

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - March 28, 2026.



Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

for week ending:	31 - January	7 - February	14 - February	21 - February	February Total	January - February YTD		
Total Canada	249	334	205	214	1,002	2026	2025	% Change
previous year	291	135	356	152	934	2,041	1,737	17.5%

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	January 2025	Month of January		
BC / Alberta	120	112	203	82	86	168	2026	2025	% Change
Sask / Manitoba	39	36	53	33	48	27	86	168	-48.8%
Ontario / Quebec	38	36	34	26	19	20	48	27	77.8%
Canada Total	197	184	290	141	153	215	19	20	-5.0%
							153	215	-28.8%

	Month of January	2026	2025	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter		1,192	1,018	17.1%

Canadian Production

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Month of January		
Total Slaughter	7,860	9,798	10,794	9,871	11,126	15,356	2026	2025	% Change
Total Live Exports	24,574	27,986	32,362	39,170	34,034	23,877	1,192	1,018	17.1%
Total Production	32,434	37,784	43,156	49,041	45,160	39,233	1,549	3,808	-59.3%
							2,741	4,826	-43.2%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	31 - January	7 - February	14 - February	21 - February	February Total	January - February YTD		
	1,032	1,104	1,018	949	4,103	2026	2025	% Change
previous year	1,454	1,127	1,209	1,506	5,296	8,522	10,478	-18.7%

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	January - February YTD		
Slaughter Male	428	544	205	434	490	329	2026	2025	% Change
Slaughter Female	362	375	493	766	360	572	819	1,836	-55.4%
Feeder Male	0	283	199	372	407	791	932	2,144	-56.5%
Feeder Female	260	88	583	293	292	659	1,198	2,203	-45.6%
Total	1,050	1,290	1,480	1,865	1,549	2,351	951	1,949	-51.2%
							3,900	8,132	-52.0%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

								Month of January		
								2026	2025	% Change
Boneless										
United States	Kg	45,044	86,219	5,497	11,473	3,482	2,609	2,609	7,650	-65.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	236,880	452,410	114,552	119,462	150,294	138,262	138,262	101,865	35.7%
Netherlands	Kg	18,506	11,617	20,488	29,998	21,513	9,756	9,756	14,978	-34.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	299,305	446,953	818,440	1,025,795	853,035	378,612	378,612	561,852	-32.6%
Switzerland	Kg	2,100	3,857	5,835	3,429	3,681	2,890	2,890	1,733	66.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	79,206	110,111	179,012	123,783	103,668	85,960	85,960	49,912	72.2%
Italy	Kg	1,529	508	273	1,110	-	882	882	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	74,822	14,482	7,607	54,759	-	45,196	45,196	-	-
France	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	1,858	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	67,179	102,238	32,093	46,010	28,676	16,137	16,137	24,361	-33.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	690,213	1,025,814	1,119,611	1,323,799	1,106,997	648,030	648,030	713,629	-9.2%

Bone-in

	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	Month of January		
Total	2,021	5,369	632	20,877	39,050	42,928	2026	2025	% Change
	21,212	98,802	13,822	491,947	863,522	959,314	42,928	36,307	18.2%
							959,314	781,378	22.8%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	Month of January		
Kg	69,200	107,607	32,725	66,887	67,726	59,065	2026	2025	% Change
Value (\$Cdn)	711,425	1,124,616	1,133,433	1,815,746	1,970,519	1,607,344	59,065	60,668	-2.6%
							1,607,344	1,495,007	7.5%

*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						Unclassified / Non classifié
	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)		
Feb 2025	478.84	453.23		374.18		
Mar 2025	486.95	463.92				
Apr 2025	486.49	463.24	365.00			
May 2025	492.92	469.23	380.00	384.30		
June 2025	494.66	469.59				
July 2025	497.17	472.33	377.61	385.00		
Aug 2025	498.47	473.18				
Sep 2025	501.36	476.21				
Oct 2025	500.95	474.88		383.13		
Nov 2025	501.91	481.59		412.34		
Dec 2025	504.84	480.98	416.83	414.83		
Jan 2026	506.19	479.76		420.68		
Feb 2026	511.63	488.47				
*source USDA						

