



# Wyoming Sheep & Lamb Losses 2013

Cooperating with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture  
USDA, NASS, Wyoming Field Office  
PO Box 1148 – Cheyenne, WY 82003

February 24, 2014

Dear Data Users,

Wyoming sheep and lamb producers lost an estimated 36,000 head of sheep and lambs to predators, weather, lambing problems, disease, and other causes in 2013 according to our annual survey. Total losses were down 7,000 head from the previous year. Predators accounted for 48 percent of the losses. The 2013 lamb crop totaled 225,000 lambs marked, docked, or branded which was down 4 percent from 2012. Adding in the lambs lost before docking results in a potential lamb supply of 242,000 head. Of these, 9,700, or 57 percent, were lost to various non-predator causes, compared to 58 percent in 2012.

These data are based on reports from producers on our annual January Sheep and Goat Survey. We thank all Wyoming ranchers and farmers for their help with this survey. We also thank the Wyoming Business Council, Agribusiness Division who funds this report as part of the annual agreement with our agency to provide statistics for Wyoming agriculture.

If you have any question about this report please call us toll-free at 1-800-892-1660.

Sincerely,

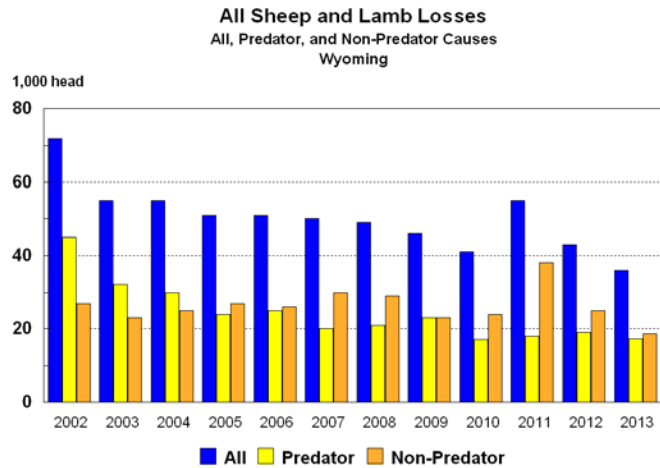
Rhonda Brandt  
State Statistician



## HIGHLIGHTS

Wyoming sheep producers lost 17,300 sheep and lambs to predators in 2013, down 6 percent from 2012. Coyotes were again the biggest predator taking 61 percent of the total predator losses and 29 percent of all losses. Losses to weather, disease, and other non-predator causes decreased by 5,800 head to 18,700.

Sheep producers lost 27,000 lambs before or after docking in 2013, down 6,000 head from 2012. Losses to predators accounted for 53 percent of the total, down 1,500 head from 2012. Losses of lambs to weather, disease, and other non-predator causes were down 4,500 head to 12,600.

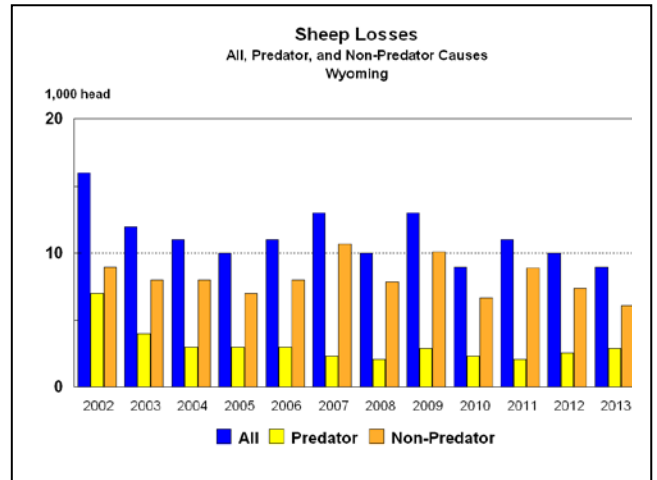


Sheep losses in Wyoming during 2013 totaled 9,000 head, down 1,000 head from 2012. Predator losses were up 300 head at 2,900 and non-predator losses were down 1,300 head to 6,100.

Sheep producers lost an estimated \$5.7 million due to sheep and lamb deaths in 2013, down from \$7.9 million the previous year. Predation accounted for \$2.7 million or 47 percent of the total.

