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## Statistical Overview of the Canadian Honey Industry 2013

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September 2014



Government  
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Gouvernement  
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ISSN: 1925-3796

AAFC No: 12297E

Paru également en français sous le titre

*Aperçu statistique de l'industrie du miel du Canada, 2013*

ISSN: 1925-380X

n° d'AAC: 12297F

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## Overview

In 2013, over 8,400 beekeepers across Canada kept one or more honeybee colonies, for a total of more than 672,094 colonies. While the 2013 colony population was 2.7% lower than the record high in 2012 (690,037 colonies) it represents a 9% increase in total colonies compared to the average of the previous five years. The majority of these bee colonies are in the Prairies, where long summer days are ideal for foraging; Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba collectively accounted for 84% of the country's total honey production. In total, Canadian honeybee colonies yielded more than 75 million pounds of honey in 2013, down 16% from 2012. Despite this decline in volume, due to higher prices, the total value of honey produced in Canada totaled just over \$176 million in 2013, down only 1% from 2012.

Looking at the trend over the last five years, the number of beekeepers remains on the rise. From 2009 to 2013, there has been a steady increase in the number of beekeepers, with 2013 demonstrating a 2% increase from 2012. Nova Scotia saw the largest increase in the number of beekeepers in 2013, up 16%. Ontario continues to have the largest number of beekeepers, with 3,150 of the 8,483 operating in Canada. British Columbia and Alberta have the second and third largest number of beekeepers with 2,323 and 900 beekeepers respectively. New bee colonies are created each season due to investment by beekeepers in maintaining and growing their operations. New Brunswick saw the greatest decrease in colonies, down 24% from 2012. Manitoba and Saskatchewan also experienced a decrease in total colonies, down 9% and 7% respectively. On the other hand, Prince Edward Island demonstrated a 19% increase in total colonies, a total of 4,432 colonies. Even though Quebec had the largest number of beekeepers, Alberta remains the province with the largest number of colonies, at 280,000 in 2013.

Nova Scotia recorded the largest increase in honey production in 2013, with total yields being 23% greater than 2012, at 2,069 million pounds. British Columbia and New Brunswick had the second and third largest increase in honey production, up 13% and 4% respectively. All other provinces had a decrease in total production, with Ontario having the largest decrease, down 32% from 2012. Consistent with being the province with the largest number of colonies, Alberta remains the largest producer of honey in 2013, producing 32 million pounds, valued at \$70 million.

Canada is a net exporter of honey. In 2013, total exports of Canadian honey were just over \$59 million, down 19% from 2012. The United States is the largest export destination for Canadian honey, accounting for 77% of all honey exports. Japan and China are the second and third largest export destinations respectively.

Canada's total honey imports totalled \$26 million in 2013. Canada imported 5,494 tonnes of honey, valued at just over \$8.6 million, from Argentina, the most from any country in 2013. Brazil and New Zealand were the second and third largest sources of honey imports; Canada imported \$3.8 million and \$3.7 million worth of honey from those two countries, respectively.



# 1. Production

## 1.1. Number of Beekeepers<sup>1</sup> by Province

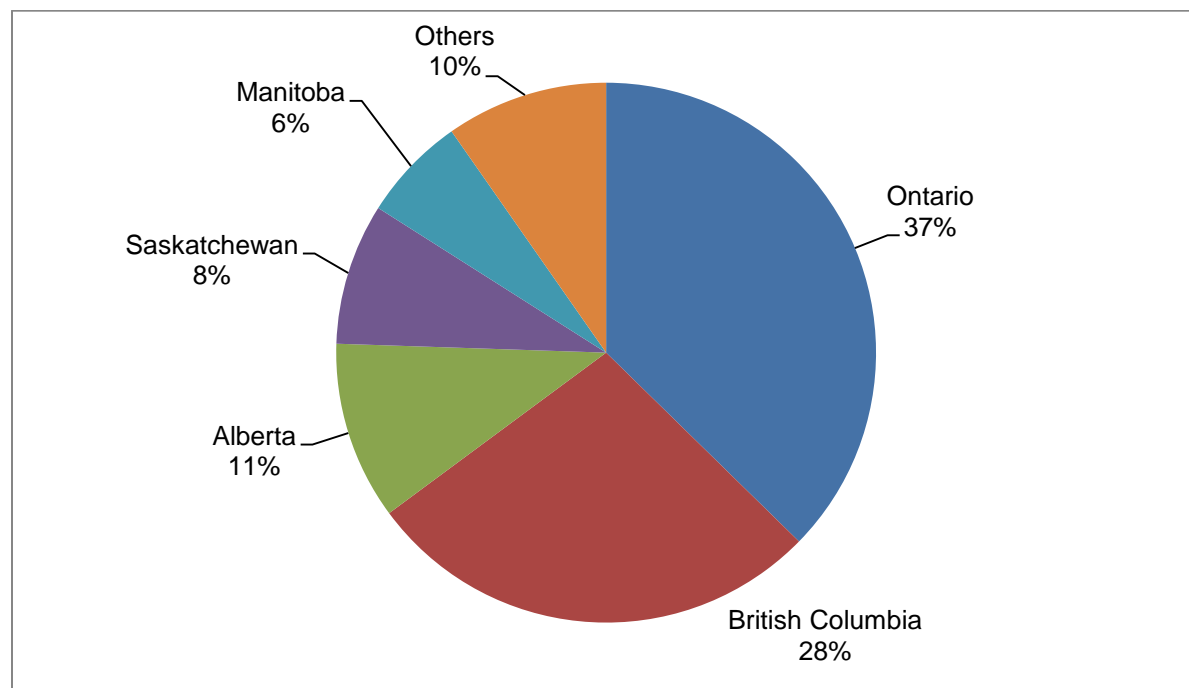
Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	Number of Beekeepers				
Prince Edward Island	28	33	43	46	45
Nova Scotia	205	215	209	230	265
New Brunswick	180	204	209	244	244
Quebec	245	262	268	305	310
Ontario	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,200	3,150
Manitoba	474	490	501	517	531
Saskatchewan	971	965	850	748	715
Alberta	683	769	798	883	900
British Columbia	1,742	1,865	1,935	2,139	2,323
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>7,028</b>	<b>7,403</b>	<b>7,713</b>	<b>8,312</b>	<b>8,483</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Beekeeper numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.
2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

