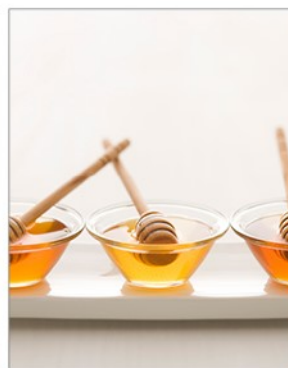


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# Statistical Overview of the Canadian Honey and Bee Industry **2020**

Prepared by:  
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Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
October 2021



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## Overview

Beekeeping is an important agricultural industry in Canada, producing honey and other hive products, and delivering valuable pollination services to farmers of orchard fruits, many berries, vegetables, forage, and the production of hybrid canola seed. In 2017, AAFC estimated that the total annual economic contribution of honey bee pollination through direct additional harvest value was about \$2.57 billion. When the estimated contribution of honey bee pollination to the production of hybrid canola seed is added, the total estimated contribution ranges from \$4.0 to \$5.5 billion per year.

The 2020 beekeeping season was affected by the disruptions in travel and transportation related to COVID-19. Limited travel options for Seasonal and Temporary Foreign Workers prevented or delayed the arrival of the workforce critical to beekeeping operations. COVID-related transportation disruptions affected the supply of imported replacement queen and package bees. These important supplies are shipped from a limited number of approved places including Australia, New Zealand, Chile, California, and Hawaii for queens; and Australia, New Zealand, Chile for 'package' bees (a few pounds of worker bees and a mated queen bee to be placed in a hive box on arrival). These replacement bees complement domestic supplies, and typically arrive in the early spring to address hive losses and replace weak queen bees after the winter has passed.

Honey production in Canada in 2020, by volume, fell 4.3% from a year earlier to 82.9 million pounds. The spring of 2020 revealed higher than average over winter hive losses in Alberta with loss rates of 40.5% in a year where the national average of 30.2%. These losses coincided with COVID-related disruptions to the supply of some imported replacement bee supplies, notably for package bees. The total honey harvest by volume was at its lowest in eight years. Despite this, thanks to sustained robust prices for honey, the total value of the 2020 harvest rose 14.9% (over 2019) to \$208.8 million.



# 1. Production

While beekeeping businesses operate in all provinces, the majority of honey bee colonies in Canada are kept in the Prairies, where long summer days and a favourable crop mix are ideal for foraging. Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba collectively accounted for 67% of the country's total honey bee colonies and for 80% of total honey production by volume. Alberta contributed the most to Canada's overall honey production (36%), followed by Manitoba (25%) and Saskatchewan (19%).

Honey producers in Alberta had 9.5% fewer producing colonies in 2020 compared to a year earlier, partially due to poor spring and early summer conditions, as well as higher than average over-winter losses. Production fell 4.8% from a year earlier to 29.9 million pounds in 2020. COVID-19 related transportation challenges reduced the available labour supply and curtailed the number of imported package bees arriving from New Zealand and Australia to approximately one third of the quantity ordered arriving in Canada. Imported replacement queen bees were somewhat less affected, with over 80% of the orders arriving on time. In 2020, Saskatchewan saw an estimated year-over-year reduction in total honey bee colonies of 13% with a reduction in the total honey harvest by volume of 23%. In contrast, over the same period, Manitoba saw a rise in the total number of colonies by 3% and an increase in the total honey harvest of 13% by volume.

There were 11,785 beekeepers in Canada in 2020, up 1,262 from a year earlier and almost two-thirds higher compared with a decade earlier. This increase is driven by higher honey prices and sustained levels of public interest in beekeeping and pollinators. As well, the industry has relatively low cost barriers to entry, and offers a natural scalability for growing the operation, where successful.

Despite the year-over-year decrease in total national honey production of 4.3%, the total value of honey sold rose 14.9% to \$208.8 million as tightened international supply pushed world prices higher. Producers received an estimated national average price of \$2.52 per pound for their honey, up from \$2.10 per pound a year earlier, an increase of 20.1%.



## 1.1. Number of beekeepers<sup>1</sup> by province

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Prince Edward Island	40	46	50	50	30	0%
Nova Scotia	451	604	631	690	796	7%
New Brunswick	351	374	388	415	450	4%
Quebec	384	402	425	440	440	4%
Ontario	2,896	3,331	3,026	2,506	2,856	24%
Manitoba	662	746	834	905	914	9%
Saskatchewan	1,150	1,044	1,059	1,101	1,050	10%
Alberta	1,453	1,420	1,572	1,653	1,604	16%
British Columbia	2,640	2,640	2,676	2,763	3,645	26%
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>10,027</b>	<b>10,589</b>	<b>10,661</b>	<b>10,523</b>	<b>11,785</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Notes:

1. Beekeeper numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.
2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has limited beekeeping.

