



Calf Hauling Loading Density Guidelines

  Funded by the Beef Checkoff.		Calf Weight (lbs.)		
		200	400	600
		Sq/Ft Per Animal		
		3.5 ft ²	6.5 ft ²	8.5 ft ²
Trailer/Compartment Size	Square Feet	Number of Head		
14 ft x 6 ft	84	24	13	10
16 ft x 6 ft	96	27	15	11
18 ft x 6 ft	108	31	17	13
20 ft x 6 ft	120	34	18	14
22 ft x 6 ft	132	38	20	16
24 ft x 6 ft	144	41	22	17
26 ft x 6 ft	156	45	24	18
30 ft x 6 ft	180	51	28	21
10 ft x 7 ft	70	20	11	8
12 ft x 7 ft	84	24	13	10
16 ft x 7 ft	112	32	17	13
20 ft x 7 ft	140	40	22	16
24 ft x 7 ft	168	48	26	20
28 ft x 7 ft	196	56	30	23
32 ft x 7 ft	224	64	34	26
24 ft x 8 ft	192	54	29	22
20 ft x 8 ft	160	45	24	18
28 ft x 8 ft	224	64	34	26
32 ft x 8 ft	256	73	39	30
12 ft x 8 ft	96	27	14	11
12 ft x 8.5 ft	102	29	15	12

**Not all trailer sizes are included in the chart.*

Calculations were based on FASS Guidelines¹ for square foot per 100 lbs. of animal needed: 200 lbs. = 1.75 ft², 400 lbs. = 1.6 ft², 600 lbs. = 1.4 ft²

- Total weight should not exceed capacity of truck or trailer and or legal load requirements.
- Shape of cattle and frame score factor into how cattle fit into compartment.

1. Federation of Animal Science Societies 2020. Guide for the care and use of agricultural animals in research and teaching. https://www.asas.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/agguide_4th.pdf?sfvrsn=56b44ed1_2