



Cattle on Feed

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United States Cattle on Feed Up 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 10.2 million head on August 1, 2016. The inventory was 2 percent above August 1, 2015.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.57 million head, 2 percent above 2015. Net placements were 1.52 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 352,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 235,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 360,000 head, and 800 pounds and greater were 625,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.71 million head, 1 percent below 2015. Marketings were the lowest for July since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 50,000 head during July, 11 percent below 2015.

Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: August 1, 2015 and 2016

Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2015	2016	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed July 1	10,236	10,356	101
Placed on feed during July	1,547	1,572	102
Fed cattle marketed during July	1,725	1,713	99
Other disappearance during July	56	50	89
On feed August 1	10,002	10,165	102

Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: July 1, 2015 and 2016

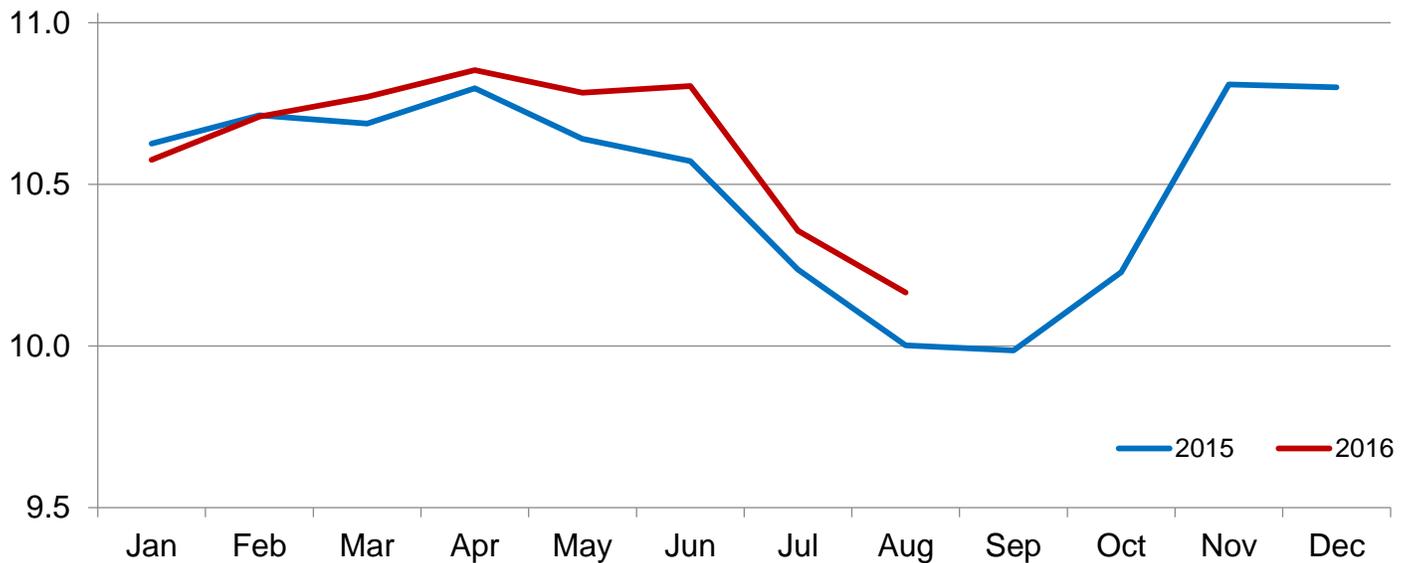
Item	Number		Percent of previous year
	2015	2016	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed June 1	10,571	10,804	102
Placed on feed during June	1,481	1,525	103
Fed cattle marketed during June	1,747	1,912	109
Other disappearance during June	69	61	88
On feed July 1	10,236	10,356	101

Number of Cattle on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	August 1, 2015	July 1, 2016	August 1, 2016		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	239	286	282	118	99
California	455	425	410	90	96
Colorado	790	850	810	103	95
Idaho	220	235	230	105	98
Iowa	630	610	600	95	98
Kansas	1,930	2,050	2,110	109	103
Minnesota	133	145	133	100	92
Nebraska	2,200	2,180	2,090	95	96
Oklahoma	250	310	300	120	97
South Dakota	210	235	220	105	94
Texas	2,440	2,550	2,520	103	99
Washington	210	195	190	90	97
Other States	295	285	270	92	95
United States	10,002	10,356	10,165	102	98