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

					For the U.S. Market – carcass prices per CWT in USD		
Weighted avg	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls*	Mature Cows*		Bulls**	Heifers**
Mar 2025	635 - 695	600 - 650			Mar 2025	460 - 485	445 - 465
Apr 2025	635 - 690	610 - 660			Apr 2025	485 - 500	450 - 470
May 2025	635 - 690	610 - 660			May 2025	485 - 500	450 - 475
Jun 2025	645 - 700	620 - 665			Jun 2025	485 - 500	450 - 475
Jul 2025	645 - 700	620 - 665			Jul 2025	495 - 510	455 - 480
Aug 2025	645 - 700	630 - 685			Aug 2025	495 - 510	455 - 480
Sept 2025	645 - 700	630 - 685			Sept 2025	495 - 515	460 - 485
Oct 2025	645 - 700	630 - 685			Oct 2025	495 - 515	460 - 485
Nov 2025	645 - 700	630 - 685			Nov 2025	495 - 515	460 - 485
Dec 2025	645 - 700	630 - 685			Dec 2025	495 - 515	460 - 485
Jan 2026	645 - 700	630 - 685			Jan 2026	495 - 515	460 - 485
Feb 2026	645 - 700	630 - 685			Feb 2026	495 - 515	460 - 485
Mar 2026	645 - 700	630 - 685			Mar 2026	495 - 515	460 - 485
*source CBA survey of marketers			* over 30 months of age		** Net to producer must be adjusted for transaction and shipping costs.		

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

	December 2025		January 2026		February 2026		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Chuckroll, Fresh/Frozen	625 - 1,102	857.68	688 - 1,234	899.03	688 - 1120	917.94	7.0%	2.1%
Ribeye Lip-on, Fresh/Frozen	1,509 - 2,525	1,728.68	1,351 - 2,550	2,057.44	1495 - 2650	2,018.84	16.8%	-1.9%
Strip Loin, Fresh/Frozen	945 - 1,950	1,183.35	1,098 - 1,963	1,312.11	1100 - 1963	1,345.47	13.7%	2.5%
Tenderloin, Fresh/Frozen	1,800 - 4,148	2,159.34	1,800 - 4,050	2,596.53	2210 - 4058	2,657.41	23.1%	2.3%
Bison Trimmings 90%, Fresh/Frozen	750 - 1,015	829.68	633 - 1,005	845.74	825 - 1075	966.80	16.5%	14.3%
Grnd 80% Bulk, Fresh/Frozen	761 - 1,237	810.46	761 - 1,250	889.18	374 - 1240	902.08	11.3%	1.5%
Grnd 80% Patties, Fresh/Frozen	N/A	N/A	830 - 1,261	967.05	830 - 1261	945.52	N/A	-2.2%
*source USDA								

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

	Mid-December 2025 Pricing	Mid-January 2026 Pricing	Mid-February 2026 Pricing	Mid-March 2026 Pricing
Tenderloin	\$84.00 - \$92.00	\$84.00 - \$92.00	\$84.00 - \$92.00	\$84.00 - \$92.00
Striploin	\$54.00 - \$58.00	\$54.00 - \$58.00	\$54.00 - \$58.00	\$54.00 - \$58.00
Ribeye	\$50.00 - \$55.00	\$50.00 - \$55.00	\$50.00 - \$55.00	\$54.00 - \$59.00
Top sirloin	\$31.00 - \$33.00	\$31.00 - \$33.00	\$31.00 - \$33.00	\$33.00 - \$35.00
Inside round	\$31.00 - \$34.00	\$31.00 - \$34.00	\$31.00 - \$34.00	\$32.00 - \$35.00
Trim 90%	\$24.00 - \$26.00	\$24.00 - \$26.00	\$24.00 - \$26.00	\$25.00 - \$26.00
Trim 60%	\$18.50 - \$21.50	\$18.50 - \$21.50	\$18.50 - \$21.50	\$18.50 - \$21.50
Ground - lean	\$26.00 - \$29.00	\$26.00 - \$29.00	\$26.00 - \$29.00	\$27.00 - \$30.00
*source CBA survey of marketers				

