

### **One million head confirmed business as usual for Australian feedlot industry**

The latest national feedlot survey results, published today by the Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), demonstrate the 20th quarter in a row where cattle on feed have remained above 1 million head; setting what has become the new normal for the feedlot industry.

A total of 1,145,228 cattle on feed in Australia was recorded for the December 2022 quarter, an increase of 89,172 on the previous quarter.

Each state recorded increases in cattle on feed. Queensland increased by 7.9% to 675,872 head, New South Wales increased by 4.4% to 318,905 head, Victoria increased by 9.5% to 49,404 head, South Australia increased by 7.7% to 41,812 head, and Western Australia increased by 46.6% to 59,235 head.

ALFA President Barb Madden said she was pleased to see the results show cattle on feed finishing 2022 with over 1 million head on feed, an impressive streak of 20 successive quarters.

"The uptick in cattle on feed from the previous quarter occurred alongside improvements in cattle and grain input costs; which softened slightly. However, labour and energy costs remained challenging, and the weakening global economic outlook continues to weigh on lot feeders' minds".

"Despite this, reaching 20 successive quarters above 1 million head confirm what has now become the new normal level of cattle on feed for the Australian feedlot industry.

"Underscoring this achievement is the incremental growth in national capacity which hit 1.532 million head to close out 2022; a new record for the industry", Mrs Madden said.

Feedlot utilisation rates improved in late 2022, lifting by 5% to 75% through Quarter 4, Ripley Atkinson, MLA's Senior Market Information Analyst, said.

"Feedlot utilisation rates are a good indicator of feedlot buyer demand and this increase coincided with a decline in the national feeder steer indicator during the latter half of 2022 and softening of grain input costs, which favoured feedlot buyers during the period", Mr Atkinson said.

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## NUMBERS ON FEED

Quarter	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Total
<b>Dec-22</b>	318,905	49,404	675,872	41,812	59,235	<b>1,145,228</b>
<b>Sep-22</b>	305,554	45,135	626,125	38,836	40,406	<b>1,056,056</b>
<b>Dec-21</b>	330,977	55,326	689,399	44,096	40,193	<b>1,159,991</b>

## TURNOFF

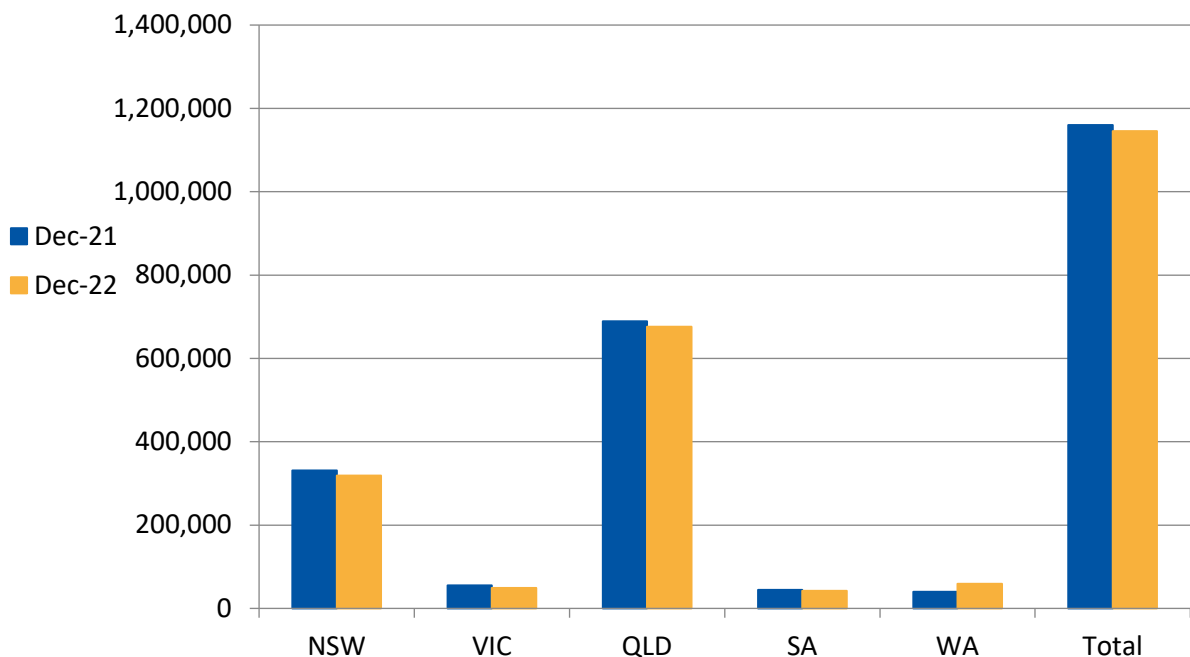
Quarter	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Total
<b>Dec-22</b>	166,093	32,797	374,708	24,896	20,017	<b>618,511</b>
<b>Sep-22</b>	168,254	43,724	434,298	31,193	36,454	<b>713,923</b>
<b>Dec-21</b>	175,266	38,153	475,175	18,970	18,505	<b>726,069</b>

