Canada's Beef Industry

FAST FACTS

June 2020

PRODUCTION

Did you know...

The average beef cow herd size in Canada is 69.
2016 Census of Agriculture

There are a lot of small cattle farms...

61% of the farms have 16% of the beef cows and each of these farms has less than 47 cows.

23% of the farms have 26% of the beef cows and each of these farms has between 47 and 122 cows.

11% of the farms have 29% of the beef cows and each of these farms has between 123 and 272 cows.
2016 Census of Agriculture

Canada fed 3.1 million cattle in 2019 (finished to market weight) up 8% from 2018.
Canfax, Statistics Canada, AAFC

Western Canada finishes 78% of all fed cattle in Canada. Canfax

In 2019, Canada produced 3.4 billion pounds of beef, up 7.9% from 2018.
Canfax Research Services

Cattle and calf cash receipts in 2019 totaled $9.4 billion, up 3.6% from 2018. Statistics Canada

Beef production contributed $18 billion to Canada’s GDP (2015-2019 average).
Canfax, Statistics Canada

Average # of Beef Cattle per Farm
May 10, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th># of Head</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
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<td>Alberta</td>
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<td>Quebec</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
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Beef Cows by Province
July 1, 2020 (beef cows=3.62 million)
All inventories in 1,000 head
Statistics Canada

Average Cost of Production vs. Average Returns on an Alberta 550 lb Calf

```
  Cost Price | EST. Total Costs per cwt

  $3.10      | $2.00
  $2.60      | $1.50
  $2.10      | $1.00
  $1.60      | $0.50
  $1.10      | $0.00
```

59,784
Farms and Ranches with Beef Cattle
2016 Census of Agriculture

12.24 million
Total Cattle and Calves
Down 0.5% from 2019
(includes 1.87 million dairy cattle)
Statistics Canada

3.62 million
Beef Cows
Down 1.4% from 2019
Statistics Canada
Canada produces 2% of the world’s beef supply. Worldwide beef production is projected at 61.5 million metric tonnes for 2020. USDA

Total world exports for 2020 are projected at 11.5 million metric tonnes and Canada is projected to be the 7th largest beef exporter in the world (excluding live cattle exports).

In 2019, Canada exported 47.5% of total beef and cattle produced in Canada.
Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

On a net basis (subtracting out imports), Canada exported 35.9% of its beef and cattle production in 2019.
Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

Canadian beef exports were valued at $3.22 billion in 2019, up 17% from $2.75 billion in 2018.
Statistics Canada

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