



## National Livestock Reporting Service

# National Young Cattle Indicator

The National Young Cattle Indicator (NYCI) is a seven-day rolling average of young cattle sold across all NLRS-reported saleyards and Australia’s suite of online livestock marketplaces. It is expressed in cents per kilogram live weight (¢/kg lwt) and is rounded to two decimal points.

### What is a seven-day rolling average?

At any point in time, a seven-day rolling average includes data from the past seven calendar days. In the case of the NYCI, the dataset takes the average ¢/kg lwt of an animal matching the specifications of the indicator per day for the past week, adds them up and divides the figure by seven. This figure is updated daily to create a rolling average value for this specification of animal.



## NYCI composition

The National Young Cattle Indicator includes vealer, weaner, and yearling heifers, steers and mixed pens bought by restockers, with a live weight from 200 kilograms and Not Station Mated (NSM) for online sales (Table 1). The sales included in the National Young Cattle Indicator are outlined in the following section.

**Table 1: Cattle categories in the NYCI**

Classification	Live weight (kg)	Sales prefix	Status
Vealer heifers/steers	200+ kg	RS	Not Station Mated
Weaner heifers/ steers/ mixed sex	200+ kg	RS	Not Station Mated
Yearling heifers/ steers/ mixed sex	200+ kg	RS	Not Station Mated



## Sales in the NYCI

**Online sales** – Auctions date and time will vary week by week. Each online marketplace will have a different selling day/s for young cattle, influencing when the indicator will be updated.

**Physical sales – Table 2: Prime sales in the NYCI Indicator**

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
Forbes	NSW	CTLX Carcoar	NSW	Casino	NSW	Armidale*	NSW
TRLX Tamworth	NSW	Gunnedah	NSW	Moss Vale	NSW	Dubbo	NSW
Wagga Wagga	NSW	IRLX Inverell	NSW	HRLX Singleton	NSW	SELX Yass	NSW
Toowoomba	QLD	Scone	NSW	Charters Towers	QLD	Blackhall	QLD
CVLX Ballarat*	VIC	Roma Store	QLD	CQLX Gracemere	QLD	Emerald	QLD
Mortlake	VIC	Warwick	QLD	Dalby	QLD	Bairnsdale	VIC
Pakenham	VIC	Camperdown	VIC	Echuca	VIC	Mount Barker	WA
Muchea	WA	Shepparton	VIC	Leongatha	VIC		
		Naracoorte	SA	NVLX Wodonga	VIC		
		SA Livestock Exchange	SA	Mount Compass	SA		
		Powranna	TAS	Mount Gambier	SA		



\* Fortnightly.

## How is the NYCI calculated?

The NYCI is the average price of cattle through online and physical sales meeting the specifications for the past seven calendar days. It is calculated as follows, using the average live weight (lwt) price and number of head for individual pens:

- 1 The average price for each pen is weighted by the number of head in the pen. This is done by calculating the pen value.

$$\text{Pen value} = \text{lwt price} \times \text{head in pen}$$

- 2 The NYCI (¢/kg lwt) is obtained by dividing the sum of all pen values by the total number of cattle meeting Indicator specifications and rounding to two decimal points.

$$\text{NYCI} = \frac{\text{Sum of all pen values}}{\text{Total head in the NYCI}}$$

## The purpose of the NYCI



The NYCI is designed to be the fit for purpose national restocker young cattle indicator. It is the only indicator that uses more than one sales channel (saleyard and online) to provide broader price coverage. By aggregating sales channels across a national scale, it will capture a broader market than the widely used Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI) and Western Young Cattle Indicator (WYCI). Restocker prices provide a good benchmark for livestock prices and understanding forward looking demand as included cattle will return to the paddock as restocker cattle to be grown out or used in breeding operations.

### Expected performance

Typically, demand for vealer, weaner and yearling cattle highly depend on the season factors. Within the domestic market, movements and demand will depend on the interested buyer and the current performance and cyclical nature of the cattle market at the time.

Keep up to date with all the NYCI and key insights by subscribing at the following link:

<https://www.mla.com.au/prices-markets/subscriptions>

Link to the interactive NYCI report:

<https://www.mla.com.au/prices-markets/cattle/nyci>

## Price movements



It is important to note that price movements in individual saleyards and livestock categories are likely to be much more volatile than the National Restocker Yearling Steer Indicator, while still subject to the same underlying price trends.

## Online contributors



The online pricing and supply information will be derived from online livestock selling platforms, with the expectation that the number of contributors or marketplaces which provide their price and supply data for young cattle will grow as their businesses develop.

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