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

Jack Auction Group (SK) - Jan 28, 2026				No Borders Show and Sale 2025 April 05, 2025					
Video Bison Sale				Jack Auction Group (SK)					
Qty.	Age / Sex	Quality / Type	Price/Lbs.	SELLER	TYPE	LOT #	WT.	Placing	Price
WILDCARD BULL LOT - CHOICE OF ANY BULL/S IN THE SALE!									
90	2025 Bulls	Platinum+	\$5.40	ELK VALLEY	2023 BULL	55	1375	1st Place / Grand	\$ 9,500.00
30	2025 Bulls	Platinum+	\$5.31	BIG COUNTRY	2023 BULL	63	1345	2nd Place	\$ 9,250.00
90	2025 Heifers	Platinum+	\$4.64	SHALE CREEK	2023 BULL	59	1245	3rd Place	\$ 7,500.00
28	2025 Bulls	Platinum+	\$5.50	ROAMING K	2023 BULL	56	1220	Hon. Mention	\$ 5,250.00
31	2025 Heifers	Platinum+	\$5.10	BEAR PAW	2023 BULL	68	1225	Hon. Mention	\$ 5,750.00
23	2024 Bulls	Platinum+	\$4.50	BIG COUNTRY	2023 BULL	62	1390		\$ 9,000.00
14	2023 Heifers	Platinum+	\$4.01	SILVER CREEK	2023 BULL	61	1325		\$ 7,750.00
28	2025 Bulls	Good	\$5.23	SAND RIDGE	2023 BULL	66	1315		\$ 7,000.00
19	2025 Heifers	Good	\$4.60	ROAMING K	2023 BULL	57	1300		\$ 7,750.00
48	2025 Bulls	Good	\$5.91	SILVER CREEK	2023 BULL	60	1290		\$ 7,250.00
38	2025 Heifers	Good	\$4.90	SHALE CREEK	2023 BULL	58	1285		\$ 8,500.00
				SAND RIDGE	2023 BULL	67	1230		\$ 6,250.00
				ROCKY MEADOW	2023 BULL	65	1225		\$ 7,000.00
				BISON RIDGE	2023 BULL	34	1215		\$ 6,250.00
				RJ GAME FARM	2023 BULL	64	1160		\$ 6,500.00
				BI-SAND	2023 BULL	53	1105		\$ 6,000.00
				SHALE CREEK	2022 BULL	30	1535	1st Place	\$ 7,500.00
				ROAMING K	2022 BULL	33	1760	2nd Place	\$ 10,250.00
WILDCARD HEIFER LOT - CHOICE OF ANY HEIFER/S IN THE SALE!									
				SHALE CREEK	2023 OPEN HEIFER	70	1045	1st Place / Grand	\$ 6,250.00
				ROCKY MEADOW	2023 OPEN HEIFER	74	930	2nd Place	\$ 4,200.00
				SHALE CREEK	2023 OPEN HEIFER	71	875	3rd Place	\$ 4,000.00
				BEAR PAW	2023 OPEN HEIFER	75	915	Hon. Mention	\$ 4,000.00
				RJ GAME FARM	2023 OPEN HEIFER	73	925		\$ 3,700.00
				SHALE CREEK	2023 OPEN HEIFER	72	905		\$ 4,100.00
PEN LOTS ARE LISTED / PER HEAD									
				SHALE CREEK	PEN of 2 '23 OPEN HFRS	112 AB	1060/900	1st Place	\$ 5,300.00
				BEAR PAW	PEN of 2 '23 OPEN HFRS	114 AB	870/865	2nd Place	\$ 3,100.00
				BI-SAND	PEN of 2 '23 OPEN HFRS	111 AB	910/940	3rd Place	\$ 3,800.00
				RJ GAME FARM	PEN of 2 '23 OPEN HFRS	113 AB	910/905		\$ 4,000.00
				BISON RIDGE	24 HFR CALF Pen of 2	160 AB	895/840/895	1st Place	\$ 3,700.00
				ROCKY MEADOW	24 HFR CALF Pen of 2	158 AB	575/635/580	2nd Place	\$ 3,400.00
				RJ GAME FARM	24 HFR CALF Pen of 2	161 AB	500/515/535	3rd Place	\$ 2,800.00

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 or diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca

Unclassified / Non classifié

Bison Marketplace – March 2026

From January 1 to the end of March 2026 (comparisons are for the same time period in 2025):

- 3,553 head of bison were slaughtered at federally inspected plants in Canada. This is 5% higher than the 3,387 animals slaughtered in 2025 over the approximate same time frame.
- In the United States, 13,779 bison were slaughtered in US federally inspected plants. For the same time period in 2025, 17,384 bison were slaughtered in US federal plants. That's a 21% decrease year over year.
- According to most current USDA data, Canada exported 1865 feeder males (in 2025 the number was 2,894, a 35% decrease YOY), 1,379 feeder females (2,679, 48% decrease), 1,242 slaughter males (2,348, 47% decrease) and 1,609 slaughter females (2,913, 45% decrease)
- In total, 6,292 animals were exported to the US, compared to 10,980 last year. This is a 43% decrease. Movement of live animals to the US continues to be slow.

