



# 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 11.6 million head on March 1, 2025. The inventory was 2 percent below March 1, 2024.

**Placements** in feedlots during February totaled 1.55 million head, 18 percent below 2024. Net placements were 1.49 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 295,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 275,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 415,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 389,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 130,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 50,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during February totaled 1.63 million head, 9 percent below 2024.

**Other disappearance** totaled 60,000 head during February, 7 percent above 2024.

**Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: March 1, 2024 and 2025**

Item	2024	2025	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed February 1 .....	11,797	11,716	99
Placed on feed during February .....	1,890	1,554	82
Fed cattle marketed during February .....	1,793	1,633	91
Other disappearance during February .....	56	60	107
On feed March 1 .....	11,838	11,577	98

**Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: February 1, 2024 and 2025**

Item	2024	2025	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed January 1 .....	11,930	11,823	99
Placed on feed during January .....	1,791	1,822	102
Fed cattle marketed during January .....	1,843	1,869	101
Other disappearance during January .....	81	60	74
On feed February 1 .....	11,797	11,716	99

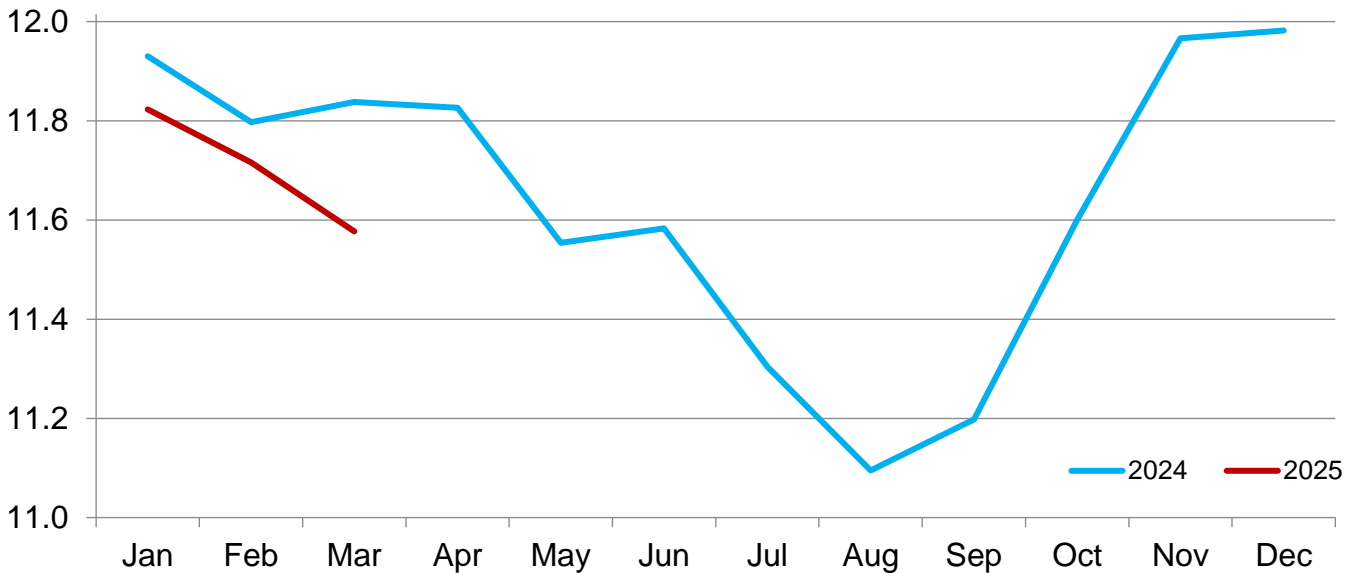
**Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025**

State	March 1, 2024	February 1, 2025	March 1, 2025		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	258	231	227	88	98
California .....	520	520	510	98	98
Colorado .....	1,020	1,030	1,010	99	98
Idaho .....	345	335	335	97	100
Iowa .....	650	670	670	103	100
Kansas .....	2,400	2,370	2,320	97	98
Minnesota .....	105	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	2,560	2,590	2,590	101	100
Oklahoma .....	330	345	340	103	99
South Dakota .....	245	230	235	96	102
Texas .....	2,820	2,700	2,640	94	98
Washington .....	255	255	260	102	102
Other States .....	330	440	440	133	100
United States .....	11,838	11,716	11,577	98	99

(NA) Not available.

