

## Milk, cow numbers increase while trade difference narrows

Progressive Dairy Editor **Karen Lee**

Despite the challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, a look at the 2020 statistics for the dairy industry reveals a relatively stable year. Overall, milk production for the year increased 1.4%, with close to a 2% increase in the east and marginal jump in the west.

Total cow numbers increased more than 5% in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador compared to last year. Saskatchewan also saw an increase in the number of farms since 2019.

For trade, both imports and exports of dairy products increased in 2020. There were 218,787,539 kilograms of dairy products brought into Canada at a value of \$957.2 million. This was up 6.7% (by value) from the previous year. Leaving Canada were 190,884,997 kilograms of dairy products, valued at \$486.4 million, which is an annual increase of 16.8% in export value. A greater increase in exports narrowed the net trade difference by \$46 million compared to last year, and brought it back in line with the net trade difference recorded in 2017 and 2018.

Imports from the U.S. were up 3% in value compared to last year with \$10,826,799 in dairy products purchased in 2020. Imports from the EU increased even more. Canada purchased \$11,846,759 more in dairy products from Italy, France, Ireland, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Denmark, Netherlands and Germany combined compared to the year before. For exports, China is back on the list of Top 10 countries buying Canadian dairy products. It last appeared on the list in 2016.

Total dairy cash receipts in Canada increased 2% compared to 2019. Total farm input prices based on the index were down slightly (0.7%) from last year, but input prices for animal production were up 1.2%.



- Specialty cheese 38.9%
  - Butter 14.6%
  - MPS<sup>1</sup> 8.2%
  - Whey 5.8%
  - Cheddar 5.7%
  - Milk and cream 5.1%
  - Processed cheese 3.2%
  - Casein 2.6%
  - NMC<sup>2</sup> 2.1%
  - SMP/WMP<sup>3</sup> 1.6%
  - Other\* 12.3%
- <sup>1</sup>Milk protein substances  
<sup>2</sup>Natural milk constituents  
<sup>3</sup>Skim milk powder and whole milk powder  
\*Lactose and lactose syrup, ice cream, evaporated milk, condensed milk, yogurt, buttermilk, dairy spreads, curdled milk and cream, kephir, etc.

## Top 10 countries selling dairy products to Canada

Rank	Country	2020 Imports (in dollars)	Percent change from 2019
1	U.S.	\$433,938,476	+3%
2	New Zealand	\$110,532,829	-14%
3	Italy	\$100,256,134	+6%
4	France	\$91,706,740	+2%
5	Ireland	\$32,620,254	+23%
6	Switzerland	\$31,468,050	-5%
7	United Kingdom	\$27,661,630	+12%
8	Denmark	\$26,616,578	-4%
9	Netherlands	\$25,466,781	+1%
10	Germany	\$16,951,382	-12%

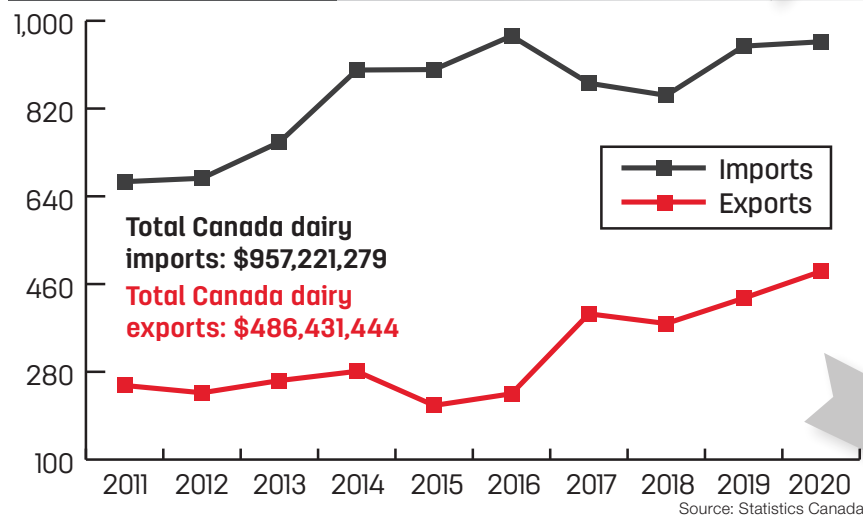


- SMP/WMP<sup>1</sup> 26.0%
  - NMC<sup>2</sup> 13.6%
  - Whey 13.2%
  - Yogurt 12.9%
  - Specialty cheese 10.4%
  - Milk & cream 7.2%
  - Butter 4.1%
  - Cheddar cheese 3.5%
  - Processed cheese 2.6%
  - Others<sup>3</sup> 6.5%
- <sup>1</sup>Skim milk powder and whole milk powder  
<sup>2</sup>Natural milk constituents  
<sup>3</sup>Ice cream, evaporated milk, condensed milk, lactose and lactose syrup, milk albumin, casein, dairy spreads, etc.

