

## Cattle and Calves

Arizona's inventory of cattle and calves on January 1, 2005 was estimated at 910,000 head, up 50,000 head from the previous year. The 2004 calf crop of 275,000 was up 5,000 head from 2003. The value of cattle and calves on January 1 was \$928 million, up 28 percent.

Monthly beef cattle prices varied by \$19.40 per hundredweight during 2004, from a low of \$88.60 in February to a high of \$108.00 in August. The marketing year average price for beef cattle increased \$17.70 per hundredweight from a year ago to \$101.00. The annual average steer and heifer price increased \$18.50 to \$102.00 per hundredweight and the annual average calf price increased \$20.50 to \$120.00 per hundredweight. The annual average price for cows increased \$8.10 per hundredweight to \$50.60.

Cattle and calf marketings were down 15 percent to 755 million pounds but the gross income from these marketings increased 3 percent to \$773 million.

Arizona's feedlot operators marketed 322,000 head during 2004. Feedlot inventories ranged from 293,000 head on January and April 1 to 329,000 head on December 1.

Arizona's 13 livestock slaughter plants produced 354 million pounds of red meat during 2004, down 17 percent from the 2003 slaughter. Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 454,100 head, down 17 percent from 2003.

**Cattle Inventory**  
January 1, 1993-2005