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0353-01 Production and value of honey

## 1.2. Number of colonies<sup>1</sup> by province

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Prince Edward Island	4,920	6,300	4,453	3,591	4,250	0.6%
Nova Scotia	31,080	26,426	25,446	25,716	21,600	2.9%
New Brunswick	7,000	7,100	8,141	4,120	4,307	0.6%
Quebec	64,426	61,020	60,439	66,700	54,000	7.2%
Ontario	97,342	105,244	100,413	90,675	101,989	13.7%
Manitoba	102,030	111,802	114,098	114,668	118,697	15.9%
Saskatchewan	112,000	115,000	114,000	115,000	100,000	13.4%
Alberta	309,000	317,000	311,000	314,800	285,000	38.2%
British Columbia	39,885	40,776	52,033	55,781	56,769	7.6%
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>767,683</b>	<b>790,668</b>	<b>790,023</b>	<b>791,051</b>	<b>746,612</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

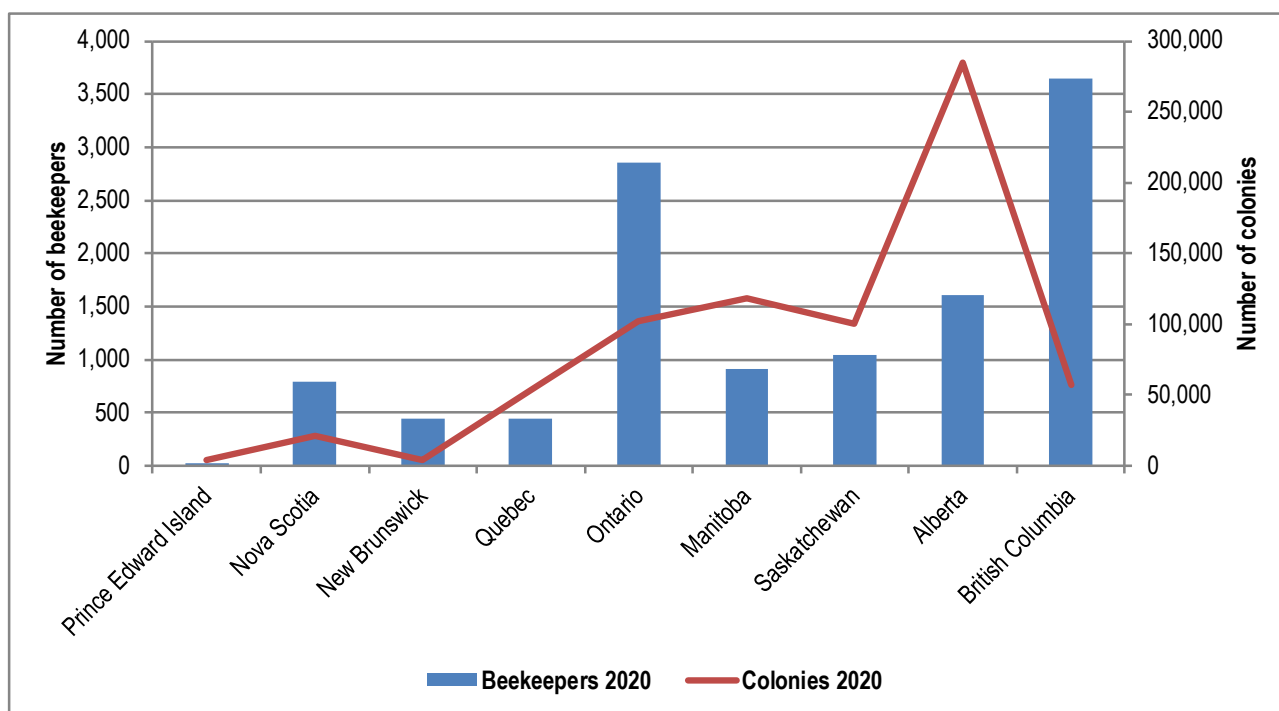
Notes:

1. Colony numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.
2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has limited beekeeping.

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0353-01 Production and value of honey



### 1.3. Number of beekeepers and number of colonies by province



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0353-01 Production and value of honey

### 1.4. Total honey production<sup>1</sup> by province – thousands of pounds

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Prince Edward Island	162	231	168	181	159	0.2%
Nova Scotia	588	553	522	390	389	0.5%
New Brunswick	287	201	469	218	176	0.2%
Quebec	4,507	3,723	4,472	3,963	3,526	4.3%
Ontario	8,880	6,087	8,174	7,963	8,527	10.3%
Manitoba	15,202	19,120	18,710	18,350	20,650	24.9%
Saskatchewan	22,848	21,965	20,520	20,240	15,700	18.9%
Alberta	40,170	40,576	38,564	31,418	29,925	36.1%
British Columbia	1,934	3,556	3,397	3,907	3,843	4.6%
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>94,578</b>	<b>96,012</b>	<b>94,996</b>	<b>86,630</b>	<b>82,896</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Notes:

1. Production excludes inventory.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has limited beekeeping.

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0353-01 Production and value of honey





### 1.5. Production value<sup>1</sup> of honey by province – thousands of Canadian dollars

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Prince Edward Island	445	666	393	423	332	0.2%
Nova Scotia	1,686	1,586	1,574	1,073	810	0.4%
New Brunswick	661	511	1,430	666	548	0.3%
Quebec	15,074	15,120	16,655	15,408	13,000	6.2%
Ontario	31,966	20,257	34,329	29,437	36,241	17.4%
Manitoba	21,000	32,268	32,786	32,997	48,938	23.4%
Saskatchewan	27,418	34,045	33,858	32,384	31,400	15.0%
Alberta	62,388	71,359	66,472	58,188	63,715	30.5%
British Columbia	8,622	14,292	13,320	11,040	13,780	6.6%
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>169,260</b>	<b>190,104</b>	<b>200,816</b>	<b>181,615</b>	<b>208,763</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Notes:

1. Value excludes inventory sales except for in Quebec.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has limited beekeeping.

