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Statistical Overview of the Canadian Honey Industry 2012

Prepared by:
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Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
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Overview

In 2012, over 8,000 beekeepers across Canada kept one or more hives, for a total of more than 700,000 hives nationally. With the vast majority of these bee colonies residing in the Prairies, where long summer days are ideal for foraging, it is no surprise that Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta collectively accounted for 85% of the country's total honey production. The industry as a whole recorded a 15% annual increase in the value honey produced, from \$151 million in 2011 to \$173 million in 2012.

The past five years have seen a reversal of the decades-long trend of declining beekeeper numbers. From 2008 to 2012, there has been a steady increase in the number of beekeepers, with 2012 figures showing an increase of 17% from 2008. All provinces except Saskatchewan saw an increase in the number of beekeepers in 2012. Ontario currently has the largest number of beekeepers, with 3,100 of the 8,126 operating in Canada, though the majority of beekeepers in Ontario are smaller operations or hobbyists. The country's total number of colonies has also steadily increased from 2008, showing overall growth of 24%. Despite a decline in the number of beekeepers in Saskatchewan, the number of colonies in that province actually increased by 38% over the past year, from 90,000 in 2011 to 125,000 in 2012, the largest increase of any province. Alberta remains the province with the largest number of colonies, at 282,000.

Saskatchewan also recorded the largest increase in both production and value, with figures climbing by 45% and 55% respectively. Alberta was once again the largest producer of honey in 2012, producing 40 million pounds, valued at over \$65 million.

Total Canadian honey exports increased from \$38.5 million in 2011 to \$73.2 million in 2012, up 90%. This can be attributed to a 124% increase in exports to the United States.

Canadian honey imports totalled \$15 million in 2012. Canada imported 1,322 tonnes of honey valued at close to \$4 million from Argentina, the most from any country in 2012. New Zealand and Australia were the 2nd and 3rd largest sources of honey imports; Canada imported \$2.7 million and \$2.6 million worth of honey from these countries respectively.



1. Production

1.1. Number of Beekeepers¹ by Province

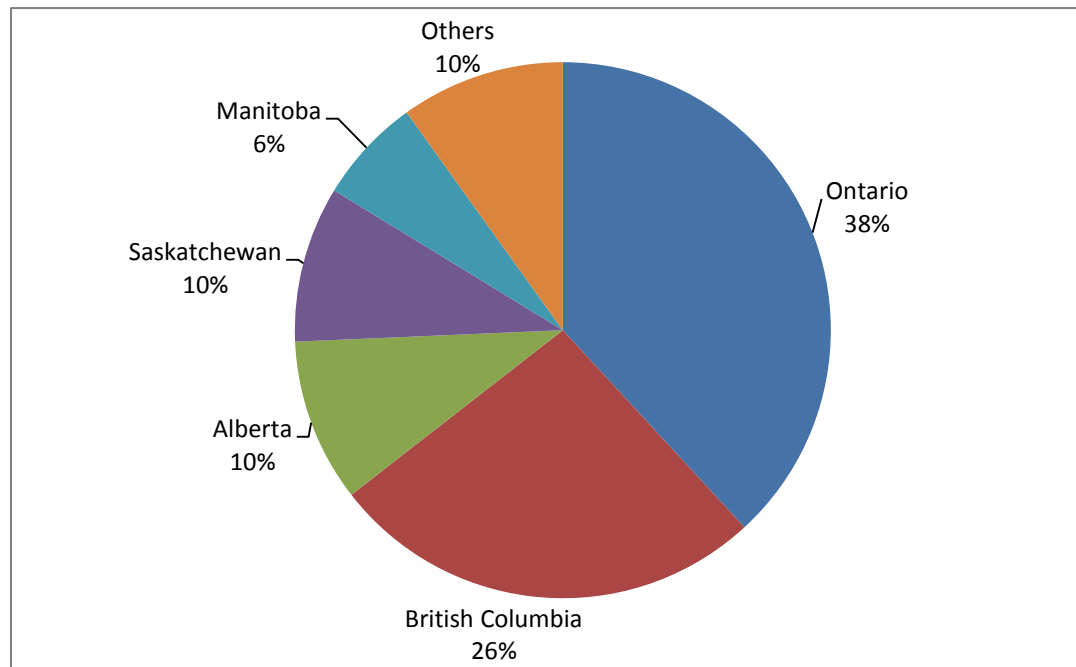
Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Number of Beekeepers				
Prince Edward Island	24	28	33	43	46
Nova Scotia	210	205	215	209	244
New Brunswick	187	180	204	209	244
Quebec	256	245	262	268	271
Ontario	2,200	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,100
Manitoba	523	474	490	501	517
Saskatchewan	1,045	971	965	850	765
Alberta	620	683	769	798	800
British Columbia	1,866	1,742	1,865	1,935	2,139
Canada²	6,931	7,028	7,403	7,713	8,126

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, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



