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January 1 Cattle Inventory Down 2 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2022 totaled 91.9 million head, 2 percent below the 93.8 million head on January 1, 2021.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.5 million head, were 2 percent below the 40.3 million head on January 1, 2021. Beef cows, at 30.1 million head, were down 2 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.38 million head, were down 1 percent from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2022 totaled 19.8 million head, 2 percent below the 20.2 million head on January 1, 2021. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.61 million head, were down 3 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.45 million head, were down 3 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.71 million head, were 1 percent below a year earlier.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2022 totaled 16.6 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2021.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2022 totaled 2.11 million head, down 5 percent from January 1, 2021.

Calves under 500 pounds as of January 1, 2022 totaled 13.9 million head, down 3 percent from January 1, 2021.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.7 million head on January 1, 2022. The inventory is up slightly from the January 1, 2021 total of 14.7 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 81.9 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2022, up slightly from the previous year. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds (outside of feedlots) at 25.5 million head, was 3 percent below January 1, 2021.

Calf Crop Down 1 Percent

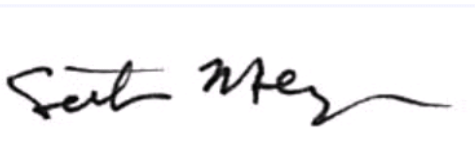
The 2021 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 35.1 million head, down 1 percent from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2021 were estimated at 25.6 million head, down 1 percent from the first half of 2020. Calves born during the second half of 2021 were estimated at 9.46 million head, 27 percent of the total 2021 calf crop.

Revisions

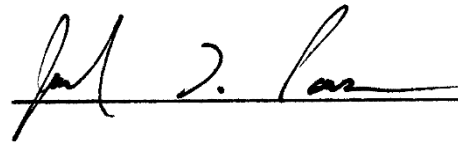
All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2020, January 1, 2021, and July 1, 2021 were reviewed using calf crop, official slaughter, import and export data, and the relationship of new survey information to the prior surveys. Based on the findings of this review, July 1, 2020 all cattle and calves increased by 0.1 percent. January 1, 2021 all cattle and calves increased by 0.2 percent and 2020 calf crop increased by 1.0 percent. July 1, 2021 all cattle and calves decreased by 0.1 percent and 2021 calf crop decreased slightly.

State level estimates were reviewed and changes were made to reallocate inventory estimates to the United States total.

This report was approved on January 31, 2022.



Secretary of Agriculture
Designate
Seth Meyer



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
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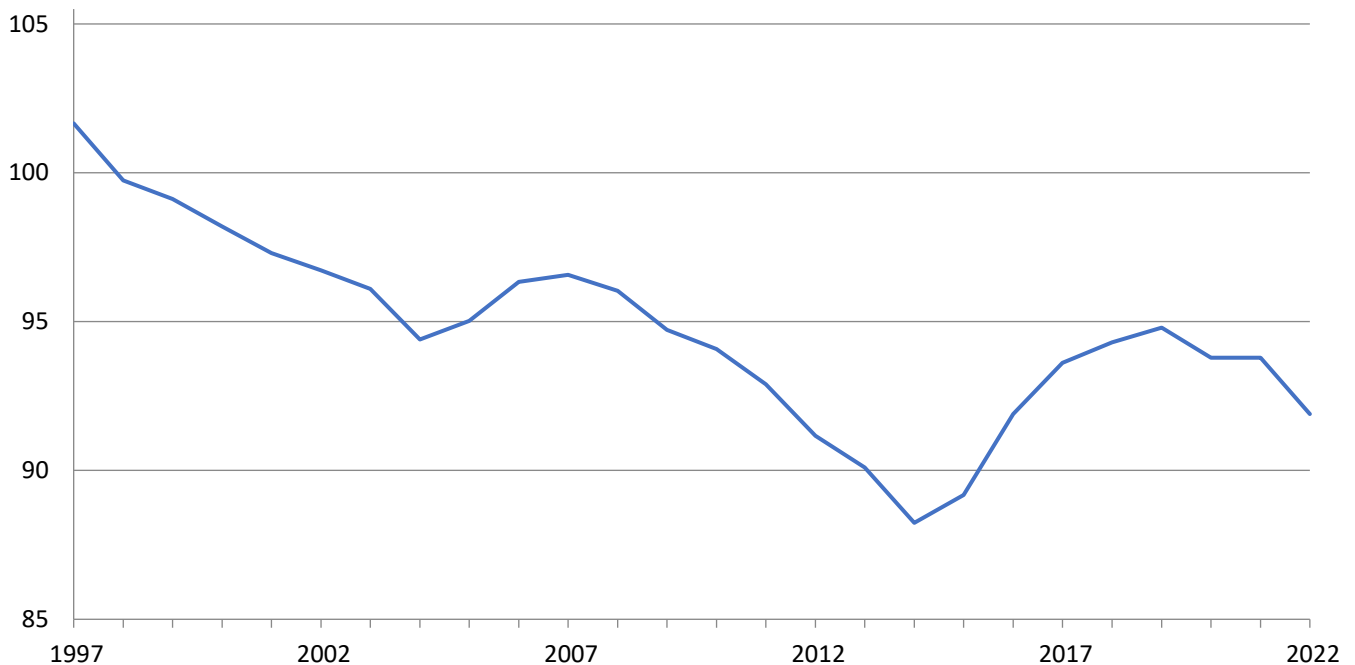
Cattle Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States: January 1, 2021 and 2022

