

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - May 31, 2026.



Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

for week ending:	04 - April	11 - April	18 - April	25 - April	April Total	2026	2025	% Change
Total Canada	245	203	279	228	955	4,383	4,083	7.3%
previous year	235	219	233	244	931			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	March 2025	2026	2025	% Change
BC / Alberta	203	82	86	105	95	143	286	442	-35.3%
Sask / Manitoba	53	33	48	20	33	36	101	101	0.0%
Ontario / Quebec	34	26	19	16	31	23	66	58	13.8%
Canada Total	290	141	153	141	159	202	453	601	-24.6%

	January - March YTD	2026	2025	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter		3,881	3,753	3.4%

Canadian Production

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2025	% Change
Total Slaughter	7,860	9,798	10,794	9,871	11,126	15,356	3,881	3,753	3.4%
Total Live Exports	24,574	27,986	32,362	39,170	34,034	23,877	6,095	10,834	-43.7%
Total Production	32,434	37,784	43,156	49,041	45,160	39,233	9,976	14,587	-31.6%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	04 - April	11 - April	18 - April	25 - April	April Total	2026	2025	% Change
	1,034	856	1,184	1,265	4,339	18,118	22,017	-17.7%
previous year	1,170	1,242	1,207	1,014	4,633			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	2026	2025	% Change
Slaughter Male	205	434	490	329	423	311	1,553	2,701	-42.5%
Slaughter Female	493	766	360	572	677	342	1,951	3,365	-42.0%
Feeder Male	199	372	407	791	667	954	2,819	3,127	-9.8%
Feeder Female	583	293	292	659	428	694	2,073	2,942	-29.5%
Total	1,480	1,865	1,549	2,351	2,195	2,301	8,396	12,135	-30.8%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

		October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	January - March YTD		
								2026	2025	% Change
United States	Kg	5,497	11,473	3,482	2,609	2,052	3,187	7,848	18,074	-56.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	114,552	119,462	150,294	138,262	78,994	142,777	360,033	245,628	46.6%
Netherlands	Kg	20,488	29,998	21,513	9,756	20,110	15,970	45,836	51,511	-11.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	818,440	1,025,795	853,035	378,612	807,286	582,203	1,768,101	1,975,504	-10.5%
Switzerland	Kg	5,835	3,429	3,681	2,890	1,459	1,089	5,438	5,449	-0.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	179,012	123,783	103,668	85,960	41,256	31,025	158,241	174,450	-9.3%
Italy	Kg	273	1,110	-	882	472	1,121	2,475	11,448	-78.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	7,607	54,759	-	45,196	19,637	54,863	119,696	361,424	-66.9%
France	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	-	-	692	-	692	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	26,791	-	26,791	-	-
Total	Kg	32,093	46,010	28,676	16,137	24,785	21,367	62,289	86,482	-28.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,119,611	1,323,799	1,106,997	648,030	973,964	810,868	2,432,862	2,757,006	-11.8%

Bone-in

	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	2026	2025	% Change
Total	632	20,877	39,050	42,928	1,495	44,432	88,855	106,239	-16.4%
	13,822	491,947	863,522	959,314	27,693	989,725	1,976,732	2,401,461	-17.7%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	2026	2025	% Change
Kg	32,725	66,887	67,726	59,065	26,280	65,799	151,144	192,721	-21.6%
Value (\$Cdn)	1,133,433	1,815,746	1,970,519	1,607,344	1,001,657	1,800,593	4,409,594	5,158,467	-14.5%

*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)		
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				
Mar 2026	514.75			424.97		
Apr 2026	520.51	496.88				
*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**
May 2025	635 - 690	610 - 660			May 2025	485 - 500	450 - 475
Jun 2025	635 - 690	610 - 660			Jun 2025	485 - 500	450 - 475
Jul 2025	645 - 700	620 - 665			Jul 2025	495 - 510	455 - 480
Aug 2025	645 - 700	620 - 665			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
Apr 2026	675 - 710	675 - 700			Apr 2026	500 - 525	475 - 500
May 2026	685 - 710	685 - 710			May 2026	500 - 525	475 - 500
*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)

	February 2026		March 2026		April 2026		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Chuckroll, Fresh/Frozen	688 - 1,120	917.94	688 - 1,100	912.95	701 - 1,118	901.43	-1.8%	-1.3%
Ribeye Lip-on, Fresh/Frozen	1,495 - 2,650	2,018.84	1,526 - 2,650	2,032.79	1,277 - 2,375	1,980.99	-1.9%	-2.5%
Strip Loin, Fresh/Frozen	1,100 - 1,963	1,345.47	987 - 1,800	1,394.17	1,144 - 1,800	1,293.40	-3.9%	-7.2%
Tenderloin, Fresh/Frozen	2,210 - 4,058	2,657.41	2,210 - 4,150	2,800.46	1,950 - 4,378	2,527.72	-4.9%	-9.7%
Bison Trimmings 90%, Fresh/Frozen	825 - 1,075	966.80	850 - 1,050	867.45	760 - 1,025	850.77	-12.0%	-1.9%
Gmd 80% Bulk, Fresh/Frozen	374 - 1,240	902.08	761 - 1,249	885.97	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gmd 80% Patties, Fresh/Frozen	830 - 1,261	945.52	800 - 1,273	885.97	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
*source USDA								