1.3. Number of Colonies¹ by Province

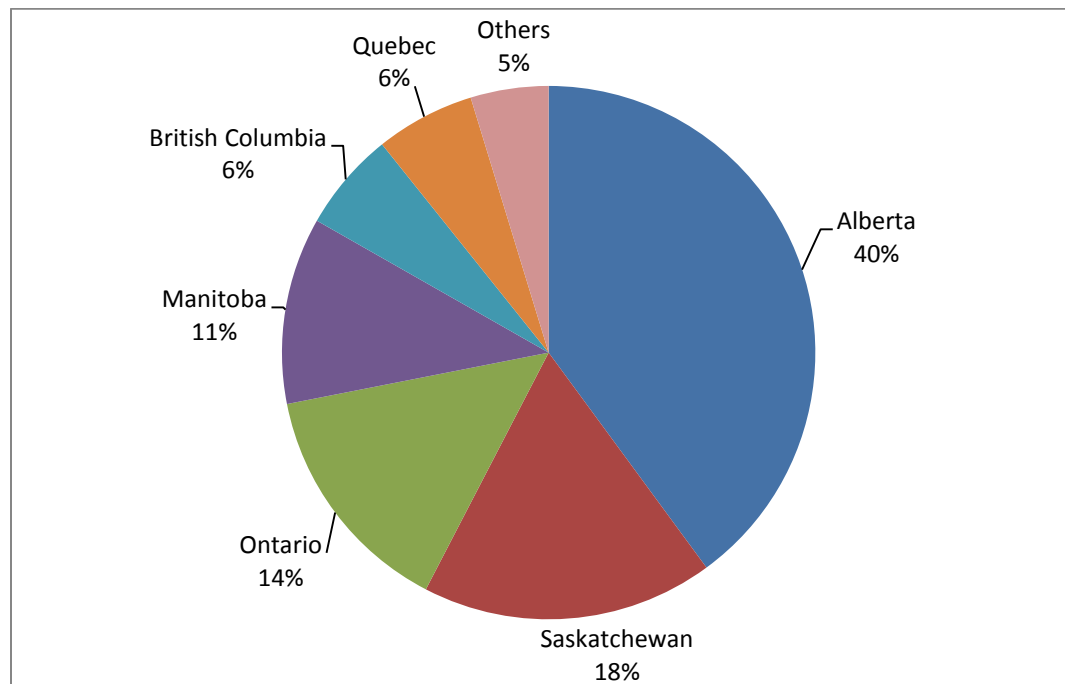
Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Number of Colonies				
Prince Edward Island	4,000	3,530	2,605	2,954	3,719
Nova Scotia	19,200	19,500	18,500	19,300	24,000
New Brunswick	3,000	2,700	4,288	4,500	5,650
Quebec	36,123	36,536	39,812	41,407	42,500
Ontario	80,000	82,000	83,150	90,000	101,000
Manitoba	75,173	70,746	78,000	77,000	80,000
Saskatchewan	90,000	85,000	86,000	90,000	125,000
Alberta	226,000	251,000	266,000	274,600	282,000
British Columbia	36,574	41,108	41,936	38,159	42,560
Canada²	570,070	592,120	620,291	637,920	706,429

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, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



1.5. Total Honey Production¹ by Province

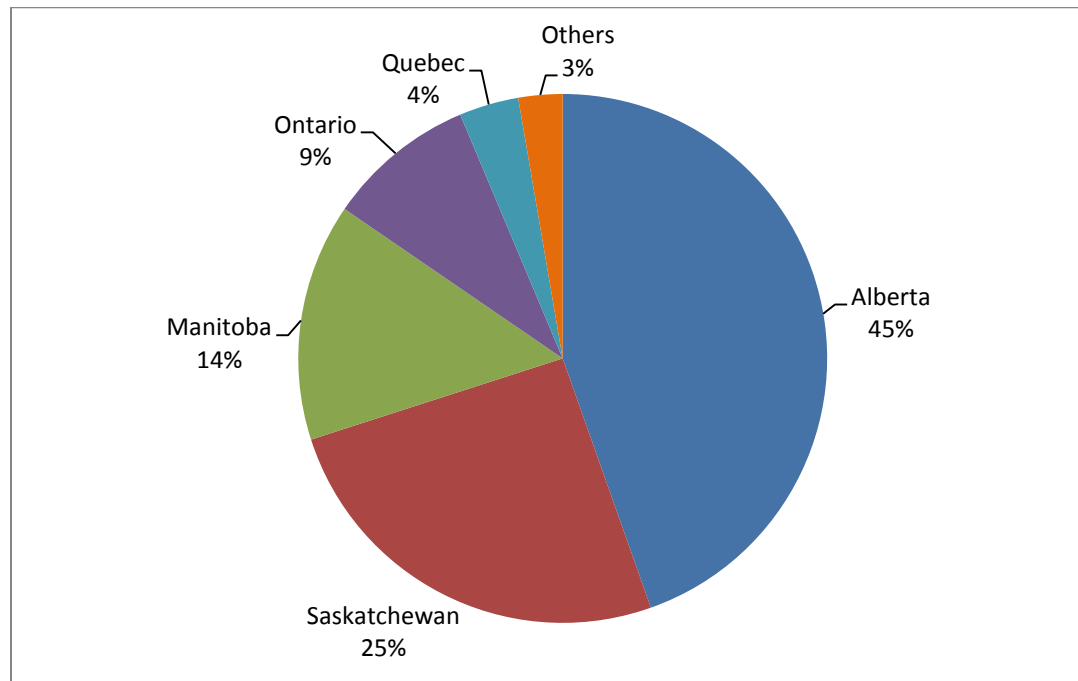
Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Pounds (000)				
Prince Edward Island	260	265	201	271	184
Nova Scotia	392	416	528	248	250
New Brunswick	174	189	257	208	199
Quebec	3,186	2,039	4,030	2,867	3,306
Ontario	4,586	5,730	8,814	9,023	8,277
Manitoba	12,028	13,017	12,870	15,400	13,200
Saskatchewan	16,560	17,000	18,404	15,930	23,125
Alberta	25,990	29,116	34,580	34,050	40,520
British Columbia	1,719	2,590	1,988	1,826	1,817
Canada²	64,895	70,362	81,672	79,823	90,878