## 1.2. Number of Beekeepers by Province – Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



### 1.3. Number of Colonies<sup>1</sup> by Province

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Province	Number of Colonies				
Prince Edward Island	3,530	2,605	2,954	3,719	4,432
Nova Scotia	19,500	18,500	19,300	19,000	19,500
New Brunswick	2,700	4,288	4,500	5,650	4,318
Quebec	36,536	39,812	41,407	49,708	50,000
Ontario	82,000	83,150	90,000	101,000	97,500
Manitoba	70,746	78,000	77,000	80,000	73,800
Saskatchewan	85,000	86,000	90,000	110,000	100,000
Alberta	251,000	266,000	274,600	278,400	280,000
British Columbia	41,108	41,936	38,159	42,560	42,544
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>592,120</b>	<b>620,291</b>	<b>637,920</b>	<b>690,037</b>	<b>672,094</b>

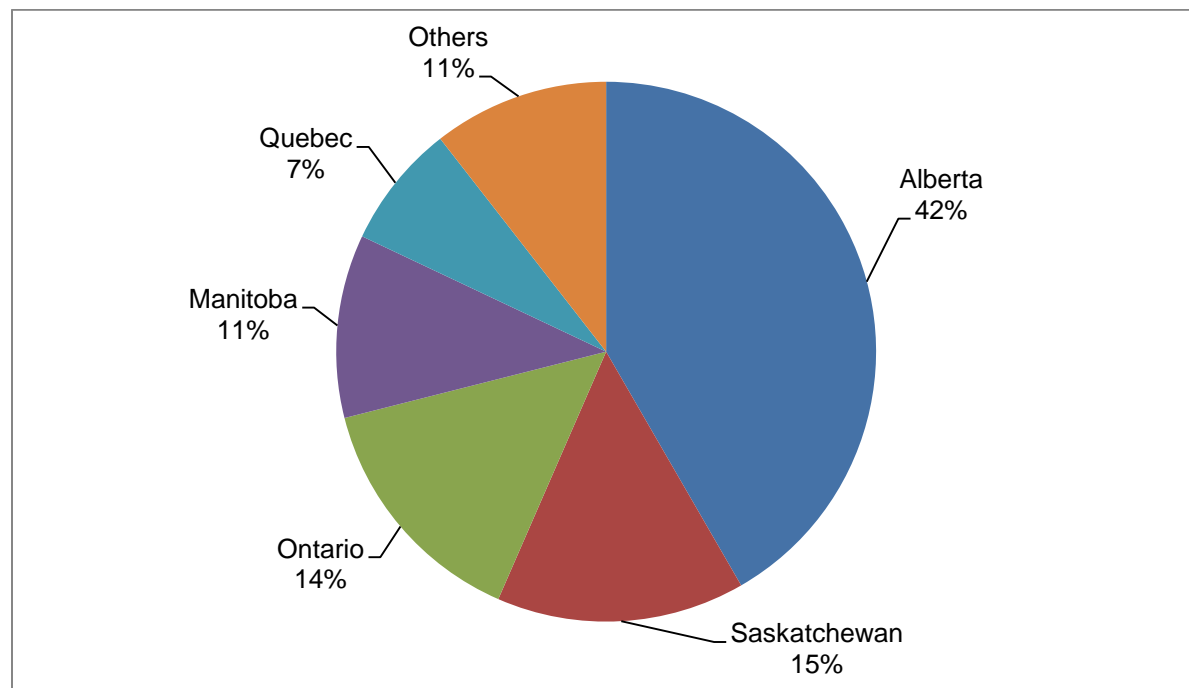
Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Colony numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

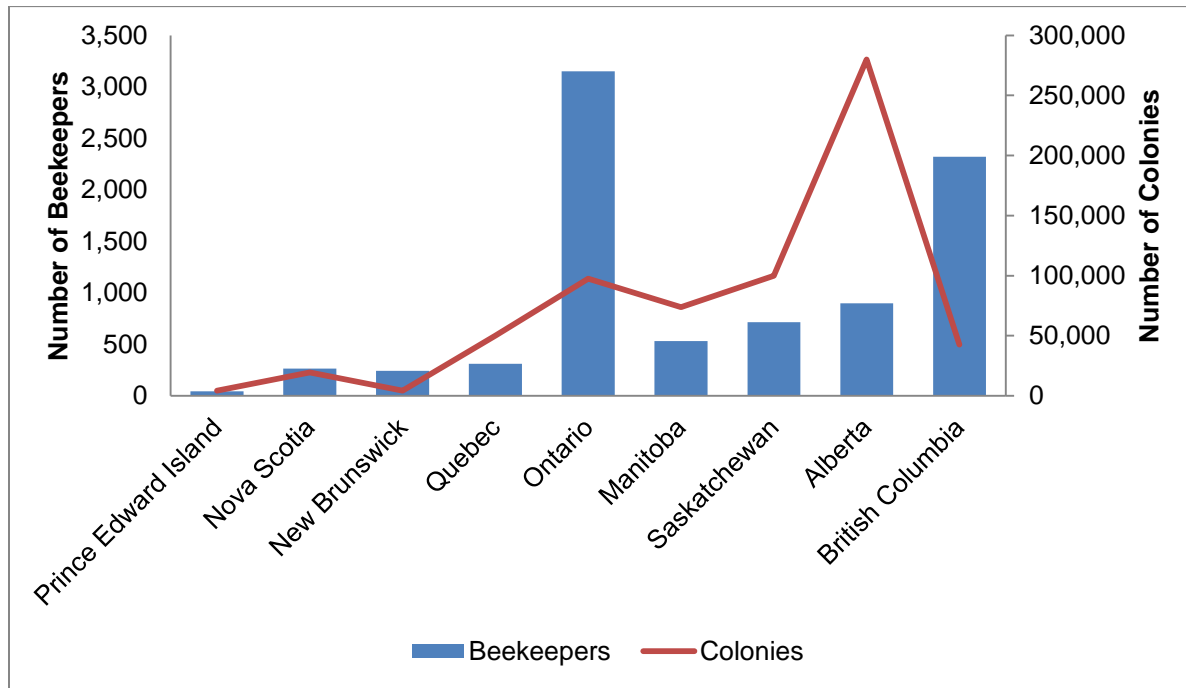
### 1.4. Number of Colonies by Province – Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



