



Cattle on Feed

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United States Cattle on Feed Up 1 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 11.8 million head on March 1, 2019. The inventory was 1 percent above March 1, 2018.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.86 million head, 2 percent above 2018. Net placements were 1.79 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 340,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 345,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 530,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 442,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 135,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 65,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.68 million head, slightly above 2018.

Other disappearance totaled 66,000 head during February, 16 percent above 2018.

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: March 1, 2018 and 2019

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2018	2019	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed February 1	11,630	11,688	100
Placed on feed during February	1,817	1,857	102
Fed cattle marketed during February	1,675	1,683	100
Other disappearance during February	57	66	116
On feed March 1	11,715	11,796	101

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: February 1, 2018 and 2019

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2018	2019	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed January 1	11,489	11,690	102
Placed on feed during January	2,068	1,969	95
Fed cattle marketed during January	1,858	1,910	103
Other disappearance during January	69	61	88
On feed February 1	11,630	11,688	100

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2018 and 2019

State	March 1, 2018	February 1, 2019	March 1, 2019		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	285	303	311	109	103
California	490	525	525	107	100
Colorado	950	1,040	1,050	111	101
Idaho	255	275	275	108	100
Iowa	730	690	710	97	103
Kansas	2,350	2,250	2,300	98	102
Minnesota	165	155	150	91	97
Nebraska	2,690	2,580	2,600	97	101
Oklahoma	315	315	310	98	98
South Dakota	270	255	260	96	102
Texas	2,680	2,750	2,770	103	101
Washington	210	230	225	107	98
Other States	325	320	310	95	97
United States	11,715	11,688	11,796	101	101

