



Cattle on Feed

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United States Cattle on Feed Down 3 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.7 million head on June 1, 2013. The inventory was 3 percent below June 1, 2012.

Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.05 million, 2 percent below 2012. Net placements were 1.95 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 390,000, 600-699 pounds were 304,000, 700-799 pounds were 555,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 800,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 1.95 million, 3 percent below 2012. Marketings are the second lowest since the series began in 1996 for the month of May.

Other disappearance totaled 100,000 during May, unchanged from 2012.

Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: June 1, 2012 and 2013

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2012	2013	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed May 1	11,110	10,735	97
Placed on feed during May	2,084	2,049	98
Fed cattle marketed during May	2,017	1,948	97
Other disappearance during May	100	100	100
On feed June 1	11,077	10,736	97

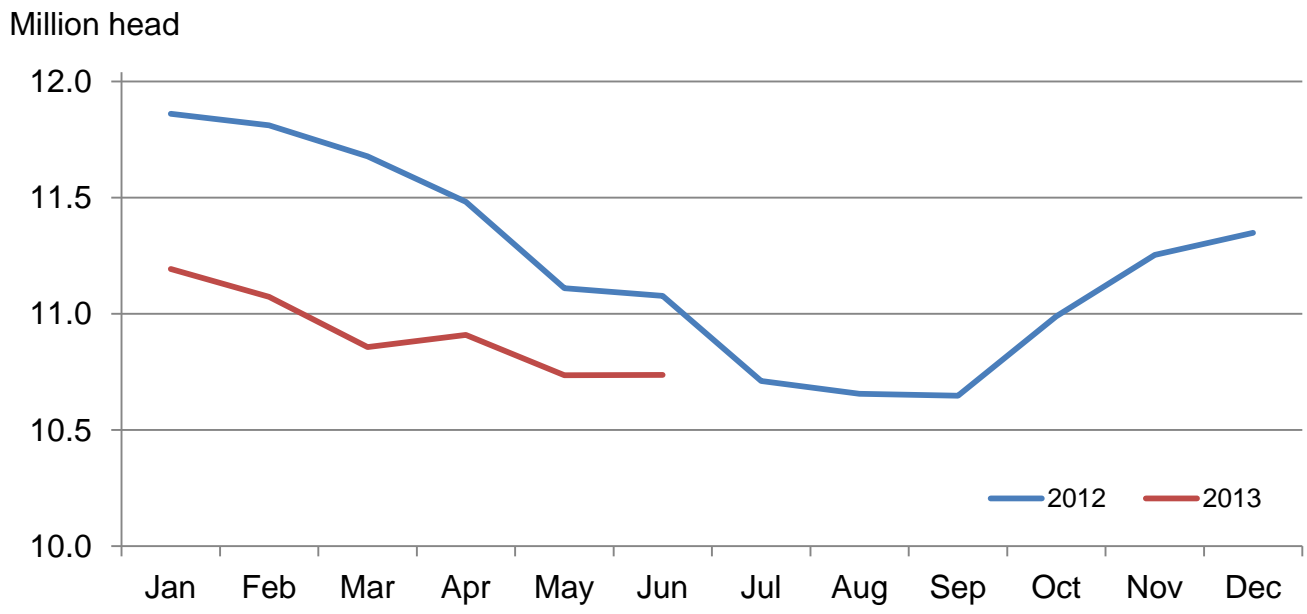
Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: May 1, 2012 and 2013

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2012	2013	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed April 1	11,482	10,909	95
Placed on feed during April	1,521	1,750	115
Fed cattle marketed during April	1,815	1,855	102
Other disappearance during April	78	69	88
On feed May 1	11,110	10,735	97

Number of Cattle on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

State	June 1, 2012	May 1, 2013	June 1, 2013		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	282	275	272	96	99
California	490	490	510	104	104
Colorado	1,020	960	960	94	100
Idaho	210	210	205	98	98
Iowa	640	620	610	95	98
Kansas	2,090	2,060	2,060	99	100
Nebraska	2,360	2,390	2,320	98	97
Oklahoma	320	295	310	97	105
South Dakota	230	225	215	93	96
Texas	2,770	2,540	2,630	95	104
Washington	220	220	214	97	97
Other States	445	450	430	97	96
United States	11,077	10,735	10,736	97	100

