

## Market Analysis and News Branch

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In Cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pacific Region

### Statistics on Interisland Shipments of Bovine (Cattle) State of Hawai‘i, 2023 – 2025

The Animal Disease Control Branch (ADCB) of the Animal Industry Division at the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity operates a surveillance program for livestock diseases, which includes oversight of inter-island shipments of animal products within the State of Hawai‘i. The surveillance program covers six islands (Hawai‘i, Kauai, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Oahu) and six categories of animals: Bovine (Cattle), Caprine (Goat), Equine (Horse), Ovine (Sheep), Porcine (Pig), and Camelid. These animals are transported between islands, and out of state, for the purposes of slaughtering, feeding, pasturing, sales, rodeo/show, and other activities.

Bovine (cattle) are the predominant type of animal transported between the Hawaiian Islands, and from Hawai‘i to the mainland United States. This animal type includes bulls, cows, steers, heifers, and calves. Typically, bulls and cows are transported to Oahu for slaughter, while steers, heifers, and calves are transported to mainland states, such as California, Texas, Washington, and Oregon, for pasturing and feedlot operations.

Over the three-year period, total bovine (cattle) shipments increased by 48.8%, rising from 15,555 in 2023 to 23,148 in 2025. Hawai‘i Island accounted for 74.0% of all shipments during this period, followed by Kauai (13.8%), Oahu (7.8%), Maui (4.1%), and Molokai (0.2%). Outbound shipments from Hawai‘i Island increased by 51.7% from 11,133 in 2023 to 16,891 in 2025, while outbound shipments from Kauai and Maui declined by 4.0% (2,547 → 2,444) and 89.5% (1,426 → 150), respectively. Outbound shipments from Oahu increased seven-fold (711%), rising from 449 in 2023 to 3,643 in 2025. During the same period, inbound shipments to Oahu rose 133% from 2,412 in 2023 to 5,620 in 2025, most of which originated from Hawai‘i Island. This suggests that a significant number of cattle were transshipped through Oahu en route to the mainland United States.

The majority of bovine (cattle) shipments were destined for out-of-state locations. Between 2023 and 2025, about 79% of all cattle shipments (42,976 out of 54,397) headed to the mainland states. Moreover, out-of-state shipments increased by 31.8% from 13,015 in 2023 to 17,157 in 2025, underscoring Hawai‘i’s limited finishing capacity and its dependence on mainland feedlots and processing facilities. Interisland shipments also grew, but at a much faster rate, increasing by 136% from 2,540 in 2023 to 5,991 in 2025.

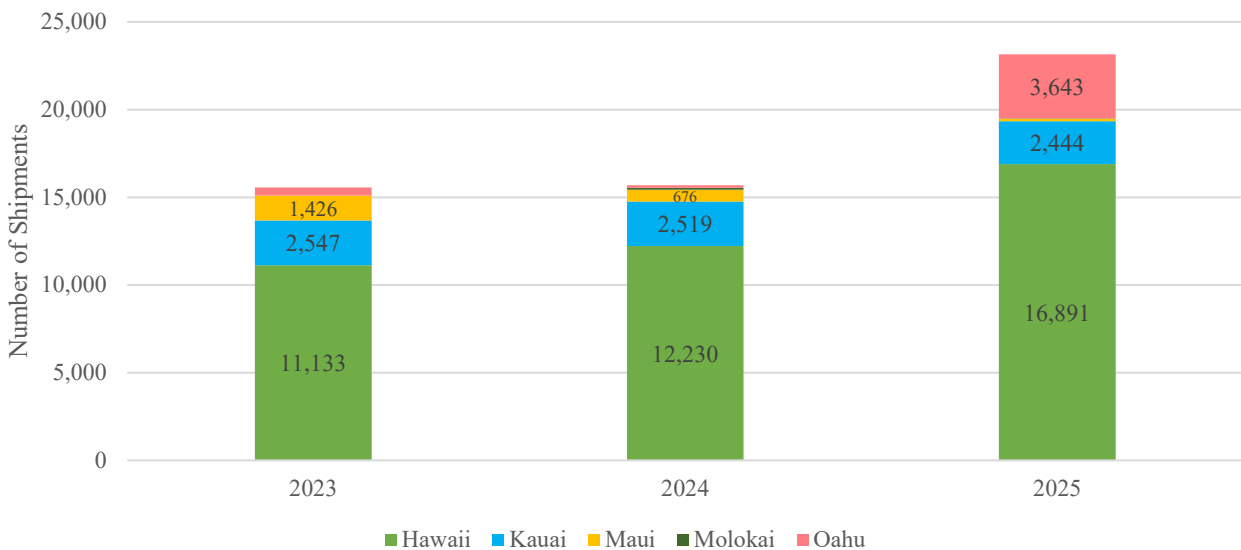
In short, Hawai‘i Island is the state’s primary cattle producer and exporter, whereas Oahu serves as the central destination for processing mature stock (bulls and cows), as well as a redistribution hub. Over the three-year period, Oahu received 93% of all inter-island shipments (10,618 out of 11,421) from the neighbor islands. However, as noted above, the majority of Hawai‘i’s cattle shipments, nearly 80% of the total (42,976 out of 54,397 head) was exported to the mainland U.S. Hawai‘i Island led these exports with 33,592 head, followed by Kauai (4,159), Oahu (3,685), and Maui (1,540).