**Losses of Sheep by Cause: Wyoming, 2012 and 2013 1/**

Cause of Loss	2012		2013	
	Head	% of Total 1/	Head	% of Total 1/
Bears	200	2.0	500	5.6
Bobcats	2/	2/	-	-
Coyotes	1,700	17.0	1,800	20.0
Dogs	300	3.0	100	1.1
Mountain Lions	100	1.0	200	2.2
Foxes	2/	2/	-	-
Wolves	100	1.0	200	2.2
Eagles	100	1.0	2/	2/
Ravens	100	1.0	2/	2/
Other/Unknown	2/	2/	100	1.1
<b>Total Predators</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>32.2</b>
Disease	1,000	10.0	400	4.4
Overeating	200	2.0	200	2.2
Weather	1,400	14.0	900	10.0
Lambing Complications	1,400	14.0	1,000	11.1
Old Age	1,900	19.0	900	10.0
On Back	300	3.0	100	1.1
Poisoning	800	8.0	500	5.6
Theft	200	2.0	300	3.3
Other/Unknown	200	2.0	1,800	20.0
<b>Total Non-Predators</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>67.8</b>
<b>Total Loss All Causes</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>



1/ May not add due to rounding.

2/ Less than 50 head; not published due to rounding

**Losses of Lambs by Cause: Wyoming, 2012 and 2013 1/**

Cause of Loss	2012				2013			
	Before Docking	After Docking	Total Head	% of Total 1/	Before Docking	After Docking	Total Head	% of Total 1/
Bears	300	500	800	2.4	100	900	1,000	3.7
Bobcats	100	100	200	0.6	2/	2/	2/	2/
Coyotes	4,800	5,300	10,100	30.6	4,100	4,700	8,800	32.6
Dogs	100	200	300	0.9	2/	100	100	0.4
Mountain Lions	100	500	600	1.8	2/	300	300	1.1
Foxes	700	100	800	2.4	200	2/	200	0.7
Wolves	100	300	400	1.2	-	300	300	1.1
Eagles	1,300	600	1,900	5.8	1,800	500	2,300	8.5
Ravens	500	300	800	2.4	400	2/	400	1.5
Other/Unknown	2/	2/	2/	2/	700	300	1,000	3.7
<b>Total Predators</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>7,300</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>53.3</b>
Disease	900	1,100	2,000	6.1	300	400	700	2.6
Overeating	500	700	1,200	3.6	100	100	200	0.7
Weather	7,500	3,300	10,800	32.7	4,700	900	5,600	20.7
Lambing	1,800	-	1,800	5.5	2,000	-	2,000	7.4
On Back	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	-	2/	2/
Poisoning	100	500	600	1.8	2/	300	300	1.1
Theft	-	200	200	0.6	100	-	100	0.4
Other/Unknown	200	300	500	1.5	2,500	1,200	3,700	13.7
<b>Total Non-Predators</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>17,100</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>12,600</b>	<b>46.7</b>
<b>Total Loss All Causes</b>	<b>19,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>

1/ May not add due to rounding.

2/ Less than 50 head; not published due to rounding.

**Losses of Sheep and Lambs by Cause: Wyoming, 2009-2013 1/, 2/**

Cause of Loss	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	Total Head	% of Total 2/	Total Head	% of Total 2/	Total Head	% of Total 2/	Total Head	% of Total 2/	Total Head	% of Total 2/
Bears	1,600	3.5	300	0.7	1,600	2.9	1,000	2.3	1,500	4.2
Bobcats	200	0.4	100	0.2	4/	4/	200	0.5	4/	4/
Coyotes	15,300	33.4	11,200	27.3	10,900	19.8	11,800	27.4	10,600	29.4
Dogs	600	1.3	300	0.7	600	1.1	600	1.4	200	0.6
Mountain Lions	1,200	2.6	900	2.2	700	1.3	700	1.6	500	1.4
Foxes	1,000	2.2	800	2.0	300	0.5	800	1.9	200	0.6
Wolves	600	1.3	300	0.7	4/	4/	500	1.2	500	1.4
Eagles	1,900	4.1	2,100	5.1	2,900	5.3	2,000	4.7	2,300	6.4
Ravens	3/	3/	800	2.0	500	0.9	900	2.1	400	1.1
Other Predators/Unknown	200	0.4	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	1,100	3.1
<b>Total Predators</b>	<b>22,600</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>18,500</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>17,300</b>	<b>48.1</b>
Disease	2,600	5.7	1,700	4.1	2,600	4.7	3,000	7.0	1,100	3.1
Overeating	300	0.7	900	2.2	800	1.5	1,400	3.3	400	1.1
Weather	12,200	26.6	12,600	30.7	26,800	48.7	12,200	28.4	6,500	18.1
Lambing Complications	3,800	8.3	3,100	7.6	4,200	7.6	3,200	7.4	3,000	8.3
Old Age	1,600	3.5	2,100	5.1	1,500	2.7	1,900	4.4	900	2.5
On Back	400	0.9	500	1.2	200	0.4	300	0.7	100	0.3
Poison	1,300	2.8	2,100	5.1	700	1.3	1,400	3.3	800	2.2
Theft	4/	4/	200	0.5	100	0.2	400	0.9	400	1.1
Other Causes	1,000	2.2	1,000	2.4	600	1.1	700	1.6	5,500	15.3
<b>Total Non-Predators</b>	<b>23,200</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>24,200</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>37,500</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>24,500</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>18,700</b>	<b>51.9</b>
<b>Total Loss All Causes</b>	<b>45,800</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>55,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>

