

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 2018 = 1.69 million acres or 5.4% of the total cultivated land area in Alberta.

In 2018, the irrigation districts in Alberta accounted for 1.37 million acres. The breakdown of irrigated crop acres was: forages (34%), cereals (31%), canola (10%), canola seed (4%), dry beans (4%), potatoes (3%), sugar beets (2%), alfalfa seed (3%), and all other crops (9%). Types of irrigation systems practiced were: centre pivot sprinkler (84.6%), side-roll-wheel-move sprinkler (7.6%), gravity or "flood" (6.9%), and other irrigation systems (0.8%).

Precipitation (millimetres) <i>April 1 to September 30 Cropping Season</i>	1961-2018		
	Average	2017	2018
Medicine Hat.....	241.5	174.9	100.1
Calgary.....	329.5	212.1	201.5
Lacombe.....	345.8	252.9	287.4
Wainwright.....	298.1	300.8	302.9
Oliver (near Edmonton).....	331.8	306.3	285.6
Beaverlodge.....	294.0	345.5	382.9

Population and Farms

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Population on July 1st	4,243,995	4,307,110	1.5
<i>% of Canadian Population</i>	<i>11.6%</i>	<i>11.6%</i>	

	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 ⁽²⁾	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

	2017	2018	% Chg.
Total Employed Labour Force	2,286,900	2,330,700	1.9
Agri-Food Industries	75,100	75,600	0.7
Agriculture.....	52,100	49,300	-5.4
Crop Production.....	18,900	18,400	-2.6
Animal Production.....	27,900	25,900	-7.2
Mixed Farming.....	2,900	2,600	-10.3
Support Activities for Agriculture.....	2,300	2,400	4.3
Food and Beverage Manufacturing.....	23,000	26,300	14.3
Food - Retail Trade and Services	182,200	181,300	-0.5
Food and Beverage Retail Stores.....	57,300	57,000	-0.5
Food Services and Drinking Places.....	124,900	124,300	-0.5

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

In 2018, Alberta's real gross domestic product for agri-food industries totalled \$8.5 billion, a marginal decline of 0.8% from 2017.

	In Chained (2012) Dollars		
	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
All Industries	327,596.2	335,095.6	2.3
Agri-Food Industries	8,591.4	8,522.6	-0.8
Agriculture.....	5,340.7	5,165.0	-3.3
Food Manufacturing.....	2,665.6	2,770.5	3.9
Beverage Manufacturing.....	585.1	587.1	0.3

Consumer Price Index and Financial Rates (Annual Averages)

	2017	2018	% Chg.
Consumer Price Index (CPI) (2002=100)			
Alberta - All Items	137.3	140.6	2.4
Food.....	141.7	143.9	1.6
Fresh or Frozen Meat (excl. Poultry).....	159.4	159.1	-0.2
Fresh or Frozen Poultry Meat.....	145.0	142.4	-1.8
Fresh Fruit.....	137.5	139.8	1.7
Fresh Vegetables.....	125.4	132.5	5.7
Dairy Products.....	136.9	138.5	1.2
Financial Rates	2016	2017	2018
Canada Bank Rate (%).....	0.75	0.96	1.69
Exchange Rate - US \$ Per Canadian \$.....	0.7544	0.7705	0.7716

Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)

Alberta's total farm cash receipts (FCR) was \$13.6 billion, 4% below the 2017 high and third highest on record. The decline was fuelled by lower crop market receipts and program payments to producers more than offsetting higher livestock market receipts. FCR is the sum of crop and livestock market receipts plus direct program payments to producers. Alberta accounted for 21.8% of total Canadian FCR in 2018, and led the nation with \$4.9 billion in cattle and calf market receipts.

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Total Farm Cash Receipts	14,134.1	13,570.6	-4.0
Crop Market Receipts	6,973.1	6,424.8	-7.9
Wheat.....	2,066.7	2,014.9	-2.5
Oats.....	30.5	42.3	38.9
Barley.....	255.6	263.1	2.9
Dry Peas.....	471.9	387.0	-18.0
Canola.....	3,082.2	2,586.7	-16.1
Potatoes.....	204.9	254.8	24.4
Greenhouse and Field Vegetables.....	114.1	133.4	16.9
Lentils.....	125.9	65.5	-48.0
Cannabis.....	x	33.8	-
Floriculture, Nursery and Sod.....	130.1	135.6	4.2
Other Crops.....	491.3	507.8	3.4
Livestock and Products Market Receipts	6,396.8	6,520.8	1.9
Cattle and Calves.....	4,800.3	4,912.8	2.3
Hogs.....	428.1	383.0	-10.5
Lambs.....	25.7	25.3	-1.3
Dairy Products.....	587.8	613.9	4.4
Poultry, Hatcheries and Eggs.....	377.2	406.3	7.7
Honey.....	67.7	67.1	-0.9
Other Livestock and Products.....	110.1	112.4	2.1
Total Market Receipts	13,369.9	12,945.6	-3.2
Direct Program Payments	764.2	624.9	-18.2
Crop and Hail Insurance.....	506.6	399.7	-21.1
AgriStability.....	121.7	127.2	4.5
AgriRecovery.....	7.3	0.7	-91.1
AgriInvest.....	61.4	67.6	10.0
Other Payments.....	67.1	29.8	-55.6

Livestock Industry

Alberta continues to be the largest beef producing province in Canada. As of July 1, 2018, the province led the nation in cattle and calf inventories and accounted for 40.7% of the national herd. In 2018, over three-quarters of Canadian beef processing occurred in Western Canada (76.4%), with the vast majority concentrated in Alberta.

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Livestock on Farms (Head), July 1st			
Cattle and Calves.....	5,135,000	5,060,000	-1.5
Bulls.....	92,200	92,100	-0.1
Milk Cows and Dairy Heifers.....	120,600	122,200	1.3
Beef Cows and Beef Heifers.....	1,867,200	1,829,600	-2.0
Calves.....	1,660,100	1,617,000	-2.6
Slaughter Steers and Heifers.....	1,394,900	1,399,100	0.3
Pigs.....	1,470,000	1,495,000	1.7
Sheep and Lambs.....	194,000	197,000	1.5
Livestock Slaughtered (Head)	2017	2018p	
Cattle and Calves ⁽¹⁾	2,260,844	2,409,367	6.6
Hogs.....	2,597,475	2,510,267	-3.4
Production Quantity (tonnes)			
Beef (e) ⁽²⁾	856,800	910,598	6.3
Pork (e).....	240,111	232,536	-3.2
Meat Product Manufacturing Sales (\$ Millions)	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Meat Product Manufacturing Industries ⁽³⁾	7,293.4	7,539.5	3.4
Value of International Exports (\$ Millions)			
Beef and Veal (incl. Offal).....	1,735.7	2,039.7	17.5
Pork (incl. Offal).....	492.1	441.3	-10.3
Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)			
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	4,800.3	4,912.8	2.3
<i>% of Total Farm Cash Receipts</i>	<i>45.3%</i>	<i>48.1%</i>	
Selected Prices	2017	2018	
Slaughter Steers, Alberta Direct Packer Sales* (\$/100 lbs).....	\$153.89	\$152.07	
Central Alberta Steer Calves, 500-600 lbs* (\$/100 lbs).....	\$222.26	\$222.84	
Alberta Average Slaughter Hogs Index 100 Dressed (\$/kg).....	\$1.61	\$1.47	

* 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

	2017	2018p	% Chg.
Milk Production ('000 litres).....	768,059	815,757	6.2

Poultry and Egg Production

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Chicken Meat (tonnes*).....	117,372	121,463	3.5
Turkey Meat (tonnes*).....	15,802	16,606	5.1
Egg Production ('000 Dozen).....	70,819	76,327	7.8

* Eviscerated Weight

Beekeeping Industry

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Honey Production (tonnes).....	18,405	16,994	-7.7
Value of Honey Produced (\$'000).....	71,359	64,055	-10.2

Selected Alternative Livestock Inventory (Head)

	2017	2018p	% Chg.
Whitetail Deer and Mule Deer.....	1,359	1,265	-6.9
Elk.....	12,008	12,076	0.6

Crops

	Harvested Area ('000 acres)		Production ('000 tonnes)	
	2017	2018p	2017	2018p
Principal Field Crops				
Winter Wheat.....	105.0	65.0	176.9	100.4
Spring Wheat.....	5,775.0	6,156.1	8,720.0	8,771.6
Durum Wheat.....	1,085.0	1,170.5	1,083.2	1,134.1
All Wheat	6,965.0	7,391.6	9,980.1	10,006.1
Oats.....	425.0	512.0	609.2	700.1
Barley.....	2,500.0	2,746.9	3,906.0	3,996.3
All Rye.....	25.0	22.4	33.5	30.0
Mixed Grains.....	25.0	-	33.0	-
Flaxseed.....	85.0	91.6	62.2	60.5
Canola.....	6,890.0	6,679.2	6,826.6	5,870.6
Dry Beans.....	50.0	60.8	61.5	72.8
Dry Peas.....	1,790.0	1,479.9	1,991.5	1,608.4
Mustard Seed.....	93.0	118.1	27.1	36.7
Triticale.....	15.0	22.4	23.2	32.0
Tame Hay.....	4,160.0	4,066.0	7,175.8	6,035.7
Fodder Corn.....	90.0	100.9	1,564.9	1,660.4
Sugar Beets.....	26.0	27.5	771.1	854.5
Summerfallow	830.0	465.7	n/a	n/a

	(acres)		(tonnes)	
	2017	2018p	2017r	2018p
Commercial Fresh Vegetables and Fruits				
Beans.....	x	167	129	x
Carrots.....	404	338	3,243	2,490
Corn, Sweet.....	2,065	2,126	14,749	13,203
Onions, Dry.....	x	1,102	23,743	25,178
Peas, Green.....	3,277	2,770	4,309	4,138
Raspberries.....	148	148	70	71
Strawberries.....	170	178	x	210

	Value of International Exports (\$ Millions)		
	2017	2018p	% Chg.
Total Crops.....	4,926	4,911	-0.3
Wheat.....	2,135	2,305	8.0
Canola Seed.....	2,022	1,717	-15.1
Barley.....	197	225	14.1
Other Crops.....	572	665	16.3

	Farm Cash Receipts (\$ Millions)		
	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Total Crops.....	6,973.1	6,424.8	-7.9
<i>% of Total Farm Cash Receipts</i>	<i>49.3%</i>	<i>47.3%</i>	

Value of Principal Field Crops (\$/tonne)

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
No.1 CW Red Spring Wheat (13% or 13.5%).....	213.00	232.40	239.00	249.10
No.2 CP Spring Wheat (11% or 11.5%).....	141.70	201.60	172.90	193.60
Oats (feedmill bids, Lethbridge).....	174.71	201.98	183.53	192.90
Barley (feedmill bids, Lethbridge).....	200.76	212.64	171.00	227.85
Canola (canola seed crusher average prices).....	435.01	466.57	479.67	492.66

Greenhouse Industry

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Total Greenhouse Area ('000 sq. ft).....	13,473	13,575	0.8
Total Sales (\$'000).....	147,414	170,087	15.4

Food and Beverage Manufacturing Sales (\$ Millions)

In 2018, Alberta food and beverage manufacturing sales reached a new high of \$15.2 billion or 19.8% of the province's total manufactured goods (\$76.8 billion). The leading food sub-sector was meat product manufacturing (including poultry) at \$7.5 billion, which accounted for 53.5% of the provincial food sales.

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
All Manufacturing Industries	72,894.8	76,832.9	5.4
Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industries ..	14,814.1	15,176.9	2.4
<i>% Share of All Manufacturing</i>	<i>20.3%</i>	<i>19.8%</i>	
Food Manufacturing Industries	13,475.7	14,102.3	4.7
Meat Product Manufacturing (incl. Poultry)	7,293.4	7,539.5	3.4
<i>% Share of Food Manufacturing</i>	<i>54.1%</i>	<i>53.5%</i>	
Grain and Oilseed Milling	1,808.1	1,771.9	-2.0
Animal Foods (incl. Livestock Feed)	929.4	1,023.9	10.2
All Other Food Manufacturing	3,444.7	3,767.1	9.4
Dairy Products	1,191.5	1,450.2	21.7
Bread and Bakery Products	513.5	x	-
Other Food Manufacturing ⁽¹⁾	920.6	1,038.0	12.7
Beverage Manufacturing Industries	1,338.4	1,074.6	-19.7

(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)

	2017	2018p	% Chg.
Total Alberta Food and Beverage Stores	14,689.0	14,755.6	0.5
Grocery Stores (Supermarkets and Convenience)	11,248.9	11,369.5	1.1
Specialty Food Stores	668.3	663.0	-0.8
Beer, Wine and Liquor Stores	2,771.8	2,723.1	-1.8

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	1999	2017r	2018p
Beef	kg ⁽¹⁾	32.60	25.29	25.40
Pork	kg ⁽¹⁾	30.09	20.79	21.67
Mutton and Lamb	kg ⁽¹⁾	0.86	1.11	1.07
Chicken	kg ⁽²⁾	27.75	33.21	34.62
Turkey	kg ⁽²⁾	4.17	4.19	4.28

(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)

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Property Taxes	110.3	114.3	3.7
Cash and Share Rent	693.6	715.9	3.2
Cash Wages, Room and Board	788.2	826.6	4.9
Interest	674.0	786.7	16.7
Machinery Fuel	612.6	729.3	19.1
Machinery Repairs	766.8	786.5	2.6
Fertilizer and Lime	1,283.5	1,303.2	1.5
Pesticides	609.1	621.5	2.0
Commercial Feed	1,355.8	1,529.3	12.8
Livestock and Poultry Purchases	1,259.8	1,202.9	-4.5
Electricity and Telephone	252.1	308.7	22.5
Heating Fuel	70.8	66.3	-6.3
Miscellaneous	2,132.4	2,156.6	1.1
Total Operating Expenses After Rebates	10,609.0	11,147.7	5.1
Depreciation on Buildings	295.0	301.6	2.2
Depreciation on Machinery	1,565.8	1,597.9	2.1
Total Expenses After Rebates and Depreciation ..	12,469.7	13,047.2	4.6

(1) Net of provincial or federal rebates.

Net Farm Income ⁽¹⁾ (\$ Millions)

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
1. Total Farm Cash Receipts	14,134.1	13,570.6	-4.0
2. Total Operating Expenses After Rebates	10,609.0	11,147.7	5.1
3. Net Cash Income (1 - 2)	3,525.1	2,422.8	-31.3
4. Income in Kind	11.7	11.7	0.0
5. Depreciation Charges	1,860.7	1,899.5	2.1
6. Realized Net Income (3 + 4 - 5)	1,676.1	535.1	-68.1
7. Value of Inventory Change	334.8	-284.5	s
8. Total Net Income (6 + 7)	2,010.8	250.5	-87.5

(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)

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
All Industries	60,249.9	60,521.3	0.5
Agri-Food Industries	1,793.9	2,209.6	23.2
<i>% Share of All Industries</i>	<i>3.0%</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	
Agriculture Industries	1,501.1	1,751.3	16.7
Crop Production	1,042.0	1,362.2	30.7
Animal Production	459.1	378.8	-17.5
Support Services	x	10.3	-
Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industries ..	292.8	458.3	56.5
Food Industries	292.8	458.3	56.5
Beverage Industries	x	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 2018, Alberta exports of primary and processed agricultural and food products (agri-food) reached another record at \$11.6 billion, up by 3.2% over 2017. Gains were reported mainly in exports of value-added products, such as crude canola oil; oilseed cake and meal; beef; processed potatoes; and prepared cereals, among others. Exports of beef, the largest value-added product, were 17.5% higher in value and 8.1% in quantity. Exports of primary commodities declined by 2.4% due to lower exports of canola seed and live cattle. Among these commodities, wheat continued to be the largest exports followed by canola seed. Exports of wheat rose in both, value and quantity, while canola seed declined. Crops showing increases included oats; dry peas; hay and fodder; barley; and mustard seed. The United States continues to be Alberta's largest market, accounting for 37.5% of total agri-food exports. The next largest markets were China (22.6%), Japan (11%) and Mexico (4.8%). Exports to China rose sharply by 32.4% mainly due to larger exports of canola cake and meal; crude canola oil; dry peas; wheat; barley; and beef.

	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
Canada Agri-Food Exports	58,225	59,829	2.8
Alberta Agri-Food Exports	11,237	11,595	3.2
<i>Alberta as a % of Canada</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>19.4%</i>	
Value-Added Processed Products	5,584	6,077	8.8
<i>As a % of Alberta Agri-Food Exports</i>	<i>49.7%</i>	<i>52.4%</i>	
Beef and Veal (incl. Offal)	1,736	2,040	17.5
Crude Canola Oil	853	1,003	17.7
Oilseed Cake and Meal	404	575	42.2
Pork (incl. Offal)	492	441	-10.3
Processed Potatoes	328	379	15.7
Prepared Animal Feeds	250	231	-7.8
Malt Roasted or Not Roasted	240	219	-8.8
Other Value-Added Processed Products	1,281	1,189	-7.2
Primary Commodities (Crops and Animals)	5,653	5,519	-2.4
<i>As a % of Alberta Agri-Food Exports</i>	<i>50.3%</i>	<i>47.6%</i>	
Wheat	2,135	2,305	8.0
Canola Seed	2,022	1,717	-15.1
Live Cattle (excl. Purebred)	612	502	-18.0
Dry Peas	187	228	22.2
Barley	197	225	14.1
Hay and Fodder	102	123	20.4
Other Primary Commodities	398	419	5.3
Alberta's Top Five Export Markets in 2018	2017r	2018p	% Chg.
1. United States (37.5% Share)	4,268	4,343	1.8
2. China (22.6% Share)	1,980	2,622	32.4
3. Japan (11.0% Share)	1,260	1,272	0.9
4. Mexico (4.8% Share)	602	552	-8.4
5. Indonesia (2.1% Share)	207	244	17.9

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.

This Factsheet was prepared by:

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Economics and Competitiveness Branch
Statistics and Data Development Section
#300, J.G. O'Donoghue Building, 7000 - 113 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA T6H 5T6
Phone: 780-422-2961 Fax: 780-427-5220 alberta.ca/agriculture.aspx

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