Current Prices:

Prices for prime finished bulls for the Canadian market have continued to be strong. Recent sales have shown highs of \$700/CWT HHW with heifers up to \$685/CWT. Canadian bison headed to the US reached highs of \$515 (USD) for bulls and \$485 (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

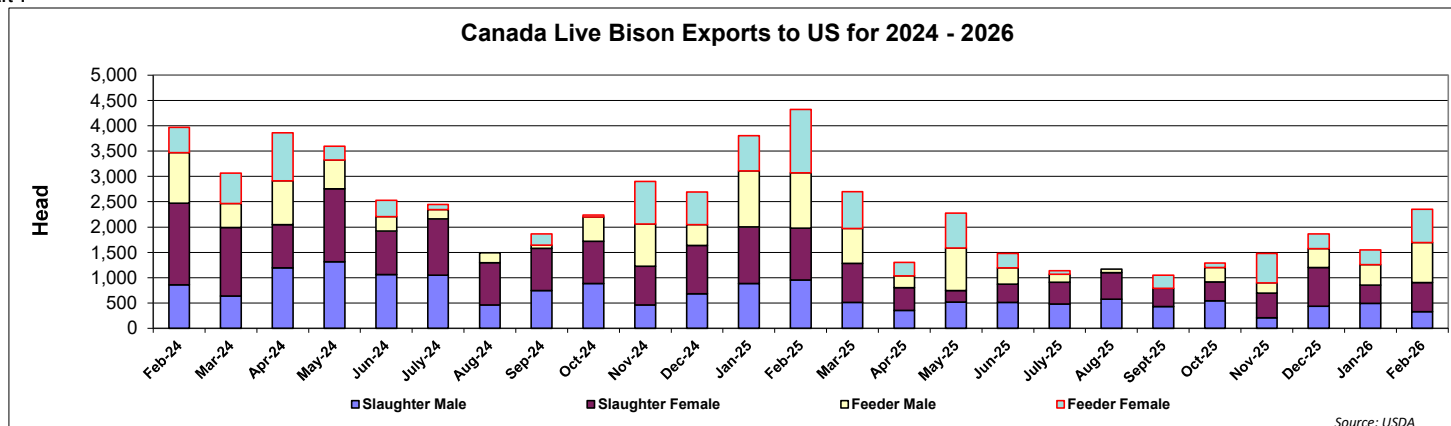
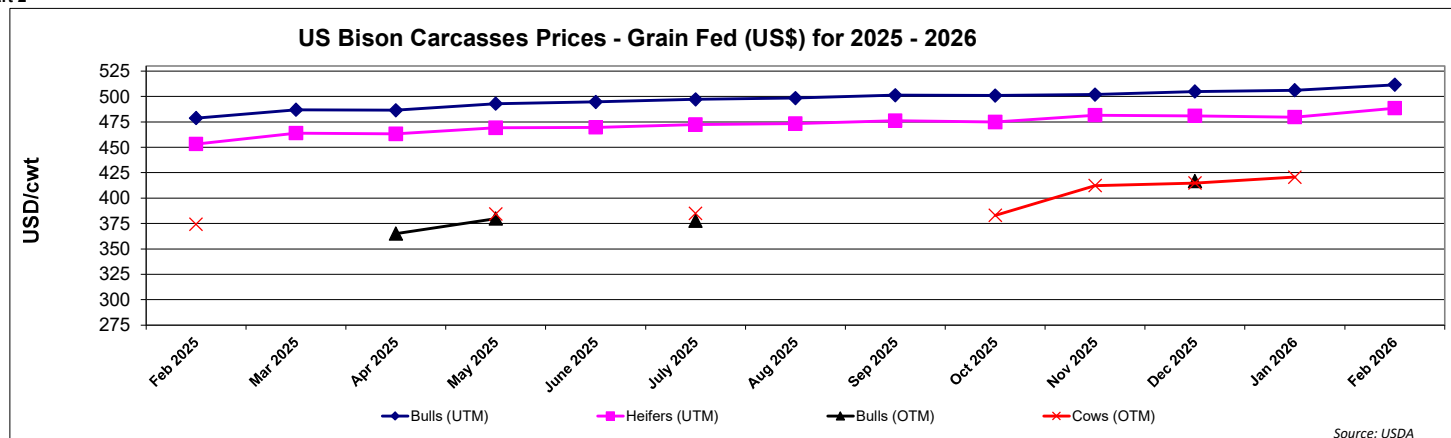


Chart 2



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	%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

Prepared by: Red Meat Section, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

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