

Canadian (Fresh) Potato Storage Holdings by Province

June 1, 2023 Infohort: AAFC (000 cwt)

Province	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2022/23 vs. 2021/22	3-yr. Average
Prince Edward Island	1,092	755	1,559	1,117	-28.3%	1,135
New Brunswick	160	486	1,131	1,114	-1.5%	592
Quebec	781	631	1,143	756	-33.9%	852
Ontario	81	154	166	177	6.6%	134
Eastern Canada	2,114	2,026	3,999	3,164	-20.9%	2,713
Manitoba	186	367	289	396	37.2%	281
Alberta	ı	4	1	ı	0.0%	4
British Columbia	28	52	22	9	-59.1%	34
Western Canada	214	423	311	405	30.4%	316
Total Canada	<u>2,328</u>	<u>2,449</u>	<u>4,310</u>	<u>3,569</u>	<u>-17.2%</u>	<u>3,029</u>

The Fresh potato stocks in Canada were at 3.57 million cwt as of the end of May, down 17.2% overall when compared to last year but are still well above the 3-year average. There were 2.1 million cwt of fresh potatoes shipped in May which is down just 337,000 cwt from April shipments, a 13% decrease, as inventories are getting tighter and shippers are looking toward transition to new crop over the next few month; current shipping pace along with weather through June for new crop, will be important factors moving forward. When compared to May of last year shipments are actually up just over 4% in May 2023. Based on stocks reported in the first holding report published in December, we estimate approximately 82% of the Fresh crop has been shipped to date. The market is good in North America as a whole, with strong demand for yellows, good movement of reds, and pricing remains strong for all colours even with the entry of the crop from California, which has been at lower volumes and later than normal to start.

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