



# Current Report

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University

## Feeder and Fed Cattle Basis Tables

Derrell S. Peel

Extension Livestock Marketing Specialist

This Current Report provides updated historical basis estimates for several weight classes of feeder cattle, slaughter steers, and heifers. Each table includes nearby monthly basis for the years 1990 through 1994 and the 1990-1994 average. Table 1 includes basis for 500-600 pound, 600-700 pound and 700-800

pound feeders steers at Oklahoma City. Table 2 presents basis for 400-500 pound, 500-600 pound and 600-700 pound heifers at Oklahoma City. Table 3 includes fed steer and heifer basis for Dodge City and Amarillo.

**TABLE 1. FEEDER STEER BASIS<sup>1</sup> (CASH PRICE MINUS CME FEEDER FUTURES).**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>500-600 POUND OKLAHOMA CITY STEERS</b>												
1990	8.11	12.11	14.34	16.03	16.56	15.59	11.76	13.57	10.41	7.87	12.52	13.43
1991	12.38	16.13	15.70	18.75	16.58	19.73	15.23	12.36	11.47	9.36	7.68	9.06
1992	8.39	13.49	14.71	14.18	12.44	13.76	11.82	9.13	8.31	3.72	6.49	5.38
1993	7.44	11.60	15.27	17.17	13.72	15.83	12.47	10.78	9.86	8.54	7.59	10.27
1994	8.55	14.52	18.17	7.27	15.97	13.58	9.50	8.87	6.35	7.17	9.26	9.95
Average	8.97	13.57	15.64	14.68	15.05	15.70	12.16	10.94	9.28	7.33	8.71	9.62
<b>600-700 POUND</b>												
1990	3.32	3.72	5.66	7.59	9.33	9.87	6.54	7.30	6.05	4.71	5.73	6.93
1991	5.06	6.78	6.25	8.57	8.10	9.22	6.68	4.29	4.15	2.96	3.01	3.95
1992	2.37	4.80	4.88	5.34	6.71	7.29	5.83	3.28	3.34	1.20	1.76	1.26
1993	2.11	4.23	5.02	7.24	7.62	9.11	6.13	4.99	4.25	3.23	2.85	4.84
1994	3.16	5.46	7.36	7.60	8.48	8.16	3.64	3.67	2.01	1.68	3.57	4.50
Average	3.20	5.00	5.83	7.27	8.05	8.73	5.76	4.71	3.96	2.76	3.38	4.30
<b>700-800 POUND</b>												
1990	.84	.51	-.01	.95	2.42	5.52	3.21	2.34	2.55	2.87	4.59	4.45
1991	.48	1.56	-1.25	-.24	.70	3.73	2.02	.97	-.07	.05	1.54	2.67
1992	.28	1.71	-.14	-.77	.77	3.76	1.50	-.65	.61	.07	.85	1.04
1993	-.33	.83	.40	1.33	1.32	1.81	2.75	1.65	.99	1.27	2.58	3.56
1994	.98	1.37	.97	1.87	2.15	3.51	.58	.11	.85	.17	1.37	2.49
Average	.45	1.20	-.01	.64	1.47	3.67	2.01	.88	.99	.89	2.19	2.84

Source: Livestock Marketing Information Center

<sup>1</sup> The current cash settlement index for CME Feeder futures was initiated with the January 1993 contract.

**TABLE 2. FEEDER HEIFER BASIS<sup>1</sup> (CASH PRICE MINUS CME FEEDER FUTURES).**

	<i>JAN</i>	<i>FEB</i>	<i>MAR</i>	<i>APR</i>	<i>MAY</i>	<i>JUN</i>	<i>JUL</i>	<i>AUG</i>	<i>SEP</i>	<i>OCT</i>	<i>NOV</i>	<i>DEC</i>
<b>400-500 POUND OKLAHOMA CITY HEIFERS</b>												
1990	3.62	8.76	9.95	11.93	11.65	9.43	4.72	7.10	4.61	3.80	9.77	10.18
1991	8.65	13.24	11.97	15.93	13.20	16.73	10.85	9.16	8.02	5.15	4.26	7.24
1992	5.31	11.52	12.29	11.74	8.76	7.67	7.56	5.64	3.67	.32	2.43	1.42
1993	3.79	6.23	8.91	16.69	9.42	9.39	7.83	4.17	4.40	4.14	4.19	7.55
1994	6.55	10.73	12.80	12.68	12.66	9.61	5.43	3.58	2.95	1.51	6.18	5.68
Average	5.58	10.10	11.18	13.79	11.14	10.57	7.28	5.93	4.73	2.98	5.37	6.41
<b>500-600 POUND</b>												
1990	.41	1.94	4.33	5.90	6.80	5.67	3.37	3.32	1.88	-1.05	2.80	2.91
1991	1.38	5.24	4.90	9.68	7.19	8.92	3.01	2.64	2.19	-1.16	-.70	.35
1992	-.73	5.18	5.74	5.97	3.70	5.49	3.49	1.66	.27	-2.57	-1.98	-2.84
1993	.77	1.51	3.30	8.33	5.46	.72	3.74	2.96	.60	-.54	-.56	3.01
1994	.49	3.80	6.55	6.82	6.22	3.51	1.95	1.61	.32	-1.38	-.22	.91
Average	.46	3.53	4.96	7.34	5.87	4.86	3.11	2.44	1.05	-1.34	-.13	.87
<b>600-700 POUND</b>												
1990	-2.19	-1.82	-1.36	-.44	1.12	2.27	.80	.54	-.87	-2.15	-1.25	.14
1991	-1.52	-.59	-1.17	-.38	-.22	1.51	-.33	-1.00	-1.92	-2.24	-2.40	-.13
1992	-2.11	.52	-.71	-.52	-1.00	2.27	.69	-1.66	-1.81	-3.04	-3.51	-3.46
1993	-2.65	-1.33	-1.61	1.59	.01	.26	.45	-1.47	-1.63	-2.68	-2.40	-.82
1994	-2.34	-.35	.22	.37	.47	1.17	-1.85	-2.52	-.71	-2.26	-1.34	-.61
Average	-2.16	-.71	-.93	.12	.08	1.50	-.05	-1.22	-1.39	-2.47	-2.18	-.98

