



Iowa Ag News – Cattle on Feed



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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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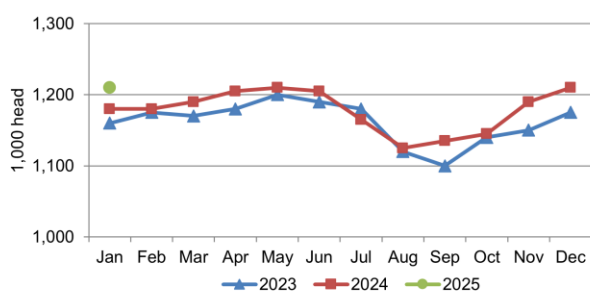
Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 650,000 head on January 1, 2025, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle on Feed* report. This was down 2 percent from December but up 3 percent from January 1, 2024. Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head had 560,000 head on feed, up 2 percent from last month and up 2 percent from last year. Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in all Iowa feedlots totaled 1,210,000 head, unchanged from last month but up 3 percent from last year.

Placements of cattle and calves in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during December 2024 totaled 86,000 head, down 5 percent from November but up 4 percent from December 2023. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head placed 68,000 head, down 40 percent from November but up 24 percent from December 2023. Placements for all feedlots in Iowa totaled 154,000 head, down 25 percent from November but up 12 percent from December 2023.

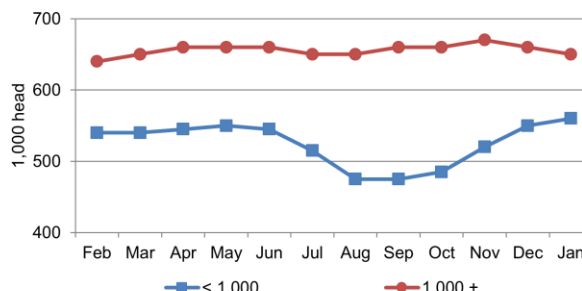
Marketings of fed cattle from Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during December 2024 totaled 95,000 head, down 5 percent from November but up 3 percent from December 2023. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head marketed 55,000 head, down 32 percent from November but up 62 percent from December 2023. Marketings for all feedlots in Iowa were 150,000 head, down 17 percent from November but up 19 percent from December 2023. **Other disappearance** from all feedlots in Iowa totaled 4,000 head.

Note: This report is a combination of estimates from the USDA Cattle on Feed survey for Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship-funded Cattle on Feed survey for Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head.

**Cattle on Feed, Inventory in all Feedlots
Iowa: 2023-2025**



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



All Cattle on Feed – Iowa

Item	Feedlots 1,000+ capacity (1,000 head)	Feedlots less than 1,000 capacity (1,000 head)	All feedlots (1,000 head)
Cattle on feed ¹ , December 1, 2024	660	550	1,210
December placements	86	68	154
December marketings	95	55	150
December other disappearance ²	1	3	4
Cattle on feed, January 1, 2025	650	560	1,210

¹ 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.

² 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: 2024-2025

State	Cattle on Feed ¹ January 1			Placements during December			Marketings during December			Other disappearance ² during December		
	2024	2025	'25 as % of '24	2023	2024	'24 as % of '23	2023	2024	'24 as % of '23	2023	2024	'24 as % of '23
	(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	265	233	88	20	23	115	20	21	105	1	1	100
California	520	520	100	77	65	84	61	49	80	6	6	100
Colorado	1,020	1,050	103	135	135	100	140	135	96	5	10	200
Idaho	335	330	99	45	41	91	39	40	103	1	1	100
Iowa	630	650	103	83	86	104	92	95	103	1	1	100
Kansas	2,480	2,400	97	395	410	104	405	420	104	10	10	100
Nebraska	2,560	2,580	101	435	460	106	440	465	106	15	15	100
Oklahoma	335	360	107	43	35	81	32	39	122	1	1	100
South Dakota ..	230	230	100	37	38	103	35	42	120	2	1	50
Texas	2,860	2,780	97	330	255	77	365	345	95	15	10	67
Washington	270	255	94	38	31	82	37	35	95	1	1	100
Other States	320	435	136	44	63	143	48	56	117	1	2	200
United States ..	11,930	11,823	99	1,698	1,642	97	1,724	1,742	101	60	59	98

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² 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 – States and United States: 2024-2025

State	Steers & Steer Calves			Heifers & Heifer Calves		
	January 1, 2024	October 1, 2024	January 1, 2025	January 1, 2024	October 1, 2024	January 1, 2025
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)
Arizona	250	220	218	15	10	15
California	415	420	420	105	95	100
Colorado	540	525	550	480	475	500
Idaho	180	175	175	155	155	155
Iowa	475	510	500	155	150	150
Kansas	1,380	1,340	1,410	1,100	1,030	990
Nebraska	1,590	1,530	1,630	970	940	950
Oklahoma	195	190	205	140	155	155
South Dakota	135	110	135	95	85	95
Texas	1,610	1,560	1,570	1,250	1,260	1,210
Washington	145	135	140	125	120	115
Other States	195	200	295	125	110	140
United States	7,195	7,000	7,248	4,735	4,600	4,575

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 11.8 million head on January 1, 2025. The inventory was 1 percent below January 1, 2024. The inventory included 7.25 million steers and steer calves, up 1 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.58 million head, down 3 percent from 2024.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.64 million head, 3 percent below 2023. Net placements were 1.58 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 395,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 380,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 375,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 287,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 115,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 90,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.74 million head, 1 percent above 2023.

Other disappearance totaled 59,000 head during December, 2 percent below 2023.

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