

B.C. Chicken Industry 2021

2021 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 2021, 312 registered chicken farmers in B.C. raised 256 million kg (live weight) of chicken valued at \$524 million in farm cash receipts.
- Chicken production is B.C.'s third largest land-based agriculture industry, accounting for 12% 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 1% in the North.
- The average B.C. chicken farm produced an estimated 425,818 birds in 2021 (equal to 821,403 kg live weight).
- 100% of B.C. production takes place in free-run barns. Conventional production (regular broilers) represents 94%, while specialty production (Asian chicken) and certified organic production represent 6%.
- There are 11 hatcheries in B.C.
- There are 123 registered small lot producers in B.C. who raise between 200 and 2,000 birds per year without quota but obtain a permit.
- B.C. is Canada's third largest chicken-producing province.

Canadian Chicken Production (2021)

Prov.	kg (eviscerated weight)	%
ON	449,004,000	34.07%
QC	348,255,000	26.42%
BC	188,712,000	14.32%
AB	131,064,000	9.94%
MB	52,703,000	4.00%
SK	48,463,000	3.68%
Atlantic	99,751,000	7.57%
Canada	1,317,952,000	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 in Canadian production. In 2021, the Canadian chicken industry recovered from the COVID-19 impacts increasing by 3.6% over 2020 and 1.6% over pre-pandemic 2019.

Production in B.C. saw a 0.92% increase in 2021. The per capita consumption (PCC) of chicken in 2021 was 35.0 kg per person, a 0.6 kg increase from 2020.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for fresh and frozen chicken averaged 179.2 in 2021, up 5.5% from 2020. All meat CPI's including turkey (up 9.5%) experienced significant increases in 2021.



8 week old broilers in a barn.

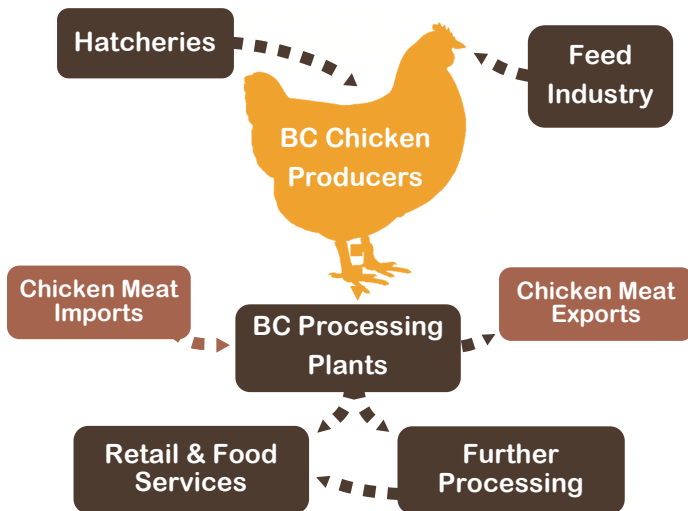
TRADE

In 2021, Canada imports totalled 164.7 million kilograms (Mkg) of chicken, valued at \$588 million, and mostly originated from the United States, followed by Brazil, Thailand and Hungary.

That same year, 129.2 million kilograms of meat and meat products 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 2021, Canada's total utilized TRQs for chicken imports under the World Trade Organization (WTO), Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (NAFTA/CUSMA) and Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) trade agreements was 90.0 Mkg.

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 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 On-Farm Food Safety Program which is nationally audited by a third party. The B.C. poultry industry leads the country in their AI emergency response program.

B.C. chicken farmers are audited every year 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 (1961).

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

www2.gov.bc.ca/bcfarmindustryreviewboard

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