### 1.5. Number of Beekeepers and Number of Colonies by Province



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



## 1.6. Total Honey Production<sup>1</sup> by Province

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Province	Pounds (000)				
Prince Edward Island	265	201	271	184	176
Nova Scotia	416	528	248	400	495
New Brunswick	189	257	208	199	207
Quebec	2,039	4,030	2,867	4,395	3,306
Ontario	5,730	8,814	9,023	9,439	6,363
Manitoba	13,017	12,870	15,400	13,200	12,472
Saskatchewan	17,000	18,404	15,930	23,125	18,200
Alberta	29,116	34,580	34,050	38,000	32,200
British Columbia	2,590	1,988	1,826	1,817	2,069
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>70,362</b>	<b>81,672</b>	<b>79,824</b>	<b>90,759</b>	<b>75,488</b>

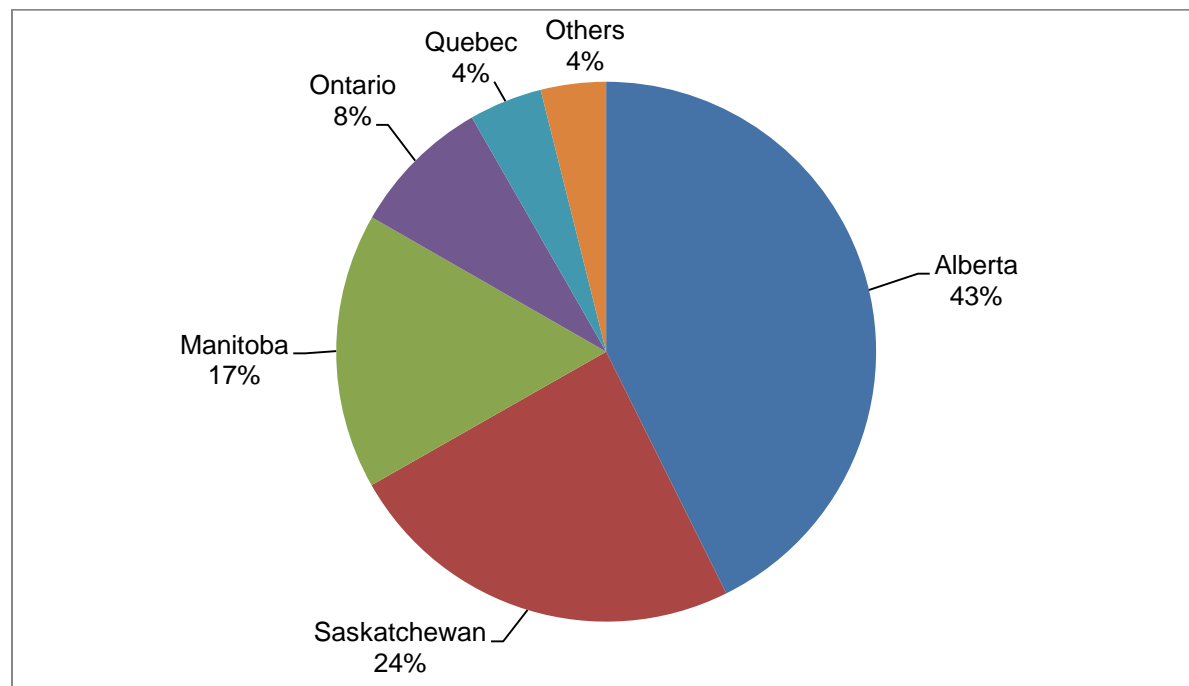
Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Production excludes inventory.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

## 1.7. Total Honey Production by Province – Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)





## 1.8. Value<sup>1</sup> of Honey by Province

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Province	CAD\$ (000)				
Prince Edward Island	530	603	813	551	453
Nova Scotia	1,248	1,584	745	1,260	1,559
New Brunswick	708	963	781	503	517
Quebec	7,837	9,516	10,234	12,291	10,000
Ontario	14,133	20,379	22,537	23,815	20,362
Manitoba	19,916	19,562	24,948	23,100	25,318
Saskatchewan	25,500	28,526	24,692	38,156	37,310
Alberta	48,837	56,230	59,168	68,340	70,054
British Columbia	7,544	6,834	6,774	8,190	10,580
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>126,253</b>	<b>144,197</b>	<b>150,691</b>	<b>176,206</b>	<b>176,153</b>

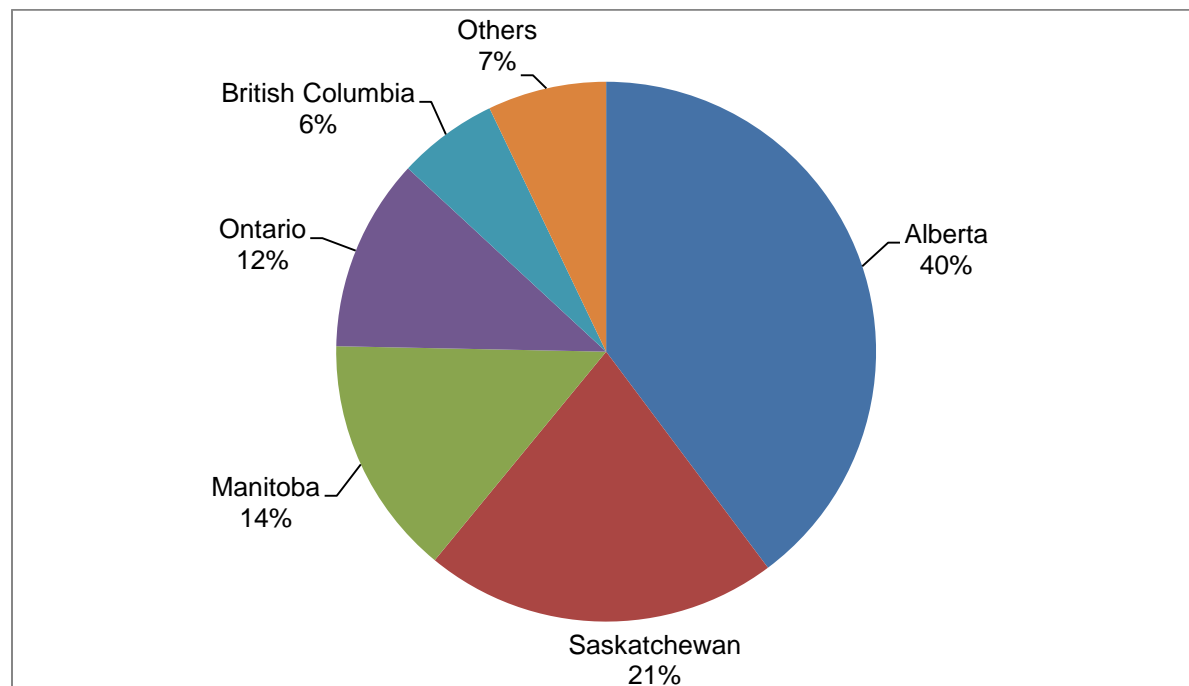
Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Value excludes inventory sales except for in Quebec.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

