



Cattle on Feed

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United States Cattle on Feed Up 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 12.0 million head on December 1, 2023. The inventory was 3 percent above December 1, 2022.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.87 million head, 2 percent below 2022. Net placements were 1.81 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 535,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 440,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 380,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 288,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 140,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 85,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.75 million head, 7 percent below 2022.

Other disappearance totaled 54,000 head during November, 5 percent below 2022.

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

Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed November 1	11,736	11,943	102
Placed on feed during November	1,905	1,868	98
Fed cattle marketed during November	1,891	1,751	93
Other disappearance during November	57	54	95
On feed December 1	11,693	12,006	103

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

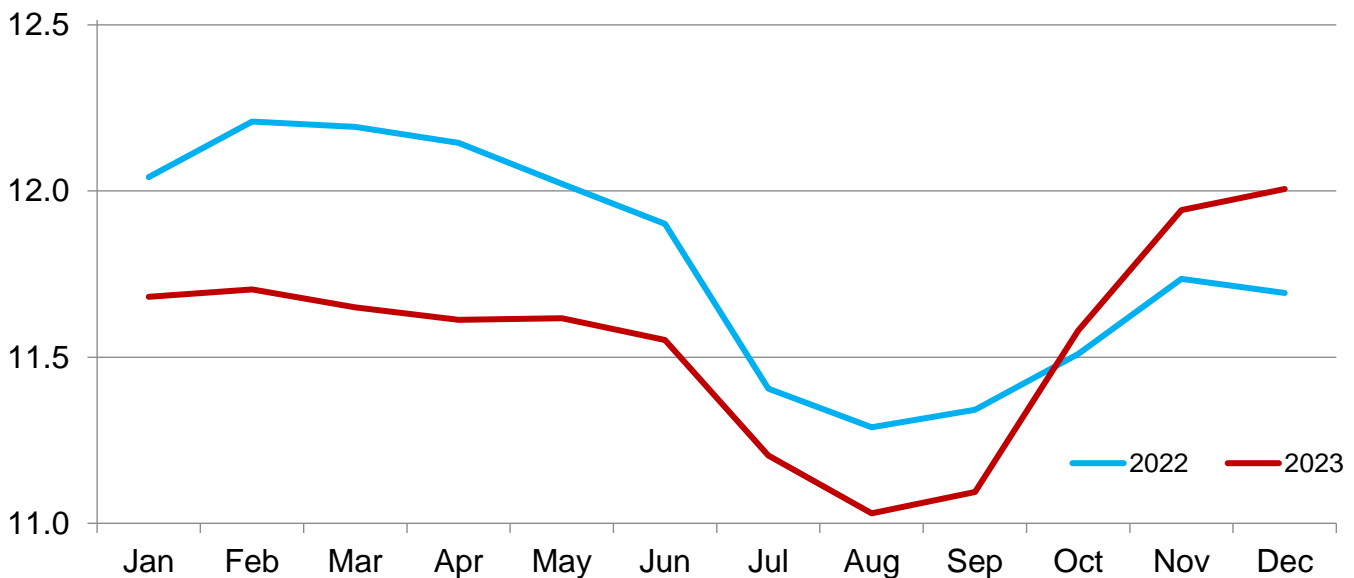
Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed October 1	11,509	11,580	101
Placed on feed during October	2,085	2,181	105
Fed cattle marketed during October	1,804	1,763	98
Other disappearance during October	54	55	102
On feed November 1	11,736	11,943	102

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

State	December 1, 2022	November 1, 2023	December 1, 2023		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	268	258	266	99	103
California	505	505	510	101	101
Colorado	1,040	1,030	1,030	99	100
Idaho	315	315	320	102	102
Iowa	630	650	640	102	98
Kansas	2,330	2,520	2,500	107	99
Minnesota	95	100	100	105	100
Nebraska	2,610	2,540	2,580	99	102
Oklahoma	280	315	325	116	103
South Dakota	220	220	230	105	105
Texas	2,810	2,900	2,910	104	100
Washington	270	270	270	100	100
Other States	320	320	325	102	102
United States	11,693	11,943	12,006	103	101

