



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 11.2 million head on September 1, 2024. The inventory was 1 percent above September 1, 2023.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 1.98 million head, 1 percent below 2023. Net placements were 1.92 million head. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 395,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 305,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 435,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 485,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 265,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 90,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.82 million head, 4 percent below 2023.

Other disappearance totaled 54,000 head during August, 2 percent below 2023.

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: September 1, 2023 and 2024

Item	2023	2024	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed August 1	11,064	11,095	100
Placed on feed during August	2,003	1,975	99
Fed cattle marketed during August	1,885	1,818	96
Other disappearance during August	55	54	98
On feed September 1	11,127	11,198	101

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: August 1, 2023 and 2024

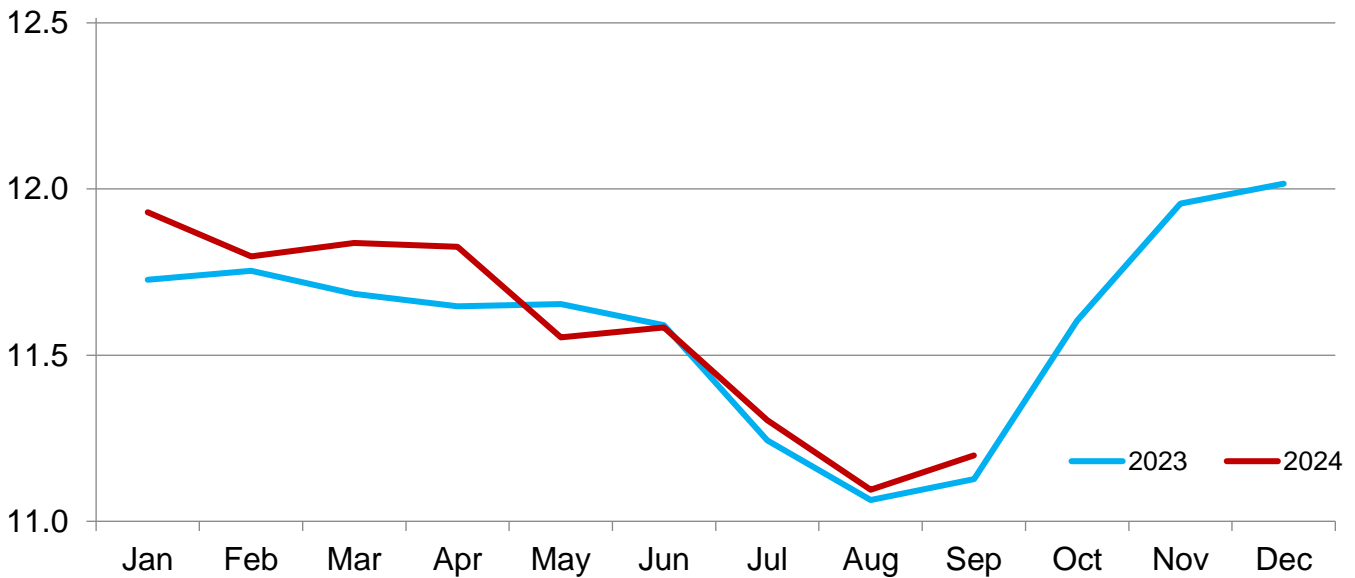
Item	2023	2024	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed July 1	11,243	11,304	101
Placed on feed during July	1,608	1,702	106
Fed cattle marketed during July	1,722	1,855	108
Other disappearance during July	65	56	86
On feed August 1	11,064	11,095	100

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024

State	September 1, 2023	August 1, 2024	September 1, 2024		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	247	240	233	94	97
California	515	520	520	101	100
Colorado	950	960	970	102	101
Idaho	285	310	315	111	102
Iowa	640	650	660	103	102
Kansas	2,410	2,210	2,280	95	103
Minnesota	95	100	95	100	95
Nebraska	2,270	2,320	2,320	102	100
Oklahoma	265	325	330	125	102
South Dakota	170	190	185	109	97
Texas	2,740	2,740	2,750	100	100
Washington	245	240	245	100	102
Other States	295	290	295	100	102
United States	11,127	11,095	11,198	101	101

