

## 2017 BREED AVERAGES FOR EPD TRAITS

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The table below contains the most recent averages from breed association genetic evaluation programs as compiled by the U. S. Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebraska. Averages are for individuals born in 2015, the best estimate of where a breed stands in 2017.

These figures can be used to determine how **individual animals of a breed** compare to their current breed average. Every association calculates EPDs independently, so **these averages can not be used to compare breeds**. For instance, the breed average Weaning EPD of +49 for Angus compared to +4 for Santa Gertrudis **does not** mean the Angus breed averages 45 pounds heavier than the Santa Gertrudis breed for weaning weight.

**Breed comparisons** can be seen on this website (<http://beef.tamu.edu>) in the list of publications under “Genetics & Selection”. Look for “2017 Sire-Breed Comparisons for EPD Traits”. Factors to adjust EPDs for comparison of **individuals of different breeds**, also based on U. S. Meat Animal Research Center studies, can be found in another publication on the above website under “2017 Across-Breed EPD Adjustments.”

Note that almost **none** of the breed averages **are zero**. They are calculated in relation to breed average for a base (the starting year or some other base), which varies for each breed. Since the base can be the year when the breed’s EPD program started (over 40 years ago in some breeds) many breed averages are now markedly different from zero for some traits, especially weaning and yearling weight. Also, breed averages often change each year, possibly significantly if an association chooses to use a different base from preceding years, so the **most recent breed average** and the **most recent individual EPDs should always be used**.

The first table contains the four traits reported by all breeds with EPD. The second table contains calving ease, scrotal circumference, and carcass traits reported by some breeds. Other EPD values calculated by some breeds include various combinations (depending on the breed) of calving ease, heifer pregnancy, 30-month pregnancy, gestation length, days to calving, scrotal circumference, yearling hip height, mature weight, dry matter intake, mature cow maintenance, residual ADG (feed efficiency), mature height, docility, stayability (longevity in the herd), carcass weight, yield grade or % retail product (percent lean), tenderness, and \$ Value Indexes. For a complete breed genetic evaluation report, contact the particular breed association or their website.

### Breed Average EPD Value

Breed	Birth Weight	Weaning Weight	Yearling Weight	Milk
Akaushi	0.1	+26	+46	+27
Angus	+1.2	+49	+87	+24
Beefmaster	+0.5	+23	+42	+9
Black Hereford	+2.8	+45	+76	+22
Braford	+1.1	+14	+21	+4
Brahman	+1.9	+17	+27	+6
Brangus	+1.1	+26	+48	+9
Braunvieh	+2.5	+44	+68	+35
Charolais	+0.4	+27	+49	+9
Chianina	+2.2	+40	+57	+16
Gelbvieh	+0.5	+69	+100	+28
Hereford	+323	+49	+79	+21
Limousin	+1.2	+62	+90	+26
MaineAnjou	+1.5	+45	+57	+18
Murray Grey	+3.8	+24	+37	+4
Red Angus	-1.4	+58	+88	+21
Red Brangus	+1.6	+12	+19	+5
Red Poll	+1.7	+15	+24	+6
Salers	+1.5	+44	+83	+20
Santa Gertrudis	+0.2	+4	+6	1
Senepol	+0.6	+8	+10	+4
Shorthorn	+1.9	+51	+59	+17
Simbrah	+3.6	+60	+81	+21
Simmental	+1.8	+63	+91	+21
South Devon	+2.2	+45	+83	+25
Tarentaise	+0.5	+15	+27	0

Breed	Calving Ease Direct	Calving Ease Maternal	Scrotal Circumference	Marbling	Ribeye Area	Fat Cover
Akaushi	+3.7	+5.0		+0.74	+0.16	+0.06
Angus	+6	+8	+0.81	+0.59	+0.57	+0.02
Beefmaster			+0.3	0	-0.17	-0.03
Braford				+0.02	+0.06	+0.01
Brahman				+0.01	+0.01	0
Brangus	+3.8	+4.1	+0.48	+0.02	+0.36	-0.04
Braunvieh	+5.9	+09	+0.09	+0.60	+0.34	-0.09
Charolais	+3.1	+3.2	+0.78	+0.04	+0.34	0
Chianina	+4.71	-2.1		+0.06	+0.38	-0.05
Gelbvieh	+10.8	+6.5		+0.12	+0.45	-0.04
Hereford	+1.2	+1.4	+0.9	+0.09	+0.34	0
Limousin	+8.0	+64	+0.74	-0.02	+0.46	-0.04
MaineAnjou	+7.4	+1.7		-0.03	+0.31	-0.05
Murray Grey	-05	-0.1	+0.2	0	+0.11	0
Red Angus	+5	+4		+0.43	+0.14	0
Salers	+0.4	+0.4	+0.3	+0.2	+0.04	0
Santa Gertrudis				-0.01	+0.04	0
Shorthorn	+5.1	+1.1		+0.05	+0.01	-0.04
Simbrah	+2.9	+6.0		-0.06	+0.46	-0.06
Simmental	+9.3	+8.7		+0.14	+0.80	-0.06
South Devon			+0.1	+0.40	+0.23	+0.01
Tarentaise	+0.6	+0.5				

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