



Iowa Ag News – Cattle & Calves



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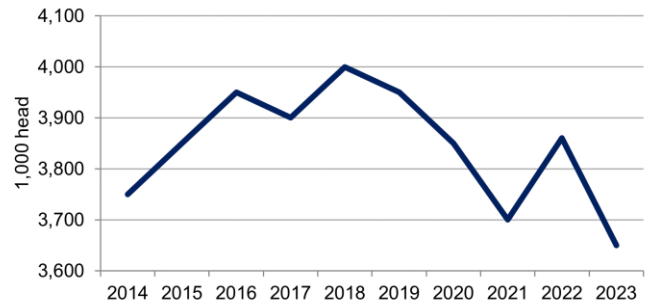
All cattle and calves in Iowa as of January 1, 2023, totaled 3.65 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle* report. This was down 210,000 head from January 1, 2022. **Beef cows**, at 860,000 head, were down 45,000 head from last year. **Milk cow** inventory was up 15,000 head at 240,000 head.

All heifers 500 pounds and over were down 9 percent at 790,000 head. **Heifers for beef cow replacement** were down 19 percent from 2022 at 130,000 head; **heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 120,000 head, were unchanged from the previous year; and **all other heifers** were down 8 percent at 540,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were down 4 percent from last year at 1.24 million head. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** were unchanged at 60,000 head. **Calves under 500 pounds** on January 1, 2023, totaled 460,000 head, down 10 percent from last year.

The 2022 **calf crop** was estimated at 1.07 million head, down 5 percent from the 2021 calf crop. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2023, totaled 1.15 million head, down 2 percent from one year ago.

**All Cattle and Calves Inventory
Iowa: January 1**



Cattle and Calves, Number by Class - Iowa and United States: January 1, 2022-2023

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2022	2023	2023 as % of 2022	2022	2023	2023 as % of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	3,860	3,650	95	92,077	89,274	97
All cows that have calved	1,130	1,100	97	39,360	38,320	97
Beef cows	905	860	95	29,983	28,918	96
Milk cows	225	240	107	9,377	9,403	100
Heifers 500 pounds and over						
For beef cow replacement	160	130	81	5,482	5,164	94
For milk cow replacement	120	120	100	4,441	4,337	98
Other heifers	590	540	92	9,994	9,672	97
Steers 500 pounds and over	1,290	1,240	96	16,705	16,132	97
Bulls 500 pounds and over	60	60	100	2,110	2,029	96
Calves under 500 pounds	510	460	90	13,986	13,621	97
Cattle on feed ¹	1,170	1,150	98	14,695	14,157	96
	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021	2021	2022	2022 as % of 2021
Calf crop	1,130	1,070	95	35,166	34,465	98

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.

United States Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2023, totaled 89.3 million head, 3 percent below the 92.1 million head on January 1, 2022.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 38.3 million head, were 3 percent below the 39.4 million head on January 1, 2022. Beef cows, at 28.9 million head, were down 4 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.40 million head, were up slightly from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2023, totaled 19.2 million head, 4 percent below the 19.9 million head on January 1, 2022. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.16 million head, were down 6 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.34 million head, were down 2 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.67 million head, were 3 percent below a year earlier.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2023, totaled 16.1 million head, down 3 percent from January 1, 2022.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2023, totaled 2.03 million head, down 4 percent from January 1, 2022.

Calves under 500 pounds as of January 1, 2023, totaled 13.6 million head, down 3 percent from January 1, 2022.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.2 million head on January 1, 2023. The inventory is down 4 percent from the January 1, 2022, total of 14.7 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 82.5 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2023, up 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) at 25.3 million head, was 3 percent below January 1, 2022.

The 2022 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 34.5 million head, down 2 percent from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2022 were estimated at 25.3 million head, down 2 percent from the first half of 2021. Calves born during the second half of 2022 were estimated at 9.16 million head, 27 percent of the total 2022 calf crop.

All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2021, January 1, 2022, and July 1, 2022, were reviewed using calf crop, official slaughter, import and export data, and the relationship of new survey information to the prior surveys. Based on the findings of this review, January 1, 2022, all cattle and calves increased by 0.2 percent and 2021 calf crop increased by 0.2 percent. July 1, 2022, all cattle and calves decreased by 0.2 percent and 2022 calf crop decreased by 0.4 percent.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

