

High numbers and utilisation trend continues for the feedlot industry

The latest national feedlot survey results, released today by the Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), continues to demonstrate strong performance within the sector with numbers on feed consistently reporting over 1 million head.

A total of 1,195,466 cattle on feed in Australia was recorded for the June 2022 quarter, a decrease of 74,461 on the previous quarter.

Each state recorded slight reductions with the highest percentage change in Western Australia.

Queensland decreased by 5.4% to 708,052 head, New South Wales decreased by 1.5% to 335,064 head, Victoria decreased by 1.9% to 61,362 head and South Australia decreased by 20.7% to 36,098 head. Western Australia decreased by 25.2% to 54,890 head which is in line with the seasonal nature of feedlot production in that state at that time of year.

ALFA President, Barb Madden, said the continuation of historically high numbers on feed reinforced the importance of the grain fed beef sector to the Australian beef industry.

"These results are evidence of the long-term confidence placed in the lot feeding industry and its critical role in supplying a consistent, high-quality beef," Mrs Madden said.

Total capacity in the June quarter reached 1,472,046, the second highest on record, following the highest achieved in the previous quarter, with a modest drop of 13,668 head.

"The capacity results show that the feedlot sector continues to show resilience despite headwinds such as elevated input costs and herd rebuilding conditions that have limited cattle supply," Mrs Madden said.

Ripley Atkinson, MLA Senior Market Information Analyst said that feedlot pens across the country continued to have high utilisation rates.

"National utilisation ended the June quarter at 81%. While utilisation softened slightly by 4% from the previous quarter to March 2022 it was still 10% up on the previous year.

These stable utilisation results, despite tight cattle supplies and higher input costs, indicates that confidence amongst lot feeders remained robust through the quarter." Mr Atkinson said.

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NUMBERS ON FEED

Quarter	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Total
Jun-22	335,064	61,362	708,052	36,098	54,890	1,195,466
Mar-22	340,295	62,575	748,135	45,498	73,424	1,269,927
Jun-21	324,715	65,027	708,557	37,003	38,350	1,173,652

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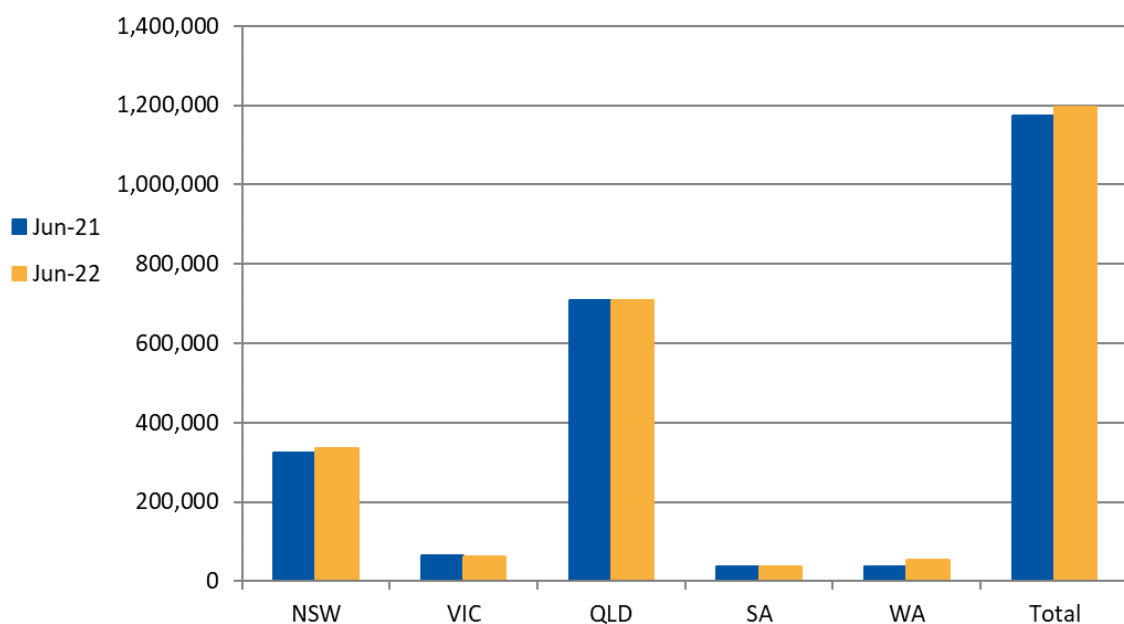
Quarter	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Total
Jun-22	164,846	46,585	399,225	17,892	38,994	667,542
Mar-22	189,886	44,350	442,307	28,932	36,848	742,323
Jun-21	171,612	46,600	397,429	28,712	30,949	675,302

