

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED  
APRIL 1, 1957

April 16, 1957

The number of cattle and calves on feed for market in 13 major feeding States on April 1 was estimated at 4,392,000 head, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This was an increase of 4 percent from the 4,222,000 head on feed April 1, 1956. There was also an increase of 4 percent from January 1, 1956 to January 1, 1957, in these same States. The April 1, 1957 number of cattle and calves on feed in the 13 States was 15 percent below the number on January 1, 1957 which is about the usual decline and compares with a 15 percent drop during the same period of 1956. Numbers placed on feed in these States during the 1957 January-March quarter at 1,736,000 head were about the same as the 1,728,000 head placed in 1956. Fed cattle marketed from the 13 States during the first quarter this year at 2,516,000 head were 2 percent above the similar period for 1956. Cattle and calves on feed in Idaho, which are not included in the 13-States, totaled 100,000 head on April 1, 1957--down 15 percent from 1956.

Cattle and calves on feed in 9 of the Corn Belt States on April 1, 1957 totaled 3,661,000 head--6 percent larger than the 3,465,000 head for a year earlier. All of the Corn Belt States for which cattle on feed estimates are made showed increases over April 1, 1956, except Nebraska which was down 1 percent, and Kansas, down 17 percent. The fed cattle marketed and numbers placed on feed for the January-March quarter of 1957 in 9 of the Corn Belt States showed little change from the same period of 1956. Marketings at 1,764,000 head were unchanged and placements at 1,371,000 head were up 2 percent. Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into 9 of the Corn Belt States for the January through March quarter of 1957 were up 6 percent from the same period of 1956.

For the 5 important western feeding States, Texas, Idaho, Colorado, Arizona, and California, cattle numbers on feed April 1, 1957, at 831,000 head, were down 5 percent from the 875,000 head on feed April 1, 1956. This compares with a 1 percent increase from the preceding year shown by these same States on January 1, 1957. Colorado was the only one of the 5 Western States that showed an increase over 1956 in cattle on feed April 1, 1957. The current number in Colorado, at 222,000 head, was up 15 percent. California numbers at 297,000 head were unchanged from 1956, while Texas was down 26 percent, Idaho down 15 percent, and Arizona, down 18 percent. Fed cattle marketed from California feed lots during the January through March quarter of 1957 totaled 375,000 head, down 1 percent from the 379,000 head marketed in the same quarter of 1956. The number placed on feed in California during the first quarter of 1957, at 176,000 head, was down 6 percent from 1956. In Colorado, first quarter marketings for 1957, at 116,000 head, were down 11 percent from 1956, while placements for the same period of 1957, at 92,000 head, were up nearly 5 percent from a year earlier.

Data for the 13 States indicate that the numbers on feed over 3 months April 1, 1957 was 6 percent above 1956, while those on feed less than 3 months were about unchanged from 1956. Expressed as a percent of total numbers on feed, the number

on feed less than 3 months was 37 percent in 1957 compared with 39 percent in 1956. The number on feed 3 to 6 months was 57 percent of the total compared with 56 percent last year. The number on feed more than 6 months was 6 percent of the total compared with 5 percent in 1956.

The breakdown of numbers by weight groups indicates considerably more medium weight cattle on feed than in 1956. The number of cattle under 600 pounds was 920,000 head, up 2 percent from last year. Those weighing from 600-900 pounds at 2,160,000 head were up 9 percent from 1956. Cattle weighing over 900 pounds at 1,312,000 head were down 2 percent from last year. The percent of total cattle in each weight group for April 1, 1957 and April 1, 1956 were: under 600 pounds, 21 percent compared with 21 percent; 600-900 pounds 49 percent compared with 47 percent; over 900 pounds 30 percent compared with 32 percent.

Steers represented 62 percent of the total cattle on feed April 1, 1957 compared with 62 percent for 1956. Heifers were 21 percent this year and 20 percent last year while calves were 16 percent in 1957 and 17 percent in 1956. Cows and other cattle represented 1 percent both years.

