



Cattle on Feed

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United States Cattle on Feed Down 3 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 11.6 million head on May 1, 2023. The inventory was 3 percent below May 1, 2022.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.75 million head, 4 percent below 2022. Net placements were 1.70 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 360,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 245,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 410,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 458,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 205,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 70,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.70 million head, 10 percent below 2022.

Other disappearance totaled 51,000 head during April, 6 percent below 2022.

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: May 1, 2022 and 2023

Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed April 1	12,145	11,612	96
Placed on feed during April	1,824	1,748	96
Fed cattle marketed during April	1,893	1,701	90
Other disappearance during April	54	51	94
On feed May 1	12,022	11,608	97

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: April 1, 2022 and 2023

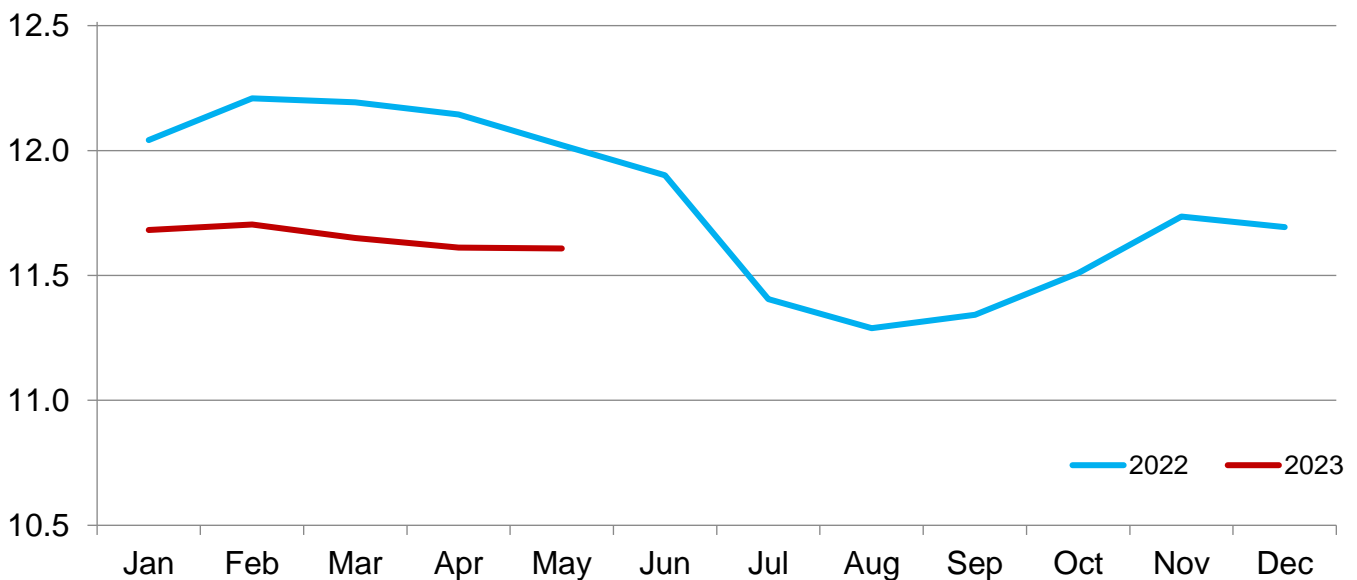
Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed March 1	12,193	11,650	96
Placed on feed during March	2,005	1,992	99
Fed cattle marketed during March	2,000	1,977	99
Other disappearance during March	53	53	100
On feed April 1	12,145	11,612	96

**Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States:
2022 and 2023**

State	May 1, 2022	April 1, 2023	May 1, 2023		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	287	257	258	90	100
California	570	525	535	94	102
Colorado	1,090	980	980	90	100
Idaho	300	320	315	105	98
Iowa	620	620	630	102	102
Kansas	2,480	2,430	2,440	98	100
Minnesota	100	95	100	100	105
Nebraska	2,650	2,530	2,530	95	100
Oklahoma	275	260	250	91	96
South Dakota	220	220	220	100	100
Texas	2,900	2,810	2,790	96	99
Washington	235	255	255	109	100
Other States	295	310	305	103	98
United States	12,022	11,612	11,608	97	100

