



PRESS RELEASE

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Cattle on Feed

Iowa: There were 920,000 cattle on feed for the slaughter market in all feedlots in Iowa on January 1, 2006, up 7 percent from December 1, 2005, but unchanged from January 1, 2005. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head had 510,000 head on feed, up 2 percent and 13 percent from last month and last year, respectively. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head had 410,000 head on feed, up 14 percent from last month, but down 13 percent from last year.

Placements during December totaled 143,000 head, this is a decrease of 28 percent and 5 percent from last month and last year, respectively. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head placed 65,000 head, down 40 percent and 8 percent from last month and last year, respectively. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head placed 78,000 head. This is down 15 percent and 2 percent from last month and last year, respectively.

Marketings for December were 76,000 head, down 38 percent and 31 percent from last month and last year, respectively. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head marketed 53,000 head, down 34 percent and 4 percent from last month and last year, respectively. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head marketed 23,000 head, down 47 percent and 58 percent from last month and last year, respectively. Other disappearance totaled 7,000 head.

United States: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on January 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above January 1, 2005 and 5 percent above January 1, 2004. The inventory included 7.57 million steers and steer calves, up 6 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.15 million head, up 2 percent from January 1, 2005.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.88 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 8 percent above 2003. This is the highest placements for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.79 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 575,000, 600-699 pounds were 554,000, 700-799 pounds were 430,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 325,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.72 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 1 percent below 2003.

Other disappearance totaled 91,000 during December, 1 percent below 2004 but 1 percent above 2003.

All Cattle on Feed, Iowa

Item	Lots 1,000+ Head	Lots Less than 1,000 Head	All Lots
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Cattle on Feed, December 1, 2005	500	360	860
December Placements	65	78	143
December Marketings	53	23	76
December Other Disappearance	2	5	7
Cattle on Feed, January 1, 2006	510	410	920

**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements and Marketings by Month,
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ¹**

State	Cattle on Feed January 1			Placements during December			Marketings during December			December Disappearance other than Slaughter ²		
	2005	2006	'06 as % of '05	2004	2005	'05 as % of '04	2004	2005	'05 as % of '04	2004	2005	'05 as % of '04
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	331	334	101	33	35	106	30	27	90	1	2	200
CA	535	550	103	72	69	96	62	60	97	5	9	180
CO	1,080	1,080	100	135	155	115	145	140	97	10	5	50
ID	295	275	93	55	48	87	62	50	81	3	3	100
IA	450	510	113	71	65	92	55	53	96	1	2	200
KS	2,410	2,500	104	490	495	101	450	435	97	20	30	150
NE	2,300	2,430	106	390	350	90	380	305	80	10	15	150
NM	126	143	113	14	20	143	15	13	87	2	1	50
OK	350	370	106	53	64	121	52	57	110	6	2	33
SD	192	205	107	42	46	110	34	28	82	2	3	150
TX	2,700	2,920	108	405	465	115	420	470	112	25	15	60
WA	190	152	80	39	26	67	32	34	106	2	1	50
Oth Sts	340	335	99	35	46	131	40	43	108	5	3	60
US	11,299	11,804	104	1,834	1,884	103	1,777	1,715	97	92	91	99

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

² Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

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