**Table 1: Total Number of Bovine (Cattle) Shipments by Origin Island and Destination, Hawai‘i, 2023 – 2025**

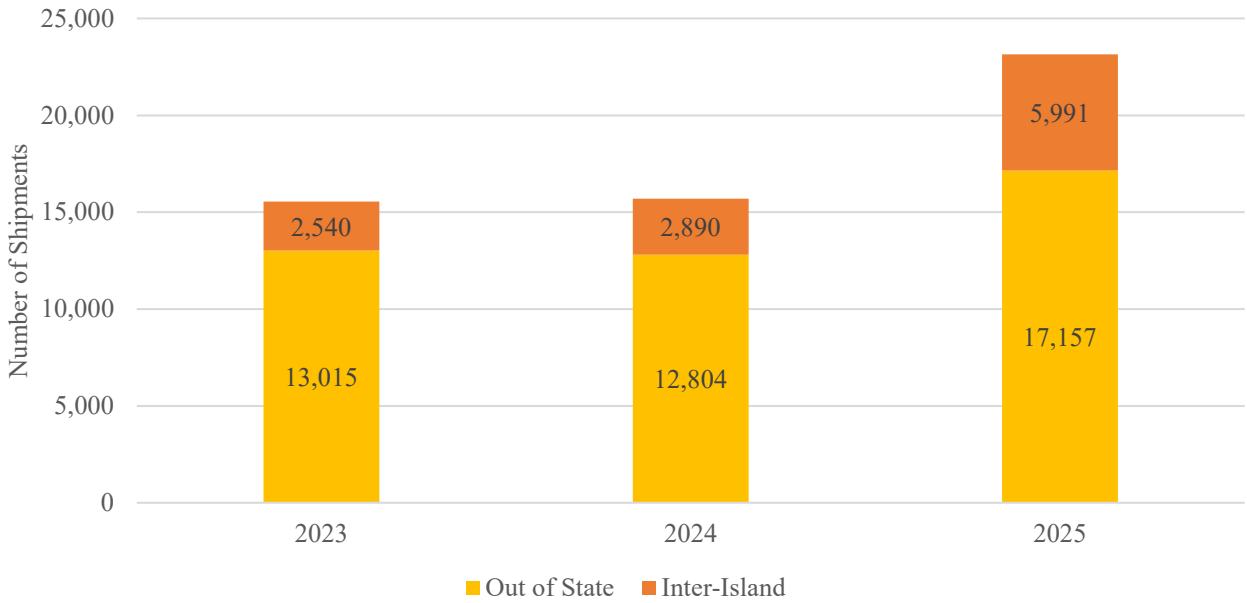
| Origin Island | Year       | Destination |       |      |        |                    |                    | Grand Total |
|---------------|------------|-------------|-------|------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
|               |            | Hawai‘i     | Kauai | Maui | Oahu   | Inter-Island Total | Out of State Total |             |
| Hawai‘i       | 2023       |             |       | 3    | 955    | 958                | 10,175             | 11,133      |
|               | 2024       |             |       | 65   | 1,033  | 1,098              | 11,132             | 12,230      |
|               | 2025       |             | 10    | 40   | 4,556  | 4,606              | 12,285             | 16,891      |
|               | 3-Yr Total |             | 10    | 108  | 6,544  | 6,662              | 33,592             | 40,254      |
| Kauai         | 2023       |             |       |      | 1,061  | 1,061              | 1,486              | 2,547       |
|               | 2024       |             |       | 2    | 1,318  | 1,320              | 1,199              | 2,519       |
|               | 2025       |             |       |      | 970    | 970                | 1,474              | 2,444       |
|               | 3-Yr Total |             |       | 2    | 3,349  | 3,351              | 4,159              | 7,510       |
| Maui          | 2023       |             | 5     |      | 396    | 401                | 1,025              | 1,426       |
|               | 2024       | 2           | 76    |      | 125    | 203                | 473                | 676         |
|               | 2025       |             | 34    |      | 74     | 108                | 42                 | 150         |
|               | 3-Yr Total | 2           | 115   |      | 595    | 712                | 1,540              | 2,252       |
| Molokai       | 2023       |             |       |      |        |                    |                    | 110         |
|               | 2024       |             |       |      | 110    | 110                |                    | 110         |
|               | 2025       |             |       |      | 20     | 20                 |                    | 20          |
|               | 3-Yr Total |             |       |      | 130    | 130                |                    | 130         |
| Oahu          | 2023       | 92          | 17    | 11   |        | 120                | 329                | 449         |
|               | 2024       | 56          | 101   | 2    |        | 159                |                    | 159         |
|               | 2025       | 193         | 83    | 11   |        | 287                | 3,356              | 3,643       |
|               | 3-Yr Total | 341         | 201   | 24   |        | 566                | 3,685              | 4,251       |
| Grand Total   | 2023       | 92          | 22    | 14   | 2,412  | 2,540              | 13,015             | 15,555      |
|               | 2024       | 58          | 177   | 69   | 2,586  | 2,890              | 12,804             | 15,694      |
|               | 2025       | 193         | 127   | 51   | 5,620  | 5,991              | 17,157             | 23,148      |
|               | 3-Yr Total | 343         | 326   | 134  | 10,618 | 11,421             | 42,976             | 54,397      |

