



Sterling Pork Profit Tracker

"Monitoring Free Market Pork Industry Profits"

Sterling Marketing, Inc.

	Week Ending	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
	December 16, 2023			
	Worst margin since July 2020			
Farrow to Finish Margin (\$/head)	↘ (\$57.12)	(\$51.63)	(\$27.86)	(\$12.35)
Lean Carcass (W. Cornbelt. Negotiated)	\$50.96	\$54.84	\$64.70	\$84.09
Feed Cost				
For this Week's Finishing Placement	90.76	91.96	94.14	119.20
Against this Week's Marketing	99.20	101.95	99.93	128.44
Total Cost				
For this Week's Finishing Placement	154.99	156.21	158.43	183.59
Against this Week's Marketing	163.58	166.38	164.25	192.24
Calculated Breakeven Price				
For this Week's Finishing Placement	72.42	72.99	74.03	87.01
Against this Week's Marketing	77.53	78.86	77.84	89.83
	Best margin since October 2021			
Packer Margin (\$/head)	↘ \$62.16	\$54.49	\$38.89	(\$0.48)
Lean Carcass (W. Cornbelt. Negotiated)	50.96	54.84	64.70	84.09
Pork Cutout (\$/cwt)	84.48	84.27	87.05	87.06
Drop Credit (\$/head)	14.05	15.16	15.46	17.09
	December 16, 2023	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Hog Slaughter	2,689,000	2,674,000	2,647,405	2,580,005
Market Hogs	2,632,531	2,617,846	2,575,925	2,512,925
Plant Capacity Utilization	99.7%	99.1%	97.5%	93.5%
Sows	48,402	48,132	66,185	61,920
Pork Production	579.3	486.0	502.4	558.5
(federally inspected, mil. lbs.)				
Carcass Weight - average - all hogs (lbs.)	215	214	214	217
Feed Cost Relative to Total Cost				
For this Week's Finishing Placement	58.6%	58.9%	59.4%	64.9%
Against this Week's Marketing	60.6%	61.3%	60.8%	66.8%
Annual Projections (12/8/2023)				
	<u>2024*</u>	<u>2023*</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Farrow-to- Finish Margin (\$/head)	\$8.00	(\$11.00)	\$49.33	\$36.76
Packer Margin (\$ / head)	\$35.00	\$11.00	(\$7.00)	\$18.70



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