



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 11.7 million head on June 1, 2021. The inventory was slightly above June 1, 2020. This is the second highest June 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.91 million head, 7 percent below 2020. Net placements were 1.84 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 355,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 255,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 470,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 501,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 235,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 95,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 1.87 million head, 23 percent above 2020.

Other disappearance totaled 67,000 head during May, 2 percent above 2020.

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: June 1, 2020 and 2021

Item	2020	2021	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed May 1	11,200	11,725	105
Placed on feed during May	2,052	1,911	93
Fed cattle marketed during May	1,515	1,870	123
Other disappearance during May	66	67	102
On feed June 1	11,671	11,699	100

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: May 1, 2020 and 2021

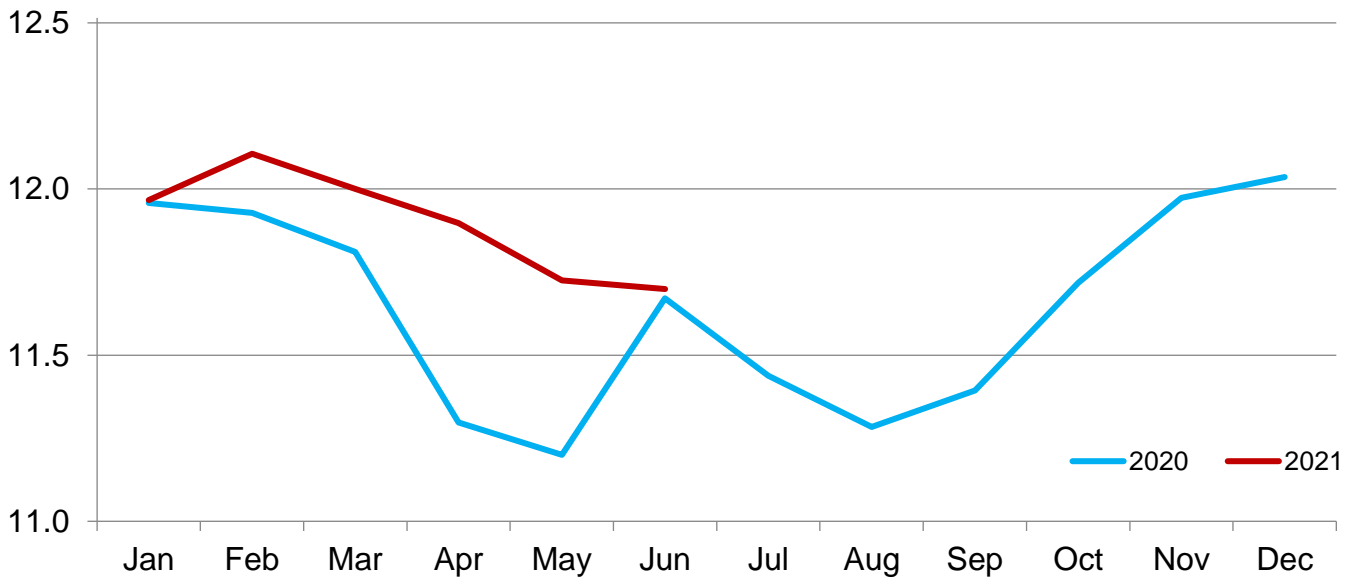
Item	2020	2021	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed April 1	11,297	11,897	105
Placed on feed during April	1,432	1,821	127
Fed cattle marketed during April	1,459	1,938	133
Other disappearance during April	70	55	79
On feed May 1	11,200	11,725	105

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2020 and 2021

State	June 1, 2020	May 1, 2021	June 1, 2021		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	271	275	279	103	101
California	545	545	545	100	100
Colorado	1,010	1,040	1,080	107	104
Idaho	280	295	290	104	98
Iowa	640	630	620	97	98
Kansas	2,430	2,470	2,520	104	102
Minnesota	130	110	105	81	95
Nebraska	2,410	2,530	2,440	101	96
Oklahoma	315	275	275	87	100
South Dakota	200	235	220	110	94
Texas	2,930	2,820	2,850	97	101
Washington	230	200	200	87	100
Other States	280	300	275	98	92
United States	11,671	11,725	11,699	100	100

