

## Canada's average herd size hits 100

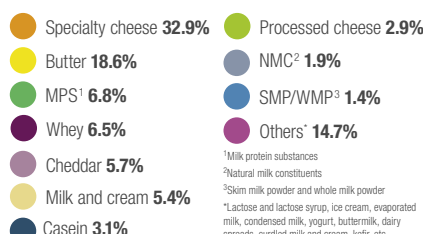
Progressive Dairy Managing Editor Karen Lee

Milk production across Canada for 2022 remained stable, decreasing less than 1% (630,000 hectolitres) from the previous year. A slight increase of 0.3% in the larger P5 covered most of the more prominent production drop (-3.5%) in the Western Milk Pool.

Cow numbers also held close to the previous year and are up 8,800 compared to 10 years ago. The number of farms with milk shipments continued to decline, down 213 from the previous year. There are 2,790 fewer dairy farms (-22%) in Canada now than in 2012. With more cows and fewer farms, the average herd size continues to grow. The average herd size in Canada is now calculated at 100 cows, up from 77 cows per farm 10 years ago.

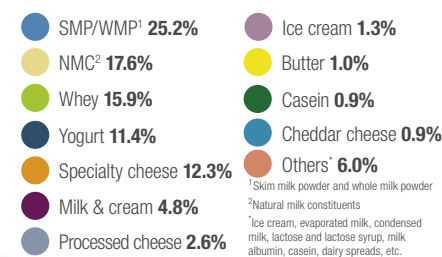
Total dairy cash receipts topped \$8.2 billion, up 11.4% from 2021. This helped but was still outpaced by the 18.7% increase in total farm input prices. Double-digit increases were seen in all categories of input prices. Machinery fuel continued to be the category with the largest increase at 54.7% higher than the previous year, followed by general business costs at 28.4% higher.

Dairy product exports were up 33% over last year; however, imports also increased and the net trade difference widened to \$849 million, \$149 million higher than last year and the greatest spread in the last decade. Imported dairy products, based on monetary value, from the U.S. and New Zealand grew by 36% and 44%, respectively. More dairy products by value also came in from Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Germany.



## Top 10 countries selling dairy products to Canada

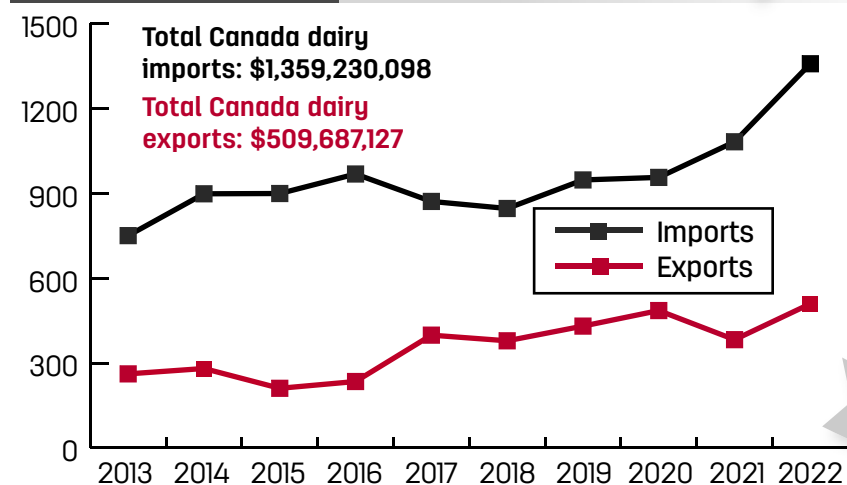
| Rank | Country        | 2022 Imports (in dollars) | Percent change from 2021 |
|------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1    | U.S.           | \$715,612,378             | 36%                      |
| 2    | New Zealand    | \$156,735,965             | 44%                      |
| 3    | Italy          | \$138,933,154             | 19%                      |
| 4    | France         | \$78,632,644              | -2%                      |
| 5    | Netherlands    | \$43,627,978              | 21%                      |
| 6    | Switzerland    | \$38,956,883              | 6%                       |
| 7    | United Kingdom | \$30,669,571              | 3%                       |
| 8    | Germany        | \$27,925,427              | 11%                      |
| 9    | Denmark        | \$27,802,709              | -1%                      |
| 10   | Ireland        | \$23,498,490              | -4%                      |



## Top 10 countries buying Canada dairy products

| Rank | Country              | 2022 Exports (in dollars) | Percent change from 2021 |
|------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1    | U.S.                 | \$242,068,613             | 19%                      |
| 2    | Egypt                | \$79,332,077              | 126%                     |
| 3    | Algeria              | \$32,150,623              | 66%                      |
| 4    | Philippines          | \$21,756,250              | 28%                      |
| 5    | Japan                | \$15,508,745              | 6%                       |
| 6    | United Arab Emirates | \$9,771,125               | 64%                      |
| 7    | Republic of Korea    | \$8,627,357               | 4%                       |
| 8    | Saudi Arabia         | \$8,403,767               | 237%                     |
| 9    | China                | \$7,874,353               | -29%                     |
| 10   | Singapore            | \$7,310,539               | 170%                     |

## Canada dairy exports/imports (in millions of dollars)



Source: Statistics Canada



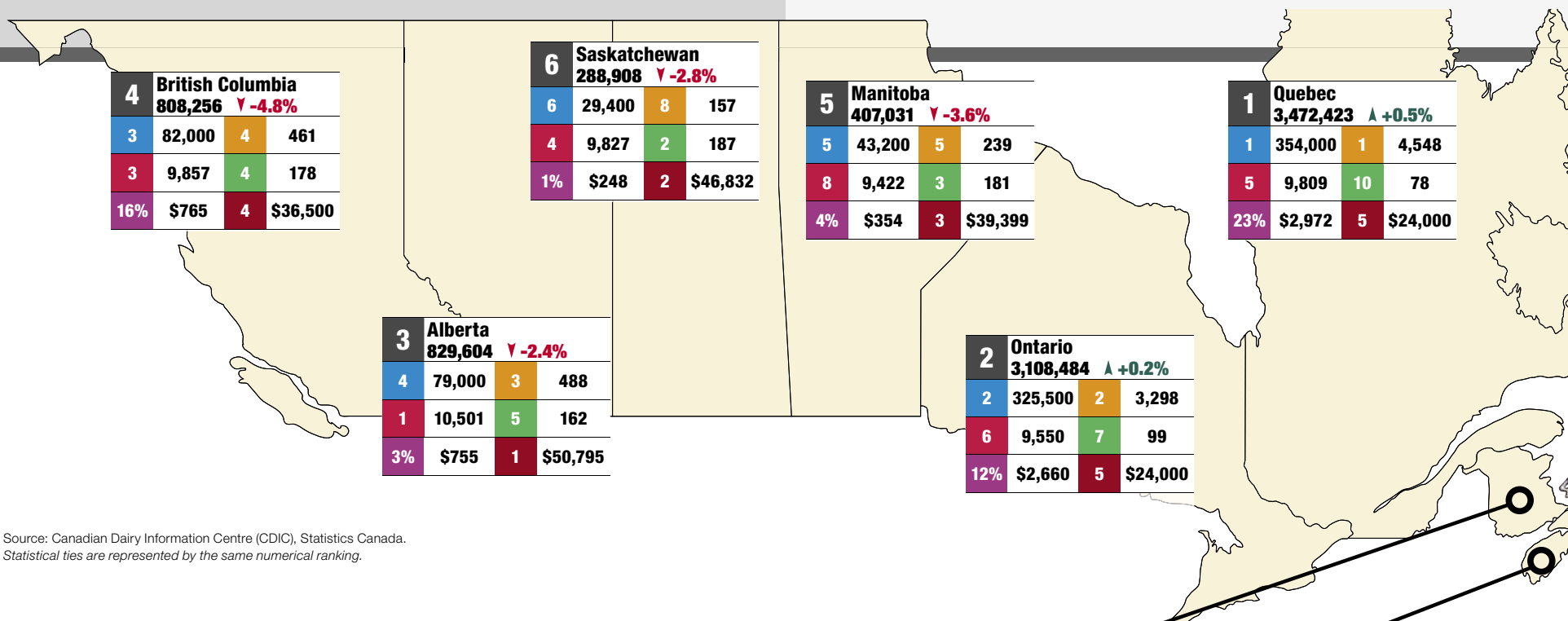
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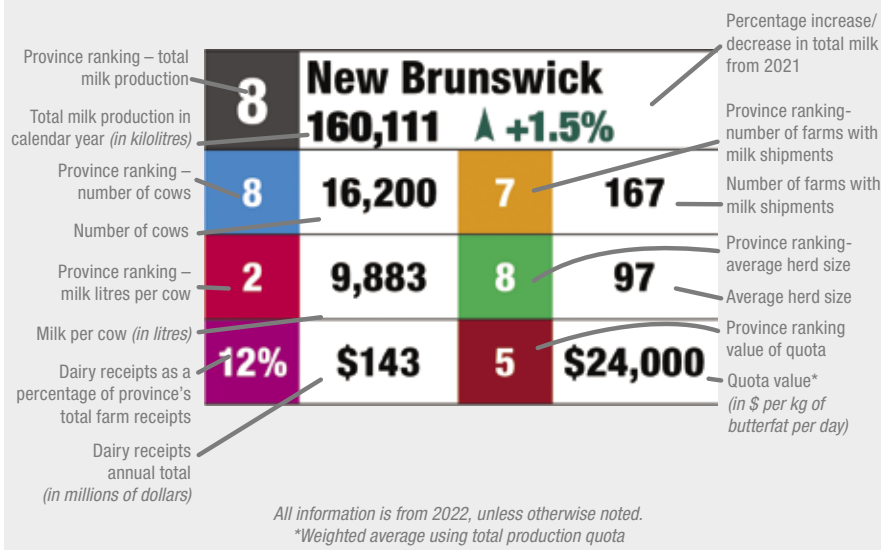


# 2022 Canada dairy statistics



Source: Canadian Dairy Information Centre (CDIC), Statistics Canada.  
Statistical ties are represented by the same numerical ranking.

## Legend



| Canada   |         |           |        |
|--|---------|-----------|--------|
| *Weighted average using total production quota |         |           |        |
| 9,449,603                                      | ▼ -0.7% |           |        |
| 969,400  | ▼ -0.5% | 9,739     | ▼ -213 |
| 9,748  | ▼ -0.1  | 100       | ▲ +2   |
| \$8,232  | 9%      | \$29,400* |        |



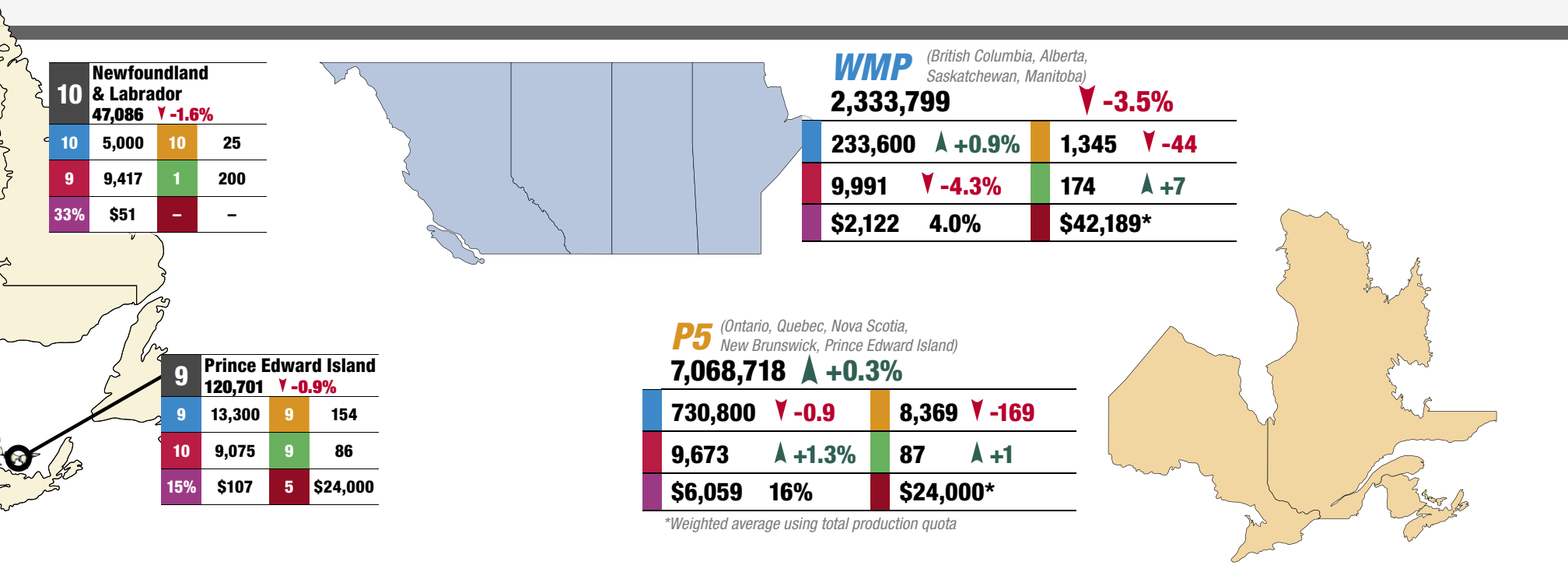
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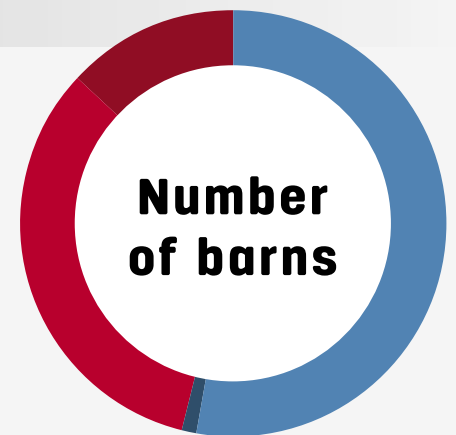


# 2022 Dairy barns by type

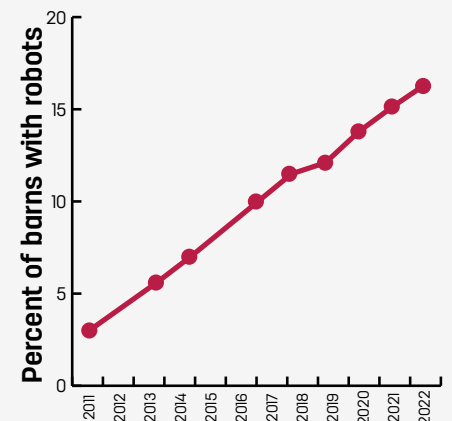
| Province                  | Tiestall     |           |  | Freestall       |           |   |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------|---|
|                           | Number       | Herd size | Percentage of tiestall barns with robots | Number of barns | Herd size | Percentage of freestall barns with robots |
| British Columbia          | 6            | 30        |  | 190             | 195       | 30%                                       |
| Alberta                   | 10           | 91        |  | 279             | 168       | 25%                                       |
| Saskatchewan              | 6            | 110       |  | 64              | 191       | 28%                                       |
| Manitoba                  | 31           | 83        | 6%                                       | 100             | 227       | 59%                                       |
| Ontario                   | 1,190        | 63        | 0.4%                                     | 892             | 132       | 36%                                       |
| Quebec                    | 2,543        | 70        | 2%                                       | 692             | 129       | 56%                                       |
| New Brunswick             | 42           | 64        |  | 68              | 139       | 41%                                       |
| Nova Scotia               | 44           | 62        |  | 62              | 143       | 26%                                       |
| Prince Edward Island      | 36           | 75        | 3%                                       | 45              | 113       | 20%                                       |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 1            | 246       |  | 7               | 220       | 29%                                       |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>3,909</b> |           | <b>2%</b>                                | <b>2,399</b>    |           | <b>40%</b>                                |

Based on herds enrolled in milk recording program

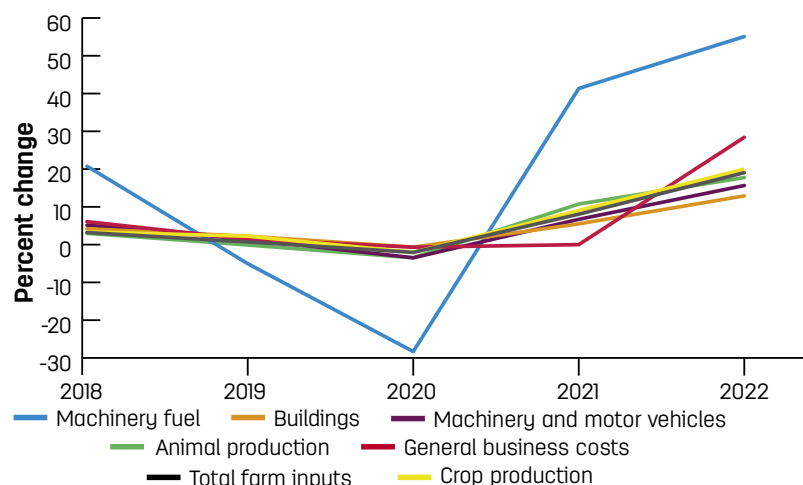
Source: Lactanet



Tiestall (3,909) 53%  
 Freestall (2,399) 33%  
 Tiestall with robots (70) 1%  
 Freestall with robots (971) 13%

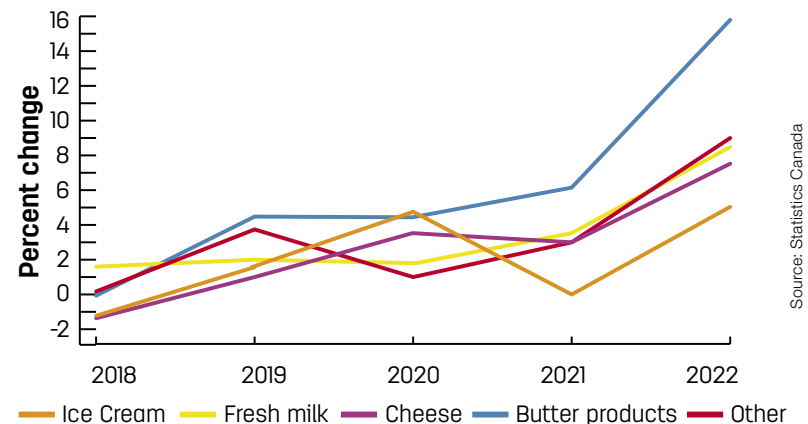


## Percent change in Canadian dairy farm input prices

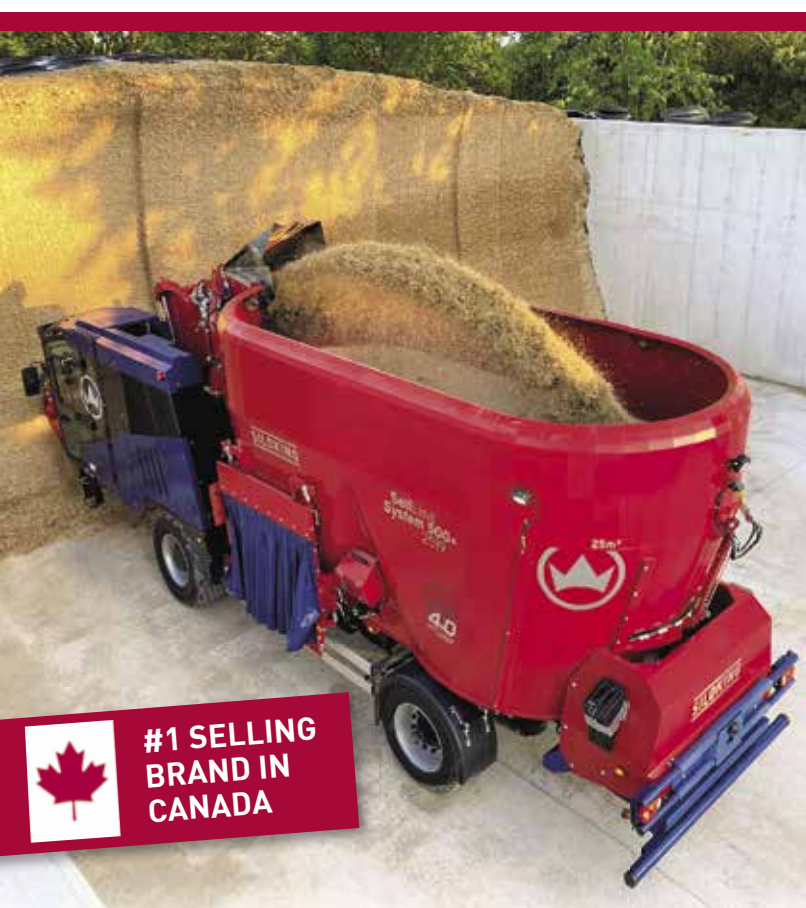


Source: Statistics Canada

## Percent change in Canadian consumer prices



Source: Statistics Canada



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