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

Million head

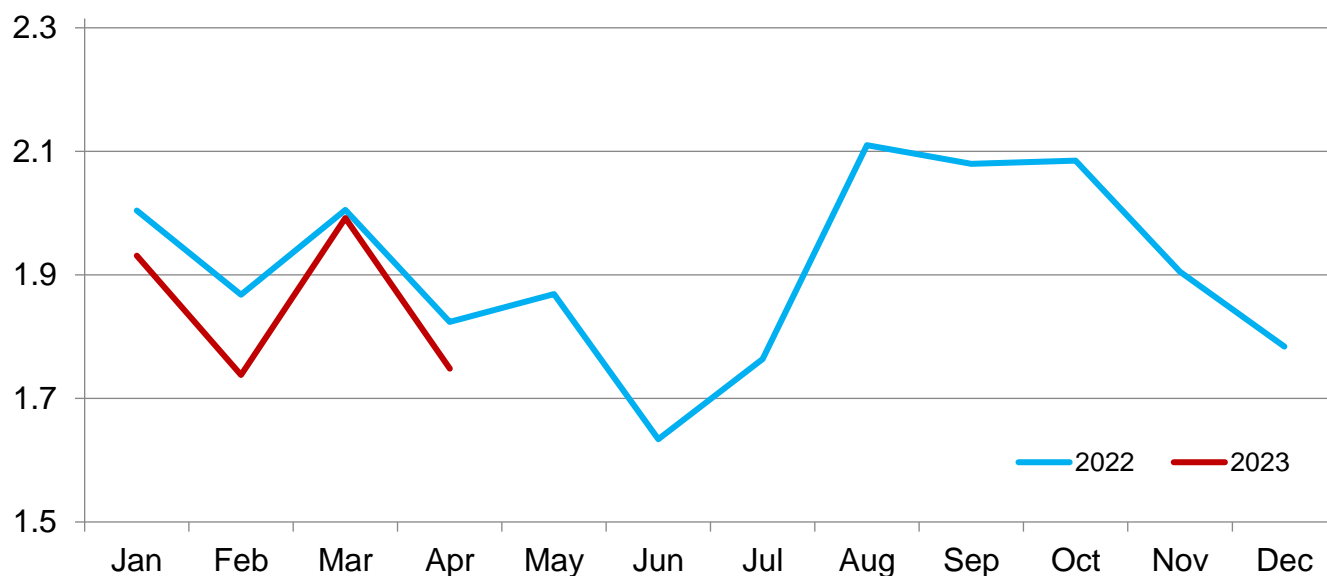


Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During April 2022	During March 2023	During April 2023		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	29	28	27	93	96
California	74	73	69	93	95
Colorado	165	160	145	88	91
Idaho	35	37	37	106	100
Iowa	94	109	91	97	83
Kansas	430	460	420	98	91
Minnesota	14	15	17	121	113
Nebraska	440	475	420	95	88
Oklahoma	42	43	45	107	105
South Dakota	27	44	31	115	70
Texas	395	455	370	94	81
Washington	41	40	37	90	93
Other States	38	53	39	103	74
United States	1,824	1,992	1,748	96	88

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

Million head



Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots and Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During April 2022							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(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	30	30	35	40	30	(D)	(D)	165
Kansas	45	60	125	135	65	(D)	(D)	430
Nebraska	30	50	95	155	110	(D)	(D)	440
Texas	140	80	85	65	25	(D)	(D)	395
Other States ...	120	50	75	99	50	(D)	(D)	394
United States ..	365	270	415	494	(X)	210	70	1,824

State	During March 2023							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(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	30	25	40	45	20	(D)	(D)	160
Kansas	50	70	150	135	55	(D)	(D)	460
Nebraska	30	65	135	150	95	(D)	(D)	475
Texas	160	95	105	75	20	(D)	(D)	455
Other States ...	120	60	110	112	40	(D)	(D)	442
United States ..	390	315	540	517	(X)	170	60	1,992

State	During April 2023							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(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	35	25	(D)	(D)	145
Kansas	45	60	125	125	65	(D)	(D)	420
Nebraska	30	45	95	140	110	(D)	(D)	420
Texas	140	65	80	60	25	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	120	50	75	98	50	(D)	(D)	393
United States ..	360	245	410	458	(X)	205	70	1,748

