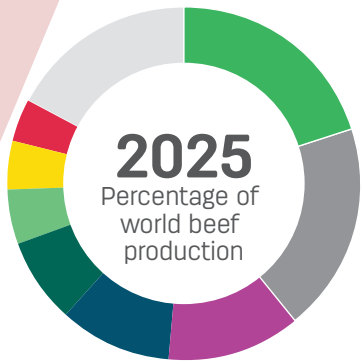


2026 Global trade and production



- Brazil | 20.1%
- United States | 19.1%
- China | 12.3%
- European Union | 10.3%
- India | 7.7%
- Argentina | 5.0%
- Australia | 4.6%
- Mexico | 3.9%
- Other | 17.0%

Beef production for selected countries

Veal/beef production rank	Country	Volume (in thousands of metric tons)	Percent change from 2024	Percent of world beef production	Beef cattle rank	Beef cattle (1,000 head)	Percent change from 2024	Beef/veal exported rank	Beef/veal exported (1,000 metric tons)	Percent change from 2024	Beef cattle slaughtered rank	Beef cattle slaughtered (1,000 head)	Percent change from 2024
2025*					2025*			2025*			2025*		
1	Brazil	12,370	-1.9%	20.1%	2	177,425	-5.1%	1	4,275	-2.4%	1	50,100	-2.2%
2	United States	11,741	-0.8%	19.1%	4	86,155	-0.4%	4	1,073	-8.2%	4	29,082	-3.1%
3	China	7,600	-5.1%	12.3%	3	94,080	-6.4%	19	25	4.2%	2	49,500	-3.6%
4	European Union	6,350	-0.9%	10.3%	5	70,850	-1.5%	8	575	-3.4%	5	21,350	-1.4%
5	India	4,725	1.0%	7.7%	1	307,500	0.0%	3	1,700	0.7%	3	42,000	1.0%
6	Argentina	3,080	-2.1%	5.0%	6	51,570	-0.1%	5	800	3.5%	6	13,000	-4.4%
7	Australia	2,850	-1.2%	4.6%	7	27,366	0.4%	2	2,160	-2.2%	7	9,575	-1.2%
8	Mexico	2,410	11.1%	3.9%	8	18,995	5.7%	11	400	23.5%	8	7,550	10.1%
9	Russia	1,400	-0.7%	2.3%	9	16,950	-0.6%	15	50	0.0%	9	6,500	-0.8%
10	Canada	1,315	4.4%	2.1%	11	11,135	2.5%	7	575	2.7%	11	3,300	2.5%
Total of selected countries		53,841	3.7%	87.5%		862,026	-5.3%		11,633	18.4%		231,957	-3.2%

Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

*Data available for 2025 market year may differ from calendar year data.