Class	2021	2022	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	93,789.5	91,901.6	98
All cows and heifers that have calved	40,286.0	39,500.1	98
Beef cows	30,843.6	30,125.1	98
Milk cows	9,442.4	9,375.0	99
All heifers 500 pounds and over	20,200.1	19,776.0	98
For beef cow replacement	5,803.1	5,611.5	97
Expected to calve ¹	3,509.6	3,411.5	97
For milk cow replacement	4,608.5	4,450.6	97
Expected to calve ¹	2,915.9	2,836.2	97
Other heifers	9,788.5	9,713.9	99
Steers 500 pounds and over	16,787.8	16,579.7	99
Bulls 500 pounds and over	2,210.5	2,109.6	95
Calves under 500 pounds	14,305.1	13,936.2	97
All cattle on feed	14,667.4	14,692.6	100
	2020	2021	Percent of previous year
Calf crop	35,495.5	35,085.4	99

¹ Replacement heifers expected to calve during the year.

All Cattle and Calves Inventory – United States: January 1

Million head



Cattle Inventory by Class – States and United States: January 1, 2021 and 2022

State	All cattle and calves			All cows and heifers that have calved		
	2021	2022	Percent of previous year	2021	2022	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Alabama	1,295.0	1,260.0	97	700.0	680.0	97
Alaska	17.0	18.0	106	7.5	8.0	107
Arizona	980.0	960.0	98	390.0	365.0	94
Arkansas	1,780.0	1,690.0	95	930.0	910.0	98
California	5,150.0	5,200.0	101	2,380.0	2,400.0	101
Colorado	2,700.0	2,650.0	98	860.0	840.0	98
Connecticut	47.0	47.0	100	24.0	23.0	96
Delaware	13.0	12.0	92	5.5	4.5	82
Florida	1,700.0	1,630.0	96	1,040.0	1,000.0	96
Georgia	1,090.0	1,050.0	96	580.0	570.0	98
Hawaii	142.0	144.0	101	77.0	80.0	104
Idaho	2,500.0	2,550.0	102	1,110.0	1,150.0	104
Illinois	1,050.0	1,000.0	95	430.0	420.0	98
Indiana	850.0	810.0	95	375.0	370.0	99
Iowa	3,700.0	3,850.0	104	1,080.0	1,150.0	106
Kansas	6,550.0	6,500.0	99	1,630.0	1,590.0	98
Kentucky	2,090.0	2,020.0	97	1,020.0	1,010.0	99
Louisiana	775.0	775.0	100	455.0	460.0	101
Maine	76.0	74.0	97	37.0	36.0	97
Maryland	177.0	165.0	93	88.0	83.0	94
Massachusetts	37.0	38.0	103	17.0	17.5	103
Michigan	1,140.0	1,120.0	98	540.0	530.0	98
Minnesota	2,150.0	2,200.0	102	790.0	820.0	104
Mississippi	920.0	910.0	99	490.0	485.0	99
Missouri	4,310.0	4,040.0	94	2,110.0	2,010.0	95
Montana	2,450.0	2,200.0	90	1,400.0	1,310.0	94
Nebraska	6,850.0	6,800.0	99	1,940.0	1,890.0	97
Nevada	470.0	445.0	95	275.0	275.0	100
New Hampshire	32.0	31.0	97	15.5	14.5	94
New Jersey	25.0	24.0	96	13.0	12.0	92
New Mexico	1,390.0	1,300.0	94	800.0	745.0	93
New York	1,420.0	1,420.0	100	720.0	720.0	100
North Carolina	800.0	785.0	98	410.0	405.0	99
North Dakota	1,950.0	1,850.0	95	980.0	960.0	98
Ohio	1,260.0	1,300.0	103	550.0	560.0	102
Oklahoma	5,300.0	5,200.0	98	2,200.0	2,170.0	99
Oregon	1,250.0	1,250.0	100	650.0	630.0	97
Pennsylvania	1,430.0	1,340.0	94	690.0	660.0	96
Rhode Island	3.5	3.6	103	1.5	1.6	107
South Carolina	330.0	310.0	94	176.0	167.0	95
South Dakota	4,000.0	3,800.0	95	1,940.0	1,780.0	92
Tennessee	1,790.0	1,750.0	98	930.0	920.0	99
Texas	13,100.0	12,700.0	97	5,250.0	5,100.0	97
Utah	800.0	790.0	99	440.0	425.0	97
Vermont	245.0	250.0	102	134.0	135.0	101
Virginia	1,390.0	1,390.0	100	660.0	670.0	102
Washington	1,140.0	1,130.0	99	490.0	485.0	99
West Virginia	375.0	370.0	99	195.0	193.0	99
Wisconsin	3,450.0	3,500.0	101	1,550.0	1,570.0	101
Wyoming	1,300.0	1,250.0	96	710.0	690.0	97
United States	93,789.5	91,901.6	98	40,286.0	39,500.1	98

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Cattle Inventory by Class – States and United States: January 1, 2021 and 2022 (continued)

State	Beef cows that have calved			Milk cows that have calved		
	2021	2022	Percent of previous year	2021	2022	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Alabama	697.0	677.0	97	3.0	3.0	100
Alaska	7.3	7.8	107	0.2	0.2	100
Arizona	192.0	171.0	89	198.0	194.0	98
Arkansas	925.0	905.0	98	5.0	5.0	100
California	660.0	680.0	103	1,720.0	1,720.0	100
Colorado	659.0	638.0	97	201.0	202.0	100
Connecticut	5.0	4.5	90	19.0	18.5	97
Delaware	1.8	1.7	94	3.7	2.8	76
Florida	929.0	895.0	96	111.0	105.0	95
Georgia	499.0	487.0	98	81.0	83.0	102
Hawaii	76.4	79.2	104	0.6	0.8	133
Idaho	464.0	498.0	107	646.0	652.0	101
Illinois	346.0	339.0	98	84.0	81.0	96
Indiana	184.0	184.0	100	191.0	186.0	97
Iowa	860.0	925.0	108	220.0	225.0	102
Kansas	1,457.0	1,422.0	98	173.0	168.0	97
Kentucky	973.0	966.0	99	47.0	44.0	94
Louisiana	445.0	451.0	101	10.0	9.0	90
Maine	10.0	10.0	100	27.0	26.0	96
Maryland	45.0	42.0	93	43.0	41.0	95
Massachusetts	7.0	8.0	114	10.0	9.5	95
Michigan	100.0	96.0	96	440.0	434.0	99
Minnesota	335.0	360.0	107	455.0	460.0	101
Mississippi	482.0	478.0	99	8.0	7.0	88
Missouri	2,035.0	1,941.0	95	75.0	69.0	92
Montana	1,389.0	1,299.0	94	11.0	11.0	100
Nebraska	1,880.0	1,832.0	97	60.0	58.0	97
Nevada	245.0	244.0	100	30.0	31.0	103
New Hampshire	4.5	4.0	89	11.0	10.5	95
New Jersey	8.6	7.8	91	4.4	4.2	95
New Mexico	463.0	453.0	98	337.0	292.0	87
New York	95.0	100.0	105	625.0	620.0	99
North Carolina	370.0	366.0	99	40.0	39.0	98
North Dakota	965.0	945.0	98	15.0	15.0	100
Ohio	292.0	312.0	107	258.0	248.0	96
Oklahoma	2,159.0	2,131.0	99	41.0	39.0	95
Oregon	525.0	505.0	96	125.0	125.0	100
Pennsylvania	215.0	190.0	88	475.0	470.0	99
Rhode Island	1.0	1.1	110	0.5	0.5	100
South Carolina	166.0	158.0	95	10.0	9.0	90
South Dakota	1,799.0	1,610.0	89	141.0	170.0	121
Tennessee	900.0	893.0	99	30.0	27.0	90
Texas	4,635.0	4,475.0	97	615.0	625.0	102
Utah	345.0	331.0	96	95.0	94.0	99
Vermont	14.0	15.0	107	120.0	120.0	100
Virginia	585.0	599.0	102	75.0	71.0	95
Washington	211.0	224.0	106	279.0	261.0	94
West Virginia	190.0	188.0	99	5.0	5.0	100
Wisconsin	290.0	295.0	102	1,260.0	1,275.0	101
Wyoming	702.0	681.0	97	8.0	9.0	113
United States	30,843.6	30,125.1	98	9,442.4	9,375.0	99

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Cattle Inventory by Class – States and United States: January 1, 2021 and 2022 (continued)

State	All heifers 500 pounds and over					
