



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CATTLE ON FEED

COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 990,000 head as of April 1, 2024. The latest inventory was 1 percent above the April 1, 2023 inventory but 3 percent below the previous month's inventory. The inventory included 530,000 steers and steer calves, 3 percent below the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 460,000 head, are up 6 percent from a year ago. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 160,000 head of fed cattle during March 2024. This was 19 percent above the previous month's marketings but 11 percent below marketings one year earlier. An estimated 135,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during March 2024, 10 percent below the previous month's placements and 13 percent below the March 2023 placements. Of the number placed in March, 19 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 15 percent weighed from 600-699 pounds, 22 percent weighed from 700-799 pounds, 30 percent weighed 800-899 pounds, and 15 percent weighed 900 pounds or greater. Other disappearance for March 2024, at 5,000 head, was the same as last month and last year.

UNITED STATES

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on April 1, 2024. The inventory was 1 percent above April 1, 2023. The inventory included 7.27 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.56 million head, up 1 percent from 2023. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.75 million head, 12 percent below 2023. Net placements were 1.69 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 330,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 260,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 460,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 466,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 170,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 60,000 head. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.71 million head, 14 percent below 2023. Other disappearance totaled 57,000 head during March, 8 percent above 2023.

For a full copy of the April 2024 *Cattle on Feed* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov.