

# FAST FACTS

July 2022



60,697



## Farms and Ranches with Beef Cattle

2021 Census of Agriculture

12.6  
million



## Total Cattle and Calves in 2021 up 0.9% from 2016

(includes 1.41 million dairy cattle)

2021 Census of Agriculture

3.78  
million

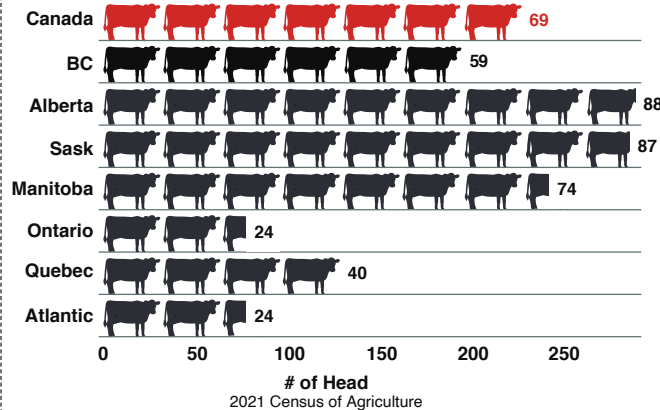


## Beef Cows in 2021 up 1.2% from 2016

2021 Census of Agriculture

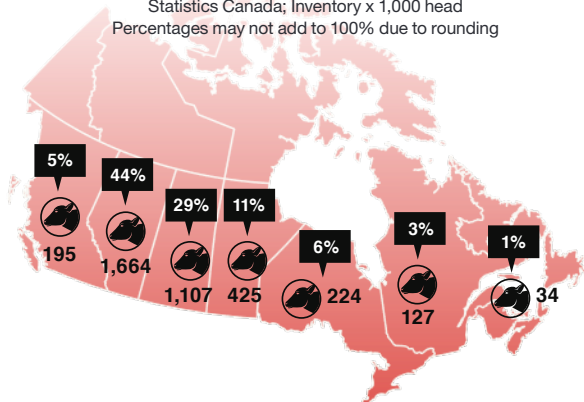
## PRODUCTION

### Average # of Beef Cows per Farm Reporting Beef Cows

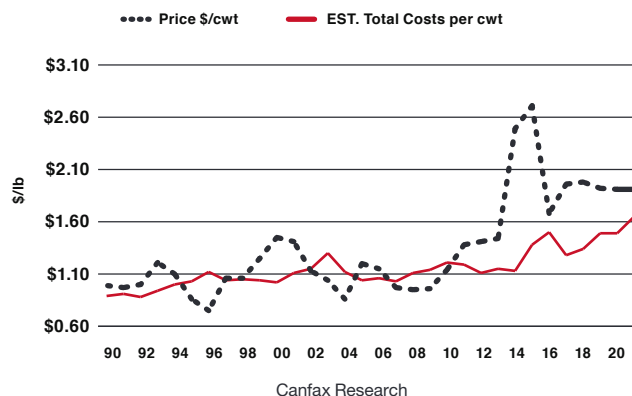


### Beef Cows by Province

2021 Census of Agriculture  
(beef cows=3.78 million)  
Statistics Canada; Inventory x 1,000 head  
Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

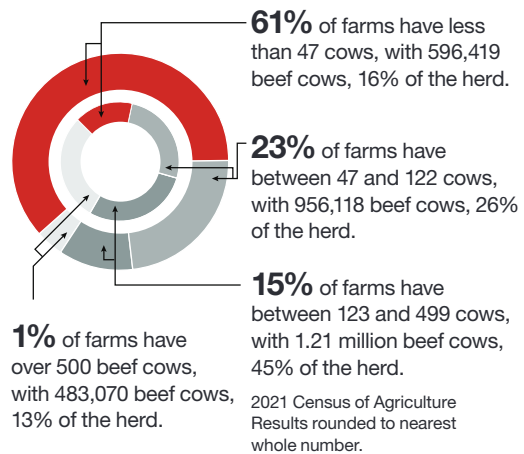


### Average Cost of Production vs. Average Returns on an Alberta 550 lb Calf



## Did you know...

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

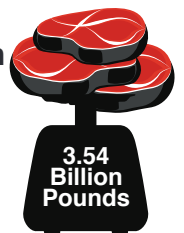


Canada fed **3.2 million cattle** in 2021 (finished to market weight) **up 3.7% from 2020.**

Canfax, Statistics Canada, AAFC

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

In 2021, Canada produced **3.54 billion pounds of beef**, up 3.8% from 2020.



Canfax Research Services

**Cattle and calf cash receipts** in 2021 totaled **\$10.2 billion**, up 11% from 2020. Statistics Canada

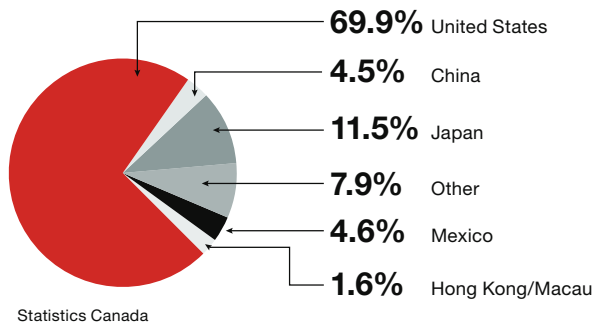
Beef production contributed **\$22 billion to Canada's GDP** (2019-2021 average).