	Beef cow replacement		Milk cow replacement		Other	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Alabama	103.0	108.0	2.0	2.0	50.0	50.0
Alaska	1.5	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4
Arizona	25.0	25.0	120.0	120.0	15.0	25.0
Arkansas	153.0	145.0	3.0	3.0	74.0	67.0
California	125.0	125.0	750.0	760.0	215.0	215.0
Colorado	130.0	135.0	120.0	115.0	580.0	590.0
Connecticut	1.9	2.0	9.0	9.5	1.1	1.5
Delaware	0.6	0.6	1.5	1.2	0.3	0.3
Florida	130.0	130.0	30.0	30.0	25.0	20.0
Georgia	100.0	100.0	30.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Hawaii	11.5	11.0	1.0	1.0	5.0	5.0
Idaho	100.0	100.0	370.0	350.0	210.0	220.0
Illinois	65.0	60.0	45.0	41.0	100.0	85.0
Indiana	38.0	35.0	77.0	60.0	46.0	45.0
Iowa	155.0	160.0	125.0	120.0	550.0	570.0
Kansas	260.0	280.0	150.0	170.0	1,640.0	1,690.0
Kentucky	135.0	125.0	40.0	35.0	120.0	110.0
Louisiana	80.0	80.0	3.0	3.0	22.0	19.0
Maine	4.0	4.0	13.0	13.0	3.0	3.0
Maryland	7.5	9.0	23.5	26.0	5.0	6.0
Massachusetts	3.0	3.0	6.0	5.5	1.0	1.0
Michigan	20.0	23.0	160.0	152.0	40.0	45.0
Minnesota	80.0	85.0	200.0	210.0	170.0	145.0
Mississippi	95.0	91.0	5.0	5.0	39.0	38.0
Missouri	335.0	310.0	35.0	30.0	230.0	210.0
Montana	380.0	330.0	4.0	4.0	216.0	176.0
Nebraska	350.0	370.0	30.0	30.0	1,600.0	1,540.0
Nevada	43.0	38.0	10.0	9.0	35.0	28.0
New Hampshire	1.3	1.2	6.0	6.0	0.7	0.8
New Jersey	1.6	1.5	2.9	2.8	0.9	1.2
New Mexico	75.0	70.0	130.0	125.0	75.0	70.0
New York	40.0	40.0	340.0	330.0	35.0	40.0
North Carolina	61.0	62.0	15.0	14.0	24.0	26.0
North Dakota	200.0	192.0	10.0	8.0	245.0	210.0
Ohio	70.0	70.0	125.0	120.0	60.0	50.0
Oklahoma	410.0	410.0	20.0	20.0	510.0	520.0
Oregon	100.0	100.0	60.0	55.0	105.0	120.0
Pennsylvania	63.0	51.0	220.0	195.0	52.0	49.0
Rhode Island	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2
South Carolina	32.0	29.0	6.0	5.0	9.0	9.0
South Dakota	370.0	375.0	50.0	40.0	500.0	480.0
Tennessee	130.0	120.0	25.0	20.0	75.0	80.0
Texas	830.0	720.0	310.0	240.0	1,600.0	1,630.0
Utah	75.0	70.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	60.0
Vermont	5.0	4.5	53.0	52.0	6.0	6.5
Virginia	90.0	89.0	36.0	35.0	70.0	69.0
Washington	50.0	55.0	115.0	130.0	135.0	130.0
West Virginia	32.0	30.0	2.0	2.0	22.0	22.0
Wisconsin	85.0	90.0	660.0	660.0	65.0	80.0
Wyoming	150.0	145.0	4.0	5.0	126.0	130.0
United States	5,803.1	5,611.5	4,608.5	4,450.6	9,788.5	9,713.9

