

Cattle

January Cattle Project Code: 150

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Survey Overview

Purpose

- Collects inventory, death, and disposition data semi-annually (Jan and Jul)
- These estimates are published in the Cattle report, issued in January and July

Uses

- Producers can use cattle inventory data to make informed business decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction.
- Processors, warehouses, transportation companies, and government leaders use the data to evaluate expected slaughter volume for future months and determine potential supplies for export.
- Financial institutions use cattle reports in serving the producer's credit needs.



Survey Overview

Sample - collects cattle counts that

- Are on the operation
- Have reported cattle in the past
- Have reported milk cows and cattle on feed capacity



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Data Collection and Due Dates

- Mail Date
 - December 23, 2024
- CAPI Open for Early Collection
 - December 6
- Data Collection Begins
 - December 30
- Data Collection Ends
 - January 15
- Released in the *Cattle Report*
 - January 31 at 2:00 pm



CAP1 Example

- Section 1
 - Cattle and Calves
 - Calf Crop
 - Death and Losses
 - Cattle and Calves on Feed
 - Inventory Values (January only)
 - Slaughter for consumption by the operation



Cattle and Calves

1. On January 1, 2025 were any cattle or calves, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated? (Cattle and calves on grazing land leased on a fee per head or animal unit month (AUM) basis should be included by the cattle owner, excluded by the land owner.)

☒ Yes ☐ No

Yes

- CAPI will direct you to Cattle and Calves counts in 2025

No


- CAPI will direct you to Cattle and Calves counts for 2024
- If there were no Cattle and Calves for 2024 → Conclusion




Beef Cows

2. Of the total number of cattle and calves on hand January 1, how many were:


a. beef cows, including beef heifers that had calved?

351 Head 



b. milk cows, including any dry cows or milk heifers that had calved?
EXCLUDE any heifers not yet freshened. (If no milk cows, go to item 2c.)

352 Head 


i. How many cows were milked on January 1?

349 Head 

ii. How much milk was produced that day?
(Only one day's production.)


502 Gals.  OR 501 Lbs. 

c. bulls weighing 500 pounds or more?


353 Head 

d. heifers that had not calved, weighing 500 pounds or more:

i. for beef cow replacement?

354 Head 

(a) How many of these beef cow replacement heifers are expected to calve during 2024?

376 Head 

Boxes 351/354/376

If target operator had beef cows,
We expect:

a.) beef heifers

b.) a calf crop

If not, make a note

- Cow: a female that has calved
- Gestation period: Approx. 282 days or 9 ½ months
- If the Target Operation had beef cows, we expect beef heifers and a calf crop




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Milk Cows



b. milk cows, including any dry cows or milk heifers that had calved?
EXCLUDE any heifers not yet freshened. (If no milk cows, go to item 2c.)

352 Head 


i. How many cows were milked on January 1?

349 Head 

ii. How much milk was produced that day?
(Only one day's production.)


502 Gals.  OR 501 Lbs. 

c. bulls weighing 500 pounds or more?


353 Head 

d. heifers that had not calved, weighing 500 pounds or more:


i. for beef cow replacement?

354 Head 


(a) How many of these beef cow replacement heifers are expected to calve during 2025?

376 Head 

ii. for milk cow replacement?

355 Head 

(a) How many of these milk cow replacement heifers are expected to calve during 2025?

377 Head 

Boxes 352/355/377

If target operator has milk cows,

We expect:

a.) milk heifers

b.) a calf crop

If not, make a note

- If the target operation had milk cows, we expect milk heifers and a calf crop
- The average milk production per day is between 35 – 90 lbs.
- If heifers are raised by someone else, expect box 355 to be low or blank



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Other Heifers and Steers

Other Heifers and Steers

- Reserved for meat production only
- Not common for dairy operations

Calves

- Heifers, Steers, or Bulls less than 500lbs
- Include newborn calves

iii. other heifers weighing 500 pounds or more?

356		Head	
-----	--	------	---

e. steers weighing 500 pounds or more?

357		Head	
-----	--	------	---

f. heifer, steer, and bull calves weighing less than 500 pounds?
INCLUDE newborn calves

358		Head	
-----	--	------	---



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iii. other heifers w

356

e. steers weighing 500 p

357

f. heifer, steer, and bull
INCLUDE newborn ca

358

3. Then the total cattle and cal
(If necessary, make correctio

350 Head

PREVIOUS NEXT

350 X

1500+750+20000

C ← D/K =

7 8 9 +

4 5 6 -

1 2 3 x

. 0 ÷

Add Comment

Prev Next

- Be sure Box 350 totals the sum of cattle breakouts
- Use the calculator provided
- Double check input values for errors



Calf Crop for 2024

Calves born on grazing land leased on a fee per head or animal unit month (AUM) basis should be included by the cattle owner, excluded by the land owner.

