



BACKGROUND

Summary: British Columbia's dairy, egg and poultry industries (BCDEPI) continue to make a significant economic contribution to the province. In 2009, the industries accounted for nearly 27,000 jobs and \$950 million in salaries and wages, and contribute close to \$5.3 billion in direct and indirect economic activity, according to an economic impact study conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC).

The province's dairy, egg and poultry industries provide safe high-quality foods in an efficient, effective manner to communities throughout British Columbia, while responding and adapting to the needs of the marketplace and consumers.

Economic contribution – 2009

- BCDEPI contributed nearly \$1.6 billion to the provincial GDP.
- The total economic output supported by the BCDEPI value chain is estimated to be close to \$5.3 billion.
- The industries were responsible for close to 27,000 jobs, which is more than the 24,200 jobs in the province's mining and oil and gas sector.
- BCDEPI paid out approximately \$950 million in salaries and wages.
- The five supply-managed agricultural sectors are a relatively stable source of jobs and investment and are not as prone to the volatility of other economic sectors. This is especially important during periods of economic uncertainty and transition.
- Producer prices are relatively stable and have increased less than the consumer price index (CPI). For example, the CPI has increased an average of 3.4 per cent since 1980; whereas producers have received increases ranging on average from 1.7 to 2.4 per cent.

Food safety

- The industry is taking a leading role in ensuring food safety, and is able to respond quickly to any emerging health issues:
 - Each sector has a farm food safety assurance program.
 - Through initiatives focused on bio-security, on-farm food safety and animal care programs, the industry operates to among the highest standards in the world, making sure the health of consumers is protected. For example, the BC poultry sector has developed and implemented a bio-security program that is reducing the risk of infectious disease transferring across poultry stocks.
- The industry also takes a proactive role in promoting safe food handling and food preparation.

Industry Overviews

Dairy – 2009

- BC's 542 dairy farms produce 658.5 million litres of milk and generate \$493.8 million in farm cash receipts.

- Dairy producers account for about 20.4 per cent of total farm cash receipts in BC.
- Dairy producers also receive about \$98.7 million in dairy cattle sales to the beef industry.
- Dairy producers directly employ an estimated 4,031 workers, representing \$89.4 million in wages and 11.8 per cent of BC agricultural jobs.

Dairy Industry Value Chain

- Approximately \$2.2 billion is generated by the dairy industry value chain in economic output, contributing an estimated \$637 million to GDP.
- An estimated 5,600 jobs are supported directly by the dairy producers (4,031) and processors (1,570), with a further 5,184 in related industries.
- About \$88.4 million in municipal, provincial and federal taxes are generated directly and indirectly by the dairy industry value chain.

Table Egg – 2009

- BC's 130 table egg farms produce about 64.6 million dozen eggs and generate \$102.9 million in farm cash receipts.
- Table egg producers account for approximately 4.3 per cent of total farm cash receipts in BC.
- Table egg producers generate approximately \$26.6 million towards provincial GDP, employing an estimated 840 workers representing 2.4 per cent of BC agricultural jobs.
- Approximately \$11.1 million in municipal, provincial and federal taxes are generated directly and indirectly by table egg producers.

Table Egg Industry Value Chain

- BC's table egg industry value chain generated approximately \$647.3 million in economic output, contributing an estimated \$196.3 million in GDP to BC's economy.
- About 2,000 jobs are supported directly by table egg producers and processors, with a further 1,400 in related industries.
- Approximately \$26.1 million in municipal, provincial and federal taxes are generated directly and indirectly by the table egg industry.

Chicken – 2009

- BC's 327 chicken farms in BC produce about 157 million kilograms of meat and generate \$318 million in farm cash receipts.
- Chicken farms account for about 13.1 per cent of total farm cash receipts in BC.
- Chicken producers generate approximately \$82 million towards provincial GDP and employ about 2,594 people representing 7.6 per cent of BC agricultural jobs.

- Chicken producers contribute an estimated \$34.3 million in municipal, provincial and federal taxes.

Turkey – 2009

- BC's 63 turkey farms in BC produce about 20.1 million kilograms of meat and generate \$43.7 million in farm cash receipts.
- Turkey producers account for 1.8 per cent of total farm cash receipts in BC.
- BC's turkey producers generate approximately \$89.8 million in economic output in direct, indirect and induced impacts, of which close to \$31.8 million can be considered contribution to GDP.
- Wages and salaries in the turkey production industry were approximately \$18.5 million for about 740 people employed with 357 workers or 1.0 per cent of the BC agricultural jobs in turkey production.
- Approximately \$4.7 million in municipal, provincial, and federal taxes are generated directly and indirectly by turkey production.

Poultry Industry Value Chain

- Including chicken and turkey producers, processors and allied industries, the BC poultry industry value chain generates approximately \$2.4 billion in economic output, contributing \$733 million in GDP to BC's economy.
- About 6,900 jobs are supported directly by chicken producers, turkey producers, hatching egg producers, hatcheries and poultry processors with a further 5,800 in related industries.
- Approximately \$97.4 million in municipal, provincial and federal taxes are generated directly and indirectly by the poultry industry.

Broiler Hatching Egg – 2009

- BC's 58 hatching egg farms produce about 8.9 million dozen eggs and generate \$41.6 million in farm cash receipts.
- Hatching egg farms account for about 1.7 per cent of total farm cash receipts in BC.
- BC's hatching egg producers generate approximately \$85.4 million in economic output in direct, indirect and induced impacts of which close to \$30.3 million can be considered contribution towards GDP.
- Wages and salaries in the hatching egg production industry are approximately \$17.6 million for about 704 people employed with 340 workers or 1.0 per cent of BC agricultural jobs directly employed in hatching egg production.
- Approximately \$6.1 million in municipal, provincial and federal taxes are generated directly and indirectly by hatching egg production.