United States Department of Agriculture

Sheep and Lamb Losses by Cause

National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Utah farmers and ranchers lost 45,000 **sheep and lambs to all causes** in 2011, valued at $8.3 million. **Lambs lost before docking** totaled 18,000, lambs **lost after docking** totaled 15,000 and **sheep one year old and older** lost totaled 12,000 head. Weather conditions accounted for 31 percent of all lambs lost before docking. This accounted for the largest single cause of death in lambs before docking. Coyotes were a close second at 26 percent of losses before docking. Coyotes accounted for the largest number of lambs lost after docking at 46 percent. **Sheep one year old and older** losses to coyotes, at 2,100, was the single largest cause of death, accounting for18 percent. Total losses to coyotes equaled 13,700 head, which was 30 percent of all losses to sheep and lambs in the state. Losses to coyotes was the largest single cause of death to total sheep and lambs in Utah.

Losses of Lambs Before Docking: Utah 2006-2011 [1]

Cause of Loss	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
			Number of Head			
Bear	-	600	-	500	-	-
Bobcat	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coyote	6,500	5,800	6,300	5,300	4,200	4,700
Dog	600	-	500	-	-	-
Fox	500	-	-	-	-	-
Mountain Lion	600	500	500	700	-	-
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	800	900	800	800	800	600
Other/Unknown	400	2,900	1,200	1,100	3,200	2,500
Total Predators	**9,400**	**10,700**	**9,300**	**8,400**	**8,200**	**7,800**
Diseases	500	600	-	1,500	500	-
Enterotoxemia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weather conditions	2,000	1,900	4,100	3,000	5,000	5,600
Lambing Complications	2,000	1,000	500	1,900	2,200	1,900
Old Age	-	-	-	-	-	-
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	-	-	-	-	-	-
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	1,100	1,300	1,100	2,900	3,400	2,700
Total Non-Predators	**5,600**	**4,800**	**5,700**	**9,300**	**11,100**	**10,200**
TOTAL LOSSES	**15,000**	**15,500**	**15,000**	**17,700**	**19,300**	**18,000**

[1] - indicates less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of Lambs After Docking: Utah 2006-2011 [1]

Cause of Loss	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
			Number of Head			
Bear	1,300	2,100	1,400	2,500	1,300	1,000
Bobcat	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coyote	8,300	8,600	8,300	7,700	6,700	6,900
Dog	-	600	500	600	-	700
Fox	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mountain Lion	2,200	2,000	2,100	1,100	500	1,100
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	-	-	-	-	700	-
Other/Unknown	1,100	600	400	1,000	1,900	1,300
Total Predators	**12,900**	**13,900**	**12,700**	**12,900**	**11,100**	**11,000**
Diseases	700	600	-	500	-	-
Enterotoxemia	500	500	600	-	500	-
Weather conditions	700	900	900	-	600	900
Lambing Complications	-	-	-	-	-	-
Old Age	-	-	-	-	-	-
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	500	500	-	-	-	500
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	2,700	1,600	1,800	2,600	2,800	2,600
Total Non-Predators	**5,100**	**4,100**	**3,300**	**3,100**	**3,900**	**4,000**
TOTAL LOSSES	**18,000**	**18,000**	**16,000**	**16,000**	**15,000**	**15,000**

[1] - indicates less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of Sheep and Lambs Combined, by Cause: Utah, 2006-2011 [1] [2]

