



# Cattle on Feed

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## Special Note

NASS has revised monthly cattle on feed estimates back to February 2013 to better align with the definition that cattle should grade select or better to be counted in the NASS monthly cattle on feed program. This means that cows and bulls have been removed from these previous estimates and future cattle on feed estimates.

The 2013 monthly data for cattle on feed, inventory, placements, placement weights, and quarterly class breakouts are now available on Quick Stats. This report contains the 2014 monthly cattle on feed estimates for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head. The U.S. number of feedlots, inventory, and annual marketings by size group for 2013 and 2014 are provided in this report. Data for total U.S. capacity of 1,000 or more head feedlots are also published in this issue. In addition, January 1, 2014 and 2015 All Cattle on Feed are provided in this publication. Please contact the Livestock Branch at (202) 720-3570 or email at [hq\\_sd\\_lb@nass.usda.gov](mailto:hq_sd_lb@nass.usda.gov) with any questions or concerns.

## United States Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

**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 February 1, 2015. The inventory was slightly above February 1, 2014.

**Placements** in feedlots during January totaled 1.79 million, 11 percent below 2014. Net placements were 1.71 million head. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 405,000, 600-699 pounds were 340,000, 700-799 pounds were 477,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 565,000.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during January totaled 1.63 million, 9 percent below 2014. January marketings are the lowest since the series began in 1996.

**Other disappearance** totaled 77,000 during January, 8 percent above 2014.

## 2014 Cattle on Feed and Annual Size Group Estimates

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head represented 81.6 percent of all cattle and calves on feed in the United States on January 1, 2015, up from 81.3 on January 1, 2014.

**Marketings** of fed cattle for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head during 2014 represented 87.2 percent of all cattle marketed from feedlots in the United States, up from 86.9 percent during 2013.

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**Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: February 1, 2014 and 2015**

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2014	2015	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed January 1 .....	10,523	10,626	101
Placed on feed during January .....	2,014	1,787	89
Fed cattle marketed during January .....	1,788	1,625	91
Other disappearance during January .....	71	77	108
On feed February 1 .....	10,678	10,711	100

**Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: January 1, 2014 and 2015**

[December preceeding year.]

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2014	2015	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed December 1 .....	10,682	10,816	101
Placed on feed during December .....	1,654	1,537	93
Fed cattle marketed during December .....	1,736	1,655	95
Other disappearance during December .....	77	72	94
On feed January 1 .....	10,523	10,626	101

**Number on Feed by Class on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: January 1, 2014 and 2015**

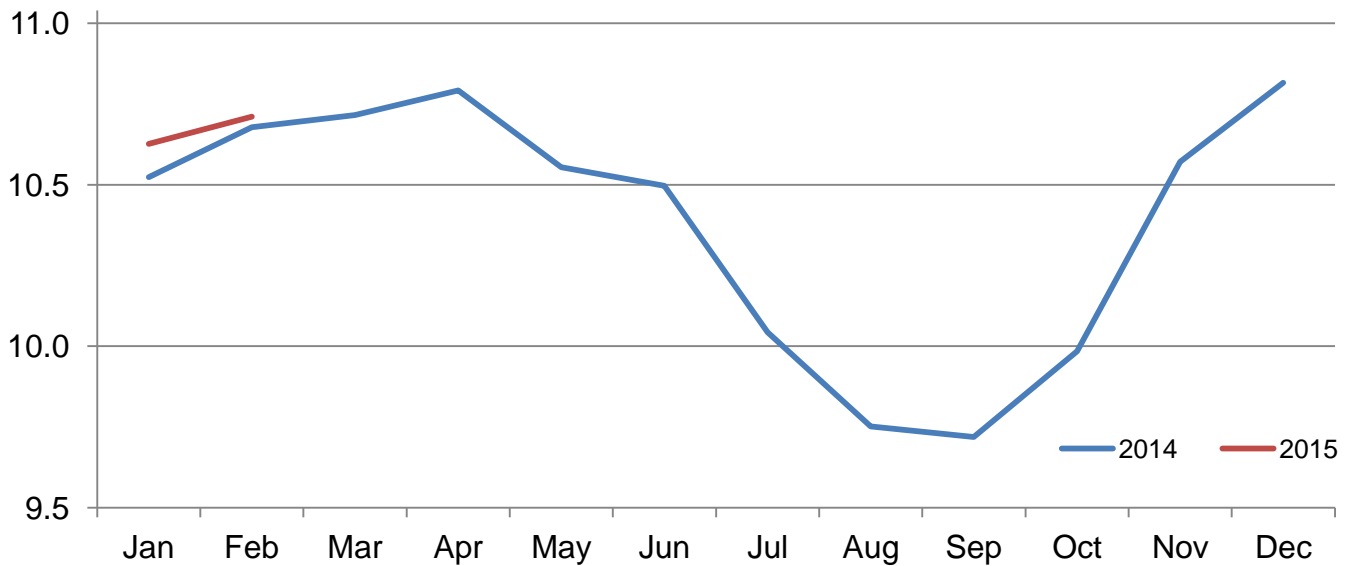
Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2014	2015	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Class on feed January 1			
Steers and steer calves .....	6,790	6,948	102
Heifers and heifer calves .....	3,733	3,678	99