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

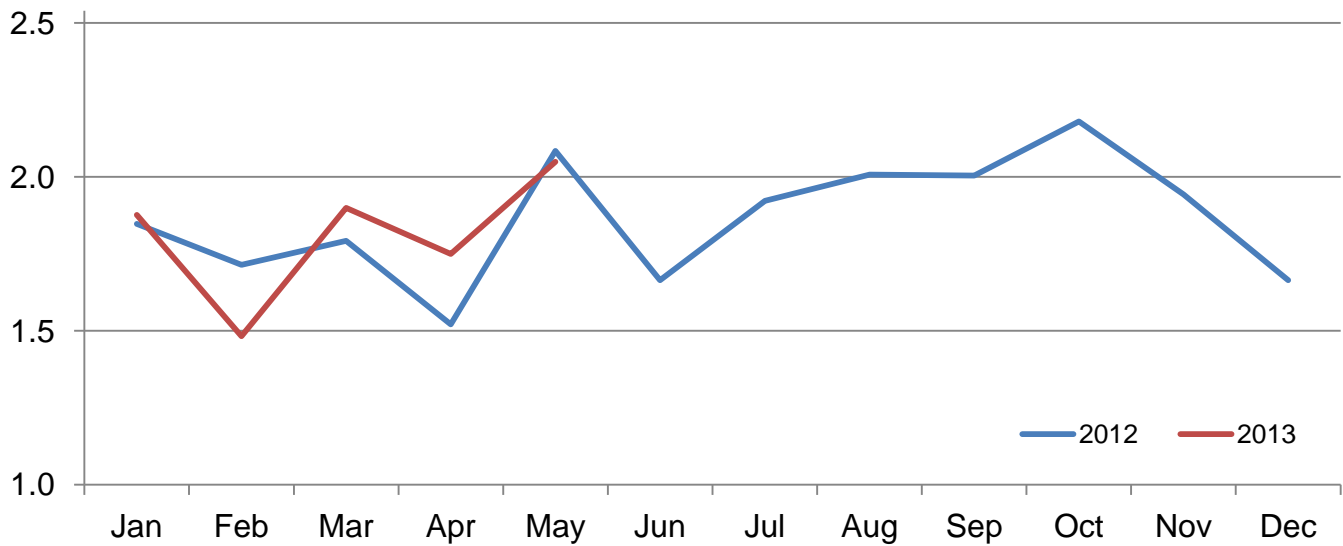


Number of Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

State	During May 2012 (1,000 head)	During April 2013 (1,000 head)	During May 2013		
			Number (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	36	26	25	69	96
California	70	65	77	110	118
Colorado	180	140	170	94	121
Idaho	29	33	41	141	124
Iowa	59	89	65	110	73
Kansas	445	350	430	97	123
Nebraska	460	450	460	100	102
Oklahoma	81	51	78	96	153
South Dakota	35	28	39	111	139
Texas	580	435	570	98	131
Washington	43	26	40	93	154
Other States	66	57	54	82	95
United States	2,084	1,750	2,049	98	117

