

2008 Pork Industry Profile

About Ontario's Hog Industry

- 2,800 pork producers in Ontario marketed 5.39 million hogs in 2008, approximately 0.8% fewer than 2007.
- Ontario's pork industry contributed \$4.7 billion and 33,000 jobs from "farm to fork" to the provincial economy in 2008.
- Statistics Canada numbers for Oct 1, 2008:
 - 12.8 million pigs in Canada;
 - 3.2 million pigs in Ontario (354,000 sows & gilts, 6,900 boars);
- 40% of Ontario's pork producers market less than 500 hogs per year.
- Pork producer numbers, like all farm numbers, have continually declined, down by 86% from the highest number of 20,354 pork producers in 1979.
- The largest numbers of producers market between 500 and 3000 hogs per year. This is not surprising, as today's farmers tend to specialize in one commodity, rather than the mixed farming of the past.
- Over 98% of Canada's farms are still family owned and operated. Ontario's swine industry remains dominated by the family farm. The diversity of the 2,800 producers is their strength, but also makes it hard to describe "average" or "typical" farms.

Market Hog Prices:

- Total value of sales for market hogs in 2008 was \$689.2 million, down \$4 million (0.6 %) from a year ago.
- Average pool price was \$118 per 100 kg, down \$3 from 2007;
- Average pool plus price was \$124/ckg, steady with 2007;
- Average contract price was \$126/ckg, steady with 2007.
- Average cost to produce a hog in Ontario was \$167/ckg, up \$15 from 2007.

North American & Export Markets:

- Ontario's share of the North American hog market was 4.0%.
- Ontario exported over 950,000 pigs weighing less than 50 kg.
- Ontario meat processors handled 86.1% of all hog sales; while U.S. purchased 9.3% and Quebec 4.6%.
- Canada imported 136.2 million kg of pork, up 15% from 2007. Canada exported 1.09 billion kg of pork, up 9.8% from 2007.
- The U.S. was our major pork export market with a 28% share, Japan at 21%, Russia 12%, Hong Kong 8%, South Korea 6%, & other countries 25%.