## 1.9. Value of Honey by Province – Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



## 2. Farm Cash Receipts

### 2.1. Honey Farm Cash Receipts by Province

Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	CAD\$ (000)				
Prince Edward Island	526	570	719	669	497
Nova Scotia	1,063	1,450	1,080	1,054	1,439
New Brunswick	546	848	863	628	511
Quebec	7,837	9,516	10,234	12,291	10,000
Ontario	11,414	17,689	21,350	23,112	22,261
Manitoba	19,000	19,693	22,955	23,784	24,497
Saskatchewan	25,269	27,467	26,034	33,444	37,606
Alberta	44,293	53,199	57,963	64,579	69,351
British Columbia	6,926	7,083	6,795	7,694	9,744
<b>Canada<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>116,874</b>	<b>137,514</b>	<b>147,993</b>	<b>167,255</b>	<b>175,906</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 002-0001)

Note:

1. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.



## 3. Trade

### 3.1. TRADE BALANCE

#### 3.1.1. Canada's Honey Trade Balance

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	CAD\$ (000)				
Exports	47,122	56,995	38,543	73,237	59,149
Imports	20,700	14,493	13,324	14,923	26,029
<b>Trade Balance (Exports - Imports)</b>	<b>26,422</b>	<b>42,502</b>	<b>25,219</b>	<b>58,315</b>	<b>33,119</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net May 2014)



## 3.2. EXPORTS

### 3.2.1. Canada's Honey Exports<sup>1</sup> by Province

Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	CAD\$				
Prince Edward Island	15,000	24,895	283,883	57,972	18,651
Nova Scotia	3,629	358,397	70,804	1,967	1,983
New Brunswick	0	65,665	0	0	0
Quebec	4,411,251	7,906,512	7,148,631	19,264,744	11,650,373
Ontario	2,985,455	1,813,707	1,931,702	2,140,265	2,272,928
Manitoba	17,693,867	18,781,935	14,435,170	23,096,811	15,570,887
Saskatchewan	4,950,750	11,322,221	4,448,501	17,294,438	16,055,902
Alberta	16,924,051	15,530,459	9,388,582	10,995,268	12,845,177
British Columbia	138,259	1,191,317	835,397	385,833	733,048
<b>Canada</b>	<b>47,122,262</b>	<b>56,995,108</b>	<b>38,543,063</b>	<b>73,237,298</b>	<b>59,148,949</b>
Province	Kilograms				
Prince Edward Island	2,727	4,526	36,328	2,933	2,465
Nova Scotia	668	71,090	19,181	265	277
New Brunswick	0	18,593	0	0	0
Quebec	1,128,942	2,087,139	1,803,576	4,963,349	2,392,390
Ontario	695,936	275,010	297,322	382,586	332,366
Manitoba	4,448,094	4,972,647	3,599,622	5,778,941	3,334,425
Saskatchewan	1,368,718	3,108,937	1,310,909	4,455,482	3,335,450
Alberta	4,261,284	4,110,291	2,168,374	2,566,012	2,509,211
British Columbia	22,781	283,882	217,925	74,636	145,818
<b>Canada</b>	<b>11,929,150</b>	<b>14,932,115</b>	<b>9,453,309</b>	<b>18,224,204</b>	<b>12,052,402</b>

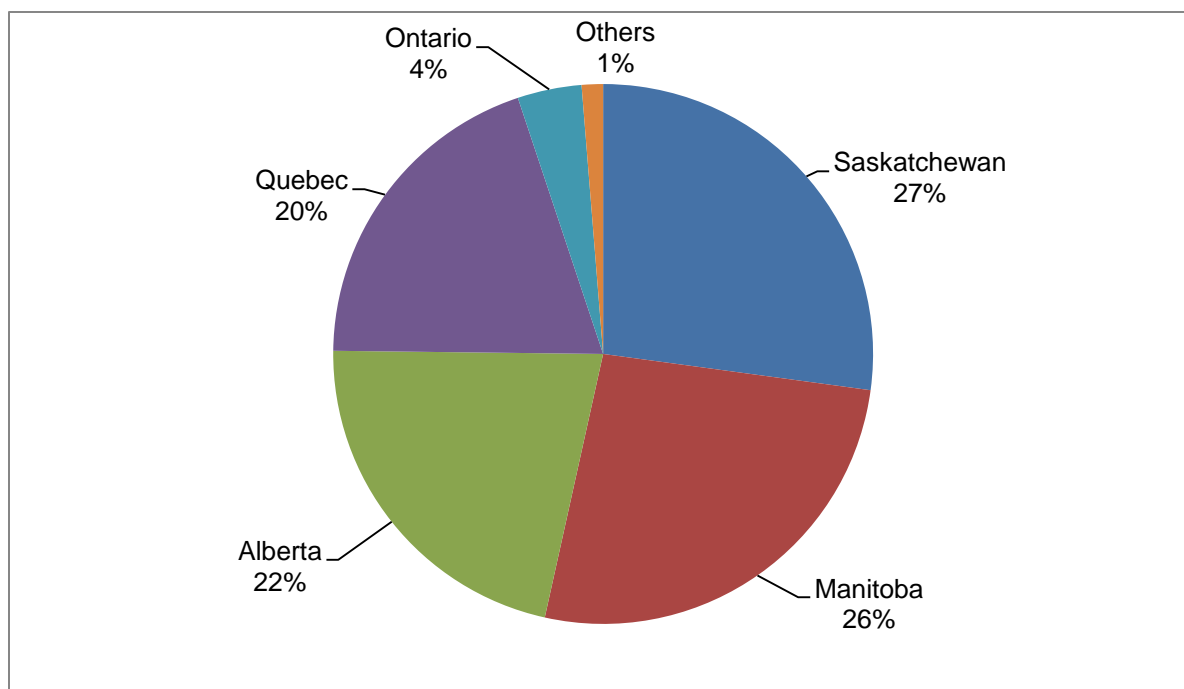
Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net May 2014)