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

Million head

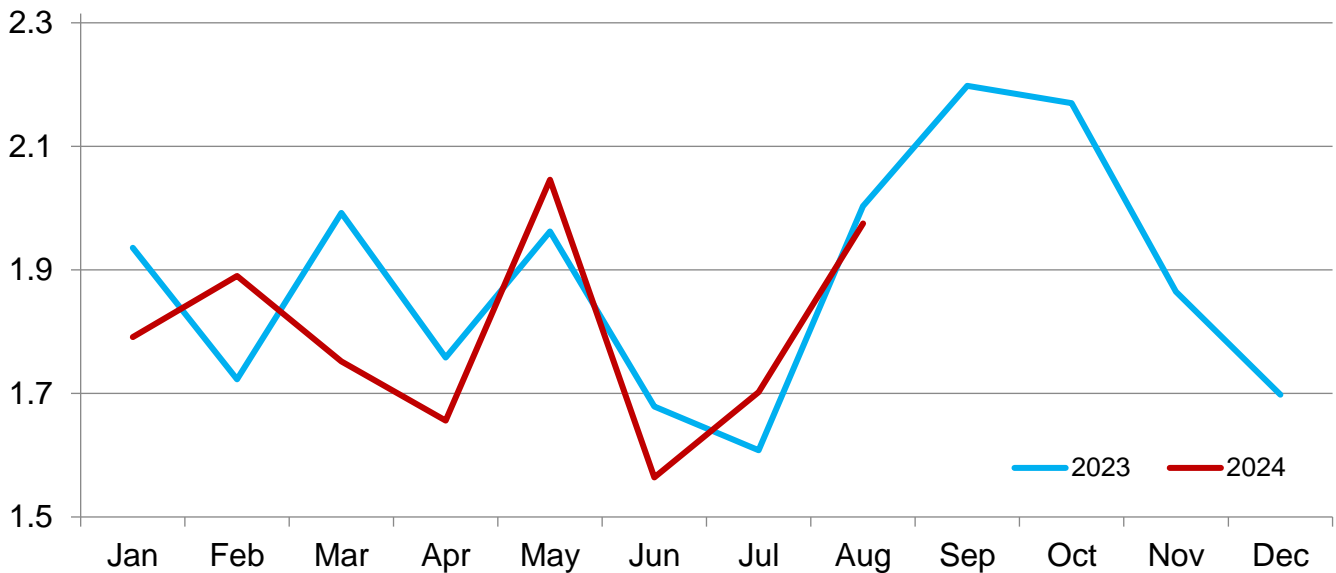


Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024

State	During August 2023 (1,000 head)	During July 2024 (1,000 head)	During August 2024		
			Placements (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	21	16	15	71	94
California	48	45	61	127	136
Colorado	120	145	155	129	107
Idaho	48	32	50	104	156
Iowa	77	56	75	97	134
Kansas	550	425	535	97	126
Minnesota	13	8	10	77	125
Nebraska	510	450	495	97	110
Oklahoma	43	45	50	116	111
South Dakota	35	21	29	83	138
Texas	440	385	415	94	108
Washington	45	37	36	80	97
Other States	53	37	49	92	132
United States	2,003	1,702	1,975	99	116

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: 2023 and 2024

State	During August 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	20	20	25	30	25	(D)	(D)	120
Kansas	65	100	175	145	65	(D)	(D)	550
Nebraska	45	45	100	160	160	(D)	(D)	510
Texas	190	100	85	55	10	(D)	(D)	440
Other States ...	95	40	70	103	75	(D)	(D)	383
United States ..	415	305	455	493	(X)	245	90	2,003

State	During July 2024							
	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	30	25	(D)	(D)	145
Kansas	60	70	125	110	60	(D)	(D)	425
Nebraska	40	50	100	140	120	(D)	(D)	450
Texas	175	85	70	40	15	(D)	(D)	385
Other States ...	85	35	55	67	55	(D)	(D)	297
United States ..	390	265	385	387	(X)	200	75	1,702

State	During August 2024							
	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	25	30	30	40	30	(D)	(D)	155
Kansas	65	95	160	145	70	(D)	(D)	535
Nebraska	40	45	95	150	165	(D)	(D)	495
Texas	175	95	80	50	15	(D)	(D)	415
Other States ...	90	40	70	100	75	(D)	(D)	375
United States ..	395	305	435	485	(X)	265	90	1,975

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

(X) Not applicable.