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0353-01 Production and value of honey



## 2. Trade

Demand for Canadian honey continues to grow from both domestic and import markets. While Canadian beekeepers routinely produce more honey than can be consumed domestically, a growing proportion of Canadian production is consumed domestically, which reduces surpluses available for export. With a reduced total harvest in 2020, this further reduced the volume of honey available for export. In 2020, exports of Canadian honey totaled \$47 million, down 12% from 2019.

In 2020, in terms of value, honey exports to Japan rose 33% compared to 2019, surpassing exports to the United States to which exports fell 42% during the same period. In fact, exports to Japan accounted for 50% of total exports in 2020 while these exports only accounted for 33% in 2019. On the other hand, exports to the United States accounted for 41% of total exports in 2020 compared to 62% in 2019. The Canadian industry has been working with a number of export markets to diversify and grow export sales volumes and price premiums resulting in changes in export patterns.

Canada imported \$43 million worth of honey by value in 2020, down 6% from 2019. Honey from New Zealand topped the list of imported honey by value with a total import value of \$14 million. Most imports from New Zealand are specialty mono-floral honey produced from the nectar of the Manuka tree which commands exceptionally high prices. Brazil, the largest source of imported honey in terms of volume, was the second largest source in terms of value with \$6 million. Most honey imported from Brazil was organic honey.

In the spring and early summer of each year Canadian beekeepers import replacement queen bees and 'package' bees from a short list of approved source regions and countries to supplement domestic production. In recent years beekeepers imported about 40,000 'packages' annually of replacement bees to rapidly rebuild hive numbers in the spring. In 2020, COVID-19 related transportation challenges curtailed the number of imported package bees arriving from New Zealand and Australia resulting in beekeepers receiving about 14,000 packages, or one third of the total quantity of package bees ordered. Imported replacement queen bees were less affected, with over 80% of the orders arriving on time, primarily from Hawaii and California.



## 2.1. Trade balance

### 2.1.1. Canada's honey trade balance – thousands of Canadian dollars

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Export	71,838	76,986	78,011	53,827	47,371
Import	38,064	41,284	36,787	45,396	42,567
<b>Trade Balance (Exports - Imports)</b>	<b>33,774</b>	<b>35,702</b>	<b>41,224</b>	<b>8,431</b>	<b>4,804</b>
Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)					



## 2.2. Exports

### 2.2.1. Canada's honey exports by province<sup>1</sup> – by value (thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Prince Edward Island	78	0	0	0	2	0.0%
Nova Scotia	61	126	15	60	113	0.2%
Quebec	6,158	5,446	4,602	4,098	6,200	13.1%
Ontario	2,212	3,864	6,362	5,722	2,527	5.3%
Manitoba	17,060	19,310	13,033	11,943	16,407	34.6%
Saskatchewan	11,346	19,928	20,511	11,097	7,230	15.3%
Alberta	33,433	27,150	31,749	19,735	14,387	30.4%
British Columbia	1,490	1,160	1,739	1,172	506	1.1%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>71,838</b>	<b>76,986</b>	<b>78,011</b>	<b>53,827</b>	<b>47,371</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Note:  
 1. Exports may include honey not produced in that province.  
 Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)

### 2.2.2. Canada's honey exports by province – by volume (metric tonnes)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Prince Edward Island	14	0	0	0	1	0.0%
Nova Scotia	7	22	2	7	20	0.2%
Québec	1,021	1,006	838	611	965	10.4%
Ontario	378	828	1,219	1,006	398	4.3%
Manitoba	4,580	5,242	3,160	2,959	3,358	36.1%
Saskatchewan	3,551	5,541	5,127	2,735	1,630	17.5%
Alberta	8,113	6,372	7,958	4,358	2,852	30.6%
British Columbia	215	186	284	171	85	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,879</b>	<b>19,196</b>	<b>18,587</b>	<b>11,847</b>	<b>9,309</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)



### 2.2.3. Canada's top 10 honey export destinations – by value (thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Japan	17,045	12,432	12,643	17,884	23,735	50.1%
United States	50,894	60,878	62,005	33,615	19,363	40.9%
China	2,396	1,981	1,903	1,403	1,648	3.5%
Hong Kong	271	460	347	154	688	1.5%
South Korea	559	550	696	503	671	1.4%
Germany	0	1	81	0	580	1.2%
Saudi Arabia	10	1	0	0	113	0.2%
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	93	0.2%
India	95	366	2	0	70	0.1%
Kuwait	84	23	13	5	60	0.1%
Others	484	293	321	263	350	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,838</b>	<b>76,986</b>	<b>78,011</b>	<b>53,827</b>	<b>47,371</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)