Cause of Loss	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of Head						
Bear	1,000	3,900	2,700	4,000	1,900	1,800
Bobcat	-	600	-	-	-	-
Coyote	17,400	16,400	18,600	16,700	12,800	13,700
Dog	1,200	1,300	1,600	1,000	800	1,400
Fox	800	600	500	500	500	-
Mountain Lion	4,000	3,300	3,600	2,500	900	2,100
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	1,100	1,000	900	1,200	1,500	800
Other/Unknown	700	2,200	900	1,500	4,900	3,400
Total Predators	**27,600**	**29,300**	**28,800**	**27,400**	**23,300**	**23,200**
Diseases	1,900	2,100	1,500	3,500	1,200	1,500
Enterotoxaemia	1,000	700	1,400	-	900	500
Weather Conditions	3,400	3,300	5,700	3,600	6,300	8,000
Lambing Complications	3,000	1,800	1,100	2,900	3,800	2,400
Old Age	2,200	2,400	1,300	1,800	1,500	1,800
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	2,100	1,100	600	1,500	1,200	1,300
Theft	-	900	-	500	-	-
Other/Unknown	4,800	2,900	2,600	6,000	8,100	6,300
Total Non-Predators	**18,400**	**15,200**	**14,200**	**19,800**	**23,000**	**21,800**
Total Losses	**46,000**	**44,500**	**43,000**	**47,200**	**46,300**	**45,000**
Percent of Total by Cause						
Bear	2.2	8.8	6.3	8.5	4.1	4.0
Bobcat	-	1.3	-	-	-	-
Coyote	37.8	36.9	43.3	35.4	27.6	30.4
Dog	2.6	2.9	3.7	2.1	1.7	3.1
Fox	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	-
Mountain Lion	8.7	7.4	8.4	5.3	1.9	4.7
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.5	3.2	1.8
Other/Unknown	1.5	4.9	2.1	3.2	10.6	7.6
Total Predators	**60.0**	**65.8**	**67.0**	**58.1**	**50.3**	**51.6**
Diseases	4.1	4.7	3.5	7.4	2.6	3.3
Enterotoxaemia	2.2	1.6	3.3	-	1.9	1.1
Weather Conditions	7.4	7.4	13.3	7.6	13.6	17.8
Lambing Complications	6.5	4.0	2.6	6.1	8.2	5.3
Old Age	4.8	5.4	3.0	3.8	3.2	4.0
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	4.6	2.5	1.4	3.2	2.6	2.9
Theft	-	2.0	-	1.1	-	-
Other/Unknown	10.4	6.5	6.0	12.7	17.5	14.0
Total Non-Predators	**40.0**	**34.2**	**33.0**	**41.9**	**49.7**	**48.4**
Total Losses	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Dollar Value of Losses by Cause						
	1,000 dollars	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Bear	236	335	246	326	199	335
Bobcat	-	44	-	-	-	-
Coyote	1,274	1,144	1,462	1,317	1,144	2,438
Dog	99	121	146	86	89	261
Fox	47	35	31	30	38	-
Mountain Lion	350	265	301	210	96	398
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	65	59	55	72	113	134
Other/Unknown	60	139	71	125	455	617
Total Predators	**2,131**	**2,142**	**2,312**	**2,166**	**2,134**	**4,183**
Diseases	178	203	148	338	127	323
Enterotoxaemia	87	50	150	-	87	97
Weather Conditions	267	239	405	233	541	1,442
Lambing Complications	272	176	116	260	436	436
Old Age	338	352	185	262	253	419
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	266	109	61	176	156	270
Theft	-	106	-	56	-	-
Other/Unknown	406	215	224	497	883	1,170
Total Non-Predators	**1,814**	**1,449**	**1,289**	**1,822**	**2,483**	**4,157**
Total Losses	**3,946**	**3,591**	**3,601**	**3,988**	**4,617**	**8,340**

[1] Lamb losses include both before and after docking losses.
[2] - indicates less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of Sheep by Cause: Utah, 2006-2011 [1]

Cause of Loss	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of Head						
Bear	2,400	1,200	1,000	1,000	600	500
Bobcat	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coyote	2,600	2,000	4,000	3,700	1,900	2,100
Dog	-	500	600	-	-	-
Fox	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mountain Lion	1,200	800	1,000	700	-	700
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	500	200	200	700	1,500	1,100
Total Predators	**5,300**	**4,700**	**6,800**	**6,100**	**4,000**	**4,400**
Diseases	700	900	700	1,500	-	1,100
Enterotoxaemia	-	-	800	-	-	-
Weather Conditions	700	500	700	-	700	1,500
Lambing Complications	1,000	800	600	1,000	1,600	500
Old Age	2,200	2,400	1,300	1,800	1,500	1,800
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	1,500	500	-	1,000	700	800
Theft	-	600	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	1,600	600	1,100	2,100	3,500	1,900
Total Non-Predators	**7,700**	**6,300**	**5,200**	**7,400**	**8,000**	**7,600**
Total Losses	**13,000**	**11,000**	**12,000**	**13,500**	**12,000**	**12,000**
Percent of Total by Cause						
Bear	18.5	10.9	8.3	7.4	5.0	4.2
Bobcat	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coyote	20.0	18.2	33.3	27.4	15.8	17.5
Dog	-	4.5	5.0	-	-	-
Fox	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mountain Lion	9.2	7.3	8.3	5.2	-	5.8
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	3.8	1.8	1.7	5.2	12.5	9.2
Total Predators	**40.8**	**42.7**	**56.7**	**45.2**	**33.3**	**36.7**
Diseases	5.4	8.2	5.8	11.1	-	9.2
Enterotoxaemia	-	-	6.7	-	-	-
Weather Conditions	5.4	4.5	5.8	-	5.8	12.5
Lambing Complications	7.7	7.3	5.0	7.4	13.3	4.2
Old Age	16.9	21.8	10.8	13.3	12.5	15.0
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	11.5	4.5	-	7.4	5.8	6.7
Theft	-	5.5	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	12.3	5.5	9.2	15.6	29.2	15.8
Total Non-Predators	**59.2**	**57.3**	**43.3**	**54.8**	**66.7**	**63.3**
Total Losses	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Dollar Value of Losses by Cause						
	1,000 dollars	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Bear	154	176	142	146	101	117
Bobcat	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coyote	399	293	568	538	320	489
Dog	-	73	85	-	-	-
Fox	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mountain Lion	184	117	142	102	-	163
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	76	30	28	103	254	256
Total Predators	**814**	**689**	**966**	**889**	**675**	**1,025**
Diseases	107	132	99	218	-	256
Enterotoxaemia	-	-	114	-	-	-
Weather Conditions	107	73	99	-	118	350
Lambing Complications	154	117	85	146	270	117
Old Age	338	352	185	262	253	419
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	230	73	-	146	118	186
Theft	-	88	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	246	88	156	306	590	444
Total Non-Predators	**1,182**	**923**	**738**	**1,078**	**1,349**	**1,772**
Total Losses	**1,996**	**1,612**	**1,704**	**1,967**	**2,024**	**2,797**