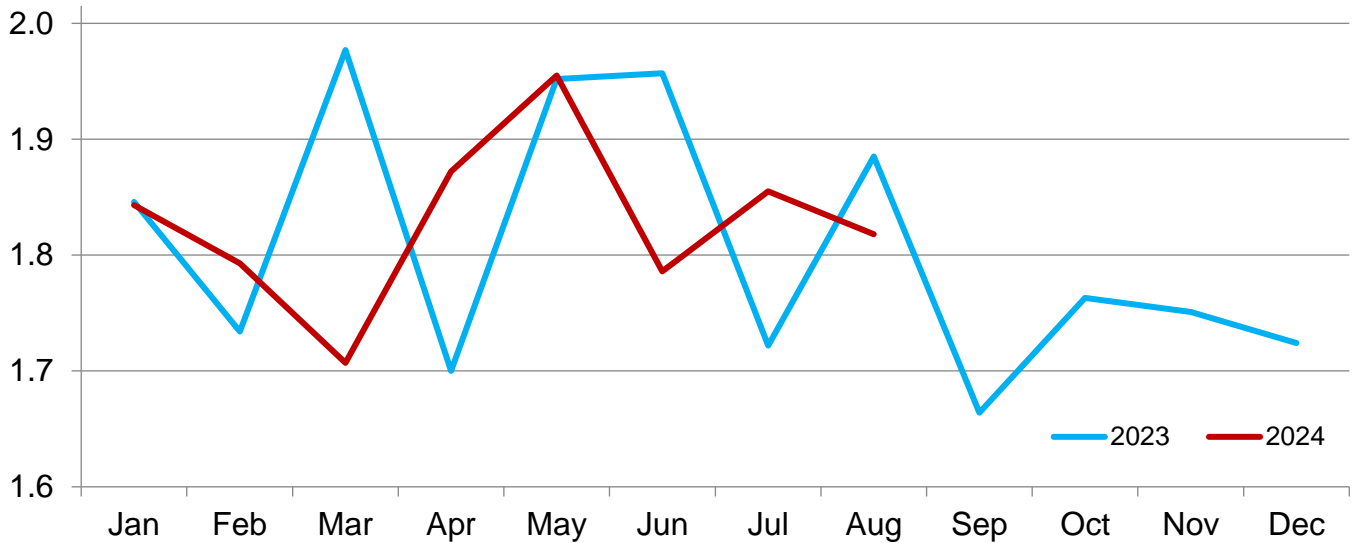
¹ The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2023 and 2024

State	During August 2023	During July 2024	During August 2024		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	22	24	21	95	88
California	51	49	55	108	112
Colorado	145	150	140	97	93
Idaho	42	51	44	105	86
Iowa	76	55	64	84	116
Kansas	480	425	455	95	107
Minnesota	12	12	14	117	117
Nebraska	510	510	485	95	95
Oklahoma	32	44	44	138	100
South Dakota	34	34	33	97	97
Texas	405	420	390	96	93
Washington	34	36	30	88	83
Other States	42	45	43	102	96
United States	1,885	1,855	1,818	96	98

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: 2023 and 2024

State	During August 2023 (1,000 head)	During July 2024 (1,000 head)	During August 2024		
			Other disappearance (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	7	6	6	86	100
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa	1	1	1	100	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	10	10	10	100	100
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	1	2	1	100	50
Texas	15	15	15	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	1	2	1	100	50
United States	55	56	54	98	96

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 0.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.2 million head by more than 0.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.7 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 33,000 head, ranging from 0 to 113,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 0 times and has been below the latest estimate 17 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	0.4	0.7	33	0	113	17	0
Placements	0.5	0.9	6	0	24	7	10
Marketings	0.1	0.2	1	0	6	9	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.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(512) 501-3266
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3347
Ralph Mondesir – 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 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.

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USDA Fall Data Users' Meeting

Virtual Meeting
October 15 & 16, 2024
Starting at 12:00 pm ET

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold a virtual meeting for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2024 Fall 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. Representatives will provide agency updates, answer questions, and listen to concerns from data users. Registration details will be coming soon.