



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 870,000 head as of January 1, 2016. The latest inventory was down 2 percent from December 1, 2015 and down 3 percent from January 1, 2015. The inventory included 590,000 steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from last year's number. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 280,000 head, are down 13 percent from a year ago. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 130,000 head of fed cattle during December 2015, up 4 percent from the previous month, but 4 percent below the December 2014 marketings of 135,000 head. An estimated 115,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during December 2015, 18 percent below last month, and 11 percent below December 2014 placements of 130,000. Of the number placed in December, 22 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 22 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 22 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 35 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for December was estimated at 5,000 head, no change from last month or 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 10.6 million head on January 1, 2016. The inventory was slightly below January 1, 2015. The inventory included 7.16 million steers and steer calves, up 3 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 68 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.41 million head, down 7 percent from 2015. January 1, 2016 heifers and heifer calves inventory is the lowest percent of total January inventory since the series began in 1996. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.53 million head, 1 percent below 2014. Net placements were 1.45 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 375,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 355,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 355,000 head, and 800 pounds and greater were 440,000 head. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.67 million head, 1 percent above 2014. Other disappearance totaled 78,000 head during December, 8 percent above 2014.

For a full copy of the January 2016 *Cattle on Feed* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.