[1] - indicates less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.

Losses of All Lambs by Cause: Utah, 2006-2011 [1] [2]

Cause of Loss	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of Head						
Bear	1,400	2,700	1,700	3,000	1,300	1,300
Bobcat	-	500	-	-	-	-
Coyote	14,800	14,400	14,600	13,000	10,900	11,600
Dog	900	800	1,000	700	500	1,000
Fox	800	600	500	500	500	-
Mountain Lion	2,800	2,500	2,600	1,800	600	1,400
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	1,100	1,000	900	1,200	1,500	800
Other/Unknown	500	2,100	700	1,100	4,000	2,700
Total Predators	**22,300**	**24,600**	**22,000**	**21,300**	**19,300**	**18,800**
Diseases	1,200	1,200	800	2,000	800	-
Enterotoxaemia	700	600	600	-	700	-
Weather Conditions	2,700	2,800	5,000	3,400	5,600	6,500
Lambing Complications	2,000	1,000	500	1,900	2,200	1,900
Old Age	-	-	-	-	-	-
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	600	600	-	500	500	500
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	3,500	2,700	2,100	4,600	5,200	5,300
Total Non-Predators	**10,700**	**8,900**	**9,000**	**12,400**	**15,000**	**14,200**
Total Losses	**33,000**	**33,500**	**31,000**	**33,700**	**34,300**	**33,000**
Percent of Total by Cause						
Bear	4.2	8.1	5.5	8.9	3.8	3.9
Bobcat	-	1.5	-	-	-	-
Coyote	44.8	43.0	47.1	38.6	31.8	35.2
Dog	2.7	2.4	3.2	2.1	1.5	3.0
Fox	2.4	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	-
Mountain Lion	8.5	7.5	8.4	5.3	1.7	4.2
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	3.3	3.0	2.9	3.6	4.4	2.4
Other/Unknown	1.5	6.3	2.3	3.3	11.7	8.2
Total Predators	**67.6**	**73.4**	**71.0**	**63.2**	**56.3**	**57.0**
Diseases	3.6	3.6	2.6	5.9	2.3	-
Enterotoxaemia	2.1	1.8	1.9	-	2.0	-
Weather Conditions	8.2	8.4	16.1	10.1	16.3	19.7
Lambing Complications	6.1	3.0	1.6	5.6	6.4	5.8
Old Age	-	-	-	-	-	-
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	1.8	1.8	-	1.5	1.5	1.5
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	10.6	8.1	6.8	13.6	15.2	16.1
Total Non-Predators	**32.4**	**26.6**	**29.0**	**36.8**	**43.7**	**43.0**
Total Losses	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Dollar Value of Losses by Cause						
	1,000 dollars	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Bear	83	160	104	180	98	218
Bobcat	-	30	-	-	-	-
Coyote	875	851	893	779	824	1,949
Dog	53	47	61	42	38	168
Fox	47	35	31	30	38	-
Mountain Lion	165	148	159	108	45	235
Wolves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eagle	65	59	55	72	113	134
Other/Unknown	30	124	43	66	303	454
Total Predators	**1,318**	**1,454**	**1,346**	**1,277**	**1,459**	**3,158**
Diseases	71	71	49	120	60	-
Enterotoxaemia	41	35	37	-	53	-
Weather Conditions	160	165	306	204	423	1,092
Lambing Complications	118	59	31	114	166	319
Old Age	-	-	-	-	-	-
On Back	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poison	35	35	-	30	38	84
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other/Unknown	207	160	128	276	394	890
Total Non-Predators	**632**	**526**	**551**	**744**	**1,134**	**2,385**
Total Losses	**1,950**	**1,980**	**1,897**	**2,021**	**2,593**	**5,543**

[1] Lamb losses include both before and after docking losses.
[2] - indicates less than 500 head and are included in Other/Unknown.