

Cattle



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released July 22, 1994, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Inventory estimates refer to July 1, 1994. Calf Crop estimates are for the 1994 year.

July 1 Cattle Inventory Up 2 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 1994, totaled 112.5 million head, up 2 percent from July 1, 1993, and up 3 percent from the 109.2 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 45.9 million, were up 2 percent from a year ago and 3 percent above two years ago.

- Beef cows, at 36.3 million, were 3 percent above July 1, 1993, and 5 percent above July 1, 1992.
- Milk cows, at 9.60 million, were 2 percent below July 1, 1993, and 3 percent below two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 1994, and the changes from July 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 17.3 million, up 1 percent and up 2 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 6.00 million, up 3 percent and up 5 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 4.10 million, unchanged and down 2 percent.
- Other heifers, 7.20 million, down 1 percent but up 1 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 15.4 million, up 1 percent and up 2 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.30 million, up 5 percent from the previous two years.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 31.6 million, up 3 percent and up 4 percent.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, were 10.5 million head. This is the first July 1 U.S. cattle on feed estimate.

For information call Glenda Shepler at (202) 720-3040. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Calf Crop Up 2 Percent

The 1994 calf crop is expected to be 40.6 million, up 2 percent from 1993 and 3 percent above 1992. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 29.7 million, up 3 percent from both 1993 and 1992.

This report was approved on July 22, 1994, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.



Secretary of
Agriculture
Mike Espy



Agricultural Statistics Board
Acting Chairperson
William L. Pratt

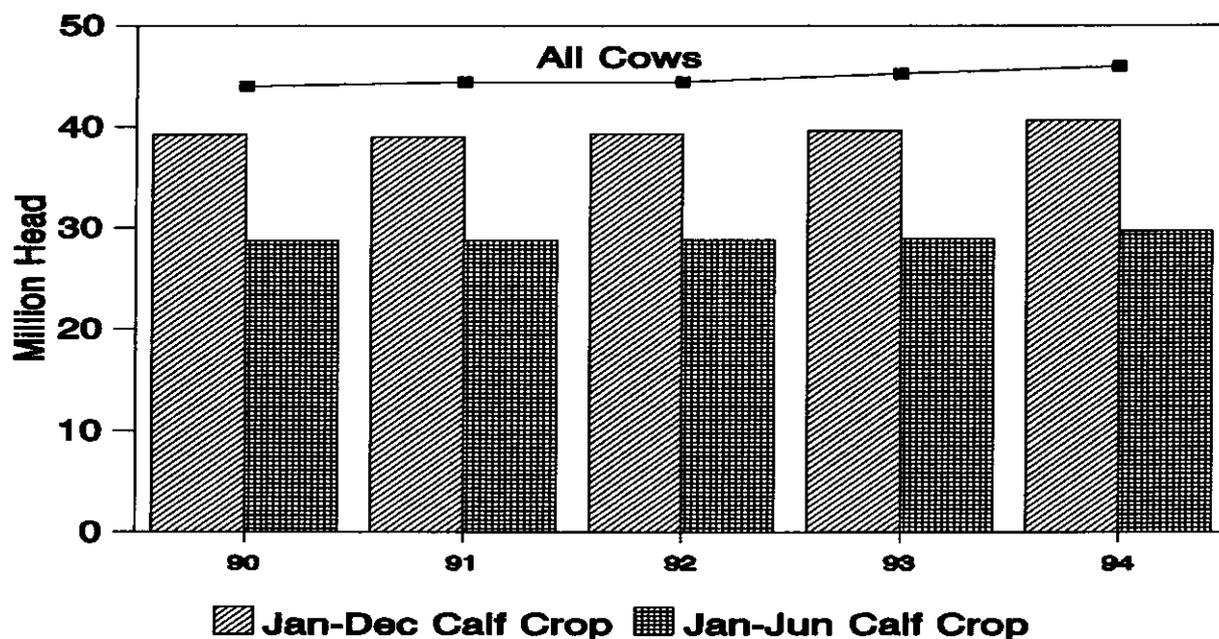
Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop,
United States, July 1, 1992-94