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

Million head

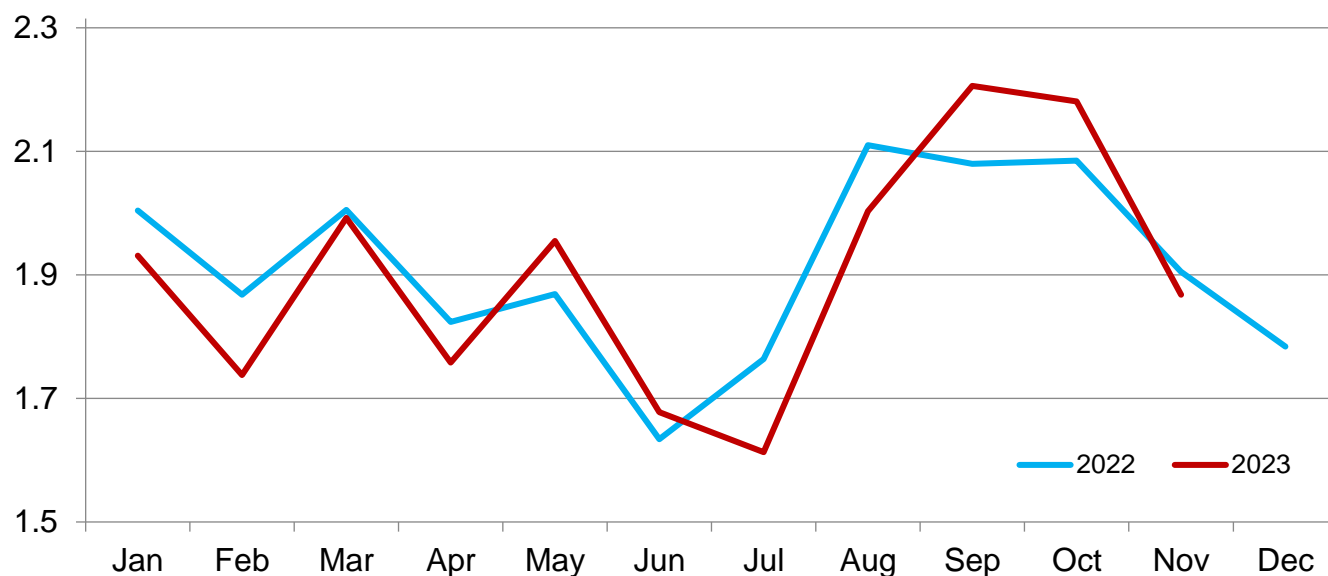


Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During November 2022	During October 2023	During November 2023		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	23	27	29	126	107
California	60	52	65	108	125
Colorado	145	205	155	107	76
Idaho	53	59	50	94	85
Iowa	95	93	88	93	95
Kansas	420	440	385	92	88
Minnesota	17	20	15	88	75
Nebraska	505	610	490	97	80
Oklahoma	38	58	49	129	84
South Dakota	71	69	59	83	86
Texas	370	440	390	105	89
Washington	50	51	41	82	80
Other States	58	57	52	90	91
United States	1,905	2,181	1,868	98	86

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 November 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	45	30	30	20	20	(D)	(D)	145
Kansas	65	105	125	80	45	(D)	(D)	420
Nebraska	100	125	95	85	100	(D)	(D)	505
Texas	145	95	75	40	15	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	180	105	75	60	45	(D)	(D)	465
United States ..	535	460	400	285	(X)	135	90	1,905

State	During October 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	40	40	40	50	35	(D)	(D)	205
Kansas	65	95	135	95	50	(D)	(D)	440
Nebraska	130	115	105	130	130	(D)	(D)	610
Texas	160	110	105	50	15	(D)	(D)	440
Other States ...	165	105	80	81	55	(D)	(D)	486
United States ..	560	465	465	406	(X)	205	80	2,181

