



United States and Canadian Cattle and Sheep

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United States and Canadian Cattle Inventory Down 3 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States and Canada combined totaled 101 million head on January 1, 2023, down 3 percent from the 104 million head on January 1, 2022. All cows and heifers that have calved inventory at 42.9 million head, down 3 percent from a year ago.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2023 totaled 89.3 million head, down 3 percent from the 92.1 million head on January 1, 2022. All cows and heifers that have calved inventory at 38.3 million head, down 3 percent from a year ago.

All cattle and calves in Canada as of January 1, 2022 totaled 11.3 million head, down 2 percent from the 11.5 million head on January 1, 2022. All cows and heifers that have calved inventory at 4.53 million head, down 2 percent from a year ago.

United States and Canadian Sheep Inventory Down Slightly

All sheep and lambs in the United States and Canada combined totaled 5.87 million head on January 1, 2023, down slightly from the 5.89 million head on January 1, 2022. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.29 million head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.58 million head, up 1 percent from last year.

All sheep and lambs in the United States as of January 1, 2023 totaled 5.02 million head, 1 percent below the 5.07 million head on January 1, 2022. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.67 million head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.36 million head, unchanged from last year.

All sheep and lambs in Canada as of January 1, 2023 totaled 854,400 head, up 3 percent from last year's number of 827,200 head. Breeding sheep inventory at 628,700 head, up 1 percent from last year. Market sheep and lambs totaled 225,700 head, up 11 percent from a year ago.

Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States and Canada: January 1, 2018-2021

Class	2018	2019	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle and calves	105,968.0	106,474.7	105,333.3	105,304.5
Cows and heifers that have calved	45,617.2	45,762.0	45,328.9	44,971.6
Beef cows	35,210.0	35,432.4	35,007.1	34,554.7
Milk cows	10,407.2	10,329.6	10,321.8	10,416.9
All other cattle	60,350.8	60,712.7	60,004.4	60,332.9
Calf crop ¹	40,724.4	40,032.0	39,930.5	39,652.2

¹ January to December calf crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Livestock and Animal Products Section, Statistics Canada.

Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States and Canada: January 1, 2022 and 2023

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Class	2022	2023	2023 as percent of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Cattle and calves	103,596.6	100,544.1	97
Cows and heifers that have calved	43,982.3	42,851.3	97
Beef cows	33,635.9	32,480.3	97
Milk cows	10,346.4	10,371.0	100
All other cattle	59,614.3	57,692.8	97
Calf crop ¹	38,910.4		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

¹ January to December calf crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Livestock and Animal Products Section, Statistics Canada.

Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States: January 1, 2018-2021

Class	2018	2019	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle and calves	94,298.0	94,804.7	93,793.3	93,789.5
Cows and heifers that have calved	40,898.3	41,044.1	40,681.3	40,286.0
Beef cows	31,466.2	31,690.7	31,338.7	30,843.6
Milk cows	9,432.1	9,353.4	9,342.6	9,442.4
Heifers 500 pounds and over	20,217.8	20,210.0	20,024.4	20,200.1
For beef cow replacement	6,108.2	5,884.9	5,808.9	5,803.1
For milk cow replacement	4,768.3	4,701.5	4,684.0	4,608.5
Other heifers	9,341.3	9,623.6	9,531.5	9,788.5
Steers 500 pounds and over	16,528.2	16,757.7	16,541.2	16,787.8
Bulls 500 pounds and over	2,252.3	2,253.0	2,237.4	2,210.5
Calves under 500 pounds	14,401.4	14,539.9	14,309.0	14,305.1
Calf crop ¹	36,312.7	35,591.6	35,495.5	35,165.9

¹ January to December calf crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States: January 1, 2022 and 2023

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Class	2022	2023	2023 as percent of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Cattle and calves	92,076.6	89,274.1	97
Cows and heifers that have calved	39,360.1	38,320.4	97
Beef cows	29,983.1	28,917.9	96
Milk cows	9,377.0	9,402.5	100
Heifers 500 pounds and over	19,916.0	19,172.5	96
For beef cow replacement	5,481.5	5,163.7	94
For milk cow replacement	4,440.6	4,337.2	98
Other heifers	9,993.9	9,671.6	97
Steers 500 pounds and over	16,704.7	16,131.6	97
Bulls 500 pounds and over	2,109.6	2,029.0	96
Calves under 500 pounds	13,986.2	13,620.6	97
Calf crop ¹	34,464.5		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

¹ January to December calf crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – Canada: January 1, 2018-2021

Class	2018	2019	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle and calves	11,670.0	11,670.0	11,540.0	11,515.0
Cows and heifers that have calved	4,718.9	4,717.9	4,647.6	4,685.6
Beef cows	3,743.8	3,741.7	3,668.4	3,711.1
Milk cows	975.1	976.2	979.2	974.5
Heifers 1 year and over	1,723.7	1,757.5	1,692.2	1,686.4
For beef cow replacement	566.1	581.3	555.6	572.7
For milk cow replacement	429.8	420.0	421.9	411.5
Other heifers	727.8	756.2	714.7	702.2
Steers 1 year and over	1,244.2	1,255.9	1,179.0	1,184.8
Bulls 1 year and over	221.2	217.4	213.1	215.6
Calves under 1 year	3,762.0	3,721.3	3,808.1	3,742.6
Calf crop ¹	4,411.7	4,440.4	4,435.0	4,486.3

¹ January to December calf crop.