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.

1.6. Total Honey Production by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



1.7. Value¹ of Honey by Province

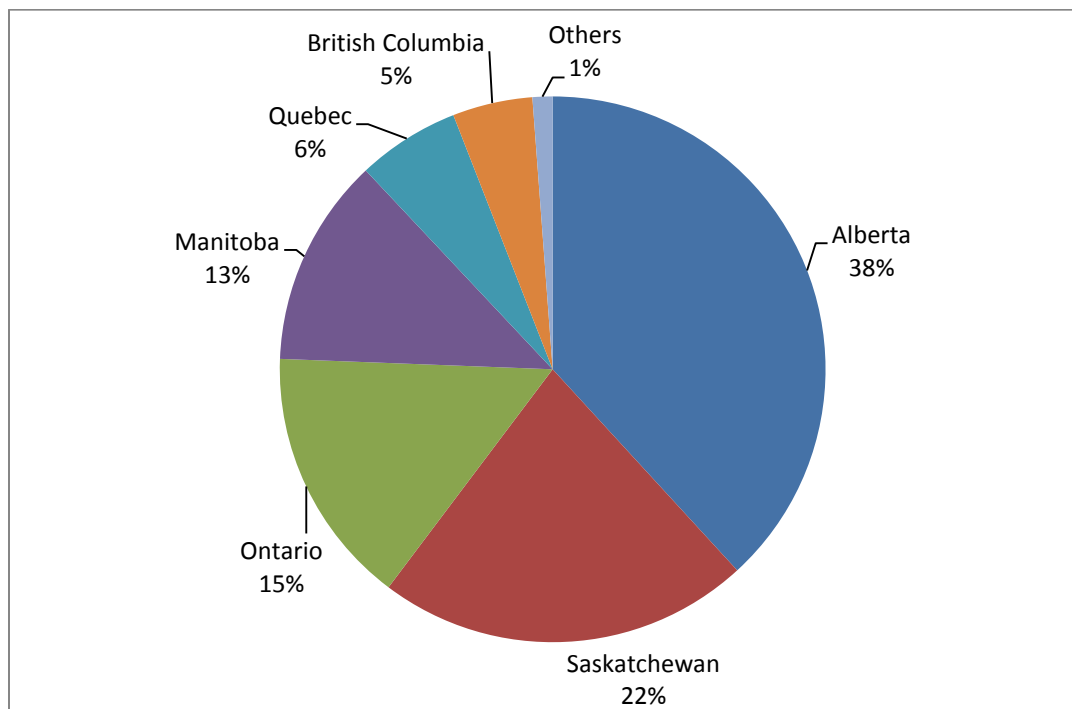
Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$ (000)				
Prince Edward Island	520	530	603	813	551
Nova Scotia	784	1,248	1,584	745	752
New Brunswick	348	708	963	781	746
Quebec	8,527	7,837	9,516	10,234	10,500
Ontario	9,190	14,133	20,379	22,537	26,487
Manitoba	17,440	19,916	19,562	24,948	21,384
Saskatchewan	24,840	25,500	28,526	24,692	38,156
Alberta	37,755	48,837	56,230	59,168	65,938
British Columbia	5,779	7,544	6,834	6,774	8,190
Canada²	105,183	126,253	144,197	150,692	172,704

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.

