



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



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## JANUARY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY

The **Virginia** cattle and calf inventory for January 1, 2020 was estimated at 1.45 million head according to the Virginia Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Total inventory was up 10,000 head from last year.

Cows and heifers that have calved were estimated at 700,000 head, down 10,000 head from the 710,000 for 2019. Beef cow inventory was estimated at 626,000 head and milk cows were estimated at 74,000 head.

Heifers 500 lbs. and over were estimated at 190,000 head, down 1,000 head from last year's estimate. Beef replacement heifers totaled 93,000 head, unchanged from January 2019. Dairy heifers, at 33,000 head, were down 4,000 from 2019. Other heifers, at 64,000 head, were up 3,000 from the previous year. Steers 500 lbs. and over numbered 165,000 head, up 10,000 from 2019. Bulls 500 lbs. and over were up 1,000 head from a year ago and numbered 40,000 head. Calves less than 500 lbs. were estimated at 355,000 head, up 10,000 from the 2019 estimate. Cattle on feed were estimated at 20,000 head, up 5,000 from the previous year.

The 2019 calf crop was estimated at 630,000 head, unchanged from the previous year's estimate.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2020 totaled 94.4 million head, slightly below the 94.8 million head on January 1, 2019. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.7 million head, were 1 percent below the 41.0 million head on January 1, 2019. Beef cows, at 31.3 million head, were down 1 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.33 million head, were down slightly from the previous year. All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2020 totaled 20.1 million head, slightly below the 20.2 million head on January 1, 2019. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.77 million head, were down 2 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.64 million head, were down 1 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.71 million head, were 1 percent above a year earlier. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2020 totaled 16.7 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2019. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2020 totaled 2.24 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2019. Calves under 500 pounds as of January 1, 2020 totaled 14.7 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2019.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.7 million head on January 1, 2020. The inventory is up 2 percent from the January 1, 2019 total of 14.4 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 81.5 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2020, 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 26.4 million head, was slightly below January 1, 2019.

The 2019 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 36.1 million head, down 1 percent from last year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2019 were estimated at 26.4 million head, down slightly from the first half of 2018. Calves born during the second half of 2019 were estimated at 9.71 million head, 27 percent of the total 2019 calf crop.