



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 11.1 million head on August 1, 2026. The inventory was 2 percent above August 1, 2025.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.42 million head, 11 percent below 2025. Net placements were 1.37 million head. Placements were the lowest for July since the series began in 1996. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 310,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 215,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 320,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 322,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 185,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 70,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.62 million head, 7 percent below 2025. Marketings were the lowest for July since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 55,000 head during July, 8 percent above 2025.

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: August 1, 2025 and 2026

Item	2025	2026	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed July 1	11,124	11,370	102
Placed on feed during July	1,598	1,422	89
Fed cattle marketed during July	1,749	1,620	93
Other disappearance during July	51	55	108
On feed August 1	10,922	11,117	102

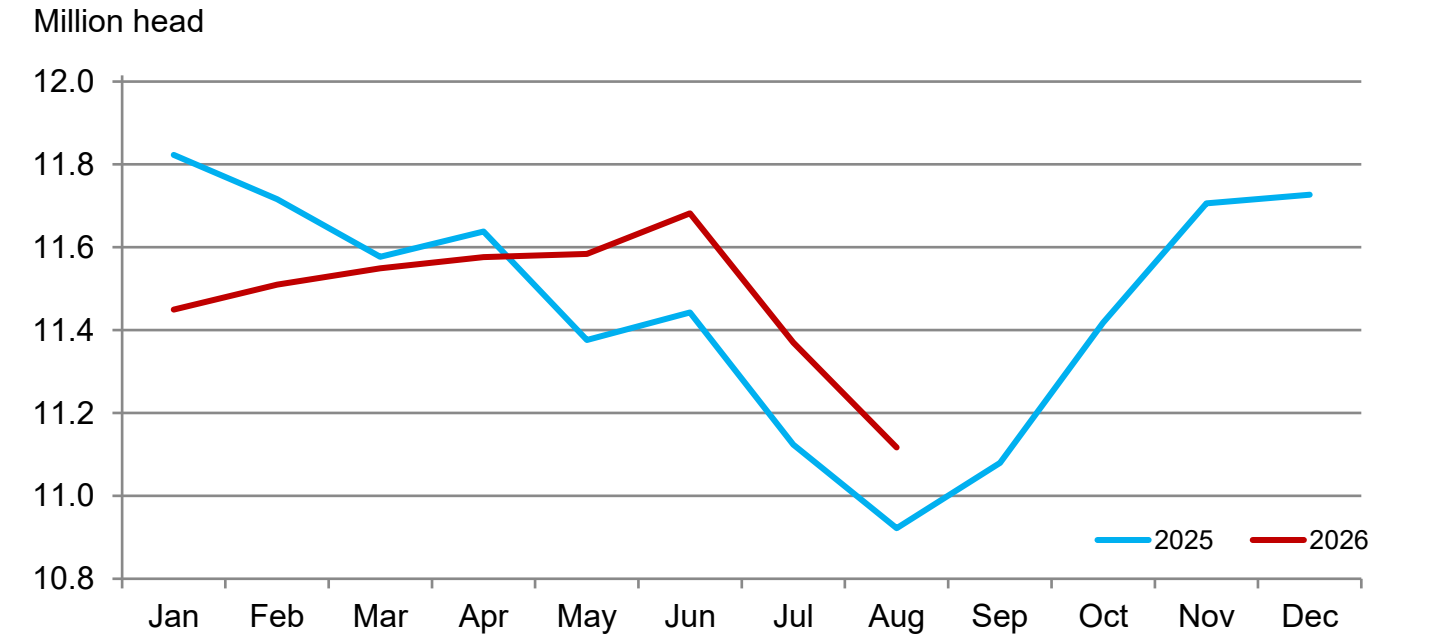
Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: July 1, 2025 and 2026

Item	2025	2026	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed June 1	11,443	11,682	102
Placed on feed during June	1,441	1,399	97
Fed cattle marketed during June	1,707	1,661	97
Other disappearance during June	53	50	94
On feed July 1	11,124	11,370	102

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2025 and 2026

State	August 1, 2025	July 1, 2026	August 1, 2026		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	222	215	217	98	101
California	475	500	485	102	97
Colorado	880	930	905	103	97
Idaho	325	340	325	100	96
Iowa	690	680	670	97	99
Kansas	2,270	2,300	2,260	100	98
Nebraska	2,390	2,540	2,470	103	97
Oklahoma	310	340	335	108	99
South Dakota	190	225	210	111	93
Texas	2,490	2,560	2,510	101	98
Washington	255	270	265	104	98
Other States	425	470	465	109	99
United States	10,922	11,370	11,117	102	98