### 2.2.4. Canada's top 10 honey export destinations – by volume (metric tonnes)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Japan	3,719	2,799	2,785	3,575	4,362	46.9%
United States	13,553	15,762	15,221	7,872	4,143	44.5%
China	323	323	326	209	295	3.2%
South Korea	105	109	124	128	135	1.4%
Hong Kong	40	72	55	19	120	1.3%
Germany	0	0	20	0	117	1.3%
Saudi Arabia	1	0	0	0	21	0.2%
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	20	0.2%
Greece	0	0	0	0	15	0.2%
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	15	0.2%
Others	138	131	57	45	66	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,879</b>	<b>19,196</b>	<b>18,587</b>	<b>11,847</b>	<b>9,309</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)



## 2.3. Imports

### 2.3.1. Canada's honey imports by province – by value (Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Nova Scotia	2,062	8,467	2,151	73,381	3,314	0.0%
New Brunswick	216	7,236	30,121	6,999	0	0.0%
Quebec	13,932,715	12,355,678	10,782,748	10,816,955	11,302,033	26.6%
Ontario	17,958,821	24,630,510	19,685,017	27,542,742	24,398,345	57.3%
Manitoba	305,147	71,679	15,403	44,322	28,442	0.1%
Saskatchewan	13,854	4,800	20,361	69,443	531	0.0%
Alberta	1,165,645	27,557	837,443	737,141	824,615	1.9%
British Columbia	4,685,144	4,178,387	5,413,726	6,104,441	6,009,636	14.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,063,604</b>	<b>41,284,314</b>	<b>36,786,970</b>	<b>45,395,715</b>	<b>42,566,916</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)

### 2.3.2. Canada's honey imports by province – by volume (kilograms)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Nova Scotia	317	790	420	21,805	787	0.0%
New Brunswick	51	291	3,193	316	0	0.0%
Québec	3,417,813	2,633,238	2,501,286	2,896,369	3,079,785	43.1%
Ontario	2,476,506	3,585,028	2,306,117	3,150,676	3,658,983	51.2%
Manitoba	39,739	9,204	1,176	5,224	2,460	0.0%
Saskatchewan	936	313	1,359	2,333	176	0.0%
Alberta	223,966	3,407	24,264	24,591	25,546	0.4%
British Columbia	400,887	418,136	369,337	409,923	374,815	5.2%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>6,560,215</b>	<b>6,650,407</b>	<b>5,207,152</b>	<b>6,511,256</b>	<b>7,142,552</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)



### 2.3.3. Canada's top 10 sources of honey imports – by value (Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
New Zealand	7,120,281	9,560,170	12,759,495	17,470,382	14,122,496	33.2%
Brazil	10,515,234	7,384,459	4,226,571	6,882,630	5,859,961	13.8%
United States	4,207,803	2,667,256	3,213,364	2,539,091	4,930,800	11.6%
India	1,550,297	2,017,945	2,315,223	3,397,364	3,341,630	7.9%
Australia	3,629,420	3,102,488	3,008,351	3,110,225	2,718,950	6.4%
Thailand	808,688	1,855,794	4,011,223	3,476,340	2,450,216	5.8%
Spain	3,024,203	3,120,697	1,490,462	2,606,030	2,012,699	4.7%
Greece	1,171,384	1,226,620	1,290,162	1,282,118	1,439,014	3.4%
Viet Nam	547,875	900,211	480,712	275,952	1,355,986	3.2%
Saudi Arabia	780,354	951,138	958,894	1,297,348	989,351	2.3%
Others	4,708,065	8,497,536	3,032,513	3,058,235	3,345,813	7.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,063,604</b>	<b>41,284,314</b>	<b>36,786,970</b>	<b>45,395,715</b>	<b>42,566,916</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)

### 2.3.4. Canada's top 10 sources of honey imports – by volume (kilograms)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
Brazil	2,134,017	1,279,957	912,555	1,809,262	1,748,100	24.5%
United States	652,406	468,534	566,482	574,633	1,147,664	16.1%
India	429,116	505,506	745,286	1,091,658	1,079,458	15.1%
Thailand	230,849	483,515	970,078	891,102	699,513	9.8%
Viet Nam	164,054	325,886	215,813	129,324	544,362	7.6%
Spain	646,681	734,823	314,974	529,098	415,875	5.8%
New Zealand	298,498	346,451	344,490	412,172	331,467	4.6%
Greece	164,416	177,721	137,907	142,338	255,182	3.6%
Australia	393,654	333,891	324,098	279,490	223,110	3.1%
Saudi Arabia	79,207	103,937	101,790	129,518	91,015	1.3%
Others	1,367,317	1,890,186	573,679	522,661	606,806	8.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,560,215</b>	<b>6,650,407</b>	<b>5,207,152</b>	<b>6,511,256</b>	<b>7,142,552</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)



### 2.3.5. Canada's sources of (package) honey bee imports – by value (Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
New Zealand	3,002,526	1,510,369	1,278,340	1,988,220	951,273	84.7%
Chile	0	316,067	651,930	167,180	86,400	7.7%
Australia	559,584	331,206	853,887	1,255,269	84,870	7.6%
Denmark	9,428	0	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,571,538</b>	<b>2,157,642</b>	<b>2,784,157</b>	<b>3,410,677</b>	<b>1,122,557</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Notes:

Package bees are sold in a variety of sizes typically one pound, two pound and three pound packages. No detail on the individual numbers of different package sizes is available.

