



# Cattle on Feed

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## United States Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on August 1, 2024. The inventory was slightly above August 1, 2023.

**Placements** in feedlots during July totaled 1.70 million head, 6 percent above 2023. Net placements were 1.65 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 390,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 265,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 385,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 387,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 200,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 75,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during July totaled 1.86 million head, 8 percent above 2023.

**Other disappearance** totaled 56,000 head during July, 14 percent below 2023.

**Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: August 1, 2023 and 2024**

Item	2023	2024	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed July 1 .....	11,243	11,304	101
Placed on feed during July .....	1,608	1,702	106
Fed cattle marketed during July .....	1,722	1,855	108
Other disappearance during July .....	65	56	86
On feed August 1 .....	11,064	11,095	100

**Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: July 1, 2023 and 2024**

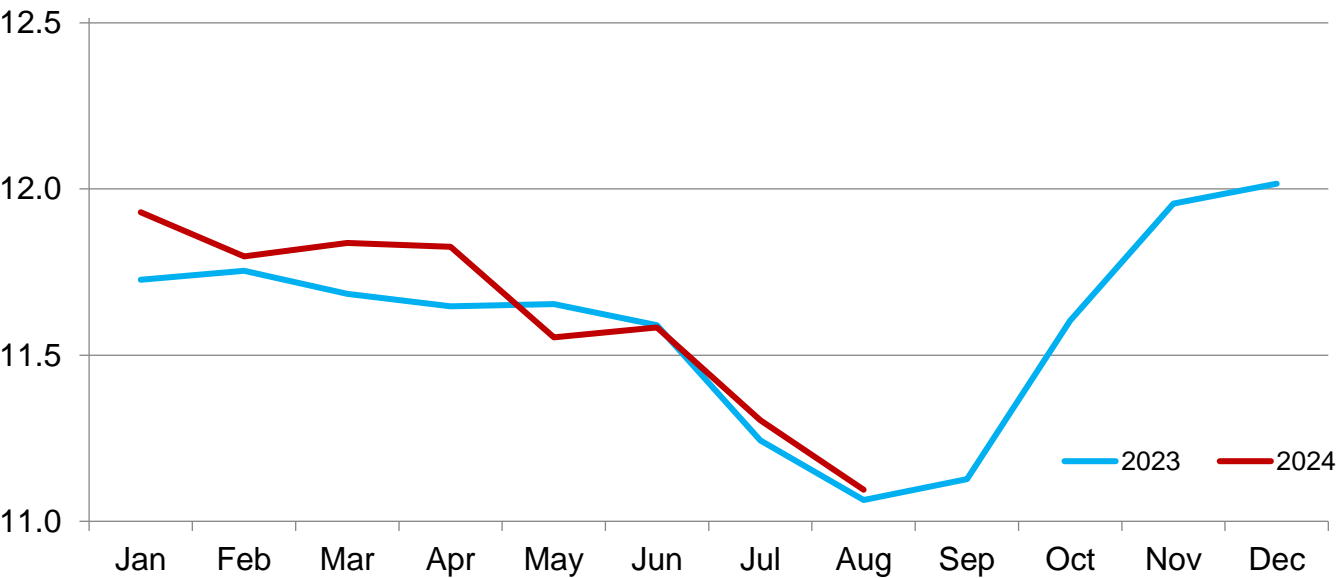
Item	2023	2024	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed June 1 .....	11,590	11,583	100
Placed on feed during June .....	1,679	1,564	93
Fed cattle marketed during June .....	1,957	1,786	91
Other disappearance during June .....	69	57	83
On feed July 1 .....	11,243	11,304	101

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024

State	August 1, 2023	July 1, 2024	August 1, 2024		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	249	249	240	96	96
California .....	525	530	520	99	98
Colorado .....	980	970	960	98	99
Idaho .....	280	330	310	111	94
Iowa .....	640	650	650	102	100
Kansas .....	2,350	2,220	2,210	94	100
Minnesota .....	95	105	100	105	95
Nebraska .....	2,280	2,390	2,320	102	97
Oklahoma .....	255	325	325	127	100
South Dakota .....	170	205	190	112	93
Texas .....	2,720	2,790	2,740	101	98
Washington .....	235	240	240	102	100
Other States .....	285	300	290	102	97
United States .....	11,064	11,304	11,095	100	98

