

The Economic Multiplier Effect of Canada's beef cattle industry

A sustainable driver of the national economy

Canada's economic sustainability is dependent on the health of its beef cattle sector — from cow-calf producers and feedlots to processors. The beef industry's significant contribution to the economy is not always apparent by looking at farm cash receipts alone. A study of the indirect and induced impacts of the beef sector reflects a bigger picture of how the industry drives Canada's economy.

60,000

beef ranches & feedlots generate

347,352 jobs

across Canada with every job in the sector yielding **another 4.9 jobs** elsewhere in the economy.

The Canadian beef sector represents 15% of total farm cash receipts, making it the largest single source of farm cash receipts, totaling \$14.5 billion annually. For income received by workers and farm owners, every

\$1 = \$3.36
created elsewhere.

The largest food and beverage processing industry is meat product manufacturing with sales of \$38 billion in 2022 and accounting for 25% of sales.

Canada represents 1% of global cattle inventories, producing 1.6 million tonnes of beef and exporting 52% of production valued at \$7.1 billion in 2024.

The beef industry contributes

\$34 billion

to Canada's GDP
at market prices (2022-2024)

Sources include the Government of Canada's [Overview of the Food and Beverage Processing Industry](#), Foreign Agricultural Service, Official USDA Estimates, and the 2024 Canfax Market Update.

www.BeefResearch.ca


BEEF CATTLE RESEARCH COUNCIL

Version: 02.2025