



Iowa Ag News – Cattle & Calves

Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 284-4340 · (800) 772-0825
fax (515) 284-4342 or (800) 719-1794 · www.nass.usda.gov/ia

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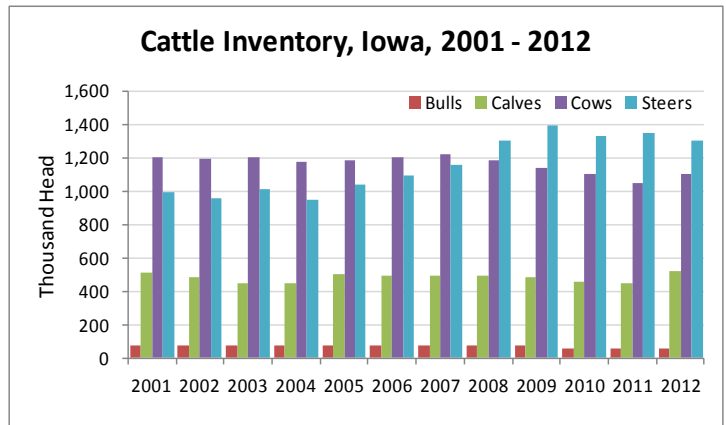
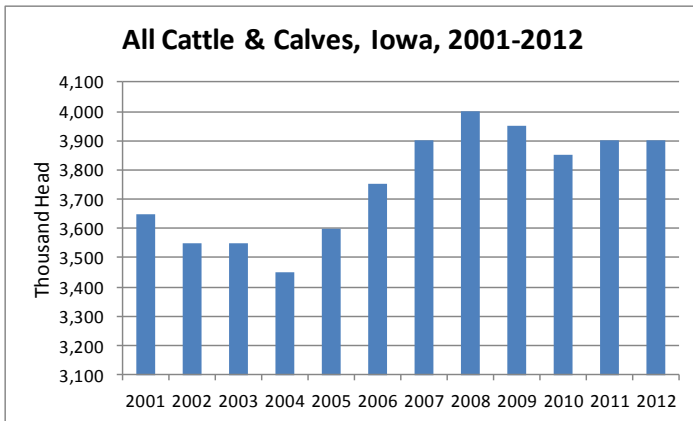
Media Contact: Greg Thessen

All cattle and calves in Iowa as of January 1, 2012 totaled 3.90 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle* report. This estimate is unchanged from January 1, 2011. Beef cows, at 895,000 head, were 7 percent above last year. Milk cows, at 205,000 were down 2 percent from last year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over, at 920,000 head, were down 7 percent from last year. Heifers for beef cow replacement were up 17 percent to 140,000 head; heifers for milk cow replacement at 140,000 head were up 8 percent from the previous year; and all other heifers were down 14 percent to 640,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were down 4 percent from last year at 1,300,000 head. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over were unchanged from a year ago at 60,000 head. Calves under 500 pounds on January 1 totaled 520,000 in 2012, up 16 percent from last year.

The 2011 calf crop was estimated at 1.05 million head, up 4 percent from the 1.01 million born in 2010. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2012 was at 1,300,000 head down 6 percent from one year ago.



Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop, Iowa and United States, January 1, 2011 & 2012

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	3,900	3,900	100	92,682	90,769	98
All cows that have calved	1,050	1,100	105	39,999	39,112	98
Beef cows	840	895	107	30,850	29,883	97
Milk cows	210	205	98	9,150	9,230	101
Heifers 500 pounds and over	990	920	93	19,576	19,388	99
For beef cow replacement	120	140	117	5,139	5,212	101
For milk cow replacement	130	140	108	4,568	4,527	99
Other heifers	740	640	86	9,869	9,649	98
Steers 500 pounds and over	1,350	1,300	96	16,397	16,072	98
Bulls 500 pounds and over	60	60	100	2,155	2,052	95
Calves under 500 pounds	450	520	116	14,555	14,145	97
Cattle on feed ¹	1,380	1,300	94	14,013	14,121	101
	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010
Calf crop	1,010	1,050	104	35,695	35,313	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. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

United States Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2012 totaled 90.8 million head, 2 percent below the 92.7 million on January 1, 2011. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 88.1 million on hand in 1952. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.1 million, were down 2 percent from the 40.0 million on January 1, 2011.

*Beef cows, at 29.9 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2011.

*Milk cows, at 9.2 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2011.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2012 and the change from January 1, 2011, are as follows:

* All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.4 million, down 1 percent.

* Beef replacement heifers, 5.2 million, up 1 percent.

* Milk replacement heifers, 4.5 million, down 1 percent.

* Other heifers, 9.6 million, down 2 percent.

* Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.1 million, down 2 percent.

* Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 5 percent.

* Calves under 500 pounds, 14.1 million, down 3 percent.

* Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 1 percent.

The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 25.7 million, down 4 percent.

The 2011 calf crop was estimated at 35.3 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2011 are estimated at 25.7 million, down 1 percent from 2010.

Cattle Inventory – United States: January 1

Million head

