



The National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia Inc

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NEWSLETTER

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From the desk of Chris Wilcox, Executive Director

- Australian wool prices ease in A\$, lift in US\$
- Superfine wool prices lift to 80th percentile, broad Crossbred wool prices at 3rd to 6th percentile
- *Trust in Australian Wool* launch on 18th March 2021
- Upcoming industry events



Current superfine wool prices at 80th percentile, broad wool prices near lows

Australian wool prices have lifted from the lows recorded in early September 2020, resulting in an improvement in the historical ranking of current prices. The EMI in A\$ has lifted to the 80th percentile, up from the 64th percentile in October 2020. That is, current prices are higher than 80 percent of prices since 2000. This shows how well the recovery is tracking and that current prices are relatively good, even though they are still well below the heights of 2116 Ac/kg reached in August 2018. In percentile terms, the EMI in US\$ has lifted by more. In October it had fallen to the 47th percentile after peaking at the 100th percentile in August 2018. It is up 76th percentile this week.

The current level is quite remarkable given that economic and retail conditions are still struggling in most of the major wool consuming countries which are battling to bring the latest wave of COVID infections under control. It reflects the hoped-for-improvement as vaccines are rolled out around the world, rather than the current reality.

The changes in the EMI masks some significant differences for the various micron categories. The distributions show that the prices for Merino wool are at the 60th percentile and higher. For fine and superfine wool (as indicated by the 18 micron and 19 micron price guides), prices are now sitting at around the 80% percentile in both A\$ and US\$, while prices for medium Merino wool (as indicated by the 21 micron price guide) are at around the 60th percentile. The picture is very different for Crossbred wool where current prices are at the 55th percentile or even much lower for broad Crossbred wool. The 32 micron price guide is down to the 3rd percentile in A\$ terms and the 6th percentile in US\$, which is an improvement on the 1st percentile levels in October 2020, but still very low historically.

Further details including 16 charts shows the price distribution and the frequencies for the EMI and selected micron price guides in A\$ and US\$ since 2000, are provided in this week's edition of the NCWSBA Weekly Newsletter. Available to NCWSBA Members.

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Women in Wool on-line event, International Women's Day, 5th March 2021. Click [here](#) for details

The state and national committees of the **Australian Wool Production Forecasting Committee** will meet in mid-April 2021.

The **2021 IWTO Congress** will be held as a virtual event on 17th to 21st May 2021 by WebEx.

WOOL SALES WEEK BEGINNING 1st MAR 2021 – week 36 (roster as at 25/2/2021)

<u>Sydney</u>	Tues 2 nd Mar, Wed 3 rd Mar	12,715 bales
<u>Melbourne</u>	Tues 2 nd Mar, Wed 3 rd Mar, Thurs 4 th Mar	27,852 bales
<u>Fremantle</u>	Tues 2 nd Mar, Wed 3 rd Mar	9,968 bales

Information in the Weekly Newsletter is intended to provide general information only and is not intended to constitute advice for a specific purpose.