Cattle feeders reported marketing intentions on April 1, 1957 indicate marketings of fed cattle will be at a slower rate than last year with 47 percent of the April 1 numbers this year expected to be marketed by July 1. In 1956, feeders intended to market 51 percent of April 1 numbers by July 1. Of the total numbers on feed April 1, 1957, reported intentions show 15 percent to be marketed in April compared with 19 percent in 1956; 15 percent in May compared with 18 percent in 1956; and 17 percent in June compared with 14 percent for June of 1956.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN SELECTED STATES 1/

State	April 1, 1956	January 1, 1957	April 1, 1957	April 1, 1957 as a percentage of April 1, 1956
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Ohio .....	155	189	161	104
Indiana .....	254	305	269	106
Illinois .....	575	690	610	106
Minnesota .....	290	371	345	119
Iowa .....	1,228	1,295	1,302	106
Missouri .....	216	281	227	105
South Dakota .....	150	210	174	116
Nebraska ... ..	488	560	483	99
Kansas .....	109	153	90	83
9 N.C. States ....	3,465	4,054	3,661	106
Texas .....	97	154	72	74
Colorado .....	193	246	222	115
Arizona .....	170	222	140	82
California .....	297	496	297	100
13 States .....	4,222	5,172	4,392	104
Michigan .....	2/	124	2/	110
Wisconsin .....	2/	113	2/	108
Idaho .....	118	121	100	85

1/ Estimates include only cattle being fattened for market as a more or less distinct agricultural enterprise, and excludes small operations incidental to dairy and general farming. Cattle thus fed are presumed to produce carcasses that will grade good or better. 2/ Not available.

Cattle and calves: Marketings and placements  
in selected States, January 1 - March 31

State	Total fed cattle marketed <sup>1/</sup>			Cattle and calves placed on feed <sup>1/</sup>			Short-fed cattle <sup>2/</sup>		
	: 1957 as a % of 1956			: 1957 as a % of 1956			: 1957 as a % of 1956		
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Ohio.....	70	64	91	45	36	80	3	2	67
Indiana.....	116	109	94	49	73	149	6	3	50
Illinois....	285	292	102	221	212	96	3	17	567
Minnesota...	114	120	105	67	94	140	3	4	133
Iowa.....	475	500	105	515	507	98	24	25	104
Missouri....	145	145	100	80	91	114	7	9	129
South Dakota	110	100	91	50	64	128	8	5	62
Nebraska....	316	306	97	260	229	88	16	12	75
Kansas.....	133	128	96	60	65	108	8	4	50
9 N.C. States	1,764	1,764	100	1,347	1,371	102	78	81	104
Texas	98	125	128	47	43	91	8	6	75
Colorado....	130	116	89	88	92	105	6	3	50
Arizona.....	93	136	146	59	54	92	8	6	75
California..	379	375	99	187	176	94	9	15	167
13 States	2,464	2,516	102	1,728	1,736	100	109	111	102
Idaho.....	75	58	77	43	37	86	3	5	167

<sup>1/</sup> Includes short-fed cattle.

<sup>2/</sup> Short-fed cattle are defined as those placed on feed after January 1 and marketed by March 31.

Cattle and calves: Inventories, marketings, and placements  
in 13 States, January 1 - March 31 <sup>1/</sup>

Item	1956	1957	1957 as a % of 1956
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Cattle and calves on feed - January 1.....	4,958	5,172	104
Total fed marketed Jan. 1 - Mar. 31 <sup>2/</sup> .....	2,464	2,516	102
Cattle and calves placed on feed Jan. 1 - Mar. 31 <sup>2/</sup>	1,728	1,736	100
Short-fed cattle Jan. 1 - Mar. 31 <sup>3/</sup> .....	109	111	102
Cattle and calves on feed April 1.....	4,222	4,392	104

<sup>1/</sup> States listed in above table except Idaho.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes short-fed cattle.

<sup>3/</sup> Short-fed cattle are defined as those placed on feed after January 1 and marketed by March 31.

Cattle and calves on feed, by weight groups, April 1, 1956 and 1957

State	Under 600 pounds		600-900 pounds		900-1100 pounds		1100-1300 pounds		Over 1300 pounds	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Ohio.....	34	35	88	92	30	32	3	2	--	--
Indiana.....	68	59	135	162	43	43	8	5	--	--
Illinois.....	115	116	293	323	138	147	23	24	6	--
Minnesota.....	81	93	113	152	87	90	9	10	--	--
Iowa.....	295	299	541	573	319	339	61	78	12	13
Missouri.....	39	43	127	148	39	25	11	11	--	--
South Dakota...	52	55	48	75	34	35	14	9	2	--
Nebraska.....	78	92	244	227	132	121	29	38	5	5
Kansas.....	17	11	65	62	23	13	4	3	--	1
9 N.C. States..	779	803	1,654	1,814	845	845	162	180	25	19
Texas.....	28	20	45	39	22	11	2	2	--	--
Colorado.....	15	24	72	95	73	79	26	22	7	2
Arizona.....	53	31	70	73	45	34	2	2	--	--
California.....	30	42	139	139	107	98	18	17	3	1
13 States.....	905	920	1,980	2,160	1,092	1,067	210	223	35	22
Idaho.....	20	16	35	48	50	23	12	12	1	1