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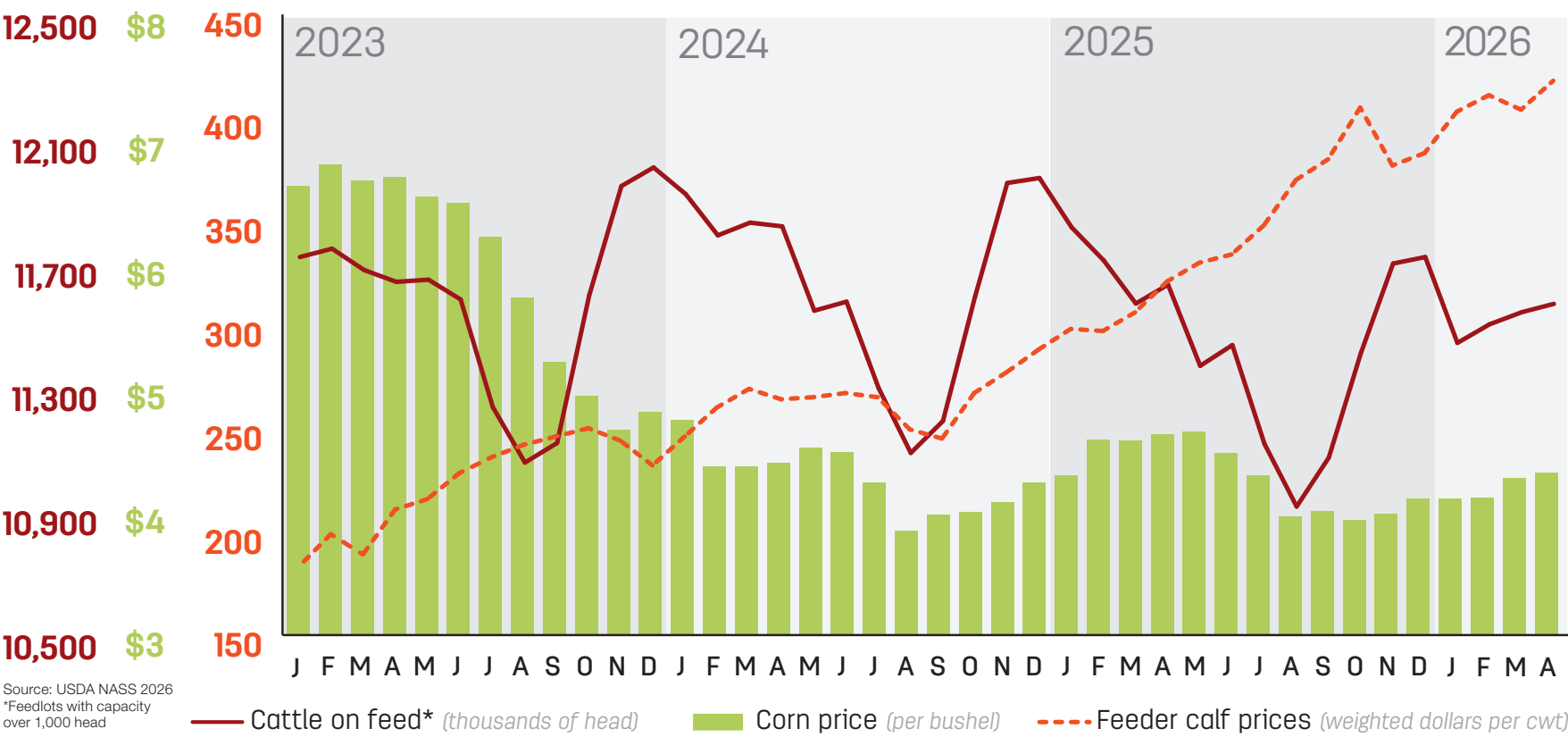
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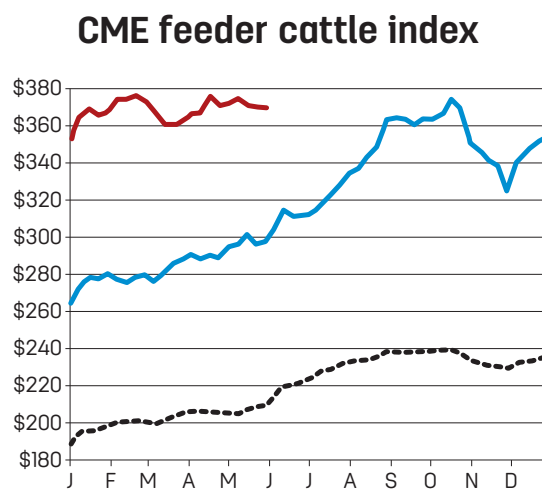
MARKET PRICES AND INDEXES

