



Cattle on Feed

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Special Note

Beginning on May 30, 2025, NASS will no longer generate publications tailored specifically to individual states or regions. There is no impact on state-level data as it will continue to be available in the national releases and through NASS's public online database, [Quick Stats](#). All NASS reports are available to the public at nass.usda.gov.

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 11.4 million head on May 1, 2025. The inventory was 2 percent below May 1, 2024.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.61 million head, 3 percent below 2024. Net placements were 1.56 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 310,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 225,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 370,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 443,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 195,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 70,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.83 million head, 3 percent below 2024.

Other disappearance totaled 50,000 head during April, 11 percent below 2024.

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

Item	2024	2025	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed April 1	11,826	11,638	98
Placed on feed during April	1,656	1,613	97
Fed cattle marketed during April	1,872	1,825	97
Other disappearance during April	56	50	89
On feed May 1	11,554	11,376	98

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

Item	2024	2025	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed March 1	11,838	11,577	98
Placed on feed during March	1,752	1,843	105
Fed cattle marketed during March	1,707	1,727	101
Other disappearance during March	57	55	96
On feed April 1	11,826	11,638	98

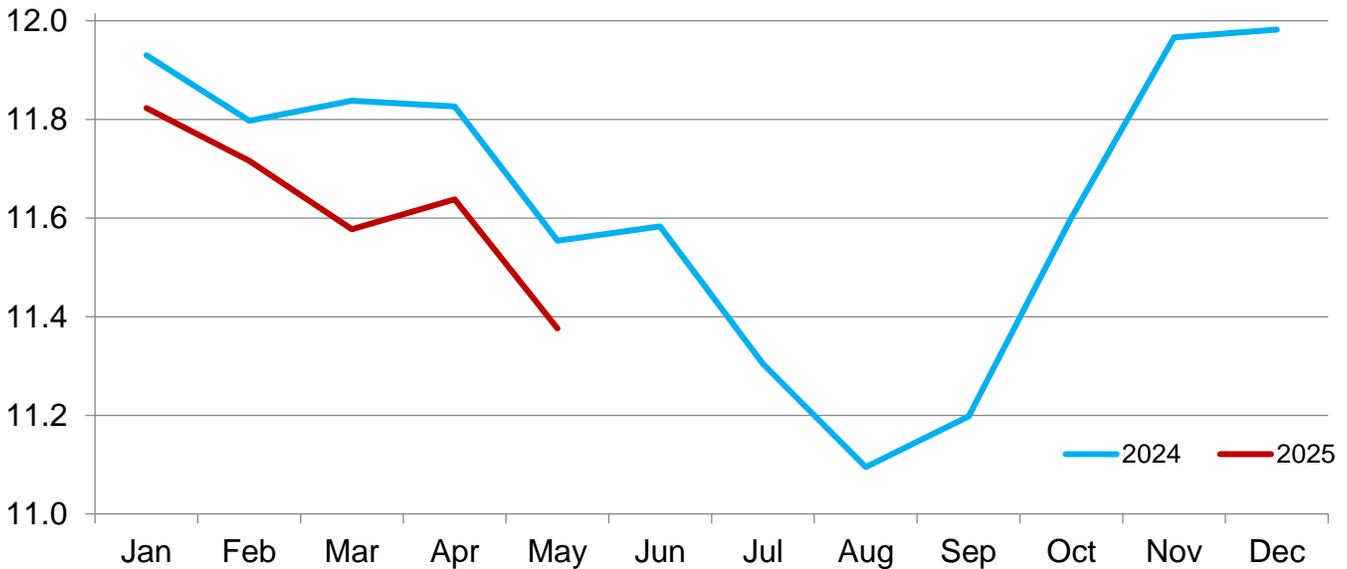
Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	May 1, 2024	April 1, 2025	May 1, 2025		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	254	228	231	91	101
California	525	500	485	92	97
Colorado	950	1,000	960	101	96
Idaho	340	340	335	99	99
Iowa	660	680	680	103	100
Kansas	2,300	2,340	2,290	100	98
Minnesota	110	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska	2,510	2,600	2,550	102	98
Oklahoma	320	335	325	102	97
South Dakota	245	240	235	96	98
Texas	2,770	2,670	2,590	94	97
Washington	245	260	255	104	98
Other States	325	445	440	135	99
United States	11,554	11,638	11,376	98	98

(NA) Not available.

