

FAST FACTS

June 2024



60,697



Farms and Ranches with Beef Cattle

2021 Census of Agriculture

11.1 million



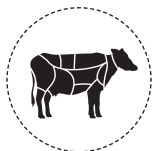
Total Cattle and Calves January 1, 2024

Down 2.1% from January 1, 2023

(includes 1.4 million dairy cattle)

Statistics Canada

3.46 million



Beef Cows January 1, 2024

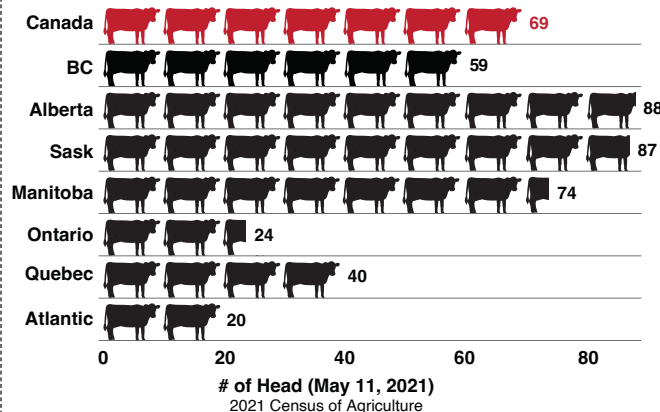
Down 2.4% from January 1, 2023

Statistics Canada



PRODUCTION

Average # of Beef Cows per Farm Reporting Beef Cows



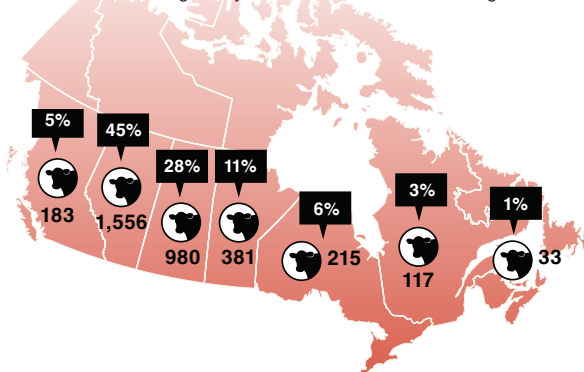
Beef Cows by Province

January 1, 2024

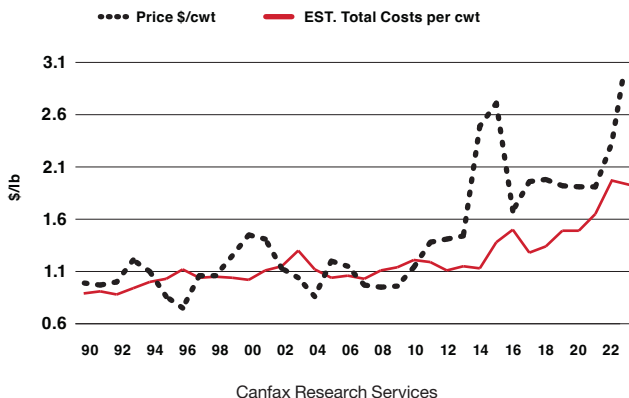
(beef cows = 3.6 million)

Statistics Canada; Inventory x 1,000 head

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

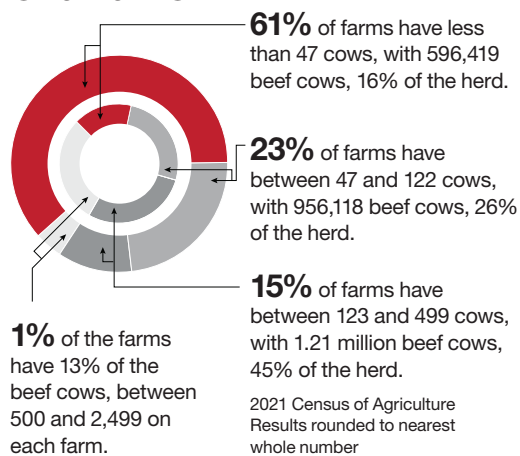


Average Cost of Production vs. Average Returns on an Alberta 550 lb Calf



Did you know...

The majority of farms reporting beef cows on cow-calf, stocking and finishing operations are small farms:



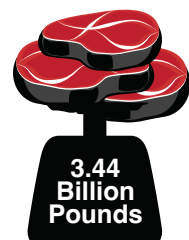
Canada fed **3.1 million cattle** in 2023 (finished to market weight) down **4.4%** from 2022.

Canfax, Statistics Canada, AAFC

Western Canada finishes **79%** of all fed cattle in Canada. Canfax

In 2023, Canada produced **3.44 billion pounds of beef**, (including offals), down 4.6% from 2022.