2023-26 – Monthly cattle on feed, corn price and feeder calf prices

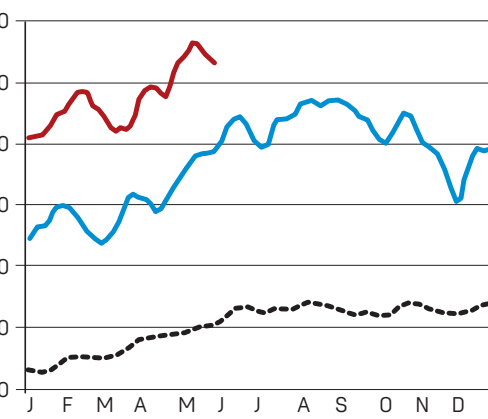


Source: USDA NASS 2026
*Feedlots with capacity over 1,000 head

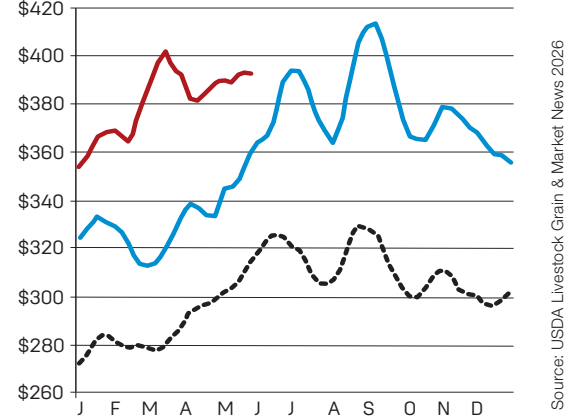
Cattle price indexes and spreads



5-area weekly weighted average Select steer price



Weekly Choice cutout



Source: USDA Livestock Gains & Market News 2026

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2026 beef statistics



Brazil beef output surpasses U.S. in volume

Progressive Cattle Managing Editor David Cooper

The U.S. is no longer the world's largest producer of beef, as that title moved to Brazil in 2025 with 20.1% of total global production coming from South America's biggest country.

American beef production dipped to 11,741,000 metric tons (MT) in 2025, about 19.1% of global beef production. Federally inspected commercial slaughter dropped 3.7% in 2025, to its lowest U.S. level since 2016. That beef supply, measured as 25.6 billion pounds in federally inspected slaughter, was still impressive considering that U.S. beef inventory dropped a seventh straight year to 86,155,300 head of cattle and calves – still the lowest cattle inventory since 1951.

The beef cow inventory dropped another 1% from 27.9 million to 27.6 million head, as many states still seek to find encouraging signs for expansion. Among those states finding some positive growth in beef cow expansion were Oklahoma, North Dakota, Florida, Colorado

Brazil
now leads the world in beef production with 12.3 million metric tons produced annually and continues to lead in total beef exports.

North Dakota
grew the most in beef cow expansion in 2025 with 21,000 more cows, in addition to 6,000 more replacement heifers.

Texas
the bellwether of the cattle industry held on to 50,000 heifers in 2025, an increase of 8.3% for a rare positive sign of herd expansion.

and California, while Missouri (-3.1%), Kansas (-6.9%) and Wyoming (-4.6%) were some of the states seeing a big dent in the beef cow numbers.

But with the supply shortage came significant demand and higher prices for beef cattle to go into the food chain. Feeder cattle started 2025 with an average national price of \$298 per hundredweight (cwt) and ended at a \$383 average per cwt, and the numbers jumped further to start 2026, ending April at \$418 per cwt average price paid on feeders. Meanwhile, corn prices have held

stable throughout 2025 – hovering between \$4 and \$4.50 per bushel – and saw even some decline going into the fall before coming back up in the opening months of 2026.

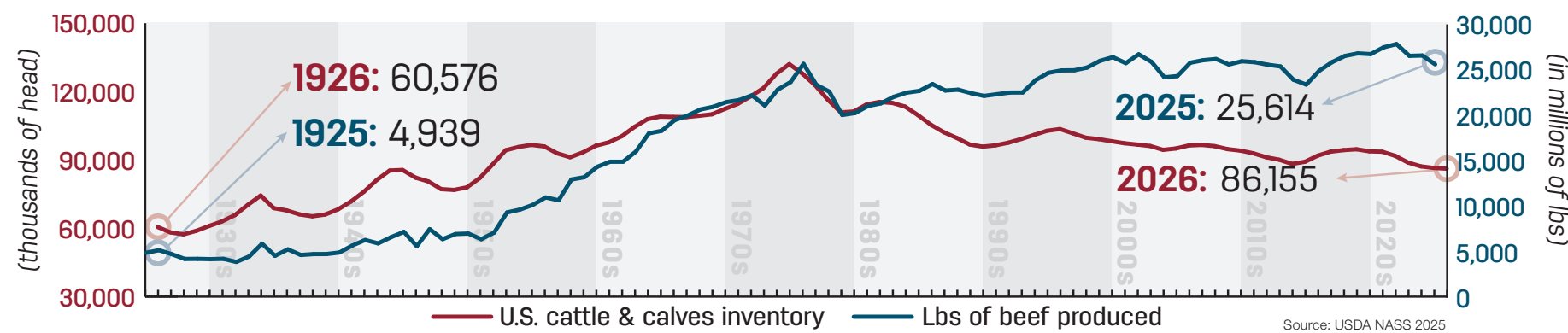
On the global trade horizon, the U.S. saw significant losses in value trading in several regions of the world. Total value of exports dropped \$1.1 billion, or 12% in total value. The largest hit came from East Asia where total value earned in exports dropped 17% to \$5.6 billion, due in large part to inflation, currency and trade tariffs. Smaller declines were seen

in North American partners as total trade value in Canada and Mexico dropped 3.5% and 3.2%, respectively.