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Cattle Inventory by Class – States and United States: January 1, 2021 and 2022 (continued)

State	Steers 500 pounds and over		Bulls 500 pounds and over		Calves under 500 pounds	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Alabama	50.0	47.0	45.0	43.0	345.0	330.0
Alaska	0.7	0.5	4.3	4.5	2.6	3.0
Arizona	285.0	290.0	20.0	20.0	125.0	115.0
Arkansas	125.0	110.0	60.0	55.0	435.0	400.0
California	630.0	640.0	60.0	60.0	990.0	1,000.0
Colorado	850.0	800.0	45.0	45.0	115.0	125.0
Connecticut	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.5	9.0	9.5
Delaware	2.4	2.7	0.4	0.3	2.3	2.4
Florida	35.0	25.0	55.0	55.0	385.0	370.0
Georgia	43.0	40.0	32.0	30.0	280.0	260.0
Hawaii	10.0	9.0	4.0	4.0	33.5	34.0
Idaho	295.0	320.0	40.0	40.0	375.0	370.0
Illinois	210.0	196.0	20.0	18.0	180.0	180.0
Indiana	118.0	96.0	15.0	16.0	181.0	188.0
Iowa	1,250.0	1,280.0	60.0	60.0	480.0	510.0
Kansas	2,100.0	2,040.0	90.0	85.0	680.0	645.0
Kentucky	230.0	215.0	65.0	60.0	480.0	465.0
Louisiana	26.0	23.0	30.0	30.0	159.0	160.0
Maine	5.0	4.5	1.5	1.5	12.5	12.0
Maryland	17.5	12.5	3.5	3.5	32.0	25.0
Massachusetts	2.0	2.5	1.0	1.0	7.0	7.5
Michigan	176.0	173.0	14.0	15.0	190.0	182.0
Minnesota	500.0	480.0	30.0	30.0	380.0	430.0
Mississippi	56.0	52.0	40.0	39.0	195.0	200.0
Missouri	440.0	390.0	120.0	110.0	1,040.0	980.0
Montana	250.0	205.0	100.0	95.0	100.0	80.0
Nebraska	2,470.0	2,540.0	110.0	110.0	350.0	320.0
Nevada	39.0	35.0	15.0	13.0	53.0	47.0
New Hampshire	1.5	1.5	0.5	0.5	6.5	6.5
New Jersey	1.9	2.2	0.7	0.7	4.0	3.6
New Mexico	90.0	95.0	30.0	25.0	190.0	170.0
New York	42.0	45.0	18.0	20.0	225.0	225.0
North Carolina	44.0	42.0	31.0	31.0	215.0	205.0
North Dakota	315.0	295.0	70.0	60.0	130.0	125.0
Ohio	205.0	210.0	30.0	30.0	220.0	260.0
Oklahoma	1,080.0	1,010.0	170.0	170.0	910.0	900.0
Oregon	155.0	170.0	40.0	40.0	140.0	135.0
Pennsylvania	135.0	140.0	20.0	20.0	250.0	225.0
Rhode Island	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.7
South Carolina	13.0	11.0	13.0	12.0	81.0	77.0
South Dakota	700.0	750.0	110.0	105.0	330.0	270.0
Tennessee	150.0	130.0	65.0	60.0	415.0	420.0
Texas	2,620.0	2,630.0	360.0	330.0	2,130.0	2,050.0
Utah	85.0	90.0	25.0	23.0	65.0	67.0
Vermont	4.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	40.0	44.0
Virginia	160.0	149.0	39.0	38.0	335.0	340.0
Washington	195.0	180.0	20.0	18.0	135.0	132.0
West Virginia	44.0	39.0	14.0	14.0	66.0	70.0
Wisconsin	360.0	400.0	30.0	30.0	700.0	670.0
Wyoming	170.0	155.0	40.0	35.0	100.0	90.0
United States	16,787.8	16,579.7	2,210.5	2,109.6	14,305.1	13,936.2

