



Sterling Beef Profit Tracker

"Monitoring Free Market Beef Industry Profits"

Sterling Marketing, Inc.

	Week Ending	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
February 1, 2025				
Feedlot Margin - Unhedged (\$ / head)	\$286.48	\$325.69	\$220.46	(\$191.29)
Choice Steers (5-Area Direct, \$ / cwt)	209.97	210.22	199.48	177.57
Feeder Steer (Ok City 750-800 lb, \$ / cwt)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	279.70	273.53	265.11	235.02
Against this Week's Marketing	269.99	265.54	256.09	248.75
Feed Cost (\$ / head)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	469.93	473.59	456.73	391.11
Against this Week's Marketing	426.87	425.85	455.10	505.36
Total Cost (feeder steer, processing cost, vet med, feed, yardage, interest, death loss)(\$ / head)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	2,908.00	2,861.25	2,775.01	2,447.58
Against this Week's Marketing	2,795.24	2,757.60	2,710.05	2,677.27
Calculated Breakeven Price (\$ / cwt)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	197.15	193.98	188.14	174.83
Against this Week's Marketing	189.51	186.96	183.73	191.23
Packer Margin (\$ / head)	(\$174.06)	(\$73.59)	(\$129.96)	(\$5.75)
Choice Steers (5-Area Direct, \$ cwt)	209.97	210.22	199.48	177.57
Beef Cutout¹ (\$ / cwt)	330.51	331.85	319.22	296.35
Drop Credit ² (\$/hd)	178.04	177.41	176.70	171.99
	February 1, 2025	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Cattle Slaughter	600,000	599,000	504,893	632,438
Steer & Heifer	484,800	483,992	414,012	502,788
Fed Plant Capacity Utilization	83.2%	83.0%	71.0%	86.2%
Cows	107,400	107,221	86,337	122,061
Cow Plant Capacity Utilization	73.7%	73.6%	59.3%	83.8%
Beef Production	526.4	525.3	444.0	524.6
(federally inspected, mil. lbs.)				
Carcass Weight - average - all cattle (lbs.)	879	879	881	831
Relative Feeding Cost (against current Placement week)				
Feeder Steer	74.54%	74.09%	74.04%	74.42%
Feed	16.81%	17.17%	16.85%	14.61%
Annual Projections		2024	2023	2022
Cow-Calf Margin³(\$ / cow)		528.53	440.00	168.43
Estimated annual revenue - annual variable costs				
Feedlot Margin (\$ / head)		114.00	157.93	47.55
Packer Margin (\$ / head)		(62.17)	(89.89)	95.75

¹ Comprehensive Cutout which includes Prime, Choice, Select grade, branded, & ungraded cattle. Starting Jan. 1, 2024.

³ Based on Sterling Marketing revenue and cost of production projections.



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