



Canadian (**Fresh**) Potato Storage Holdings by Province

March 1, 2023 Infohort: AAFC (000 cwt)

Province	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2022/23 vs. 2021/22	3-yr. Average	2022/23 vs. 3-yr. avg
Prince Edward Island	2,512	3,581	2,148	4,107	4,244	3.3%	3,279	29.4%
New Brunswick	810	1,125	1,176	2,047	1,824	-10.9%	1,449	25.8%
Quebec	2,341	2,355	2,377	3,005	2,520	-16.2%	2,579	-2.3%
Ontario	474	648	700	886	657	-25.8%	745	-11.8%
Eastern Canada	6,137	7,708	6,401	10,046	9,244	-8.0%	8,052	14.8%
Manitoba	606	783	968	756	1,065	40.8%	836	27.4%
Alberta	498	348	425	524	624	19.1%	432	44.3%
British Columbia	366	258	337	292	206	-29.5%	296	-30.3%
Western Canada	1,470	1,389	1,730	1,572	1,895	20.5%	1,564	21.2%
Total Canada	<u>7,608</u>	<u>9,097</u>	<u>8,132</u>	<u>11,618</u>	<u>11,139</u>	-4.1%	<u>9,616</u>	15.8%

Holdings of Fresh potatoes are down 4% overall when compared to last year, but are still well above previous years with increases in the initial crop in the East of the country and slower shipments in January and February being reported in many areas. Canadian growers and packers shipped 2.6 million cwt of fresh potatoes during February, down 300,000 sacs from January, but up 3% compared to a 3 year average (excluding potatoes that were included in PEI fresh shipments in February 2022 that were actually destroyed). Although some felt January was a slower month, shipments were in fact lower in February than January or December, however most are expecting brisk movement ahead of St Patrick's Day mid-March. There is some concern for movement of red potatoes in certain areas of the country, particularly with a large crop in the Red River Valley and Florida coming to market a bit earlier than expected, however most growers/packers are still confident that the crop will move and the value of the crop is still holding steady.

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