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

Million head

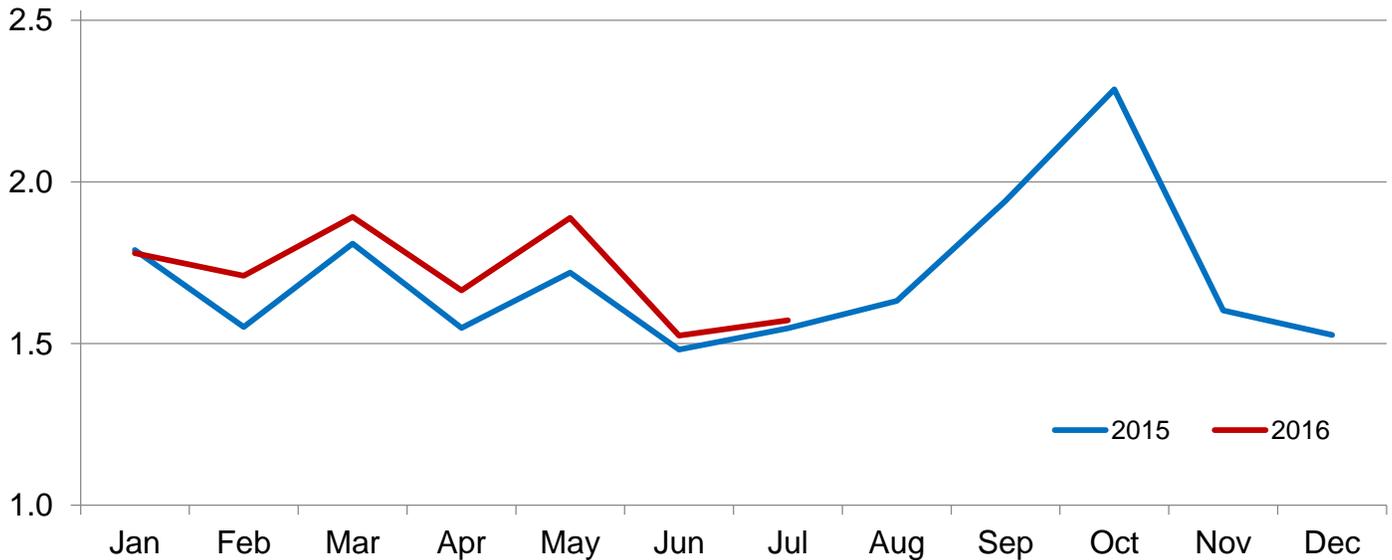


Number of Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	During July 2015	During June 2016	During July 2016		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	23	19	20	87	105
California	41	58	35	85	60
Colorado	90	105	115	128	110
Idaho	37	38	34	92	89
Iowa	71	54	68	96	126
Kansas	395	350	445	113	127
Minnesota	11	12	9	82	75
Nebraska	390	365	350	90	96
Oklahoma	38	42	36	95	86
South Dakota	17	24	18	106	75
Texas	365	380	380	104	100
Washington	34	41	30	88	73
Other States	35	37	32	91	86
United States	1,547	1,525	1,572	102	103

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: 2015 and 2016

State	During July									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(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	20	25	15	15	15	30	40	45	90	115
Kansas	65	65	70	75	115	130	145	175	395	445
Nebraska	40	30	50	35	85	70	215	215	390	350
Texas	155	155	70	80	65	75	75	70	365	380
Other States	85	77	30	30	47	55	145	120	307	282
United States	365	352	235	235	327	360	620	625	1,547	1,572

