



Sterling Beef Profit Tracker

"Monitoring Free Market Beef Industry Profits"

Sterling Marketing, Inc.

	Week Ending July 5, 2025	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Feedlot Margin - Unhedged (\$ / head)	\$619.59	\$698.34	\$756.57	\$377.39
Choice Steers (5-Area Direct, \$ / cwt)	230.56	230.98	239.34	198.22
Feeder Steer (Ok City 750-800 lb, \$ / cwt)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	317.96	317.96	309.85	269.99
Against this Week's Marketing	263.29	253.92	260.85	225.87
Feed Cost (\$ / head)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	421.18	400.46	425.65	426.87
Against this Week's Marketing	442.30	442.30	444.74	415.41
Total Cost (feeder steer, processing cost, vet med, feed, yardage, interest, death loss)(\$ / head)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	3,171.07	3,149.78	3,109.28	2,795.24
Against this Week's Marketing	2,747.98	2,671.20	2,733.17	2,397.69
Calculated Breakeven Price (\$ / cwt)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	214.99	213.54	210.80	189.51
Against this Week's Marketing	186.30	181.10	185.30	171.26
Packer Margin (\$ / head)	\$35.90	(\$66.61)	(\$257.47)	(\$59.99)
Choice Steers (5-Area Direct, \$ cwt)	230.56	230.98	239.34	198.22
Beef Cutout ¹ (\$ / cwt)	388.64	385.34	360.88	324.47
Drop Credit ² (\$/hd)	174.51	173.80	170.31	177.83
	July 5, 2025	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Cattle Slaughter	474,000	560,000	581,299	521,471
Steer & Heifer	391,050	462,000	476,084	430,735
Fed Plant Capacity Utilization	66.3%	78.3%	80.7%	73.9%
Cows	75,366	89,040	95,914	83,435
Cow Plant Capacity Utilization	50.7%	59.9%	64.5%	57.3%
Beef Production	409.2	483.6	500.8	440.6
(federally inspected, mil. lbs.)				
Carcass Weight - average - all cattle (lbs.)	865	865	863	847
Relative Feeding Cost (against current Placement week)				
Feeder Steer	77.71%	78.23%	77.23%	74.86%
Feed	15.33%	14.99%	15.57%	17.80%
Annual Projections - June 10, 2025	2025*	2024	2023	2022
Cow-Calf Margin ³(\$ / cow)	669.00	404.79	320.65	74.52
Estimated annual revenue - annual variable costs				
Feedlot Margin (\$ / head)	380.00	114.00	213.97	96.56
Packer Margin (\$ / head)	(170.00)	(75.43)	98.08	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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