Canada's Beef Industry

**FAST FACTS**

*June 2015*

**PRODUCTION**

68,434

Farms and Ranches with Beef Cattle

[2011 Agriculture Census]

11.92 million

Total Cattle and Calves Down 2.5% from 2014

(includes 1.40 million dairy cattle)

[Statistics Canada Jan 2015]

3.82 million

Beef Cows Down 0.6% from 2014

[Statistics Canada Jan 2015]

**Average # Head/Beef Farm**

Jan 1, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th># of Head</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sask</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Beef Cows by Province**

January 1, 2015 (beef cows = 3.8 million)

All inventories in 1,000 head

Canada's Beef Industry

Statistics Canada

**Did you know...**

The average beef cow herd size in Canada is 63.

[2011 Agriculture Census]

There are a lot of small cattle farms in Canada...

63% of the farms have 19% of the beef cows and each of these farms has less than 47 cows.

24% of the farms have 30% of the beef cows and each of these farms has between 47 and 122 cows.

13% of the farms have 52% of the beef cows and each of these farms has over 122 cows.

Canada fed 2.8 million cattle in 2014 (finished to market weight) up 7.6% from 2013.

[Canfax, Statistics Canada, AAFC]

Western Canada finishes 76% of all fed cattle in Canada.

[Canfax]

In 2014, Canada produced 3 billion pounds of beef, up 3.9% from 2013.

[Canfax, Statistics Canada]

Cattle and calf cash receipts in 2014 totaled $9.77 billion, up 44% from 2013.

[Statistics Canada]

Beef production contributed $51 billion to Canada's economy in 2014, up 44% from 2013.

[Canfax, Statistics Canada]
WHERE CANADA TRADES

**Beef Exports - 2014**
700 million pounds (318 million kg)

- **69.9%** United States
- **8.3%** Hong Kong / Macau
- **7.4%** Mexico
- **6.4%** Other
- **5.9%** Japan
- **2.1%** China

**Beef Imports - 2014**
450 million pounds (204 million kg)

- **63.7%** United States
- **17.0%** Australia
- **9.1%** Uruguay
- **8.1%** New Zealand
- **1.6%** Brazil
- **0.4%** Other
- **0.1%** Argentina

In 2014, Canada exported 46% of total beef and cattle produced in Canada.

On a net basis (subtracting out imports), **Canada exported 28%** of its beef and cattle production in 2014.

Canadian beef exports were valued at **$1.94 billion** in 2014, up 46% from $1.33 billion in 2013.

WHERE CANADA FITS

**Top 11 Beef Producing Nations 2015p**

- **United States**
- **Brazil**
- **EU-28**
- **China**
- **India**
- **Argentina**
- **Australia**
- **Mexico**
- **Pakistan**
- **Russia**
- **Canada**

Canada produces **1.7%** of the world’s beef supply. Worldwide Beef Production is estimated at **59 million metric tonnes** in 2015.

**Top 10 Beef Exporting Nations 2015p**
(excludes live slaughter exports)

- **India**
- **Brazil**
- **Australia**
- **United States**
- **New Zealand**
- **Paraguay**
- **Canada**
- **Uruguay**
- **EU-28**
- **Belarus**

Total world exports in 2015 are estimated at **10.2 million metric tonne** and Canada is projected to be the 7th largest beef exporter in the world (excluding live cattle exports).

**Canadian Beef Consumption**

- **Domestic**
- **Imports**

Down 3.2% compared to last year.

1 metric tonne = 2,204.6 lbs.

Canadian’s consumed 940,950 tonnes of beef in 2014.