Source: Animal Disease Control Branch, Animal Industry Division, Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity.

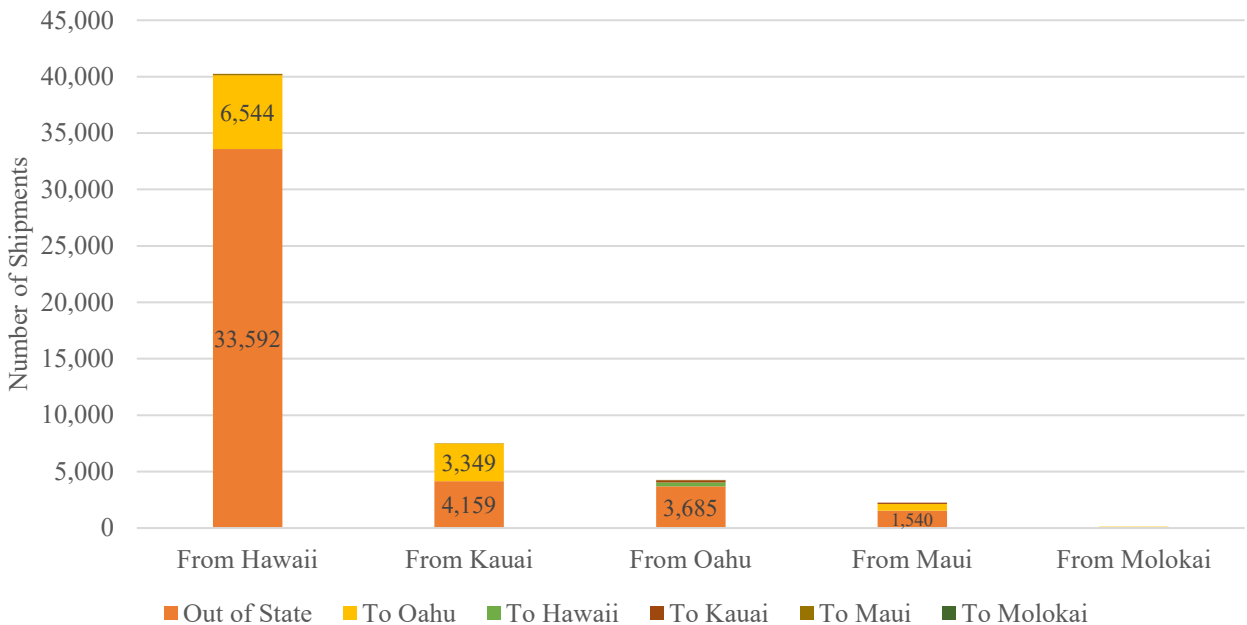
**Chart 1: Total Number of Bovine (Cattle) Shipments by Origin Island, Hawai‘i, 2023 – 2025**



**Chart 2: Total Number of Bovine (Cattle) Shipments by Destination (Out of State vs. Interisland), Hawai‘i, 2023 – 2025**



**Chart 3: Total Number of Bovine (Cattle) Shipments by Origin Island and Destination, Hawai‘i, 2023 – 2025 (3-Year Combined)**



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