Calf Crop – States and United States: 2020 and 2021

State	2020	2021	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Alabama	610.0	600.0	98
Alaska	5.5	5.5	100
Arizona	305.0	290.0	95
Arkansas	790.0	770.0	97
California	1,840.0	1,920.0	104
Colorado	790.0	800.0	101
Connecticut	16.5	17.0	103
Delaware	4.6	3.9	85
Florida	820.0	800.0	98
Georgia	510.0	520.0	102
Hawaii	60.0	62.0	103
Idaho	950.0	990.0	104
Illinois	375.0	360.0	96
Indiana	340.0	330.0	97
Iowa	1,030.0	1,120.0	109
Kansas	1,490.0	1,400.0	94
Kentucky	950.0	970.0	102
Louisiana	345.0	355.0	103
Maine	29.0	28.0	97
Maryland	66.0	62.0	94
Massachusetts	15.0	14.5	97
Michigan	400.0	395.0	99
Minnesota	750.0	800.0	107
Mississippi	395.0	390.0	99
Missouri	1,910.0	1,890.0	99
Montana	1,390.0	1,310.0	94
Nebraska	1,750.0	1,690.0	97
Nevada	220.0	220.0	100
New Hampshire	11.5	11.0	96
New Jersey	9.0	8.0	89
New Mexico	610.0	580.0	95
New York	520.0	540.0	104
North Carolina	375.0	370.0	99
North Dakota	920.0	910.0	99
Ohio	470.0	490.0	104
Oklahoma	1,950.0	1,920.0	98
Oregon	590.0	570.0	97
Pennsylvania	530.0	510.0	96
Rhode Island	1.4	1.5	107
South Carolina	145.0	140.0	97
South Dakota	1,800.0	1,670.0	93
Tennessee	850.0	870.0	102
Texas	4,800.0	4,600.0	96
Utah	385.0	380.0	99
Vermont	97.0	102.0	105
Virginia	600.0	630.0	105
Washington	420.0	425.0	101
West Virginia	185.0	185.0	100
Wisconsin	1,410.0	1,400.0	99
Wyoming	660.0	660.0	100
United States	35,495.5	35,085.4	99

All Cattle on Feed Inventory— States and United States: January 1, 2021 and 2022

[Cattle and calves on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay, and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by class]

