Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - July 29, 2022.

Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

for week ending:	4-Jun	11-Jun	18-Jun	25-Jun	2-Jul	June Total	January - June YTD 2022	2021	% Change
Total Canada	177	56	222	108	358	**921**	**4,100**	**3,739**	**9.7%**
previous year	120	200	100	286	60	**766**			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	May 2021	January - May YTD 2022	2021	% Change
BC / Alberta	189	166	165	120	107	82	747	714	4.6%
Sask / Manitoba	44	29	53	33	32	41	191	188	1.6%
Ontario / Quebec	42	26	27	53	27	55	175	277	-36.8%
Canada Total	**275**	**221**	**245**	**206**	**166**	**178**	**1,113**	**1,179**	**-5.6%**

	January - May YTD 2022	2021	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	**4,292**	**4,152**	**3.4%**

Canadian Production

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	January - May YTD 2022	2021	% Change
Total Slaughter	11,568	10,886	10,041	9,585	7,860	9,798	4,292	4,152	**3.4%**
Total Live Exports	18,364	17,600	17,342	20,060	24,574	27,986	14,733	12,434	**18.5%**
Total Production	**29,932**	**28,486**	**27,383**	**29,645**	**32,434**	**37,784**	**19,025**	**16,586**	**14.7%**

**Source : Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Provincial Governments, and USDA APHIS*

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	4-Jun	11-Jun	18-Jun	25-Jun	2-Jul	June Total	January - June YTD 2022	2021	% Change
	937	**1,378**	**1,425**	**1,502**	**1,421**	**6,663**	**35,938**	**32,602**	**10.2%**
previous year	999	1,264	1,161	1,323	1,196	**5,943**			

**actual slaughter numbers in federally inspected plants, not necessarily inspected, source : USDA*

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	February 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	January - June YTD 2022	2021	% Change
Slaughter Male	1,056	1,293	785	895	1,520	6,247	6,280	**-0.5%**
Slaughter Female	692	994	907	853	1,009	5,466	3,713	**47.2%**
Feeder Male	156	808	566	522	213	2,901	2,998	**-3.2%**
Feeder Female	558	565	630	119	466	3,327	1,886	**76.4%**
Total	**2,462**	**3,660**	**2,888**	**2,389**	**3,208**	**17,941**	**14,877**	**20.6%**

**source : USDA, APHIS*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	January - May YTD 2022	2021	% Change
United States	Kg	15,323	9,769	26,970	22,762	20,122	15,250	**94,873**	**108,490**	**-12.6%**
	Value ($Cdn)	277,857	138,429	226,368	364,257	216,463	146,241	**1,091,758**	**1,329,406**	**-17.9%**
Netherlands	Kg	3,821	753	7,204	2,597	7,276	4,723	**22,553**	**1,376**	**1539.0%**
	Value ($Cdn)	97,770	17,638	173,178	77,632	180,784	127,451	**576,683**	**35,266**	**1535.2%**
Switzerland	Kg	79	593	1,177	1,915	771	1,536	**5,992**	**921**	**550.6%**
	Value ($Cdn)	2,472	18,837	56,825	63,762	24,115	54,683	**218,222**	**35,176**	**520.4%**
Italy	Kg	1,164	-	-	-	-	2,756	**2,756**	**894**	**208.3%**
	Value ($Cdn)	49,071	-	-	-	-	82,651	**82,651**	**35,519**	**132.7%**
France	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**105**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**2,987**	**-**
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**182**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**8,376**	**-**
United Kingdom	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
Other Countries	Kg	709	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	27,075	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total	**Kg**	**21,096**	**11,115**	**35,351**	**27,274**	**28,169**	**24,265**	**126,174**	**111,968**	**12.7%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**454,245**	**174,904**	**456,371**	**505,651**	**421,362**	**411,026**	**1,969,314**	**1,446,730**	**36.1%**