Percentage distribution of total

	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
9 N.C. States..	22	22	48	49	24	23	5	5	1	1
13 States.....	21	21	47	49	26	24	5	5	1	1

Cattle and calves on feed, by classes, April 1, 1956 and 1957

State	Steers		Heifers		Calves		Cows and other	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Ohio.....	110	119	23	24	21	18	1	--
Indiana.....	142	164	68	73	41	29	3	3
Illinois.....	362	415	104	122	109	73	--	--
Minnesota.....	171	214	64	66	52	62	3	3
Iowa.....	798	820	184	234	243	248	3	--
Missouri.....	127	136	37	39	50	50	2	2
South Dakota...	80	87	22	33	46	52	2	2
Nebraska.....	308	270	112	126	63	82	5	5
Kansas.....	58	40	37	40	13	9	1	1
9 N.C. States..	2,156	2,265	651	757	638	623	20	16
Texas.....	56	36	19	21	20	14	2	1
Colorado.....	99	102	81	97	13	23	--	--
Arizona.....	88	98	43	22	38	16	1	4
California.....	220	229	62	53	12	12	3	3
13 States.....	2,619	2,730	856	950	721	688	26	24
Idaho.....	76	63	26	28	14	7	2	2

Percentage distribution of total

	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
9 N.C. States..	62	62	19	21	18	17	1	1/
13 States.....	62	62	20	21	17	16	1	1

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

CATTLE AND CALVES: LENGTH OF TIME ON FEED, APRIL 1, 1956 AND 1957

State	Less than 3 months:		3 to 6 months		More than 6 months	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Ohio . . . . .	42	34	94	106	19	21
Ind. . . . .	43	70	188	178	23	21
Ill. . . . .	218	195	328	378	29	37
Minn. . . . .	64	90	206	217	20	38
Iowa . . . . .	491	482	688	755	49	65
Mo. . . . .	73	82	134	136	9	9
S. Dak. . . . .	42	59	93	99	15	16
Nebr. . . . .	244	217	220	237	24	29
Kans. . . . .	52	61	50	27	7	2
9 N. C. States	1,269	1,290	2,001	2,133	195	238
Texas . . . . .	39	37	52	29	6	6
Colo. . . . .	82	89	98	124	13	9
Ariz. . . . .	51	48	108	84	11	8
Calif. . . . .	178	161	1/119	1/136	--	--
13 States . . . .	1,619	1,625	2,378	2,506	225	261
Idaho . . . . .	40	32	71	62	7	6

Percentage Distribution of Total

	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
9 N. C. States . . . .	37	35	58	58	5	7
13 States . . . . .	39	37	56	57	5	6

1/ Includes number on feed more than 6 months. California showed following numbers on feed last year and this year in thousands, respectively; less than 30 days 74, 65; 30 to 60 days 42, 48; 60 to 90 days 62, 48; 90 to 120 days 68, 74; 120 days and over 51, 62.

CATTLE: EXPECTED MONTHS OF MARKETING 1957

State	April	May	June	Later
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Ohio . . . . .	19	29	34	79
Ind. . . . .	32	27	49	161
Ill. . . . .	61	73	92	384
Minn . . . . .	35	38	55	217
Iowa . . . . .	130	156	182	834
Mo. . . . .	27	41	36	123
S. Dak . . . . .	35	22	28	89
Nebr. . . . .	101	82	92	208
Kans. . . . .	22	21	20	27
9 N. C. States	462	489	588	2,122
Texas . . . . .	25	20	13	14
Colo . . . . .	54	47	45	76
Ariz . . . . .	41	41	31	27
Calif. . . . .	86	65	60	86
13 States . . . .	668	662	737	2,325
Idaho	20	20	21	39

Percentage Distribution of Total

	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
9 States . . . . .	13	13	16	58
13 States . . . . .	15	15	17	53