

SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

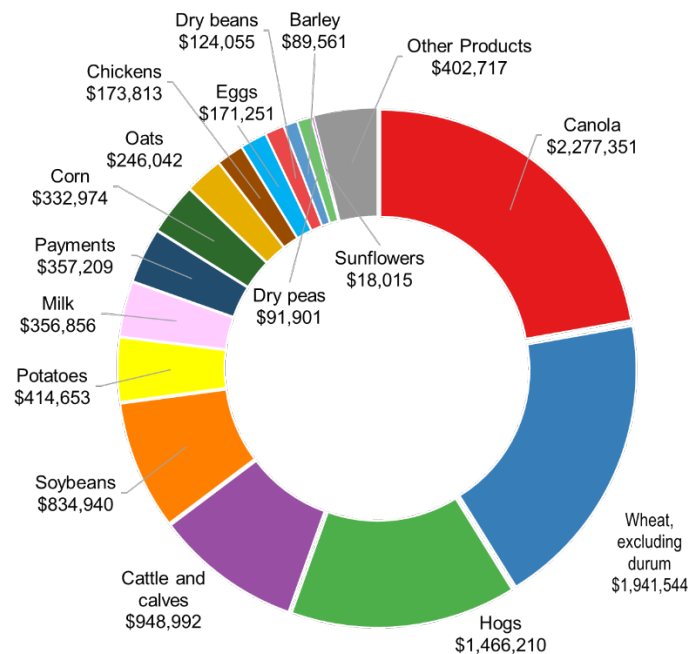
Wheat



Highlights

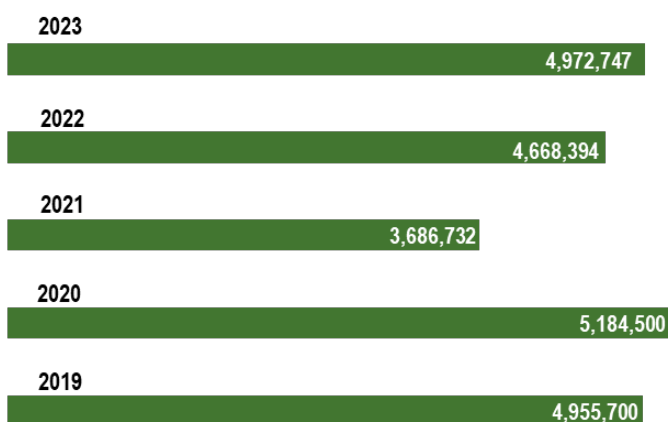
- Wheat is Manitoba's largest crop by seeded area and second to canola for farm cash receipts.
- It was one of the first crops produced in Manitoba and has proven itself, over more than a century, to be a hardy, reliable crop that produces well under varied, challenging growing conditions.
- In 2023, wheat generated a record \$1.94 billion in farm cash receipts, besting the 2022 record by 15.7 per cent.
- In 2023, Manitoba harvested 4.97 million metric tonnes of spring wheat, the second largest harvest since 2020 when 5.18 million tonnes were harvested.
- In 2023, Manitoba accounted for 18.8 per cent of Canada's total wheat cash receipts as the third largest wheat-producing province after Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Farm Cash Receipts (2023, '000 of dollars)



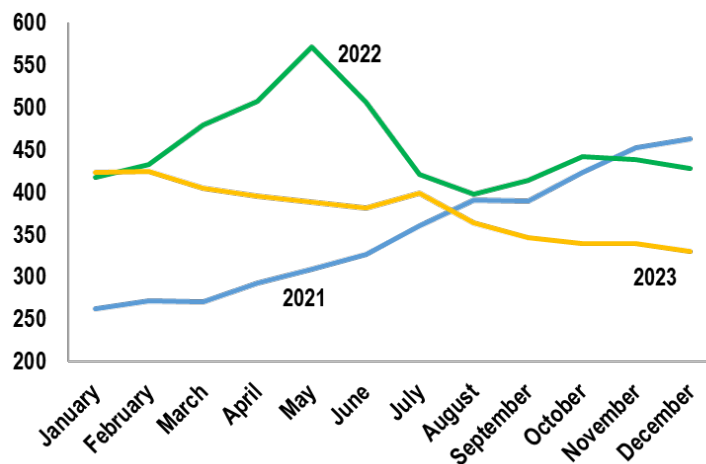
Source: Statistics Canada

Production (metric tonnes)



Source: Statistics Canada

Prices (dollars per metric tonne)



Source: Statistics Canada

Processing

- Manitoba's wheat is milled into flour, which is then used to produce bread, bakery products and cereals.
- About 11 per cent of Manitoba's average wheat production is processed in the province.
- Manitoba has three commercial wheat mills: ADM Milling and Brar Natural Flour Mills located in Winnipeg, and Prairie Flour Mills in Elie.
- There are nine different classes of Western Canadian Wheat, each with specific characteristics suited to specific products. Canada Western Red Spring (CWRS) wheat is the most common class produced in Manitoba. It is a high-protein, premier bread wheat.
- Wheat is also valued as livestock feed with its strong protein and carbohydrate composition. It can be incorporated into the rations of all livestock species.

Marketing and Trade

- Wheat prices in Manitoba peaked in spring of 2022, then have steadily retreated as the 2022 crop replenished stocks and the 2023 crop added further to supplies.
- In 2023, Manitoba exported \$1.83 billion worth of wheat and wheat products, up 17 per cent over 2022.
- Manitoba's wheat is exported through Canada's west coast ports, eastern ports and also by rail to the U.S.
- Wheat is widely traded around the world, thanks to its excellent storability and ease of transport as a dry bulk product.
- In contrast, bread and bakery products have a relatively short shelf life, so they are produced near to where they will be consumed.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Commercial milling of wheat flour started in Manitoba in the 1870s with the invention of the La Croix "purifier" and gradual reduction process that facilitated milling of Red Fife wheat.
- Globally, wheat is the second most produced crop after corn, while rice is third.
- One bushel of wheat contains about a million kernels, and can produce about 42 lb. of white flour, or 60 lb of whole wheat flour.
- Manitoba's wheat meets, or exceeds, stringent quality standards, set by the Canadian Grain Commission.
- Western Canadian wheat is globally sought after as the highest quality wheat. Manitoba consistently produces among the highest protein wheat in samples across western Canada.

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- www.manitoba.ca/agriculture/markets-and-statistics/.
- Email us at industryintelligence@gov.mb.ca.
- Follow us on X @MBGovAg.

