



# Cattle on Feed

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## United States Cattle on Feed Down 2 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 11.0 million head on August 1, 2023. The inventory was 2 percent below August 1, 2022.

**Placements** in feedlots during July totaled 1.62 million head, 8 percent below 2022. Net placements were 1.55 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 365,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 250,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 370,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 373,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 185,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 75,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during July totaled 1.73 million head, 5 percent below 2022.

**Other disappearance** totaled 65,000 head during July, 16 percent above 2022.

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

Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed July 1 .....	11,405	11,204	98
Placed on feed during July .....	1,764	1,618	92
Fed cattle marketed during July .....	1,824	1,727	95
Other disappearance during July .....	56	65	116
On feed August 1 .....	11,289	11,030	98

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

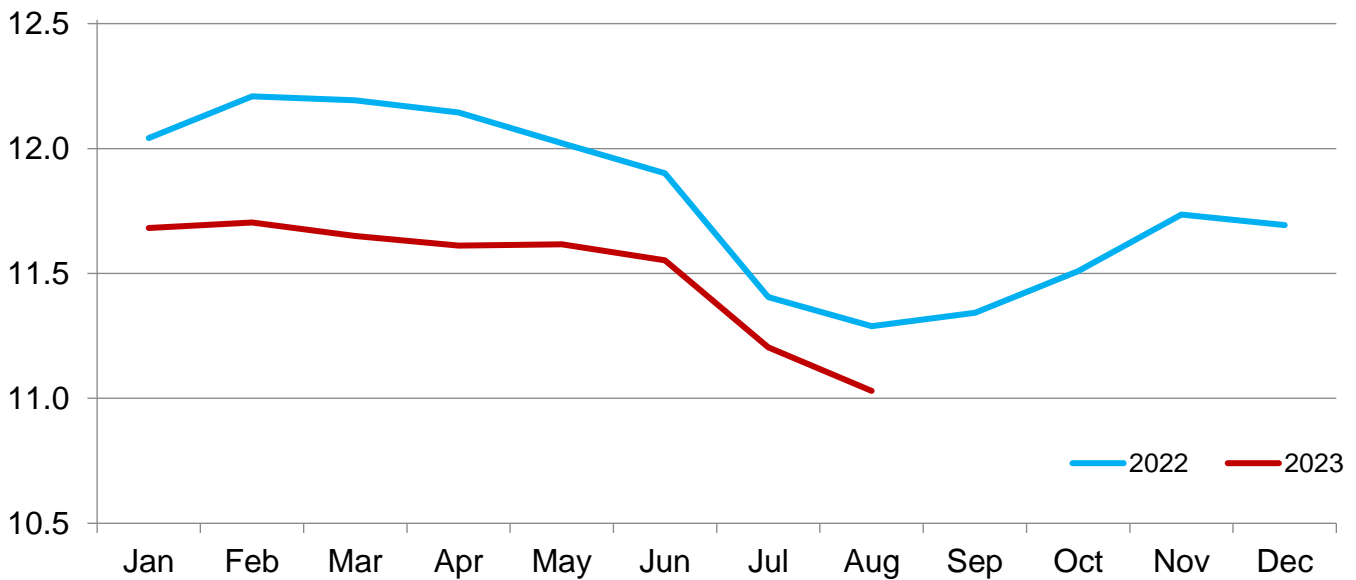
Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed June 1 .....	11,901	11,552	97
Placed on feed during June .....	1,634	1,678	103
Fed cattle marketed during June .....	2,061	1,957	95
Other disappearance during June .....	69	69	100
On feed July 1 .....	11,405	11,204	98

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

State	August 1, 2022	July 1, 2023	August 1, 2023		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	279	249	245	88	98
California .....	545	540	525	96	97
Colorado .....	1,040	990	980	94	99
Idaho .....	275	295	280	102	95
Iowa .....	610	630	620	102	98
Kansas .....	2,340	2,400	2,350	100	98
Minnesota .....	85	100	95	112	95
Nebraska .....	2,320	2,330	2,280	98	98
Oklahoma .....	275	250	255	93	102
South Dakota .....	165	180	170	103	94
Texas .....	2,850	2,720	2,720	95	100
Washington .....	235	240	235	100	98
Other States .....	270	280	275	102	98
United States .....	11,289	11,204	11,030	98	98

