

The Land and Precipitation

	Acres	% of Total
Total Land Area	157,710,720	
Farm Land Area (2011 Census of Agriculture)	50,498,834	100.0
Cultivated Land Area	31,285,847	62.0
Land in Crops	24,102,289	47.7
Summerfallow	1,263,051	2.5
Tame or Seeded Pasture.....	5,920,507	11.7
Natural Land for Pasture.....	15,903,273	31.5
All Other Land	3,309,714	6.6

Total irrigated area in 2014 = 1.72 million acres or 5.4% of the total cultivated land area in Alberta.

In 2014, the irrigation districts in Alberta accounted for 1.41 million acres.

The breakdown of irrigated crop acres was: forages (32%), cereals (32%), canola (11%), canola seed (3%), dry beans (4%), potatoes (3%), sugar beets (2%), alfalfa seed (2%), and all other crops (11%). Types of irrigation systems practiced were: centre pivot sprinkler (79.3%), side-roll-wheel-move sprinkler (11.6%), gravity or "flood" (8.4%), and other irrigation systems (0.7%).

Precipitation (millimetres)	1961-2014		
<i>April 1 to September 30 Cropping Season</i>	Average	2013	2014p
Medicine Hat.....	245.7	311.2	348.6
Calgary	332.1	381.4	285.8
Lacombe	345.5	344.6	290.7
Wainwright.....	294.3	264.6	316.1
Oliver (near Edmonton)	329.9	327.4	292.4
Beaverlodge.....	291.0	334.1	225.0

Population and Farms

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Population on July 1st ⁽¹⁾	4,007,199	4,121,692	2.9
% of Canadian Population.....	11.4%	11.6%	

	2011	% of Total
Population on May 10, 2011 ⁽²⁾	3,645,257	100.0
Urban Population.....	3,030,402	83.1
Rural Population.....	614,855	16.9

Number of Census Farms on May 10, 2011 ⁽²⁾ **43,234**

Average Farm Size	1,168 acres	
Types of Farms	2011	% of Total
Cattle (Beef).....	12,022	27.8
Other Animal Production.....	7,881	18.2
Grain and Oilseed (excl. Wheat).....	10,609	24.5
Wheat.....	2,083	4.8
Other Field Crops (excl. Grain and Oilseed)	8,227	19.0
Other Crop Farming.....	2,412	5.6

(1) Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 91-002.

(2) Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Population and Census of Agriculture.

(3) Farm type classified by North American Industry Classification System.

Employed Labour Force

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Total Employed Labour Force	2,226,200	2,274,600	2.2
Agri-Food Industries	90,800	86,100	-5.2
Agriculture	63,400	60,600	-4.4
Crop Production.....	26,900	24,800	-7.8
Animal Production.....	29,000	28,200	-2.8
Mixed Farming	3,900	5,400	38.5
Support Activities for Agriculture.....	3,500	2,200	-37.1
Food and Beverage Manufacturing.....	27,400	25,500	-6.9
Food - Retail Trade and Services	170,300	177,900	4.5
Food and Beverage Retail Stores.....	53,000	56,400	6.4
Food Services and Drinking Places.....	117,300	121,500	3.6

Real Gross Domestic Product at Basic Prices (\$ Millions)

In 2014, Alberta's real gross domestic product for agri-food industries totalled \$6.3 billion (second highest on record), down 4.1% from 2013.

In Chained (2007) Dollars	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
All Industries	292,589.5	305,523.0	4.4
Agri-Food Industries	6,579.3	6,311.5	-4.1
Agriculture	4,283.1	3,912.1	-8.7
Food Manufacturing	2,296.2	2,399.4	4.5

Consumer Price Index and Financial Rates (Annual Averages)

	2013	2014	% Chg.
Consumer Price Index (CPI) (2002=100)			
Alberta - All Items	128.9	132.2	2.6
Food	130.8	134.6	2.9
Fresh or Frozen Meat (excl. Poultry).....	133.2	150.8	13.2
Fresh or Frozen Poultry Meat	136.0	140.5	3.3
Fresh Fruit.....	116.3	125.0	7.5
Fresh Vegetables.....	103.0	109.8	6.6
Dairy Products.....	140.0	140.6	0.4

Financial Rates	2012	2013	2014
Canada Bank Rate (%).....	1.25	1.25	1.25
Canada Prime Business Loan Rate (%).....	3.00	3.00	3.00
Exchange Rate - US \$ Per Canadian \$	1.0006	0.9708	0.9052

Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)

In 2014, Alberta's total farm cash receipts (FCR) was a record \$12.9 billion, up 9.1% from 2013. Driving the increase were record livestock market receipts more than offsetting lower crop market receipts and program payments. FCR is the sum of crop and livestock market receipts plus direct program payments to producers.

Alberta accounted for 22.4% of total Canadian FCR in 2014, and led the nation with \$4.8 billion in cattle and calf market receipts.

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Total Farm Cash Receipts	11,784.1	12,858.6	9.1
Crop Market Receipts	6,305.9	5,917.1	-6.2
Wheat.....	2,258.7	1,913.1	-15.3
Oats.....	62.7	34.6	-44.8
Barley.....	341.1	258.1	-24.3
Dry Peas.....	325.7	336.1	3.2
Canola.....	2,602.4	2,541.5	-2.3
Potatoes	165.8	161.7	-2.5
Vegetables	81.8	88.9	8.6
Floriculture, Nursery and Sod	122.9	134.8	9.6
Other Crops	344.8	448.3	30.0
Livestock and Products Market Receipts	4,781.8	6,392.2	33.7
Cattle and Calves	3,319.6	4,799.5	44.6
Hogs.....	419.1	498.8	19.0
Lambs.....	14.2	19.3	35.3
Dairy Products	514.9	530.5	3.0
Poultry, Hatcheries and Eggs.....	343.2	335.0	-2.4
Honey.....	71.0	76.3	7.4
Other Livestock and Products.....	99.8	132.9	33.2
Total Market Receipts	11,087.7	12,309.3	11.0
Direct Program Payments	696.4	549.3	-21.1
Crop and Hail Insurance	524.7	417.1	-20.5
AgriStability.....	59.9	50.3	-16.0
AgriRecovery	0.0	0.0	n/a
AgriInvest.....	89.7	71.5	-20.3
Other Payments	22.0	10.3	-53.2

Livestock Industry

Alberta continues to be the largest beef producing province in Canada. As of July 1, 2014, the province led the nation in cattle and calf inventories and accounted for 41% of the national herd. In 2014, three-quarters of Canadian beef processing occurred in Western Canada (74.9%), with the vast majority concentrated in Alberta.

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Livestock on Farms (Head), July 1st			
Cattle and Calves	5,535,000	5,455,000	-1.4
Bulls.....	91,200	91,200	0.0
Milk Cows and Dairy Heifers.....	120,300	118,700	-1.3
Beef Cows and Beef Heifers.....	1,861,600	1,831,200	-1.6
Calves	1,773,800	1,743,800	-1.7
Slaughter Steers and Heifers	1,688,100	1,670,100	-1.1
Pigs.....	1,440,000	1,475,000	2.4
Sheep and Lambs	204,000	200,000	-2.0

Livestock Slaughtered (Head)	2013	2014p
Cattle and Calves ⁽¹⁾	2,035,537	2,122,774
Hogs.....	2,358,033	2,509,468

Production Quantity (tonnes)	2013	2014p
Beef (e) ⁽²⁾	741,432	771,744
Pork (e).....	211,115	221,995

Meat Product Manufacturing Sales (\$ Millions)	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Meat Product Manufacturing Industries ⁽³⁾	5,671.3	7,018.6	23.8

Value of International Exports (\$ Millions)	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Beef and Veal (incl. Offal)	961.7	1,428.9	48.6
Pork (incl. Offal).....	348.3	467.5	34.2

Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)	2013	2014
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	4,781.8	6,392.2
% of Total Farm Cash Receipts	40.6%	49.7%

Selected Prices	2013	2014
Slaughter Steers, Alberta Direct Packer Sales* (\$/100 lbs)...	\$119.19	\$153.67
Central Alberta Steer Calves, 500-600 lbs* (\$/100 lbs).....	\$156.38	\$243.87
Alberta Average Slaughter Hogs Index 100 Dressed (\$/kg)...	\$1.62	\$2.04

* Live Weight Basis

(1) Federally and provincially inspected slaughter in Western Canada, irrespective of origin; Alberta data unavailable.

(2) Beef production in Western Canada; Alberta data unavailable.