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

Million head

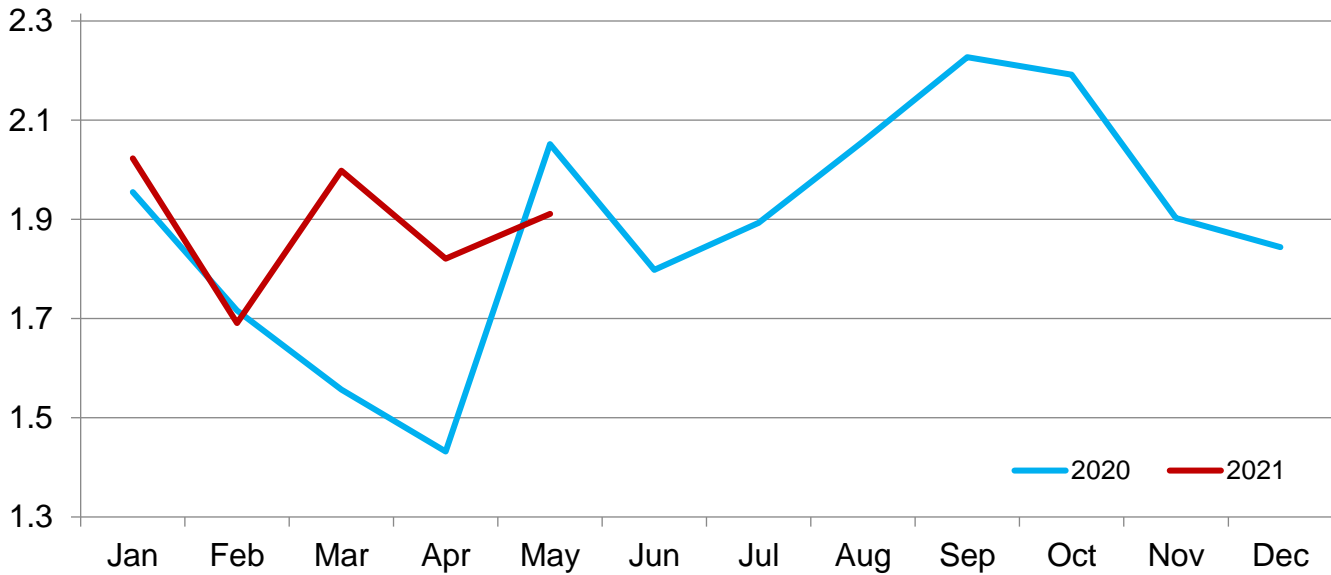


Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2020 and 2021

State	During May 2020 (1,000 head)	During April 2021 (1,000 head)	During May 2021		
			Placements (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	23	27	26	113	96
California	76	62	70	92	113
Colorado	215	160	190	88	119
Idaho	36	43	31	86	72
Iowa	75	101	67	89	66
Kansas	495	435	505	102	116
Minnesota	11	13	11	100	85
Nebraska	410	425	390	95	92
Oklahoma	65	39	57	88	146
South Dakota	33	36	31	94	86
Texas	565	410	470	83	115
Washington	16	26	26	163	100
Other States	32	44	37	116	84
United States	2,052	1,821	1,911	93	105

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: 2020 and 2021

State	During May 2020							
	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	35	30	50	60	40	(D)	(D)	215
Kansas	55	70	140	140	90	(D)	(D)	495
Nebraska	30	35	80	145	120	(D)	(D)	410
Texas	150	120	145	110	40	(D)	(D)	565
Other States ...	110	55	70	82	50	(D)	(D)	367
United States ..	380	310	485	537	(X)	235	105	2,052

State	During April 2021							
	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	35	40	30	(D)	(D)	160
Kansas	45	55	130	135	70	(D)	(D)	435
Nebraska	30	45	95	145	110	(D)	(D)	425
Texas	150	80	85	70	25	(D)	(D)	410
Other States ...	125	45	75	91	55	(D)	(D)	391
United States ..	380	250	420	481	(X)	220	70	1,821

State	During May 2021							
	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	45	50	40	(D)	(D)	190
Kansas	55	70	150	145	85	(D)	(D)	505
Nebraska	30	30	85	130	115	(D)	(D)	390
Texas	135	85	120	90	40	(D)	(D)	470
Other States ...	105	45	70	86	50	(D)	(D)	356
United States ..	355	255	470	501	(X)	235	95	1,911

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

(X) Not applicable.