Source: Livestock and Animal Products Section, Statistics Canada.

Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – Canada: January 1, 2022 and 2023

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Class	2022	2023	2023 as percent of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Cattle and calves	11,520.0	11,270.0	98
Cows and heifers that have calved	4,622.2	4,530.9	98
Beef cows	3,652.8	3,562.4	98
Milk cows	969.4	968.5	100
Heifers 1 year and over	1,700.3	1,683.4	99
For beef cow replacement	576.0	551.5	96
For milk cow replacement	413.3	409.5	99
Other heifers	711.0	722.4	102
Steers 1 year and over	1,230.5	1,239.2	101
Bulls 1 year and over	213.2	210.1	99
Calves under 1 year	3,753.8	3,606.4	96
Calf crop ¹	4,445.9		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

¹ January to December calf crop.

Source: Livestock and Animal Products Section, Statistics Canada.

**Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – United States and Canada:
January 1, 2018-2021**

Class	2018	2019	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
All sheep and lambs	6,094.4	6,057.9	6,010.8	5,983.7
Breeding sheep and lambs	4,480.4	4,432.0	4,412.5	4,393.0
Replacement lambs - under one year old	740.9	729.2	736.6	738.4
Ewes - one year old and older	3,545.9	3,509.4	3,482.7	3,461.5
Rams - one year old and older	193.6	193.4	193.2	193.1
Market sheep and lambs	1,614.0	1,625.9	1,598.3	1,590.7
Market sheep ¹	80.0	82.0	84.0	81.0
Market lambs ²	1,534.0	1,543.9	1,514.3	1,509.7
Lamb crop ³	4,068.8	4,064.1	4,080.1	4,027.1

¹ United States market sheep only.

² Canada market lambs include small amounts of market sheep.

³ January to December lamb crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Statistics Canada, Livestock and Animal Products Section.

**Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – United States and Canada:
January 1, 2022 and 2023**

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Class	2022	2023	2023 as percent of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	5,892.2	5,874.4	100
Breeding sheep and lambs	4,334.7	4,293.7	99
Replacement lambs - under one year old	737.7	730.9	99
Ewes - one year old and older	3,413.1	3,378.8	99
Rams - one year old and older	183.9	184.0	100
Market sheep and lambs	1,557.5	1,580.7	101
Market sheep ¹	78.0	75.0	96
Market lambs ²	1,479.5	1,505.7	102
Lamb crop ³	3,995.9		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

¹ United States market sheep only.

² Canada market lambs include small amounts of market sheep.

³ January to December lamb crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Statistics Canada, Livestock and Animal Products Section.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – United States: January 1, 2018-2021

Class	2018	2019	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
All sheep and lambs	5,265.0	5,230.0	5,200.0	5,170.0
Breeding sheep and lambs	3,865.0	3,820.0	3,810.0	3,780.0
Replacement lambs - under one year old	662.0	650.0	660.0	650.0
Ewes - one year old and older	3,033.0	3,000.0	2,980.0	2,960.0
Rams - one year old and older	170.0	170.0	170.0	170.0
Market sheep and lambs	1,400.0	1,410.0	1,390.0	1,390.0
Market sheep	80.0	82.0	84.0	81.0
Market lambs	1,320.0	1,328.0	1,306.0	1,309.0
Lamb crop ¹	3,235.0	3,230.0	3,210.0	3,160.0

¹ January to December lamb crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – United States: January 1, 2022 and 2023

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Class	2022	2023	2023 as percent of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	5,065.0	5,020.0	99
Breeding sheep and lambs	3,710.0	3,665.0	99
Replacement lambs - under one year old	640.0	635.0	99
Ewes - one year old and older	2,910.0	2,870.0	99
Rams - one year old and older	160.0	160.0	100
Market sheep and lambs	1,355.0	1,355.0	100
Market sheep	78.0	75.0	96
Market lambs	1,277.0	1,280.0	100
Lamb crop ¹	3,110.0		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

¹ January to December lamb crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – Canada: January 1, 2018-2021

Class	2018	2019	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
All sheep and lambs	829.4	827.9	810.8	813.7
Breeding sheep and lambs	615.4	612.0	602.5	613.0
Replacement lambs - under one year old	78.9	79.2	76.6	88.4
Ewes - one year old and older	512.9	509.4	502.7	501.5
Rams - one year old and older	23.6	23.4	23.2	23.1
Market sheep and lambs	214.0	215.9	208.3	200.7
Lamb crop ¹	833.8	834.1	870.1	867.1

¹ January to December lamb crop.

Source: Statistics Canada, Livestock and Animal Products Section.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – Canada: January 1, 2022 and 2023

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Class	2022	2023	2023 as percent of 2022
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	827.2	854.4	103
Breeding sheep and lambs	624.7	628.7	101
Replacement lambs - under one year old	97.7	95.9	98
Ewes - one year old and older	503.1	508.8	101
Rams - one year old and older	23.9	24.0	100
Market sheep and lambs	202.5	225.7	111
Lamb crop ¹	885.9		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

¹ January to December lamb crop.

Source: Statistics Canada, Livestock and Animal Products Section.

This publication is a result of a joint effort by Statistics Canada and NASS to release the number of cattle and calves by class and calf crop for both countries within one publication. This information was requested by the United States cattle industry to provide producers additional information about potential beef, mutton, and lamb supplies. United States inventory numbers were previously released on January 31, 2023. Canadian inventory numbers were released on February 28, 2023.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448

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