CAPACITY

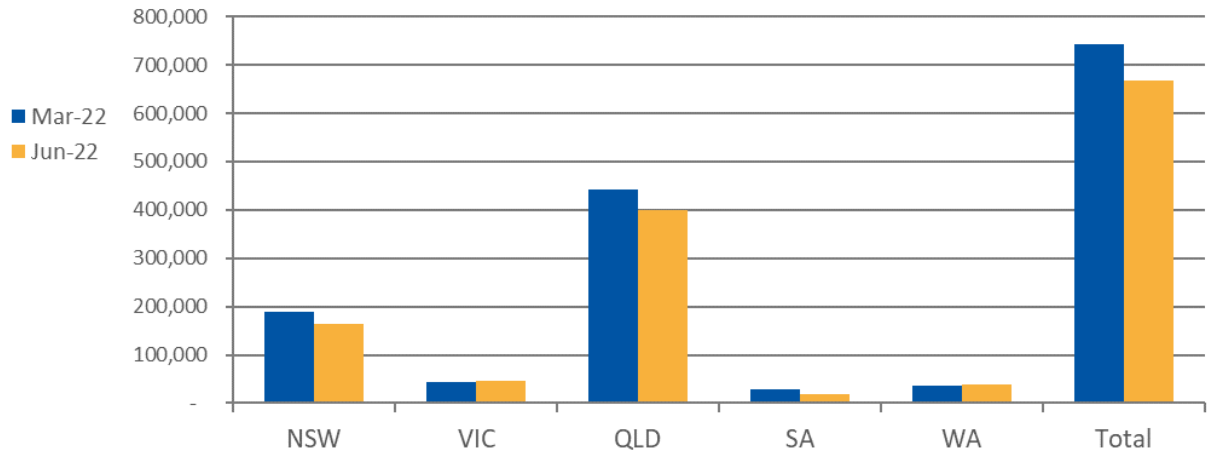
Quarter	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Total
Jun-22	423,043	78,892	820,571	58,514	91,026	1,472,046
Mar-22	429,543	78,892	825,738	58,914	92,627	1,485,714
Jun-21	412,274	78,892	829,628	53,814	73,477	1,448,085

Source: Feedlot Capacity figures are provided by AUS-MEAT Limited (AUS-MEAT). AUS-MEAT owns and administers the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) on behalf of ALFA and the feedlot sector. Actual Feedlot Capacity figures are reported under the NFAS.