**Number of Cattle on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014 and 2015**

State	February 1, 2014	January 1, 2015	February 1, 2015		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	272	249	247	91	99
California .....	520	425	440	85	104
Colorado .....	950	900	890	94	99
Idaho .....	210	230	230	110	100
Iowa .....	660	640	660	100	103
Kansas .....	2,050	2,050	2,090	102	102
Minnesota .....	136	137	139	102	101
Nebraska .....	2,430	2,460	2,490	102	101
Oklahoma .....	265	255	265	100	104
South Dakota .....	220	230	230	105	100
Texas .....	2,440	2,500	2,490	102	100
Washington .....	200	210	210	105	100
Other States .....	325	340	330	102	97
United States .....	10,678	10,626	10,711	100	101

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

Million head



**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014 and 2015**

State	During January 2014	During December 2014	During January 2015		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	31	26	30	97	115
California .....	70	51	64	91	125
Colorado .....	190	130	135	71	104
Idaho .....	41	45	35	85	78
Iowa .....	114	101	100	88	99
Kansas .....	435	330	410	94	124
Minnesota .....	18	17	15	83	88
Nebraska .....	545	385	495	91	129
Oklahoma .....	47	36	50	106	139
South Dakota .....	39	27	30	77	111
Texas .....	405	325	350	86	108
Washington .....	42	30	40	95	133
Other States .....	37	34	33	89	97
United States .....	2,014	1,537	1,787	89	116

**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2013 and 2015**

State	During January									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(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 .....	45	30	45	25	50	35	50	45	190	135
Kansas .....	65	65	90	85	145	125	135	135	435	410
Nebraska .....	75	60	115	95	165	140	190	200	545	495
Texas .....	160	125	80	60	95	95	70	70	405	350
Other States .....	125	125	105	75	104	82	105	115	439	397
United States .....	470	405	435	340	559	477	550	565	2,014	1,787

State	During December									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(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 .....	40	35	40	30	35	25	35	40	150	130
Kansas .....	70	60	90	75	110	100	90	95	360	330
Nebraska .....	80	65	90	95	95	85	130	140	395	385
Texas .....	160	145	90	75	75	65	45	40	370	325
Other States .....	125	135	100	90	74	57	80	85	379	367
United States .....	475	440	410	365	389	332	380	400	1,654	1,537

**Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States:  
2014 and 2015**

State	During January 2014	During December 2014	During January 2015		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	32	26	23	72	88
California .....	58	54	44	76	81
Colorado .....	170	135	140	82	104
Idaho .....	45	34	34	76	100
Iowa .....	71	80	78	110	98
Kansas .....	385	370	355	92	96
Minnesota .....	10	13	12	120	92
Nebraska .....	470	440	450	96	102
Oklahoma .....	40	39	39	98	100
South Dakota .....	41	30	27	66	90
Texas .....	385	365	345	90	95
Washington .....	35	42	38	109	90
Other States .....	46	27	40	87	148
United States .....	1,788	1,655	1,625	91	98

**Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States:  
2014 and 2015**

State	During January 2014	During December 2014	During January 2015		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona .....	1	3	9	900	300
California .....	2	7	5	250	71
Colorado .....	10	5	5	50	100
Idaho .....	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa .....	3	1	2	67	200
Kansas .....	10	10	15	150	150
Minnesota .....	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska .....	15	15	15	100	100
Oklahoma .....	2	2	1	50	50
South Dakota .....	3	2	3	100	150
Texas .....	20	20	15	75	75
Washington .....	2	3	2	100	67
Other States .....	1	2	3	300	150
United States .....	71	72	77	108	107

## Number of Cattle on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014

State	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	274	272	272	277	277	275
California .....	510	520	500	475	450	435
Colorado .....	940	950	920	950	940	910
Idaho .....	215	210	205	205	205	195
Iowa .....	620	660	670	670	660	640
Kansas .....	2,010	2,050	2,060	2,090	2,010	2,020
Minnesota .....	129	136	134	135	137	122
Nebraska .....	2,370	2,430	2,470	2,470	2,460	2,380
Oklahoma .....	260	265	270	275	255	265
South Dakota .....	225	220	220	225	220	210
Texas .....	2,440	2,440	2,470	2,500	2,430	2,550
Washington .....	195	200	200	200	190	180
Other States .....	335	325	325	320	320	315
United States .....	10,523	10,678	10,716	10,792	10,554	10,497
	July 1	August 1	September 1	October 1	November 1	December 1
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	272	262	257	252	250	252
California .....	435	420	415	415	420	435
Colorado .....	850	790	780	820	880	910
Idaho .....	180	175	170	195	210	220
Iowa .....	620	600	580	560	590	620
Kansas .....	1,900	1,900	1,950	2,010	2,080	2,100
Minnesota .....	121	115	112	113	131	134
Nebraska .....	2,240	2,140	2,110	2,230	2,440	2,530
Oklahoma .....	255	240	245	245	260	260
South Dakota .....	195	175	175	180	220	235
Texas .....	2,490	2,470	2,450	2,470	2,550	2,560
Washington .....	175	170	180	190	215	225
Other States .....	310	295	295	305	325	335
United States .....	10,043	9,752	9,719	9,985	10,571	10,816

**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014**

State	During					
	December <sup>1</sup>	January	February	March	April	May
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	28	31	28	30	26	24
California .....	59	70	38	53	57	50
Colorado .....	150	190	135	165	130	140
Idaho .....	32	41	37	34	27	23
Iowa .....	96	114	86	71	69	54
Kansas .....	360	435	335	390	325	435
Minnesota .....	19	18	11	18	16	8
Nebraska .....	395	545	430	410	420	425
Oklahoma .....	43	47	43	52	43	67
South Dakota .....	33	39	39	42	28	34
Texas .....	370	405	410	470	420	580
Washington .....	30	42	38	31	27	37
Other States .....	39	37	28	35	35	32
United States .....	1,654	2,014	1,658	1,801	1,623	1,909
	During					
	June	July	August	September	October	November
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	20	23	21	20	22	26
California .....	45	39	40	43	53	62
Colorado .....	95	90	145	200	210	155
Idaho .....	26	37	33	64	61	43
Iowa .....	54	56	63	99	132	127
Kansas .....	315	400	410	400	420	320
Minnesota .....	15	10	15	20	30	15
Nebraska .....	385	375	425	530	660	475
Oklahoma .....	37	32	50	55	60	45
South Dakota .....	31	20	35	50	84	53
Texas .....	370	410	410	445	520	385
Washington .....	40	36	44	43	62	49
Other States .....	35	31	34	45	54	39
United States .....	1,468	1,559	1,725	2,014	2,368	1,794

<sup>1</sup> December prior year.