(3) Includes poultry processing.

Dairy Production

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Milk Production ('000 litres)	653,530	668,400	2.3

Poultry and Egg Production

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Chicken Meat (tonnes*)	98,446	99,023	0.6
Turkey Meat (tonnes*)	16,243	15,443	-4.9
Egg Production ('000 Dozen)	56,448	58,990	4.5

* Eviscerated Weight

Beekeeping Industry

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Honey Production (tonnes).....	15,059	15,606	3.6
Value of Honey Produced (\$'000)	72,905	78,602	7.8

Selected Alternative Livestock Inventory (Head)

	2013	2014p	% Chg.
Whitetail Deer and Mule Deer.....	1,360	989	-27.3
Elk.....	12,872	13,008	1.1

Crops

	Harvested Area ('000 acres)		Production ('000 tonnes)	
	2013r	2014p	2013r	2014p
Principal Field Crops				
Winter Wheat	140.0	170.0	261.3	272.2
Spring Wheat	6,365.0	5,935.0	10,169.6	8,369.1
Durum Wheat.....	595.0	540.0	870.9	707.6
All Wheat	7,100.0	6,645.0	11,301.8	9,348.9
Oats.....	410.0	455.0	601.5	542.9
Barley.....	3,330.0	2,820.0	5,545.4	4,131.3
Fall Rye.....	30.0	30.0	36.3	30.9
Mixed Grains.....	10.0	10.0	13.3	12.9
Flaxseed.....	90.0	115.0	73.7	87.6
Canola.....	6,050.0	6,455.0	5,998.8	5,488.5
Dry Beans.....	40.0	53.0	48.1	66.0
Dry Peas.....	995.0	1,165.0	1,321.3	1,323.3
Mustard Seed.....	92.0	133.0	37.2	59.4
Triticale.....	13.0	15.0	16.9	17.5
Tame Hay.....	4,520.0	4,595.0	7,588.6	7,257.5
Fodder Corn.....	65.0	60.0	1,179.3	943.5
Sugar Beets	22.0	20.0	598.7	580.6
Summerfallow	900.0	865.0	n/a	n/a

Commercial Fresh Vegetables and Fruits	(acres)		(tonnes)	
	2013	2014p	2013	2014p
Beans	220	400	295	513
Carrots	x	315	x	x
Corn, Sweet.....	3,837	3,624	14,893	17,798
Onions, Dry.....	576	1,213	6,422	23,199
Peas, Green	3,046	3,029	3,639	4,586
Raspberries	63	52	26	28
Strawberries	130	118	113	107

Value of International Exports (\$ Millions)	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Total Crops	4,507	4,653	3.2
Wheat.....	2,307	2,337	1.3
Canola Seed.....	1,616	1,767	9.3
Barley.....	183	194	6.1
Other Crops	401	354	-11.6

Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Total Crops	6,305.9	5,917.1	-6.2
% of Total Farm Cash Receipts	53.5%	46.0%	

Value of Principal Field Crops (\$/tonne)

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
No.1 CW Red Spring Wheat (13.5%)* ..	293.94	273.00	256.77	223.25
No.1 CW Amber Durum Wheat (13%)* ..	251.92	295.01	272.88	257.68
Oats (feedmill bids, Lethbridge)	188.60	181.23	221.97	179.97
Barley (feedmill bids, Lethbridge)	188.51	226.20	278.92	187.24
Canola (canola seed crusher average prices)	531.36	559.70	610.82	435.28

* Canadian Wheat Board (realized total payments - Edmonton/Calgary)

Greenhouse Industry

Food and Beverage Manufacturing Sales (\$ Millions)

In 2014, Alberta food and beverage manufacturing sales reached a record \$13.7 billion or 17.3% of the province's total manufactured goods (\$79.4 billion). The leading food sub-sector was meat product manufacturing (\$7.0 billion) which accounted for 55.2% of provincial food sales.

