

## BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - July 25, 2025.



### Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

for week ending:	3 - May	10 - May	17 - May	24 - May	May Total	January - May YTD		
Total Canada	232	237	194	290	953	2025	2024	% Change
previous year	56	133	112	137	438	5,036	3,079	63.6%
						5,863	3,763	

### Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	April 2024	2025	2024	% Change	
BC / Alberta	170	165	158	136	113	110	572	450	27.1%	
Sask / Manitoba	31	37	29	36	33	34	135	134	0.7%	
Ontario / Quebec	18	44	32	23	21	45	120	100	20.0%	
Canada Total	219	246	219	195	167	189	827	684	20.9%	
							January - April YTD	2025	2024	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter								5,863	3,763	55.8%

### Canadian Production

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	January - April YTD		
Total Slaughter	9,585	7,860	9,798	10,794	9,871	11,119	2025	2024	% Change
Total Live Exports	20,060	24,574	27,986	32,362	39,170	35,706	5,863	3,763	55.8%
Total Production	29,645	32,434	37,784	43,156	49,041	46,825	12,135	14,276	-15.0%
							17,998	18,039	-0.2%

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

### US Federal Slaughter\*

for week ending:	3 - May	10 - May	17 - May	24 - May	May Total	January - May YTD		
	1,014	984	1,222	966	4,186	2025	2024	% Change
previous year	1,374	1,680	1,384	1,654	6,092	33,127	31,610	4.8%

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

### Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025	January - May YTD		
Slaughter Male	685	883	953	512	353	515	2025	2024	% Change
Slaughter Female	950	1,119	1,025	769	452	230	3,216	5,003	-35.7%
Feeder Male	410	1,110	1,093	691	233	841	3,595	6,530	-44.9%
Feeder Female	650	696	1,253	730	263	691	3,968	3,496	13.5%
Total	2,695	3,808	4,324	2,702	1,301	2,277	3,633	2,843	27.8%
							14,412	17,872	-19.4%

\*source : USDA, APHIS

### Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

		November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	January - April YTD		
Boneless								2025	2024	% Change
United States	Kg	4,150	4,670	7,650	8,887	1,537	4,216	22,290	3,103	618.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	26,021	50,117	101,865	90,361	53,402	43,703	289,331	107,826	168.3%
Netherlands	Kg	21,489	17,574	14,978	17,457	19,076	15,829	67,340	30,879	118.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	603,801	530,307	561,852	636,103	777,549	681,059	2,656,563	1,051,297	152.7%
Switzerland	Kg	405	1,868	1,733	1,843	1,873	4,688	10,137	2,441	315.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	21,529	54,250	49,912	71,151	53,387	174,912	349,362	92,375	278.2%
Italy	Kg	-	557	-	11,448	-	404	11,852	1,689	601.7%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	25,040	-	361,424	-	21,678	383,102	51,805	639.5%
France	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	358	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,116	-
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	24,708	24,708	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	594,490	594,490	-	-
Total	Kg	26,044	24,669	24,361	39,635	22,486	49,845	136,327	38,470	254.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	651,351	659,714	713,629	1,159,039	884,338	1,515,842	4,272,848	1,313,419	225.3%

### Bone-in

	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	January - April YTD			
Total	Kg	35,499	18,157	36,307	55,085	14,847	6,860	76,792	114,948	-33.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	763,045	370,345	781,378	1,196,220	423,863	151,195	1,771,278	1,997,486	-11.3%

### Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	2025	2024	% Change
Kg	61,543	42,826	60,668	94,720	37,333	56,705	213,119	153,418	38.9%
Value (\$Cdn)	1,414,396	1,030,059	1,495,007	2,355,259	1,308,201	1,667,037	6,044,126	3,310,905	82.6%

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



## Commentary

By Executive Director, CBA

This report can only be improved with your feedback. Please send any comments that you have to either [director@canadianbison.ca](mailto:director@canadianbison.ca) or [diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca](mailto:diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca)

Unclassified / Non classifié

## Bison Marketplace – June 2025

From January 1st, 2025 to June 28th, 2025, 6,302 head of bison were slaughtered at federally inspected plants in Canada. This is 76% higher than the 3,582 animals slaughtered in 2024 over the approximate same time frame.

In the United States from January to the end of June, 31,874 bison were slaughtered in US federally inspected plants. For the same time period in 2024, 40,463 bison were slaughtered in US federal plants. That's an 21% decrease year over year.

According to most current USDA data for January thru to the end of May 2025, Canada exported 3,730 slaughter males (38.5% less than 2024), 3,953 slaughter females (46.5% less than 2024), 4,291 feeder males (13.5% more than 2024) and 3,916 feeder females (23.7% higher than 2024). Comparative 2024 numbers that are used in the %age calculations - Canada exported 6,065 slaughter males, 7,387 slaughter females, 3,781 feeder males and 3,167 feeder females. In total, 16,057 animals were exported to the US in the first 6 months of 2025, compared to 15,890 for the same time period last year. This is a 35.9% decrease.

Movement of live animals to the US continues to slow.