Does not include queen bees and live bees that are not honey bees.

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)

### 2.3.6. Canada's sources of queen bee imports – by value (Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
United States	6,316,094	7,138,232	7,111,970	7,177,805	7,313,155	91.0%
New Zealand	81,787	63,232	884,234	103,034	318,928	4.0%
Chile	91,396	217,937	225,279	504,080	143,554	1.8%
Italy	0	0	0	0	136,325	1.7%
Australia	145,681	265,108	212,140	191,143	106,147	1.3%
Others	0	2,767	14,166	0	22,001	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,634,958</b>	<b>7,687,276</b>	<b>8,447,789</b>	<b>7,976,062</b>	<b>8,040,110</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada. (CATSNET, March 2021)





### 3. Consumption

While consumption of sweet condiments has generally declined due to health-related concerns, natural honey is one exception. The availability of honey for consumption was up 3.1% annually to 0.98 kilogram in 2020, spurred by higher imports (+9.7%) and lower exports (-22.0%), despite lower production (-4.3%).

#### 3.1. Honey available<sup>1</sup> for consumption in Canada – kilograms per person

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Honey <sup>2</sup>	0.93	0.90	0.85	0.95	0.98

Notes:

1. Food available per person is calculated by dividing the domestic disappearance by the Canadian population as of July 1st of the reference year, at the retail level.

Domestic disappearance represents the total food available for human consumption from the Canadian food supply chain.

Total Supply = Beginning stocks + Production + Imports

Domestic Disappearance = Total supply – Exports – Manufacturing - Waste - Ending stocks

2. Does not adjust for losses, such as waste and/or spoilage in stores, households, private institutions or restaurants or losses during preparation.

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0054-01 Food available in Canada



## 4. World data

The largest exporter of honey is China in terms of volume. Due to the much higher prices paid for Manuka honey, New Zealand is the exporter with the highest total value of honey exported, despite being ranked 13th in terms of volume. Canada currently ranks 16th as an exporter in terms of value and volume.

The US is the largest importer of honey by value and volume, purchasing supplies from a wide range of countries at all quality levels for both table consumption and ingredient uses. European countries are significant importers of honey, with Germany importing the largest amount. Japan, Saudi Arabia and China are also significant importers.

Globally, China is by far the largest producer of honey. In 2019, China's production accounted for 26% of total world production. In the same year, Canada ranked 12th globally and accounted for only 2% of total world production.