State	2021	2022	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Arizona	265.0	274.0	103
California	555.0	555.0	100
Colorado	1,140.0	1,160.0	102
Idaho	300.0	320.0	107
Illinois	230.0	210.0	91
Indiana	115.0	105.0	91
Iowa	1,170.0	1,170.0	100
Kansas	2,660.0	2,610.0	98
Kentucky	19.0	18.0	95
Maryland	7.0	8.0	114
Michigan	180.0	160.0	89
Minnesota	400.0	380.0	95
Missouri	100.0	80.0	80
Montana	53.0	43.0	81
Nebraska	2,700.0	2,820.0	104
Nevada	3.0	3.0	100
New York	22.0	22.0	100
North Dakota	49.0	39.0	80
Ohio	150.0	150.0	100
Oklahoma	335.0	315.0	94
Oregon	105.0	130.0	124
Pennsylvania	70.0	70.0	100
South Dakota	460.0	445.0	97
Texas	2,890.0	2,930.0	101
Utah	23.0	21.0	91
Virginia	16.0	17.0	106
Washington	240.0	215.0	90
West Virginia	5.0	4.0	80
Wisconsin	250.0	270.0	108
Wyoming	70.0	69.0	99
Other States ¹	85.4	79.6	93
United States	14,667.4	14,692.6	100

¹ Individual state estimates not available for states not shown, but are included in Other States.

Cattle Grazing on Small Grain Pasture – 3-State Total: January 1, 2021 and 2022

States	2021	2022	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas	1,730.0	1,710.0	99

Cattle Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States: July 1, 2020 and 2021

Class	2020	2021	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	102,300.0	100,800.0	99
All cows and heifers that have calved	41,400.0	40,800.0	99
Beef cows	32,050.0	31,300.0	98
Milk cows	9,350.0	9,500.0	102
All heifers 500 pounds and over	16,200.0	16,000.0	99
For beef cow replacement	4,400.0	4,300.0	98
For milk cow replacement	4,000.0	4,000.0	100
Other heifers	7,800.0	7,700.0	99
Steers 500 pounds and over	14,700.0	14,500.0	99
Bulls 500 pounds and over	2,100.0	2,100.0	100
Calves under 500 pounds	27,900.0	27,400.0	98
All cattle on feed	13,600.0	13,400.0	99
Calf crop	35,495.5	35,085.4	99

Calf Crop by Six Month Period – United States: 2020 and 2021

Period	2020		2021	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
January 1 - June 30	25,850.0	72.8	25,630.0	73.1
July 1 - December 31	9,645.5	27.2	9,455.4	26.9
Total	35,495.5	100.0	35,085.4	100.0

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: A random sample of United States producers were surveyed to provide data for these estimates. Survey procedures ensured that all cattle producers, regardless of size, had a chance to be included in the survey. Large producers were sampled more heavily than small operations. Data were collected from about 34,800 operators during the first half of January by mail, telephone, and internet and 64 percent of the reports were usable. Regardless of when operators responded, they were asked to report inventories as of January 1.

Estimating Procedures: These cattle estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by Regional Field Offices. National and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous year using a balance sheet. The balance sheet begins with the previous inventory estimate, adds estimates of births and imports, and subtracts estimates of slaughter, exports, and deaths. This indicated ending inventory level is compared to the Agricultural Statistics Board estimate for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year to year and item to item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made. The reviews are primarily based on livestock slaughter and additional foreign trade and survey data. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the five-year *Census of Agriculture* are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Since all cattle operators are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of estimates in this report, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown for selected items in the table on the following page. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for all cattle and calves inventory estimates over the past 10 years is 0.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 91.9 million head by more than 0.5 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.9 percent.

The table on the following page shows a 10-year record of the range of differences between first and latest estimates for selected items. Using estimates of all cattle and calves as an example, changes between the first inventory estimate and the latest estimate during the past 10 years have averaged 343,000 head, ranging from 40,000 to 796,000 head. During this period the initial inventory estimate has been above the latest estimate 4 times and below the latest estimate 6 times. This does not imply that the January 1 estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

Reliability of January 1 Cattle Estimates

[Based on data for the past 10 years]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Years	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(number)	(number)
All cattle and calves	0.5	0.9	343	40	796	6	4
All cows and heifers that have calved	0.6	1.1	202	20	405	3	7
Calf crop	0.7	1.4	211	20	468	3	7

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
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Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Logan Hartley-Sanguinett – Sheep and Goats	(202) 690-3236
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@usda.gov.

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