

2025: Steady amid turbulence

Progressive Dairy Editor **Matti McBride**

Amid trade conflicts, rising input costs and the beginning of a market shift, the statistics from the 2025 dairy production year showed resilience despite uncertainty.

Milk production increased slightly in 2025, up 1.8% (98,391,361 hectolitres) from 2024. The Western Milk Pool grew in total milk production, up 4.6% from 2024, while the P5 slightly increased (0.9%).

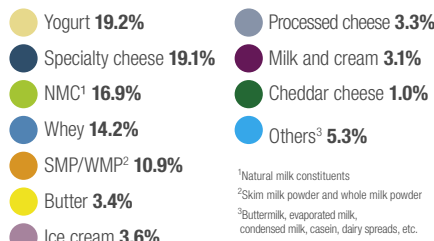
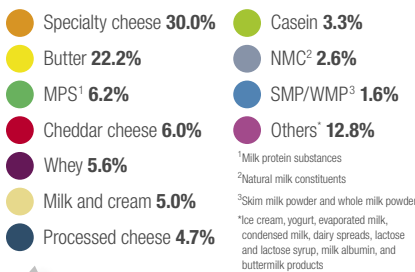
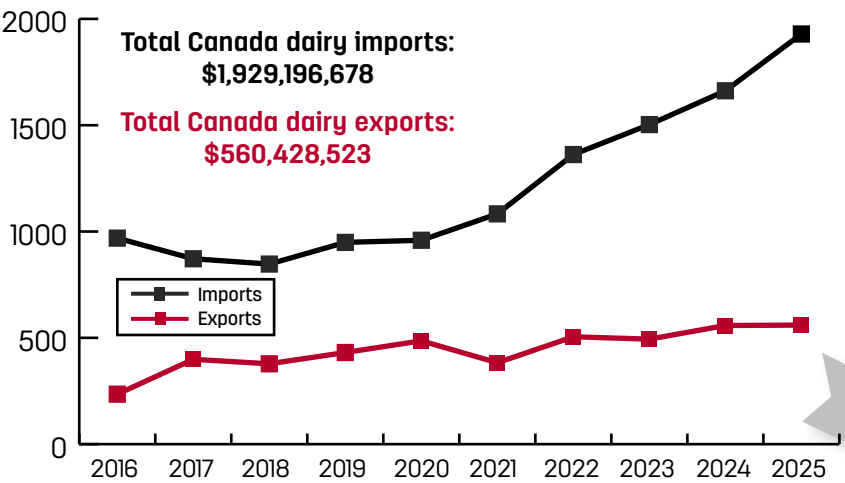
Cow numbers decreased slightly in 2025, totaling 963,200 compared to 964,400 in 2024. Even with a dip in cow numbers, overall milk production increased by 2% (198 litres per cow) in 2025. Largest increases from 2024 were found in the Western Milk Pool, with Saskatchewan up 8.2%, Alberta up 7% and British Columbia up 4.3%.

Two hundred and eight farms stopped shipping milk in 2025. Average herd size across the country saw little change from 2024, bumping up two cows to 106.

Canada's dairy cash receipts for 2025 totaled \$9.1 billion, up 1% from 2024. Farm input prices were up 8.4%, with animal production (16.2%) and machinery and motor vehicles (10.8%) showing the biggest increases.

The dairy trade balance grew to -\$1.4 billion as imported dairy products grew again (16%) in 2025.

Canada dairy exports/imports (in millions of dollars)



Top 10 countries selling dairy products to Canada

Rank	Country	2025 Imports (in dollars)	Percent change from 2024
1	U.S.	\$1,056,732,352	18%
2	New Zealand	\$214,385,205	5%
3	Italy	\$209,430,145	29%
4	France	\$103,902,512	19%
5	Netherlands	\$61,662,940	9%
6	Denmark	\$43,546,093	31%
7	Ireland	\$41,818,787	12%
8	Switzerland	\$38,787,669	5%
9	United Kingdom	\$38,348,362	53%
10	Australia	\$24,186,053	10%

Imports

Top 10 countries buying Canada dairy products

Rank	Country	2025 Exports (in dollars)	Percent change from 2024
1	U.S.	\$391,304,621	9%
2	Egypt	\$22,160,363	-41%
3	Japan	\$15,908,786	22%
4	United Arab Emirates	\$15,199,590	-12%
5	Cuba	\$11,924,238	36%
6	Philippines	\$9,185,585	-37%
7	South Korea	\$9,139,506	77%
8	Greece	\$7,726,474	-18%
9	Mexico	\$7,067,840	32%
10	Singapore	\$6,383,364	486%

