NATIONAL WEEKLY FEEDER & STOCKER CATTLE SUMMARY **USDA LIVESTOCK, POULTRY & GRAIN MARKET NEWS** St. Joseph, Missouri Monday, February 3, 2025 for w/e Saturday, 02/01/25. stjoe.lpgmn@usda.gov Email: Receipts: This Week Last Week Year Ago CME FEEDER CATTLE INDEX (\$/CWT) SJ LS850 348,300 269,200 345.300 \$300 Compared to last week, steers and heifers sold 3.00 to 8.00 higher, with instances 10.00 to 15.00 \$280 higher at some auctions as optimism was abound in the industry this week. Demand was good to \$260 very good calf and feeder cattle buyers continue to be aggressive and are starting to look at every nook and cranny for cattle they can procure to go to summer grass, feedlot or the breeding \$240 pastures. Usually the old saying is, "Good things come to those who wait" and backgrounders are \$220 finding that is not happening in the feeder cattle auctions currently. The prospective buyers that \$200 thought I'll just wait till spring to fill my grass orders are really having to pay up for their grass \$180 cattle. The runup in feeder cattle prices has run counter to traditional thinking this past fall and \$160 since the first of the year. In the fall, feeder cattle prices typically see a downtrend in late September through about Thanksgiving as ranchers get their spring calves weaned and vaccinated. This did not happen in 2024; the markets have just slowly increased prices with very 2025 2024 ----- 5 YR AVG few downturns in weekly trends since late September. The previous week, the Cattle on Feed report was somewhat bullish and this week's highly anticipated Cattle Inventory report was on the industry's mind, and it did not disappoint the bulls on Friday. The beef cow number totaled 27.9 NATIONWIDE REPORTED WEEKLY FEEDER million head, down 1 pct from a year ago. Replacement beef heifers were also down 1 pct from a CATTLE AUCTION RECEIPTS year ago, signaling that herd rebuilding is not in the works yet. Some yearling heifers in areas are (Receipts vary depending on the number of auctions probably being purchased for replacements either to sell or retain as the cow herd gets older by reported) 400 another year and experienced cows could become a higher priced commodity as calf and fed cattle prices hit all-time highs. Negotiated sales of slaughter steers and heifers in the Southern **Thousands** 300 Plains sold 6.00 to 7.00 higher at 208.00 with a few up to 209.00. In Nebraska, live sales were steady to 2.00 lower at 210.00, while dressed sales sold steady to 2.00 higher at 330.00. For the week, Choice Boxed beef closed on Friday at 327.68, 0.24 lower and Select closed at 317.07, 200 0.78 higher. Weekly Cattle Slaughter under federal inspection estimated at 600K, 1K more than last week and 32K less than a year ago. Auction volume this week included 56 percent weighing 100 over 600 lbs and 41 percent heifers. REGIONAL WEIGHTED AVERAGE 2024 **FEEDER STEER PRICES** NORTH CENTRAL REGION YEAR TO DATE AUCTION RECEIPTS 14 Steers: This Week Last Week **Last Year** 600-700 lbs \$327.55 \$319.14 \$281.72 × 100000 12 **USDA AMS** 700-800 lbs \$299.91 \$293.99 \$254.62 10 800-900 lbs \$280.93 \$274.84 \$237.84 2025 YTD 2024 YTD 5 Yr Avg **SOUTH CENTRAL REGION** Steers: This Week Last Week **Last Year 5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE** 500-600 lbs \$341.62 \$334.63 \$295.20 SLTR STEER PRICE (\$/CWT) \$220 600-700 lbs \$308.13 \$300.95 \$263.46 \$210 \$200 \$190 \$180 700-800 lbs \$280.42 \$277.07 \$241.40 \$170 \$160 \$150 SOUTHEAST REGION \$140 \$130 Steers: This Week Last Week Last Year 2024 400-500 lbs \$356.46 \$349.43 \$302.04 **USDA Livestock, Poultry, & Grain Market News** 500-600 lbs \$319.25 \$316.14 \$271.63 St. Joseph, Missouri Phone: 816-676-7000 600-700 lbs \$289.15 \$282.95 \$242.00 For detailed state-by-state feeder cattle quotes: National Feeder & Stocker Cattle Summary http://www.ams.usda.gov/LSMarketNews