



Sterling Beef Profit Tracker

"Monitoring Free Market Beef Industry Profits"

Sterling Marketing, Inc.

	Week Ending	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
	June 27, 2026			
Feedlot Margin - Unhedged (\$ / head)	\$668.77	\$453.78	\$355.52	\$698.34
Choice Steers (5-Area Direct, \$ / cwt)	259.65	259.70	256.80	230.98
Feeder Steer (Ok City 750-800 lb, \$ / cwt)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	385.24	382.53	380.54	317.96
Against this Week's Marketing	314.58	343.45	350.53	253.92
Feed Cost (\$ / head)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	400.46	402.49	400.66	400.46
Against this Week's Marketing	409.60	401.27	404.12	442.30
Total Cost (feeder steer, processing cost, vet med, feed, yardage, interest, death loss)(\$ / head)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	3,689.20	3,669.18	3,651.07	3,149.78
Against this Week's Marketing	3,125.24	3,352.49	3,413.23	2,671.20
Calculated Breakeven Price (\$ / cwt)				
For this Week's Feedlot Placement	250.12	248.76	247.53	213.54
Against this Week's Marketing	211.88	227.29	231.41	181.10
Packer Margin (\$ / head)	(\$314.48)	(\$253.26)	(\$238.42)	\$35.00
Choice Steers (5-Area Direct, \$ cwt)	259.65	259.70	256.80	230.98
Beef Cutout¹ (\$ / cwt)	390.94	391.26	393.97	388.64
Drop Credit ² (\$/hd)	224.56	227.95	228.71	176.81
	June 27, 2026	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Cattle Slaughter	537,000	526,000	451,309	561,022
Steer & Heifer	436,581	427,638	363,755	463,965
Fed Plant Capacity Utilization	82.3%	80.6%	65.5%	78.7%
Cows	91,290	89,420	80,784	87,519
Cow Plant Capacity Utilization	60.9%	59.6%	53.9%	58.4%
Beef Production	477.6	469.6	401.6	484.0
(federally inspected, mil. lbs.)				
Carcass Weight - average - all cattle (lbs.)	891	895	892	865
Relative Feeding Cost (against current Placement week)				
Feeder Steer	80.93%	N/A	80.78%	78.23%
Feed	12.81%	12.01%	11.74%	14.99%
Annual Projections - June 15, 2026	2026*	2025	2024	2023
Cow-Calf Margin³(\$ / cow)	1142.00	897.00	523.50	343.45
Estimated annual revenue - annual variable costs				
Feedlot Margin (\$ / head)	157.55	497.56	114.00	213.97
Packer Margin (\$ / head)	(\$220.00)	(\$137.90)	(\$75)	98.08

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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