Zealand				11	5	120%	6
Oman	22,000	35,495	5,000	137,670	81,304	69%	56,366
Philippines					359	-100%	-359
Qatar	74,000	47,000	60,000	606,000	445,148	36%	160,852
Singapore				2,100	1,980	6%	120
UAE	7,000	8,000	14,000	152,120	158,404	-4%	-6,284
UK		22		22			22
Uruguay				5	70	-93%	-65
Total volume	144,239	195,251	132,423	1,863,367	1,870,697	0%	-7,330

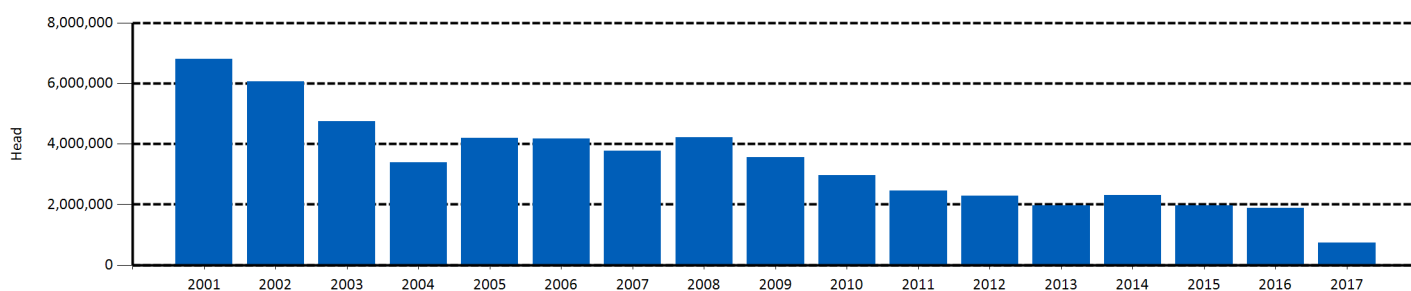
Figure 5 Sheep exports by region - past 12 months

Source: ABS, DAWR

Figure 6 WA live export wether price

Source: MLA Muchea saleyard market report

Please note, prices include up to the end of the previous month and may not include the latest trends

Figure 7 Sheep exports***

Source: ABS, DAWR ***the current year total is up to and including the most recently reported month

May sheep exports were 144,000 head, back on the previous month as a result of reduced shipments to Kuwait.

May exports were low compared to April (195,000 head), when importers were preparing for Ramadan (26 May – 24 June). Year-to-May exports remain unchanged year-on-year, totalling 705,000 head.

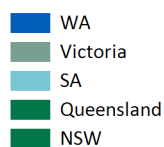


Figure 8 Sheep exports by state - past 12 months

Source: ABS, DAWR

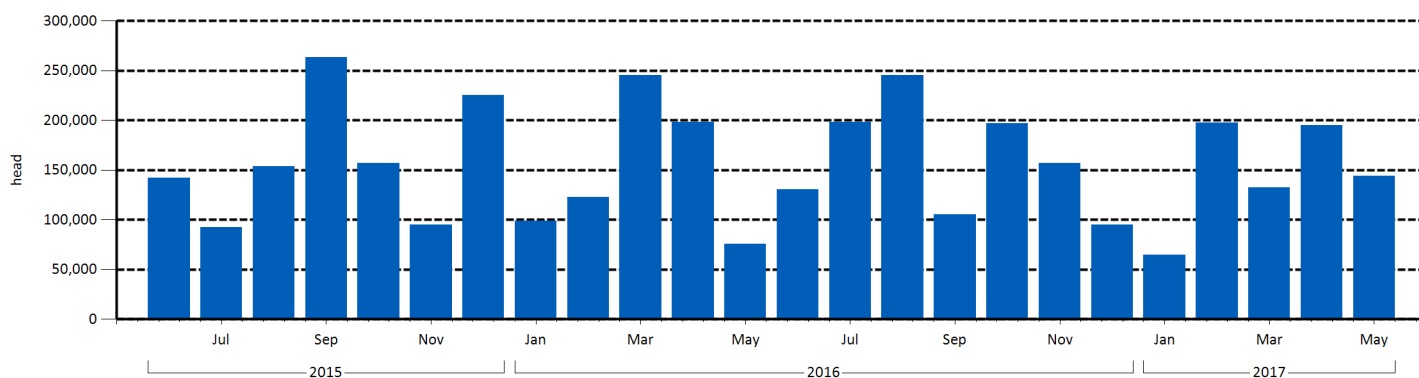
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Table 6 Sheep exports by port

