

NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture West Virginia Field Office 1900 Kanawha Blvd E Charleston, West Virginia 25305

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Contact: Charmaine Wilson (304) 357-5126

WEST VIRGINIA CATTLE INVENTORY

Charleston, West Virginia – Cattle inventory in West Virginia as of January 1, 2022 totaled 370,000 head, down 5,000 head from the January 1, 2021 inventory. All cows and heifers that have calved totaled 193,000 head, down 2,000 head from January 1, 2021.

Comparing January 1, 2022 to January 1, 2021: **beef cows** that have calved totaled 188,000 head, down 2,000 head; **milk cows** that have calved totaled 5,000 head, unchanged; **all heifers** 500 pounds and over totaled 54,000 head, down 2,000 head; **beef replacement heifers** totaled 30,000 head, down 2,000 head; **milk replacement heifers** totaled 2,000 head, unchanged; **other heifers** totaled 22,000 head, unchanged; **steers 500 pounds and over** totaled 39,000 head, down 5,000 head; **bulls 500 pounds and over** totaled 14,000 head, unchanged; **calves under 500 pounds** totaled 70,000 head, up 4,000 head. **All cattle on feed** for slaughter totaled 4,000 head, down 1,000 head from 2021.

The 2021 **calf crop** totaled 185,000 head, unchanged from the 2020 calf crop.

United States – All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2022 totaled 91.9 million head, 2 percent below the 93.8 million head on January 1, 2021. **All cows and heifers that have calved**, at 39.5 million head, were 2 percent below the 40.3 million head on January 1, 2021. Beef cows, at 30.1 million head, were down 2 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.38 million head, were down 1 percent from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2022 totaled 19.8 million head, 2 percent below the 20.2 million head on January 1, 2021. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.61 million head, were down 3 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.45 million head, were down 3 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.71 million head, were 1 percent below a year earlier. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2022 totaled 16.6 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2021. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2022 totaled 2.11 million head, down 5 percent from January 1, 2021. Calves under 500 pounds as of January 1, 2022 totaled 13.9 million head, down 3 percent from January 1, 2021.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.7 million head on January 1, 2022. The inventory is up slightly from the January 1, 2021 total of 14.7 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 81.9 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2022, 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 25.5 million head, was 3 percent below January 1, 2021.

The 2021 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 35.1 million head, down 1 percent from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2021 were estimated at 25.6 million head, down 1 percent from the first half of 2020. Calves born during the second half of 2021 were estimated at 9.46 million head, 27 percent of the total 2021 calf crop.

Revisions

All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2020, January 1, 2021, and July 1, 2021 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, July 1, 2020 all cattle and calves increased by 0.1 percent. January 1, 2021 all cattle and calves increased by 0.2 percent and 2020 calf crop increased by 1.0 percent. July 1, 2021 all cattle and calves decreased by 0.1 percent and 2021 calf crop decreased slightly. State level estimates were reviewed, and changes were made to reallocate inventory estimates to the United States total.