NATIONAL WEEKLY FEEDER & STOCKER CATTLE SUMMARY **USDA LIVESTOCK, POULTRY & GRAIN MARKET NEWS** St. Joseph, Missouri for w/e Saturday, 07/26/25. stjoe.lpgmn@usda.gov Monday, July 28, 2025 Email: Receipts: This Week Last Week Year Ago CME FEEDER CATTLE INDEX (\$/CWT) SJ_LS850 335,100 340,200 374,300 \$340 \$320 Compared to last week, steers and heifers sold 4.00 to 9.00 higher. Demand was good to very good as \$300 the feeder cattle freight train keeps rolling down the track. Extreme heat across a large portion of the \$280 country left a shortage of receipts in its wake again this week as supply would be considered light to \$260 moderate at these levels. The CME Cattle Complex came out of the gate on Monday with sharp gains \$240 and it continued through most of the week. Feeder Cattle futures were mostly 8.00 to 9.00 higher for \$220 the week while Live Cattle futures were mostly 3.00 to 4.00 higher for the week. Unweaned calves or \$200 those with fescue hair are not very desirable as they become very stressed in the heat, however \$180 yearlings found the best demand again this week. Buyers are said to be wanting and needing cattle, \$160 but limited offerings has made it hard to put together loads and fill orders in areas where load lots are not available. Friday saw the release of two cattle reports; the monthly cattle on feed and the semiannual inventory. The cattle on feed report was extremely bullish on feed numbers were 98 pct of last 2025 2024 ----- 5 YR AVG year, marketings were 96 pct and placements were 92 pct with the placement factor being 6 percent below the average pre-report estimate. One of the biggest issues playing into the lower placement number is the fact that grass is abundant in most areas and many calves are likely to be spending more NATIONWIDE REPORTED WEEKLY FEEDER days on pasture and adding weight on grass. This will eventually come into play later as cattle come CATTLE AUCTION RECEIPTS into the feedlots at heavier weights. The other report was the semi-annual inventory report which hasn't (Receipts vary depending on the number of auctions been released for two years so comparisons were a bit more difficult to make this report is also much reported) more limited in data than the January version. Most numbers were slightly above pre-report estimates 400 but still below two years ago. The general take away is that producers are keeping cows for another calf rather than culling which is also supported by the low slaughter thus far this year. There were mixed **Thousands** 300 views about if any heifer retention is really taking place, but most agreed if so, it was regional and likely limited so far. Negotiated sales of fed cattle in Kansas sold steady to 1.00 higher at 230.00 to 232.00. 200 In TX/OK/NM, live sales sold steady to 2.00 higher at 230.00 to 232.00. In Nebraska, live sales were 2.00 to 5.00 higher at 242.00 to 245.00; while dressed sales were steady at 380.00. For the week, Choice Boxed beef closed on Friday at 366.68, 6.87 lower and Select closed at 344.87, 6.62 lower. 100 Weekly Cattle Slaughter under federal inspection estimated at 549K, 14K less last week and 56K less than a year ago. Auction volume this week included 56 percent weighing over 600 lbs and 38 percent REGIONAL WEIGHTED AVERAGE 2024 2025 FEEDER STEER PRICES NORTH CENTRAL REGION YEAR TO DATE AUCTION RECEIPTS 54 Steers: This Week Last Week **Last Year** 600-700 lbs \$375.05 \$370.46 \$310.41 × 100000 52 **USDA AMS** 700-800 lbs \$359.18 \$350.27 \$282.92 50 800-900 lbs \$337.21 \$326.20 \$262.44 48 2025 YTD 2024 YTD **SOUTH CENTRAL REGION** Steers: This Week Last Week **Last Year 5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE** 500-600 lbs \$392.99 \$387.86 \$310.49 SLTR STEER PRICE (\$/CWT) 600-700 lbs \$370.33 \$359.93 \$288.87 \$200 \$200 \$190 \$180 \$170 700-800 lbs \$338.97 **\$335.39** \$266.78 \$160 \$150 \$140 SOUTHEAST REGION Steers: This Week Last Week **Last Year** ----- 5 YR AVG \$402.77 \$393.98 \$309.61 400-500 lbs **USDA Livestock, Poultry, & Grain Market News** 500-600 lbs \$361.54 \$359.53 \$286.97 St. Joseph, Missouri Phone: 816-676-7000 600-700 lbs \$337.15 \$335.09 \$264.28 For detailed state-by-state feeder cattle quotes: National Feeder & Stocker Cattle Summary http://www.ams.usda.gov/LSMarketNews