B.C. Food and Beverage Processing

**Sector Defined:** B.C.’s food and beverage processing sector comprises the processing of agriculture, seafood, and food & beverage products in B.C.

- The food and beverage processing industry is comprised of 2,995 establishments and is the second largest processing sector in the province in sales.

**Food and Beverage Processing Key Facts**

- **Sales:** $10.5 billion
- **GDP:** $3.3 billion
- **Share of Provincial Total GDP**: 1.3%
- **Exports:** $4.7 billion
- **Food and Beverage Processing Jobs:** 35,700

- Food and beverage processing in B.C. generated $10.5 billion in 2019, a 7.1 percent increase over 2018.
- Top Sales: $1.9 billion in beverages; $1.9 billion in meat and poultry products; $1.7 billion in other food products; $1.6 billion in dairy products; $0.9 billion in bakery and tortilla products; $0.8 billion in animal food products; $0.7 billion in fruit and vegetable products; and $0.5 billion in seafood products.
- Combined sales from B.C. breweries, wineries, and distilleries amounted to $1.4 billion in 2019, up 11 percent over 2018.
- Food and beverage processing accounted for 61 percent of B.C.’s total agriculture, seafood and food & beverage processing industry GDP in 2019, with contributions of $3.3 billion.
- In 2019 B.C. ranked third among provinces in Canada in beverage processing sales and fourth in food processing sales.

*GDP excluding unlicensed cannabis.

**Other food processing products includes:** snack foods; coffees and teas; flavouring syrups & concentrates; seasonings and dressings, cut, peeled, polished or sliced vegetables; manufactured pizzas; soup mixes; prepared meals and sandwiches for the wholesale market; and honey; etc.

**Food and Beverage International Exports**

- In 2019 B.C. exported $4.7 billion worth of agriculture, seafood and food & beverage products to 152 different international markets.
- Top Five Exports: $562 million in farmed Atlantic salmon; $377 million in food preparations for manufacturing and natural health products; $273 million in blueberries; $244 million in baked goods; $230 million in mushrooms.

---

August 2020 | Ministry of Agriculture – Statistics and Corporate Program Management Unit