

SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

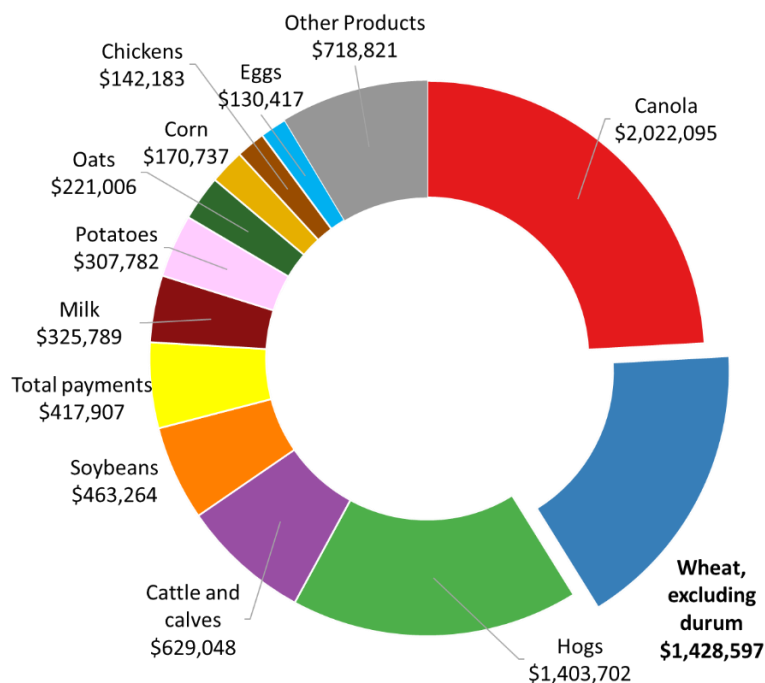
Wheat



Highlights

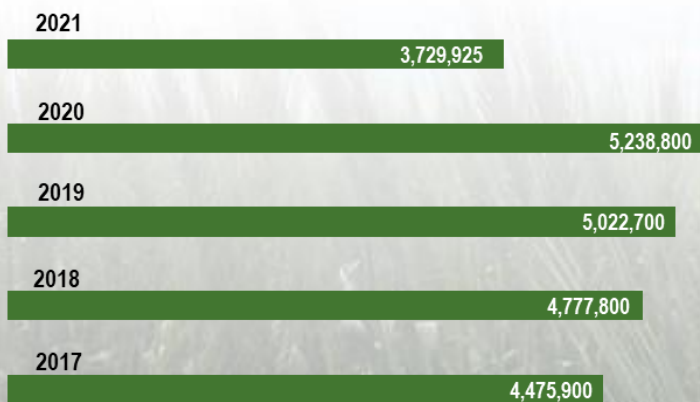
- Wheat is Manitoba's biggest crop by seeded acreage and second after canola by farm cash receipts.
- In 2021, wheat had a record year with receipts of \$1.43 billion, up 26 per cent from last year.
- It is one of the first crops produced in Manitoba and has proven itself many times to be a hardy, reliable crop that produces well in many challenging growing conditions.
- In 2021, Manitoba harvested 3.7 million tonnes, almost 30 per cent less than 2020 due to the severe shortage of moisture.
- In 2021, Manitoba accounted for over 17 per cent of Canada's total wheat production and was the third largest wheat-producing province after Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Farm Cash Receipts (2021, '000 of dollars)



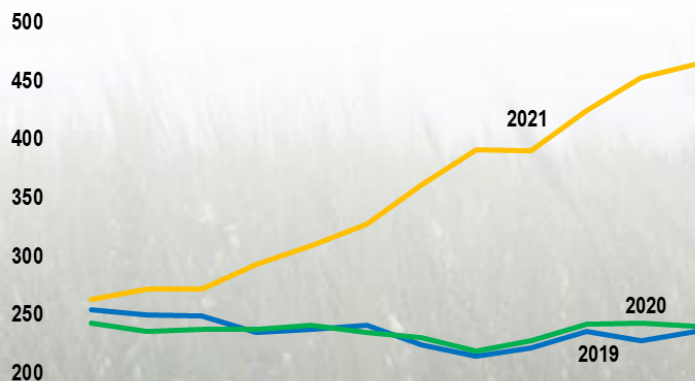
Source: Statistics Canada

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 and 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 sectors.

Marketing and Trade

- In 2021, wheat prices in Manitoba rose steadily to more than 75 per cent higher at the end of year compared to the start. This was due to heightened demand resulting from the pandemic and the sharply reduced production in the 2021 growing season.
- In 2021, Manitoba exported \$1.32 billion worth of wheat and flour, of which over 99 per cent was unprocessed wheat seed.
- Manitoba's wheat is exported via Canada's west coast and eastern ports, as well as by rail to the U.S.
- Wheat seed is widely traded around the world in part thanks to its excellent storability and ease of transport as a dry bulk product.
- Bread and bakery products have a relatively short shelf life and 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 approximately 42 pounds of white flour, or 60 pounds of whole wheat flour.**
- **Manitoba's wheat meets stringent quality standards, set by the Canadian Grain Commission.**
- **Western Canadian wheat is globally recognized as the highest quality wheat and Manitoba wheat is consistently among the highest protein in samples across western Canada.**

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