**June 2025 Prices:** Prices for prime finished bulls for the Canadian market have continued to be strong. Recent sales have shown highs of \$690/CWT HHW with heifers up to \$660/CWT. Canadian bison headed to the US reached highs of \$500 (USD) for bulls and \$475 (USD) for heifers. Note that to ship to the US market, shippers are responsible for currency risk, shipping costs, vet checks and admin costs.

Chart 1

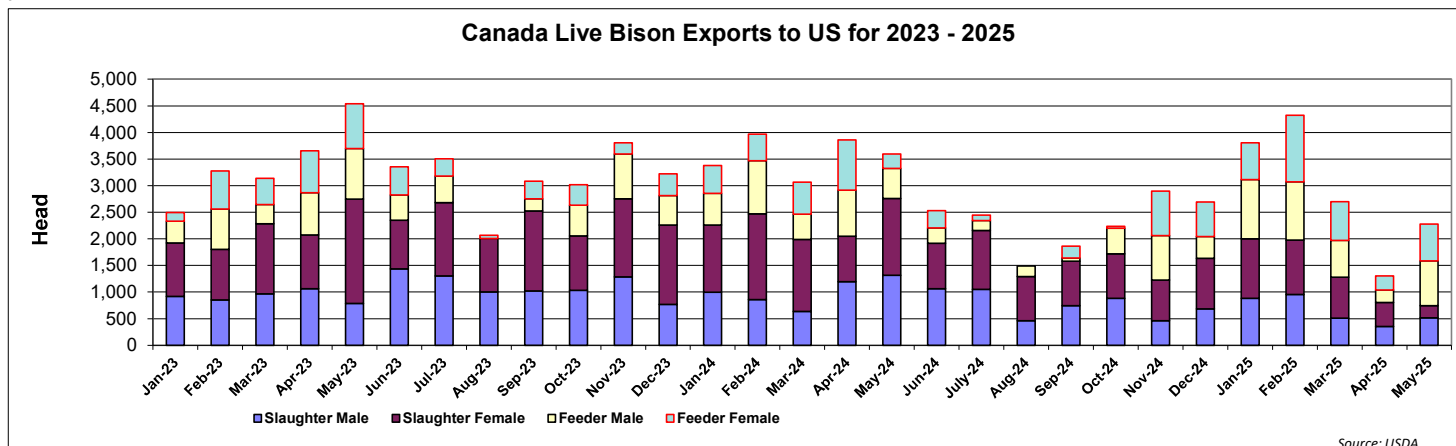
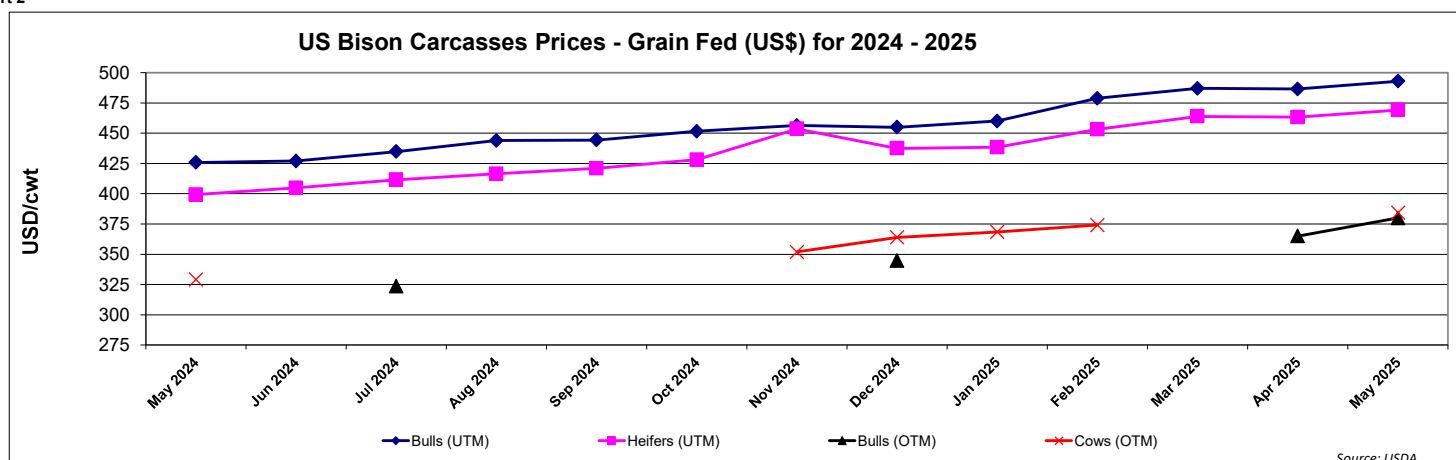


Chart 2



## 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
Nfld and Labrador	0	0	0	0	-		0	0	0	0
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	1	-		0	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
Ontario	52	49	60	71	6.1%		2,974	1,843	2,320	4,106
Manitoba	82	86	108	166	-4.7%		11,725	14,025	14,116	19,609
Saskatchewan	308	303	352	597	1.7%		52,860	40,418	39,343	57,395
Alberta	472	445	571	869	6.1%		65,405	54,907	57,483	97,366
British Columbia	48	55	71	121	-12.7%		14,888	6,504	9,206	12,656
Canada Total	989	975	1,211	1,898	1.4%		149,539	119,314	125,142	195,728

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