



# Cattle

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## July 1 Cattle Inventory Down 1 Percent

**All cattle and calves** in the United States as of July 1, 2002, totaled 105.2 million head, 1 percent below the 105.8 million on July 1, 2001 and 1 percent below the 106.3 million two years ago.

**All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.9 million, were slightly below the 43.0 million on July 1, 2001 and 1 percent below the 43.2 million two years ago.

- **Beef cows**, at 33.8 million, were down slightly from July 1, 2001 and 1 percent below two years ago.
- **Milk cows**, at 9.15 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2001 but were down 1 percent from two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2002 and the changes from July 1, 2001, are as follows:

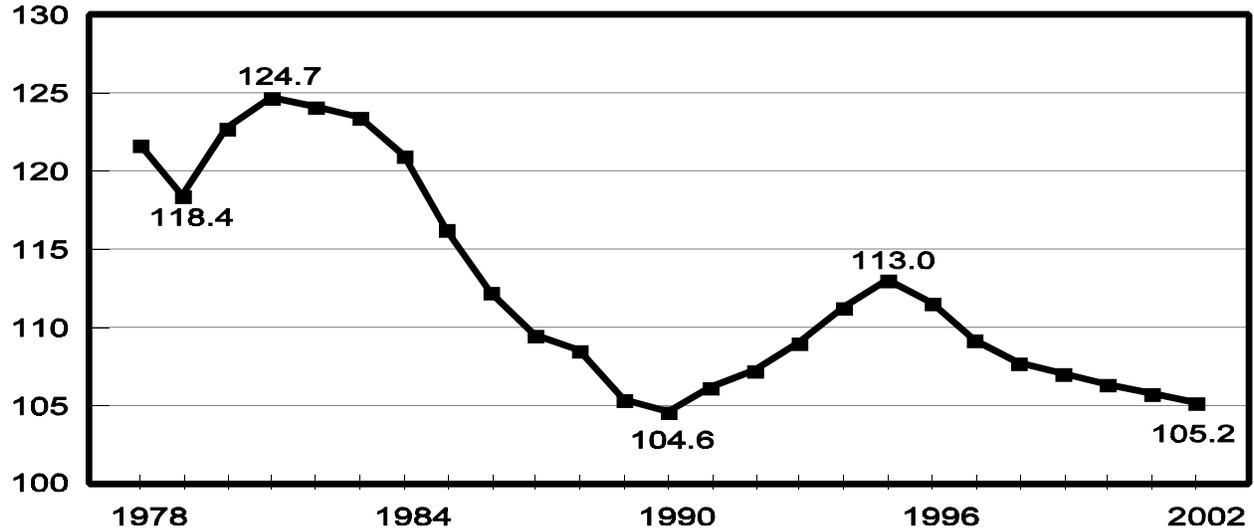
- **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, 16.2 million, down 1 percent.
- **Beef replacement heifers**, 4.6 million, unchanged.
- **Milk replacement heifers**, 3.7 million, up 3 percent.
- **Other heifers**, 7.9 million, down 4 percent.
- **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.5 million, down 1 percent.
- **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- **Calves under 500 pounds**, 29.5 million, down 1 percent.
- **All cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter, 12.4 million, down 5 percent.

## Calf Crop Up Slightly

The 2002 calf crop is expected to be 38.4 million, up slightly from 2001 but down 1 percent from 2000. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 28.0 million, down slightly from 2001 and down 1 percent from 2000.

## United States Cattle Inventory July 1, 1978 - 2002

Million Head



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This report was approved on July 19, 2002.

Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Keith J. Collins

Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Frederic A. Vogel

**Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop,  
United States, July 1, 2000-2002**

Class	2000	2001	2002	2002 as % of 2001
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle and Calves	106,300	105,800	105,200	99
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	43,200	43,000	42,900	100
Beef Cows	33,950	33,900	33,750	100
Milk Cows	9,250	9,100	9,150	101
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	16,500	16,400	16,200	99
For Beef Cow Replacement	4,700	4,600	4,600	100
For Milk Cow Replacement	3,700	3,600	3,700	103
Other Heifers	8,100	8,200	7,900	96
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	14,300	14,600	14,500	99
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	2,100	2,100	2,100	100
Calves Under 500 Pounds	30,200	29,700	29,500	99
Calf Crop	38,631	38,280	38,400	100
Cattle on Feed	12,300	13,000	12,400	95