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

Million head

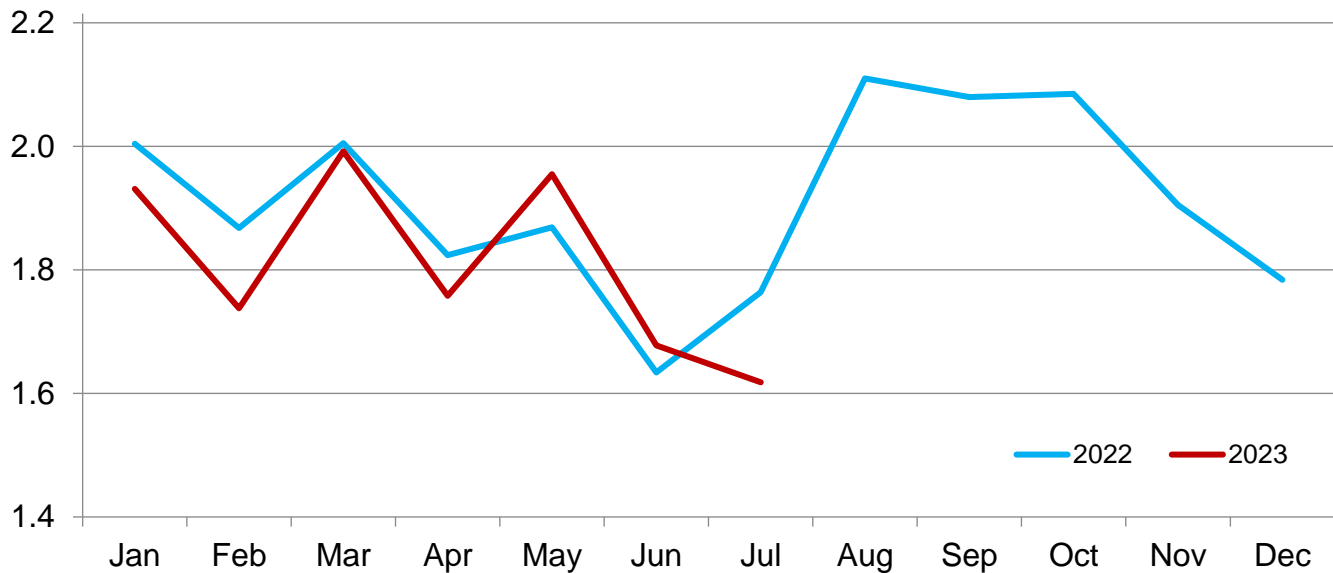


**Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023**

State	During July 2022 (1,000 head)	During June 2023 (1,000 head)	During July 2023		
			Placements (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona .....	22	25	21	95	84
California .....	50	67	44	88	66
Colorado .....	155	135	115	74	85
Idaho .....	31	33	33	106	100
Iowa .....	58	60	51	88	85
Kansas .....	445	400	410	92	103
Minnesota .....	10	13	9	90	69
Nebraska .....	450	425	430	96	101
Oklahoma .....	48	57	38	79	67
South Dakota .....	26	22	21	81	95
Texas .....	395	370	375	95	101
Washington .....	30	36	33	110	92
Other States .....	44	35	38	86	109
United States .....	1,764	1,678	1,618	92	96

**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 July 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	30	35	35	25	(D)	(D)	155
Kansas .....	60	80	140	110	55	(D)	(D)	445
Nebraska .....	35	50	100	150	115	(D)	(D)	450
Texas .....	185	85	70	40	15	(D)	(D)	395
Other States ...	90	35	60	74	60	(D)	(D)	319
United States ..	400	280	405	409	(X)	195	75	1,764

State	During June 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	25	30	30	20	(D)	(D)	135
Kansas .....	65	75	120	90	50	(D)	(D)	400
Nebraska .....	35	50	95	125	120	(D)	(D)	425
Texas .....	155	75	75	45	20	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	105	50	60	78	55	(D)	(D)	348
United States ..	390	275	380	368	(X)	185	80	1,678

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	135	115	(D)	(D)	430
Texas .....	170	80	70	40	15	(D)	(D)	375
Other States ...	80	30	55	68	55	(D)	(D)	288
United States ..	365	250	370	373	(X)	185	75	1,618

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

(X) Not applicable.