Source: Livestock Marketing Information Center

**TABLE 3. SLAUGHTER CATTLE BASIS<sup>1</sup> (CASH PRICE MINUS CME LIVE CATTLE FUTURES).**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>AMARILLO - FED HEIFERS</b>												
1990	.89	.47	2.34	2.21	3.95	1.30	-.67	-.11	-.68	1.07	2.59	1.97
1991	2.52	.41	-.30	.75	2.87	.52	-.68	-1.87	-3.73	-2.09	-1.84	-.53
1992	-1.02	-.73	-.03	.47	2.63	.92	-.56	.03	-.31	-.15	.77	.82
1993	.85	.01	.50	1.43	4.59	1.07	.00	.04	-.97	-.11	.09	-.26
1994	-.50	-1.17	-1.15	-.03	1.33	-.55	-1.16	-1.85	-3.11	-1.85	-.30	-.48
Average	.55	-.20	.27	.97	3.07	.65	-.61	-.75	-1.76	-.63	.26	.30
<b>DODGE CITY - FED HEIFERS</b>												
1990	.70	.37	2.68	2.28	4.12	1.50	-.45	.00	-.52	1.51	3.10	2.00
1991	2.54	.70	.20	1.19	3.24	.75	-.61	-1.59	-3.32	-2.24	-1.87	-.73
1992	-1.02	-.81	.04	.63	2.60	.86	-.66	.02	-.31	.58	.87	.19
1993	.38	-.76	.19	1.63	4.62	.78	-.12	.03	-1.02	-.17	-.09	-.50
1994	-.66	-1.21	-1.06	.03	1.60	-.61	-1.57	-1.89	-3.14	-1.86	-.38	-.77
Average	.39	-.34	.41	1.15	3.24	.66	-.68	-.69	-1.66	-.44	.33	.04
<b>AMARILLO - FED STEERS</b>												
1990	.90	.51	2.50	2.33	4.03	1.67	-.52	.02	-.66	1.12	2.60	2.00
1991	2.52	.42	-.27	.76	2.91	.52	-.68	-1.83	-3.73	-2.08	-1.88	-.50
1992	-1.05	-.75	-.03	.47	2.63	.92	-.55	.03	-.33	.55	.77	.78
1993	.85	.02	.49	1.42	4.60	1.08	-.01	.05	-1.01	-.11	.07	-.29
1994	-.51	-1.18	-1.14	-.03	1.33	-.56	-1.07	-1.85	-3.16	-1.89	-.31	-.57
Average	.54	-.20	.31	.99	3.10	.73	-.57	-.72	-1.78	-.48	.25	.28
<b>DODGE CITY - FED STEERS</b>												
1990	.74	.49	2.79	2.58	4.33	1.68	-.31	.06	-.53	1.55	3.14	2.02
1991	2.56	.72	.19	1.18	3.27	.76	-.62	-1.54	-3.32	-2.18	-1.80	-.89
1992	-1.03	-.81	.04	.62	2.60	.85	-.65	.02	-.35	.58	.87	.23
1993	.37	-.76	.39	1.69	4.64	.80	-.12	.04	-1.04	-.21	-.09	-.49
1994	-.66	-1.21	-1.09	.03	1.59	-.61	-1.57	-1.89	-3.14	-1.84	-.38	-.77
Average	.40	-.31	.46	1.22	3.29	.70	-.65	-.66	-1.68	-.42	.35	.02

Source: Livestock Marketing Information Center

<sup>1</sup> Beginning June 1995, CME Live Cattle futures will use Packer delivery specifications that may change fed cattle basis relationships.

For additional information about livestock futures, hedging, and basis—see the following OSU Fact Sheets and Current Reports:

- F-430 Basic Livestock Futures, Part 1: Livestock Futures Markets
- F-431 Basic Livestock Futures, Part 2: Mechanics of Futures Trading
- F-432 Basic Livestock Futures, Part 3: Principles of Livestock Hedging
- F-433 Basis: The Key to Successful Livestock Hedging
- F-487 Basics of Live Cattle Options Trading
- F-509 Cash Settlement of Feeder Cattle Futures Contracts
- CR-522 Livestock Futures and Options Contract Specifications
- F-531 Fed Cattle Basis Patterns
- F-532 Fed Cattle Contracting vs. Hedging
- F-540 Futures and Options Terminology

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