Bone-in		Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	January - May YTD 2022	2021	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**1,267**	**-**	**103**	**5,775**	**25,378**	**674**	**31,930**	**56,837**	**-43.8%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**22,899**	**-**	**3,847**	**94,909**	**460,775**	**7,068**	**566,599**	**597,055**	**-5.1%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in		Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	January - May YTD 2022	2021	% Change
	Kg	**22,363**	**11,115**	**35,454**	**33,049**	**53,547**	**24,939**	**158,104**	**168,805**	**-6.3%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**477,144**	**174,904**	**460,218**	**600,560**	**882,137**	**418,094**	**2,535,913**	**2,043,785**	**24.1%**

**Source: Statistics Canada (HS Code 02013010 - Bison cuts boneless, fresh or chilled and HS Code 02012010 - Bison cuts bone in, fresh or chilled)*

US Bison Carcasses - Grain Fed (Hot Carcass Wt $US/cwt) FOB Plant Basis

wghtd avg

	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
Jun 2021	389.34	358.62	321.45	314.57
Jul 2021	381.61	358.35	304.32	320.46
Aug 2021	390.52	358.82	307.73	309.14
Sep 2021	387.56	359.20	330.00	317.68
Oct 2021	384.82	369.87	325.85	
Nov 2021	384.61	362.80		297.87
Dec 2021	395.25	375.99	310.91	304.75
Jan 2022	390.99	367.98		285.82
Feb 2022	378.85	367.18	309.85	281.59
Mar 2022	392.76	373.39	332.14	309.63
Apr 2022	389.18	370.04		306.90
May 2022	388.55	364.11		337.33
Jun 2022	373.27	361.51		313.23

**source USDA*

Canadian Bison Carcasses - Grain Fed (Hot Carcass Wt Cdn$/cwt) FOB Plant Basis

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows	For the U.S. Market	Bulls	Heifers
Jul 2021	400-415	390-415	225-230	230-250	Jul 2021	460-490	430-480
Aug 2021	400-415	390-415	225-230	220-230	Aug 2021	460-480	430-480
Sept 2021	410-415	385-415	225-230	220-230	Sept 2021	460-480	430-480
Oct 2021	410-415	390-415	225-230	220-230	Oct 2021	460-480	430-480
Nov 2021	375-415	375-415	200-230	200-230	Nov 2021	460-480	430-480
Dec 2021	375-415	375-415	200-230	200-230	Dec 2021	460-480	430-480
Jan 2022	375-415	375-415	210-230	210-230	Jan 2022	460-480	430-470
Feb 2022	375-415	360-415	200-230	200-230	Feb 2022	460-480	440-470
Mar 2022	375-415	360-415	200-230	190-230	Mar 2022	460-480	440-470
Apr 2022	375-415	365-415	200-230	185-230	Apr 2022	460-480	440-470
May 2022	375-425	365-425	200-230	185-230	May 2022	460-480	440-470
Jun 2022	375-425	365-425	200-230	185-230	Jun 2022	460-480	440-470
Jul 2022	400-425	410-425	230-250	230-250	Jul 2022	460-480	440-470

**source CBA survey of marketers*

USDA Key Cuts - Grain Fed Wholesale ($US/cwt)

	April 2022		May 2022		June 2022		% Change Current Month vs. 2 mnths prior	% Change Current Month vs. 1 month prior
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,314 - 1,543	1,434.81	1,323 - 1,575	1,497.20	1,364 - 1,604	1,516.92	5.7%	1.3%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	665 - 681	672.12	651 - 662	658.98	666 - 673	668.04	-0.6%	1.4%
Striploin Fresh	1,112 - 1,216	1,147.03	1,091 - 1,208	1,149.87	1,119 - 1,235	1,169.35	1.9%	1.7%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,795 - 2,448	1,952.71	1,812 - 2,511	1,996.38	1,858 - 2,419	2,036.72	4.3%	2.0%
Grnd 85% Bulk, Frozen	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grnd 85% Patties, Fresh	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grnd 85% Patties, Frozen	712 - 770	740.37	727 - 734	729.02	646 - 721	676.15	-8.7%	-7.3%

**source USDA*

Canadian Bison Cuts - Grain Fed Wholesale ($Cdn/kilogram)