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

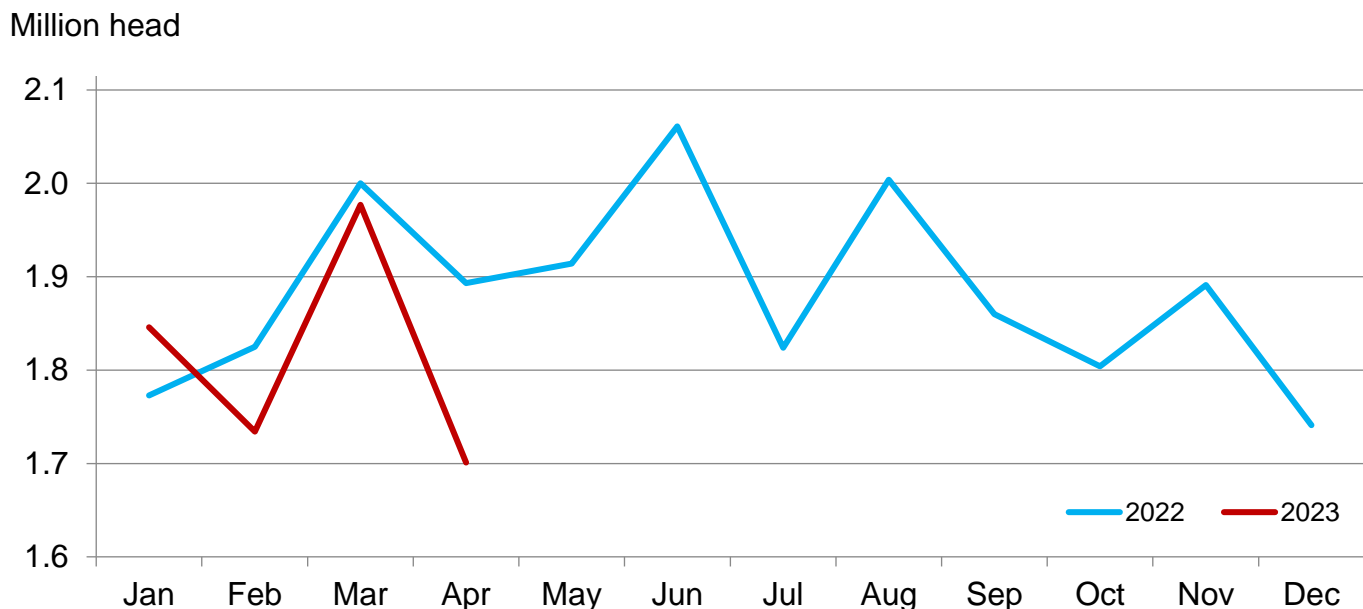
(X) Not applicable.

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

Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During April 2022	During March 2023	During April 2023		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	26	30	25	96	83
California	63	61	53	84	87
Colorado	170	185	140	82	76
Idaho	38	41	41	108	100
Iowa	92	107	79	86	74
Kansas	450	480	400	89	83
Minnesota	13	14	11	85	79
Nebraska	440	465	410	93	88
Oklahoma	56	52	54	96	104
South Dakota	35	37	30	86	81
Texas	435	415	380	87	92
Washington	30	39	36	120	92
Other States	45	51	42	93	82
United States	1,893	1,977	1,701	90	86

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



Cattle Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During April 2022	During March 2023	During April 2023		
			Other disappearance	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	6	7	6	100	86
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	2	1	1	50	100
Iowa	2	2	2	100	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	10	10	10	100	100
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	2	2	1	50	50
Texas	10	10	10	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	3	2	2	67	100
United States	54	53	51	94	96

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 0.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.6 million head by more than 0.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.5 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 22,000 head, ranging from 0 to 65,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 0 times and has been below the latest estimate 16 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)
On feed	0.3	0.5	22	0	65	16	0
Placements	0.5	0.9	6	0	23	9	11
Marketings	0.1	0.1	1	0	4	2	9

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@usda.gov.

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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@usda.gov.

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