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

Million head



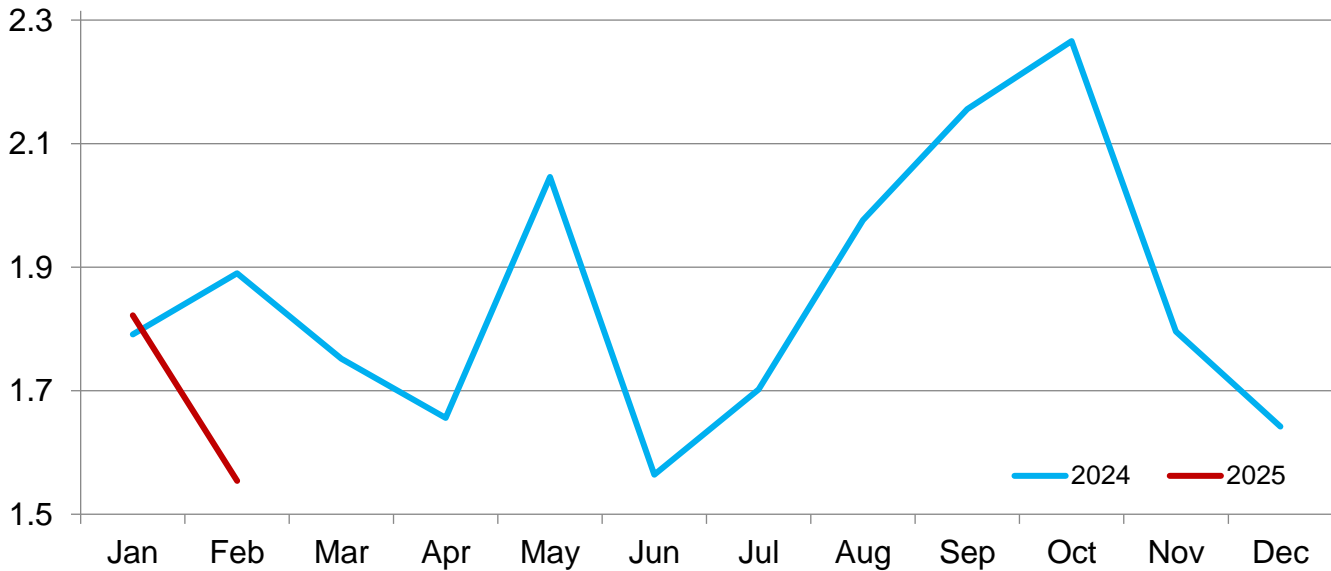
**Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025**

State	During February 2024 (1,000 head)	During January 2025 (1,000 head)	During February 2025		
			Placements (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona .....	22	23	17	77	74
California .....	66	63	55	83	87
Colorado .....	150	130	135	90	104
Idaho .....	43	41	36	84	88
Iowa .....	118	115	94	80	82
Kansas .....	460	450	360	78	80
Minnesota .....	14	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	505	535	440	87	82
Oklahoma .....	38	34	35	92	103
South Dakota .....	42	35	35	83	100
Texas .....	355	295	260	73	88
Washington .....	33	36	35	106	97
Other States .....	44	65	52	118	80
United States .....	1,890	1,822	1,554	82	85

(NA) Not available.

**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: 2024 and 2025**

State	During February 2024							
	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	30	35	35	25	(D)	(D)	150
Kansas .....	45	75	155	135	50	(D)	(D)	460
Nebraska .....	35	75	155	165	75	(D)	(D)	505
Texas .....	140	75	70	55	15	(D)	(D)	355
Other States ...	115	75	100	95	35	(D)	(D)	420
United States ..	360	330	515	485	(X)	150	50	1,890
State	During January 2025							
	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	30	35	20	20	(D)	(D)	130
Kansas .....	50	105	155	100	40	(D)	(D)	450
Nebraska .....	45	110	165	145	70	(D)	(D)	535
Texas .....	115	65	65	40	10	(D)	(D)	295
Other States ...	130	85	85	77	35	(D)	(D)	412
United States ..	365	395	505	382	(X)	105	70	1,822
State	During February 2025							
	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	30	35	20	(D)	(D)	135
Kansas .....	40	65	110	100	45	(D)	(D)	360
Nebraska .....	30	65	135	140	70	(D)	(D)	440
Texas .....	100	55	55	40	10	(D)	(D)	260
Other States ...	100	65	85	74	35	(D)	(D)	359
United States ..	295	275	415	389	(X)	130	50	1,554

(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.