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

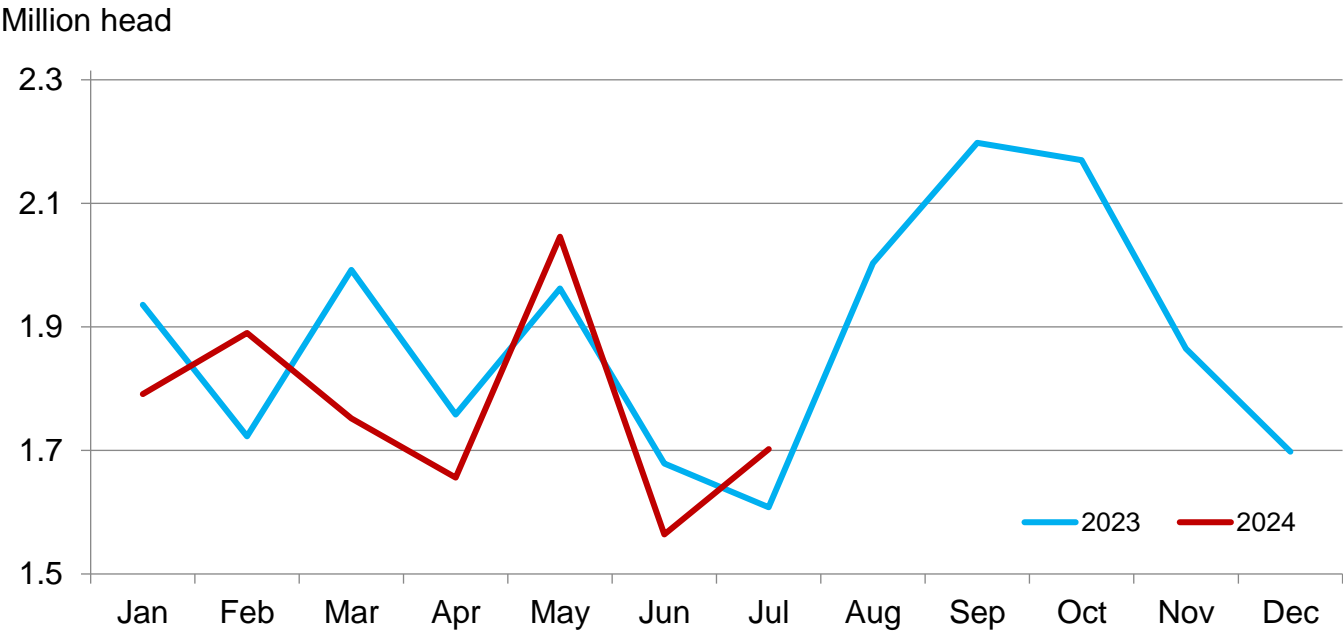
Million head



**Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024**

State	During July 2023	During June 2024	During July 2024		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	21	19	16	76	84
California .....	44	65	45	102	69
Colorado .....	115	150	145	126	97
Idaho .....	33	34	32	97	94
Iowa .....	51	47	56	110	119
Kansas .....	410	310	425	104	137
Minnesota .....	9	10	8	89	80
Nebraska .....	425	415	450	106	108
Oklahoma .....	38	49	45	118	92
South Dakota .....	21	24	21	100	88
Texas .....	375	365	385	103	105
Washington .....	33	39	37	112	95
Other States .....	33	37	37	112	100
United States .....	1,608	1,564	1,702	106	109

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



## Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots and Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024

State	During July 2023							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs <sup>1</sup>	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	20	25	25	20	(D)	(D)	115
Kansas .....	55	70	125	105	55	(D)	(D)	410
Nebraska .....	35	50	95	130	115	(D)	(D)	425
Texas .....	170	80	70	40	15	(D)	(D)	375
Other States ...	80	30	55	63	55	(D)	(D)	283
United States ..	365	250	370	363	(X)	185	75	1,608

State	During June 2024							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs <sup>1</sup>	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 .....	35	25	35	35	20	(D)	(D)	150
Kansas .....	50	60	90	70	40	(D)	(D)	310
Nebraska .....	40	50	95	120	110	(D)	(D)	415
Texas .....	150	75	75	45	20	(D)	(D)	365
Other States ...	90	45	55	79	55	(D)	(D)	324
United States ..	365	255	350	349	(X)	165	80	1,564

State	During July 2024							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs <sup>1</sup>	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	35	30	25	(D)	(D)	145
Kansas .....	60	70	125	110	60	(D)	(D)	425
Nebraska .....	40	50	100	140	120	(D)	(D)	450
Texas .....	175	85	70	40	15	(D)	(D)	385
Other States ...	85	35	55	67	55	(D)	(D)	297
United States ..	390	265	385	387	(X)	200	75	1,702

