

The Land and Precipitation

	Acres	% of Total
Total Land Area	158,229,129	
Farm Land Area (2016 Census of Agriculture).....	50,250,183	100.0
Cultivated Land Area.....	31,327,764	62.3
Land in Crops.....	25,261,781	50.3
Summerfallow.....	644,021	1.3
Tame or Seeded Pasture.....	5,421,962	10.8
Natural Land for Pasture.....	15,861,059	31.6
All Other Land.....	3,061,360	6.1

Total irrigated area in 2019 = 1.72 million acres or 5.6% of the total cultivated land area in Alberta.

In 2019, the irrigation districts in Alberta accounted for 1.41 million acres. The breakdown of irrigated crop acres was: forages (35.0%), cereals (33.2%), canola (8.3%), canola seed (2.7%), dry beans (3.9%), potatoes (3.5%), sugar beets (2.0%), alfalfa seed (2.2%), and all other crops (9.2%). Types of irrigation systems practiced were: centre pivot sprinkler (85.2%), side-roll-wheel-move sprinkler (7.2%), gravity or "flood" (6.7%), and other irrigation systems (0.9%).

Precipitation (millimetres)	1961-2019		
	Average	2018	2019
April 1 to September 30 Cropping Season			
Medicine Hat.....	241.3	100.0	173.7
Calgary.....	328.5	201.5	328.5
Lacombe.....	341.7	287.4	314.6
Wainwright.....	293.1	302.9	244.6
Oliver (near Edmonton).....	328.2	285.6	361.8
Beaverlodge.....	295.0	382.9	275.9

Population and Farms

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Population on July 1st	4,300,721	4,371,316	1.6
% of Canadian Population.....	11.6%	11.6%	

	2016	% of Total
Population on May 10, 2016	4,067,175	100.0
Urban Population.....	3,399,372	83.6
Rural Population.....	667,803	16.4
Number of Census Farms on May 10, 2016	40,638	
Average Farm Size	1,237 acres	
Types of Farms (1)	2016	% of Total
Cattle (Beef).....	12,282	30.2
Other Animal Production (excl. Beef Cattle).....	6,450	15.9
Grain and Oilseed (excl. Wheat).....	10,557	26.0
Wheat.....	2,894	7.1
Other Field Crops (excl. Grain and Oilseed).....	6,530	16.1
Other Farming (2).....	1,925	4.7

(1) Farm types based on the North American Industry Classification System.

(2) Includes greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production, fruit and vegetable combination farming, and all other miscellaneous crop farming.

Employed Labour Force

	2018	2019	% Chg.
Total Employed Labour Force	2,330,700	2,340,000	0.5
Agri-Food Industries	75,600	77,200	2.1
Agriculture.....	49,300	49,200	-0.2
Crop Production.....	18,400	20,800	13.0
Animal Production.....	25,900	23,300	-10.0
Mixed Farming.....	2,600	2,700	3.8
Support Activities for Agriculture.....	2,400	2,400	0.0
Food and Beverage Manufacturing.....	26,300	28,000	6.5
Food - Retail Trade and Services	181,300	182,400	0.6
Food and Beverage Retail Stores.....	57,000	61,200	7.4
Food Services and Drinking Places.....	124,300	121,200	-2.5

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

In 2019, Alberta's real gross domestic product for agri-food industries totalled \$9.2 billion, up 4.6% from 2018.

	In Chained (2012) Dollars		
	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
All Industries	336,281.3	334,172.2	-0.6
Agri-Food Industries	8,773.0	9,174.6	4.6
Agriculture.....	5,307.0	5,662.5	6.7
Food Manufacturing.....	2,838.4	2,890.4	1.8
Beverage Manufacturing.....	627.6	621.7	-0.9

Consumer Price Index and Financial Rates (Annual Averages)

	2018	2019	% Chg.
Consumer Price Index (CPI) (2002=100)			
Alberta - All Items	140.6	143.1	1.8
Food.....	143.9	149.2	3.7
Fresh or Frozen Meat (excl. Poultry).....	159.1	166.7	4.8
Fresh or Frozen Poultry Meat.....	142.4	145.3	2.0
Fresh Fruit.....	139.8	142.9	2.2
Fresh Vegetables.....	132.5	151.1	14.0
Dairy Products.....	138.5	140.8	1.7
Financial Rates	2017	2018	2019
Canada Bank Rate (%).....	0.96	1.69	2.00
Exchange Rate - US \$ Per Canadian \$.....	0.7705	0.7716	0.7537

Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)

At \$14.8 billion, Alberta's total farm cash receipts (FCR) were the highest on record and 9.8% above 2018. Fuelling the gain was record livestock market receipts, coupled with higher crop market receipts and program payments to producers. FCR is the sum of crop and livestock market receipts plus direct program payments to producers. Alberta accounted for 22.5% of total Canadian FCR in 2019, and led the nation in total FCR and cattle and calf market receipts (\$5.2 billion).

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Total Farm Cash Receipts	13,519.1	14,841.0	9.8
Crop Market Receipts	6,413.4	6,941.7	8.2
Wheat.....	2,014.8	2,066.9	2.6
Oats.....	41.9	56.0	33.7
Barley.....	262.3	302.6	15.4
Dry Peas.....	387.1	377.2	-2.6
Canola.....	2,586.7	2,425.2	-6.2
Potatoes.....	252.9	255.0	0.9
Greenhouse and Field Vegetables.....	128.4	135.0	5.1
Lentils.....	65.5	71.5	9.1
Cannabis.....	33.8	563.3	1,567.4
Floriculture, Nursery and Sod.....	135.3	131.0	-3.2
Other Crops.....	504.9	558.0	10.5
Livestock and Products Market Receipts	6,480.1	6,902.0	6.5
Cattle and Calves.....	4,871.7	5,200.6	6.8
Hogs.....	380.1	414.5	9.0
Lambs.....	26.1	26.4	1.0
Dairy Products.....	613.9	650.3	5.9
Poultry, Hatcheries and Eggs.....	408.2	436.9	7.0
Honey.....	68.5	54.4	-20.6
Other Livestock and Products.....	111.7	119.0	6.6
Total Market Receipts	12,893.6	13,843.7	7.4
Direct Program Payments	625.5	997.2	59.4
Crop Insurance.....	372.4	674.6	81.2
Hail Insurance.....	27.4	62.7	129.2
AgriStability.....	127.2	111.6	-12.3
AgriRecovery.....	0.7	0.0	-100.0
AgriInvest.....	67.6	63.5	-6.0
Other Payments.....	30.3	84.8	179.5

Livestock Industry

Alberta continues to be the largest beef-producing province in Canada. As of July 1, 2019, the province led the nation in cattle and calf inventories and accounted for 40.2% of the national herd. In 2019, over three-quarters of Canadian beef processing occurred in Western Canada (76.9%), with the vast majority concentrated in Alberta.

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Livestock on Farms (Head), July 1st			
Cattle and Calves.....	5,055,000	4,915,000	-2.8
Bulls.....	92,100	90,300	-2.0
Milk Cows and Dairy Heifers.....	122,200	126,000	3.1
Beef Cows and Beef Heifers.....	1,840,600	1,777,800	-3.4
Calves.....	1,602,000	1,612,800	0.7
Slaughter Steers and Heifers.....	1,398,100	1,308,100	-6.4
Pigs.....	1,495,000	1,480,000	-1.0
Sheep and Lambs.....	195,000	190,000	-2.6
Livestock Slaughtered (Head)	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Cattle and Calves (1).....	2,412,587	2,543,082	5.4
Hogs.....	2,510,267	2,474,210	-1.4
Production Quantity (tonnes)			
Beef (e) (2).....	911,808	974,248	6.8
Pork (e).....	232,536	229,196	-1.4
Meat Product Manufacturing Sales (\$ Millions)	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Meat Product Manufacturing Industries (3).....	7,386.8	8,266.5	11.9
Value of International Exports (\$ Millions)			
Beef and Veal (incl. Offal).....	2,039.5	2,413.4	18.3
Pork (incl. Offal).....	441.3	431.7	-2.2
Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)			
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	6,480.1	6,902.0	6.5
% of Total Farm Cash Receipts.....	47.9%	46.5%	
Selected Prices	2018	2019	
Slaughter Steers, Alberta Direct Packer Sales* (\$/100 lbs).....	\$152.07	\$149.20	
Central Alberta Steer Calves, 500-600 lbs* (\$/100 lbs).....	\$222.84	\$220.14	
Alberta Average Slaughter Hogs Index 100 Dressed (\$/kg).....	\$1.47	\$1.58	

