

Agriculture

Alberta has one of the world's most productive agriculture economies. The province is known for commodities including grain, pulses, and livestock, as well as high-quality, safe value-added agri-processing products.

With over 50 million acres of farmland covering about one-third of the province and the largest cattle herd in the country, Alberta boasts one of the most sizeable agri-food sectors in Canada. The province's export sales of primary and value-added products totalled \$16.1 billion in 2022, exporting to more than 150 countries.

Alberta is also committed to growing the global sustainable food sector through innovation in agri-tech.

The Numbers



41,505

Farms in Alberta



28%

Canadian pulses produced in Alberta



\$17.6B

Alberta's agri-food exports in 2023



13%

GDP growth in agriculture between 2016 - 2022



22

Research and innovation facilities

The Opportunity



\$23.8B

Plant protein market value by 2023



23%

Alberta's combined federal-provincial business tax rate is lower than that of 44 U.S. states



5th

Canada is the fifth-largest agricultural commodities exporter in the world

Areas of Focus

Agri-Food & Processing

20% of Canada's total agri-food exports come from Alberta. As of 2022, the province's food and beverage processing industry is the largest manufacturing sector in Western Canada. Alberta produces about 40% of Canada's honey and is the fifth largest honey-producing region in the world.

Research & Technology

Alberta is investing in R&D in areas including smart farming and data analytics, indoor growing technologies and hydroponics, and improved product tracking and labelling.

In 2020, the Creative Destruction Lab (CDL) launched CDL Ag, a new stream designed to help innovative start-ups in the agriculture sector.

Company Highlight



OLDS COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY

The Olds College Smart Farm provides a 2,800-acre living lab for agriculture research.



Agriculture startup Decisive Farming is acquired by TELUS Agriculture.



Emmertech closes \$60M fund to grow Canadian agtech sector.

Agriculture

Alberta is set to experience a plant protein production boom. Global demand for plant-based protein is projected to reach \$100 billion by 2030. Alberta is uniquely positioned to capitalize on this opportunity and strengthen its position as a global supercluster in protein production.

Unparalleled access to some of the best growing land, a robust irrigation system (accounting for 70% of Canada's total irrigated area), and a sunny climate make Alberta an ideal source for large-scale agriculture production.

Home to multinationals as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), Alberta's agriculture sector is community minded and collaborative, with a strong focus on research and innovation. Post-secondary institutions, along with specialized programs are leading the advancement of technology and innovation in field crops, livestock, food processing, and food safety.

Why Alberta?

Young & Educated Talent



Research Capacity

Alberta has more than 22 research and innovation facilities specializing in crops and cereals, poultry and swine research, agronomy, biomaterials, food safety, and others.



Young & Highly Skilled Workforce

Alberta has one of the highest proportions of workers under the age of 45. The province is home to a highly educated workforce and several post-secondary institutions that specialize in agriculture, science, and engineering.

Attractive Lifestyle



Dynamic, Affordable Cities

Calgary and Edmonton's high quality of life and low housing prices make them two of North America's most vibrant, livable, and affordable cities.

Access to Key Markets



Globally Connected

Alberta's air, rail, and road access to key North American and international markets positions it as an ideal logistics hub to sell and distribute products globally. Connectivity through the CANAMEX corridor with the Asia Pacific Gateway, as well as efficient cargo access, make it easy to choose Alberta as the hub for your business.

Business Friendly



Trade Agreements

Canada's 15 trade agreements with 51 countries open access to 1.5B consumers globally. Canada is the first country in the G20 to offer tariff-free manufacturing imports.



Provincial Support

The Government of Alberta has initiated a \$933M project to improve Alberta's irrigation system, ensuring crop resiliency for the future.



Alberta's Tax Advantage

Alberta businesses and residents pay the lowest overall taxes in the country and amongst the lowest in North America.

Contact

Jack Weeks – Director of Investment, Agriculture
+1-403-852-6601
jack.weeks@investalberta.ca

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Alberta.



info@investalberta.ca



InvestAlberta.ca



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@Invest_Alberta