## 4.1. World trade data

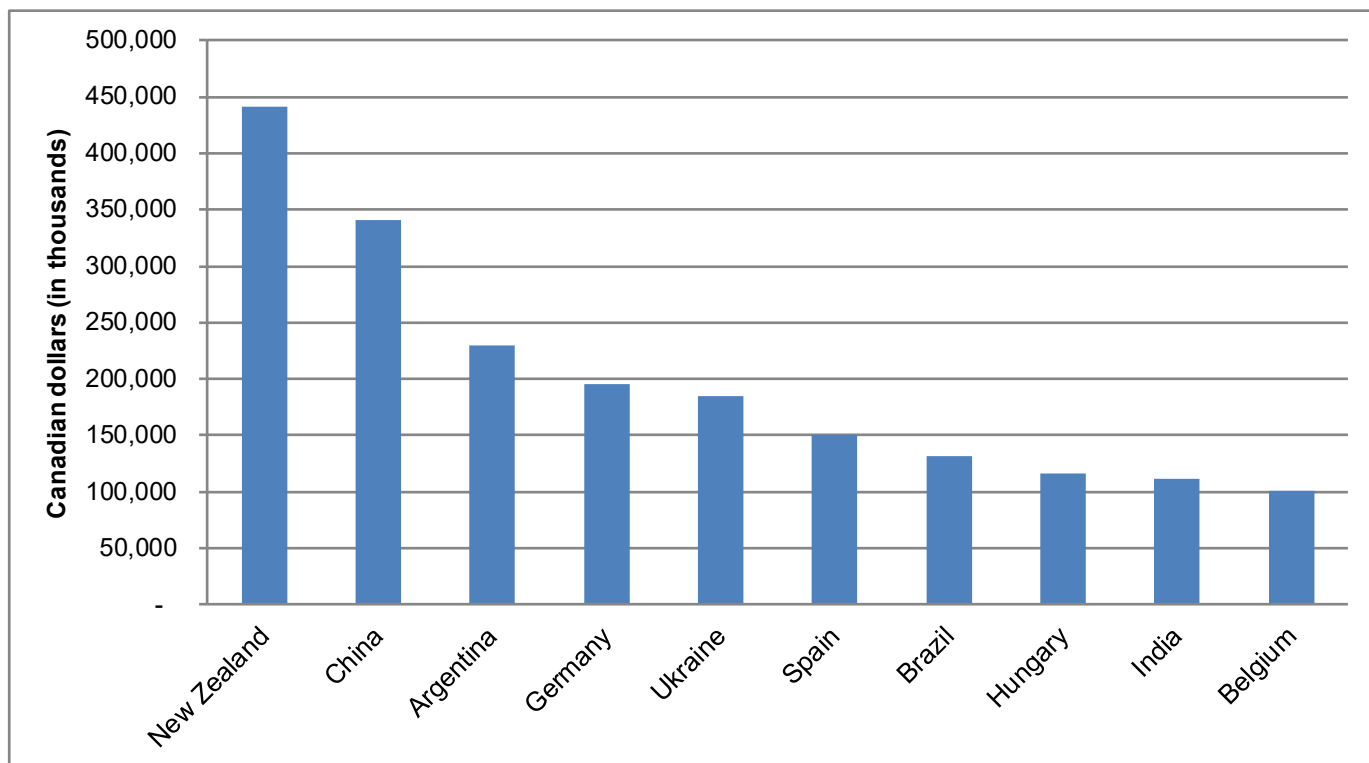
### 4.1.1. Top exporters of honey worldwide – by value (thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
New Zealand	271,606	348,666	317,420	304,314	440,858	15.0%
China	367,884	350,287	322,762	311,714	340,959	11.6%
Argentina	223,089	238,189	226,370	194,508	230,082	7.8%
Germany	181,575	182,095	182,512	176,548	195,792	6.6%
Ukraine	129,046	172,619	127,788	134,398	185,340	6.3%
Spain	144,399	142,967	137,123	117,471	150,682	5.1%
Brazil	121,581	158,802	123,790	90,692	132,113	4.5%
Hungary	91,497	116,502	111,907	107,558	116,398	3.9%
India	93,744	135,573	132,635	134,046	111,235	3.8%
Belgium	95,213	100,054	101,168	83,907	100,349	3.4%
Mexico	123,115	136,753	156,140	90,040	91,148	3.1%
Poland	48,517	55,680	55,787	57,899	83,184	2.8%
Romania	55,099	67,107	63,658	56,262	65,866	2.2%
Australia	41,146	39,680	42,220	48,164	54,412	1.8%
Bulgaria	42,999	62,839	54,701	53,611	53,273	1.8%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>72,315</b>	<b>78,650</b>	<b>79,278</b>	<b>54,824</b>	<b>48,072</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Others	516,749	579,539	559,838	507,959	547,110	18.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,619,573</b>	<b>2,966,004</b>	<b>2,795,094</b>	<b>2,523,916</b>	<b>2,946,873</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Global Trade Tracker (March 2021)



#### 4.1.2. Top 10 honey-exporting countries, 2020



Source: Global Trade Tracker (March 2021)



#### 4.1.3. Top exporters of honey worldwide – by volume (metric tons)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
China	128,330	129,274	123,478	120,845	132,469	18.8%
Ukraine	57,027	67,907	49,461	55,769	80,872	11.5%
Argentina	81,183	70,321	70,576	65,242	71,564	10.2%
India	35,793	52,980	58,231	65,351	54,834	7.8%
Brazil	24,201	27,053	28,524	30,039	45,728	6.5%
Germany	24,116	24,433	22,788	25,320	28,902	4.1%
Spain	26,874	24,751	23,110	22,471	28,263	4.0%
Mexico	29,098	27,723	55,674	26,901	27,485	3.9%
Poland	14,759	15,843	14,705	16,837	24,691	3.5%
Belgium	20,660	19,720	19,835	18,298	22,381	3.2%
Hungary	17,403	22,260	20,932	19,389	19,087	2.7%
Uruguay	7,716	9,186	5,803	7,904	15,836	2.3%
New Zealand	9,626	11,038	9,024	9,455	14,358	2.0%
Romania	10,371	12,250	10,509	10,497	13,187	1.9%
Bulgaria	9,001	13,302	10,719	12,950	12,831	1.8%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>17,954</b>	<b>19,462</b>	<b>18,836</b>	<b>12,082</b>	<b>9,426</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Others	94,528	108,750	102,229	94,903	101,710	14.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>608,640</b>	<b>656,252</b>	<b>644,435</b>	<b>614,254</b>	<b>703,625</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Source: Global Trade Tracker (March 2021)						

