

Cattle



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Washington, D.C.

Released July 21, 1995, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Inventory estimates refer to July 1, 1995. Calf Crop estimates are for the 1995 year.

July 1 Cattle Inventory Up 2 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 1995, totaled 114.3 million head, up 2 percent from July 1, 1994, and up 5 percent from the 109.0 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 46.7 million, were up 2 percent from a year ago and 5 percent above two years ago.

- Beef cows, at 37.2 million, were 3 percent above July 1, 1994, and 7 percent above July 1, 1993.
- Milk cows, at 9.5 million, were 1 percent below July 1, 1994, and 2 percent below two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 1995, and the changes from July 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 17.4 million, up 2 percent from both years.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.7 million, down 3 percent and no change.
- Milk replacement heifers, 3.9 million, down 2 percent from both years.
- Other heifers, 7.8 million, up 8 percent and up 7 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 15.3 million, unchanged and up 3 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.4 million, up 4 percent and up 9 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 32.5 million, up 3 percent and up 7 percent.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 11.0 million, up 5 percent from a year ago.

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

Calf Crop Up 2 Percent

The 1995 calf crop is expected to be 41.5 million, up 2 percent from 1994 and 5 percent above 1993. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 30.4 million, up 2 percent from 1994 and up 6 percent from 1993.

This report was approved on July 21, 1995, by the Acting Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Richard E. Rominger



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

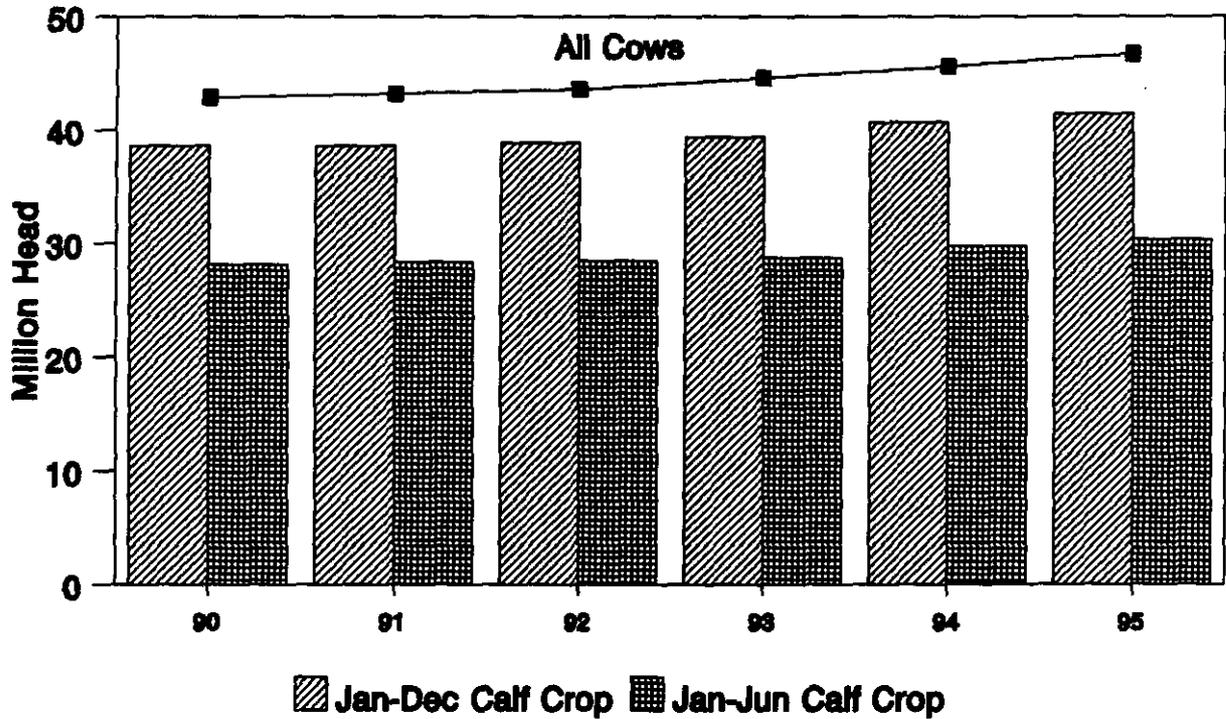
Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop.
United States, July 1, 1993-95

Class	1993	1994	1995	1995 as % of 1994
	1,000 Head			Percent
Cattle and Calves	109.000	111.800	114,300	102
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	44.600	45.600	46.700	102
Beef Cows	34.900	36.000	37.200	103
Milk Cows	9.700	9.600	9,500	99
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	17.000	17.100	17,400	102
For Beef Cow Replacement	5.700	5.900	5,700	97
For Milk Cow Replacement	4.000	4.000	3,900	98
Other Heifers	7.300	7.200	7,800	108
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	14.900	15.300	15,300	100
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	2.200	2.300	2,400	104
Calves Under 500 Pounds	30.300	31.500	32,500	103
Calf Crop	39.448	40.729	41,500	102
Cattle on Feed		10.500	11,000	105

Calf Crop: Number and Percent of Total by Six-Month Period.
United States, 1993-94 and Preliminary Calf Crop, 1995

Period	1993		1994		1995	
	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	73.0	29.800	73.2	30,400	73.3
Jul 1 - Dec 31	10.648	27.0	10.929	26.8	11,100	26.7
Total	39.448	100.0	40.729	100.0	41,500	100.0

All Cows and Calf Crop United States, July 1



Cattle and Calves: Balance Sheet, United States.
January 1 - June 30, 1993-95 1/

Item	1993	1994	1995
	Million Head		
January 1 Inventory	99.2	101.0	103.3
Calf Crop and Imports	30.1	30.9	32.1
Total Supply 2/	129.3	131.9	135.4
Slaughter	17.1	17.5	18.2
Deaths and Exports	2.7	2.5	2.6
Total Disappearance 2/	19.8	20.0	20.8
Residual 2/	-.5	-.1	-.3
July 1 Inventory	109.0	111.8	114.3

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 8,500 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 1995.

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 0.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 114.3 million head by more than 0.6 percent, or about 686,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 percent, or about 1,143,000 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 305,000 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 1/2/

Item	Root Mean Square Error	Confidence Level	Percent	Head	Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Years	
					Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
All Cattle	0.6	1.0	1,143	305	0	1500	7	2	
All Cows	0.5	1.0	467	92	0	450	8	2	
Calf Crop	1.6	2.8	1,162	281	50	1082	11	4	

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

2/ Data in the above table do not reflect the 1-3 percent changes made during the 1989-93 historic revision period. The root mean square error's would be about 1 percent higher if these were included.