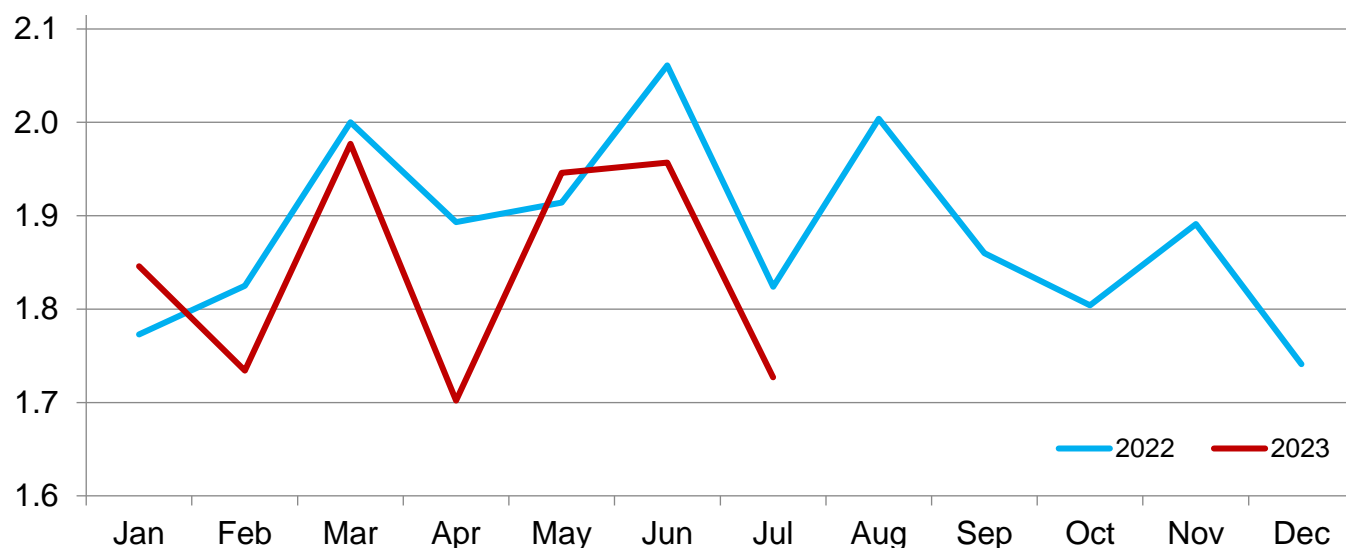
<sup>1</sup> The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

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

State	During July 2022	During June 2023	During July 2023		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	22	27	24	109	89
California .....	59	64	51	86	80
Colorado .....	170	140	120	71	86
Idaho .....	35	42	46	131	110
Iowa .....	56	58	59	105	102
Kansas .....	445	460	450	101	98
Minnesota .....	14	12	13	93	108
Nebraska .....	490	525	465	95	89
Oklahoma .....	42	56	32	76	57
South Dakota .....	30	40	29	97	73
Texas .....	390	445	360	92	81
Washington .....	29	40	37	128	93
Other States .....	42	48	41	98	85
United States .....	1,824	1,957	1,727	95	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: 2022 and 2023

State	During July 2022 (1,000 head)	During June 2023 (1,000 head)	During July 2023		
			Other disappearance (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona .....	1	1	1	100	100
California .....	6	8	8	133	100
Colorado .....	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho .....	1	1	2	200	200
Iowa .....	2	2	2	100	100
Kansas .....	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota .....	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska .....	10	20	15	150	75
Oklahoma .....	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota .....	1	2	2	200	100
Texas .....	15	15	15	100	100
Washington .....	1	1	1	100	100
Other States .....	2	2	2	100	100
United States .....	56	69	65	116	94

## 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 11.0 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 21,000 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 14 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	21	0	65	14	0
Placements .....	0.5	0.9	6	0	23	9	9
Marketings .....	0.1	0.1	1	0	4	3	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
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Anthony Fischer – 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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