Canfax Research Services

## WHERE CANADA TRADES

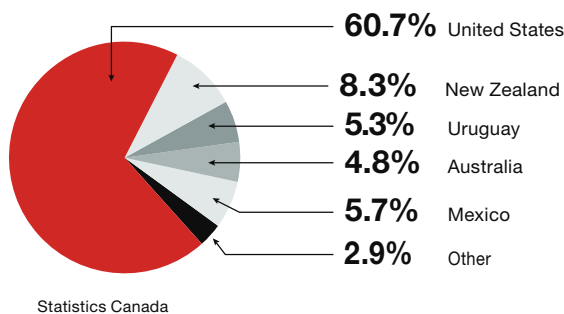
### Beef Exports – 2021

1.1 billion pounds (507 million kg)



### Beef Imports – 2021

356 million pounds (161 million kg)



In 2021, Canada exported **49.7%** of total beef and cattle produced in Canada.

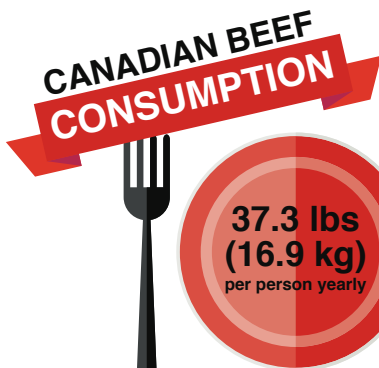
Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

In 2021, **46%** of Canadian production was exported (excluding slaughter cattle, less imports).

Statistics Canada, Canfax, AAFC

Canadian beef exports were valued at **\$4.45 billion** in 2021, up 36.7% from \$3.26 billion in 2020.

Statistics Canada



What are we really eating?

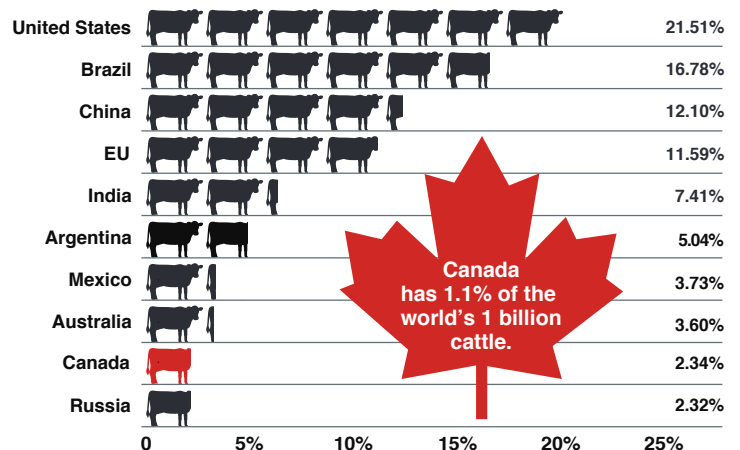
Down 7.2% versus last year.

1 metric tonne = 2,204.6 lbs.

Statistics Canada, Retail weight, 2021

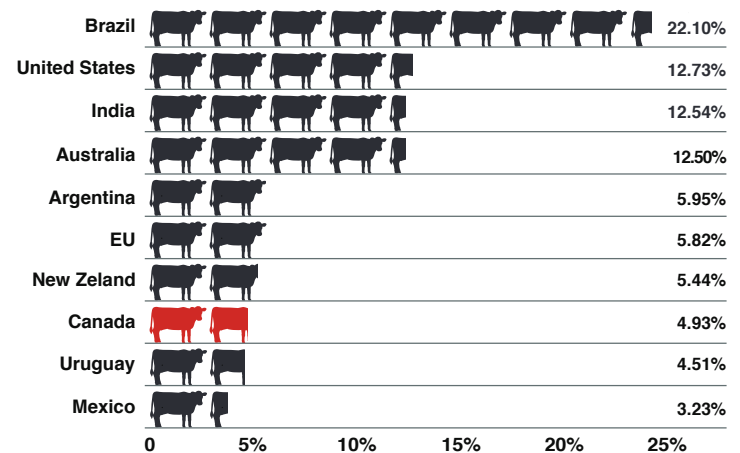
## WHERE CANADA FITS

### Top 10 Beef Producing Nations – 2022f



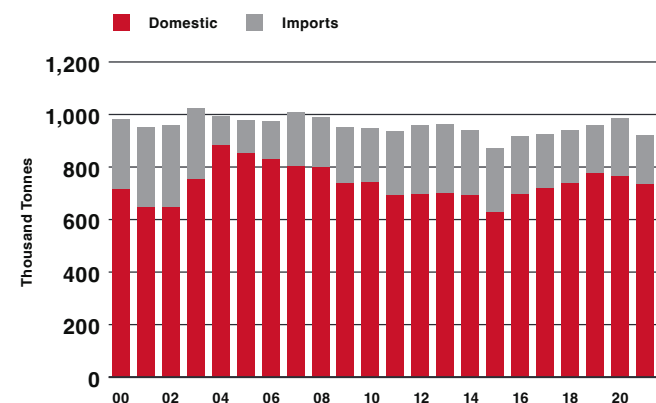
Canada produces 2% of the world's beef supply. Worldwide beef production is forecast to be 58.7 million metric tonnes for 2022f. USDA

### Top 10 Beef Exporting Nations – 2022f (excludes live slaughter exports)



Total world exports in 2022 are forecast to be 11.8 million metric tonnes and Canada is projected to be the 8<sup>th</sup> largest beef exporter in the world (excluding live slaughter exports). USDA

### Canadian Beef Consumption



Canadians consumed 919,720 metric tonnes of beef in 2021.

Statistics Canada