



Cattle on Feed

ISSN: 1948-9080

Released August 25, 2017, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

United States Cattle on Feed Up 4 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on August 1, 2017. The inventory was 4 percent above August 1, 2016.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.62 million head, 3 percent above 2016. Net placements were 1.57 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 360,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 235,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 385,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 370,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 190,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 75,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.78 million head, 4 percent above 2016.

Other disappearance totaled 48,000 head during July, 4 percent below 2016.

Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: August 1, 2016 and 2017

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2016	2017	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed July 1	10,356	10,821	104
Placed on feed during July	1,572	1,615	103
Fed cattle marketed during July	1,713	1,784	104
Other disappearance during July	50	48	96
On feed August 1	10,165	10,604	104

Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: July 1, 2016 and 2017

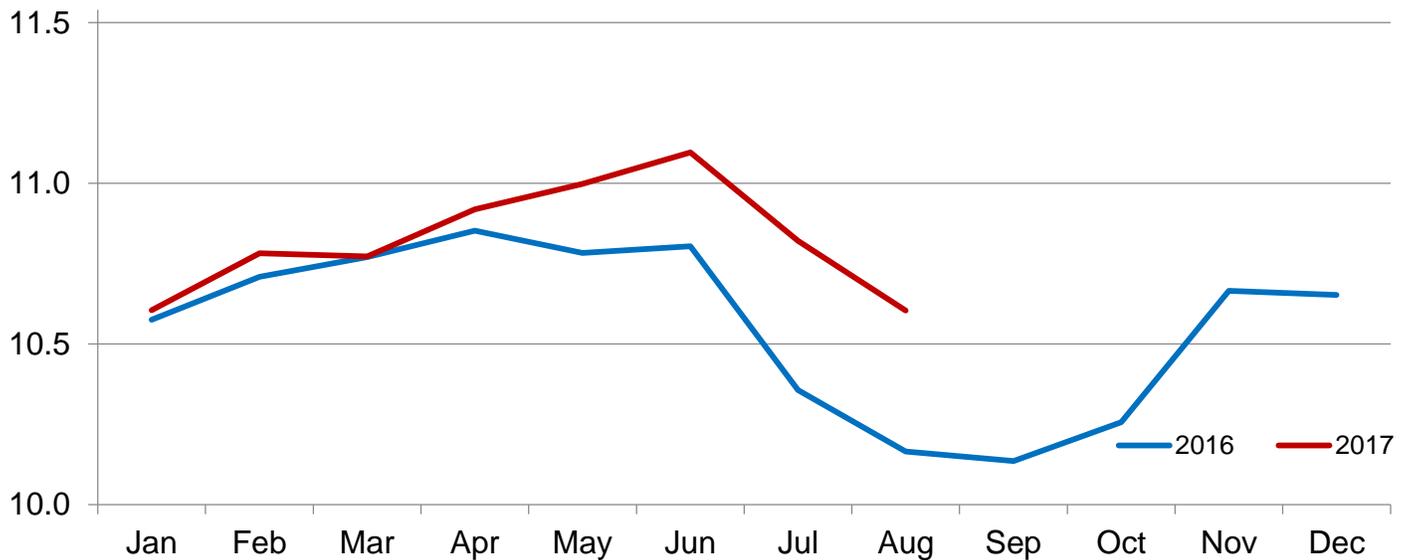
Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2016	2017	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed June 1	10,804	11,096	103
Placed on feed during June	1,525	1,770	116
Fed cattle marketed during June	1,912	1,989	104
Other disappearance during June	61	56	92
On feed July 1	10,356	10,821	104

Number of Cattle on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2016 and 2017

State	August 1, 2016	July 1, 2017	August 1, 2017		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	282	246	244	87	99
California	410	440	430	105	98
Colorado	810	930	880	109	95
Idaho	230	260	250	109	96
Iowa	600	670	650	108	97
Kansas	2,110	2,190	2,180	103	100
Minnesota	133	140	130	98	93
Nebraska	2,090	2,230	2,160	103	97
Oklahoma	300	325	315	105	97
South Dakota	220	225	220	100	98
Texas	2,520	2,670	2,650	105	99
Washington	190	205	205	108	100
Other States	270	290	290	107	100
United States	10,165	10,821	10,604	104	98