## Top 10 countries buying Canada dairy products

Rank	Country	2020 Exports (in dollars)	Percent change from 2019
1	U.S.	\$223,927,566	+18%
2	Egypt	\$64,723,926	+33%
3	Algeria	\$25,717,315	-11%
4	Vietnam	\$24,902,147	+101%
5	China	\$15,574,596	+138%
6	Japan	\$15,437,515	+72%
7	Philippines	\$12,683,773	-24%
8	Malaysia	\$9,965,727	+39%
9	United Arab Emirates	\$9,879,492	+175%
10	Saudi Arabia	\$8,084,414	+1%

## Canada dairy exports/imports (in millions of dollars)



Imports

Exports



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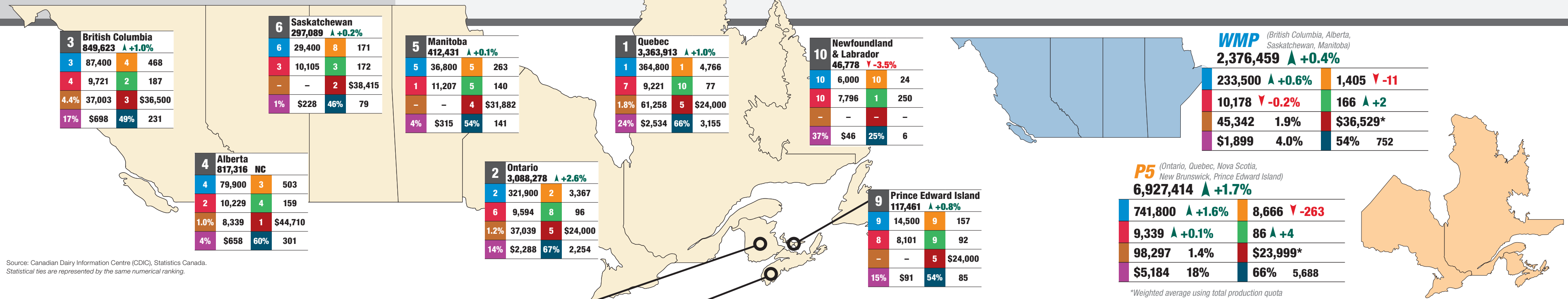
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# 2020 Canada dairy statistics



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

## Legend

- Province ranking - total milk production
- Total milk production in calendar year (in kilolitres)
- Province ranking - number of cows
- Number of cows
- Province ranking - milk litres per cow
- Milk per cow (in litres)
- Percent of total milk production
- Organic milk produced in dairy year 2019-20 (in kilolitres)
- Dairy receipts as a percentage of province's total farm receipts
- Dairy receipts annual total (in millions of dollars)
- Percentage increase/decrease in total milk from 2019
- Province ranking - number of farms with milk shipments
- Number of farms with milk shipments
- Province ranking - average herd size
- Average herd size
- Province ranking - value of quota
- Quota value\* (in \$ per kg of butterfat per day)
- Percent of total farms
- Herds enrolled in milk recording program

Province total production rank	Province	Total milk production (in kilolitres)	Percentage increase/decrease in total milk from 2019	Number of cows	Percentage increase/decrease in number of cows from 2019	Milk per cow (in litres)	Percentage increase/decrease in milk per cow from 2019	Number of farms with milk shipments	Change in number of farms with milk shipments from 2019	Average herd size	Change in avg herd size
1	Quebec	3,363,913	+1.0	364,800	+2.4	9,221	-1.4	4,766	-159	77	+4
2	Ontario	3,088,278	+2.6	321,900	+0.5	9,594	+2.1	3,367	-79	96	+3
3	British Columbia	849,623	+1.0	87,400	+5.9	9,721	-4.6	468	-4	187	+12
4	Alberta	817,316	NC	79,900	-4.2	10,229	+4.4	503	-6	159	-5
5	Manitoba	412,431	+0.1	36,800	-4.9	11,207	+5.3	263	-6	140	-4
6	Saskatchewan	297,089	+0.2	29,400	+6.5	10,105	-5.9	171	+5	172	+6
7	Nova Scotia	203,765	+1.3	21,200	-1.9	9,612	+3.2	201	-2	105	-1
8	New Brunswick	153,997	+1.3	19,400	+7.8	7,938	-6.0	175	-14	111	+16
9	Prince Edward Island	117,461	+0.8	14,500	+4.3	8,101	-3.4	157	-9	92	+9
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	46,778	-3.5	6,000	+5.3	7,796	-8.4	24	-2	250	+31
	CANADA TOTAL	9,350,651	+1.4	981,300	+1.3	9,529	0.0	10,095	-276	97	+4

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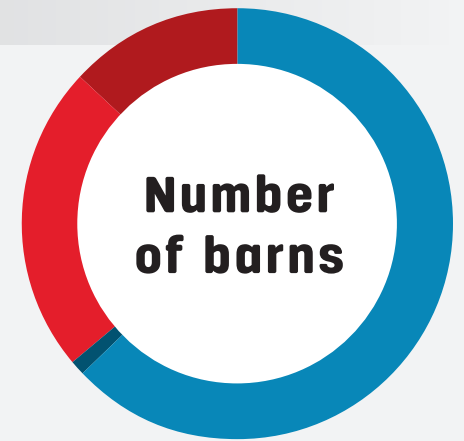


