Canada's Beef Industry

FAST FACTS

June 2020

CANADIAN BEEF

PRODUCTION

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

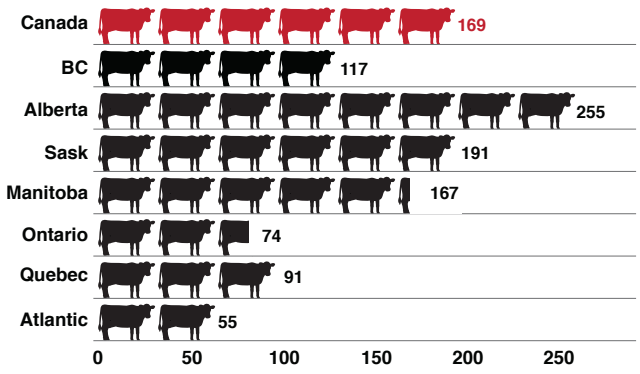
3.62 million

Beef Cows Down 1.4% from 2019

Statistics Canada

Average # of Beef Cattle per Farm

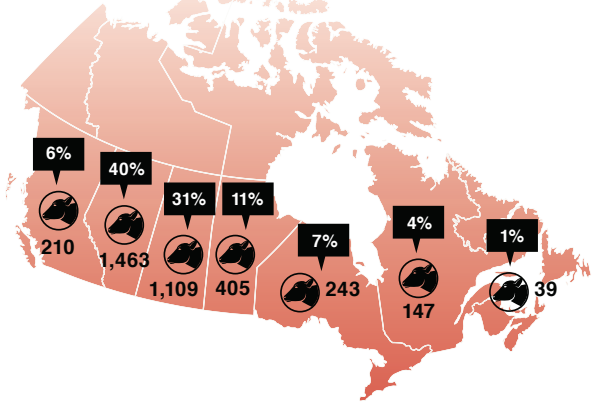
May 10, 2016



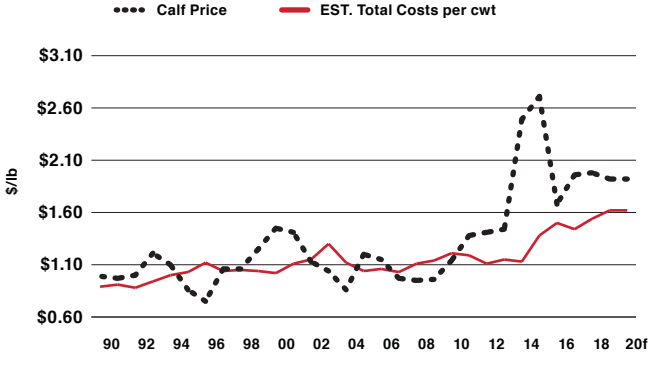
2016 Census of Agriculture

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



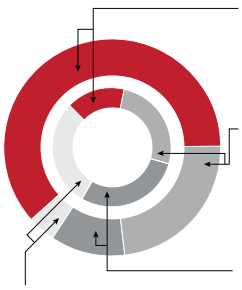
Canfax Research

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.

4% of the farms have 29% of the beef cows and each of these farms has over 273 cows.

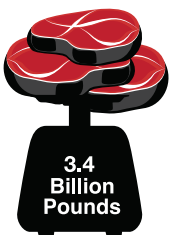
2016 Census of Agriculture

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

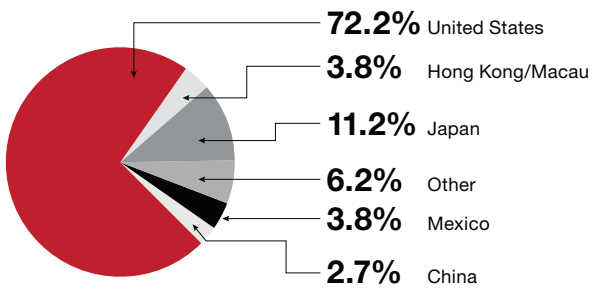
Beef production contributed **$18 billion to Canada's GDP** (2015-2019 average).

Canfax, Statistics Canada

WHERE CANADA TRADES

Beef Exports – 2019

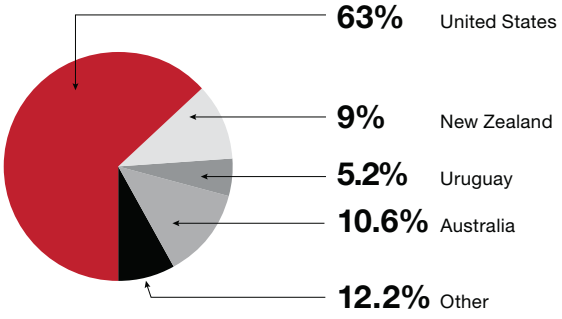
966 million pounds (438 million kg)



Statistics Canada

Beef Imports – 2019

340 million pounds (154 million kg)



Statistics Canada

In 2019, Canada exported **47.5%** of total beef and cattle produced in Canada.