## CAPACITY

Quarter	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Total
<b>Dec-22</b>	452,117	82,892	849,462	63,594	84,751	<b>1,532,816</b>
<b>Sep-22</b>	442,617	78,892	829,167	69,094	91,526	<b>1,511,296</b>
<b>Dec-21</b>	421,863	78,892	826,284	53,414	73,127	<b>1,453,580</b>

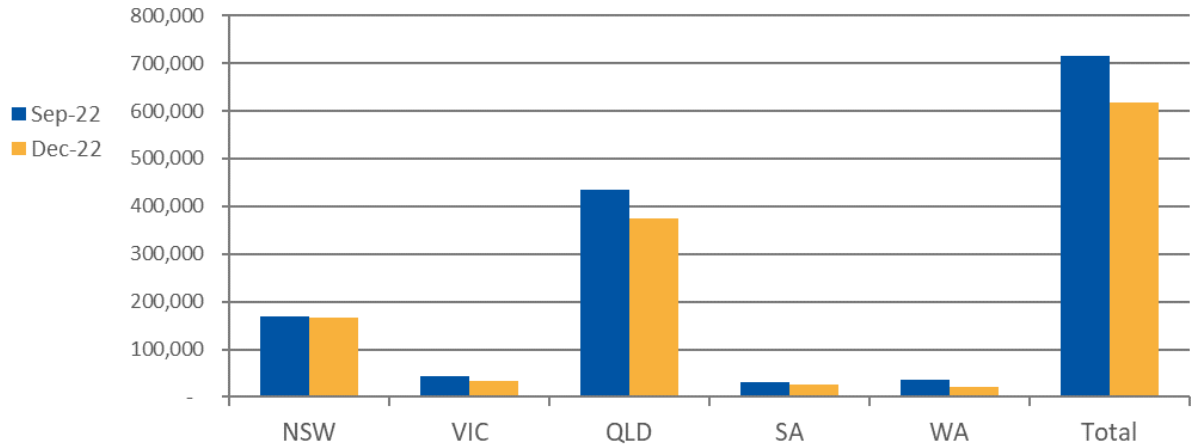
**Source:** Feedlot Capacity figures are provided by AUS-MEAT Limited (AUS-MEAT). AUS-MEAT owns and administers the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) on behalf of ALFA and the feedlot sector. Actual Feedlot Capacity figures are reported under the NFAS.