Exports

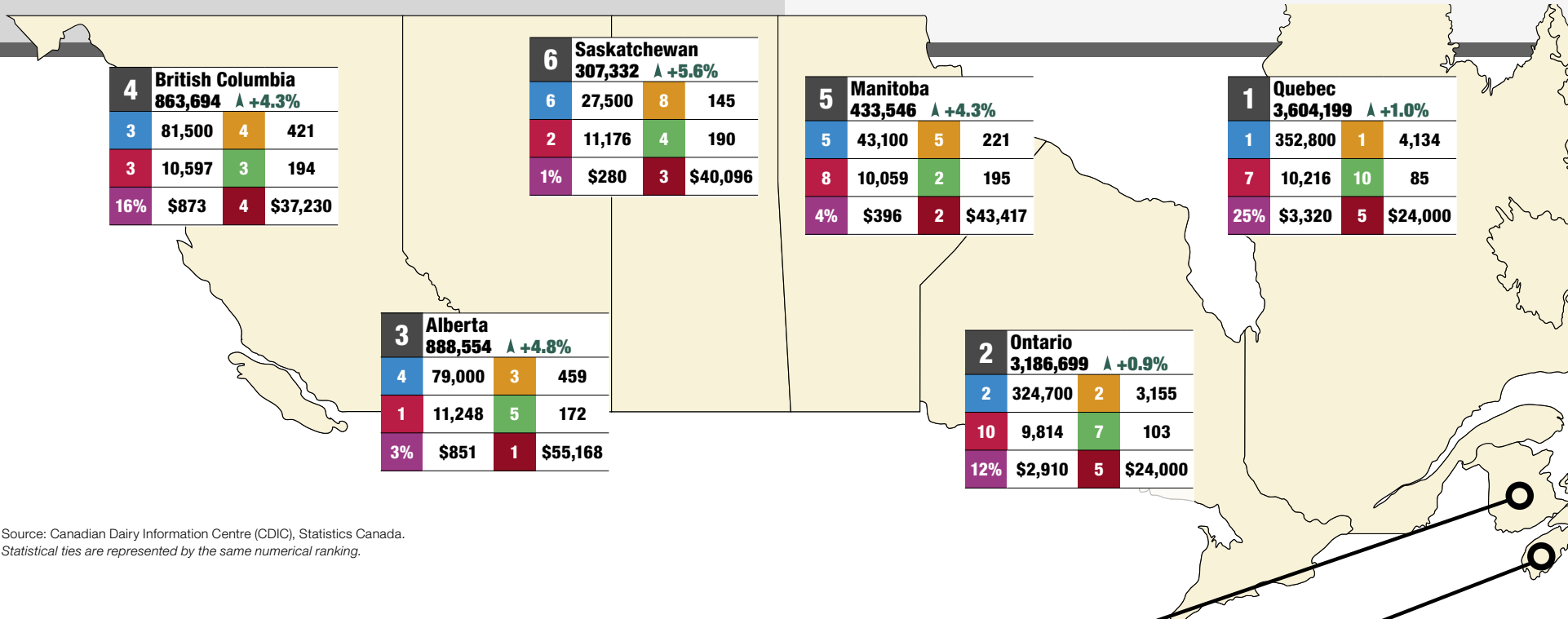
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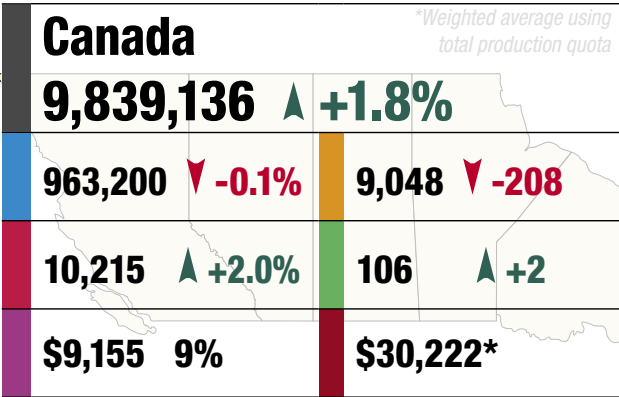
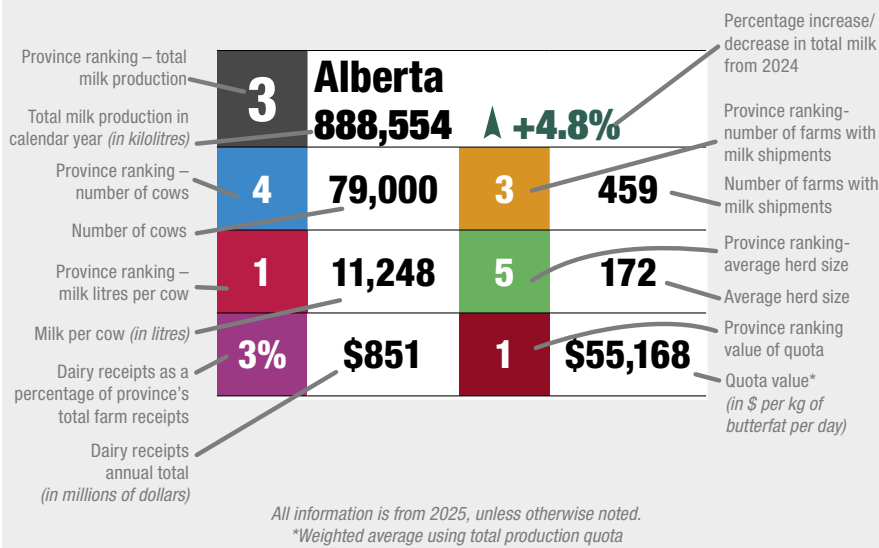