1.8. Value of Honey by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)



2. Farm Cash Receipts

2.1. Honey Farm Cash Receipts by Province

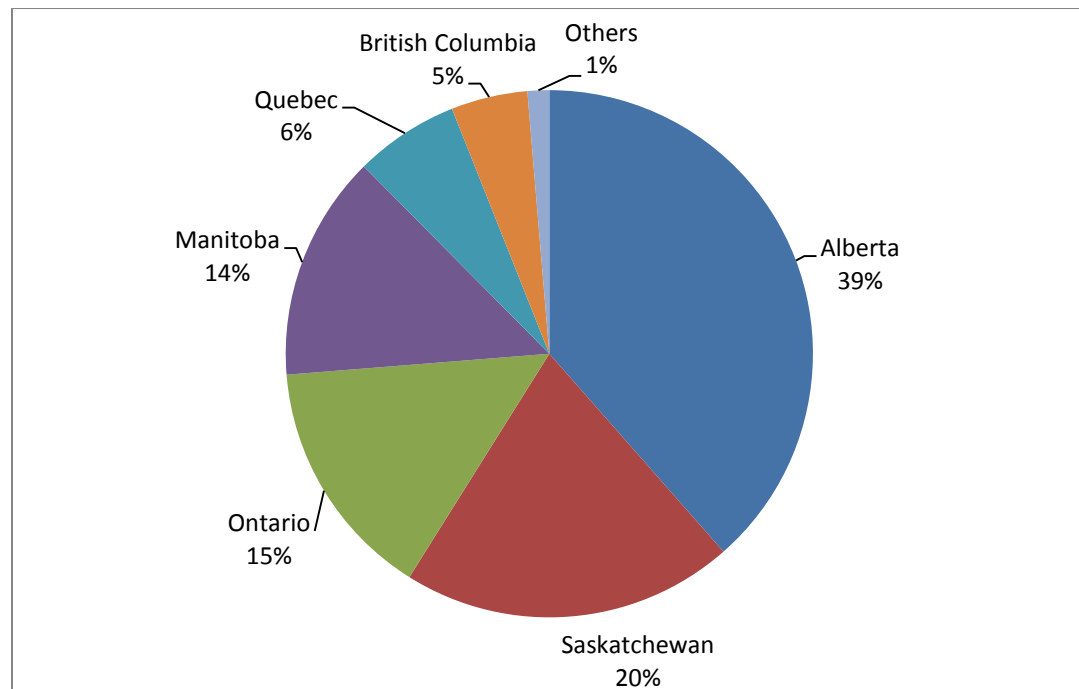
Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$ (000)				
Prince Edward Island	520	526	570	719	669
Nova Scotia	831	1063	1450	1080	749
New Brunswick	247	546	848	863	762
Quebec	8,527	7,837	9,516	10,234	10,500
Ontario	9,280	11,414	17,689	22,261	24,315
Manitoba	15,464	19,000	19,693	22,955	22,703
Saskatchewan	23,129	25,269	27,467	26,034	33,444
Alberta	34,423	44,293	53,199	57,963	63,162
British Columbia	5,930	6,926	7,083	6,795	7,694
Canada¹	98,351	116,874	137,515	148,904	163,998

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 002-0001)

Note :

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

2.2. Honey Farm Cash Receipts by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 002-0001)



3. Trade

3.1. EXPORTS

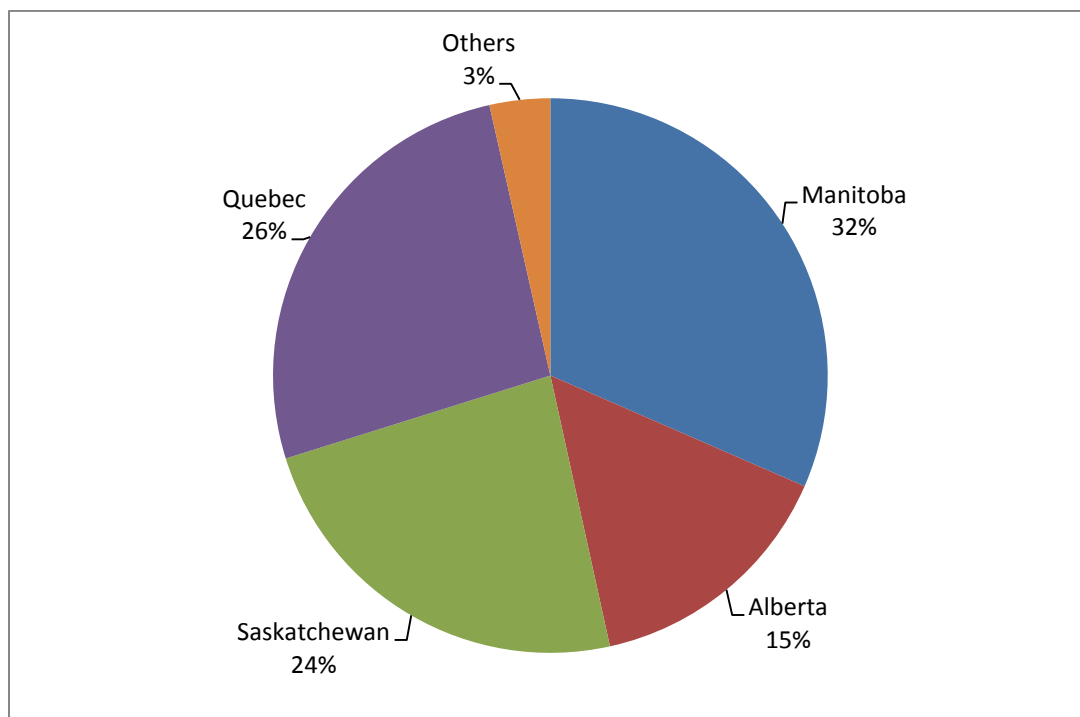
3.1.1. Canada's Honey Exports by Province

Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$				
Prince Edward Island	0	15,000	24,895	283,883	57,972
Nova Scotia	48,922	3,629	358,397	70,804	1,967
New Brunswick	0	0	65,665	0	0
Quebec	9,099,275	4,411,251	7,906,512	7,148,631	19,264,744
Ontario	2,100,713	2,985,455	1,813,707	1,931,702	2,140,265
Manitoba	19,306,087	17,693,867	18,781,935	14,435,170	23,096,811
Saskatchewan	20,078,312	4,950,750	11,322,221	4,448,501	17,294,438
Alberta	18,522,947	16,924,051	15,530,459	9,388,582	10,995,268
British Columbia	686,824	138,259	1,191,317	835,397	385,833
Canada	69,843,080	47,122,262	56,995,108	38,543,063	73,237,298
	Kilograms				
Prince Edward Island	0	2,727	4,526	36,328	2,933
Nova Scotia	10,427	668	71,090	19,181	265
New Brunswick	0	0	18,593	0	0
Quebec	2,818,064	1,128,942	2,087,139	1,803,576	4,963,349
Ontario	490,325	695,936	275,010	297,322	382,586
Manitoba	6,060,670	4,448,094	4,972,647	3,599,622	5,778,941
Saskatchewan	6,547,065	1,368,718	3,108,937	1,310,909	4,455,482
Alberta	6,200,421	4,261,284	4,110,291	2,168,374	2,566,012
British Columbia	214,063	22,781	283,882	217,925	74,636
Canada	22,341,035	11,929,150	14,932,115	9,453,309	18,224,204

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)



3.1.2. Canada's Honey Exports by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)



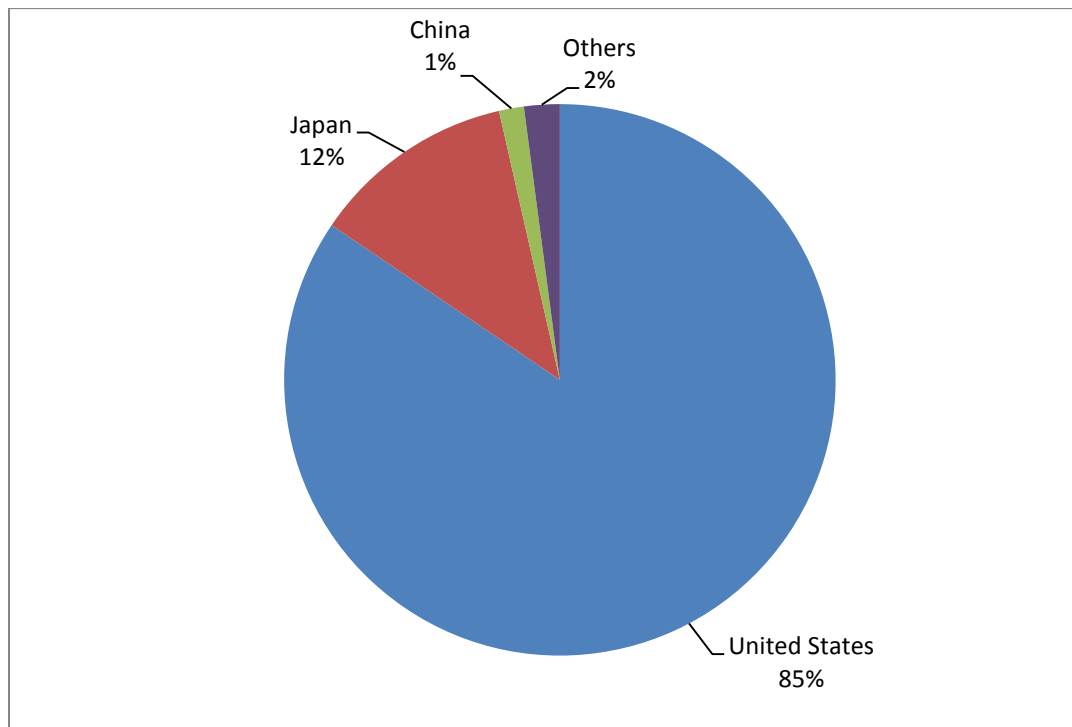
3.1.3. Canada's Top 10 Honey Export Destinations