1/ Includes all lamb losses both before and after docking. 2/ May not add due to rounding. 3/ Included in Other Predators prior to 2010.

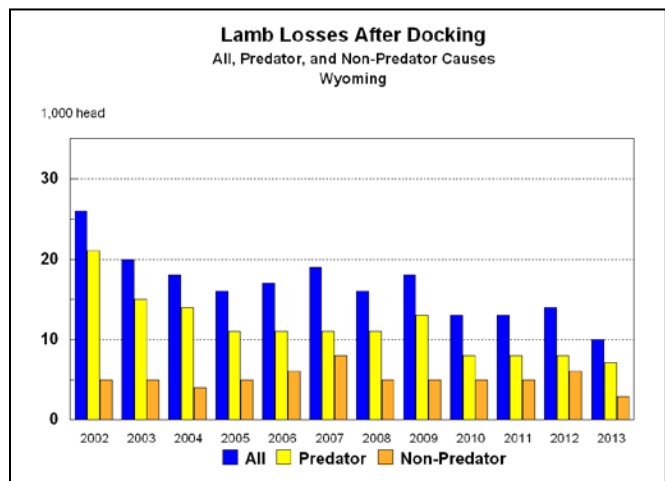
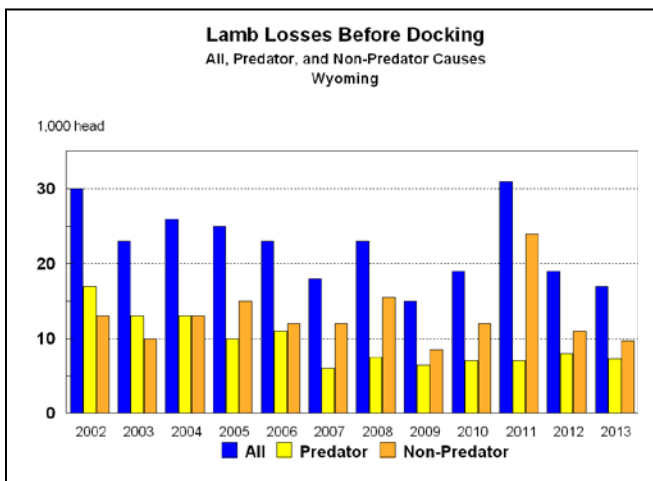
4/ Less than 50 head; not published due to rounding.

**Value of Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Wyoming, 2012 and 2013 1/, 2/**

Cause of Loss	Sheep		Lambs		Sheep & Lambs	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
	Dollars		Dollars		Dollars	
Bears	42,500	92,000	139,600	148,000	182,100	240,000
Bobcats	-	-	34,900	-	34,900	3/
Coyotes	361,300	331,200	1,762,500	1,302,400	2,123,800	1,633,600
Dogs	63,800	18,400	52,400	14,800	116,200	33,200
Mountain Lions	21,300	36,800	104,700	44,400	126,000	81,200
Foxes	-	-	139,600	29,600	139,600	29,600
Wolves	21,300	36,800	69,800	44,400	91,100	81,200
Eagles	21,300	-	331,600	340,400	352,900	340,400
Ravens	21,300	-	139,600	59,200	160,900	59,200
Other Predators/Unknown	3/	18,400	3/	148,000	3/	166,400
<b>Total Predators</b>	<b>552,800</b>	<b>533,600</b>	<b>2,774,700</b>	<b>2,131,200</b>	<b>3,327,500</b>	<b>2,664,800</b>
Disease	212,500	73,600	349,000	103,600	561,500	177,200
Overeating	42,500	36,800	209,400	29,600	251,900	66,400
Weather	297,500	165,600	1,884,600	828,800	2,182,100	994,400
Lambing Complications	297,500	184,000	314,100	296,000	611,600	480,000
Old Age	403,800	165,600	-	-	403,800	165,600
On Back	63,800	18,400	3/	-	63,800	18,400
Poison	170,000	92,000	104,700	44,400	274,700	136,400
Theft	42,500	55,200	34,900	14,800	77,400	70,000
Other Causes/Unknown	42,500	331,200	87,300	547,600	129,800	878,800
<b>Total Non-Predators</b>	<b>1,572,600</b>	<b>1,122,400</b>	<b>2,984,000</b>	<b>1,864,800</b>	<b>4,556,600</b>	<b>2,987,200</b>
<b>Total Loss All Causes</b>	<b>2,125,400</b>	<b>1,656,000</b>	<b>5,758,700</b>	<b>3,996,000</b>	<b>7,884,100</b>	<b>5,652,000</b>

