



RISING STOCK

Exotic livestock breeds are growing significantly while indigenous cattle are stuck in a low-growth zone, according to the latest Livestock Census. **By Ramesh Chakrapani**

Total livestock population in 2019 at **535.78** million, up 4.6% from 2012

Poultry population **16.8%** higher at 851.81 million

Bovine population at **302.79** million, up 1.0% from previous census

Cattle number **greater by 0.8%** at 192.49 million

Population of exotic/crossbred cattle up **26.9%** in 2019

Indigenous/nondescript female cattle number **rises 10%** to 142.11 million

Buffalo population at **109.85** million, up 1%

Total commercial poultry up **4.5%** at 534.74 million

The country's total livestock population numbered 535.78 million in 2019, an increase of 4.6 per cent over the previous census of 2012, according to the 20th Livestock Census by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

The 20th Livestock Census was launched in October 2018, the department said in a report. The census, which was carried out in about 6.6 lakh villages and 89,000 urban wards, also captured breed-wise numbers of animals and poultry birds.

According to the report, the total bovine population (cattle, buffalo, mithun and yak) was 302.79 million in 2019, up 1 per cent over the previous census. The total number of cattle was 192.49 million, a rise of 0.8 per cent. However, the

female cattle population rose 18 per cent to 145.12 million. Among cattle, the exotic/crossbred population stood at 50.42 million while the indigenous/nondescript cattle population was nearly thrice the size at 142.11 million.

Exotic/crossbred cattle recorded an impressive growth of 26.9 per cent, while the total indigenous cattle population declined by 6 per cent. However, the indigenous/nondescript female cattle population rose by 10 per cent.

The total poultry in the country numbered 851.81 million in 2019, a rise of 16.8 per cent over the previous census. The backyard poultry population increased by 45.8 per cent to 317.07 million, while commercial poultry numbers rose by 4.5 per cent to 534.74 million.

Livestock population of major species 2007-2019 (in million)

	2007	2012	2019
Cattle	199.08	190.9	192.49
Buffaloes	105.34	108.7	109.85
Sheep	71.56	65.07	74.26
Goats	140.54	135.17	148.88
Pigs	11.13	10.29	9.06
Mithun	0.26	0.30	0.38
Yaks	0.08	0.08	0.06
Horses & ponies	0.61	0.63	0.34
Mules	0.14	0.20	0.08
Donkeys	0.44	0.32	0.12
Camels	0.52	0.40	0.25
Total	529.70	512.06	535.78

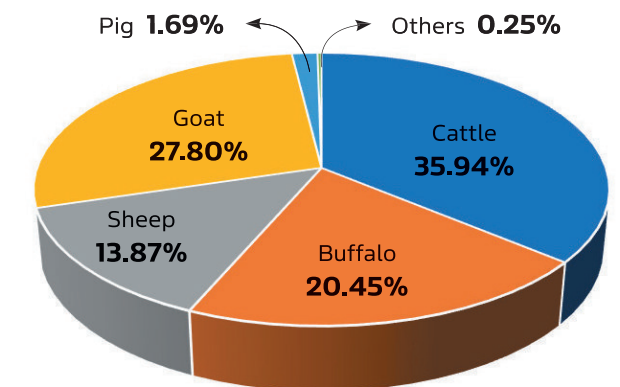
Livestock population in major States 2012 & 2019 (in million)

	2012	2019	% change
Uttar Pradesh	68.7	67.8	-1.35
Rajasthan	57.7	56.8	-1.66
Madhya Pradesh	36.3	40.6	11.81
West Bengal	30.3	37.4	23.32
Bihar	32.9	36.5	10.67
Andhra Pradesh	29.4	34.0	15.79
Maharashtra	32.5	33.0	1.61
Telangana	26.7	32.6	22.21
Karnataka	27.7	29.0	4.70
Gujarat	27.1	26.9	-0.95

Poultry population in major States 2012 & 2019 (in million)

	2012	2019	% Change
Tamil Nadu	117.31	120.82	2.99
Andhra Pradesh	80.6	107.9	33.85
Telangana	80.8	80.0	-0.93
West Bengal	52.8	77.3	46.34
Maharashtra	77.8	74.3	-4.49
Karnataka	53.4	59.5	11.33
Assam	27.2	46.7	71.63
Haryana	42.8	46.3	8.11
Kerala	24.3	29.82	22.61
Odisha	19.9	27.4	37.95

Livestock population 2019 - Share of major species



Livestock population (in million) and change (%)

	2012	2019	Change
Cattle	190.90	192.49	0.83
Buffaloes	108.70	109.85	1.06
Sheep	65.07	74.26	14.13
Goats	135.17	148.88	10.14
Pigs	10.29	9.06	-12.03
Mithun	0.30	0.38	26.66
Yaks	0.08	0.06	-25.00
Horses & ponies	0.63	0.34	-45.58
Mules	0.20	0.08	-57.09
Donkeys	0.32	0.12	-61.23
Camels	0.40	0.25	-37.05
Total	512.06	535.78	4.63

Poultry population in 2012 & 2019 (in million)

