



# 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 June 1, 2023. The inventory was 3 percent below June 1, 2022.

**Placements** in feedlots during May totaled 1.96 million head, 5 percent above 2022. Net placements were 1.88 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 380,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 295,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 480,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 505,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 215,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 80,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during May totaled 1.95 million head, 2 percent above 2022.

**Other disappearance** totaled 74,000 head during May, 3 percent below 2022.

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

Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed May 1 .....	12,022	11,617	97
Placed on feed during May .....	1,869	1,955	105
Fed cattle marketed during May .....	1,914	1,946	102
Other disappearance during May .....	76	74	97
On feed June 1 .....	11,901	11,552	97

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

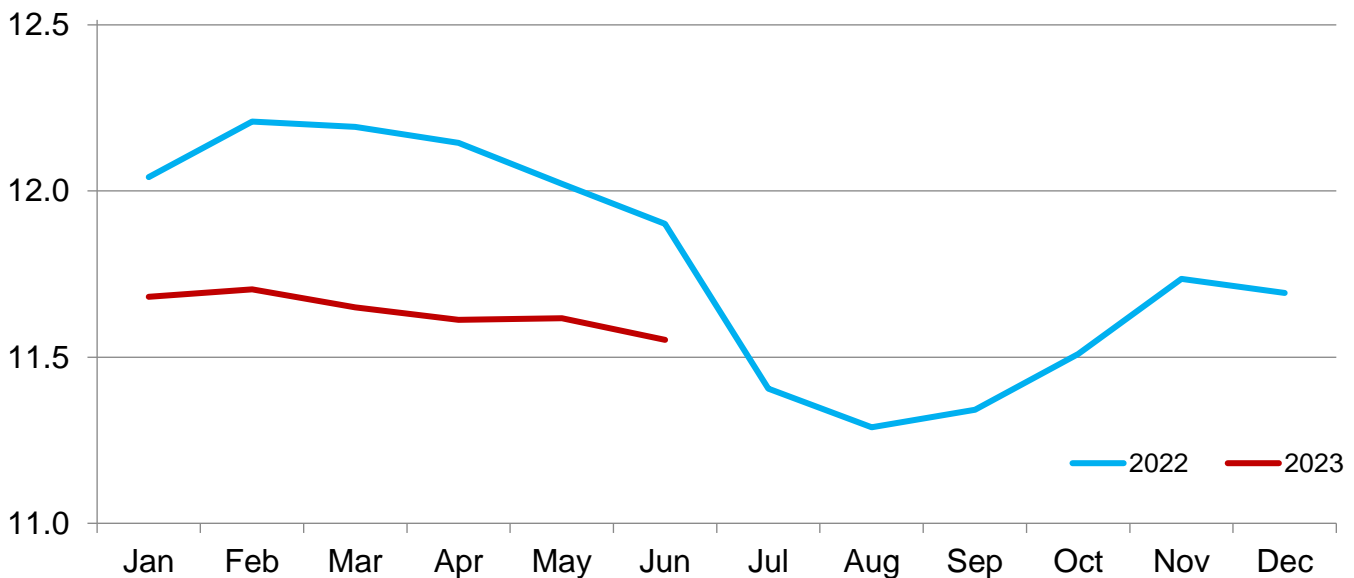
Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed April 1 .....	12,145	11,612	96
Placed on feed during April .....	1,824	1,758	96
Fed cattle marketed during April .....	1,893	1,702	90
Other disappearance during April .....	54	51	94
On feed May 1 .....	12,022	11,617	97

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

State	June 1, 2022	May 1, 2023	June 1, 2023		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	286	257	252	88	98
California .....	570	535	545	96	102
Colorado .....	1,090	980	1,000	92	102
Idaho .....	290	315	305	105	97
Iowa .....	620	630	630	102	100
Kansas .....	2,490	2,440	2,470	99	101
Minnesota .....	100	100	100	100	100
Nebraska .....	2,530	2,540	2,450	97	96
Oklahoma .....	275	250	250	91	100
South Dakota .....	195	220	200	103	91
Texas .....	2,940	2,790	2,810	96	101
Washington .....	235	255	245	104	96
Other States .....	280	305	295	105	97
United States .....	11,901	11,617	11,552	97	99