**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014**

State	During December prior year				
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado .....	40	40	35	35	150
Kansas .....	70	90	110	90	360
Nebraska .....	80	90	95	130	395
Texas .....	160	90	75	45	370
Other States .....	125	100	74	80	379
United States .....	475	410	389	380	1,654
	During January				
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado .....	45	45	50	50	190
Kansas .....	65	90	145	135	435
Nebraska .....	75	115	165	190	545
Texas .....	160	80	95	70	405
Other States .....	125	105	104	105	439
United States .....	470	435	559	550	2,014
	During February				
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado .....	30	25	35	45	135
Kansas .....	60	60	90	125	335
Nebraska .....	65	90	105	170	430
Texas .....	155	90	100	65	410
Other States .....	80	65	88	115	348
United States .....	390	330	418	520	1,658

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**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014** (continued)

State	During March				
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	35	30	50	50	165
Kansas .....	65	55	110	160	390
Nebraska .....	55	65	105	185	410
Texas .....	170	90	125	85	470
Other States .....	100	50	76	140	366
United States .....	425	290	466	620	1,801
	During April				
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	25	25	35	45	130
Kansas .....	60	50	90	125	325
Nebraska .....	65	65	95	195	420
Texas .....	140	70	110	100	420
Other States .....	90	40	63	135	328
United States .....	380	250	393	600	1,623
	During May				
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	35	20	35	50	140
Kansas .....	80	75	120	160	435
Nebraska .....	55	55	95	220	425
Texas .....	180	100	160	140	580
Other States .....	85	40	64	140	329
United States .....	435	290	474	710	1,909

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**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014 (continued)**

State	During June				
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado .....	30	15	20	30	95
Kansas .....	65	60	80	110	315
Nebraska .....	55	50	90	190	385
Texas .....	155	75	85	55	370
Other States .....	100	45	53	105	303
United States .....	405	245	328	490	1,468
	During July				
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado .....	25	15	20	30	90
Kansas .....	80	70	110	140	400
Nebraska .....	55	50	85	185	375
Texas .....	185	85	85	55	410
Other States .....	80	40	54	110	284
United States .....	425	260	354	520	1,559
	During August				
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado .....	30	15	35	65	145
Kansas .....	75	80	110	145	410
Nebraska .....	55	50	95	225	425
Texas .....	170	95	85	60	410
Other States .....	80	45	70	140	335
United States .....	410	285	395	635	1,725

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**Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014** (continued)

State	During September				
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	35	20	45	100	200
Kansas .....	70	80	115	135	400
Nebraska .....	75	75	95	285	530
Texas .....	170	115	100	60	445
Other States .....	110	60	79	190	439
United States .....	460	350	434	770	2,014
	During October				
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	55	45	45	65	210
Kansas .....	85	100	115	120	420
Nebraska .....	170	165	95	230	660
Texas .....	180	130	130	80	520
Other States .....	205	130	78	145	558
United States .....	695	570	463	640	2,368
	During November				
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado .....	45	40	30	40	155
Kansas .....	65	75	95	85	320
Nebraska .....	120	115	85	155	475
Texas .....	160	95	80	50	385
Other States .....	165	110	79	105	459
United States .....	555	435	369	435	1,794

## Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014

State	During					
	December <sup>1</sup>	January	February	March	April	May
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	28	32	27	24	25	25
California .....	52	58	55	70	67	60
Colorado .....	150	170	155	130	130	145
Idaho .....	36	45	41	33	26	32
Iowa .....	84	71	74	69	76	70
Kansas .....	385	385	315	345	385	400
Minnesota .....	11	10	12	16	13	22
Nebraska .....	420	470	375	395	415	485
Oklahoma .....	45	40	36	46	62	55
South Dakota .....	30	41	36	35	30	41
Texas .....	420	385	360	430	480	450
Washington .....	37	35	36	29	36	45
Other States .....	38	46	27	38	33	35
United States .....	1,736	1,788	1,549	1,660	1,778	1,865
	During					
	June	July	August	September	October	November
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	22	26	25	24	21	19
California .....	40	47	40	38	40	43
Colorado .....	150	145	150	155	145	120
Idaho .....	39	41	37	38	45	32
Iowa .....	70	74	80	114	100	95
Kansas .....	420	390	345	325	320	285
Minnesota .....	15	15	17	18	11	11
Nebraska .....	500	465	440	400	430	370
Oklahoma .....	46	46	44	54	43	43
South Dakota .....	45	39	34	42	43	34
Texas .....	420	415	415	410	420	360
Washington .....	44	40	33	32	35	37
Other States .....	36	44	32	33	32	26
United States .....	1,847	1,787	1,692	1,683	1,685	1,475

<sup>1</sup> December prior year.

**Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2014**

State	During					
	December <sup>1</sup> (1,000 head)	January (1,000 head)	February (1,000 head)	March (1,000 head)	April (1,000 head)	May (1,000 head)
Arizona .....	1	1	1	1	1	1
California .....	2	2	3	8	15	5
Colorado .....	10	10	10	5	10	25
Idaho .....	1	1	1	1	1	1
Iowa .....	2	3	2	2	3	4
Kansas .....	15	10	10	15	20	25
Minnesota .....	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nebraska .....	15	15	15	15	15	20
Oklahoma .....	3	2	2	1	1	2
South Dakota .....	3	3	3	2	3	3
Texas .....	20	20	20	10	10	10
Washington .....	3	2	2	2	1	2
Other States .....	1	1	1	2	2	2
United States .....	77	71	71	65	83	101
	During					
	June (1,000 head)	July (1,000 head)	August (1,000 head)	September (1,000 head)	October (1,000 head)	November (1,000 head)
Arizona .....	1	7	1	1	3	5
California .....	5	7	5	5	8	4
Colorado .....	5	5	5	5	5	5
Idaho .....	2	1	1	1	1	1
Iowa .....	4	2	3	5	2	2
Kansas .....	15	10	15	15	30	15
Minnesota .....	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nebraska .....	25	10	15	10	20	15
Oklahoma .....	1	1	1	1	2	2
South Dakota .....	1	1	1	3	1	4
Texas .....	10	15	15	15	20	15
Washington .....	1	1	1	1	2	2
Other States .....	4	2	2	2	2	3
United States .....	75	63	66	65	97	74

<sup>1</sup> December prior year.

**Number on Feed by Class on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Quarter – States and United States: 2014**

State	Steers & steer calves				Heifers & heifer calves			
	January 1	April 1	July 1	October 1	January 1	April 1	July 1	October 1
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	268	272	268	249	6	5	4	3
California .....	470	435	390	365	40	40	45	50
Colorado .....	610	630	550	520	330	320	300	300
Idaho .....	125	120	100	110	90	85	80	85
Iowa .....	425	490	430	430	195	180	190	130
Kansas .....	1,060	1,130	970	1,050	950	960	930	960
Minnesota .....	107	103	95	96	22	32	26	17
Nebraska .....	1,550	1,690	1,470	1,460	820	780	770	770
Oklahoma .....	170	180	170	165	90	95	85	80
South Dakota .....	135	135	115	102	90	90	80	78
Texas .....	1,510	1,550	1,580	1,590	930	950	910	880
Washington .....	120	125	100	110	75	75	75	80
Other States .....	240	215	210	200	95	105	100	105
United States .....	6,790	7,075	6,448	6,447	3,733	3,717	3,595	3,538

