

Fast Facts

2019

Australia's sheepmeat industry

Australia is the world's largest exporter of sheepmeat, and is the world's second largest producer of lamb and mutton (DA, IHS Markit, Comtrade, FAO). The off-farm meat value (domestic expenditure plus export value) of the Australian sheepmeat industry was approximately \$6.6 billion in 2018-19 – up 1% on the 2017-18 period (MLA estimate).

At the time of publication, figures included in this document were the most up to date available but may be subject to revision.

Flock facts and figures:

- There are 31,972 agricultural businesses involved in the sheep and lamb industry (ABS Agricultural Commodities 2017-18).
- There were 70.6 million head¹ of sheep in Australia as of 2017-18 (ABS Agricultural Commodities 2017-2018)
- There were 39.9 million head of breeding ewes aged one-year and older as at 30 June 2018 (ABS Agricultural Commodities 2017-18).

People in the industry:

- Around 172,000 people are employed in the red meat industry, including on-farm production, processing and retail (State of the Industry 2019).

How much is produced?

- In 2018-19, Australia produced almost 501,000 tonnes carcass weight (cwt) of lamb and 230,000 tonnes cwt of mutton (ABS).

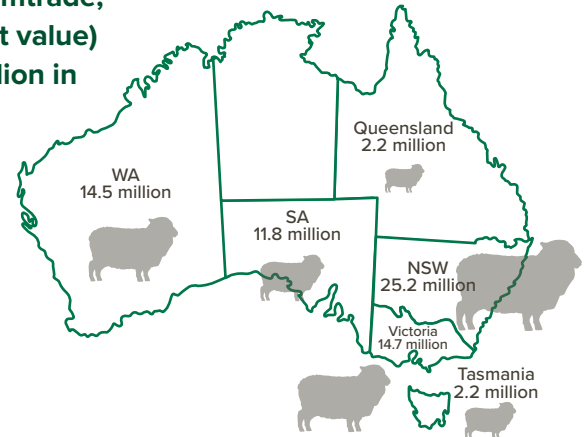
What is the value of production

- The gross value of Australian lamb and mutton production (including live exports) in 2018-19 is estimated at \$4.5 billion (ABARES Agricultural Commodities June 2019).
- Lamb and mutton production (including live exports) contributed 7% to the total farm value of \$61.4 billion estimated in 2018-19 (ABARES Agricultural Commodities June 2019).

Domestic value and consumption:

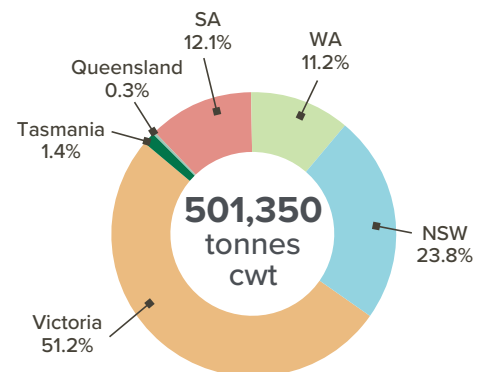
- Domestic expenditure was approximately \$2.6 billion on lamb and \$51 million on mutton in 2018-19 (MLA estimate).
- Australians consumed approximately 7kg of lamb and around 0.3kg of mutton per person in 2018-19 (MLA estimate²) – among the highest sheepmeat consumption in the world.
- Lamb had a 13% share of fresh meat sales (by value) following beef and chicken in 2018-19 (Nielsen HomeScan).

National sheep numbers as at June 2018: 70.6 million head



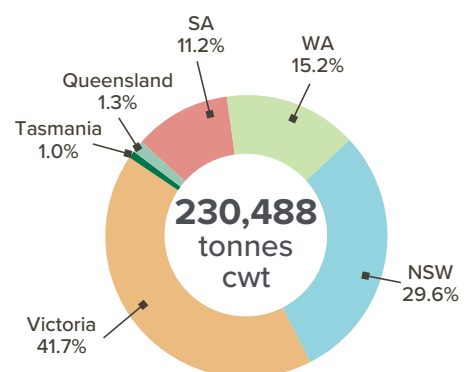
Source: ABS

Australian lamb production



Source: ABS, 2018-19

Australian mutton production



Source: ABS, 2018-19

¹ Please note, in 2015-16 the ABS survey structure changed which removed small farm businesses (estimated value of agricultural operations <\$40,000) from livestock populations. This change has meant some livestock previously included in the survey are now excluded.