## NUMBERS ON FEED YoY

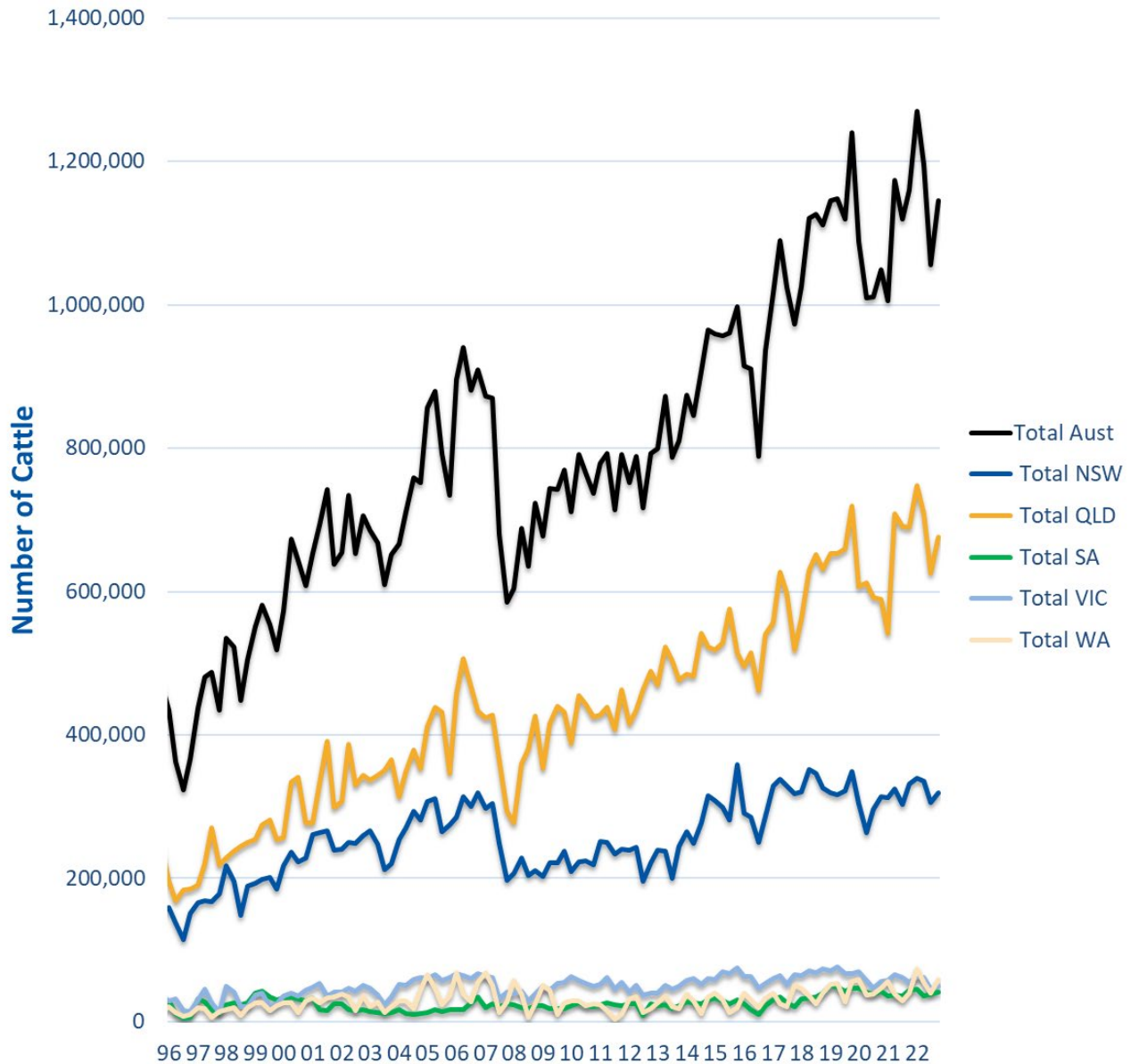


**Source:** ALFA / MLA, December 2022, National Accredited Feedlot Survey

## QUARTERLY TURNOFF



## CATTLE NUMBERS ON FEED - HISTORIC



	Numbers on Feed Dec 22	Numbers on Feed Sep 22	Numbers on Feed Dec 21
<b>New South Wales</b>			
Less than 500 head	0	791	0
500 - 1000 head	2,967	9,865	8,755
1001 - 10,000 head	103,644	100,659	108,023
over 10,000 head	212,294	194,239	214,199
<b>State Total</b>	<b>318,905</b>	<b>305,554</b>	<b>330,977</b>
<b>Queensland</b>			
Less than 500 head	4,671	6,768	4,076
500 - 1000 head	13,849	14,396	14,345
1001 - 10,000 head	148,979	143,291	146,750
over 10,000 head	508,373	461,670	524,228
<b>State Total</b>	<b>675,872</b>	<b>626,125</b>	<b>689,399</b>
<b>Victoria</b>			
Less than 500 head	0	0	0
500 - 1000 head	6,388	5,225	4,054
1001 - 10,000 head	12,718	11,942	15,370
over 10,000 head	30,298	27,968	35,902
<b>State Total</b>	<b>49,404</b>	<b>45,135</b>	<b>55,326</b>
<b>South Australia</b>			
Less than 500 head	737	1,016	580
500 - 1000 head	3,102	1,697	4,387
1001 - 10,000 head	19,851	19,141	22,629
over 10,000 head	18,122	16,982	16,500
<b>State Total</b>	<b>41,812</b>	<b>38,836</b>	<b>44,096</b>
<b>Western Australia</b>			
Less than 500 head	1,339	0	999
500 - 1000 head	4,711	2,438	1,760
1001 - 10,000 head	39,115	25,468	37,434
over 10,000 head	14,070	12,500	0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>59,235</b>	<b>40,406</b>	<b>40,193</b>
<b>Australia</b>			
Less than 500 head	6,747	8,575	5,655
500 - 1000 head	31,017	33,621	33,301
1001 - 10,000 head	324,307	300,501	330,206
over 10,000 head	783,157	713,359	790,829
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,145,228</b>	<b>1,056,056</b>	<b>1,159,991</b>

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