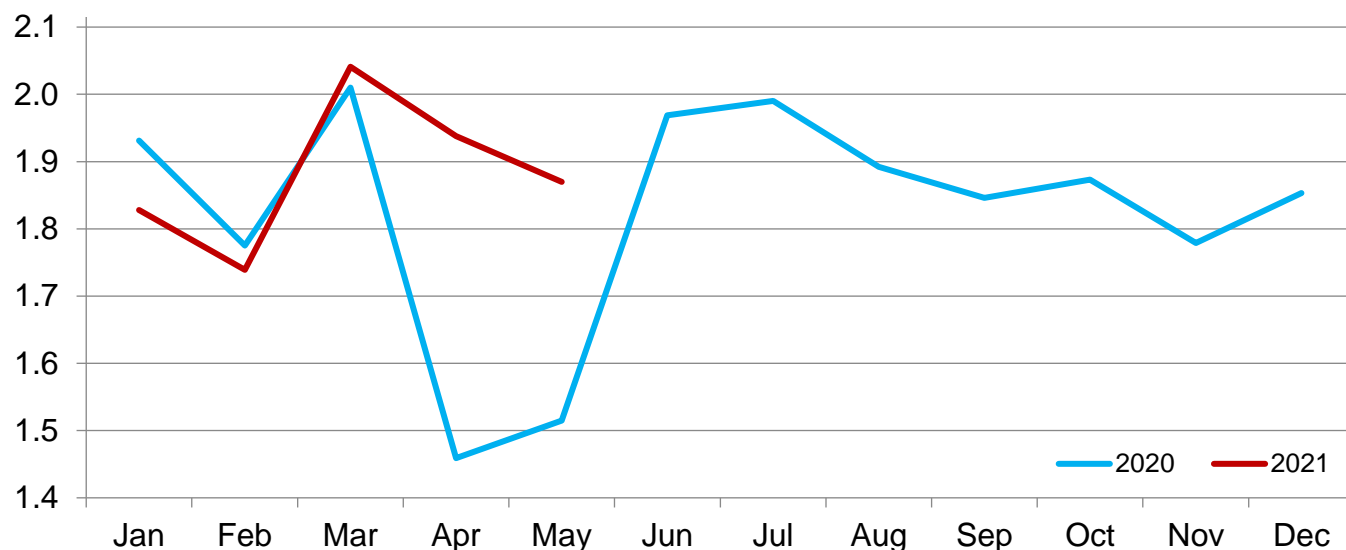
¹ The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2020 and 2021

State	During May 2020	During April 2021	During May 2021		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	16	23	21	131	91
California	54	65	63	117	97
Colorado	145	175	140	97	80
Idaho	35	37	35	100	95
Iowa	52	98	74	142	76
Kansas	375	435	445	119	102
Minnesota	10	17	15	150	88
Nebraska	355	465	465	131	100
Oklahoma	44	63	56	127	89
South Dakota	34	38	42	124	111
Texas	315	450	430	137	96
Washington	30	30	25	83	83
Other States	50	42	59	118	140
United States	1,515	1,938	1,870	123	96

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

Million head



Cattle Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2020 and 2021

State	During May 2020 (1,000 head)	During April 2021 (1,000 head)	During May 2021		
			Other disappearance (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	7	7	7	100	100
Colorado	10	5	10	100	200
Idaho	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa	3	3	3	100	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	15	10	15	100	150
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	4	3	4	100	133
Texas	10	10	10	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	2	2	3	150	150
United States	66	55	67	102	122

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 0.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.7 million head by more than 0.0 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 2,000 head, ranging from 0 to 15,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 3 times and has been below the latest estimate 3 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	0.0	0.1	2	0	15	3	3
Placements	0.3	0.4	3	0	15	8	3
Marketings	0.2	0.4	1	0	15	4	2

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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