



# Iowa Ag News – Cattle on Feed

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

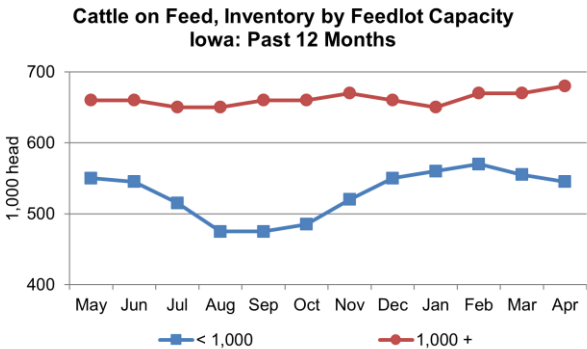
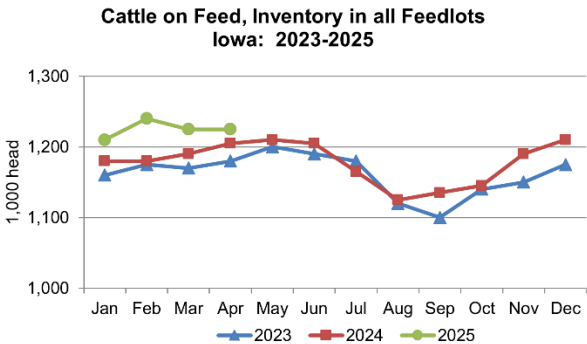
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**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 680,000 head on April 1, 2025, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service -- *Cattle on Feed* report. This was up 1 percent from March and up 3 percent from April 1, 2024. Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head had 545,000 head on feed, down 2 percent from last month but unchanged from last year. Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in all Iowa feedlots totaled 1,225,000 head, unchanged from last month but up 2 percent from last year.

**Placements** of cattle and calves in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during March 2025 totaled 104,000 head, up 11 percent from February but down 1 percent from March 2024. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head placed 54,000 head, up 35 percent from February but unchanged from March 2024. Placements for all feedlots in Iowa totaled 158,000 head, up 18 percent from February but down 1 percent from March 2024.

**Marketings** of fed cattle from Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during March 2025 totaled 93,000 head, unchanged from February and unchanged from March 2024. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head marketed 60,000 head, up 13 percent from February and up 28 percent from March 2024. Marketings for all feedlots in Iowa were 153,000 head, up 5 percent from February and up 9 percent from March 2024. **Other disappearance** from all feedlots in Iowa totaled 5,000 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.



## All Cattle on Feed – Iowa

Item	Feedlots 1,000+ capacity	Feedlots less than 1,000 capacity	All feedlots
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle on feed <sup>1</sup> , March 1, 2025 .....	670	555	1,225
March placements .....	104	54	158
March marketings .....	93	60	153
March other disappearance <sup>2</sup> .....	1	4	5
Cattle on feed, April 1, 2025 .....	680	545	1,225

<sup>1</sup> 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.  
<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup> April 1			Placements during March			Marketings during March			Other disappearance <sup>2</sup> during March		
	2024	2025	'25 as % of '24	2024	2025	'25 as % of '24	2024	2025	'25 as % of '24	2024	2025	'25 as % of '24
	(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 .....	256	228	89	22	24	109	23	22	96	1	1	100
California .....	530	500	94	65	54	83	49	58	118	6	6	100
Colorado .....	990	1,000	101	135	135	100	160	140	88	5	5	100
Idaho .....	345	340	99	37	42	114	36	36	100	1	1	100
Iowa .....	660	680	103	105	104	99	93	93	100	2	1	50
Kansas .....	2,400	2,340	98	400	430	108	390	400	103	10	10	100
Nebraska .....	2,540	2,600	102	450	500	111	460	475	103	10	15	150
Oklahoma .....	330	335	102	41	40	98	40	44	110	1	1	100
South Dakota ..	250	240	96	40	41	103	33	34	103	2	2	100
Texas .....	2,840	2,670	94	365	370	101	330	330	100	15	10	67
Washington .....	250	260	104	33	33	100	37	32	86	1	1	100
Other States ....	330	445	135	45	68	151	43	61	142	2	2	100
United States ..	11,826	11,638	98	1,752	1,841	105	1,707	1,725	101	57	55	96

<sup>1</sup> 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.  
<sup>2</sup> 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		
	April 1, 2024	January 1, 2025	April 1, 2025	April 1, 2024	January 1, 2025	April 1, 2025
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)
Arizona .....	246	218	213	10	15	15
California .....	435	420	410	95	100	90
Colorado .....	530	550	535	460	500	465
Idaho .....	195	175	180	150	155	160
Iowa .....	510	500	530	150	150	150
Kansas .....	1,340	1,410	1,350	1,060	990	990
Nebraska .....	1,660	1,630	1,710	880	950	890
Oklahoma .....	185	205	195	145	155	140
South Dakota .....	155	135	150	95	95	90
Texas .....	1,570	1,570	1,530	1,270	1,210	1,140
Washington .....	135	140	140	115	115	120
Other States .....	215	295	315	115	140	130
United States .....	7,266	7,248	7,258	4,560	4,575	4,380

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 11.6 million head on April 1, 2025. The inventory was 2 percent below April 1, 2024. The inventory included 7.26 million steers and steer calves, down slightly from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.38 million head, down 4 percent from 2024.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.84 million head, 5 percent above 2024. Net placements were 1.79 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 335,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 285,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 475,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 506,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 175,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 65,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.73 million head, 1 percent above 2024.

Other disappearance totaled 55,000 head during March, 4 percent below 2024.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Publications](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications).