



# United States and Canadian Cattle and Sheep

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## United States and Canadian Cattle Inventory Down Slightly

**All cattle and calves in the United States and Canada** combined totaled 97.3 million head on January 1, 2026, down slightly from the 97.3 million head on January 1, 2025. All cows and heifers that have calved inventory at 41.6 million head, down slightly from a year ago.

**All cattle and calves in the United States** as of January 1, 2026 totaled 86.2 million head, down slightly from the 86.5 million head on January 1, 2025. All cows and heifers that have calved inventory at 37.2 million head, down slightly from a year ago.

**All cattle and calves in Canada** as of January 1, 2026 totaled 11.1 million head, up 3 percent from the 10.9 million head on January 1, 2025. All cows and heifers that have calved inventory at 4.39 million head, up 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 5.82 million head on January 1, 2026, down slightly from the 5.83 million head on January 1, 2025. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.21 million head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.61 million head, up 2 percent from last year.

**All sheep and lambs in the United States** as of January 1, 2026 totaled 4.99 million head, down 1 percent from the 5.03 million head on January 1, 2025. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.61 million head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.38 million head, up 1 percent from last year.

**All sheep and lambs in Canada** as of January 1, 2026 totaled 833,000 head, up 3 percent from last year's number of 808,900 head. Breeding sheep inventory at 603,400 head, up 2 percent from last year. Market sheep and lambs totaled 229,600 head, up 5 percent from a year ago.

**Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States and Canada: January 1, 2021-2024**

Class	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle and calves .....	105,101.5	103,303.7	100,086.0	98,127.4
Cows and heifers that have calved .....	44,992.6	43,968.2	42,833.3	41,726.6
Beef cows .....	34,567.7	33,618.1	32,471.2	31,415.4
Milk cows .....	10,424.9	10,350.1	10,362.1	10,311.2
All other cattle .....	60,108.9	59,335.5	57,252.7	56,400.8
Calf crop <sup>1</sup> .....	39,613.3	38,863.3	37,827.9	37,608.8

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2025 and 2026**

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

Class	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Cattle and calves .....	97,332.2	97,290.3	100.0
Cows and heifers that have calved .....	41,590.4	41,564.1	100.0
Beef cows .....	31,244.4	31,024.5	99.0
Milk cows .....	10,346.0	10,539.6	102.0
All other cattle .....	55,741.8	55,726.2	100.0
Calf crop <sup>1</sup> .....	37,098.9		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2021-2024

Class	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle and calves .....	93,586.5	91,788.7	88,841.0	87,157.4
Cows and heifers that have calved .....	40,307.0	39,346.2	38,336.8	37,359.8
Beef cows .....	30,856.6	29,965.2	28,939.3	28,013.0
Milk cows .....	9,450.4	9,381.0	9,397.5	9,346.8
Heifers 500 pounds and over .....	20,045.6	19,656.5	18,760.7	18,320.0
For beef cow replacement .....	5,640.1	5,299.5	4,929.6	4,718.3
For milk cow replacement .....	4,498.0	4,222.1	4,073.6	3,951.2
Other heifers .....	9,907.5	10,134.9	9,757.5	9,650.5
Steers 500 pounds and over .....	16,742.8	16,696.7	16,056.5	15,959.2
Bulls 500 pounds and over .....	2,210.5	2,109.6	2,029.0	2,030.7
Calves under 500 pounds .....	14,280.6	13,979.7	13,658.0	13,487.7
Calf crop <sup>1</sup> .....	35,130.9	34,439.5	33,563.0	33,416.5

<sup>1</sup> January to December calf crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

### Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – United States: January 1, 2025 and 2026

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

Class	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Cattle and calves .....	86,472.2	86,155.3	100.0
Cows and heifers that have calved .....	37,272.8	37,175.5	100.0
Beef cows .....	27,892.0	27,607.2	99.0
Milk cows .....	9,380.8	9,568.3	102.0
Heifers 500 pounds and over .....	18,129.9	18,016.7	99.0
For beef cow replacement .....	4,672.5	4,714.2	101.0
For milk cow replacement .....	3,915.3	3,904.6	100.0
Other heifers .....	9,542.1	9,397.9	98.0
Steers 500 pounds and over .....	15,697.4	15,601.4	99.0
Bulls 500 pounds and over .....	2,009.0	2,014.7	100.0
Calves under 500 pounds .....	13,363.1	13,347.0	100.0
Calf crop <sup>1</sup> .....	32,895.6		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> January to December calf crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

### Cattle and Calf Inventory by Class and Calf Crop – Canada: January 1, 2021-2024

Class	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle and calves .....	11,515.0	11,515.0	11,245.0	10,970.0
Cows and heifers that have calved .....	4,685.6	4,622.0	4,496.5	4,366.8
Beef cows .....	3,711.1	3,652.9	3,531.9	3,402.4
Milk cows .....	974.5	969.1	964.6	964.4
Heifers 1 year and over .....	1,686.4	1,720.2	1,690.6	1,659.6
For beef cow replacement .....	572.7	576.0	540.5	516.6
For milk cow replacement .....	411.5	413.2	409.8	407.3
Other heifers .....	702.2	731.0	740.3	735.7
Steers 1 year and over .....	1,184.8	1,208.5	1,232.2	1,234.8
Bulls 1 year and over .....	215.6	213.2	209.9	200.5
Calves under 1 year .....	3,742.6	3,751.1	3,615.8	3,508.3
Calf crop <sup>1</sup> .....	4,482.4	4,423.8	4,264.9	4,192.3