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

Million head

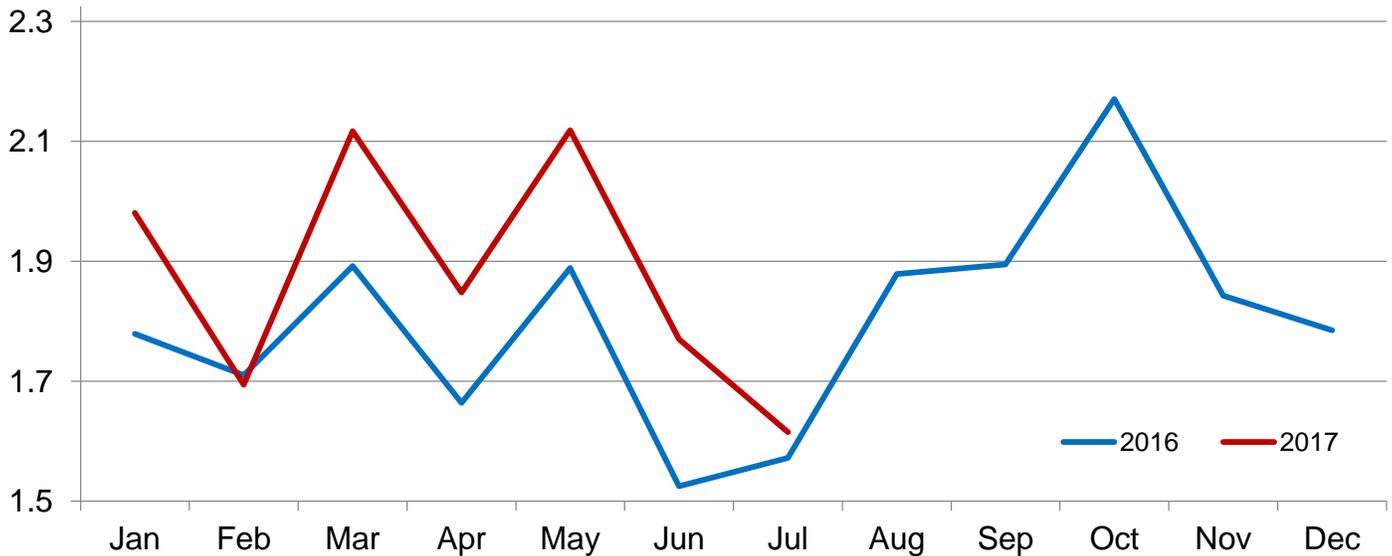


Number of Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2016 and 2017

State	During July 2016	During June 2017	During July 2017		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	20	22	18	90	82
California	35	56	34	97	61
Colorado	115	125	115	100	92
Idaho	34	35	35	103	100
Iowa	68	72	60	88	83
Kansas	445	395	430	97	109
Minnesota	9	15	15	167	100
Nebraska	350	425	385	110	91
Oklahoma	36	51	41	114	80
South Dakota	18	40	26	144	65
Texas	380	450	380	100	84
Washington	30	40	39	130	98
Other States	32	44	37	116	84
United States	1,572	1,770	1,615	103	91

Number of Cattle Placed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

Million head



Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2016 and 2017

State	During July 2016							Total
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	25	15	30	25	20	(D)	(D)	115
Kansas	65	75	130	120	55	(D)	(D)	445
Nebraska	30	35	70	95	120	(D)	(D)	350
Texas	155	80	75	45	25	(D)	(D)	380
Other States ...	77	30	55	70	50	(D)	(D)	282
United States ..	352	235	360	355	(X)	185	85	1,572

State	During June 2017							Total
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	25	25	35	20	20	(D)	(D)	125
Kansas	65	80	110	95	45	(D)	(D)	395
Nebraska	35	55	105	110	120	(D)	(D)	425
Texas	155	105	105	65	20	(D)	(D)	450
Other States ...	95	50	75	95	60	(D)	(D)	375
United States ..	375	315	430	385	(X)	170	95	1,770

State	During July 2017							Total
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	25	15	25	30	20	(D)	(D)	115
Kansas	60	75	130	110	55	(D)	(D)	430
Nebraska	40	35	85	110	115	(D)	(D)	385
Texas	155	80	80	45	20	(D)	(D)	380
Other States ...	80	30	65	75	55	(D)	(D)	305
United States ..	360	235	385	370	(X)	190	75	1,615

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

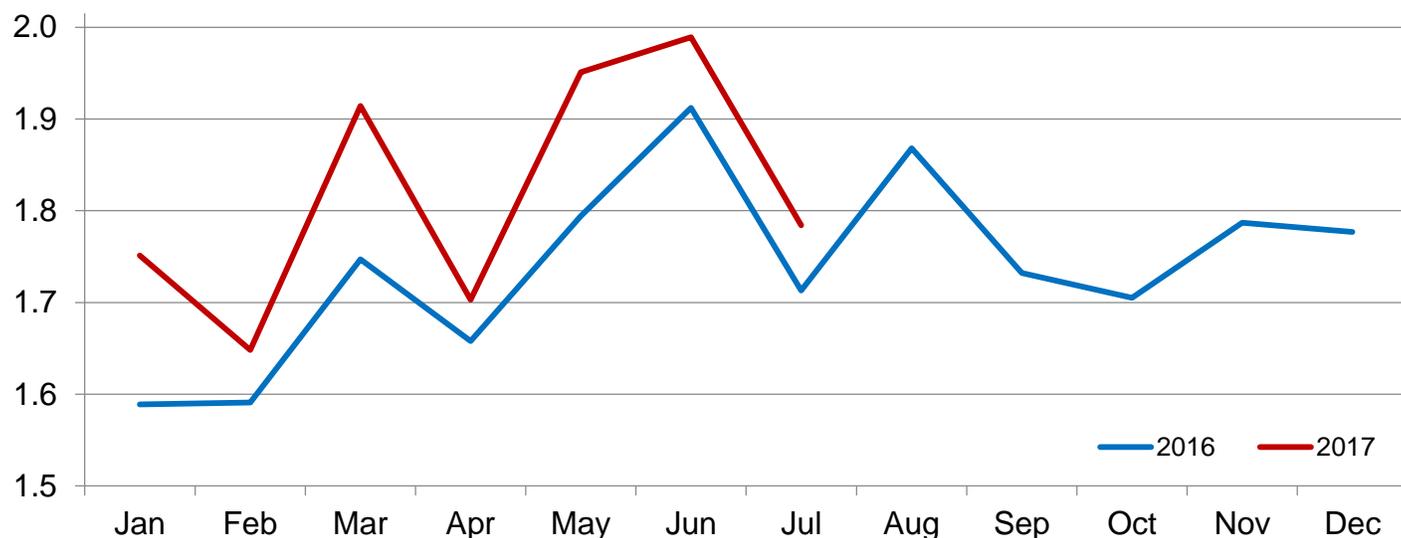
¹ The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2016 and 2017

