



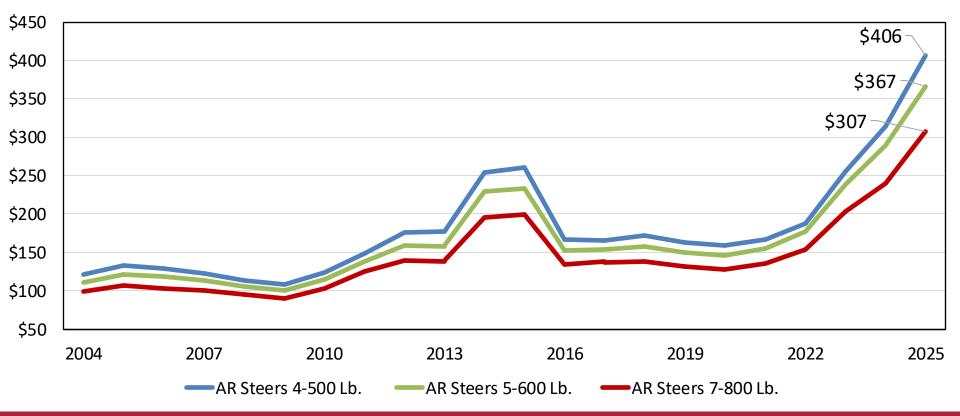
University of Arkansas System

# Arkansas Farm Economy Update: Livestock and Poultry

**September 23, 2025** 

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### Annual Arkansas Steer Prices - Medium & Large #1 2004-2025

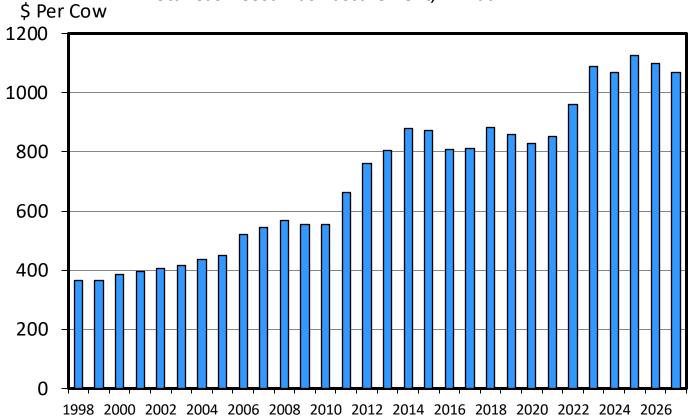




Data Source: USDA AMS & LMIC

#### **ESTIMATED AVERAGE COW CALF COSTS**

Total Cash Cost Plus Pasture Rent, Annual



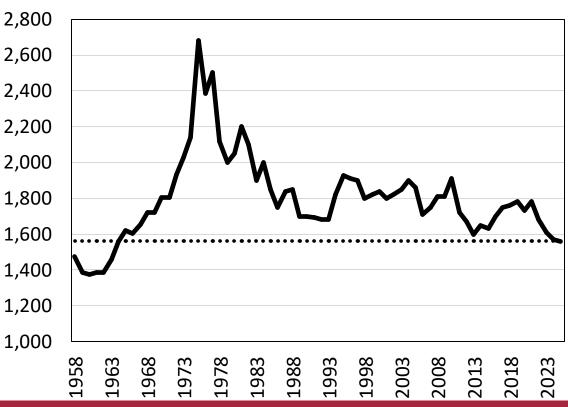


Data Source: USDA & LMIC, Compiled by LMIC

**Livestock Marketing Information Center** 

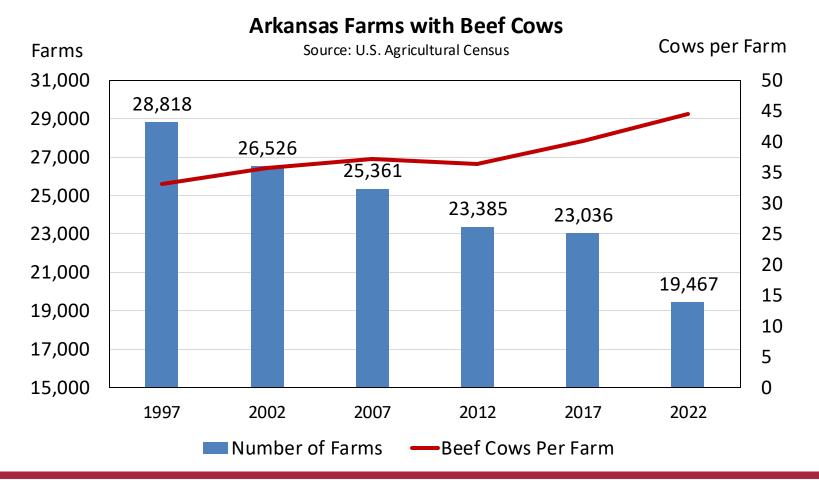
## Arkansas Cattle Inventories January 1, Annual

- 10-12 year repeated pattern of cattle numbers rising and falling in response to profits
- Biology delays response
- Drought accelerates liquidation
  - High prices today reflect 5 years of high costs, poor profitability and drought





Data Source: USDA NASS & LMIC





#### RETAIL PRICE COMPARISON

Monthly \$ Per Pound 10.00 9.18 9.00 8.00 7.00 6.00 5.01 5.00 4.00 2.49 3.00 2.00 1.00 Jan-10 Jul-11 Jan-13 Jul-14 Jan-16 Jul-17 Jan-19 Jul-20 Jan-22 Jul-23 Jan-25

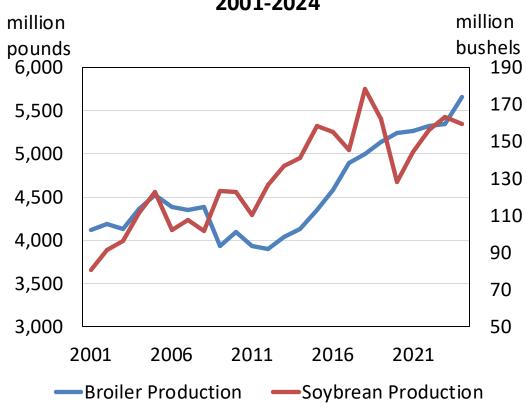
**Composite Broiler** 



Pork

All Fresh Beef

## AR Broiler & Soybean Production 2001-2024



**Table 1: Commercial Poultry Corn and Soybean Feed Demands by State** 

	<b>Corn</b> Mil. Tons	<b>Soybean</b> Mil. Tons
Arkansas	4.55	2.94
Missouri	1.55	0.93
Oklahoma	0.80	0.54



### Summary

- High prices will bring back cows, but not necessarily farms—scale advantages persist
- Today's livestock sector is capital-intensive and interest-rate sensitive
- Beef supplies will continue to push beef prices higher through 2027
- A robust grain and oilseed base plus rural infrastructure (roads, rail, elevators, feed mills) underpins Arkansas poultry's competitiveness



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