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2025 and 2026

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

Class	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Cattle and calves .....	10,860.0	11,135.0	103.0
Cows and heifers that have calved .....	4,317.6	4,388.6	102.0
Beef cows .....	3,352.4	3,417.3	102.0
Milk cows .....	965.2	971.3	101.0
Heifers 1 year and over .....	1,648.6	1,684.6	102.0
For beef cow replacement .....	519.0	543.7	105.0
For milk cow replacement .....	406.3	406.7	100.0
Other heifers .....	723.3	734.2	102.0
Steers 1 year and over .....	1,210.9	1,224.7	101.0
Bulls 1 year and over .....	198.0	201.2	102.0
Calves under 1 year .....	3,484.9	3,635.9	104.0
Calf crop <sup>1</sup> .....	4,203.3		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2021-2024**

Class	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
All sheep and lambs .....	6,013.7	5,987.2	5,976.8	5,852.0
Breeding sheep and lambs .....	4,411.0	4,399.6	4,353.1	4,265.5
Replacement lambs - under one year old .....	742.4	750.2	736.4	725.5
Ewes - one year old and older .....	3,475.5	3,461.6	3,426.5	3,351.5
Rams - one year old and older .....	193.1	187.8	190.2	188.5
Market sheep and lambs .....	1,602.7	1,587.6	1,623.7	1,586.5
Market sheep <sup>1</sup> .....	83.0	83.0	87.0	81.0
Market lambs <sup>2</sup> .....	1,519.7	1,504.6	1,536.7	1,505.5
Lamb crop <sup>3</sup> .....	4,004.8	3,988.6	3,919.1	3,925.3

<sup>1</sup> United States market sheep only.

<sup>2</sup> Canada market lambs include small amounts of market sheep.

<sup>3</sup> 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, 2025 and 2026**

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

Class	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs .....	5,833.9	5,823.0	100
Breeding sheep and lambs .....	4,250.4	4,213.4	99
Replacement lambs - under one year old .....	703.6	690.3	98
Ewes - one year old and older .....	3,358.2	3,339.5	99
Rams - one year old and older .....	188.6	183.6	97
Market sheep and lambs .....	1,583.5	1,609.6	102
Market sheep <sup>1</sup> .....	80.0	80.0	100
Market lambs <sup>2</sup> .....	1,503.5	1,529.6	102
Lamb crop <sup>3</sup> .....	3,907.5		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> United States market sheep only.

<sup>2</sup> Canada market lambs include small amounts of market sheep.

<sup>3</sup> 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, 2021-2024

Class	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
All sheep and lambs .....	5,200.0	5,165.0	5,130.0	5,030.0
Breeding sheep and lambs .....	3,798.0	3,781.0	3,740.0	3,670.0
Replacement lambs - under one year old .....	654.0	655.0	643.5	635.0
Ewes - one year old and older .....	2,974.0	2,962.0	2,930.0	2,870.0
Rams - one year old and older .....	170.0	164.0	166.5	165.0
Market sheep and lambs .....	1,402.0	1,384.0	1,390.0	1,360.0
Market sheep .....	83.0	83.0	87.0	81.0
Market lambs .....	1,319.0	1,301.0	1,303.0	1,279.0
Lamb crop <sup>1</sup> .....	3,140.0	3,099.0	3,030.0	3,040.0

<sup>1</sup> January to December lamb crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

## Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – United States: January 1, 2025 and 2026

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

Class	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs .....	5,025.0	4,990.0	99
Breeding sheep and lambs .....	3,660.0	3,610.0	99
Replacement lambs - under one year old .....	615.0	600.0	98
Ewes - one year old and older .....	2,880.0	2,850.0	99
Rams - one year old and older .....	165.0	160.0	97
Market sheep and lambs .....	1,365.0	1,380.0	101
Market sheep .....	80.0	80.0	100
Market lambs .....	1,285.0	1,300.0	101
Lamb crop <sup>1</sup> .....	3,030.0		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> January to December lamb crop.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service.

## Sheep and Lamb Inventory by Class and Lamb Crop – Canada: January 1, 2021-2024

Class	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
All sheep and lambs .....	813.7	822.2	846.8	822.0
Breeding sheep and lambs .....	613.0	618.6	613.1	595.5
Replacement lambs - under one year old .....	88.4	95.2	92.9	90.5
Ewes - one year old and older .....	501.5	499.6	496.5	481.5
Rams - one year old and older .....	23.1	23.8	23.7	23.5
Market sheep and lambs .....	200.7	203.6	233.7	226.5
Lamb crop <sup>1</sup> .....	864.8	889.6	889.1	885.3

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2025 and 2026

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

Class	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs .....	808.9	833.0	103
Breeding sheep and lambs .....	590.4	603.4	102
Replacement lambs - under one year old .....	88.6	90.3	102
Ewes - one year old and older .....	478.2	489.5	102
Rams - one year old and older .....	23.6	23.6	100
Market sheep and lambs .....	218.5	229.6	105
Lamb crop <sup>1</sup> .....	877.5		(X)

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> 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 30, 2026. Canadian inventory numbers were released on February 27, 2026.

## 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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production .....	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs .....	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats .....	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Contact\\_Us/Ask\\_a\\_Specialist](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist).

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Spring 2026

# USDA Data Users' Meeting

April 22, 2026

1 p.m. CST

Join in-person or virtually

[www.nass.usda.gov/go/data\\_users](http://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users)



## USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

Join Us Online or in Kansas City

April 22, 2026

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

1 Memorial Drive

Kansas City, MO 64198

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2026 Spring Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website ([https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data\\_users](https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users)).