**Number of Feedlots, Inventory, and Marketings by Size of Feedlot – United States: 2013 and 2014**

Feedlot capacity	2013			2014		
	Lots	Inventory <sup>1</sup>	Cattle marketed	Lots	Inventory <sup>1</sup>	Cattle marketed
	(number)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(number)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Less than 1,000 head .....	72,000.0	2,426.3	3,260.0	72,000.0	2,399.0	3,000.0
1,000 head or more .....	2,090.0	10,523.0	21,618.0	1,987.0	10,626.0	20,464.0
1,000 - 1,999 .....	740.0	343.0	628.0	710.0	396.0	634.0
2,000 - 3,999 .....	560.0	650.0	1,300.0	510.0	660.0	1,210.0
4,000 - 7,999 .....	345.0	960.0	1,790.0	320.0	960.0	1,730.0
8,000 - 15,999 .....	170.0	1,010.0	2,210.0	170.0	1,060.0	2,130.0
16,000 - 23,999 .....	88.0	960.0	1,940.0	86.0	950.0	1,940.0
24,000 - 31,999 .....	55.0	900.0	1,900.0	56.0	800.0	1,640.0
32,000 - 49,999 .....	63.0	1,600.0	3,400.0	65.0	1,680.0	3,200.0
50,000 and Over .....	69.0	4,100.0	8,450.0	70.0	4,120.0	7,980.0
All feedlots .....	74,090.0	12,949.3	24,878.0	73,987.0	13,025.0	23,464.0

<sup>1</sup> Inventory estimates as of January 1 of the following year.

**Total Feedlot Capacity of 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: January 1, 2010 - 2015**

Item	Feedlot capacity in number of head					
	2010 <sup>1</sup>	2011 <sup>1</sup>	2012 <sup>1</sup>	2013 <sup>1</sup>	2014 <sup>1</sup>	2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
United States .....	16,900	17,100	17,100	17,100	17,000	16,900

<sup>1</sup> Revised

## Total Number of Cattle on Feed - States and United States: January 1, 2014 and 2015

[Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to producer a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.]

State	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)
Arizona .....	274.0	252.0	92
California .....	510.0	425.0	83
Colorado .....	960.0	930.0	97
Idaho .....	235.0	245.0	104
Illinois .....	260.0	230.0	88
Indiana .....	110.0	100.0	91
Iowa .....	1,230.0	1,220.0	99
Kansas .....	2,130.0	2,180.0	102
Kentucky .....	18.0	15.0	83
Maryland .....	10.0	10.0	100
Michigan .....	150.0	160.0	107
Minnesota .....	375.0	385.0	103
Missouri .....	75.0	70.0	93
Montana .....	54.0	40.0	74
Nebraska .....	2,420.0	2,530.0	105
Nevada .....	4.0	4.0	100
New York .....	23.0	26.0	113
North Dakota .....	38.0	44.0	116
Ohio .....	160.0	170.0	106
Oklahoma .....	265.0	265.0	100
Oregon .....	75.0	85.0	113
Pennsylvania .....	110.0	90.0	82
South Dakota .....	375.0	385.0	103
Tennessee .....	3.0	5.0	167
Texas .....	2,450.0	2,510.0	102
Utah .....	26.0	24.0	92
Virginia .....	20.0	20.0	100
Washington .....	195.0	210.0	108
West Virginia .....	5.0	4.0	80
Wisconsin .....	260.0	260.0	100
Wyoming .....	75.0	75.0	100
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	54.3	56.0	103
United States .....	12,949.3	13,025.0	101



## Terms and Definitions of Cattle on Feed Estimates

**Number of feedlots** is the number of lots operating at the end of the year with inventory of cattle on feed.

**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 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 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 0.6 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 0.6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 percent.

The table on this 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 56,000 head, ranging from 0 to 97,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 21 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 .....	0.6	1.0	56	0	97	2	21
Placements .....	1.3	2.2	15	1	55	9	15
Marketings .....	1.0	1.8	11	0	47	0	10

### 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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Donnie Fike – Dairy Products .....	(202) 690-3236
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278
Evan Schulz – Sheep and Goats .....	(202) 720-6147

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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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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