	Mid-April 2022 Pricing	Mid-May 2022 Pricing	Mid-June 2022 Pricing	Mid-July 2022 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$39.95 - $43.95	$39.95 - $43.95	$39.95 - $43.95	$39.95 - $45.95
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$25.00 - $32.00	$25.00 - $32.00	$25.00 - $32.00	$25.00 - $32.00
Inside Round - Fresh	$17.95 - $19.00	$17.95 - $19.00	$17.95 - $19.00	$17.95 - $19.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$14.95 - $17.75	$14.95 - $17.75	$14.95 - $17.75	$14.95 - $17.75
Fresh Bison Trim	$11.95 - $12.00	$11.95 - $12.00	$11.95 - $12.00	$11.95 - $12.00

**source CBA survey of marketers*

Live Auction Reports *most recently reported; may not reflect current market

Jack Auction Group (SK) - June 23, 2022
Video Bison Sale

Age / Sex	Quantity	Quality / Type	Price/lb
2020 Bulls	35	G-Ex Plains	$2.22
2020 Bulls	19	M-Ex Cross	$1.81
2020 Heifers	29	M-Ex Cross	$1.55
2021 Bulls	10	G-Ex Cross	$1.84
2020 Mixed	51	G-Ex Cross	$1.51
2020 Heifers	8	M-Ex Cross	$1.06
2021 Heifers	13	M-Ex Cross	$1.65

Ex – Excellent M – Medium G- Good P – Poor Exp – Exposed

Jack Auction Group (SK) - May 26, 2022
Video Bison Sale

Age / Sex	Quantity	Quality / Type	Price/lb
2020 Bulls	38	G-Ex Wood X	$1.84
2020 Bulls	25	G-Ex Wood X	$1.92
2020 Heifers	35	G-Ex Wood X	$1.49
2020 Heifers	50	M-Ex Wood X	$1.43
2021 Mixed	95	G-Ex Wood X	$1.50
2021 Mixed	15	M-Ex Wood X	$1.10
2021 Mixed	95	G-Ex Plains	$1.50
2021 Mixed	36	M-Ex Plains	$1.10
2021 Bulls	39	G-Ex Wood X	$1.76
2021 Heifers	29	G-Ex Wood X	$1.25
2021 Bulls	14	G-Ex Plains	$1.66
2021 Heifers	1412	G-Ex Plains	$1.60
2021 Mixed	42	G-Ex Wood X	$1.46
2021 Mixed	17	G-Ex Wood X	$1.51
2021 Mixed	16	G-Ex Wood X	$1.40
2021 Mixed	18	M-Ex Wood X	$1.61
2021 Mixed	9	G-Ex Wood X	$1.40
2021 Mixed	17	M-Ex Wood X	$1.10
2020 Bulls	12	M-Ex Wood X	Passed
2020 Mixed	11	M-Ex Wood X	$1.31
2020 Brdng Bull	1	Ex Plains	$4,100/head

Ex – Excellent M – Medium G- Good P – Poor Exp – Exposed

Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (SK) (May 4, 2022)
Head Sold: 377 **ack to the Grass Bison Auction**

Class	# of head	Average/lb
2021 BULLS		
600 - 700 lbs.	21	$1.69
500 - 599 lbs.	88	$1.56
400 - 499 lbs.	36	$1.39
300 - 399 lbs.	5	$1.00
2020 BULLS		
Over 1000 lbs	2	$2.22
Over 900 lbs	1	$1.20
800 - 899 lbs.	2	$1.38
700 - 799 lbs.	1	$1.35
600 - 699 lbs.	2	$1.30
400 - 499 lbs.	1	$1.25
2019 BULLS		
Over 1600 lbs	1	$4.56
1100 - 1199 lbs	2	$1.67
2018 BULLS		
Over 1500 lbs	1	$0.38
2021 HEIFERS		
600 - 699 lbs	12	$0.83
500 - 599 lbs.	78	$0.73
400 - 499 lbs.	104	$0.59
250 - 399 lbs.	20	$0.27

Commentary

By Terry Kremeniuk, Executive Director, CBA

This report can only be improved with your feedback. Please send any comments that you have to either canadianbison@sasktel.net or diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca

Finished bison prices for slaughter in Canada are at up to $4.25/lb HHW for bulls and heifers with the occasional sale higher. Prices may be adjusted for size and grade. Buyers are paying $2.30 – $2.50/lb HHW for mature cows and bulls.

