Quarterly production and slaughter volumes

MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA MARKET INFORMATION

September Quarter 2023 data

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		Slaughter (head)	Production (tonne)	Carcase weight (kg)	Live export (head)	Total turnoff (head)	Seasonal estimate (Full Year Run Rate*)	Value of production (A$)	Value per animal (A$)	Why**
Beef	Figure	**1,910,400**	**589,406**	**308.52**	**184,055**	**2,094,455**	**7,508,084**	**3,205,362,946**	**1,530**	The third quarter witnessed a notable increase in cattle supply due to concerns about weather. An easing in prices resulted in reduction to the overall production value of the industry.
	Quarter on Quarter change	11%	8%	-2%	8%	10%	5%	-2%	-12%	
	Year on year change	23%	20%	-3%	31%	23%	18%	-19%	-34%	
	Comparison to 5 year average	9%	12%	2%	-20%	6%	-5%	-4%	-1%	
Male cattle	Figure	**974,300**	**337,186**	**346.08**	—	—	—	—	—	Male slaughter remained high despite a drop in feedlot turnoff. This is due to the increase in grassfed cattle being sold.
	Quarter on Quarter change	8%	8%	-1%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Year on year change	11%	11%	-1%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Comparison to 5 year average	11%	14%	3%	—	—	—	—	—	
Female cattle	Figure	**936,100**	**252,220**	**269.44**	—	—	—	—	—	Higher numbers on farm of females is driving higher supply, whilst challenging seasonal conditions is driving turnoff. Higher female slaughter is leading to lower carcase weights.
	Quarter on Quarter change	13%	36%	-5%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Year on year change	37%	34%	-3%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Comparison to 5 year average	9%	10%	0%	—	—	—	—	—	
Female slaughter rate (FSR)	**FSR**	**49%**	**Rebuild Status**							
	Quarter on Quarter change	1%	The Female Slaughter Rate (FSR) measures the percentage of female cattle slaughtered relative to the total cattle slaughtered. Since records began, the average quarterly FSR sits at 47.6%. Industry tends to use this as a reference point for gauging whether the national cattle herd is undergoing a liquidation or rebuild phase. The herd has entered a liquidation phase now the FSR has been above 47% for two quaters.							
	Year on year change	5%								
	Comparison to 5 year average	0%								
Sheepmeat	Figure	**8,677,800**	**215,143**	**24.79**	**61,580**	**8,739,380**	**34,220,883**	**956,640,774**	**109.46**	Despite a production peak, high supply and lowered mutton/lamb prices affected the industry's production value.
	Quarter on Quarter change	1%	2%	1%	-72%	-1%	0%	-19%	-18%	
	Year on year change	23%	19%	-4%	1019%	24%	25%	-24%	-38%	
	Comparison to 5 year average	19%	21%	1%	-66%	17%	13%	-20%	-22%	
Lamb	Figure	**6,588,200**	**160,954**	**24.43**	—	—	—	—	—	Record quarterly lamb production and slaughter has been driven by the largest flock since 2007 and a long-term increase in average carcase weight.
	Quarter on Quarter change	9%	8%	-1%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Year on year change	20%	16%	-4%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Comparison to 5 year average	22%	24%	1%	—	—	—	—	—	
Sheep	Figure	**2,089,600**	**54,189**	**25.93**	—	—	—	—	—	Largest number of breeding ewes since 2007 have driven higher supplies of slaughter stock. Historically elevated carcase weights are driving higher mutton output.
	Quarter on Quarter change	-18%	-12%	8%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Year on year change	35%	30%	-4%	—	—	—	—	—	
	Comparison to 5 year average	9%	12%	2%	—	—	—	—	—	
Goat	Figure	**689,076**	**10,675**	**15.49**	**4,529**	**693,605**	**2,423,630**	—	—	Goat production is sourced from managed farms and rangelands producers. Slaughter has been increasing since 2020–2021 due to improved seasonal conditions.
	Quarter on Quarter change	25%	23%	-2%	-49%	24%	10%	—	—	
	Year on year change	50%	39%	-7%	1430%	51%	43%	—	—	
	Comparison to 5 year average	90%	85%	-3%	41%	90%	63%	—	—	

Source: MLA/ABS

*NB: Based on historical seasonality (2000–2022)

** Note: The reasoning behind these figures are not solely attributed to the brief explanation in this doucment. For further justification of the drivers of these figures, contact insights@mla.com.au