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

Million head

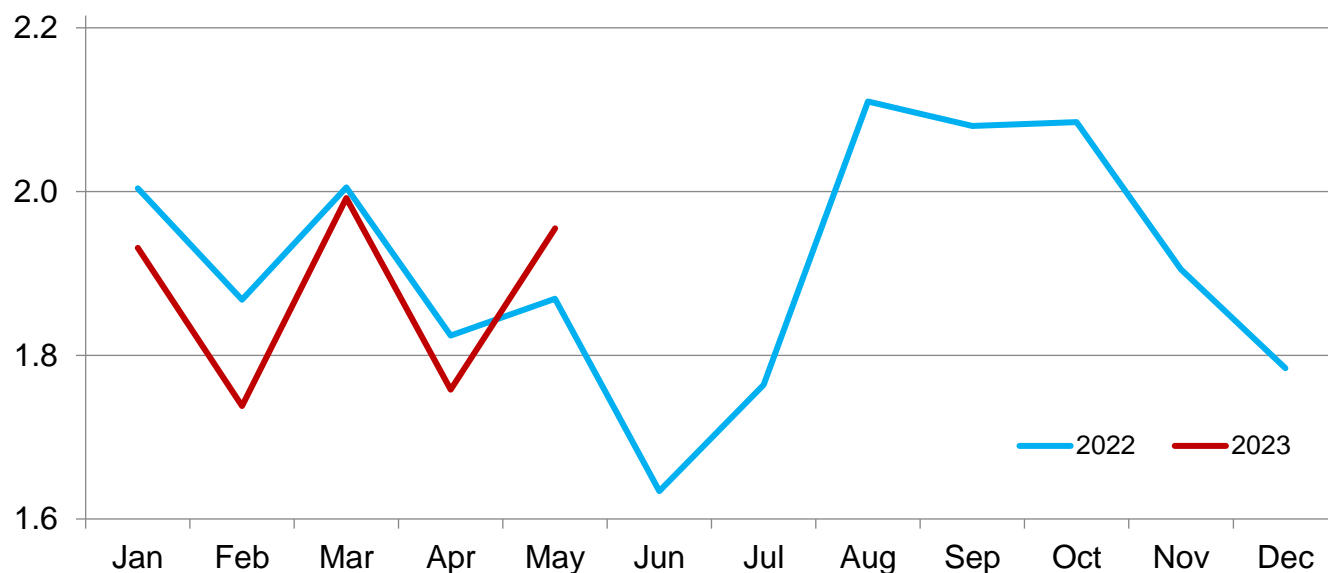


## Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During May 2022	During April 2023	During May 2023		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	28	27	23	82	85
California .....	64	69	74	116	107
Colorado .....	165	145	175	106	121
Idaho .....	35	37	39	111	105
Iowa .....	74	91	74	100	81
Kansas .....	480	420	495	103	118
Minnesota .....	11	17	11	100	65
Nebraska .....	395	430	450	114	105
Oklahoma .....	54	45	57	106	127
South Dakota .....	28	31	26	93	84
Texas .....	460	370	455	99	123
Washington .....	36	37	33	92	89
Other States .....	39	39	43	110	110
United States .....	1,869	1,758	1,955	105	111

## 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 May 2022							
	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	40	40	30	(D)	(D)	165
Kansas .....	55	70	150	130	75	(D)	(D)	480
Nebraska .....	30	35	90	130	110	(D)	(D)	395
Texas .....	140	90	115	85	30	(D)	(D)	460
Other States ...	110	50	70	89	50	(D)	(D)	369
United States ..	365	270	465	474	(X)	220	75	1,869

State	During April 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	25	35	35	25	(D)	(D)	145
Kansas .....	45	60	125	125	65	(D)	(D)	420
Nebraska .....	30	45	95	150	110	(D)	(D)	430
Texas .....	140	65	80	60	25	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	120	50	75	98	50	(D)	(D)	393
United States ..	360	245	410	468	(X)	205	70	1,758

State	During May 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 .....	30	30	40	45	30	(D)	(D)	175
Kansas .....	55	80	155	130	75	(D)	(D)	495
Nebraska .....	35	40	105	155	115	(D)	(D)	450
Texas .....	150	90	110	80	25	(D)	(D)	455
Other States ...	110	55	70	95	50	(D)	(D)	380
United States ..	380	295	480	505	(X)	215	80	1,955

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

(X) Not applicable.