Note:

1. Exports may include honey not produced in that province.



### 3.2.2. Canada's Honey Exports<sup>1</sup> by Province – Percent Share, 2013



Source: *Statistics Canada, (CATS Net May 2014)*

Note:

1. Exports may include honey not produced in that province.



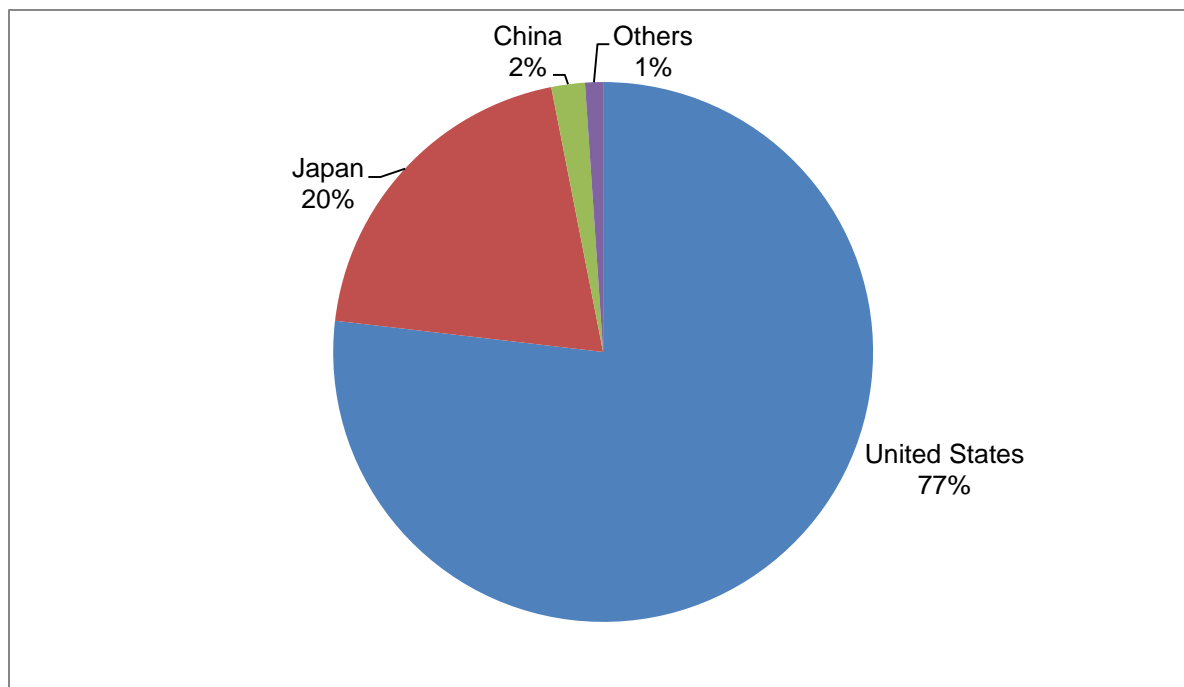
### 3.2.3. Canada's Top 10 Honey Export Destinations

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Countries</b>	<b>CAD\$</b>				
United States	33,257,702	41,136,613	27,605,258	61,870,179	45,453,753
Japan	6,714,312	9,848,183	7,860,065	8,770,713	11,872,813
China	1,530,989	917,367	972,818	1,066,514	1,187,978
France	341,638	267,623	262,207	378,731	232,666
Hong Kong	84,702	215,348	367,799	331,691	140,970
Belgium	173,341	89,840	0	207,744	107,409
Italy	0	0	0	0	36,635
Tunisia	0	0	0	0	24,559
Barbados	87,404	134,755	68,759	70,408	24,002
Taiwan	87,005	67,660	18,495	14,117	21,908
Others	4,845,169	4,317,719	1,387,662	527,201	46,256
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,122,262</b>	<b>56,995,108</b>	<b>38,543,063</b>	<b>73,237,298</b>	<b>59,148,949</b>
	<b>Kilograms</b>				
United States	8,302,454	11,053,443	7,148,189	15,831,774	9,385,467
Japan	1,692,286	2,440,219	1,690,307	1,896,912	2,363,414
China	456,944	173,227	191,261	203,363	198,687
France	72,602	59,368	56,869	69,332	36,986
Hong Kong	17,278	23,274	45,694	47,360	22,320
Belgium	37,322	20,852	0	62,294	20,249
Italy	0	0	0	0	5,697
Tunisia	0	0	0	0	4,456
Barbados	18,161	21,687	12,470	12,084	3,510
Taiwan	14,251	12,664	3,703	3,405	3,466
Others	1,317,852	1,127,381	304,816	97,680	8,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,929,150</b>	<b>14,932,115</b>	<b>9,453,309</b>	<b>18,224,204</b>	<b>12,052,402</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net July 2014)



### 3.2.4. Canada's Top Honey Export Destinations by Country – Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net July 2014)