About this data

The USDA's changing formulas for collecting survey data changed yet again in 2026, as the policy change began where the agency will no longer highlight beef cow inventory numbers for counties. This was the second year in which beef cow inventory for states was also limited to those states with beef cow numbers over 1% of national inventory.

100-year history: U.S. cattle & calves inventory & beef produced



Source: USDA NASS 2025



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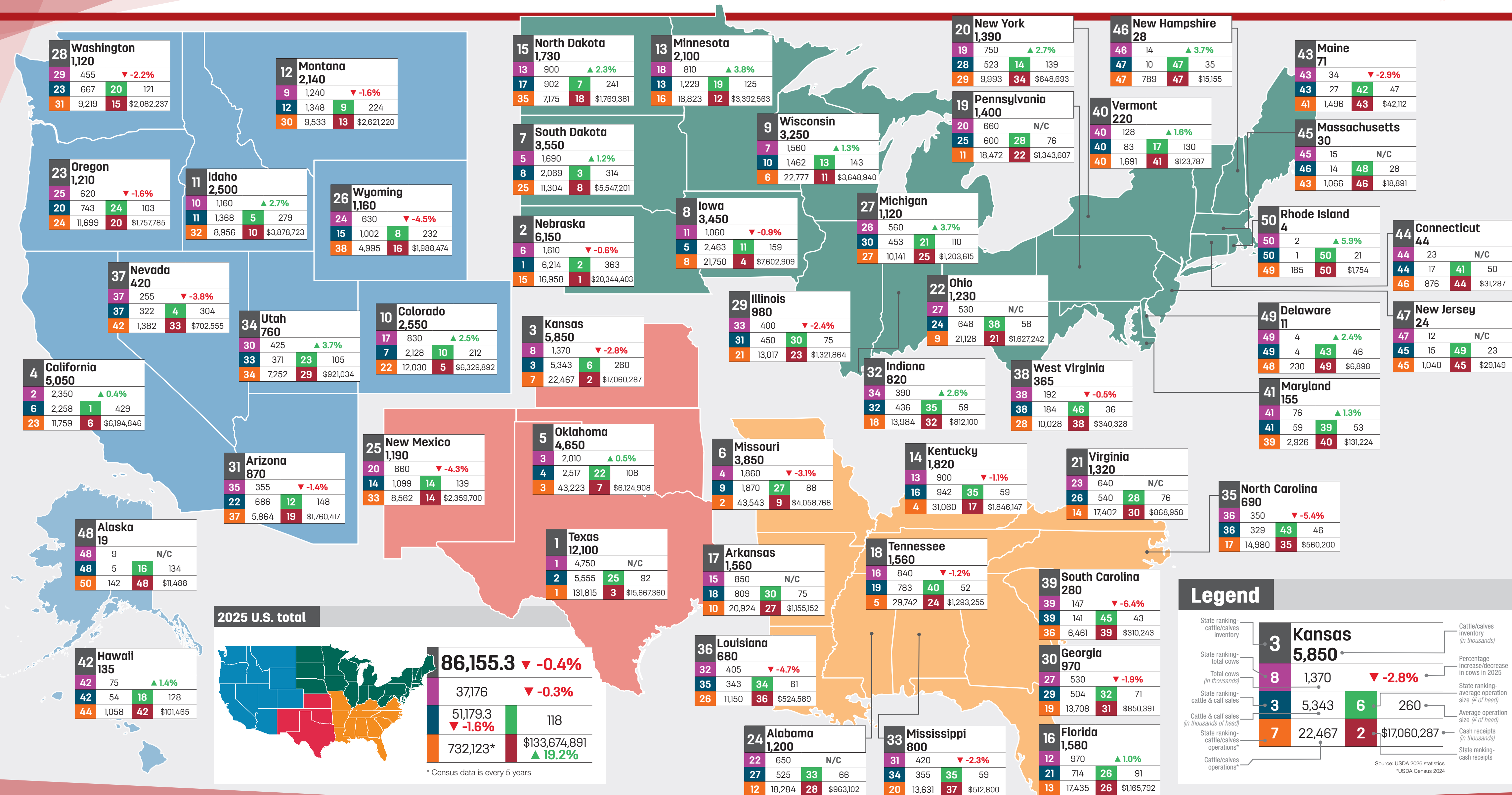
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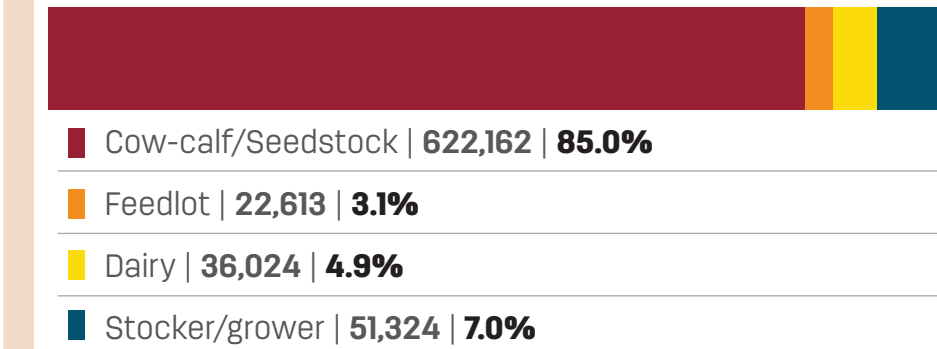
2026 U.S. beef statistics