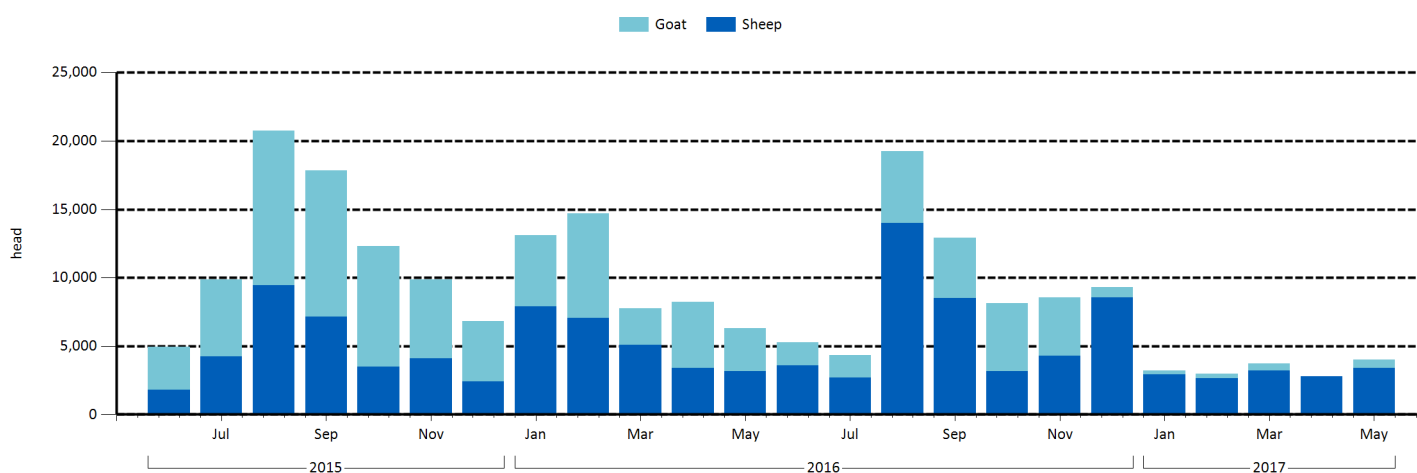
Unit: head Year		Total	Fremantle	Port Adelaide	Perth	Portland	Sydney	Melbourne	Adelaide	Other
2015	Dec	225,657	179,628	42,790	734		1,668		837	
2016	Jan	98,815	89,262	5,000	2,036		24		2,493	
	Feb	123,087	79,887	38,484	2,237		171	32	1,628	648
	Mar	245,280	241,403		2,922		108	98	749	
	Apr	198,033	193,166		2,536		100	657	1,574	
	May	75,806	52,293	20,245	1,066		116	692	1,394	
	Jun	130,883	124,028	2,972	1,567			275	2,041	
	Jul	198,147	194,300		2,164		250	1,433		
	Aug	245,339	202,509	33,000	3,835			1,017	2,529	2,449
	Sep	105,417	96,894		6,867		350	132	1,174	
	Oct	197,093	193,949		2,297		54		793	
	Nov	157,204	151,438		2,077			2,168	1,521	
	Dec	95,208	89,639		2,561		67		2,941	
2017	Jan	64,611	61,595		2,245		24	83	664	
	Feb	197,552	161,735	33,110	2,602		13		62	30
	Mar	132,423	103,898	25,011	2,132		263		821	298
	Apr	195,251	129,405	51,646	1,828			22	2,350	10,000
	May **	144,239								

Figure 9 Sheep exports



Source: ABS, DAWR

Figure 10 Goat and sheep exports to Malaysia & Singapore



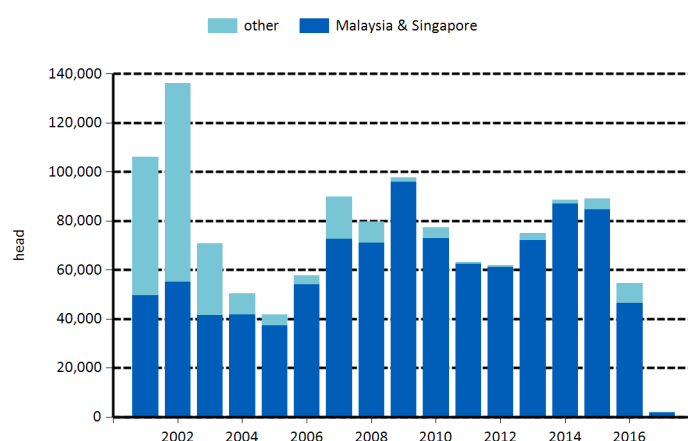
Source: ABS, DAWR

Table 7 Goat exports by destination

Unit: head	2017			12 months ending	12 months ending	%	head
Destination market	May	Apr	Mar	2017 May	2016 May	change	change
Brunei				216	1,431	-85%	-1,215
Fiji					75	-100%	-75
Indonesia				7	211	-97%	-204
Malaysia	618		558	24,710	73,245	-66%	-48,535
Nepal	20	23		113	96	18%	17
New Zealand			8	8	8	0%	
Philippines				25	905	-97%	-880
UAE	101			3,072	4,927	-38%	-1,855
Vietnam				100	679	-85%	-579
Total volume	739	23	566	28,251	81,577	-65%	-53,326

<commentary - keep to 150 words>

Figure 11 Goat exports***

Source: ABS, DAWR
current year total is up to and including the most recently reported month

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