### 3.3. IMPORTS

#### 3.3.1. Canada's Honey Imports by Province

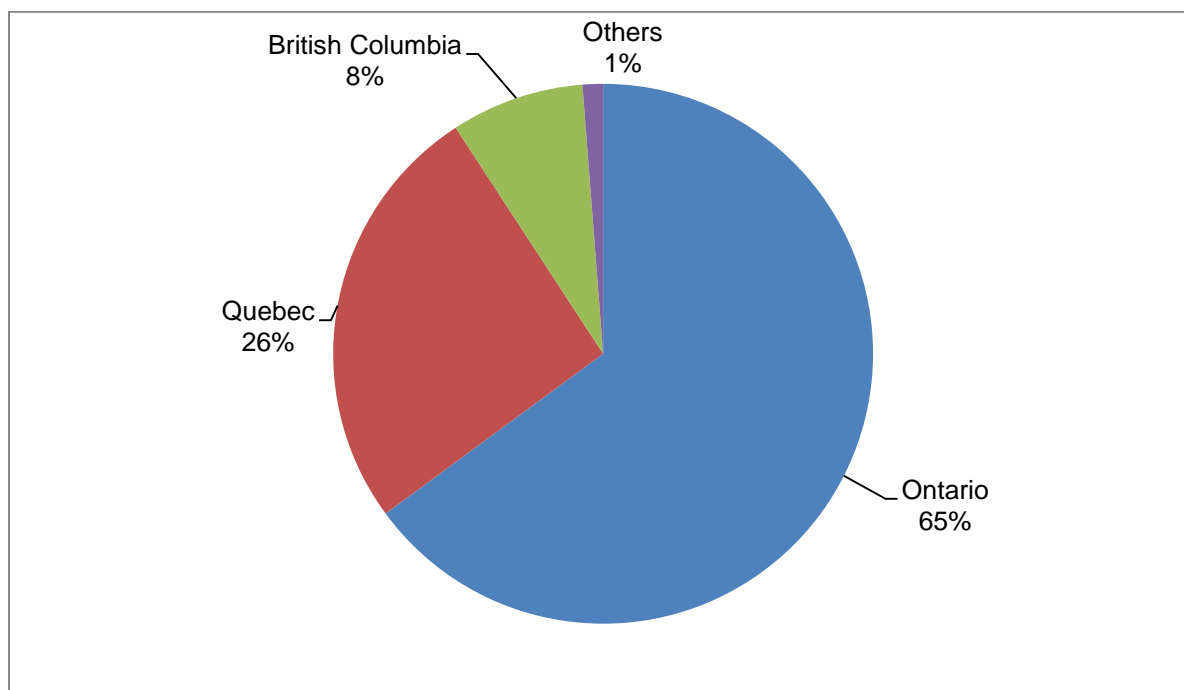
Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	CAD\$				
Nova Scotia	2,515	1,357	749	760	3,087
New Brunswick	196	462	646	417	0
Quebec	2,059,428	2,646,818	3,878,440	4,750,239	6,736,935
Ontario	15,316,405	9,397,161	7,391,401	8,145,010	16,897,806
Manitoba	190,698	159,536	145,556	38,072	292,122
Saskatchewan	6,067	0	12,755	13,177	13,083
Alberta	39,420	11,822	18,897	79,620	9,986
British Columbia	3,085,752	2,275,641	1,875,952	1,895,226	2,076,442
<b>Canada</b>	<b>20,700,481</b>	<b>14,492,797</b>	<b>13,324,396</b>	<b>14,922,521</b>	<b>26,029,461</b>
Province	Kilograms				
Nova Scotia	554	300	180	56	649
New Brunswick	49	114	131	73	0
Quebec	556,858	787,959	1,071,403	1,397,198	1,761,240
Ontario	3,644,997	2,074,837	1,499,611	1,801,179	3,400,794
Manitoba	55,837	51,690	38,193	8,784	69,323
Saskatchewan	2,400	0	2,598	2,231	3,074
Alberta	8,256	1,216	2,220	5,155	927
British Columbia	590,148	342,022	223,619	220,302	258,886
<b>Canada</b>	<b>4,859,099</b>	<b>3,258,138</b>	<b>2,837,955</b>	<b>3,434,978</b>	<b>5,494,893</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net May 2014)





### 3.3.2. Canada's Honey Imports by Province – Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net May 2014)



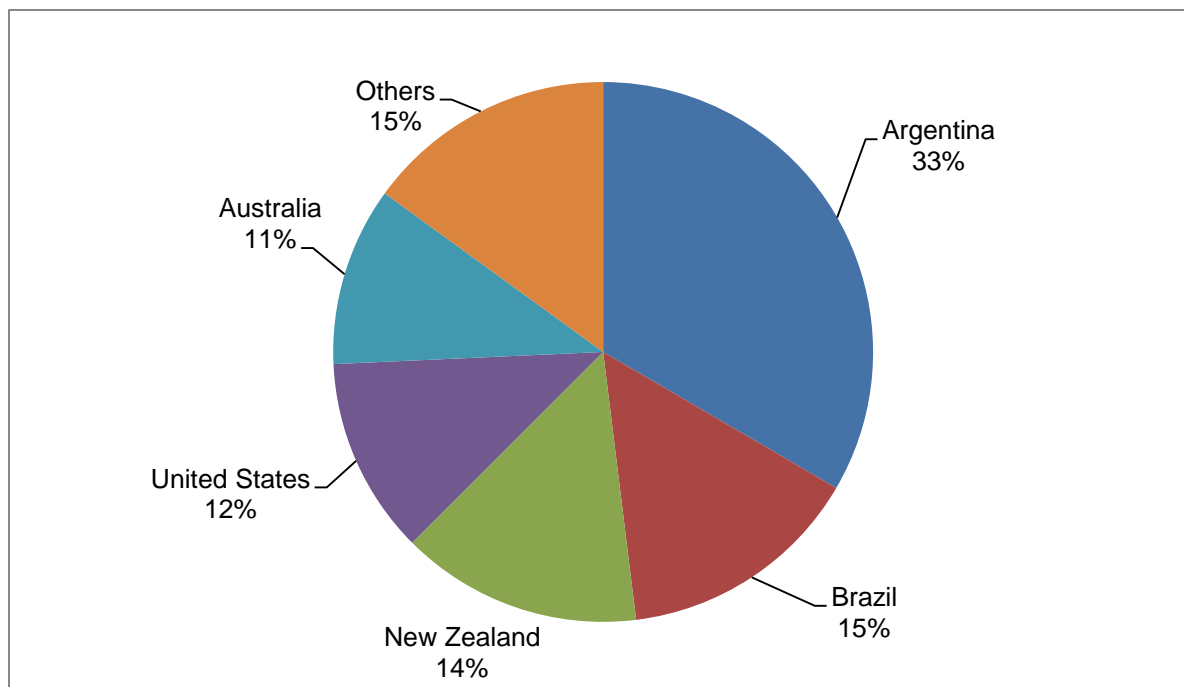
### 3.3.3. Canada's Top 10 Sources of Honey Imports