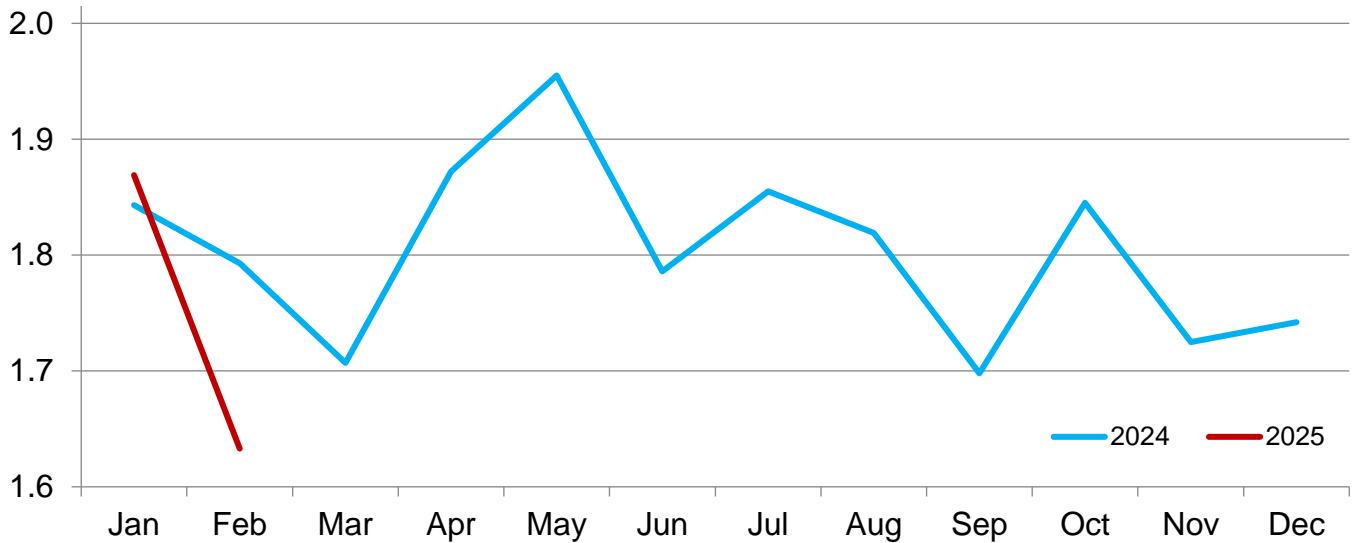
**Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025**

State	During February 2024	During January 2025	During February 2025		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	25	24	20	80	83
California .....	60	57	58	97	102
Colorado .....	135	145	145	107	100
Idaho .....	41	35	35	85	100
Iowa .....	106	94	93	88	99
Kansas .....	440	465	400	91	86
Minnesota .....	13	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	480	510	425	89	83
Oklahoma .....	37	48	39	105	81
South Dakota .....	36	34	29	81	85
Texas .....	345	365	310	90	85
Washington .....	37	35	29	78	83
Other States .....	38	57	50	132	88
United States .....	1,793	1,869	1,633	91	87

(NA) Not available.

# 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: 2024 and 2025

State	During February 2024 (1,000 head)	During January 2025 (1,000 head)	During February 2025		
			Other disappearance (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona .....	1	1	1	100	100
California .....	6	6	7	117	117
Colorado .....	5	5	10	200	200
Idaho .....	2	1	1	50	100
Iowa .....	2	1	1	50	100
Kansas .....	10	15	10	100	67
Minnesota .....	1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska .....	15	15	15	100	100
Oklahoma .....	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota .....	1	1	1	100	100
Texas .....	10	10	10	100	100
Washington .....	1	1	1	100	100
Other States .....	1	3	2	200	67
United States .....	56	60	60	107	100

(NA) Not available.

## 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 11 of the 16 States. In 2025, data collected from the remaining 5 States are used to establish the "Other States" estimates. These 5 States include Illinois, New Mexico, Oregon, Wyoming and in 2025, Minnesota was added. 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 0.2 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 0.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.3 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 15,000 head, ranging from 0 to 46,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 1 time and has been below the latest estimate 11 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 .....	0.2	0.3	15	0	46	11	1
Placements .....	0.3	0.6	4	0	20	6	7
Marketings .....	0.1	0.2	1	0	6	6	5

## 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).

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch ..... (202) 692-0069

Vacant, Head, Livestock Section

Vacant – Dairy Products

Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter ..... (202) 690-8632

Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed ..... (202) 720-3040

Kim DaPra – Milk Production and Milk Cows ..... (202) 720-3278

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](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).

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Contact\\_Us/Ask\\_a\\_Specialist](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist).

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