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U.S. cattle operations by segment

2022 Total operations | 732,123



Note: U.S. Census data are released once every five years. 2022 is the most recent report.

U.S. states beef female rankings

Beef cow rank	State	2026 beef cows	Percent change from 2025	Replacement heifer rank	2026 replacement heifers	Percent change from 2025
1	Texas	4,045,000	-0.7%	1	650,000	8.3%
2	Oklahoma	1,966,000	0.4%	2	345,000	1.5%
3	Missouri	1,806,000	-3.1%	6	250,000	-3.8%
4	Nebraska	1,560,000	-0.8%	5	280,000	1.8%
5	South Dakota	1,450,000	-0.3%	3	315,000	0.0%
6	Montana	1,232,000	-1.6%	4	310,000	1.6%
7	Kansas	1,145,000	-6.9%	7	190,000	0.0%
8	North Dakota	891,000	2.4%	8	164,000	3.8%
9	Florida	872,000	0.8%	9	115,000	0.0%
10	Kentucky	862,000	-0.8%	13	110,000	4.8%
11	Arkansas	848,000	0.0%	10	110,000	0.0%
12	Tennessee	818,000	-1.0%	14	105,000	5.0%
13	Iowa	815,000	-1.2%	12	110,000	0.0%
14	Alabama	648,000	0.0%	16	97,000	2.1%
15	California	640,000	1.6%	15	100,000	0.0%
16	Wyoming	621,000	-4.6%	31	0	0.0%
17	Colorado	620,000	2.5%	11	110,000	0.0%
18	Virginia	575,000	0.2%	19	88,000	6.0%
19	Oregon	500,000	-2.7%	18	90,000	-10.0%
20	Georgia	441,000	-3.1%	20	85,000	0.0%
21	Idaho	435,000	1.2%	17	90,000	0.0%
22	New Mexico	430,000	-4.4%	23	60,000	-14.3%
23	Minnesota	355,000	4.4%	21	75,000	7.1%
24	Illinois	324,000	-2.7%	26	47,000	4.4%
25	Ohio	275,000	-1.8%	24	50,000	-16.7%
26	Wisconsin	275,000	0.0%	22	65,000	0.0%
27	Washington	220,000	4.8%	27	45,000	0.0%
28	Pennsylvania	205,000	5.1%	25	50,000	11.1%
29	Arizona	160,000	-6.4%	30	23,000	-14.8%
30	Michigan	100,000	5.3%	29	25,000	0.0%
31	New York	100,000	0.0%	28	35,000	-7.9%
	Other states	2,373,200	-2.2%		405,200	-1.5%

Source: 2022 USDA Census

Source: 2026 USDA NASS

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