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

Million head



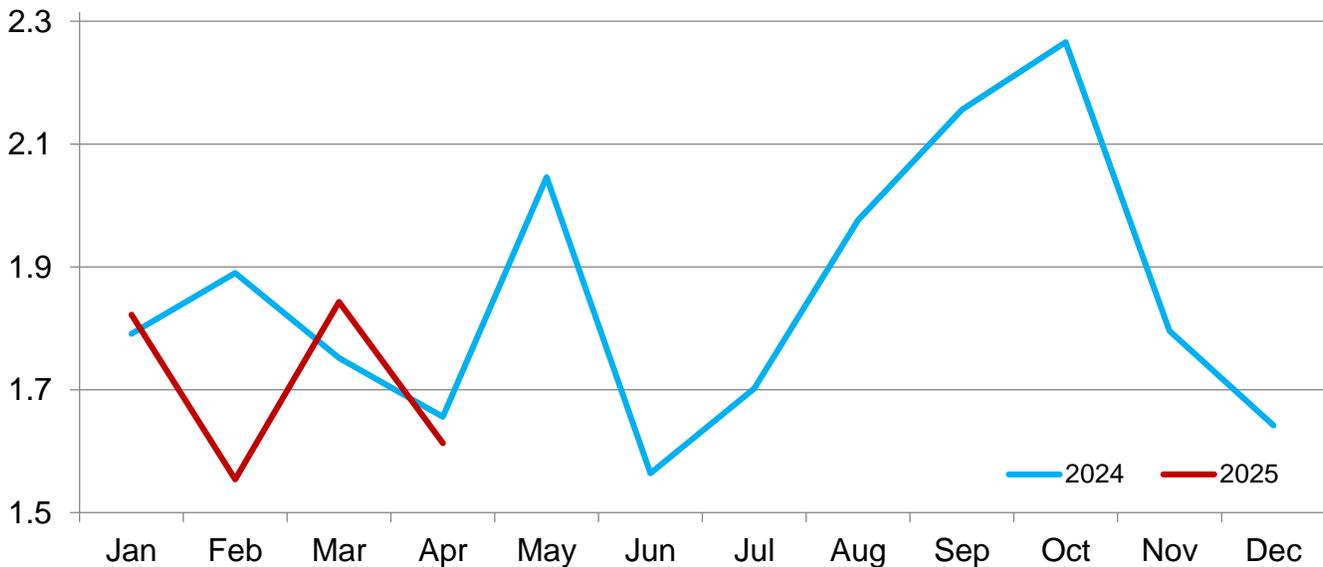
Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	During April 2024	During March 2025	During April 2025		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	23	24	23	100	96
California	60	54	51	85	94
Colorado	135	135	120	89	89
Idaho	39	43	38	97	88
Iowa	89	104	87	98	84
Kansas	370	430	380	103	88
Minnesota	16	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska	445	500	445	100	89
Oklahoma	44	40	45	102	113
South Dakota	30	41	29	97	71
Texas	330	370	310	94	84
Washington	34	34	33	97	97
Other States	41	68	52	127	76
United States	1,656	1,843	1,613	97	88

(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 April 2024							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	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	20	30	35	25	(D)	(D)	135
Kansas	40	50	110	105	65	(D)	(D)	370
Nebraska	30	45	100	160	110	(D)	(D)	445
Texas	125	55	65	60	25	(D)	(D)	330
Other States ...	115	50	70	91	50	(D)	(D)	376
United States ..	335	220	375	451	(X)	205	70	1,656

State	During March 2025							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	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	20	30	40	20	(D)	(D)	135
Kansas	45	65	125	135	60	(D)	(D)	430
Nebraska	30	70	135	165	100	(D)	(D)	500
Texas	130	75	85	60	20	(D)	(D)	370
Other States ...	105	55	100	108	40	(D)	(D)	408
United States ..	335	285	475	508	(X)	175	65	1,843