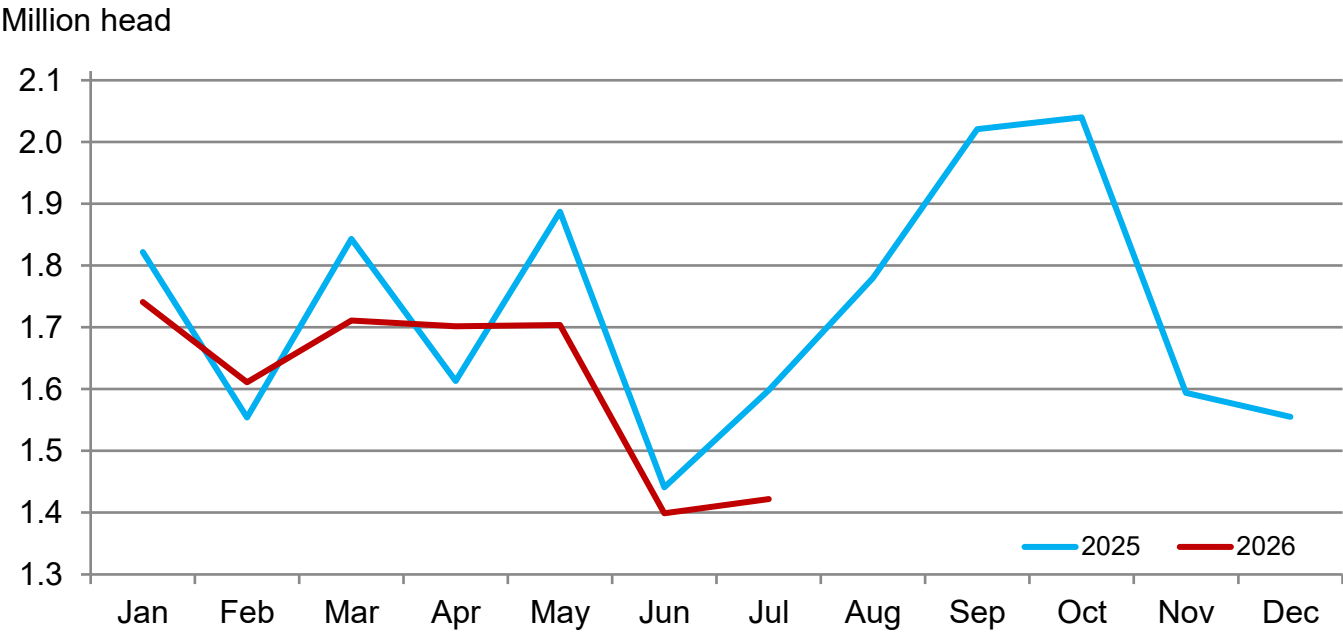
Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States



**Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States:
2025 and 2026**

State	During July 2025	During June 2026	During July 2026		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	17	21	19	112	90
California	53	52	48	91	92
Colorado	110	110	85	77	77
Idaho	38	31	28	74	90
Iowa	66	59	55	83	93
Kansas	435	305	375	86	123
Nebraska	440	355	380	86	107
Oklahoma	41	46	39	95	85
South Dakota	22	20	16	73	80
Texas	290	305	290	100	95
Washington	33	35	32	97	91
Other States	53	60	55	104	92
United States	1,598	1,399	1,422	89	102

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



Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots and Month – States and United States: 2025 and 2026

State	During July 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	20	20	25	25	20	(D)	(D)	110
Kansas	60	75	130	110	60	(D)	(D)	435
Nebraska	40	50	95	135	120	(D)	(D)	440
Texas	130	60	55	30	15	(D)	(D)	290
Other States ...	90	40	60	78	55	(D)	(D)	323
United States ..	340	245	365	378	(X)	195	75	1,598

State	During June 2026							
	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	20	20	25	25	20	(D)	(D)	110
Kansas	45	55	85	75	45	(D)	(D)	305
Nebraska	40	45	80	95	95	(D)	(D)	355
Texas	125	65	60	35	20	(D)	(D)	305
Other States ...	95	40	50	79	60	(D)	(D)	324
United States ..	325	225	300	309	(X)	160	80	1,399