Canadian buyers purchasing finished bulls for slaughter in the U.S. are paying up to CAD $4.80/lb HHW. Heifers are priced up to 40 cents lower. Carcasses that do not fall within buyers' specifications may be discounted. Final returns must be adjusted for quality, transportation, exchange rates, and export costs.

Slaughter numbers at federally-inspected plants in Canada for the first 28 weeks of 2022 (week ending July 16, 2022) totaled 4,500 head, which is up 12.1% when compared to the number of bison slaughtered (4,016 head) during the same time period in 2021, and 31.3% above the 3,426 bison slaughtered in 2020 (same time period). Preliminary USDA data for the first six months indicates 35,938 bison were slaughtered in the US – up 10.2% compared to the 32,602 bison slaughtered during the same period in 2021.

U.S. buyers are offering up to USD $3.80/lb HHW for prime bulls and up to USD $3.70/lb HHW for heifers from Canada for slaughter in the U.S. where slaughter times have been booked. Returns to the producers are dependent on exchange rates, quality, transportation, and export costs.

According to USDA data, total live bison exports to the U.S. to the end of June 2022 at 17,941 head is 20.6% above the 14,877 bison exported to the U.S. from January-June 2021.

Demand for middle meats, ribs, and a few specialty cuts is very strong. Trim surpluses in Canada continue to accumulate. With the restructuring of some of the industry in the U.S., the market for Canadian trim no longer exists.

Consumers continue to have access to fresh and frozen bison products in many of the major food chains from coast to coast. There are reports that the food service market is showing more activity. Farm gate marketers continue to focus on regional marketing and continue to increase awareness of the availability of bison in local markets.

Chart 1

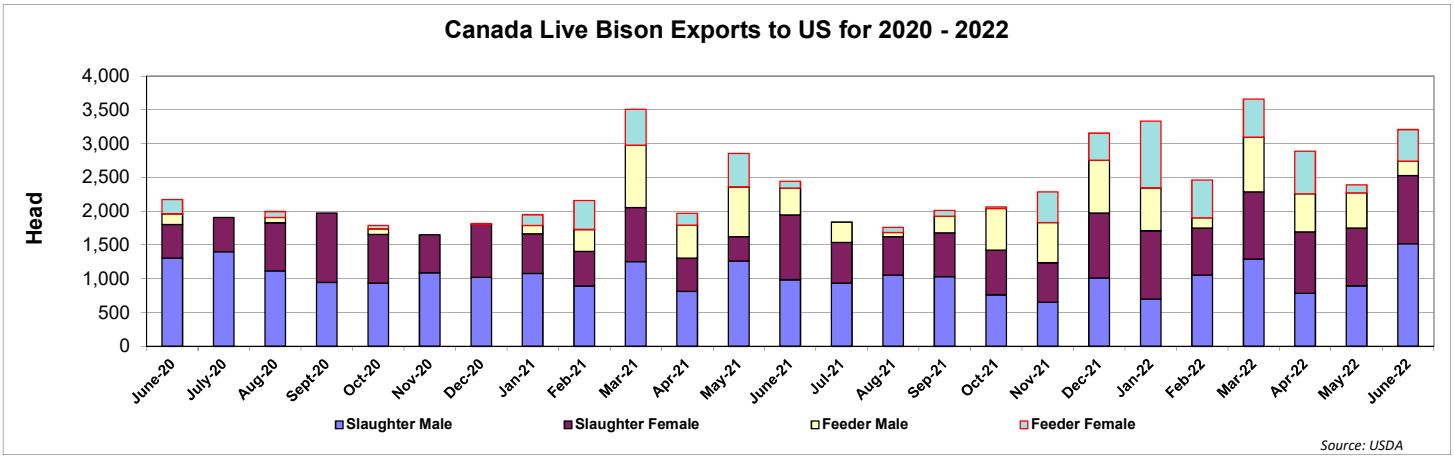
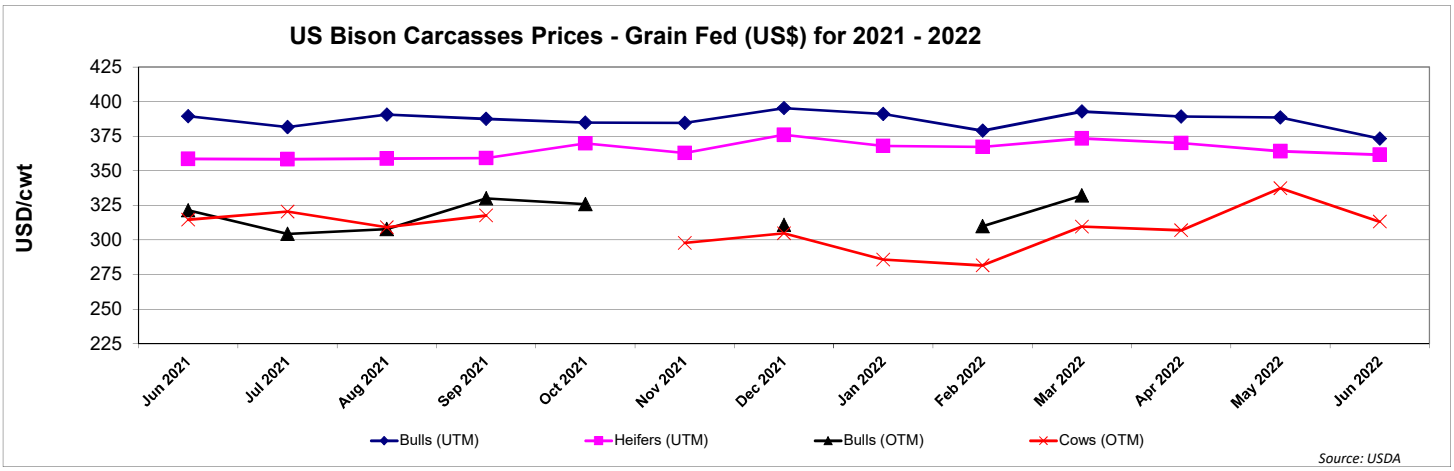