1/ Includes all lamb losses both before and after docking. 2/ Sheep value is based on a two-year average market value. Two-year average market sheep value 2012-\$212.5, 2013-\$184. Lamb value per head is based on a two-year average market value. Two-year average market lamb value 2012-\$174.5, 2013-\$148. 3/ Less than 50

head; not published due to rounding.



**Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Total by Cause within each Agricultural Statistics District, Wyoming 2013 1/**

Cause of Loss	Agricultural Statistics District					State
	North West	North East	West	South Central	South East	
	Head					
Bears	2/	100	1,100	300	-	1,500
Bobcats	-	2/	-	-	2/	2/
Coyotes	1,800	2,600	2,700	1,000	2,500	10,600
Dogs	200	2/	2/	-	2/	200
Mountain Lions	200	300	-	-	2/	500
Foxes	2/	200	2/	2/	2/	200
Wolves	2/	-	500	-	2/	500
Eagles	200	900	2/	2/	1,200	2,300
Ravens	300	2/	2/	100	-	400
Other Predators/Unknown	-	500	2/	400	200	1,100
<b>Total Predators</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>17,300</b>
Disease	300	300	2/	100	400	1,100
Overeating	200	2/	2/	100	100	400
Weather	500	2,600	1,300	200	1,900	6,500
Lambing Complications	500	1,500	200	100	700	3,000
Old Age	300	200	100	100	200	900
On Back	2/	100	2/	-	2/	100
Poison	100	500	2/	100	100	800
Theft	-	-	400	-	-	400
Other Non-Predators/Unknown	2,100	1,600	500	700	600	5,500
<b>Total Non-Predators</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>18,700</b>
<b>Total Loss All Causes</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>36,000</b>

1/ Includes all lambs losses both before and after docking. Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Less than 50 head; not published due to rounding.

**Losses of Sheep and Lambs: Percent by Cause within each Agricultural Statistics District, Wyoming 2013 1/**

Cause of Loss	Agricultural Statistics District					State
	North West	North East	West	South Central	South East	
	Percent					
Bears	2/	0.9	16.2	9.4	-	4.2
Bobcats	-	2/	-	-	2/	2/
Coyotes	26.9	22.8	39.7	31.3	31.6	29.4
Dogs	3.0	2/	2/	-	2/	0.6
Mountain Lions	3.0	2.6	-	-	2/	1.4
Foxes	2/	1.8	2/	2/	2/	0.6
Wolves	2/	-	7.4	-	2/	1.4
Eagles	3.0	7.9	2/	2/	15.2	6.4
Ravens	4.5	2/	2/	3.1	-	1.1
Other Predators/Unknown	-	4.4	2/	12.5	2.5	3.1
<b>Total Predators</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>48.1</b>
Disease	4.5	2.6	2/	3.1	5.1	3.1
Overeating	3.0	2/	2/	3.1	1.3	1.1
Weather	7.5	22.8	19.1	6.3	24.1	18.1
Lambing Complications	7.5	13.2	2.9	3.1	8.9	8.3
Old Age	4.5	1.8	1.5	3.1	2.5	2.5
On Back	2/	0.9	2/	-	2/	0.3
Poison	1.5	4.4	2/	3.1	1.3	2.2
Theft	-	-	5.9	-	-	1.1
All Other Causes/Unknown	31.3	14.0	7.4	21.9	7.6	15.3
<b>Total Non-Predators</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>50.6</b>	<b>51.9</b>
<b>Total Loss All Causes</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

1/ Includes all lambs losses both before and after docking. Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Less than 50 head; not published due to rounding.