State	During July 2026							
	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	15	15	20	20	15	(D)	(D)	85
Kansas	50	65	110	95	55	(D)	(D)	375
Nebraska	35	40	80	110	115	(D)	(D)	380
Texas	130	60	55	30	15	(D)	(D)	290
Other States ...	80	35	55	67	55	(D)	(D)	292
United States ..	310	215	320	322	(X)	185	70	1,422

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

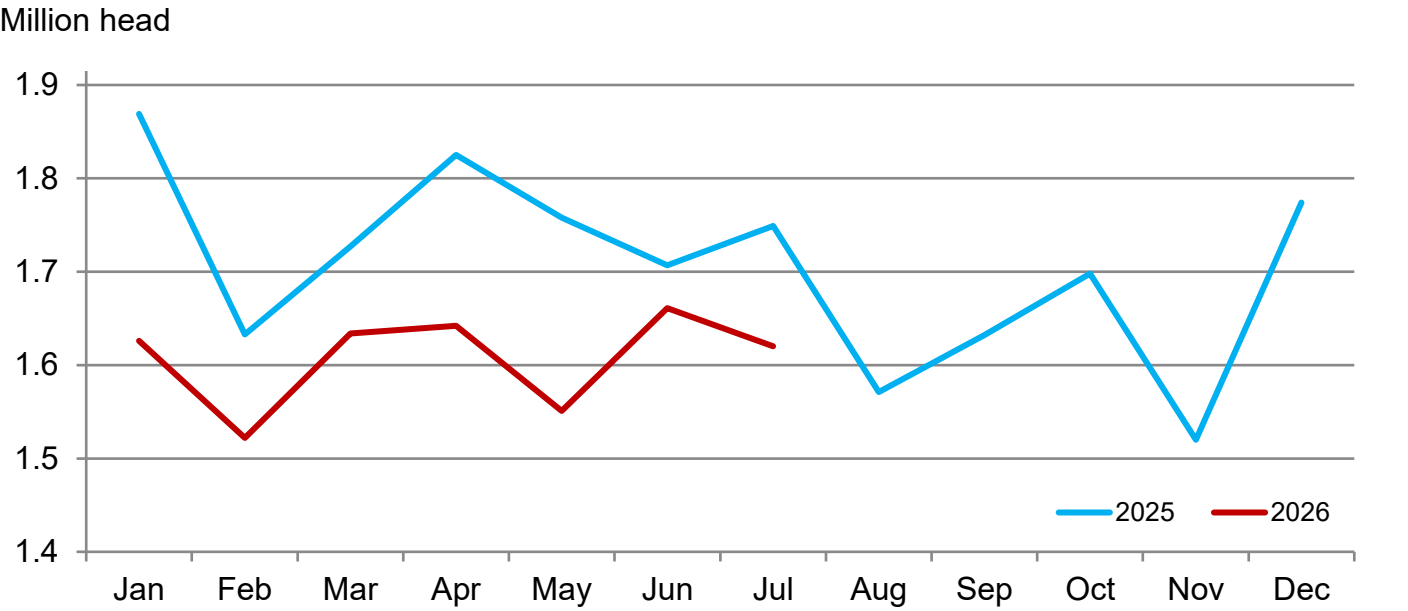
(X) Not applicable.

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: 2025 and 2026

State	During July 2025	During June 2026	During July 2026		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	23	22	16	70	73
California	57	58	59	104	102
Colorado	125	115	105	84	91
Idaho	42	39	42	100	108
Iowa	65	57	63	97	111
Kansas	425	415	405	95	98
Nebraska	480	435	435	91	100
Oklahoma	50	50	42	84	84
South Dakota	35	29	30	86	103
Texas	360	345	330	92	96
Washington	32	39	36	113	92
Other States	55	57	57	104	100
United States	1,749	1,661	1,620	93	98

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



Cattle Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2025 and 2026

State	During July 2025	During June 2026	During July 2026		
			Other disappearance	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	6	4	4	67	100
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	2	1	100	50
Iowa	1	2	2	200	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Nebraska	10	10	15	150	150
Oklahoma	1	1	2	200	200
South Dakota	2	1	1	50	100
Texas	10	10	10	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	3	3	3	100	100
United States	51	50	55	108	110

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. 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 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 0.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.1 million head by more than 0.0 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.1 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 1,000 head, ranging from 0 to 20,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 1 time 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)
On feed	0.0	0.1	1	0	20	2	1
Placements	0.2	0.3	1	0	20	7	2
Marketings	0.0	0.1	0	0	2	5	1

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