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
All Manufacturing Industries	73,793.2	79,368.3	7.6
Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industries ..	12,514.6	13,721.4	9.6
% Share of All Manufacturing	15.8%	17.3%	
Food Manufacturing Industries	11,546.6	12,711.0	10.1
Meat Product Manufacturing.....	5,671.3	7,018.6	23.8
% Share of Food Manufacturing.....	49.1%	55.2%	
Grain and Oilseed Milling.....	1,693.7	1,622.6	-4.2
Animal Foods (incl. Livestock Feed).....	891.4	1,019.7	14.4
All Other Food Manufacturing	3,290.2	3,050.1	-7.3
Dairy Products	1,654.3	1,390.3	-16.0
Bread and Bakery Products	346.0	376.3	8.8
Other Food Manufacturing ⁽¹⁾	1,289.9	1,283.5	-0.5
Beverage Manufacturing Industries	968.0	1,010.4	4.4

(1) Includes manufacturing of coffee, tea, seasonings, dressings, flavourings, specialty foods, sugar and confectionery products, seafood products, cookies, crackers, pasta and fruit and vegetable preserving.

Food and Beverage Retail Sales (\$ Millions)

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Total Alberta Food and Beverage Stores	13,746.1	14,343.4	4.3
Grocery Stores (Supermarkets and Convenience)	10,907.8	11,308.2	3.7
Specialty Food Stores.....	518.0	515.0	-0.6
Beer, Wine and Liquor Stores.....	2,320.3	2,520.2	8.6

Average Household Food Expenditure, 2013 (Per Year)

	Alberta	% of Food	Canada	% of Food
Total Household Expenditure	\$101,554		\$79,012	
Food Expenditure	\$9,295		\$7,980	
% Share of Total Expenditure.....	9.2%		10.1%	
Food Purchased From Restaurants..	\$2,922		\$2,226	
Food Purchased From Stores.....	\$6,372	100.0%	\$5,754	100.0%
Fruits and Vegetables	\$1,554	24.4%	\$1,357	23.6%
Meat and Processed Meat.....	\$1,044	16.4%	\$1,043	18.1%
Dairy Products and Eggs.....	\$993	15.6%	\$874	15.2%
Bakery Products.....	\$615	9.7%	\$578	10.0%
Cereal Grains and Cereal Products	\$362	5.7%	\$323	5.6%
Fish and Seafood	\$182	2.9%	\$201	3.5%

Per Capita Consumption of Red Meats and Poultry, Canada

	Units	1995	2013	2014
Beef	kg ⁽¹⁾	31.76	27.34	26.48
Pork.....	kg ⁽¹⁾	27.81	20.88	20.63
Mutton and Lamb.....	kg ⁽¹⁾	0.81	1.01	1.13
Chicken.....	kg ⁽²⁾	24.82	30.06	30.94
Turkey.....	kg ⁽²⁾	4.32	4.24	4.08

(1) Carcass weight basis. (2) Eviscerated weight basis.

Note: These data represent food available for consumption and not actual quantities of food consumed since they do not allow for losses such as waste and/or spoilage in stores, households, private institutions or restaurants. Also, aggregate data for fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, poultry, fish, fluid milk and alcoholic beverages shown in previous editions of the Agriculture Statistics Factsheet are no longer available.

Farm Operating Expenses ⁽¹⁾ (\$ Millions)

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Property Taxes	105.2	110.1	4.7
Cash and Share Rent.....	576.4	551.2	-4.4
Cash Wages, Room and Board.....	690.2	721.2	4.5
Interest	595.3	613.1	3.0
Machinery Fuel.....	676.0	720.0	6.5
Machinery Repairs	627.2	649.2	3.5
Fertilizer and Lime.....	1,306.5	1,378.4	5.5
Pesticides	618.9	637.4	3.0
Commercial Feed	1,291.2	1,211.1	-6.2
Livestock and Poultry Purchases.....	813.0	1,242.4	52.8
Electricity and Telephone	266.2	259.3	-2.6
Heating Fuel	65.4	79.7	21.8
Miscellaneous	1,910.8	1,906.0	-0.3
Total Operating Expenses After Rebates	9,542.3	10,079.1	5.6
Depreciation on Buildings.....	291.4	295.7	1.5
Depreciation on Machinery.....	1,236.3	1,307.4	5.7
Total Expenses After Rebates and Depreciation	11,069.9	11,682.2	5.5

(1) Net of provincial or federal rebates.

