



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 3, 2025

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## WEST VIRGINIA CATTLE INVENTORY

**Charleston, West Virginia - Cattle inventory** in West Virginia as of January 1, 2025 totaled 365,000 head, down 5,000 head from the January 1, 2024 inventory. **All cows and heifers that have calved** totaled 193,000 head, up 1,000 head from January 1, 2024.

The 2024 **calf crop** totaled 189,000 head, up 3,000 head from the 2023 calf crop.

*Note* - Cattle program changes were made following the 2022 Census of Agriculture. As a result of these changes, a reduced number of data items are published for West Virginia beginning in January 2025.

**United States - All cattle and calves** in the United States as of January 1, 2025 totaled 86.7 million head, 1 percent below the 87.2 million head on January 1, 2024. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 37.2 million head, were slightly below the 37.4 million head on January 1, 2024. Beef cows, at 27.9 million head, were down 1 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.35 million head, were up slightly from the previous year.

**All heifers 500 pounds and over** as of January 1, 2025 totaled 18.2 million head, 1 percent below the 18.3 million head on January 1, 2024. Beef replacement heifers, at 4.67 million head, were down 1 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 3.91 million head, were down 1 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.59 million head, were 1 percent below a year earlier. **Steers weighing 500 pounds and over** as of January 1, 2025 totaled 15.8 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2024. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** as of January 1, 2025 totaled 2.01 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2024. **Calves under 500 pounds** as of January 1, 2025 totaled 13.5 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2024.

**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.3 million head on January 1, 2025. The inventory is down 1 percent from the January 1, 2024 total of 14.4 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 82.7 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2025, 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 24.6 million head, was slightly below January 1, 2024.

**The 2024 calf crop** in the United States was estimated at 33.5 million head, down slightly from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2024 were estimated at 24.6 million head, down slightly from the first half of 2023. Calves born during the second half of 2024 were estimated at 8.93 million head, 27 percent of the total 2024 calf crop.

## Revisions

All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024 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, 2023 all cows and heifers that have calved decreased by 0.3 percent and 2023 calf crop decreased by 0.1 percent. January 1, 2024 all cows and heifers that have calved decreased by 0.6 percent. State-level estimates were reviewed and changes were made to reallocate inventory estimates to the United States total. Cattle program changes were made following the 2022 Census of Agriculture. As a result of these changes, a reduced number of data items are published for the following states beginning in January 2025: AK, CT, DE, HI, IN, LA, ME, MD, MA, MS, NV, NH, NJ, NC, RI, SC, UT, VT, and WV. Estimates of all cattle and calves inventory, all cows inventory, and calf crop are still published for all states.