

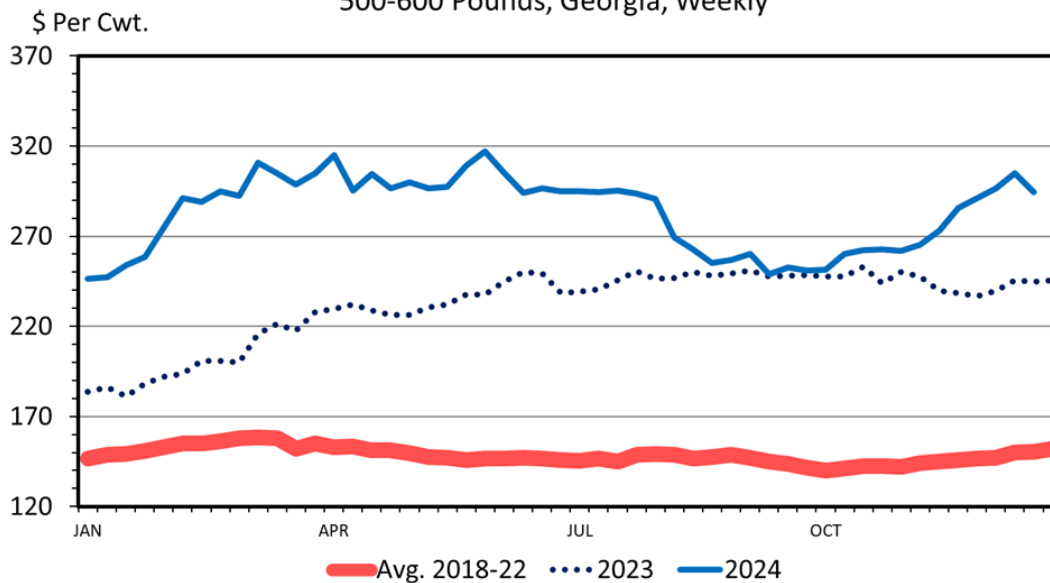


## BEEFENOMICS CATTLE MARKET UPDATE

# GEORGIA FEEDER CATTLE PRICE REVIEW

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**MED. & LRG. #1 & 2 STEER CALF PRICES**  
500-600 Pounds, Georgia, Weekly



Data Source: USDA-AMS, Compiled by LMIC  
Livestock Marketing Information Center

Feeder cattle prices moved higher year-over-year again in 2024 compared to 2023. These high prices reflected lower supplies and strong consumer demand. 2025 is expected to see similarly tight supplies. Consumer demand in the year ahead is an open question, but no immediate signals point to any weakness. As a result, beef cattle prices through the supply chain will likely remain elevated over the next several months.

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Beef Team

Lighter weight steer calf prices in Georgia hit extraordinary levels this spring. 400–500 pound steer calves peaked around \$340/cwt and 500–600 pound steer calves nearly hit \$320/cwt this spring and early summer. Prices for 400–500 pound heifer calves hit highs over \$285/cwt in the spring, and prices for 500–600 pound heifer calves exceeded \$260/cwt. Heavier weight feeder cattle exceeded year-ago levels for most of the spring and summer.

After spring highs, prices dropped through the fall. This follows normal seasonal patterns on higher supplies of calves. Light weight calf prices roughly drew level with year-ago prices, while heavier weight feeder cattle prices dropped below year-ago levels in the fall. However, by December, prices were much higher (again following typical seasonal patterns). The prices seen in December, once again, exceeded year-ago levels.

In the near term, high prices are expected to continue. In the weeks ahead, keep an eye out for important USDA cattle reports. These reports will provide the first update on herd inventory levels as of January 1, 2025. Additionally, the Cattle on Feed report for January will provide an update for what percent of cattle on feed are heifers, an important indicator to watch as the industry looks to potentially begin growing the cattle herd. In the meantime, producers should consider risk management options to protect from any downside price risk and continue to manage costs to maintain profitability.