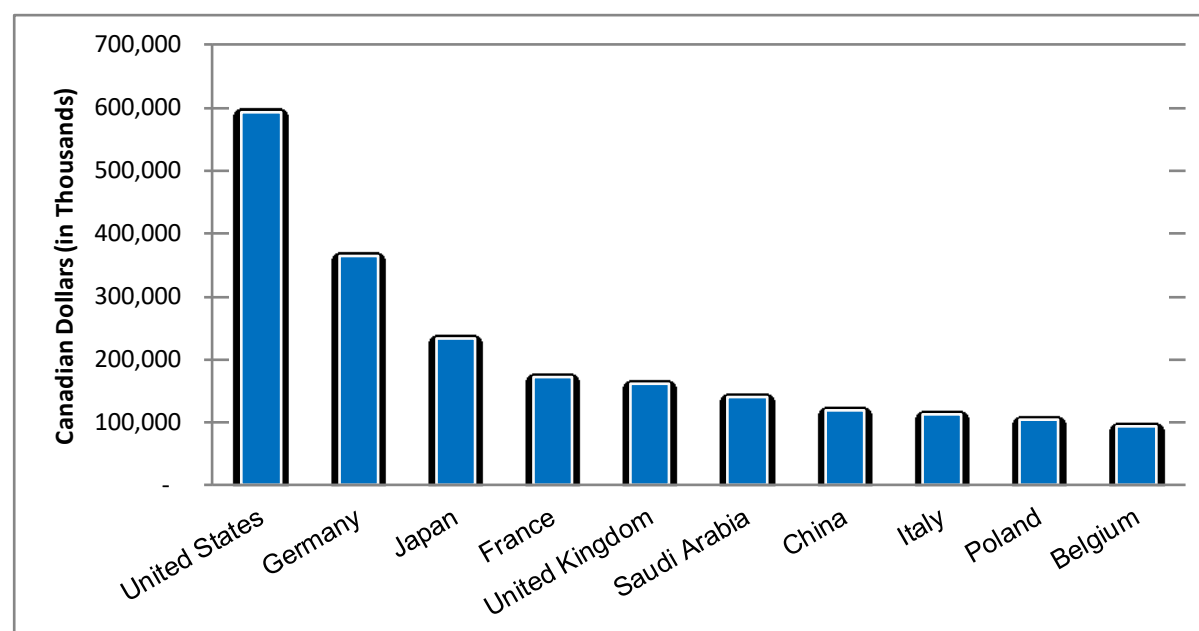


#### 4.1.4. Top importers of honey worldwide – by value (thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
United States	559,415	739,697	627,811	553,182	592,247	20.3%
Germany	370,790	406,723	396,781	338,773	365,479	12.5%
Japan	209,152	185,433	188,619	191,607	233,619	8.0%
France	168,814	169,489	168,414	157,575	173,007	5.9%
United Kingdom	158,725	169,545	166,461	147,531	161,580	5.5%
Saudi Arabia	55,392	86,795	99,313	99,935	140,765	4.8%
China	96,505	118,605	91,170	112,618	119,264	4.1%
Italy	96,028	106,654	130,572	105,873	112,117	3.8%
Poland	67,407	76,031	81,355	84,181	105,502	3.6%
Belgium	98,383	103,308	94,877	85,284	94,359	3.2%
Spain	86,542	99,535	87,984	76,217	88,430	3.0%
Netherlands	76,543	79,273	84,481	70,282	87,278	3.0%
Australia	58,956	59,244	69,352	48,783	55,041	1.9%
Switzerland	46,995	47,447	51,507	47,995	50,209	1.7%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>38,064</b>	<b>41,284</b>	<b>36,787</b>	<b>45,396</b>	<b>42,576</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
Others	454,326	508,984	470,900	441,111	500,142	17.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,642,038</b>	<b>2,998,048</b>	<b>2,846,384</b>	<b>2,606,341</b>	<b>2,921,612</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Global Trade Tracker (March 2021)

#### 4.1.5. Top 10 honey-importing countries, 2020



Source: Global Trade Tracker (March 2021)



#### 4.1.6. Top importers of honey worldwide – by volume (metric tons)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 % Share
United States	166,442	202,565	187,624	178,913	196,642	27.2%
Germany	84,287	93,070	85,980	82,203	88,066	12.2%
United Kingdom	41,279	46,092	50,590	48,830	52,654	7.3%
Japan	48,445	42,821	44,521	44,788	49,348	6.8%
Poland	24,419	26,449	25,726	29,802	37,343	5.2%
France	35,630	35,570	32,302	32,818	34,820	4.8%
Spain	27,988	31,871	27,942	26,801	31,690	4.4%
Belgium	26,571	25,925	24,915	24,861	28,148	3.9%
Saudi Arabia	12,185	16,294	16,969	18,512	23,529	3.3%
Italy	22,568	23,602	27,875	23,580	22,304	3.1%
Netherlands	17,393	16,341	16,846	15,115	18,299	2.5%
Greece	2,773	5,747	7,617	8,576	8,815	1.2%
Portugal	5,486	7,457	6,270	7,553	8,464	1.2%
Switzerland	7,884	8,192	8,229	8,240	8,098	1.1%
Australia	8,634	8,621	6,873	4,784	8,010	1.1%
Ireland	4,117	4,899	5,389	6,540	7,338	1.0%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>6,560</b>	<b>6,650</b>	<b>5,207</b>	<b>6,511</b>	<b>7,144</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
Others	82,772	91,342	79,309	78,749	92,246	12.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>625,432</b>	<b>693,509</b>	<b>660,183</b>	<b>647,178</b>	<b>722,957</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Global Trade Tracker (March 2021)