State	During April 2025							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	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	20	25	30	20	(D)	(D)	120
Kansas	45	55	115	105	60	(D)	(D)	380
Nebraska	30	45	100	160	110	(D)	(D)	445
Texas	110	55	65	55	25	(D)	(D)	310
Other States ...	100	50	65	93	50	(D)	(D)	358
United States ..	310	225	370	443	(X)	195	70	1,613

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

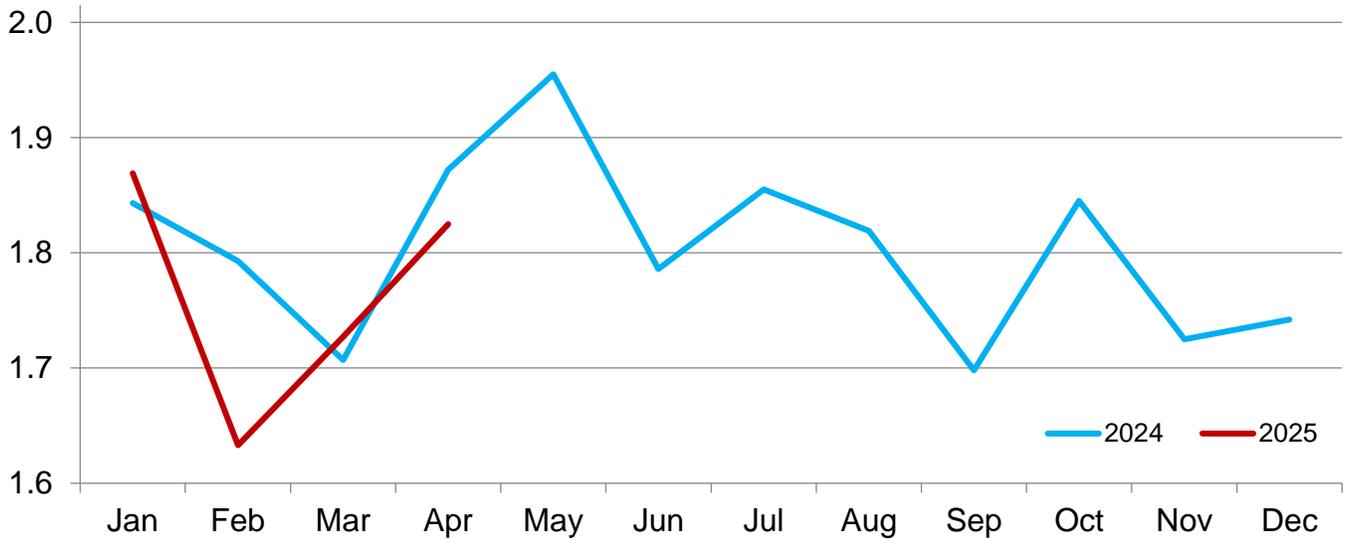
Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2024 and 2025

State	During April 2024	During March 2025	During April 2025		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	24	22	19	79	86
California	59	58	60	102	103
Colorado	170	140	155	91	111
Idaho	43	37	42	98	114
Iowa	87	93	86	99	92
Kansas	460	400	420	91	105
Minnesota	10	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska	465	475	485	104	102
Oklahoma	53	44	54	102	123
South Dakota	34	34	33	97	97
Texas	385	330	380	99	115
Washington	38	33	37	97	112
Other States	44	61	54	123	89
United States	1,872	1,727	1,825	97	106

(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 April 2024 (1,000 head)	During March 2025 (1,000 head)	During April 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	6	100	100
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa	2	1	1	50	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska	10	15	10	100	67
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	1	2	1	100	50
Texas	15	10	10	67	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	2	2	3	150	150
United States	56	55	50	89	91

(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 11.4 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 11,000 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 9 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	11	0	46	9	1
Placements	0.3	0.5	3	0	20	7	6
Marketings	0.1	0.2	1	0	6	7	4

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.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed, Dairy Products	(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 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.

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.

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