

## Can I compare EPDs of different breeds?

EPDs from different breeds are not meant to be directly compared. Each breed association's EPDs are calculated by different entities and have different baselines or points of reference. The U.S. Meat Animal Research Center publishes Across Breed EPD Adjustment Factors each year. Each breed has their own adjustment factors and by adding the proper adjustments one can properly compare EPDs of different breeds on the same scale. With the adjustments all breeds are adjusted to Black Angus which is considered the base. Below are the adjustment factors for Shorthorn EPDs.

BW	WW	YW	MM	MB	REA	FT
+5.9	+17.9	+41.7	+19.6	-.10	+.24	-.151

### Example:

Suppose you are comparing a Shorthorn bull with a weaning weight EPD of +20 and an Angus bull with a weaning weight EPD of +35. Remember the Angus EPDs are the base so they won't need adjusted. The Shorthorn weaning weight adjustment factor is +17.9. Next you add 17.9 to the Shorthorn weaning weight of +20 to get +37.9. The difference when both are mated to cows of a different breed would be 37.9 lbs. – 35 lbs = 2.9 lbs of difference at weaning.

### Across Breed EPD Adjustment Factors All Breeds of Cattle

Breed	Birth Wt	Weaning Wt	Yearling Wt	Milk	Marbling	Ribeye	Fat Thickness
Angus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hereford	2.8	-1.5	-17.1	-18.7	-0.32	-0.07	-0.051
Red Angus	2.3	-1.5	-8.7	-1.5	-0.00	-0.12	-0.038
Shorthorn	5.9	17.9	41.7	19.6	-0.10	0.24	-0.151
South Devon	4.2	3.8	-4.9	-5.8	0.08	0.13	-0.113
Beefmaster	6.8	36.4	37.9	2.6			
Brahman	11.4	40.4	4.5	21.4			
Brangus	4.1	14.9	14.0	1.3			
Santa Gertrudis	7.8	34.2	24.8		-0.64	-0.18	-0.146
Braunvieh	5.7	18.5	22.6	30.0	-0.25	0.92	-0.171
Charolais	8.5	40.1	48.9	4.6	-0.40	0.87	-0.222
Chiangus	3.6	-14.5	-33.9		-0.38	0.59	-0.172
Gelbvieh	3.8	3.9	-10.4	10.2			
Limousin	3.6	0.9	-31.3	-13.4	-0.69	1.06	
Maine Anjou	4.3	-9.8	-28.5	-3.7	-0.77	.96	-0.209
Salers	2.0	-0.3	-10.5	0.5	-0.13	0.81	-0.217
Simmental	4.8	25.9	24.5	15.3	-0.51	0.95	-0.218
Tarentaise	1.8	34.8	22.5	22.97			