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

	Mid-February 2026 Pricing	Mid-March 2026 Pricing	Mid-April 2026 Pricing	Mid-May 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	\$54.00 - \$59.00	\$54.00 - \$59.00	\$54.00 - \$59.00
Top sirloin	\$31.00 - \$33.00	\$33.00 - \$35.00	\$33.00 - \$35.00	\$33.00 - \$35.00
Inside round	\$31.00 - \$34.00	\$32.00 - \$35.00	\$32.00 - \$35.00	\$32.00 - \$35.00
Trim 90%	\$24.00 - \$26.00	\$25.00 - \$26.00	\$25.00 - \$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	\$27.00 - \$30.00	\$27.00 - \$30.00	\$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	\$ 9,250.00
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	893/840/885	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 – May 2026

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

- 5,521 head of bison were slaughtered at federally inspected plants in Canada. This is 5.6% higher than the 5,226 animals slaughtered in 2025 over the approximate same time frame.
- In the United States, 23,700 bison were slaughtered in US federally inspected plants. For the same time period in 2025, 27,295 bison were slaughtered in US federal plants. That's a 13.1% decrease year over year.
- According to most current USDA data, Canada exported 3,132 feeder males (in 2025 the number was 3,968, a 21% decrease YOY), 2,394 feeder females (3,633, 34% decrease), 1,906 slaughter males (3,216, 41% decrease) and 2,121 slaughter females (3,595 41% decrease).
- In total, 9,893 animals were exported to the US, compared to 14,566 last year. This is a 32% 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 \$710/CWT HHW with heifers up to \$710/CWT. Canadian bison headed to the US reached highs of \$525 (USD) for bulls and \$500 (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

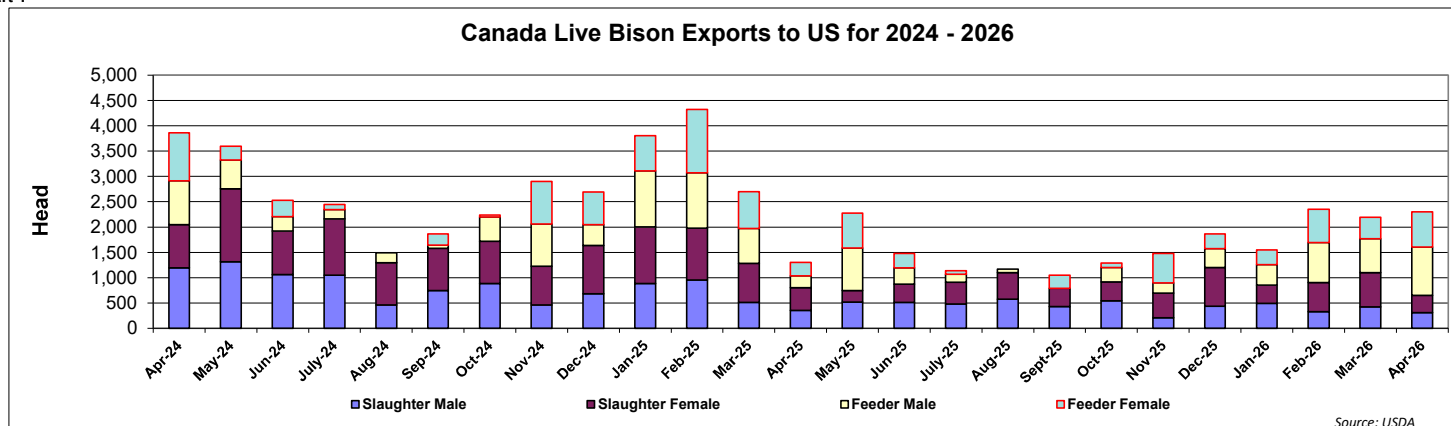
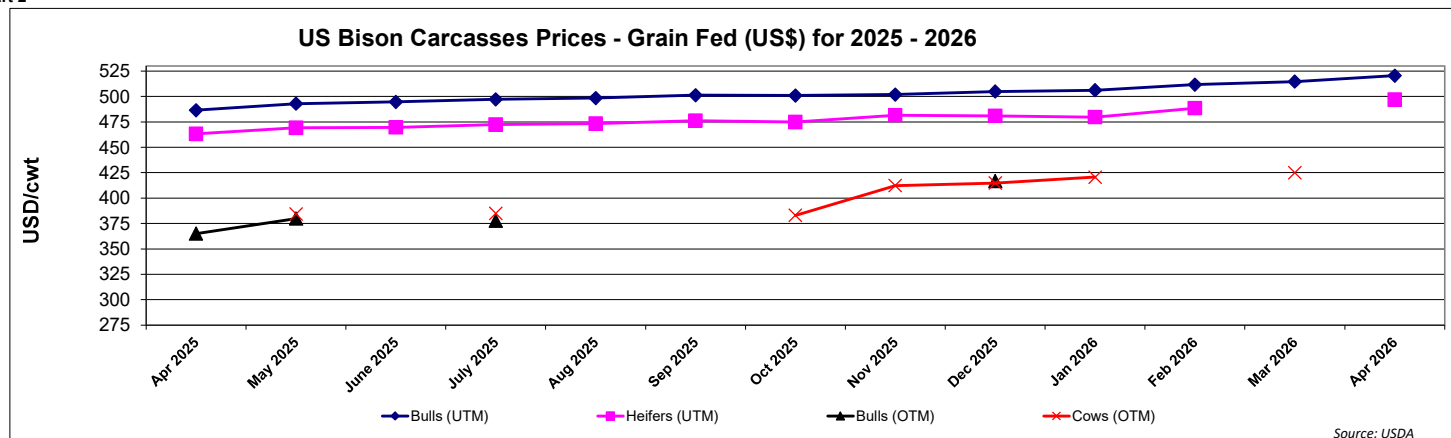


Chart 2



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

Contact: Diane Blandford (diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca), or see us at: <http://www.agr.gc.ca/redmeat>