

Cattle on Feed

ISSN: 1948-9080

Released November 22, 2013, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

United States Cattle on Feed Down 6 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on November 1, 2013. The inventory was 6 percent below November 1, 2012.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.39 million, 10 percent above 2012. Net placements were 2.32 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 720,000, 600-699 pounds were 584,000, 700-799 pounds were 510,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 580,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.86 million, 1 percent above 2012.

Other disappearance totaled 75,000 during October, 4 percent below 2012.

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

Itom	Nun	Number				
Item	2012	2013	previous year			
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)			
On feed October 1	10,989	10,144	92			
Placed on feed during October	2,180	2,394	110			
Fed cattle marketed during October	1,837	1,856	101			
Other disappearance during October	78	75	96			
On feed November 1	11,254	10,607	94			

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

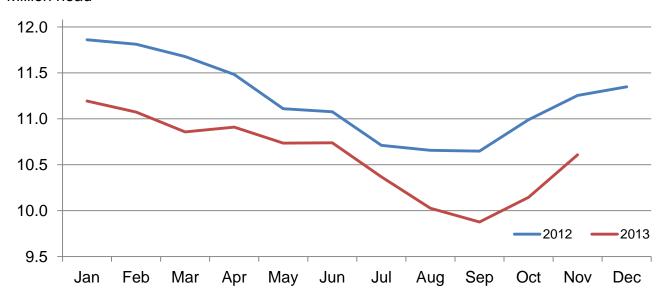
Item	Num	Number			
iteiii	2012	2012 2013			
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)		
On feed September 1	10,647	9,876	93		
Placed on feed during September	2,004	2,025	101		
Fed cattle marketed during September	1,598	1,695	106		
Other disappearance during September	64	62	97		
On feed October 1	10,989	10,144	92		

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

State	November 1, 2012	October 1, 2013 Number		Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	265	268	270	102	101
California	480	500	505	105	101
Colorado	1,030	870	950	92	109
Idaho	240	210	220	92	105
lowa	590	560	590	100	105
Kansas	2,220	2,000	2,050	92	103
Nebraska	2,480	2,210	2,370	96	107
Oklahoma	345	285	270	78	95
South Dakota	220	180	200	91	111
Texas	2,670	2,460	2,530	95	103
Washington	248	184	203	82	110
Other States	466	417	449	96	108
United States	11,254	10,144	10,607	94	105

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

Million head

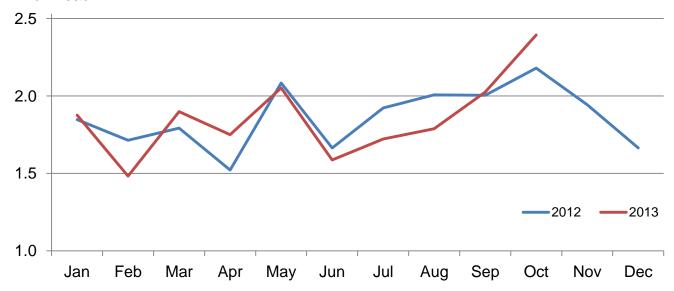


Number of Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

	During	During		During October 2013	
State	October 2012	September 2013	Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona California Colorado Idaho Iowa Kansas Nebraska Oklahoma South Dakota Texas Washington	19 62 195 55 146 380 590 65 71 450	23 50 190 62 101 390 520 67 43 480 37	28 61 230 56 128 470 630 65 59 530	147 98 118 102 88 124 107 100 83 118	122 122 121 90 127 121 121 97 137 110
Other States	73	62	78	107	126
United States	2,180	2,025	2,394	110	118

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





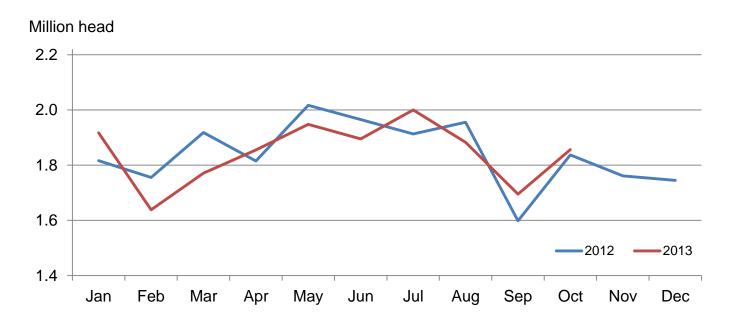
Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2012 and 2013

United States. 2012 a	110 2013										
	During October										
State	Under	600 lbs	600-6	99 lbs	700-7	99 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	65 80 190 165	80 90 170 190	45 95 130 125	50 120 170 125	35 120 80 100	45 140 90 150	50 85 190 60	55 120 200 65	195 380 590 450	230 470 630 530	
United States	680	720	505	584	435 Durina Se	510 eptember	560	580	2,180	2,394	
State	Under	600 lbs	600-6	99 lbs			800-	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	40 80 90 185	35 70 75 185	20 85 60 130	20 85 70 110	55 105 100 100	50 120 105 115	110 105 220 65	85 115 270 70	225 375 470 480	190 390 520 480	
United States	515	475	355	335	444	480	690	735	2,004	2,025	

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

	During	During		During October 2013	
State	October 2012	September 2013	During September 2013 Number		Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona California Colorado Idaho Iowa Kansas Nebraska Oklahoma South Dakota Texas Washington Other States	25 54 160 44 143 365 425 54 45 440 38	20 53 145 41 89 355 390 60 32 430 36	25 52 145 45 96 400 455 78 38 440 39	100 96 91 102 67 110 107 144 84 100 103	125 98 100 110 108 113 117 130 119 102 108
United States	1,837	1,695	1,856	101	109

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

	During	During		During October 2013	
State	October 2012	During September 2013	Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona California Colorado Idaho Iowa Kansas Nebraska Oklahoma South Dakota Texas Washington	1 3 5 1 3 25 15 1 1 20	1 2 5 1 2 15 10 2 1 20	1 4 5 1 2 20 15 2 1	100 133 100 100 67 80 100 200 100 100	100 200 100 100 100 133 150 100 100
Other States	2 78	2 62	3 75	150	150 150

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 0.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 10.6 million head by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.2 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 4,000 head, ranging from 0 to 35,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 3 times and has been below the latest estimate 3 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]

		90 percent		ate			
Item	Root mean square error	confidence	Assessed Constituted Largest		Mor	nths	
	Square error	level	Average	Smallest	Largest	Above latest	
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Number on feed	0.1	0.2	4	0	35	3	3
Placements	0.3	0.4	2	0	20	4	3
Marketings	0.2	0.4	1	0	20	3	2

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	

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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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