



Minnesota Ag News – Cattle & Calves

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All cattle and calves in Minnesota as of January 1, 2016, totaled 2.42 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle* report. This was up 4 percent from January 1, 2015. **Beef cows**, at 350,000 head, were up 3 percent from last year. **Milk cows**, at 460,000, were unchanged from last year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over, at 570,000 head, were up 8 percent from last year. **Heifers for beef cow replacement** were up 6 percent to 95,000 head; **heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 300,000 head, were up 7 percent from the previous year; and **all other heifers** were up 9 percent to 175,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were up 4 percent from last year to 520,000 head. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** were up 5,000 head to 40,000. **Calves under 500 pounds** on January 1, 2016, totaled 480,000 head, up 5 percent from last year.

The 2015 **calf crop** was estimated at 770,000 head, which tied 2014's record low calf crop. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2016, totaled 405,000 head, up 5 percent from one year ago.



Cattle and Calves, Number by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2015 and 2016

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	2016 as % of 2015 (percent)	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	2016 as % of 2015 (percent)
All cattle and calves	2,320.0	2,420.0	104	89,143.0	91,988.0	103
All cows that have calved	800.0	810.0	101	38,609.0	39,646.2	103
Beef cows	340.0	350.0	103	29,302.1	30,330.8	104
Milk cows	460.0	460.0	100	9,306.9	9,315.4	100
Heifers 500 pounds and over	530.0	570.0	108	19,261.2	19,822.3	103
For beef cow replacement	90.0	95.0	106	6,086.4	6,285.2	103
For milk cow replacement	280.0	300.0	107	4,710.4	4,824.0	102
Other heifers	160.0	175.0	109	8,464.4	8,713.1	103
Steers 500 pounds and over	500.0	520.0	104	15,629.5	16,320.4	104
Bulls 500 pounds and over	35.0	40.0	114	2,109.4	2,142.4	102
Calves under 500 pounds	455.0	480.0	105	13,533.9	14,056.7	104
Cattle on feed ¹	385.0	405.0	105	13,025.0	13,177.0	101

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

Calf Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2014 and 2015

	Minnesota			United States		
	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	2015 as % of 2014 (percent)	2014 (1,000 head)	2015 (1,000 head)	2015 as % of 2014 (percent)
Calf crop	770.0	770.0	100	33,522.0	34,301.7	102

United States Cattle Inventory

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.

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.

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. Cattle on feed, in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head, accounted for 80.2 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2016. This is down 1 percent from the previous year. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds (outside of feedlots) is 25.9 million head. This is 5 percent above one year ago.

