



# Sterling Pork Profit Tracker

"Monitoring Free Market Pork Industry Profits"

Sterling Marketing, Inc.

	Week Ending	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
	<b>March 21, 2026</b>			
<b>Farrow to Finish Margin (\$/head)</b>	\$55.53	\$56.43	\$52.25	\$45.73
<b>Lean Carcass (W. Cornbelt. Negotiated)</b>	\$92.59	\$92.40	\$89.04	\$89.03
<b>Feed Cost</b>				
This Week's Hogs Placed for Finishing	77.66	77.01	73.20	76.15
This Week's Marketed Hogs	76.03	74.74	69.70	75.42
<b>Total Cost</b>				
This Week's Hogs Placed for Finishing	146.30	145.65	141.78	144.99
This Week's Marketed Hogs	144.72	143.42	138.37	144.33
<b>Calculated Breakeven Price</b>				
This Week's Hogs Placed for Finishing	67.42	67.12	65.34	67.44
This Week's Marketed Hogs	67.00	66.40	64.96	67.76
<b>Packer Margin (\$/head)</b>	\$3.33	\$5.00	\$3.62	\$3.82
Lean Carcass (W. Cornbelt. Negotiated)	92.59	92.40	89.04	89.03
Pork Cutout (\$/cwt)	99.28	99.86	96.04	96.24
Drop Credit (\$/head)	12.76	12.76	12.38	12.27
	<b>March 21, 2026</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Month Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>Hog Slaughter</b>	2,491,000	2,532,000	2,475,490	2,424,175
Market Hogs	2,426,234	2,466,168	2,413,603	2,358,722
Plant Capacity Utilization	<b>93.7%</b>	<b>95.2%</b>	<b>93.2%</b>	<b>91.1%</b>
Sows	59,784	60,768	56,936	60,604
<b>Pork Production</b>	544.1	552.6	541.1	525.5
(federally inspected, mil. lbs.)				
<b>Carcass Weight - average - all hogs (lbs.)</b>	218	218	218	217
<b>Feed Cost Relative to Total Cost</b>				
For this Week's Finishing Placement	53.1%	52.9%	51.6%	52.5%
Against this Week's Marketing	52.5%	52.1%	50.4%	52.3%
<b>Annual Projections - March 20, 2026</b>				
	<b>2026*</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Farrow-to- Finish Margin (\$/head)</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>	\$53.55	\$15.24	(\$16.87)
<b>Packer Margin (\$ / head)</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>	\$9.26	\$22.80	\$16.93



"The Sterling Difference"

Economic Research & Advisory Services to the Livestock & Meat Industry Since 1991