



News Release

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JANUARY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY

The **Kentucky** cattle and calf inventory for January 1, 2016 was estimated at 2.17 million head according to the Kentucky Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Total inventory was up 120,000 head from last year.

Cows and heifers that have calved were estimated at 1.08 million head, up 20,000 head from the 1.06 million for 2015. Beef cow inventory was estimated at 1.02 million head and milk cows were estimated at 59,000 head.

Heifers 500 lbs. and over were estimated at 325,000 head, up 35,000 from last year's estimate. Beef replacement heifers totaled 160,000 head, up 20,000 from January 2015. Dairy heifers, at 50,000 head, were up 5,000 from 2015. Other heifers, at 115,000 head, were up 10,000 from the previous year. Steers 500 lbs. and over numbered 225,000 head, up 25,000 from 2015. Bulls 500 lbs. and over were up 5,000 head from a year ago and numbered 70,000 head. Calves less than 500 lbs. were estimated at 470,000 head, up 35,000 from the 2015 estimate. Cattle on feed were estimated at 17,000 head, up 2,000 from the previous year.

The 2015 calf crop was estimated at 970,000 head, up 30,000 from the previous year's estimate.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2016 totaled 92.0 million head. This is 3 percent above the 89.1 million head on January 1, 2015.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.6 million head, are 3 percent above the 38.6 million head on January 1, 2015. Beef cows, at 30.3 million head, are up 4 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.32 million head, are up slightly from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2016 totaled 19.8 million head. This is 3 percent above the 19.3 million head on January 1, 2015. Beef replacement heifers, at 6.29 million head, are up 3 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.82 million head, are up 2 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 8.71 million head, are 3 percent above a year earlier. All Calves under 500 pounds in the United States as of January 1, 2016 totaled 14.1 million head. This is 4 percent above the 13.5 million head on January 1, 2015. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over totaled 16.3 million head, up 4 percent from one year ago. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over totaled 2.14 million head, up 2 percent from the previous year. Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 13.2 million head on January 1, 2016. The inventory is up 1 percent from the January 1, 2015 total of 13.0 million head.

The 2015 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 34.3 million head, up 2 percent from last year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2015 were estimated at 24.8 million head. This is up 2 percent from the first half of 2014. The calves born during the second half of 2015 were estimated at 9.50 million head, 28 percent of the total 2015 calf crop.