



# Iowa Ag News – Cattle on Feed

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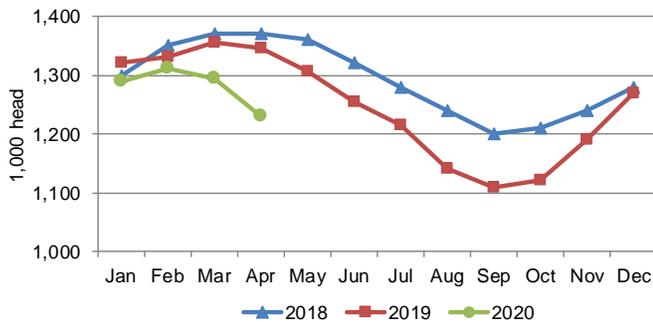
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**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 630,000 head on April 1, 2020, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle on Feed* report. This was down 6 percent from March and down 11 percent from April 1, 2019. Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head had 600,000 head on feed, down 4 percent from last month and down 6 percent from last year. Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in all Iowa feedlots totaled 1,230,000 head, down 5 percent from last month and down 9 percent from last year.

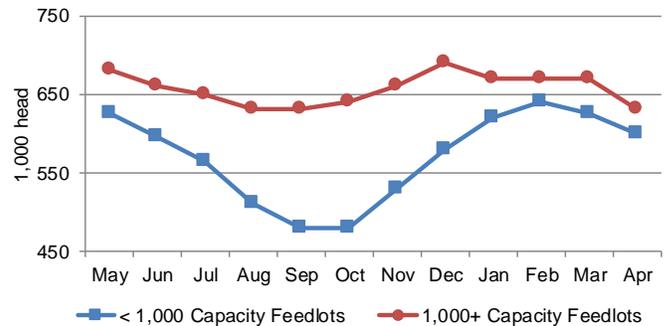
**Placements** of cattle and calves in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during March totaled 69,000 head, down 36 percent from February and down 34 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head placed 57,000 head, down 17 percent from February but up 4 percent from last year. Placements for all feedlots in Iowa totaled 126,000 head, down 29 percent from February and down 21 percent from last year.

**Marketings** of fed cattle from Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during March totaled 105,000 head, down 1 percent from February but up 5 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head marketed 80,000 head, up 1 percent from February and up 29 percent from last year. Marketings for all feedlots in Iowa were 185,000 head, unchanged from February but up 14 percent from last year. **Other disappearance** from all feedlots in Iowa totaled 6,000 head.

**Cattle on Feed, Inventory in all Feedlots  
Iowa: 2018-2020**



**Cattle on Feed, Inventory by Feedlot Capacity  
Iowa: Past 12 Months**



## All Cattle on Feed – Iowa

Item	Feedlots 1,000+ capacity	Feedlots less than 1,000 capacity	All feedlots
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle on feed <sup>1</sup> , March 1, 2020.....	670	625	1,295
March placements .....	69	57	126
March marketings .....	105	80	185
March other disappearance <sup>2</sup> .....	4	2	6
Cattle on feed, April 1, 2020 .....	630	600	1,230

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

**Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – Selected States and United States: 2019-2020**

State	Cattle on feed <sup>1</sup> April 1			Placements during March			Marketings during March			Other disappearance <sup>2</sup> during March		
	2019	2020	'20 as % of '19	2019	2020	'20 as % of '19	2019	2020	'20 as % of '19	2019	2020	'20 as % of '19
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Arizona .....	303	262	86	31	31	100	27	24	89	1	1	100
California .....	535	535	100	71	62	87	57	66	116	4	6	150
Colorado .....	1,060	960	91	200	135	68	185	220	119	5	5	100
Idaho .....	285	285	100	44	28	64	32	37	116	2	1	50
<b>Iowa .....</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>
Kansas .....	2,380	2,290	96	470	345	73	375	425	113	15	10	67
Minnesota .....	150	130	87	17	12	71	16	16	100	1	1	100
Nebraska .....	2,580	2,390	93	425	380	89	425	475	112	20	15	75
Oklahoma .....	315	305	97	60	40	67	53	54	102	2	1	50
South Dakota .....	250	215	86	29	23	79	37	44	119	2	4	200
Texas .....	2,850	2,760	97	480	350	73	390	460	118	10	10	100
Washington .....	225	235	104	34	33	97	33	32	97	1	1	100
Other States ....	310	300	97	49	49	100	47	52	111	2	2	100
United States ...	11,953	11,297	95	2,014	1,557	77	1,777	2,010	113	69	61	88

<sup>1</sup> Cattle 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.

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

**Cattle on Feed, Number on Feed by Class, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Quarter – Selected States and United States: 2019-2020**

State	Steers & Steer Calves			Heifers & Heifer Calves		
	April 1, 2019	January 1, 2020	April 1, 2020	April 1, 2019	January 1, 2020	April 1, 2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona .....	298	248	257	5	5	5
California .....	465	465	465	70	75	70
Colorado .....	580	585	525	480	505	435
Idaho .....	185	185	190	100	115	95
<b>Iowa .....</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>165</b>
Kansas .....	1,320	1,300	1,260	1,060	1,120	1,030
Minnesota .....	130	115	115	20	20	15
Nebraska .....	1,610	1,490	1,500	970	970	890
Oklahoma .....	170	185	165	145	145	140
South Dakota ...	145	140	125	105	105	90
Texas .....	1,730	1,830	1,675	1,120	1,130	1,085
Washington .....	140	135	140	85	100	95
Other States ....	190	205	200	120	115	100
United States ....	7,443	7,373	7,082	4,510	4,585	4,215

**UNITED STATES CATTLE ON FEED**

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on April 1, 2020. The inventory was 5 percent below April 1, 2019. The inventory included 7.08 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.22 million head, down 7 percent from 2019.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.56 million head, 23 percent below 2019. Placements were the lowest for March since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.50 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 310,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 220,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 410,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 402,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 155,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 60,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 2.01 million head, 13 percent above 2019. Marketings were the second highest for March since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 61,000 head during March, 12 percent below 2019.

The complete report can be found under **Publications** on the USDA NASS website at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).