4. Of the calves born on the total acres operated during 2024 how many:

EXCLUDE calves purchased.

a. were on hand January 1, 2025?

363	Head
-----	------

b. (Of the calves born on the total acres operated during 2024, how many) were sold, moved off this operation, or slaughtered by January 1?

364	Head
-----	------

c. had died by January 1?

EXCLUDE calves born dead.

365	Head
-----	------

5. Then the total calves born during 2024 was:

366	Head
-----	------

a. Of these calves born, how many were born in the six month period, July 1 through December 31, 2025?

341	Head
-----	------

Calf

Any steer, heifer, or bull less than 500 lbs.

Sold or Moved

Very common with dairy operations

Calf Death Rate

2 – 10% of total calves



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Death and Losses

Cattle and calves that died or were lost on grazing land leased on a fee per head or animal unit month (AUM) owner.

6. How many cattle weighing 500 pounds or more died or were lost from all causes during 2024?

367 Head 

7. How many calves weighing less than 500 pounds died or were lost from all causes during 2024?
EXCLUDE calves born dead.

368 Head 

Death Loss

- 1 – 2% for total cattle
- Leave comment if no deaths reported



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Cattle and Calves on Feed

We need to know about the cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market. Their ration would include grain, silage, hay, or protein supplement.

8. Are there any cattle and calves on feed, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated that will be shipped directly from your feedlot to slaughter market?

INCLUDE

- Cattle being fed by you for others.

EXCLUDE

- Any of your cattle being custom fed in feedlots operated by others.
- Cattle being "backgrounded only" for sale as feeders, for later placement on feed in another feedlot, or to be returned to pasture.
- "Cows and Bulls" on feed.

☒ Yes ☐ No

9. How many cattle and calves were on feed January 1 that will be shipped directly from your feedlot to slaughter market?

652 Head 

10. What was the total capacity of your feedlot on January 1?

676 Head 

Cattle and Calves on Feed

- Fed a special ration
- Exclude cull cows or bulls
- Exclude backgrounded only
- Capacity is only recorded one per year



Inventory Values for Cattle and Calves on hand January 1, 2025

11. What is the average value per head of the following:
(Report to nearest dollar.)

a. Beef cows?

190 \$ per Head 

b. Heifers kept for beef cow replacement weighing 500 pounds or more?

192 \$ per Head 

c. Milk cows?

266 \$ per Head 

d. Heifers kept for milk cow replacement weighing 500 pounds or more?

267 \$ per Head 

e. Bulls weighing 500 pounds or more?

191 \$ per Head 

f. Other heifers weighing 500 pounds or more?

195 \$ per Head 

g. Steers weighing 500 pounds or more?

196 \$ per Head 

h. Calves weighing less than 500 pounds?

197 \$ per Head 

Inventory Values

- Asked only in January
- Values are \$/head
- Only enter values for types of cattle that are on hand



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Cattle and Calves

Slaughtered for Consumption by this Operation (regardless of ownership.)

12. During 2024, how many cattle and calves were custom slaughtered at commercial establishments for consumption by this operation?

Cattle			Calves		
268	<input type="text"/>	Head 	269	<input type="text"/>	Head 

13. During 2024, how many cattle and calves were slaughtered on this operation for consumption by this operation?

INCLUDE mobile slaughtering.

EXCLUDE custom slaughter at commercial establishments.

Cattle			Calves		
270	<input type="text"/>	Head 	271	<input type="text"/>	Head 

Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation

- Can be at a Commercial Establishment or On the Operation
- The intended use is for family, partners, or employees to consume
- Does not mean Cattle sold at auction that were then slaughtered



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Cattle and Cattle on Feed

- The Cattle survey contains a Cattle on Feed section. If an operation receives both surveys, be sure to complete both surveys.
- It is recommended to complete the Cattle survey first, then COF.
- Steers and Heifers are in a different order in COF and Cattle. Make sure to enter them correctly.
- Make sure feedlot capacity on Cattle matches COF
- Estimates Staff rely heavily on Comments!!

