



Canadian (**Processing**) 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	7,939	7,917	7,503	9,153	9,416	2.9%	8,191	15.0%
New Brunswick	5,114	5,002	2,920	4,752	4,285	-9.8%	4,224	1.4%
Quebec	1,816	2,223	2,155	2,925	2,649	-9.4%	2,434	8.8%
Ontario	1,991	2,005	2,482	2,942	2,564	-12.8%	2,476	3.5%
Eastern Canada	16,860	17,147	15,059	19,772	18,914	-4.3%	17,326	9.2%
Manitoba	6,793	6,850	8,646	8,592	7,895	-8.1%	8,030	-1.7%
Alberta	8,913	8,744	7,159	7,211	9,579	32.8%	7,705	24.3%
British Columbia	-	-	-	-	-		0	
Western Canada	15,706	15,594	15,805	15,803	17,474	10.6%	15,734	11.1%
Total Canada	<u>32,566</u>	<u>32,741</u>	<u>30,865</u>	<u>35,575</u>	<u>36,388</u>	2.3%	<u>33,060</u>	10.1%

There were almost 6.9 million cwt of processing potatoes shipped in February 2023, although a decrease of close to 10% compared to January shipments, this is still the highest level of shipments for February ever, of course influenced by the steadily increased acreage dedicated to processing potatoes in Canada, particularly in Manitoba and Alberta. We continue to see a tight market on processing potatoes, with most provinces showing a decrease when comparing 2022/23 and 2021/22 holdings at the same period, other than Alberta who are still showing increased holdings of processing potatoes which is not surprising due to the increase planted acreage and production this season. The 36.3 million hundred weight in storage as of March 1st is only 2.3% higher than March of last year, and 10.1% higher than the 3-year average reflecting the continued increase in demand in the processing sector and therefore increased planted acres. There continues to be a very tight market across the continent in the processing sector and, despite having the largest increase in potatoes on hand in Alberta, it may still require Western Canada and the US to import potatoes to keep their expanded processing plants running at full capacity, as we have seen for the last few months out of the Atlantic region.

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