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

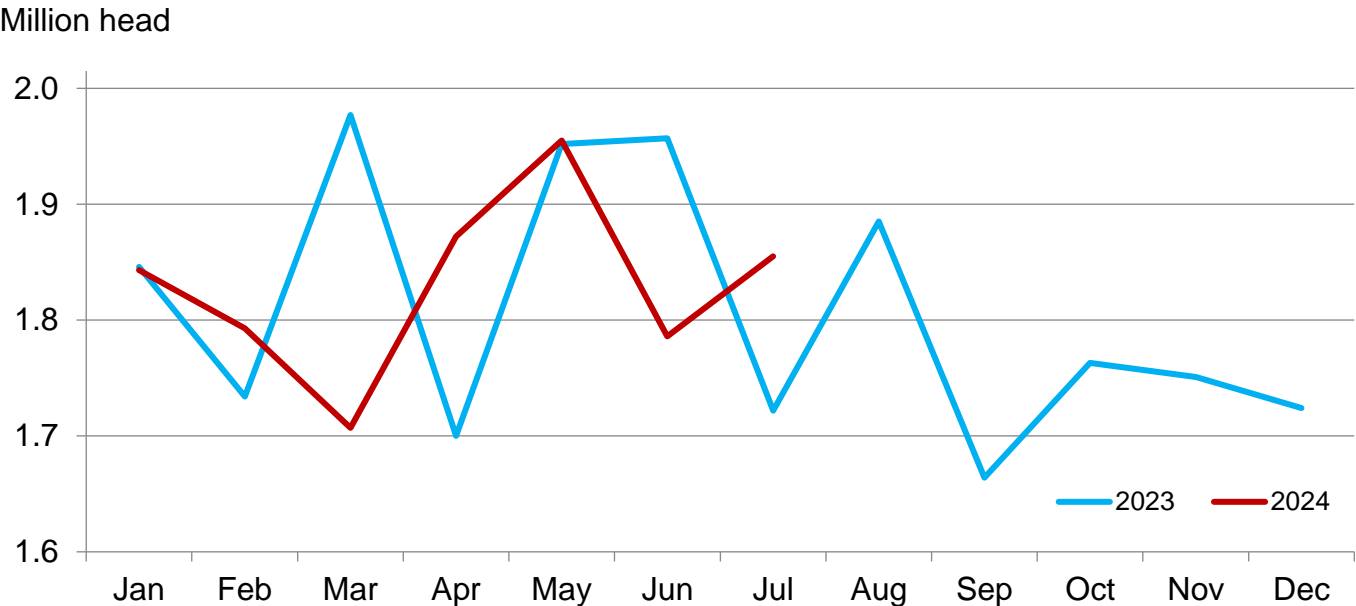
(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> 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: 2023 and 2024

State	During July 2023	During June 2024	During July 2024		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	24	22	24	100	109
California .....	51	54	49	96	91
Colorado .....	120	135	150	125	111
Idaho .....	46	38	51	111	134
Iowa .....	59	56	55	93	98
Kansas .....	450	400	425	94	106
Minnesota .....	13	9	12	92	133
Nebraska .....	460	495	510	111	103
Oklahoma .....	32	53	44	138	83
South Dakota .....	29	36	34	117	94
Texas .....	360	400	420	117	105
Washington .....	37	43	36	97	84
Other States .....	41	45	45	110	100
United States .....	1,722	1,786	1,855	108	104

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



Cattle Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024

State	During July 2023	During June 2024	During July 2024		
			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 .....	8	6	6	75	100
Colorado .....	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho .....	2	1	1	50	100
Iowa .....	2	1	1	50	100
Kansas .....	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota .....	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska .....	15	10	10	67	100
Oklahoma .....	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota .....	2	3	2	100	67
Texas .....	15	15	15	100	100
Washington .....	1	1	1	100	100
Other States .....	2	2	2	100	100
United States .....	65	57	56	86	98

## 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 0.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.1 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 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 38,000 head, ranging from 0 to 115,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 0 times and has been below the latest estimate 18 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 .....	0.5	0.9	38	0	115	18	0
Placements .....	0.5	0.9	6	0	24	7	11
Marketings .....	0.1	0.2	1	0	6	9	7

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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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- Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed ..... (202) 720-3040
- Kim DaPra – Milk Production and Milk Cows ..... (512) 501-3266
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- Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs ..... (202) 720-3106
- Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats ..... (202) 720-4448



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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist [notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu](mailto:notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu) in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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