



TENNESSEE
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

P.O. Box 41505
Nashville, TN 37204-1505
1-800-626-0987

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

cooperating with
Tennessee Department
of Agriculture



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Debra K. Kenerson
State Statistician

nass-tn@nass.usda.gov

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Tennessee Cattle Producers Take Advantage of High Prices During 2003

The total number of cattle and calves in the State on January 1, 2004, was **2.21 million**, 3 percent below last year's total of **2.27 million**. Debra Kenerson, State Statistician, remarked, "Cattlemen sent more cattle to market during 2003 resulting in less inventory on farms beginning the year, reversing a 3 year trend. Producers took advantage of the highest cattle prices in almost two years, as beef cattle prices rose to record levels by the Fall." This information is based on a recent cattle survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service. Results of the survey showed the following comparisons with January 1, 2003, inventories: **Beef cows** totaled just over 1.10 million, down 3,000 head; **Milk cow** numbers were down 7,000 head to 77,000; **Calves** under 500 pounds were up slightly at 560,000; **Steers and other heifers** weighing 500 pounds and over, at 175,000 head, were down 40,000. Tennessee's 2003 **calf crop** stayed steady at 1.06 million head.

U.S. January 1 Cattle Inventory Down 1 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003 and 2 percent below the 96.7 million two years ago. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003 and down 1 percent from the 42.2 million two years ago.

- ! **Beef cows**, at 32.86 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003.
- ! **Milk cows**, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003.
- ! **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, 19.3 million, down 1 percent.
- ! **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.52 million, down 2 percent.
- ! **Milk replacement heifers**, 4.02 million, down 2 percent.
- ! **Other heifers**, 9.80 million, down 1 percent.
- ! **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.3 million, down 2 percent.
- ! **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down 2 percent.
- ! **Calves under 500 pounds**, 15.2 million, down 2 percent.
- ! **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.8 million, up 4 percent.
- ! The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds** outside of feedlots, 27.5 million, down 4 percent.

U.S. Calf Crop Down Slightly

The 2003 calf crop was estimated at 37.9 million head, down 1 percent from 2002. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.7 million, down 1 percent from 2002.

Special Note

Preliminary 2002 Census data were used in the review process for the 2004 and revised 2003 estimates included in this publication. States requiring 5-year historical revisions may carry a disjointed data series from their current historical data series. January 1, 2003 and prior estimates contained in this publication will be republished in the *Cattle, Final Estimates 1999-2003* publication which is scheduled for release on April 30, 2004.

Cattle and Calves: Number on Farms by Classes, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2003-2004

Class	Tennessee			United States		
	2003	2004	2004/2003	2003 ¹	2004	2004/2003
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	2,270	2,210	97	96,100	94,882	99
All Cows That Have Calved	1,190	1,180	99	42,125	41,851	99
Beef	1,106	1,103	100	32,983	32,860	100
Milk	84	77	92	9,142	8,991	98
Heifers, 500 pounds plus	315	285	90	19,628	19,341	99
Beef Replacement	200	185	93	5,624	5,517	98
Milk Replacement	40	35	88	4,114	4,020	98
Other	75	65	87	9,891	9,804	99
Steers, 500 pounds plus	140	110	79	16,554	16,280	98
Bulls, 500 pounds plus	75	75	100	2,248	2,206	98
Calves, under 500 pounds	550	560	102	15,545	15,204	98
Calf Crop ²	1,060	1,060	100	38,224	37,903	99
Cattle on Feed	5	5	100	13,220	13,811	104

¹ Revised. ² Calves born during previous 12 months.

Tennessee Cattle Inventory January 1, 1964-2004

Million Head