Net Farm Income ⁽¹⁾ (\$ Millions)

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
1. Total Farm Cash Receipts	11,784.1	12,858.6	9.1
2. Total Operating Expenses After Rebates.....	9,542.3	10,079.1	5.6
3. Net Cash Income (1 - 2).....	2,241.8	2,779.5	24.0
4. Income in Kind	9.3	12.0	29.4
5. Depreciation Charges.....	1,527.7	1,603.1	4.9
6. Realized Net Income (3 + 4 - 5).....	723.5	1,188.4	64.3
7. Value of Inventory Change.....	1,638.4	-1,168.4	s
8. Total Net Income (6 + 7)	2,361.8	20.0	-99.2

(1) Refers to income directly related to the farm business; excludes non-farming income (such as wages and salaries from off-farm employment, pension and investment income).

Capital Investment Expenditures ⁽¹⁾ (\$ Millions)

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
All Industries	91,681.7	92,078.8	0.4
Agri-Food Industries	1,784.2	1,808.3	1.4
% Share of All Industries	1.9%	2.0%	
Agriculture Industries	1,569.7	1,607.6	2.4
Crop Production	1,202.5	1,220.5	1.5
Animal Production.....	338.3	367.1	8.5
Support Services	28.9	20.0	-30.8
Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industries ...	214.5	200.7	-6.4
Food Industries	187.9	166.6	-11.3
Beverage Industries.....	26.6	34.1	28.2

(1) Capital investment expenditures refers to the cost of procuring, constructing and installing new durable plants, machinery and equipment, whether for replacement of worn or obsolete assets, as additions to existing assets or for lease or rent to others.

International Agri-Food Exports (\$ Millions)

In 2014, Alberta exports of primary and processed agricultural and food products (agri-food) set another record at \$9.7 billion, up 11.6% from 2013. Strong livestock prices, the low Canadian dollar and generally larger export quantities contributed to the increase. Gains were reported in exports of both primary commodities and value added products. Significant increases occurred in exports of live animals and meats. Exports of beef and live cattle, were each almost 50% higher in value than in 2013. The growth was a result of high prices and increased demand from the United States. The quantity also increased but at a slower rate. In contrast to livestock, crop prices were weaker in 2014. Wheat, the number one export product, grew 1.3% in value, while quantity was up 7.0%. Also, exports of canola seed rose at a faster rate in quantity (up 27.2%) than in value (up 9.3%). For the third consecutive year, China was the largest customer of canola seed, followed by Japan, United States and Mexico. The United States continues to be Alberta's largest export market, accounting for 40.5% of total agri-food exports, followed by China (13.6%), Japan (12.2%) and Mexico (5.5%).

	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
Canada Agri-Food Exports	46,334	51,890	12.0
Alberta Agri-Food Exports	8,705	9,713	11.6
Alberta as a % of Canada	18.8%	18.7%	
Value Added Processed Products	3,644	4,238	16.3
As a % of Alberta Agri-Food Exports.....	41.9%	43.6%	
Beef and Veal (incl. Offal)	962	1,429	48.6
Pork (incl. Offal).....	348	468	34.2
Oilseed Cake and Meal	230	278	20.7
Processed Potatoes	202	253	25.6
Prepared Animal Feeds.....	213	243	14.2
Malt Roasted or Not Roasted.....	175	226	29.2
Other Value Added Processed Products	1,515	1,342	-11.4
Primary Commodities (Crops and Animals)	5,061	5,475	8.2
As a % of Alberta Agri-Food Exports	58.1%	56.4%	
Wheat	2,307	2,337	1.3
Canola Seed	1,616	1,767	9.3
Live Cattle (excl. Purebred)	478	715	49.5
Barley	183	194	6.1
Hay and Fodder.....	104	100	-3.5
Other Primary Commodities	373	362	-3.0
Alberta's Top Five Export Markets in 2014	2013r	2014p	% Chg.
1. United States (40.5% Share)	3,050	3,931	28.9
2. China (13.6% Share)	1,511	1,324	-12.4
3. Japan (12.2% Share)	1,288	1,186	-8.0
4. Mexico (5.5% Share).....	536	537	0.2
5. South Korea (2.3% Share).....	114	228	99.5

r - revised p - preliminary n/a - not applicable x - confidential
kg - kilogram e - estimated s - per cent change suppressed

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Data Sources: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry; Statistics Canada; Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Canadian Wheat Board; and CanFax.

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ISSN 1929-4255 (Print)
ISSN 1929-4263 (Online)

July 2015

Agriculture Statistics Factsheet



Alberta
Government

AGDEX 853