Chart 2



***NEW* The Canadian Bison Industry by the Numbers…..**

On another note, the 2021 Canadian Census of Agriculture data was released on May 11, 2022. Nationally, the number of bison farms and ranches reporting bison was up 1.4% from 2016 levels. The number of bison on farms and ranches in 2021 was reported to have increased by over 25% within the past five years. According to the data, the average bison herd size increased to 151 head (from 122 head in 2016).

The number of farms and ranches held relatively steady since 2016 (up by 14 farms); some provinces reported increases (Ontario and Alberta both up by 6.1%) and some reported declines (Quebec down by 23.5% and British Columbia down 12.7%)

Excluding the Atlantic Region, the only province to report a decrease in the number of bison was Manitoba (-16.4%), while British Columbia reported the most significant increase (+128.9%); more than doubling the 2016 provincial herd size.

	FARMS REPORTING BISON					NUMBER OF BISON REPORTED				
	2021	2016	2011	2006	%Chg '21 vs '16	2021	2016	2011	2006	%Chg '21 vs '16
Nfld and Labrador	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	1	-	0	0	0	*	-
Nova Scotia	1	2	2	1	-50.0%	*	*	*	*	-
New Brunswick	0	1	2	3	-100.0%	0	*	*	*	-
Quebec	26	34	45	69	-23.5%	1,682	1,538	2,380	4,322	9.4%
Ontario	52	49	60	71	6.1%	2,974	1,843	2,320	4,106	61.4%
Manitoba	82	86	108	166	-4.7%	11,725	14,025	14,116	19,609	-16.4%
Saskatchewan	308	303	352	597	1.7%	52,860	40,418	39,343	57,395	30.8%
Alberta	472	445	571	869	6.1%	65,405	54,907	57,483	97,366	19.1%
British Columbia	48	55	71	121	-12.7%	14,888	6,504	9,206	12,656	128.9%
Canada Total	**989**	**975**	**1,211**	**1,898**	**1.4%**	**149,539**	**119,314**	**125,142**	**195,728**	**25.3%**

* Note: In Atlantic Provinces, the number of farms reporting is too small to publically disclosure the number of bison