State	During November 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	50	35	30	20	20	(D)	(D)	155
Kansas	55	90	115	80	45	(D)	(D)	385
Nebraska	95	115	90	90	100	(D)	(D)	490
Texas	160	100	75	40	15	(D)	(D)	390
Other States ...	175	100	70	58	45	(D)	(D)	448
United States ..	535	440	380	288	(X)	140	85	1,868

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

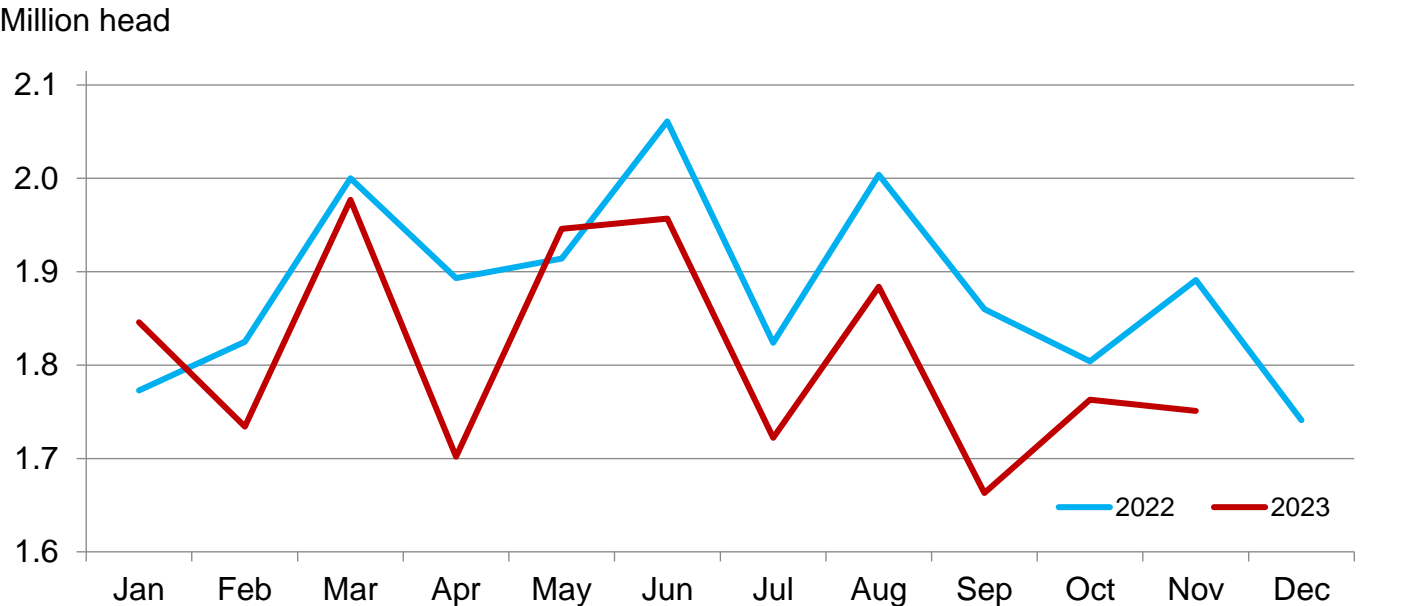
(X) Not applicable.

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 November 2022	During October 2023	During November 2023		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	25	18	20	80	111
California	53	46	55	104	120
Colorado	170	160	150	88	94
Idaho	42	37	43	102	116
Iowa	94	82	97	103	118
Kansas	410	410	395	96	96
Minnesota	16	14	14	88	100
Nebraska	480	480	440	92	92
Oklahoma	47	32	38	81	119
South Dakota	59	33	48	81	145
Texas	410	375	365	89	97
Washington	39	35	40	103	114
Other States	46	41	46	100	112
United States	1,891	1,763	1,751	93	99

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 November 2022	During October 2023	During November 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	7	6	5	71	83
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	2	2	200	100
Iowa	1	1	1	100	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	1	1	50	100
Texas	10	15	15	150	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	2	1	1	50	100
United States	57	55	54	95	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 0.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 12.0 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 15 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	15	0
Placements	0.6	0.9	7	0	23	9	8
Marketings	0.1	0.2	1	0	5	3	6

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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Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats (202) 720-4448

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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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