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Countries</b>	<b>CAD\$</b>				
Argentina	383,014	2,586,321	1,137,985	3,834,219	8,695,827
Brazil	2,624,581	2,234,227	2,533,792	1,671,963	3,810,667
New Zealand	1,341,212	1,824,963	2,156,576	2,799,001	3,763,458
United States	2,662,963	1,885,011	1,632,628	1,447,090	3,065,478
Australia	11,669,660	3,427,724	2,131,605	2,600,480	2,788,815
Greece	440,530	650,812	748,635	787,559	1,387,871
India	318,579	709,117	633,247	386,851	582,183
Germany	172,833	168,373	230,710	320,192	334,392
Switzerland	263,454	244,190	189,943	182,174	223,705
Saudi Arabia	12,330	50,156	148,946	34,886	180,033
Others	811,325	711,903	1,780,329	858,106	1,197,032
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,700,481</b>	<b>14,492,797</b>	<b>13,324,396</b>	<b>14,922,521</b>	<b>26,029,461</b>
	<b>Kilograms</b>				
Argentina	116,195	838,970	338,066	1,322,066	2,397,804
Brazil	825,366	724,445	750,049	494,605	1,039,335
United States	656,651	497,215	428,134	337,716	706,722
Australia	2,767,755	625,370	331,041	366,269	410,171
Greece	29,359	47,021	85,648	131,563	248,435
New Zealand	160,924	114,444	165,049	375,345	197,757
India	83,334	192,630	158,100	92,508	126,707
Germany	32,187	26,817	37,293	60,448	55,958
Switzerland	34,076	36,662	30,929	24,589	32,403
Cuba	0	13,179	7,644	10,080	30,240
Others	153,252	141,385	506,002	219,789	249,361
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,859,099</b>	<b>3,258,138</b>	<b>2,837,955</b>	<b>3,434,978</b>	<b>5,494,893</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2014)



### 3.3.4. Canada's Top Sources of Honey Imports by Country - Percent Share, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2014)

### 3.3.5. Canada's Sources for Honey Bee Imports

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Countries</b>	<b>CAD\$</b>				
New Zealand	1,053,287	833,682	2,746,392	2,110,082	3,397,507
Australia	110,405	56,268	333,036	414,177	1,494,051
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,173,269</b>	<b>889,950</b>	<b>3,079,428</b>	<b>2,524,259</b>	<b>4,891,558</b>
	<b>Number of Packages</b>				
New Zealand	10,091	10,142	38,150	28,603	45,912
Australia	768	480	4,316	5,310	19,154
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,360</b>	<b>10,622</b>	<b>42,466</b>	<b>33,913</b>	<b>65,066</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net July 2014)

Notes:

Package bees are sold in a variety of sizes typically one pound, two pound and three pound packages. No detail on the individual numbers of different package sizes is available.

Does not include queen bees.



### 3.3.6. Canada's Sources for Queen Bee Imports

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Countries	CAD\$				
United States	2,674,809	2,583,859	3,020,885	3,399,366	4,264,789
Australia	85,472	502,757	149,778	264,162	258,578
Chile	237,107	188,772	156,277	50,002	168,287
New Zealand	22,035	142,617	159,005	149,167	90,793
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,039,501</b>	<b>3,432,300</b>	<b>3,489,891</b>	<b>3,867,178</b>	<b>4,782,447</b>
	Number				
United States	153,623	161,025	167,042	169,954	204,691
Australia	5,781	7,145	10,635	18,063	18,340
Chile	15,607	12,847	10,376	2,453	9,106
New Zealand	1,426	7,502	7,577	7,155	4,371
<b>Total</b>	<b>177,886</b>	<b>189,101</b>	<b>195,846</b>	<b>197,841</b>	<b>236,508</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2014)



## 4. Consumption

### 4.1. Honey Available for Consumption in Canada

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Commodity	Kg per person				
Honey	0.79	0.80	0.91	0.82	0.84

Source: Statistics Canada. (CANSIM Table 002-0011)

Note:

Does not adjust for losses, such as waste and/or spoilage in stores, households, private institutions or restaurants or losses during preparation.