² Domestic meat consumption is measured by removing the portion of exports (DAWR data) from total production (ABS data) and assuming the difference is consumed (or at least disappears) domestically. Imports are also added to domestic consumption when present. Per capita consumption is calculated by dividing domestic consumption by ABS population data. Please note that domestic per capita consumption is entirely a supply statistic and does not take account of waste or non-food uses of livestock meat products.

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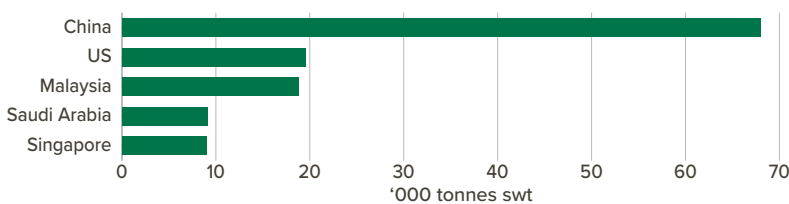
Australia's sheepmeat industry



Export value and volume:

- In 2018-19, Australia exported 66% of total Australian lamb production and 96% of total mutton production (DA, ABS).
- The value of total lamb exports in 2018-19 was \$2.63 billion and the value of mutton exports was \$1.23 billion (ABS, IHS Markit).
- Australian live sheep exports were valued at \$121 million in 2018-19 (ABS).

Australia's top five mutton export markets

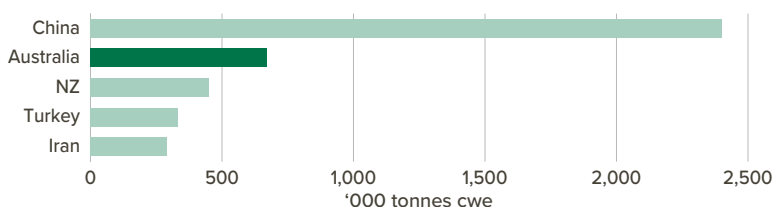


Source: DA, 2018-19

Australia's place in the world:

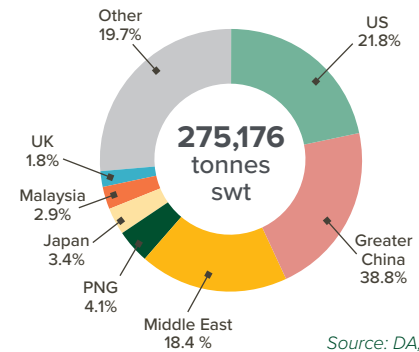
- Australia produced approximately 7% of the world's lamb and mutton supply in 2018 (ABS/FAO).
- Australia is the largest exporter of sheepmeat in the world (DA, IHS Markit, Comtrade).
- Australia is the world's 4th largest live sheep exporter (DA, FAO).

Top five sheepmeat producing countries



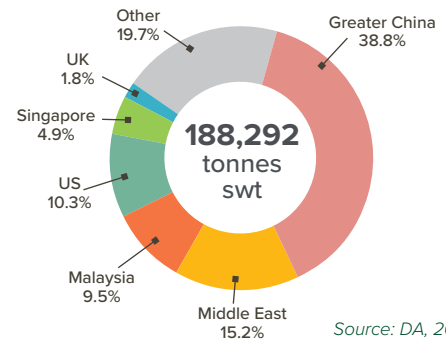
Source: ABS, FAO, latest available data 2018

Australian lamb exports



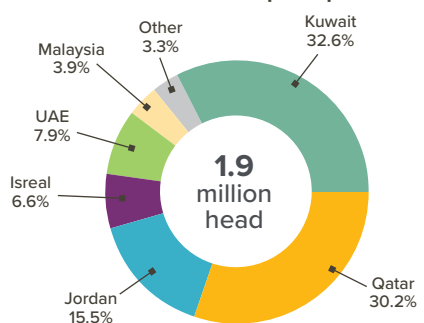
Source: DA, 2018-19

Australian mutton exports



Source: DA, 2018-19

Australian live sheep exports



Source: DA, 2018-19