

B.C. Chicken Industry 2022

2020 QUICK FACTS

- B.C. chicken production is regulated at the federal and provincial levels under supply management. Farmers producing 2,000 or more chickens a year must be registered with the B.C. Chicken Marketing Board (the Chicken Board) and hold quota.
- In 2020, 312 registered chicken farmers in B.C. raised 255 million kg (live weight) of chicken valued at \$463 million in farm cash receipts.
- Chicken production is B.C.'s third largest land-based agriculture industry, accounting for 11% of B.C.'s agriculture farm cash receipts.
- 79% of B.C. chicken farmers are located in the Lower Mainland, 16% in the Interior, and 4% on Vancouver Island and 01% in the North
- The average B.C. chicken farm produced an estimated 423,705 birds in 2020 (equal to 817,327 kg live weight).
- 94% of B.C. production takes place in free-run barns and is called conventional production, while specialty production (Asian chicken) and certified organic production represent 6%.
- There are 11 hatcheries in B.C.
- There are 136 registered small lot producers in B.C. who raise between 200 and 2,000 birds per year without quota.
- B.C. is Canada's third largest chicken-producing province.

Canadian Chicken Production (2020)

Prov.	kg (eviscerated weight)	%
ON	438,736,000	34%
QC	333,354,000	26%
BC	186,853,000	15%
AB	127,279,000	10%
MB	52,182,000	4%
SK	47,955,000	4%
Atlantic	95,191,000	7%
Canada	1,271,549,000	100%

Adapted from: Chicken Farmers of Canada

MARKET TRENDS

Chicken is the most consumed meat animal protein source and is resulting in a continuous increase Canadian production. However, after ten years of continued growth, the Canadian chicken industry saw a 2% decrease compared to 2019, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Production in B.C. saw a 0.19% decrease in 2020. The per capita consumption (PCC) of chicken in 2020 was 34.4 kg per person, a 0.7 kg decrease from 2019.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for fresh and frozen chicken averaged 169.8 in 2020, up 5.4 points from 2019. All meat CPI's except for turkey experienced significant increases in 2020.



8 week old broilers in a barn.

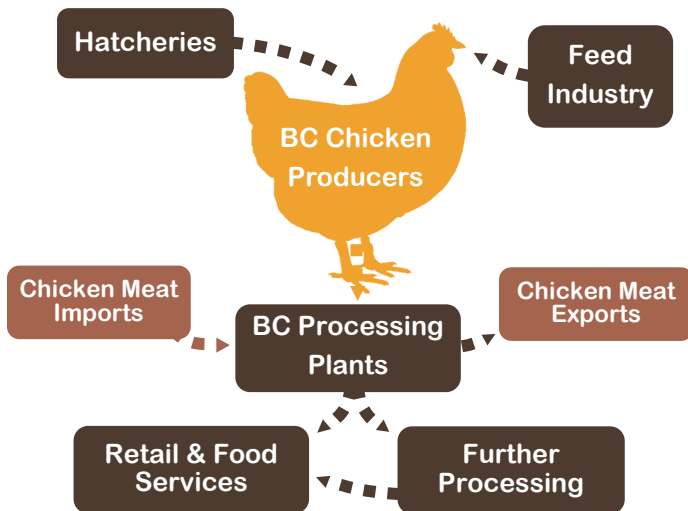
TRADE

In 2020, Canada imports totalled 178.1 million kilograms in actual weight, valued at \$587 million, and mostly originated from the United States, followed by Brazil, Thailand and Hungary.

That same year, 137.4 million kilograms of chicken representing a decline of 4.8 Mkg (-3.4%) from 2019 worth \$554.8 million, was exported to over 50 countries, with the largest importers being the United States, the Philippines, and Taiwan.

The Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) administered by Global Affairs Canada, represent the annual volume of imports of chicken and chicken products allowed into Canada at in-quota tariff rates. In 2020, Canada's total market access commitment for chicken imports under all TRQs from World Trade Organization (WTO), Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (NAFTA/CUSMA) and Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) trade agreements was 103.7 Mkg up from the 102.5 Mkg it was in 2019.

INDUSTRY VALUE CHAIN



B.C. chicken farmers buy chicks from hatcheries. The birds are raised for about eight weeks in free-run barns and are then transported to processing plants.

In B.C., there are 22 licenced processors and two further processors. Chicken may be sold as solid-cut meat or further processed into food items like deli meats, breaded chicken, nuggets, and pot pies.

The Chicken Board, the B.C. Broiler Hatching Egg Commission, and hatcheries coordinate efforts to ensure B.C. chicken farmers receive quality chicks to supply the chicken broiler market.

BIOSECURITY & ANIMAL CARE

Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) and Avian Influenza (AI) are significant concerns for the poultry industry. To prevent disease and ensure a stable and safe supply, the B.C. chicken industry participates in the CFC's audited On-Farm Food Safety Program. The B.C. poultry industry leads the country in their AI emergency response program.

B.C. chicken farmers are audited regularly by third parties to ensure they are adhering to the CFC Animal Care Program and mandatory biosecurity programs.

GOVERNANCE

Canada's chicken industry is supply-managed. It operates under federal and provincial legislation and agreements.

At the federal level, Chicken Farmers of Canada (CFC) is responsible for the orderly production and marketing of chicken in Canada and is supervised by Farm Products Council of Canada.

At the provincial level, the Chicken Board is the first instance regulator of chicken production in B.C. under the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act* and the British Columbia Chicken Marketing Scheme.

The Chicken Board is responsible for the orderly production and marketing of chicken. It has the legislated authority to promote, regulate, and control the volume of production, transportation, packaging, storage and marketing of chicken, as well as to set the price producers receive for their chicken.

The B.C. Chicken Growers Association represents farmer interests, and the Primary Poultry Processors Association represents the interests of processors in the province.

The B.C. Farm Industry Review Board is responsible for ensuring the Chicken Board meets its responsibilities in an effective, strategic, and accountable manner that results in sound marketing policy.

SOURCES

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BC Farm Industry Review Board

www.gov.bc.ca/BCFarmIndustryReviewBoard

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