## 5. World Data

### 5.1. Top 10 Exporters of Honey Worldwide

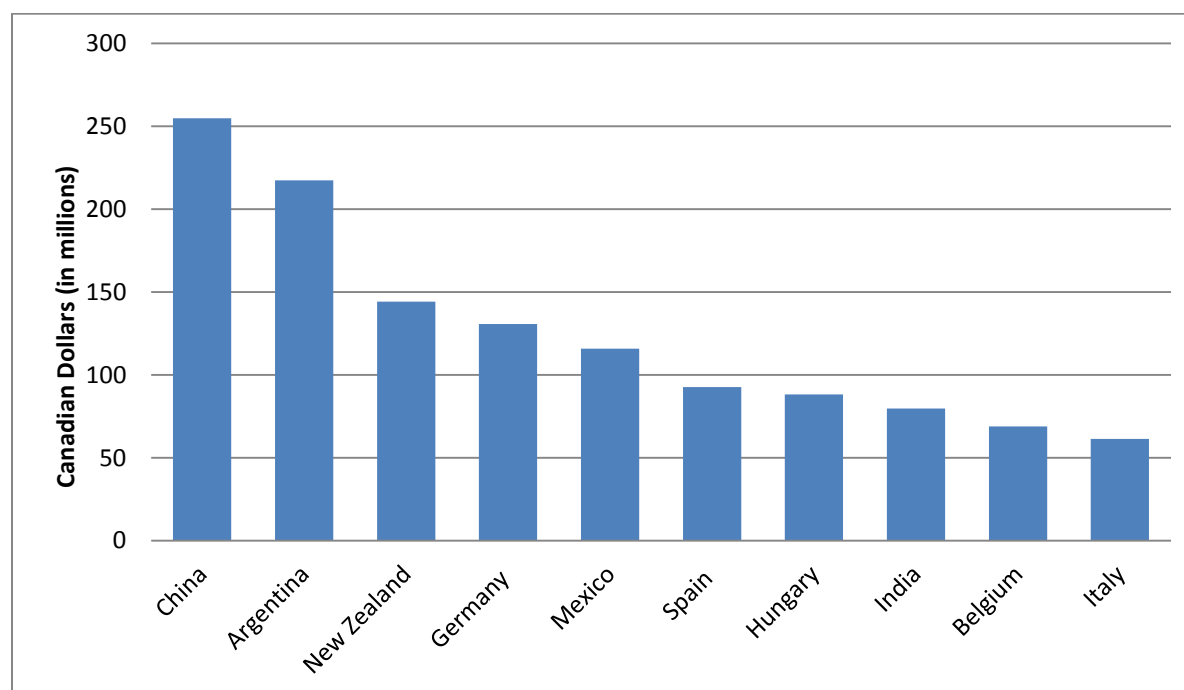
Countries	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	CAD\$ (in millions)				
China	141	188	200	215	255
Argentina	185	178	220	215	217
New Zealand	68	73	87	104	144
Germany	130	115	114	121	131
Mexico	92	88	88	102	116
Spain	71	84	79	81	93
Hungary	69	63	60	63	88
India	22	58	66	61	80
Belgium	44	50	54	54	69
Italy	20	32	32	38	61
Others	509	484	506	554	659
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>1,414</b>	<b>1,506</b>	<b>1,609</b>	<b>1,912</b>

Source: *Global Trade Atlas* (July 2014)

Note:

Canada placed 11<sup>th</sup> worldwide in 2013.

### 5.2. Top 10 Honey Exporting Countries, 2013



Source: *Global Trade Atlas* (July 2014)

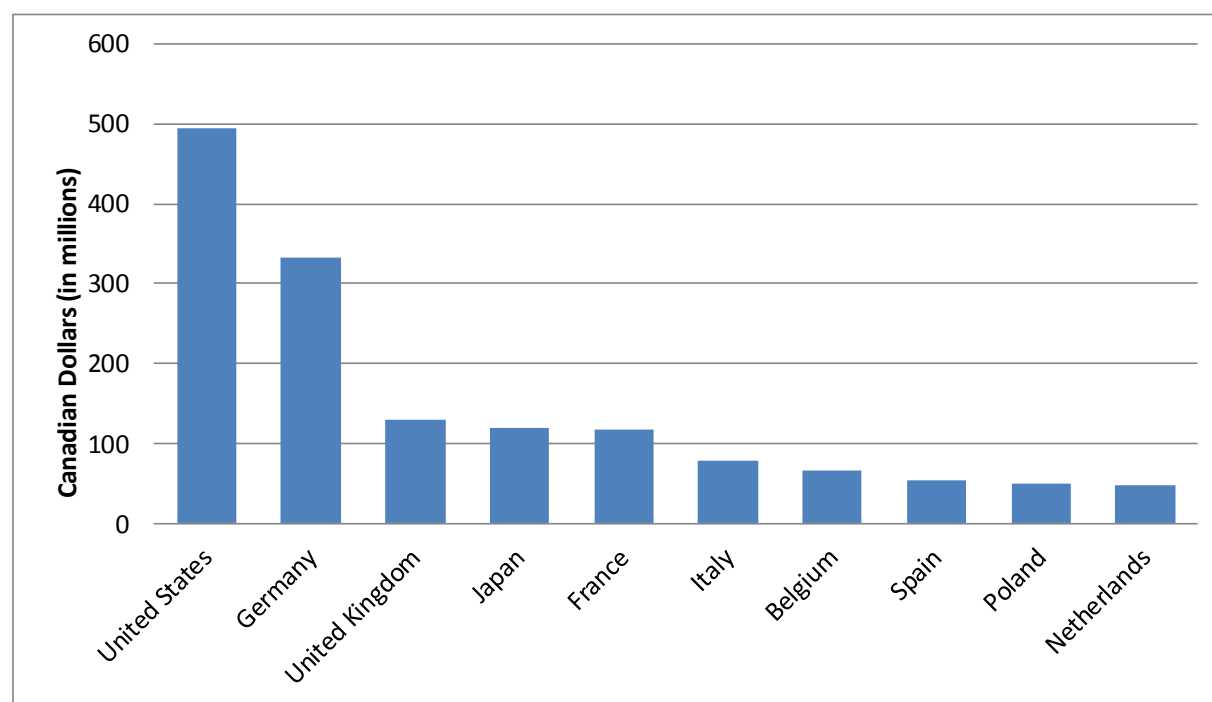


### 5.3. Top 10 Importers of Honey Worldwide

Countries	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	CAD\$ (in millions)				
United States	251	302	381	416	495
Germany	296	303	270	281	332
United Kingdom	117	108	125	114	130
Japan	99	104	117	105	120
France	98	100	110	94	117
Italy	59	55	57	56	78
Belgium	52	52	56	56	65
Spain	42	39	45	48	54
Poland	24	32	38	35	50
Netherlands	42	35	44	39	48
Others	282	305	309	348	421
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,362</b>	<b>1,437</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>1,911</b>

Source: *Global Trade Atlas* (July 2014)

### 5.4. Top 10 Honey Importing Countries, 2013



Source: *Global Trade Atlas* (July 2014)



## 6. Key Resources

Global Trade Atlas.

Statistics Canada. (CANSIM TABLE 001-0007)

Statistics Canada. (CANSIM TABLE 002-0001)

Statistics Canada. CATSNET.

Import and export data is based on the following Harmonized System Codes (H.S. Codes):

**Honey for import:** 0409000010 0409000021 0409000022 0409000023 0409000024  
0409000025 0409000026 0409000029 0409000090

**Honey for export:** 04090000

**Honey Bees for import:** 0106410011 0106410012 0106410020 0106900011 0106900012  
0106900020