

Animal Welfare Statistics

- More than 830 million land animals were raised and killed for food in Canada in 2019. (source: <https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/canadas-agriculture-sectors/?id=1361290241756>)
- Transportation is a very stressful process for farmed animals and Canada's current transport regulations allow for some species to be transported for up to 72 hours, without food, water or rest. (source: <https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/humane-transport/eng/1300460032193/1300460096845>)
- Every year in Canada, approximately 14 million animals suffer injuries and 1.6 million die during transport journeys that are often long-distance and in extreme weather conditions. (source: <https://canadagazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2016/2016-12-03/html/reg2-eng.html>)
- There are no federal regulations related to on-farm animal welfare in Canada, and no proactive government inspections to monitor farms. Instead, the government relies on the largely industry-dominated National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) and its "Codes of Practice" for the care and handling of different species. In effect, this has left the industry to regulate itself, resulting in a lack of transparency and accountability. (source: <https://vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca/posts/codesofpracticelaw/>)

Environmental Statistics

- The livestock sector emerges as one of the top two or three most significant contributors to the most serious environmental problems, at every scale from local to global. (source: <http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/9655af93-7f88-58fc-84e8-d70a9a4d8bec/>)
- Food makes up nearly half of Vancouver's ecological footprint, 98% of which is attributed to the land and energy used to produce food (particularly red meat and dairy) and only 2% is related to the transportation of food. (source: <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/greenest-city-action-plan-implementation-update-2018-2019.pdf>)
- Shifting Western diets to plant-based eating patterns has the potential to reduce food-related greenhouse gas emissions by up to 70 percent. (source: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5094759/>)
- Of all the mammals on Earth, 60% are livestock, 36% are humans and just 4% are wild mammals. Meanwhile, farmed poultry make up 70% of all birds on the planet, with just 30% being wild. (source: <https://www.pnas.org/content/115/25/6506>)

Public Health Statistics

- Anyone can follow a vegan diet – from children to teens to older adults, as well as pregnant or nursing mothers. (source: *Dietitians of Canada*, <https://www.unlockfood.ca/en/Articles/Vegetarian-and-Vegan-Diets/What-You-Need-to-Know-About-Following-a-Vegan-Eati.aspx>)

- A well-planned vegan diet is high in fibre, vitamins and antioxidants. Plus, it's low in saturated fat and cholesterol. This healthy combination helps protect against chronic diseases. (source: Dietitians of Canada)
- Vegans tend to have lower blood pressure levels and lower rates of heart disease, diabetes and certain types of cancer. (source: Dietitians of Canada)
- Canada's revised Food Guide recommends that Canadians shift their consumption to more plant-based foods, including suggestions to incorporate plant-based proteins more often. The Food Guide also acknowledges that many of the well-studied healthy eating patterns include mostly plant-based foods. (source: <https://food-guide.canada.ca/en/>)
- The over-use of antibiotics in farmed animals, in an effort to prevent disease and to promote growth, is a major public health threat. As the use of antibiotics has increased, bacteria can evolve to become resistant, leading to drugs that are less effective in treating infection. Testing of water and soil samples collected near factory farms in Canada found antibiotic-resistance genes. (source: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/new-report-by-world-animal-protection-documents-antibiotic-resistance-in-the-environment-near-us-factory-farms-301271757.html>)
- Approximately two-thirds of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic (transmitted between animals and humans). The expansion of intensive animal agriculture, characterized by large numbers of genetically-similar animals kept in close proximity, poses a serious risk for future potential pandemics. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, since 1940, agricultural intensification measures, including factory farms, have been associated with more than 25% of all—and more than 50% of zoonotic—infectious diseases that have emerged in humans. (source: <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/preventing-future-zoonotic-disease-outbreaks-protecting-environment-animals-and>)

Food Security Statistics

- Animal-based foods require more land, energy and water to produce than plant-based foods, with more than a third of the world's edible crops being fed to livestock. (source: <https://ourworldindata.org/land-use-diets>)
- Beef production requires 20 times more land and emits 20 times more greenhouse gas emissions per unit of edible protein than common plant-based protein sources such as beans, peas and lentils. (<https://www.wri.org/insights/sustainable-diets-what-you-need-know-12-charts>)