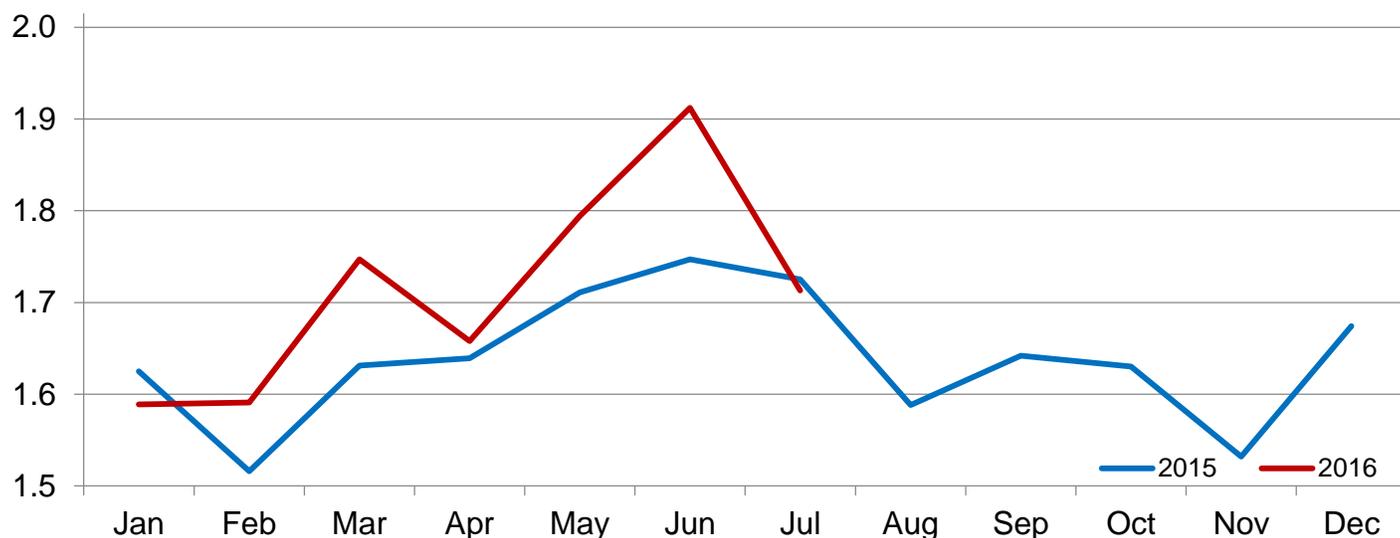
State	During June									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	20	15	15	15	15	30	30	45	80	105
Kansas	60	55	65	65	95	90	115	140	335	350
Nebraska	50	30	50	50	75	70	200	215	375	365
Texas	125	115	80	85	95	90	75	90	375	380
Other States	95	75	40	40	56	60	125	150	316	325
United States	350	290	250	255	336	340	545	640	1,481	1,525

Number of Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	During July 2015 (1,000 head)	During June 2016 (1,000 head)	During July 2016		
			Number	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
			(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	22	27	22	100	81
California	41	45	45	110	100
Colorado	125	140	150	120	107
Idaho	41	47	38	93	81
Iowa	80	72	76	95	106
Kansas	395	450	375	95	83
Minnesota	18	20	20	111	100
Nebraska	455	510	430	95	84
Oklahoma	47	51	45	96	88
South Dakota	34	36	32	94	89
Texas	395	430	400	101	93
Washington	38	40	34	89	85
Other States	34	44	46	135	105
United States	1,725	1,912	1,713	99	90

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

Million head



Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	During July 2015 (1,000 head)	During June 2016 (1,000 head)	During July 2016		
			Number (1,000 head)	Percent of previous year (percent)	Percent of previous month (percent)
Arizona	2	6	2	100	33
California	5	3	5	100	167
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa	1	2	2	200	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	15	15	10	67	67
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	3	3	1	33	33
Texas	10	10	10	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	1	3	1	100	33
United States	56	61	50	89	82

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 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 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 0.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 10.2 million head by more than 0.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.6 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 19,000 head, ranging from 0 to 85,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 5 times 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)
Number on feed	0.3	0.6	19	0	85	9	5
Placements	0.4	0.8	4	0	28	13	1
Marketings	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0

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.

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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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