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Australiaâ??s Red Meat Industry Turnover Nears $100 Billion in 2025

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Industry turnover increased 24.5 per cent year-on-year to $99.9 billion in 2024â??25



Australia’s red meat and livestock industry strengthened its contribution to the national economy in 2025, with industry turnover approaching $100 billion and exports reaching a new record, according to Meat & Livestock Australia’s (MLA) latest State of the Industry Report.

The results come against a challenging operating environment for many producers, with variable seasonal conditions and elevated input costs continuing to place pressure on individual farm businesses through 2025 and into 2026.

The State of the Industry Report 2026 provides a comprehensive snapshot of the industry’s performance, including production, trade, domestic consumption, economic contribution and employment.

Industry turnover increased 24.5 per cent year-on-year to $99.9 billion in 2024–25, while industry value-add increased 20.1 per cent to $19.5 billion.

MLA Managing Director Michael Crowley said the results reflected the strength of demand for Australian red meat and the scale of the industry’s contribution to the economy, while recognising the pressures being felt across the supply chain.

“Turnover approaching $100 billion demonstrates the significant contribution Australia’s red meat and livestock industry makes to the national economy and to communities across regional Australia,” Crowley said.

“At the same time, these headline figures need to be viewed in the context of the conditions producers are operating in, with many businesses continuing to manage elevated input costs, seasonal variability and pressure on margins.

“Strong livestock prices, high processing activity and continued demand from international customers supported industry performance, despite favourable conditions in much of northern Australia contrasting with more difficult conditions across parts of southern Australia.”

Through 2026, geopolitical tensions, safeguards, tariffs and supply chain disruption has also contributed to volatility in key agricultural inputs, including fuel and fertiliser, adding further cost pressure for producers and the broader supply chain.