Countries	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$				
United States	54,927,957	33,257,702	41,136,613	27,605,258	61,870,179
Japan	5,127,445	6,714,312	9,848,183	7,860,065	8,770,713
China	96,517	1,530,989	917,367	972,818	1,066,514
France	255,889	341,638	267,623	262,207	378,731
Hong Kong	105,265	84,702	215,348	367,799	331,691
Belgium	327,950	173,341	89,840	0	207,744
South Korea	126,056	12,177	10,389	18,777	207,015
Sweden	65,394	0	37,026	0	130,925
Australia	4,630,406	2,038,644	223,391	154,119	79,669
Barbados	204,624	87,404	134,755	68,759	70,408
Others	3,975,577	2,881,353	4,114,573	1,233,261	123,709
Total	69,843,080	47,122,262	56,995,108	38,543,063	73,237,298
	Kilograms				
United States	17,272,537	8,302,454	11,053,443	7,148,189	15,831,774
Japan	1,616,402	1,692,286	2,440,219	1,690,307	1,896,912
China	27,311	456,944	173,227	191,261	203,363
France	77,481	72,602	59,368	56,869	69,332
Hong Kong	22,837	17,278	23,274	45,694	47,360
Belgium	88,520	37,322	20,852	0	62,294
South Korea	42,983	2,996	2,817	4,388	37,100
Sweden	20,480	0	6,732	0	20,980
Australia	1,619,863	511,027	56,540	38,594	20,650
Barbados	57,770	18,161	21,687	12,470	12,084
Others	1,494,851	818,080	1,073,956	265,537	22,355
Total	22,341,035	11,929,150	14,932,115	9,453,309	18,224,204

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)



3.1.4. Canada's Top Honey Export Destinations by Country – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)



3.2. IMPORTS

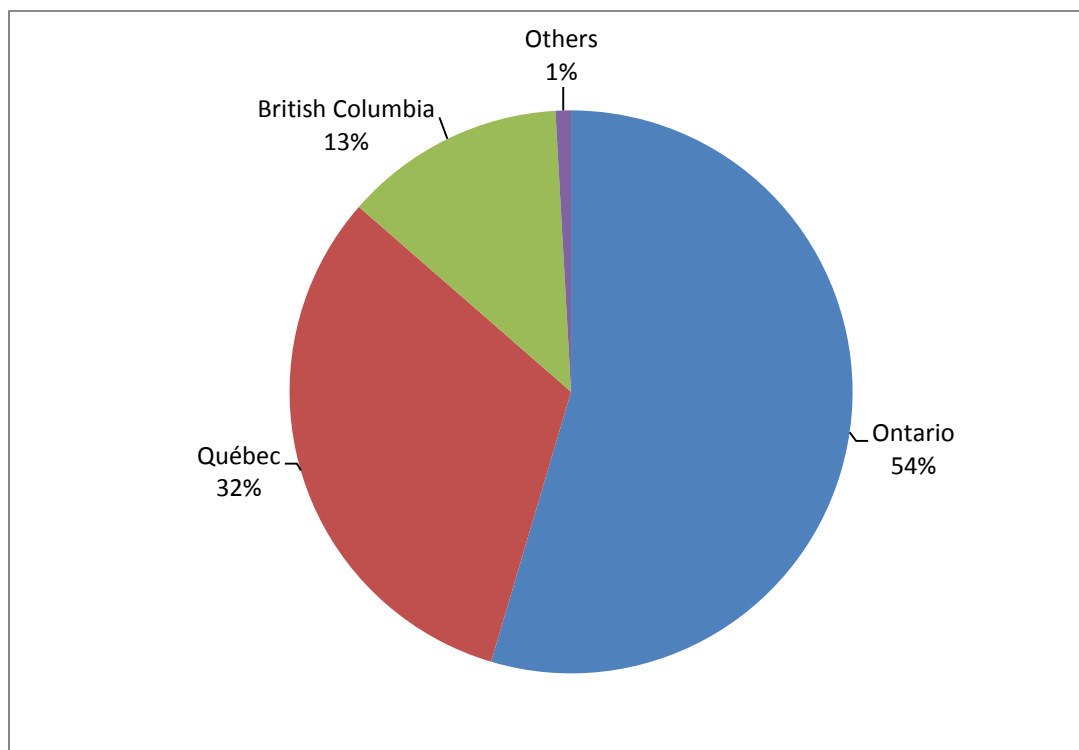
3.2.1. Canada's Honey Imports by Province

Province	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$				
Nova Scotia	409	2,515	1,357	749	760
New Brunswick	237	196	462	646	417
Quebec	1,926,155	2,059,428	2,646,818	3,878,440	4,749,666
Ontario	10,378,419	15,316,405	9,397,161	7,391,401	8,145,010
Manitoba	358,631	190,698	159,536	145,556	38,072
Saskatchewan	23,520	6,067	0	12,755	13,177
Alberta	16,465	39,420	11,822	18,897	79,620
British Columbia	2,492,795	3,085,752	2,275,641	1,875,952	1,895,226
Canada	15,196,631	20,700,481	14,492,797	13,324,396	14,922,521
	Kilograms				
Nova Scotia	81	554	300	180	56
New Brunswick	59	49	114	131	73
Quebec	566,290	556,858	787,959	1,071,403	1,397,198
Ontario	2,558,197	3,644,997	2,074,837	1,499,611	1,801,179
Manitoba	99,065	55,837	51,690	38,193	8,784
Saskatchewan	5,481	2,400	0	2,598	2,231
Alberta	3,798	8,256	1,216	2,220	5,155
British Columbia	500,458	590,148	342,022	223,619	220,302
Canada	3,733,429	4,859,099	3,258,138	2,837,955	3,434,978

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2013)



3.2.2. Canada's Honey Imports by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2013)



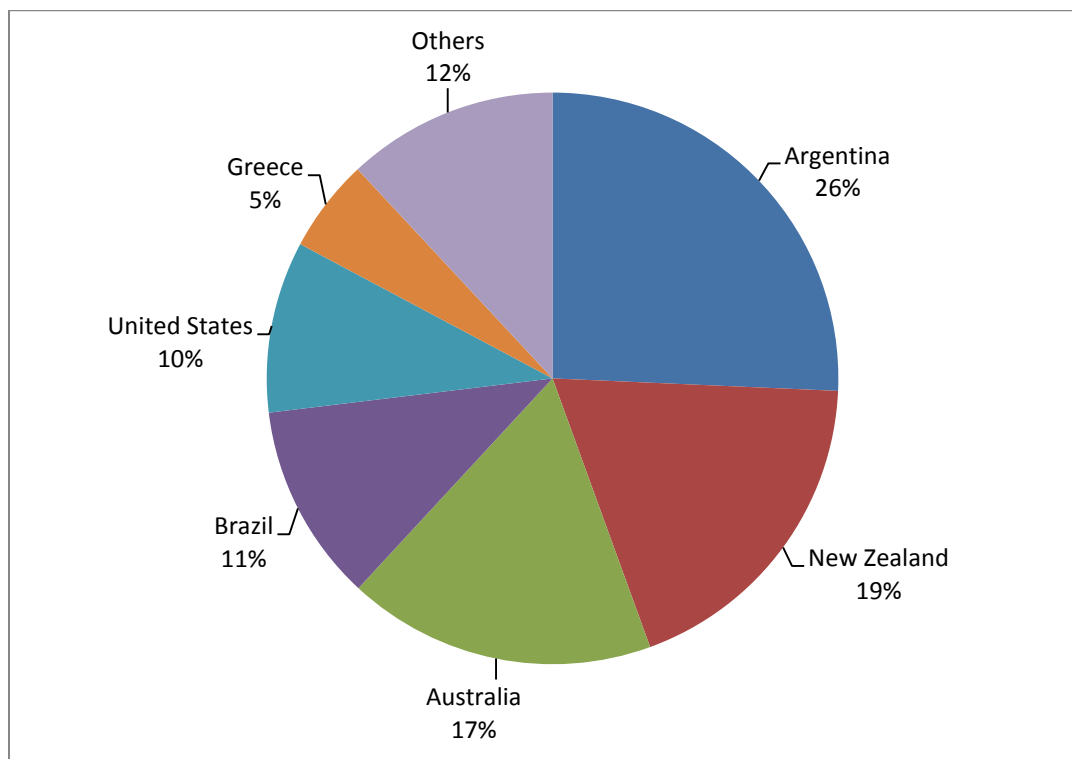
3.2.3. Canada's Top 10 Sources of Honey Imports

Countries	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$				
Argentina	335,104	383,014	2,586,321	1,137,985	3,834,219
New Zealand	893,477	1,341,212	1,824,963	2,156,576	2,799,001
Australia	7,859,583	11,669,660	3,427,724	2,131,605	2,600,480
Brazil	1,429,346	2,624,581	2,234,227	2,533,792	1,671,963
United States	2,323,463	2,662,963	1,885,011	1,632,628	1,447,090
Greece	235,110	440,530	650,812	748,635	787,559
India	120,130	318,579	709,117	633,247	386,851
Germany	36,892	172,833	168,373	230,710	320,192
China	619,781	5,725	81,974	61,409	197,683
Switzerland	177,125	263,454	244,190	189,943	182,174
Others	1,166,620	817,930	680,085	1,867,866	695,309
Total	15,196,631	20,700,481	14,492,797	13,324,396	14,922,521
	Kilograms				
Argentina	117,180	116,195	838,970	338,066	1,322,066
New Zealand	61,456	160,924	114,444	165,049	375,345
Australia	1,702,924	2,767,755	625,370	331,041	366,269
Brazil	450,675	825,366	724,445	750,049	494,605
United States	652,965	656,651	497,215	428,134	337,716
Greece	22,759	29,359	47,021	85,648	131,563
India	37,780	83,334	192,630	158,100	92,508
Germany	7,999	32,187	26,817	37,293	60,448
China	331,705	947	40,035	24,436	91,079
Switzerland	46,155	34,076	36,662	30,929	24,589
Others	301,831	152,305	114,529	489,210	138,790
Total	3,733,429	4,859,099	3,258,138	2,837,955	3,434,978