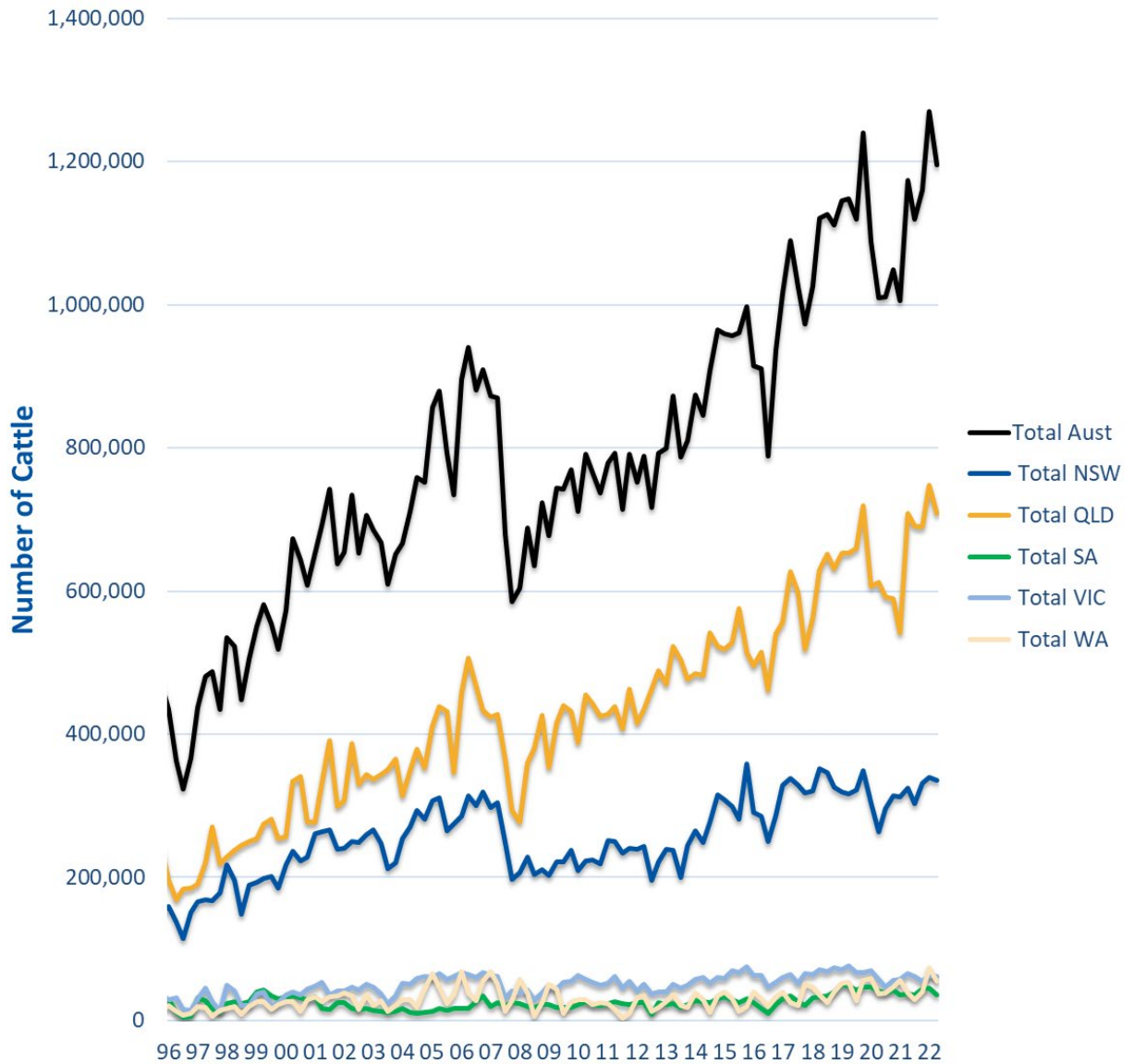
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CATTLE NUMBERS ON FEED - HISTORIC



	Numbers on Feed Jun 22	Numbers on Feed Mar 22	Numbers on Feed Jun 21
New South Wales			
Less than 500 head	396	0	743
500 - 1000 head	9,401	7,061	8,452
1001 - 10,000 head	105,465	118,481	111,882
over 10,000 head	219,802	214,753	203,638
State Total	335,064	340,295	324,715
Queensland			
Less than 500 head	6,352	4,617	7,556
500 - 1000 head	14,385	14,413	17,688
1001 - 10,000 head	142,632	182,925	182,950
over 10,000 head	544,683	546,180	500,363
State Total	708,052	748,135	708,557
Victoria			
Less than 500 head	0	0	0
500 - 1000 head	5,880	4,071	4,307
1001 - 10,000 head	16,085	19,205	25,934
over 10,000 head	39,397	39,299	34,786
State Total	61,362	62,575	65,027
South Australia			
Less than 500 head	978	517	842
500 - 1000 head	4,876	4,752	4,606
1001 - 10,000 head	10,444	20,593	17,855
over 10,000 head	19,800	19,636	13,700
State Total	36,098	45,498	37,003
Western Australia			
Less than 500 head	1,877	2,383	1,388
500 - 1000 head	2,629	3,986	3,272
1001 - 10,000 head	40,890	56,552	33,690
over 10,000 head	9,494	10,503	0
State Total	54,890	73,424	38,350
Australia			
Less than 500 head	9,603	7,517	10,529
500 - 1000 head	37,171	34,283	38,325
1001 - 10,000 head	315,516	397,756	372,311
over 10,000 head	833,176	830,371	752,487
Total	1,195,466	1,269,927	1,173,652

Note: Due to rounding, numbers presented throughout this document may not add up to the totals.