Class	1992	1993	1994	1994 as % of 1993
	1,000 Head			Percent
Cattle and Calves	109,200	110,600	112,500	102
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	44,400	45,200	45,900	102
Beef Cows	34,550	35,400	36,300	103
Milk Cows	9,850	9,800	9,600	98
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	17,000	17,200	17,300	101
For Beef Cow Replacement	5,700	5,800	6,000	103
For Milk Cow Replacement	4,200	4,100	4,100	100
Other Heifers	7,100	7,300	7,200	99
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	15,100	15,200	15,400	101
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	2,200	2,200	2,300	105
Calves Under 500 Pounds	30,500	30,800	31,600	103
Calf Crop	39,290	39,640	40,600	102
Cattle on Feed			10,500	

Calf Crop: Number and Percent of Total by Six-Month Period,
United States, 1992-93 and Preliminary Calf Crop, 1994

Period	1992		1993		1994	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
	1,000 Hd	Percent	1,000 Hd	Percent	1,000 Hd	Percent
Jan 1 - Jun 30	28,800	73.3	28,900	72.9	29,700	73.2
Jul 1 - Dec 31	10,490	26.7	10,740	27.1	10,900	26.8
Total	39,290	100.0	39,640	100.0	40,600	100.0

All Cows and Calf Crop United States, July 1



Cattle and Calves: Balance Sheet, United States,
January 1 - June 30, 1992-94 1/

Item	1992	1993	1994
	Million Head		
January 1 Inventory	99.6	100.6	101.7
Calf Crop and Imports	29.9	30.2	30.8
Total Supply <u>2/</u>	129.4	130.8	132.6
Slaughter	17.1	17.1	17.5
Deaths and Exports	2.7	2.9	2.5
Total Disappearance <u>2/</u>	19.8	20.0	20.0
Residual <u>2/</u>	-.4	-.2	-.1
July 1 Inventory	109.2	110.6	112.5

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

Reliability of July 1 Cattle and Calves Estimates

Survey Procedures: A random sample of U.S. producers was surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all cattle producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Data were collected during the first half of June from about 50,000 small and medium sized operations. These operators were contacted by face-to-face personal interviews. About 13,000 large producers and feedlots were contacted during the first half of July by mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interviews. Operators were asked to report inventories as of the first of the month and calf crop for the entire year of 1994.

Estimating Procedures: These cattle estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing National and State indications and analysis. National and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous year using a balance sheet. The balance sheet begins with the previous inventory estimate, adds to it estimates of births and imports for the first six months, and subtracts estimates of slaughter, exports, and deaths for the first six months of the current year. This indicated ending inventory level is compared to the Agricultural Statistics Board estimate for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year to year and item to item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made and when the January 1 cattle inventory estimates are made. The reviews are primarily based on livestock slaughter and additional foreign trade and survey data. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the Department of Commerce's five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Since all cattle operators are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of estimates in this report, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown for selected items in the table below. The "**Root Mean Square Error**" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and latest estimates. The "**Root Mean Square Error**" for cattle inventory estimates over the past 15 years is 0.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 112.5 million head by more than 0.5 percent, or about 563,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 percent, or about 1,125,000 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

The table below also shows a 15 year record of the range of differences between first and latest estimates for selected items. Using estimates of all cattle and calves as an example, changes between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate during the past 15 years have averaged 262,000 head, ranging from 0 to 1,500,000 head. During this period, the initial inventory estimate has been below the latest estimate 2 times, above the latest estimate 7 times, and unchanged 6 times. This does not imply that the July 1 estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

Reliability of July 1 Cattle Estimates ^{1/}

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level	Percent	Head	Difference Between First and Latest Estimates		Number of Years	
					Average	Smallest: Largest	Above Latest	Below Latest
All Cattle	0.5	1.0	1,125	262	0	1,500	7	2
All Cows	0.5	0.9	413	67	0	450	7	3
Calf Crop	1.7	2.9	1,177	367	50	1,082	12	3

^{1/} Based on July 1 data for the past 15 years.