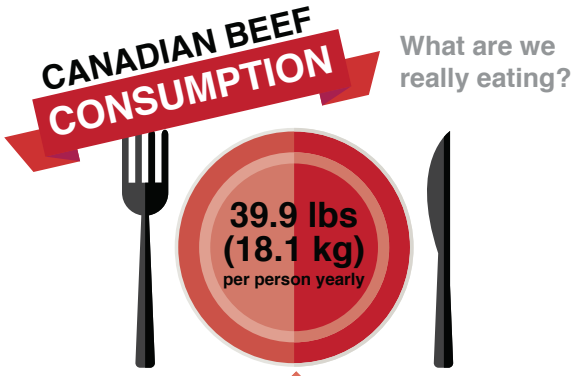
Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

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



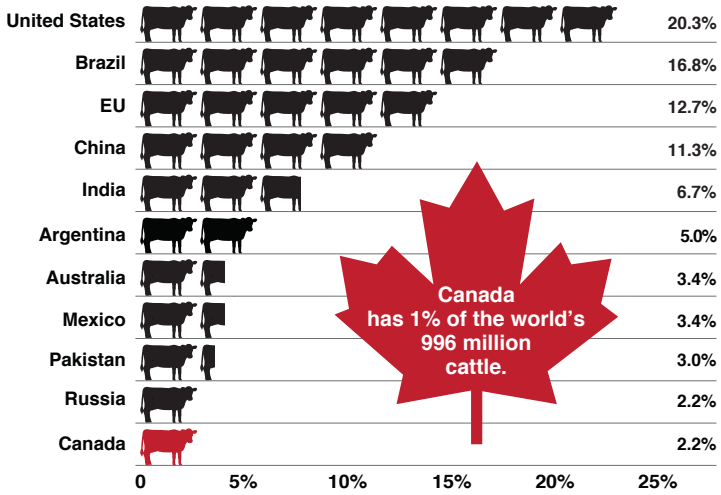
Up 0.2% from last year.

1 metric tonne = 2,204.6 lbs.

Statistics Canada, Retail weight, 2019

WHERE CANADA FITS

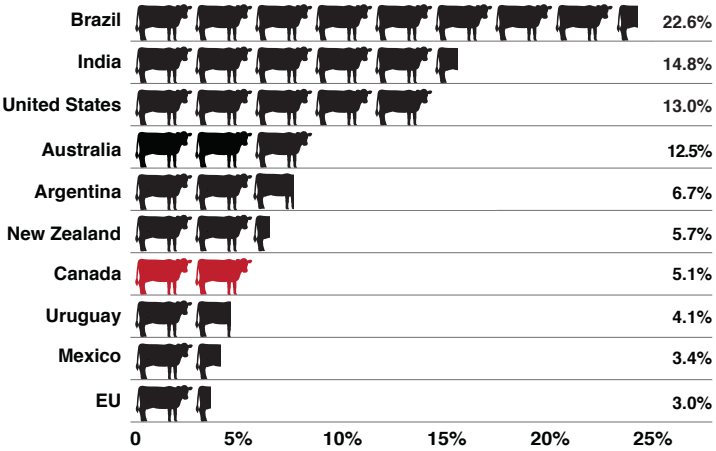
Top 11 Beef Producing Nations – 2020f



Canada produces 2% of the world's beef supply. Worldwide beef production is projected at 61.5 million metric tonnes for 2020. USDA

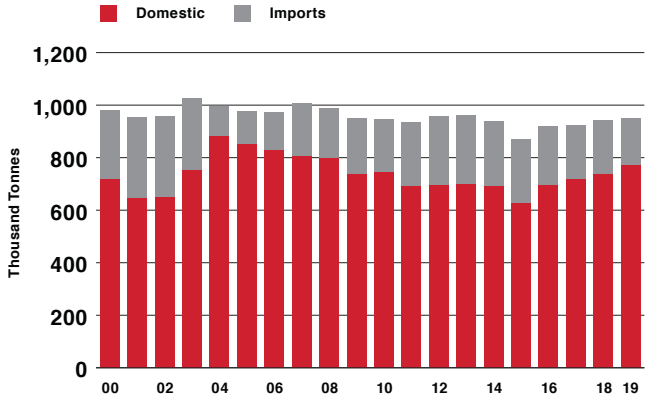
Top 10 Beef Exporting Nations – 2020f

(excludes live slaughter exports)



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). USDA

Canadian Beef Consumption



Canadian's consumed 957,949 tonnes of beef in 2019. Statistics Canada