State	During July 2016	During June 2017	During July 2017		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
			(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	22	21	19	86	90
California	45	52	41	91	79
Colorado	150	160	160	107	100
Idaho	38	43	43	113	100
Iowa	76	80	79	104	99
Kansas	375	465	430	115	92
Minnesota	20	19	24	120	126
Nebraska	430	530	445	103	84
Oklahoma	45	55	50	111	91
South Dakota	32	53	29	91	55
Texas	400	420	390	98	93
Washington	34	39	38	112	97
Other States	46	52	36	78	69
United States	1,713	1,989	1,784	104	90

Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

Million head



Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2016 and 2017

State	During July 2016 (1,000 head)	During June 2017 (1,000 head)	During July 2017		
			Number (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	2	1	1	50	100
California	5	4	3	60	75
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	2	2	200	100
Iowa	2	2	1	50	50
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	10	15	10	100	67
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	1	2	2	200	100
Texas	10	10	10	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	1	2	1	100	50
United States	50	56	48	96	86

Terms and Definitions of Cattle on Feed Estimates

Cattle on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot.

Placements are steers and heifers put into a feedlot, fed a ration which will produce a carcass that will grade select or better, and are intended for the slaughter market.

Marketings are steers and heifers shipped out of feedlots to a slaughter market.

Other disappearance includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: During January and July all known feedlots in the United States with capacity of 1,000 or more head are surveyed to provide data for cattle on feed estimates. During the other months, all known feedlots from 16 States are surveyed. The 16 States account for approximately 98 percent of the cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head. Individual State estimates are published monthly for 12 of the 16 States. Data collected from the remaining 4 States are used to establish the "Other States" estimates. These 4 States include Illinois, New Mexico, Oregon, and Wyoming. The "Other States" category represents all cattle on feed with a capacity of 1,000 or more head for the rest of the United States.

Estimating Procedures: These cattle on feed estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by Regional Field Offices. Regional and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous month when establishing the current estimates.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve month to month relationships. Estimates for the previous month are subject to revision in all States each month when current estimates are made. In February, all monthly estimates for the previous year, and the number of feedlots and annual marketings from two years ago are reviewed and subject to revisions. The reviews are primarily based on slaughter data, state check-off or brand data, and any other data that may have been received after the original estimate was made. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the *Census of Agriculture* are available. No revisions will be made after that date and estimates become final.

Reliability: Since all 1,000+ capacity cattle on feed operators in every State are not included in the monthly survey, 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 on the following page. 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 on feed inventory estimates over the past 24 months is 0.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 10.6 million head by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.1 percent.

The table on the following page shows a 24 month record of the range of differences between first and latest estimates for selected items. Using estimates of number on feed as an example, changes between the first estimate and the latest estimate during the past 24 months have averaged 3,000 head, ranging from 0 to 15,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 1 time and has been below the latest estimate 6 times. This does not imply that the initial estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

Reliability of Monthly Cattle on Feed Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Number on feed	0.1	0.1	3	0	15	6	1
Placements	0.2	0.4	2	0	15	6	2
Marketings	0.1	0.2	0	0	10	0	1

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

Vacant, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 720-3240
David Colwell – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-8784
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Michael Klamm – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106

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- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting Tuesday, October 24, 2017

**Embassy Suites Hotel Kansas City Plaza
220 West 43rd Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-756-1720**

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2017 Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php) or contact Zisa Lubarov-Walton (NASS) at 202-720-8141 or at zisa.lubarov-walton@nass.usda.gov.

The Data Users' Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, October 25, 2017. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss developments and trends. For registration details or additional information about the Industry Outlook Conference, see the conference page on the LMIC website (<http://lmic.info/page/meetings>) or contact James Robb at (303) 716-9933.