



# Weaner producer factsheet

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Source: Beef Producers Intentions Survey

## What are weaner sales?

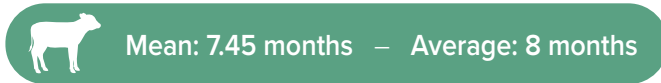
Weaner sales are focused on selling calves from 8–10 months old, industry standards for these calves have been freshly weaned but, on some occasion, can be sold with the mother. Typically, these sales include large lines of beef bred calves (not including dairy cattle) ranging from 200 to 400kg (steers or heifers). Weaners can be sold at any time of the year, but southern producers begin to start selling weaners from December to January. Weaner's sales are very similar to a regular sale; however, buyers and sellers are focused on the weaner's genetics, weights, and eligibility into specialty programs (i.e. Never-ever programs, European Union Cattle Accreditation Scheme (EUCAS)).

## Where do they go?

A majority of weaners are typically bought by producers from NSW and Queensland. Southern weaner producers will start selling their cattle in November, with the busiest time being the first two weeks of January.

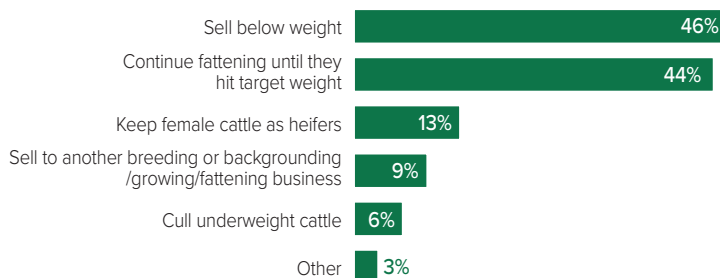
## What is the average age of weaners?

Figure 2: Age of weaning spring calves



## What do producer typically do with weaners if target weights are not met?

Figure 4: Weaner producer outcome for non target weight



## Typical sales channel

Figure 5: Producer reported percentage of sales through channel

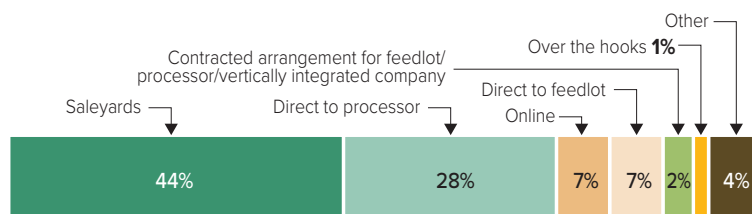
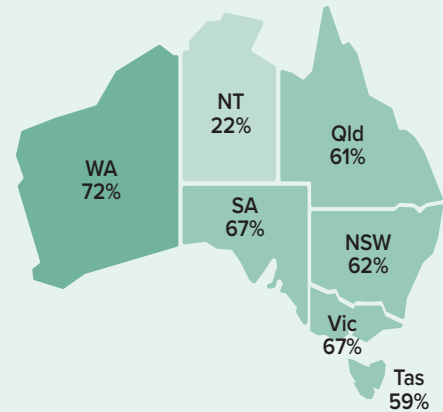


Figure 1: Proportion of weaner producers

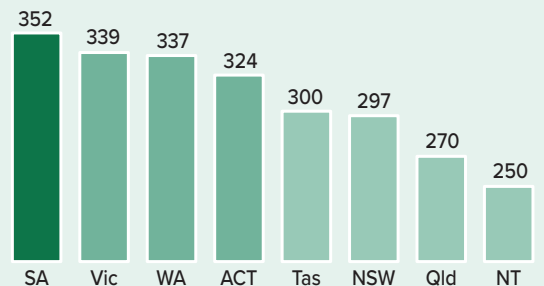


## What is the turn-off weight of weaners?

Turn-off weights vary depending on the buyer. Heavier calves (400+kg) typically enter feedlots while calves weighing between 300–320kg are sold to backgrounders.



Figure 3: Weaner producer calf turn-off weight (kg)



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