Number of Cattle Placed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

Million head



Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

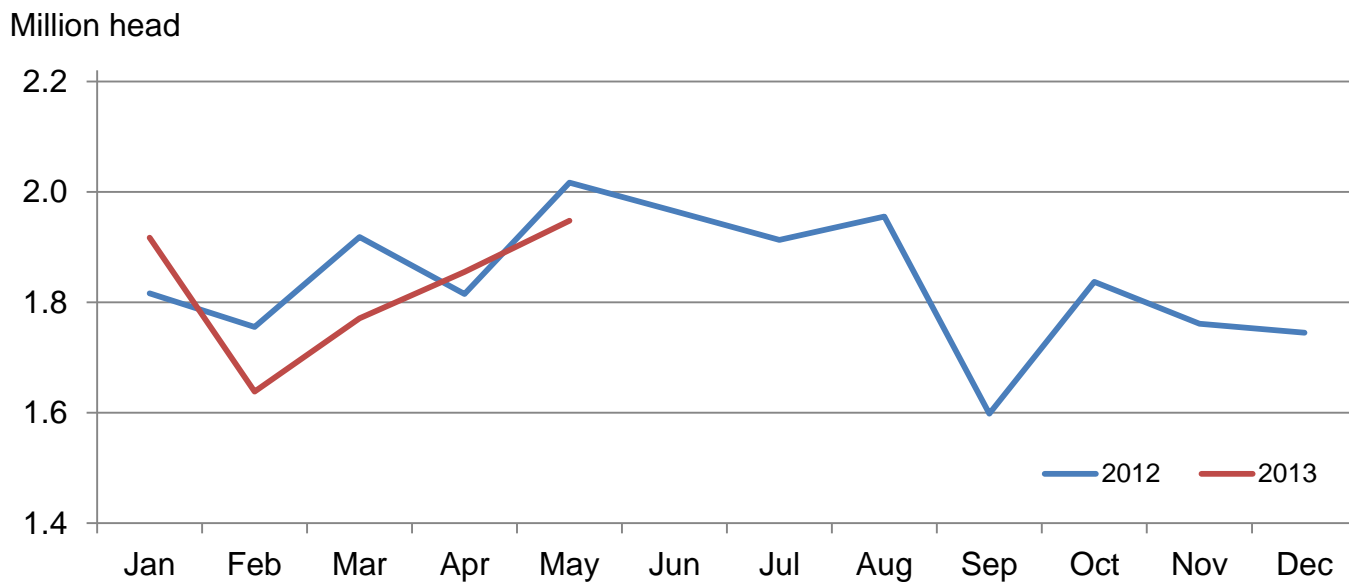
State	During May									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	35	30	30	20	45	50	70	70	180	170
Kansas	90	55	90	70	130	130	135	175	445	430
Nebraska	70	50	60	55	130	130	200	225	460	460
Texas	220	160	125	105	140	155	95	150	580	570
Other States	105	95	60	54	85	90	169	180	419	419
United States	520	390	365	304	530	555	669	800	2,084	2,049

State	During April									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
	(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)
Colorado	25	20	20	35	30	40	45	45	120	140
Kansas	60	55	55	50	85	100	100	145	300	350
Nebraska	50	70	50	70	90	110	180	200	370	450
Texas	130	140	80	65	105	115	95	115	410	435
Other States	90	85	45	55	70	90	116	145	321	375
United States	355	370	250	275	380	455	536	650	1,521	1,750

Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

State	During May 2012	During April 2013	During May 2013		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	29	28	27	93	96
California	53	52	54	102	104
Colorado	170	150	150	88	100
Idaho	32	36	45	141	125
Iowa	64	97	72	113	74
Kansas	415	365	410	99	112
Nebraska	540	470	510	94	109
Oklahoma	54	60	61	113	102
South Dakota	45	32	45	100	141
Texas	500	470	465	93	99
Washington	46	35	45	98	129
Other States	69	60	64	93	107
United States	2,017	1,855	1,948	97	105

Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States



Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

State	During May 2012 (1,000 head)	During April 2013 (1,000 head)	During May 2013		
			Number (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	2	3	3	150	100
Colorado	20	10	20	100	200
Idaho	2	2	1	50	50
Iowa	5	2	3	60	150
Kansas	20	15	20	100	133
Nebraska	20	10	20	100	200
Oklahoma	2	1	2	100	200
South Dakota	5	1	4	80	400
Texas	20	15	15	75	100
Washington	1	4	1	100	25
Other States	2	5	10	500	200
United States	100	69	100	100	145

Terms and Definitions of Cattle on Feed Estimates

Cattle on feed are animals 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 cattle 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 cattle 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.

Reliability of Cattle on Feed Estimates

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. Data collected from the remaining 5 States are used to establish the "Other States" estimates. These 5 States include Illinois, Minnesota, 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 each State office. 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 10.7 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 10,000 head, ranging from 0 to 47,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 8 times and has been below the latest estimate 2 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)
Number on feed	0.2	0.3	10	0	47	2	8
Placements	0.3	0.5	3	0	20	3	5
Marketings	0.3	0.5	2	0	20	5	3

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@nass.usda.gov

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Travis Averill – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4751
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Tiffany Hora – Livestock Slaughter	(515) 284-4340
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278

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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@nass.usda.gov.

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