Canfax Research Services



Cattle and calf cash receipts in 2023 totaled **\$15.0 billion**, up 26% from 2022. Statistics Canada

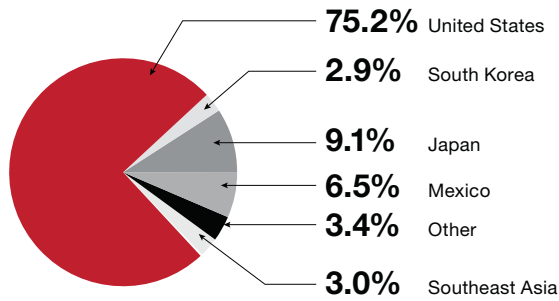
Beef production contributed **\$29 billion** to Canada's GDP (2021-2023 average).

Canfax Research Services

WHERE CANADA TRADES

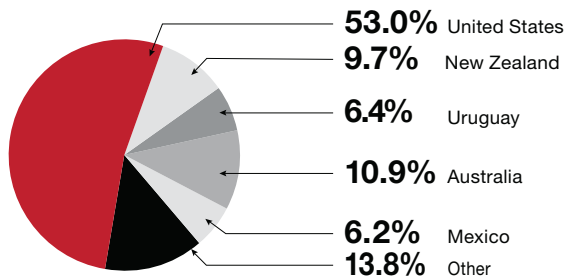
Beef Exports – 2023

1.1 billion pounds (499 million kg)



Beef Imports – 2023

411 million pounds (187 million kg)



Statistics Canada

In 2023, Canada exported **51%** of total beef and cattle produced in Canada.

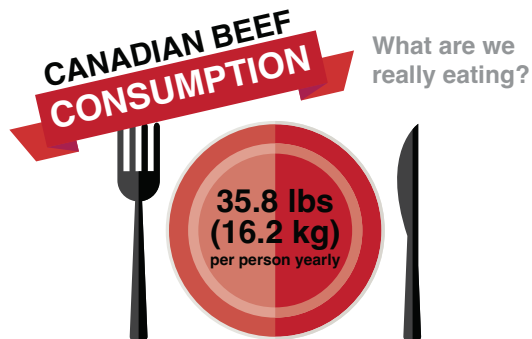
Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

In 2023, **45%** of Canadian production was exported (excluding slaughter cattle).

Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

Canadian beef exports were valued at **\$5.02 billion** in 2023, up 7.4% from \$4.68 billion in 2022.

Statistics Canada



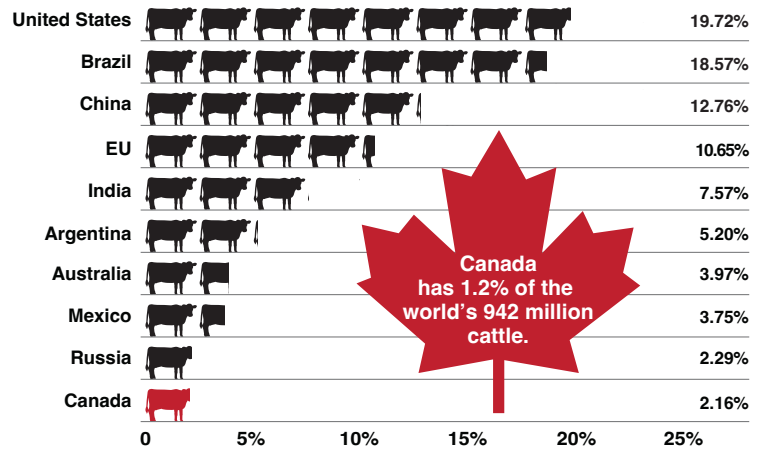
Down 7.2% versus last year.

1 metric tonne = 2,204.6 lbs.

Statistics Canada, Retail weight, 2023

WHERE CANADA FITS

Top 10 Beef Producing Nations – 2024f

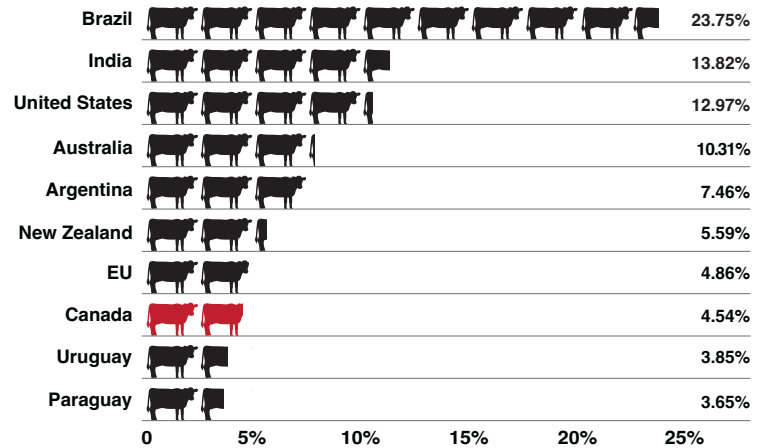


Canada produces 2% of the world's beef supply. Worldwide beef production is forecast to be 60.4 million metric tonnes in 2024.

USDA

Top 10 Beef Exporting Nations – 2024f

(excludes live slaughter exports)



Total world exports in 2024 are forecast to be 12.3 million metric tonnes and Canada is projected to be the 8th largest beef exporter in the world (excluding live slaughter exports).

USDA

Canadian Beef Consumption



Canadians consumed 924,283 metric tonnes of beef in 2023.

Statistics Canada