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

Million head

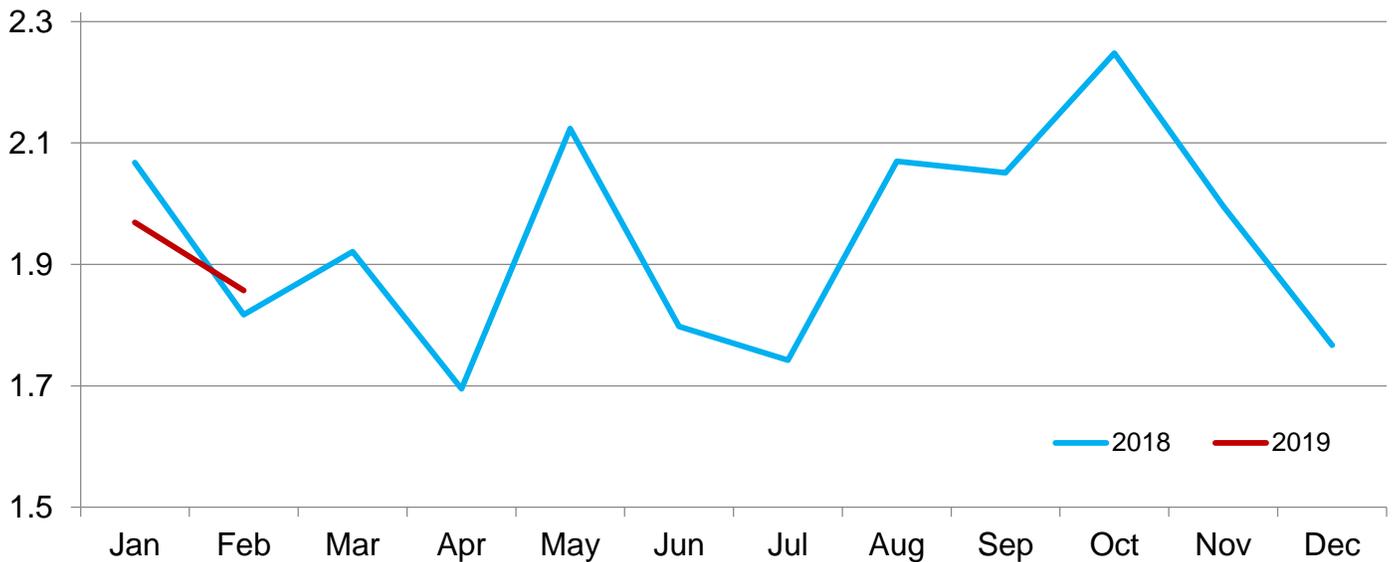


Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2018 and 2019

State	During February 2018 (1,000 head)	During January 2019 (1,000 head)	During February 2019		
			Number (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	30	35	28	93	80
California	59	63	55	93	87
Colorado	165	205	185	112	90
Idaho	34	33	38	112	115
Iowa	118	111	133	113	120
Kansas	420	385	425	101	110
Minnesota	16	15	14	88	93
Nebraska	440	515	455	103	88
Oklahoma	46	48	44	96	92
South Dakota	46	48	42	91	88
Texas	365	420	370	101	88
Washington	36	40	26	72	65
Other States	42	51	42	100	82
United States	1,817	1,969	1,857	102	94

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: 2018 and 2019

State	During February 2018							
	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	20	35	40	45	25	(D)	(D)	165
Kansas	45	70	155	105	45	(D)	(D)	420
Nebraska	30	75	140	125	70	(D)	(D)	440
Texas	125	80	90	55	15	(D)	(D)	365
Other States ...	105	75	112	90	45	(D)	(D)	427
United States ..	325	335	537	420	(X)	150	50	1,817
State	During January 2019							
	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	50	50	40	20	(D)	(D)	205
Kansas	35	85	140	90	35	(D)	(D)	385
Nebraska	35	110	160	145	65	(D)	(D)	515
Texas	135	100	105	65	15	(D)	(D)	420
Other States ...	130	100	99	80	35	(D)	(D)	444
United States ..	380	445	554	420	(X)	100	70	1,969
State	During February 2019							
	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	35	50	45	25	(D)	(D)	185
Kansas	45	75	150	115	40	(D)	(D)	425
Nebraska	30	80	145	125	75	(D)	(D)	455
Texas	130	75	85	60	20	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	105	80	100	97	40	(D)	(D)	422
United States ..	340	345	530	442	(X)	135	65	1,857

(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: 2018 and 2019

State	During February 2018	During January 2019	During February 2019		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
			(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	24	26	19	79	73
California	51	70	51	100	73
Colorado	170	170	170	100	100
Idaho	36	36	35	97	97
Iowa	106	109	109	103	100
Kansas	380	455	365	96	80
Minnesota	20	14	18	90	129
Nebraska	410	480	415	101	86
Oklahoma	50	47	48	96	102
South Dakota	35	36	34	97	94
Texas	320	385	340	106	88
Washington	30	34	30	100	88
Other States	43	48	49	114	102
United States	1,675	1,910	1,683	100	88

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: 2018 and 2019

State	During February 2018 (1,000 head)	During January 2019 (1,000 head)	During February 2019		
			Number (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	3	3	4	133	133
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	3	2	3	100	150
Iowa	2	2	4	200	200
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	10	15	20	200	133
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	1	2	3	300	150
Texas	15	15	10	67	67
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	4	3	3	75	100
United States	57	61	66	116	108

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 11.8 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 1,000 head, ranging from 0 to 15,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 0 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)
Number on feed	0.0	0.1	1	0	15	3	0
Placements	0.2	0.3	1	0	15	3	0
Marketings	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

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.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-0585
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
Heidi Gleich – 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

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- 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.
- 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 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@nass.usda.gov.

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USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting
Tuesday, April 23, 2019

University of Chicago – Gleacher Center
450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive
Chicago, IL 60611
312-464-8787

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 2019 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). Contact Vernita Murray (NASS) at 202-690-8141 or vernita.murray@nass.usda.gov or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov for information.

The Data Users' Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. 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 Laura Lahr at 303-716-9935 or laura.lahr@lmic.info.