## 4.2. World production

### 4.2.1. Top producers of honey worldwide<sup>1</sup> – by volume (metric tons)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019 % Share
China	473,000	555,000	542,500	446,900	444,100	25.8%
Turkey	108,128	105,727	114,471	107,920	109,330	6.4%
Argentina	52,600	68,123	76,379	79,468	78,927	4.6%
Iran	72,866	67,783	70,528	75,835	75,463	4.4%
United States	71,008	73,429	67,596	69,857	71,179	4.1%
Ukraine	63,615	59,294	66,231	71,279	69,937	4.1%
India	62,599	65,090	66,635	67,612	67,141	3.9%
Russia	67,736	69,764	65,167	65,006	63,526	3.7%
Mexico	61,881	55,358	51,066	64,253	61,986	3.6%
Ethiopia	59,161	47,706	50,000	50,000	53,782	3.1%
Brazil	37,859	39,677	41,696	42,378	45,981	2.7%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>41,735</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>43,550</b>	<b>43,089</b>	<b>36,444</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
Others	705,037	676,157	670,460	672,294	543,492	31.6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,877,225</b>	<b>1,926,008</b>	<b>1,926,279</b>	<b>1,855,891</b>	<b>1,721,288</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Note:

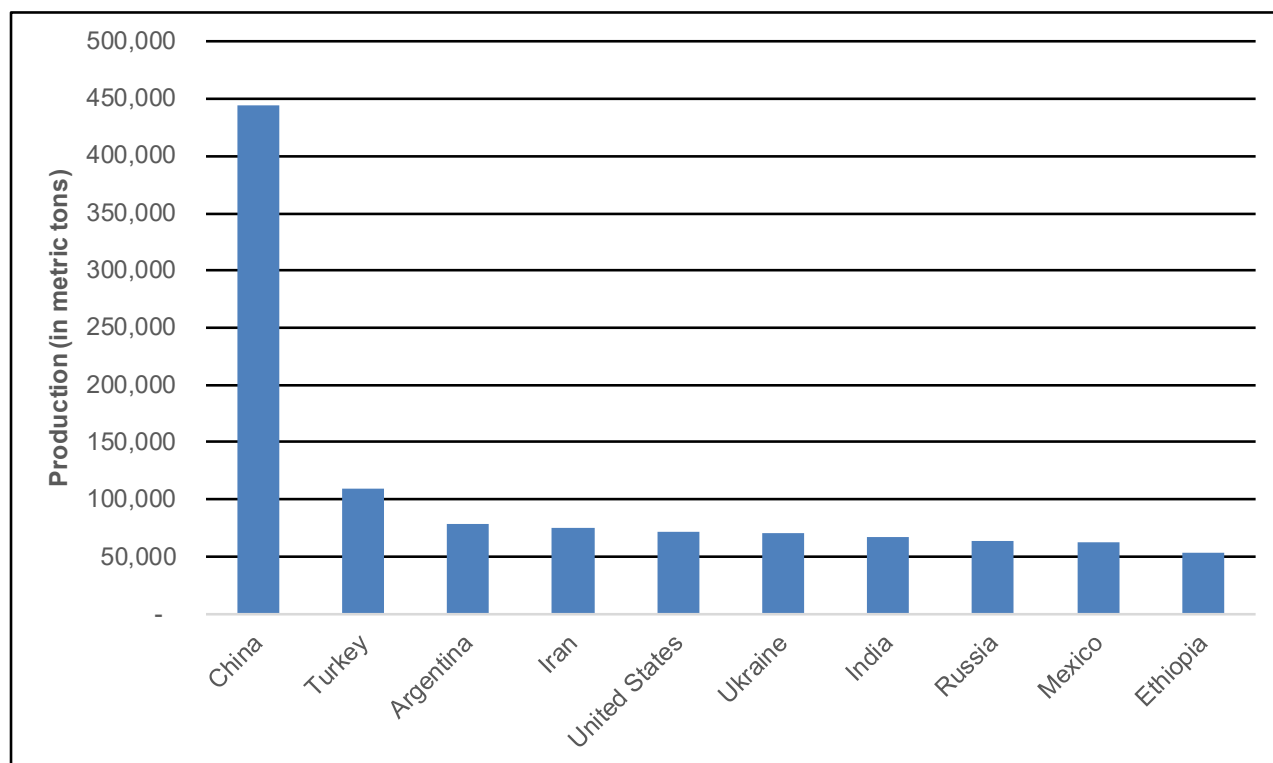
1. FAO production data for the year 2020 was not yet available at the time of writing this report.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations | © FAO Statistics Division 2021





#### 4.2.2. Top 10 honey-producing countries, 2019



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations | © FAO Statistics Division 2021



## 5. Key Resources

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Statistics Division
- Global Trade Tracker
- Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0353-01 Production and value of honey
- Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0054-01 Food available in Canada
- Statistics Canada. CATSNET

Import and export data is based on the following Harmonized System Codes (H.S. Codes):

**Honey for import:** 0409000010; 0409000021; 0409000022; 0409000023; 0409000024;  
0409000025; 0409000026; 0409000029; 0409000090

**Honey for export:** 04090000

**Honey Bees for import:** 0106410010; 0106410011; 0106410012; 0106900011; 0106900012

**Queen Bees for import:** 0106410020