* 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

	2018	2019p	% Chg.
Milk Production ('000 litres).....	815,757	817,012	0.2

Poultry and Egg Production

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Chicken Meat (tonnes*).....	122,304	125,996	3.0
Turkey Meat (tonnes*).....	16,607	16,519	-0.5
Egg Production ('000 Dozen).....	76,347	80,615	5.6

* Eviscerated Weight

Beekeeping Industry

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Honey Production (tonnes).....	17,493	11,370	-35.0
Value of Honey Produced (\$'000).....	66,472	45,962	-30.9

Selected Alternative Livestock Inventory (Head)

	2018	2019p	% Chg.
Whitetail Deer and Mule Deer.....	1,265	895	-29.2
Elk.....	12,076	11,988	-0.7

Crops

	Harvested Area ('000 acres)		Production ('000 tonnes)	
	2018	2019p	2018	2019p
Principal Field Crops				
Winter Wheat.....	65.0	77.3	100.4	103.1
Spring Wheat.....	6,156.1	6,389.0	8,771.6	9,512.8
Durum Wheat.....	1,170.5	742.6	1,134.1	647.3
All Wheat	7,391.6	7,208.9	10,006.1	10,263.2
Oats.....	512.0	578.3	700.1	834.8
Barley.....	2,746.9	3,144.8	3,996.3	4,955.2
All Rye.....	22.4	19.3	30.0	26.8
Mixed Grains.....	—	20.5	—	26.3
Flaxseed.....	91.6	106.6	60.5	81.5
Canola.....	6,679.2	5,820.8	5,870.6	5,320.1
Dry Beans.....	60.8	53.9	72.8	65.3
Dry Peas.....	1,479.9	1,743.3	1,608.4	1,685.9
Mustard Seed.....	118.1	99.8	36.7	37.6
Triticale.....	22.4	20.6	32.0	29.2
Tame Hay.....	4,066.0	3,852.1	6,035.7	6,674.7
Fodder Corn.....	100.9	151.6	1,660.4	1,687.6
Sugar Beets.....	27.5	17.9	854.5	520.7
Summerfallow	465.7	420.3	n/a	n/a

	(acres)		(tonnes)	
	2018	2019p	2018r	2019p
Commercial Fresh Vegetables and Fruits				
Beans.....	167	173	x	161
Carrots.....	338	331	2,490	2,642
Corn, Sweet.....	2,126	2,000	13,203	12,904
Onions, Dry.....	1,102	1,095	25,178	23,551
Peas, Green.....	2,770	2,411	4,138	2,818
Raspberries.....	148	139	71	69
Strawberries.....	178	173	210	209

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Value of International Exports (\$ Millions)			
Total Crops.....	5,205	4,423	-15.0
Wheat.....	2,307	2,009	-13.0
Canola Seed.....	1,735	1,146	-34.0
Barley.....	225	217	-3.3
Dry Peas.....	427	523	22.7
Other Crops.....	511	528	3.4

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)			
Total Crops.....	6,413.4	6,941.7	8.2
% of Total Farm Cash Receipts.....	47.4%	46.8%	

Value of Principal Field Crops (\$/tonne)

	2015-16r	2016-17r	2017-18r	2018-19p
No.1 CW Red Spring Wheat (13% or 13.5%).....	232.44	239.05	249.15	254.34
No.2 CP Spring Wheat (11% or 11.5%).....	201.60	172.90	193.56	217.98
Oats (feedmill bids, Lethbridge).....	201.98	183.53	193.08	233.64
Barley (feedmill bids, Lethbridge).....	212.64	171.00	228.01	260.30
Canola (canola seed crusher average prices).....	466.57	479.67	492.76	443.00

Greenhouse Industry

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Total Greenhouse Area ('000 sq. ft)	13,130	13,286	1.2
Total Sales (\$'000).....	162,025	161,54	

Food and Beverage Manufacturing Sales (\$ Millions)

In 2019, Alberta food and beverage manufacturing sales reached a new high of \$15.8 billion, or 20.8% of the province's total manufactured goods (\$76.2 billion). The leading food sub-sector was meat product manufacturing (including poultry) at \$8.3 billion, which accounted for 56% of the provincial food sales.

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
All Manufacturing Industries	76,711.4	76,188.5	-0.7
Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industries	15,511.6	15,821.7	2.0
<i>% Share of All Manufacturing</i>	<i>20.2%</i>	<i>20.8%</i>	
Food Manufacturing Industries	14,217.2	14,752.3	3.8
Meat Product Manufacturing (incl. Poultry)	7,386.8	8,266.5	11.9
<i>% Share of Food Manufacturing</i>	<i>52.0%</i>	<i>56.0%</i>	
Grain and Oilseed Milling	1,995.4	1,697.9	-14.9
Animal Foods (incl. Livestock Feed)	982.7	1,110.7	13.0
All Other Food Manufacturing	3,852.3	3,677.3	-4.5
Dairy Products	x	1,325.1	-
Bread and Bakery Products	606.8	x	-
Other Food Manufacturing ⁽¹⁾	931.8	992.3	6.5
Beverage Manufacturing Industries	1,294.5	1,069.4	-17.4

(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)

	2018	2019p	% Chg.
Total Alberta Food and Beverage Stores	14,755.6	14,949.7	1.3
Grocery Stores (Supermarkets and Convenience)	11,369.5	11,450.3	0.7
Specialty Food Stores	663.0	714.4	7.8
Beer, Wine and Liquor Stores	2,723.1	2,785.0	2.3

Average Household Food Expenditure, 2017 (Per Year)

	Alberta	% of Food	Canada	% of Food
Total Household Expenditure	\$100,587		\$86,070	
Food Expenditure	\$9,092		\$8,527	
<i>% Share of Total Expenditure</i>	<i>9.0%</i>		<i>9.9%</i>	
Food Purchased From Restaurants	\$2,668		\$2,593	
Food Purchased From Stores	\$6,424	100.0%	\$5,934	100.0%
Fruits and Vegetables	\$1,579	24.6%	\$1,433	24.1%
Meat and Processed Meat	\$1,203	18.7%	\$1,109	18.7%
Dairy Products and Eggs	\$944	14.7%	\$839	14.1%
Bakery Products	\$561	8.7%	\$563	9.5%
Cereal Grains and Cereal Products	\$375	5.8%	\$321	5.4%
Fish and Seafood	\$180	2.8%	\$219	3.7%

Per Capita Consumption of Red Meats and Poultry, Canada

	Units	2000	2018r	2019p
Beef	kg ⁽¹⁾	32.02	25.44	24.26
Pork	kg ⁽¹⁾	28.69	21.70	22.16
Mutton and Lamb	kg ⁽¹⁾	0.94	1.07	0.98
Chicken	kg ⁽²⁾	29.12	34.67	35.06
Turkey	kg ⁽²⁾	4.26	4.28	3.93

(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)

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Property Taxes	113.5	123.0	8.3
Cash and Share Rent	712.5	745.6	4.6
Cash Wages, Room and Board	819.7	948.9	15.8
Interest	783.1	898.3	14.7
Machinery Fuel	729.5	690.3	-5.4
Machinery Repairs	786.5	816.4	3.8
Fertilizer and Lime	1,304.1	1,401.6	7.5
Pesticides	609.4	627.9	3.0
Commercial Feed	1,529.3	1,575.2	3.0
Livestock and Poultry Purchases	1,179.8	1,283.4	8.8
Electricity and Telephone	299.1	335.5	12.2
Heating Fuel	67.9	91.1	34.0
Miscellaneous	2,141.9	2,385.2	11.4
Total Operating Expenses After Rebates	11,076.3	11,922.3	7.6
Depreciation on Buildings	311.7	333.8	7.1
Depreciation on Machinery	1,598.9	1,627.2	1.8
Total Expenses After Rebates and Depreciation	12,986.9	13,883.3	6.9

(1) Net of provincial or federal rebates.

Net Farm Income ⁽¹⁾ (\$ Millions)

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
1. Total Farm Cash Receipts	13,519.1	14,841.0	9.8
2. Total Operating Expenses After Rebates	11,076.3	11,922.3	7.6
3. Net Cash Income (1 - 2)	2,442.7	2,918.6	19.5
4. Income in Kind	11.8	11.7	-0.3
5. Depreciation Charges	1,910.6	1,961.0	2.6
6. Realized Net Income (3 + 4 - 5)	544.0	969.4	78.2
7. Value of Inventory Change	-242.9	-298.3	s
8. Total Net Income (6 + 7)	301.0	671.1	122.9

(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)

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
All Industries	62,301.0	59,511.1	-4.5
Agri-Food Industries	2,279.9	-	-
<i>% Share of All Industries</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>n/a</i>	
Agriculture Industries	1,703.1	1,722.9	1.2
Crop Production	1,227.1	1,245.2	1.5
Animal Production	445.3	437.7	-1.7
Support Services	30.7	40.0	30.3
Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industries	576.8	-	-
Food Industries	527.2	540.6	2.5
Beverage Industries	49.6	x	-

(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 2019, Alberta exports of primary and processed agricultural and food products (agri-food) were \$11.6 billion, down 2.1% from the record high in 2018 (\$11.9 billion). Declines were reported mainly in exports of primary commodities, due to much lower exports of canola seed and wheat. Among these commodities, wheat continued to be the largest export followed by canola seed. Crops showing increases included oats, dry peas, dry beans and potatoes. Exports of live cattle and hogs both increased from 2018. While commodity exports declined, exports of processed or value-added products continued to grow. Larger exports of beef, prepared animal feed, canola cake and meal, and refined canola oil, among others, contributed to the increase. Beef exports, the largest value-added product, grew 18.3% to a record \$2.4 billion, while the quantity rose 10.9%. The United States continues to be Alberta's largest market, accounting for 40.2% of total agri-food exports. The next largest markets were China (15.7%), Japan (11.2%) and Mexico (3.9%). Exports to China dropped sharply by 34.2% as a result of lower exports in canola seed, wheat, barley, other oilseeds, crude animal products, pork, and crude canola oil, etc.

	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
Canada Agri-Food Exports	59,894	60,044	0.3
Alberta Agri-Food Exports	11,888	11,636	-2.1
<i>Alberta as a % of Canada</i>	<i>19.8%</i>	<i>19.4%</i>	
Value-Added Processed Products	6,075	6,368	4.8
<i>As a % of Alberta Agri-Food Exports</i>	<i>51.1%</i>	<i>54.7%</i>	
Beef and Veal (incl. Offal)	2,039	2,413	18.3
Crude Canola Oil	1,002	828	-17.3
Oilseed Cake and Meal	574	639	11.3
Pork (incl. Offal)	441	432	-2.2
Processed Potatoes	379	381	0.5
Prepared Animal Feeds	231	299	29.8
Malt Roasted or Not Roasted	219	212	-3.1
Other Value-Added Processed Products	1,190	1,163	-2.2
Primary Commodities (Crops and Animals)	5,812	5,268	-9.4
<i>As a % of Alberta Agri-Food Exports</i>	<i>48.9%</i>	<i>45.3%</i>	
Wheat	2,307	2,009	-13.0
Canola Seed	1,735	1,146	-34.0
Live Cattle (excl. Purebred)	502	742	47.8
Dry Peas	427	523	22.7
Barley	225	217	-3.3
Hay and Fodder	123	118	-4.4
Other Primary Commodities	493	513	4.0
Alberta's Top Five Export Markets in 2019	2018r	2019p	% Chg.
1. United States (40.2% Share)	4,348	4,678	7.6
2. China (15.7% Share)	2,774	1,825	-34.2
3. Japan (11.2% Share)	1,273	1,307	2.7
4. Mexico (3.9% Share)	553	456	-17.4
5. Bangladesh (2.1% Share)	154	330	114.0

r - revised p - preliminary n/a - not applicable - - not available

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; and CanFax.

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