Sector Defined: B.C.’s food and beverage processing sector comprises agrifood, seafood and beverage processing.

- The food and beverage processing industry is comprised of about 2,800 establishments and is the second largest processing sector in the province in sales and in GDP.

Food and Beverage Processing Key Facts

- Sales: $9.8 billion
- GDP: $3.0 billion
- Share of Provincial Total GDP: 1.3%
- International Exports: $3.9 billion
- Food and Beverage Processing Jobs: 32,600

- Food and beverage processing in B.C. generated $9.8 billion in 2017 - a two per cent increase over 2016.
- Top Sales: $1.7 billion “other food processing”; $1.5 billion in meat and poultry products; $1.2 billion in dairy products; $1.0 billion in bakeries and tortillas; $0.8 billion in animal food products; $0.7 billion from breweries; $0.7 billion from wineries; $0.6 billion in fruit and vegetable products; and $0.4 billion from soft drink and ice processing.
- Combined sales from B.C. breweries, wineries, and distilleries amounted to $1.4 billion in 2017.
- Food and beverage processing made up 58 per cent of B.C.’s agrifood and seafood GDP in 2017, with contributions of $3.0 billion.
- In 2017 B.C. ranked fourth among provinces in Canada in food and beverage processing sales.

Food and Beverage International Exports

- In 2017, B.C. exported $3.9 billion worth of agrifood and seafood products to 157 markets.
- Value-added and processed products comprised 66 per cent ($2.6 billion) of the total export value with live and fresh products making up the remaining 34 per cent with a value of $1.3 billion.
- Top Five Food and Beverage Exports: $512 million in farmed Atlantic salmon; $329 million in food preparations for processing and natural health products; $321 million in baked goods and cereal products; $222 million in blueberries; and $153 million in mushrooms.