# 2020 Dairy barns by type

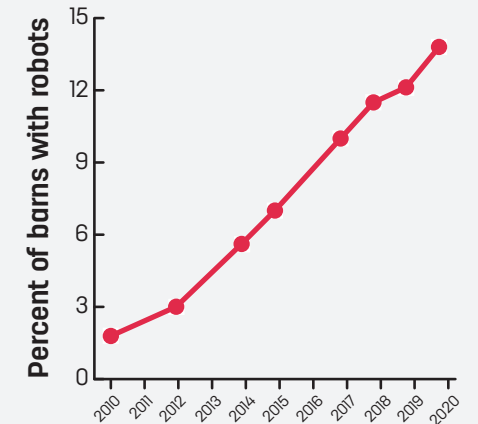
Province	Tiestall				Freestall			
	Number	Increase/decrease from 2019	Herd size	Percentage of tiestall barns with robots	Number of barns	Increase/decrease from 2019	Herd size	Percentage of freestall barns with robots
British Columbia	7	-1	54		223	-16	215	25.6%
Alberta	18	-1	85		283	-17	176	20.1%
Saskatchewan	8	0	97		71	-1	233	23.9%
Manitoba	35	-2	88	5.7%	105	-10	242	48.6%
Ontario	1317	-95	62	0.2%	940	-29	142	31.7%
Quebec	2751	-118	66	2.3%	614	+60	142	54.4%
New Brunswick	38	-4	61	5.3%	57	-4	171	33.3%
Nova Scotia	50	-3	60		59	-5	140	20.3%
Prince Edward Island	44	0	70		43	-1	104	9.3%
Newfoundland and Labrador	1	-1	249		5	+1	206	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4269</b>	<b>-225</b>		<b>1.7%</b>	<b>2400</b>	<b>-22</b>		<b>35.4%</b>

Based on herds enrolled in milk recording program

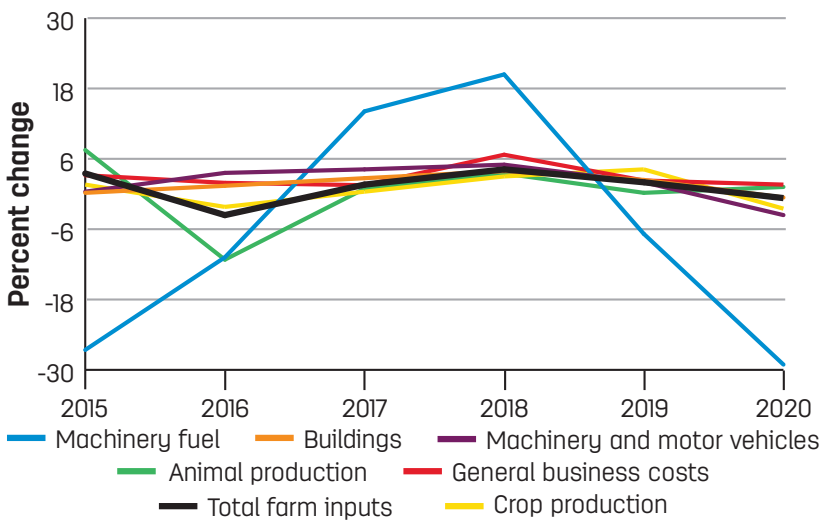
Source: Lactanet



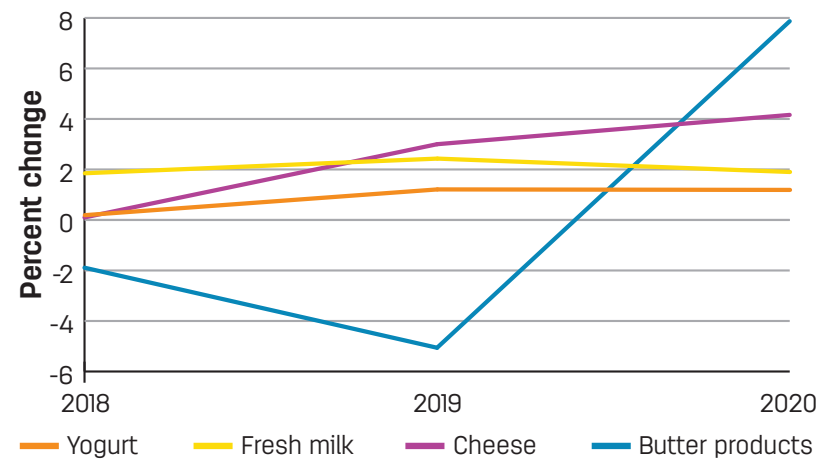
● Tiestall (4,198) 63%
 ● Freestall (1,551) 23%  
● Tiestall with robots (71) 1%
 ● Freestall with robots (849) 13%



## Percent change in Canadian dairy farm input prices



## Percent change in Canadian consumer prices



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