



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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 700,000 head on November 1, 2025, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service -- *Cattle on Feed* report. This was up 1 percent from October and up 4 percent from November 1, 2024. Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head had 520,000 head on feed, up 6 percent from last month but unchanged from last year. Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in all Iowa feedlots totaled 1,220,000 head, up 3 percent from last month and up 3 percent from last year.

Placements of cattle and calves in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during October 2025 totaled 96,000 head, up 26 percent from September and up 1 percent from October 2024. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head placed 125,000 head, up 30 percent from September and up 51 percent from October 2024. Placements for all feedlots in Iowa totaled 221,000 head, up 28 percent from September and up 24 percent from October 2024.

Marketings of fed cattle from Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during October 2025 totaled 85,000 head, up 15 percent from September and up 1 percent from October 2024. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head marketed 89,000 head, down 5 percent from September but up 98 percent from October 2024. Marketings for all feedlots in Iowa were 174,000 head, up 4 percent from September and up 35 percent from October 2024. **Other disappearance** from all feedlots in Iowa totaled 7,000 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 ¹ , October 1, 2025	690	490	1,180
October placements	96	125	221
October marketings	85	89	174
October other disappearance ²	1	6	7
Cattle on feed, November 1, 2025	700	520	1,220

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.