2025 Canada dairy statistics



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

Legend



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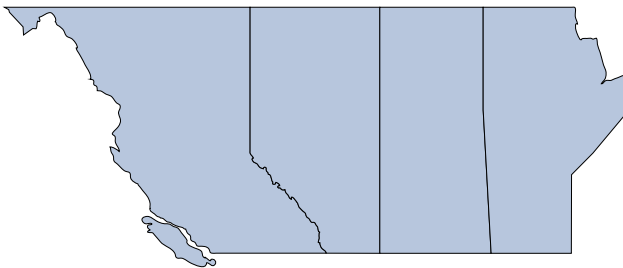


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10 Newfoundland & Labrador 52,209 ▲ +9.6%			
10	5,000	10	22
4	10,442	1	227
32%	\$54	-	-



WMP (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba) 2,493,126 ▲ +4.6%			
231,100 ▼ -1.0%	1,246 ▼ -27		
10,788 ▲ 5.6%	185 ▼ -2		
\$2,399 4.0%	\$45,604*		

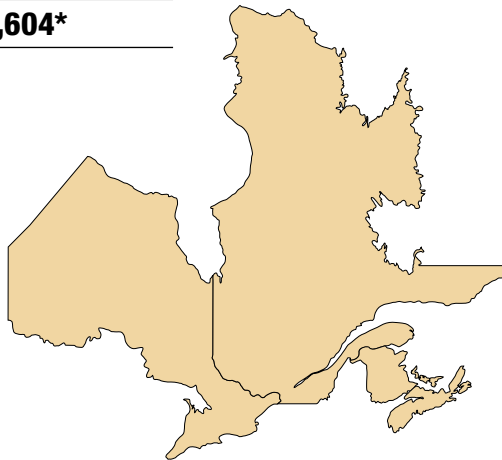
*Weighted average using total production quota

9 Prince Edward Island 123,738 ▼ -2.2%			
9	12,100	9	138
6	10,226	9	88
14%	\$116	5	\$24,000

P5 (Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island)
7,293,801 ▲ **+0.9%**

727,100 ▲ +0.2%	7,780 ▼ -180		
10,031 ▲ +0.7%	93 ▲ +2		
\$6,702 17%	\$24,000*		

*Weighted average using total production quota



Province total production rank	Province	Total milk production (in kilolitres) 2025	Percentage increase/decrease in total milk from 2024	Number of cows 2025	Percentage increase/decrease in number of cows from 2024	Milk per cow (in litres) 2025	Percentage increase/decrease in milk per cow from 2024	Number of farms with milk shipments 2025	Change in number of farms with milk shipments from 2024	Average herd size 2025	Change in avg herd size from 2024
1	Quebec	3,604,199	1.0	352,800	-0.3	10,216	1.4	4,134	-116	85	2
2	Ontario	3,186,699	0.9	324,700	0.7	9,814	0.2	3,155	-38	103	2
3	Alberta	888,554	4.8	79,000	-2.1	11,248	7.0	459	-11	172	NC
4	British Columbia	863,694	4.3	81,500	NC	10,597	4.3	421	-5	194	2
5	Manitoba	433,546	4.3	43,100	0.2	10,059	4.0	221	-5	195	5
6	Saskatchewan	307,332	5.6	27,500	-2.5	11,176	8.2	145	-6	190	3
7	Nova Scotia	214,121	1.2	21,500	2.4	9,959	-1.2	191	-4	113	5
8	New Brunswick	165,044	-0.1	16,000	-0.6	10,315	0.5	162	NC	99	-1
9	Prince Edward Island	123,738	-2.2	12,100	-1.6	10,226	-0.6	138	-22	88	11
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	52,209	9.6	5,000	-2.0	10,442	11.8	22	-1	227	6
CANADA TOTAL		9,839,136	1.8	963,200	-0.1	10,215	2.0	9,048	-208	106	2