**Calf Crop: Number and Percent of Total by Six-Month Period,  
United States, 2000-2001 and Preliminary Calf Crop, 2002**

Period	2000		2001		2002	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan 1 - Jun 30	28,400	73.5	28,100	73.4	28,000	72.9
Jul 1 - Dec 31	10,231	26.5	10,180	26.6	10,400	27.1
Total	38,631	100.0	38,280	100.0	38,400	100.0

**Cattle and Calves: Balance Sheet, United States,  
January 1 - June 30, 2000-2002 <sup>1</sup>**

Item	2000	2001	2002
	<i>Million Head</i>	<i>Million Head</i>	<i>Million Head</i>
January 1 Inventory	98.2	97.3	96.7
Calf Crop and Imports	29.5	29.4	29.3
Total Supply <sup>2</sup>	127.7	126.7	126.0
Slaughter	18.9	18.1	18.1
Deaths and Exports	2.6	2.7	2.5
Total Disappearance <sup>2</sup>	21.5	20.8	20.7
Residual <sup>2</sup>	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
July 1 Inventory	106.3	105.8	105.2

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, State, and United States,  
July 1, 2001-2002**

State	All Cattle and Calves			All Cows That Have Calved		
	2001	2002	2002 as % of 2001	2001	2002	2002 as % of 2001
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	5,200	5,200	100	2,360	2,400	102
CO	3,300	3,100	94	930	880	95
IA	3,850	4,000	104	1,220	1,240	102
KS	6,900	6,550	95	1,730	1,650	95
MO	4,650	4,650	100	2,200	2,180	99
MT	3,500	3,350	96	1,570	1,480	94
NE	7,250	7,050	97	2,100	2,030	97
OK	5,400	5,600	104	2,050	2,100	102
SD	5,100	5,000	98	2,050	2,020	99
TX	15,000	15,000	100	6,000	6,100	102
WI	3,600	3,550	99	1,540	1,520	99
Oth Sts	42,050	42,150	100	19,250	19,300	100
US	105,800	105,200	99	43,000	42,900	100
	<b>Beef Cows That Have Calved</b>			<b>Milk Cows That Have Calved</b>		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	770	750	97	1,590	1,650	104
CO	838	776	93	92	104	113
IA	1,010	1,030	102	210	210	100
KS	1,640	1,547	94	90	103	114
MO	2,053	2,043	100	147	137	93
MT	1,551	1,462	94	19	18	95
NE	2,029	1,963	97	71	67	94
OK	1,961	2,012	103	89	88	99
SD	1,951	1,923	99	99	97	98
TX	5,675	5,795	102	325	305	94
WI	250	250	100	1,290	1,270	98
Oth Sts	14,172	14,199	100	5,078	5,101	100
US	33,900	33,750	100	9,100	9,150	101

**Calf Crop: Number by State and United States, 2001-2002**

State	2001	2002 <sup>1</sup>	2002 as % 2001
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	1,990	2,040	103
CO	840	830	99
IA	1,120	1,140	102
KS	1,480	1,400	95
MO	2,060	2,030	99
MT	1,550	1,490	96
NE	1,820	1,760	97
OK	1,890	1,910	101
SD	1,850	1,900	103
TX	5,050	5,200	103
WI	1,360	1,350	99
Oth Sts	17,270	17,350	100
US	38,280	38,400	100

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary.

## 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 40,000 small and medium sized operations. These operators were contacted by face-to-face personal interviews. About 9,700 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 2002.

**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 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 following table. 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 20 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 105.2 million head by more than 0.5 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.9 percent.

The table below also shows a 20 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 20 years have averaged 417,000 head, ranging from 0 to 1,300,000 head. During this period the initial inventory estimate has been below the latest estimate 5 times, above the latest estimate 10 times, and unchanged 5 times. This does not imply that the July 1 estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

**Reliability of July 1 Cattle Estimates <sup>1 2</sup>**

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90 Percent Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Years	
		Percent	Head	Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
All Cattle	0.5	0.9	967	417	0	1,300	10	5
All Cows	0.9	1.5	651	243	0	1,100	8	6
Calf Crop	1.7	3.0	1,135	592	23	1,236	14	6

<sup>1</sup> Based on data from July 1982 through July 2001.

<sup>2</sup> 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 percentage point higher if these were included.

The next "Cattle" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on January 31, 2003.

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