

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Japan

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Japan Reopens Market to U.S. Lamb

Report Categories:

Export Accomplishments - Market Access

Livestock and Products

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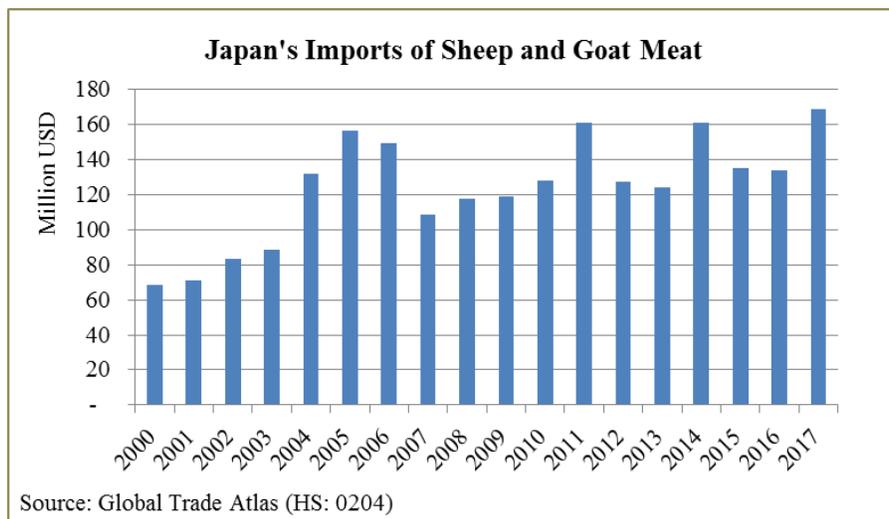
Report Highlights:

Effective July 11, Japan reopened its market to U.S. exports of meat and meat products from sheep (including lamb) and goat for the first time in 14 years. Products eligible for export to Japan must meet the requirements described on the USDA website referenced in this report. Japan's market for imported sheep and goat meat was valued at \$169 million in 2017.

General Information:

On July 11, Japan officially reopened its market to U.S. exports of meat and meat products derived from sheep (including lamb) and goat for the first time in 14 years. Japan had previously prohibited these products following detection of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in the United States in December 2003.

Detailed information on the specific export requirements for Japan may be found in the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) [Export Library](#). As noted on the FSIS website, U.S. exports of sheep and goat meat to Japan must meet the requirements set forth in the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Export Verification Program for ovine and caprine meat and meat products to Japan.



In 2017, Japan imported 22,192 MT of sheep and goat meat from the world valued at \$169 million. Imports came primarily from Oceania, with Australia accounting for 61 percent of Japan’s imports and New Zealand accounting for 36 percent.

In the past 14 years, the value of U.S. exports of sheep and goat meat to the world has more than doubled, growing from \$7 million in 2003 to \$15 million in 2017. In 2003, United States exported 38 MT of sheep and goat meat to Japan valued at \$248,000. Sheep and goat meat exports to Japan are duty free.