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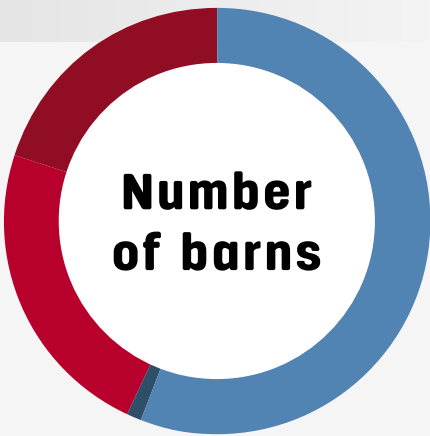
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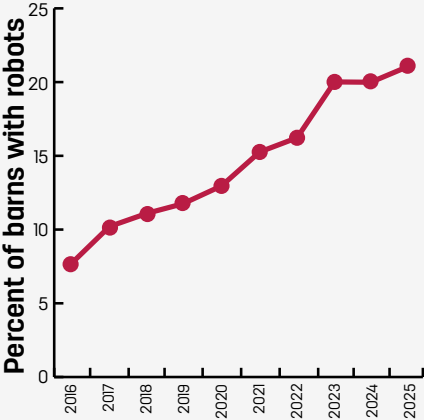
2025 Dairy barns by type

Province	Tiestall			Freestall		
	Number of barns	Herd size	Percentage of tiestall barns with robots	Number of barns	Herd size	Percentage of freestall barns with robots
British Columbia	4	39		161	240	32%
Alberta	1	69		267	176	34%
Saskatchewan	6	121		68	243	35%
Manitoba	27	83	4%	94	241	61%
Ontario	1,001	62	0.8%	923	129	43%
Quebec	2,214	73	3%	779	128	60%
New Brunswick	41	61		76	135	43%
Nova Scotia	35	63		76	143	36%
Prince Edward Island	32	70	3%	49	113	31%
Newfoundland and Labrador				9	177	44%
Total	3,361		2%	2,502		47%

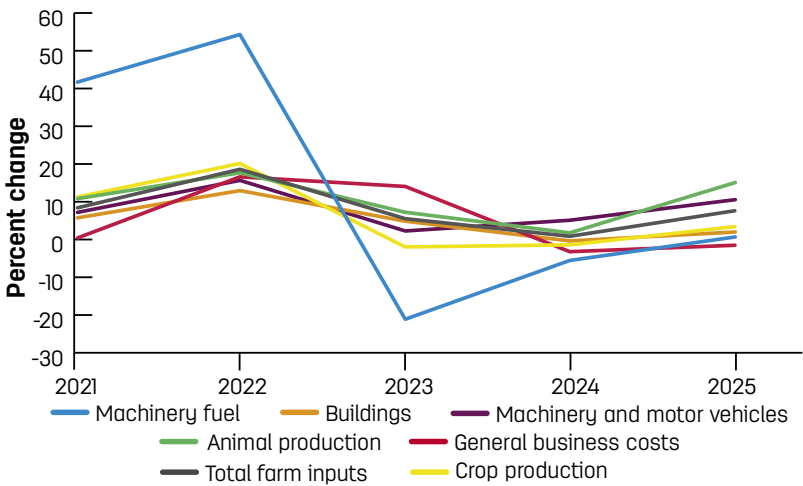
Based on herds enrolled in milk recording program
Source: Lactanet



Tiestall (3,292) 56% Freestall (1,333) 23%
Tiestall with robots (69) 1% Freestall with robots (1,169) 20%

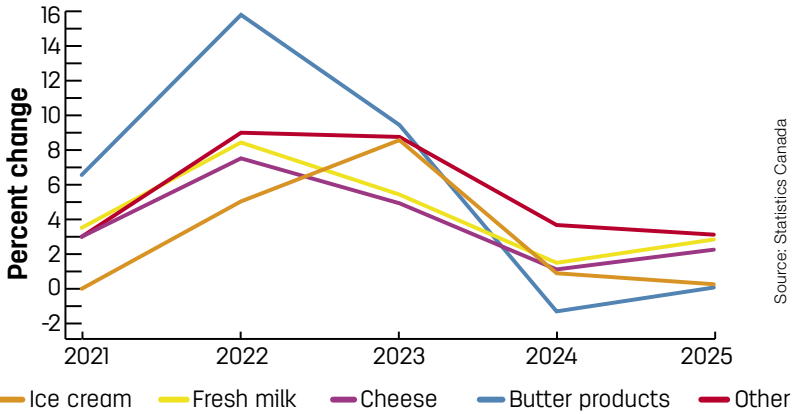


Percent change in Canadian dairy farm input prices



Source: Statistics Canada

Percent change in Canadian consumer prices



Source: Statistics Canada



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