

2020

Fast Facts

Australia's beef industry

The off-farm meat value (domestic expenditure plus export value, including live export) of the Australian beef industry was approximately \$20.2 billion in 2019 – up 3% on the 2018 period (MLA estimate).

At the time of publication, figures included in this document were the most up to date available but may be subject to revision.

Herd facts and figures:

- There are 45,712 agricultural businesses involved in the cattle industry (MLA State of the Industry Report 2020).
- 24.7 million head of cattle in Australia as of June 2019 (MLA State of the Industry Report – 2020)¹.
- 11.7 million head of beef cows and heifers aged one year and over as of 2018–19 (MLA State of the Industry Report 2020).

People in the industry:

 Around 189,000 people are employed in the red meat industry, including on-farm production, processing and retail (MLA State of the Industry Report – 2020).

How much is produced?

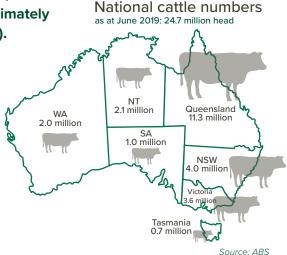
- In 2018-19, Australia produced approximately 2.4 million tonnes carcase weight (cwt) of beef and veal (MLA State of the Industry Report – 2020).
- In 2019, 3.0 million grainfed cattle were marketed (feedlot turn-off) 36% of all adult cattle slaughtered (MLA State of the Industry Report – 2020).

What is the value of production?

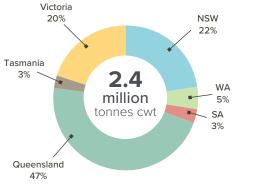
- The gross value of Australian cattle and calf production (including live cattle exports) in 2019–20 is estimated at A\$15.1 billion (ABARES Agricultural Commodities September 2020).
- Cattle are estimated to have contributed 23% of the total farm value of A\$66.5 billion in 2019–20 (ABARES Agricultural Commodities September 2020).

Domestic value and consumption:

- Domestic expenditure on beef was approximately A\$7.8 billion in 2019 (MLA estimate).
- Australians ate around 25kg of beef per person in 2018–19 (MLA State of the Industry Report – 2020).



Australian beef and veal production



Source: ABS, 2019

Australian lotfed cattle turn-off



¹ Beef cattle numbers as at June 2019 were 22.4 million head (ABS Agricultural Commodities 2018–19). Dairy cattle number ss at June 2019 were 2.3 million head (ABS Agricultural Commodities 2018–19).



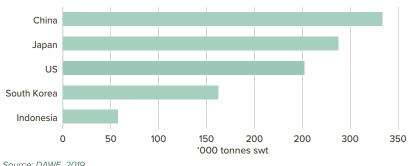
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Export value and volume:

- In 2019, Australia exported 76% of its total beef and veal production (MLA Estimate).
- The value of total beef and veal exports in 2019 was A\$10.8 billion (MLA State of the Industry Report - 2020).
- Australian live cattle exports were valued at A\$1.6 billion in 2018–19 (ABS), with 1.3 million head exported (MLA State of the Industry Report -2020).



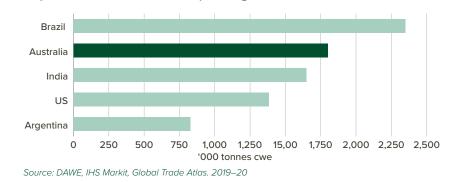
Australia's top five beef and veal export markets

Source: DAWE, 2019

Australia's place in the world:

Top five beef and veal exporting countries

- Australia has approximately 2% of the world's cattle herd. (MLA State of • the Industry Report - 2020).
- Australia is the 2nd largest beef exporter in the world behind Brazil (MLA • State of the Industry Report - 2020).



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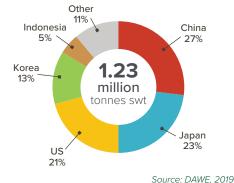
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For further information read MLA's *State of the Industry Report – 2020*

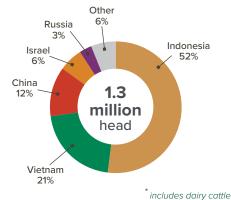


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Australin beef and veal exports



Australian live cattle exports*



Source: DAWE, 2019



Market Information Meat & Livestock Australia Email: marketinfo@mla.com.au www.mla.com.au/prices-markets

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