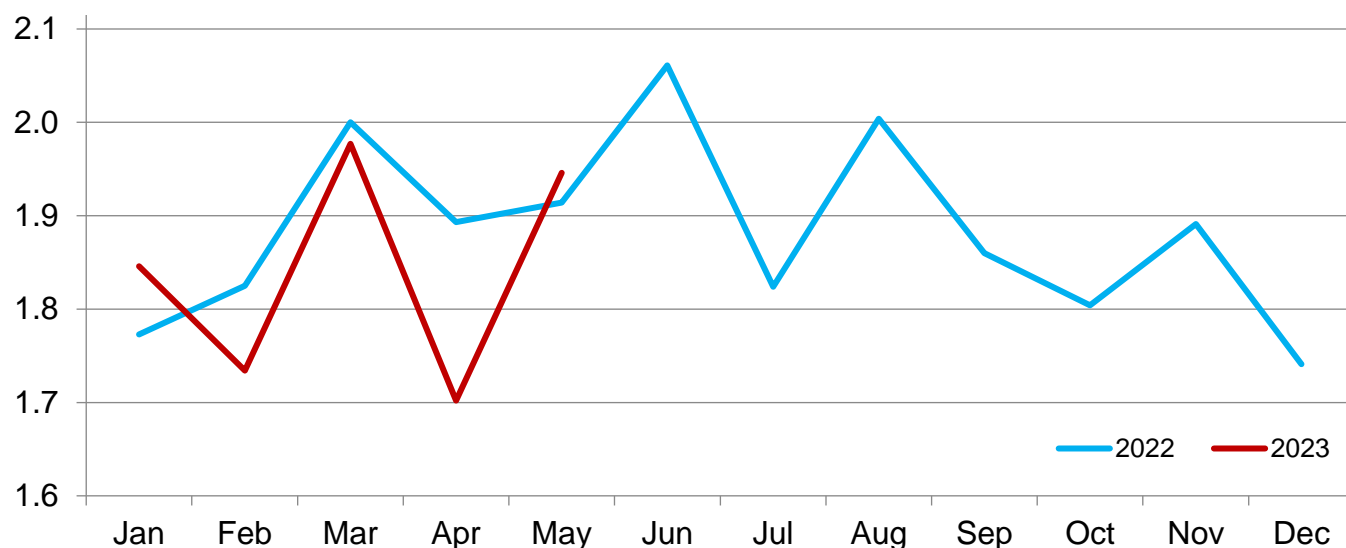
<sup>1</sup> The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

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

State	During May 2022	During April 2023	During May 2023		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	28	26	27	96	104
California .....	57	53	56	98	106
Colorado .....	155	140	145	94	104
Idaho .....	43	41	48	112	117
Iowa .....	71	79	72	101	91
Kansas .....	460	400	455	99	114
Minnesota .....	10	11	10	100	91
Nebraska .....	495	410	520	105	127
Oklahoma .....	53	54	56	106	104
South Dakota .....	47	30	40	85	133
Texas .....	410	380	425	104	112
Washington .....	34	36	42	124	117
Other States .....	51	42	50	98	119
United States .....	1,914	1,702	1,946	102	114

## 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: 2022 and 2023

State	During May 2022	During April 2023	During May 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	8	114	133
Colorado .....	10	5	10	100	200
Idaho .....	2	1	1	50	100
Iowa .....	3	2	2	67	100
Kansas .....	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota .....	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska .....	20	10	20	100	200
Oklahoma .....	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota .....	6	1	6	100	600
Texas .....	10	10	10	100	100
Washington .....	2	1	1	50	100
Other States .....	3	2	3	100	150
United States .....	76	51	74	97	145

## 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	7	0	23	9	11
Marketings .....	0.1	0.1	1	0	4	3	8

## 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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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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