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2013)



3.2.4. Canada's Top Sources of Honey Imports by Country - Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net June 2013)

3.2.5. Canada's Sources for Honey Bee Imports

Countries	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$				
New Zealand	822,211	1,053,287	833,682	2,746,392	2,110,082
Australia	0	110,405	56,268	333,036	414,177
United States	0	9,504	0	0	0
Total	822,211	1,173,269	889,950	3,079,428	2,524,259
Countries	Number of Packages				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
New Zealand	11,070	1,091	10,142	38,150	28,603
Australia	0	768	480	4,316	5,310
United States	0	500	0	0	0
Total	11,070	11,360	10,622	42,466	33,913

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net September 2013)

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.



3.2.6. Canada's Sources for Queen Bee Imports

Countries	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$				
United States	2,239,315	2,694,887	2,586,648	3,020,885	3,399,366
Australia	109,657	85,472	502,757	149,778	264,162
New Zealand	12,012	22,035	142,617	159,005	149,167
Chile	140,696	237,107	188,772	156,277	50,002
Denmark	0	0	11,506	3,946	4,481
Total	2,501,680	3,039,501	3,432,300	3,489,891	3,867,178
	Number				
United States	153,964	155,072	161,195	167,042	169,954
Australia	8,266	5,781	7,145	10,635	18,063
New Zealand	680	1,426	7,502	7,577	7,155
Chile	10,403	15,607	12,847	10,376	2,453
Denmark	0	0	412	216	216
Total	173,313	177,886	189,101	195,846	197,841

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net September 2013)



4. Consumption

4.1. Honey Available in Canada

Commodity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Kg per person				
Honey	0.37	0.78	0.80	0.91	0.82

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.



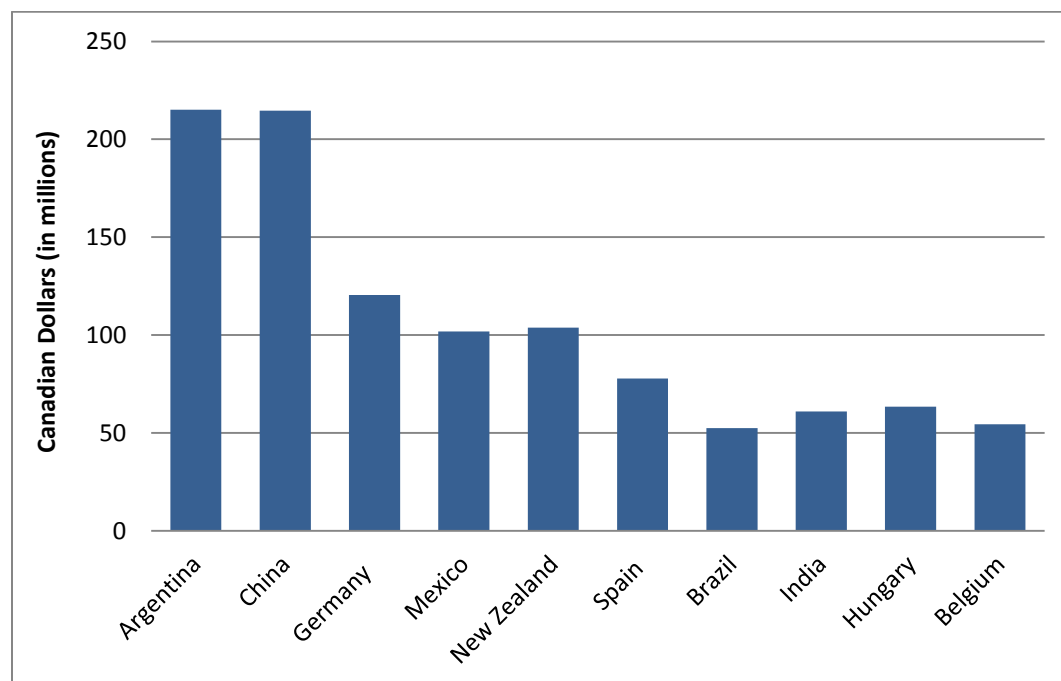
5. World Data

5.1. Top 10 Exporters of Honey Worldwide

Countries	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$ (in millions)				
Argentina	190	185	178	220	215
China	159	141	188	200	215
Germany	135	130	115	114	120
Mexico	87	92	88	88	102
New Zealand	54	68	73	87	104
Spain	65	71	84	79	78
Brazil	47	76	57	70	52
India	42	22	58	66	61
Hungary	93	69	63	60	63
Belgium	31	44	50	54	54
Others	413	454	460	469	540
Total	1,317	1,353	1,414	1,506	1,605

Source: *Global Trade Atlas* (October 2013)

5.2. Top 10 Honey Exporting Countries, 2012



Source: *Global Trade Atlas* (October 2013)

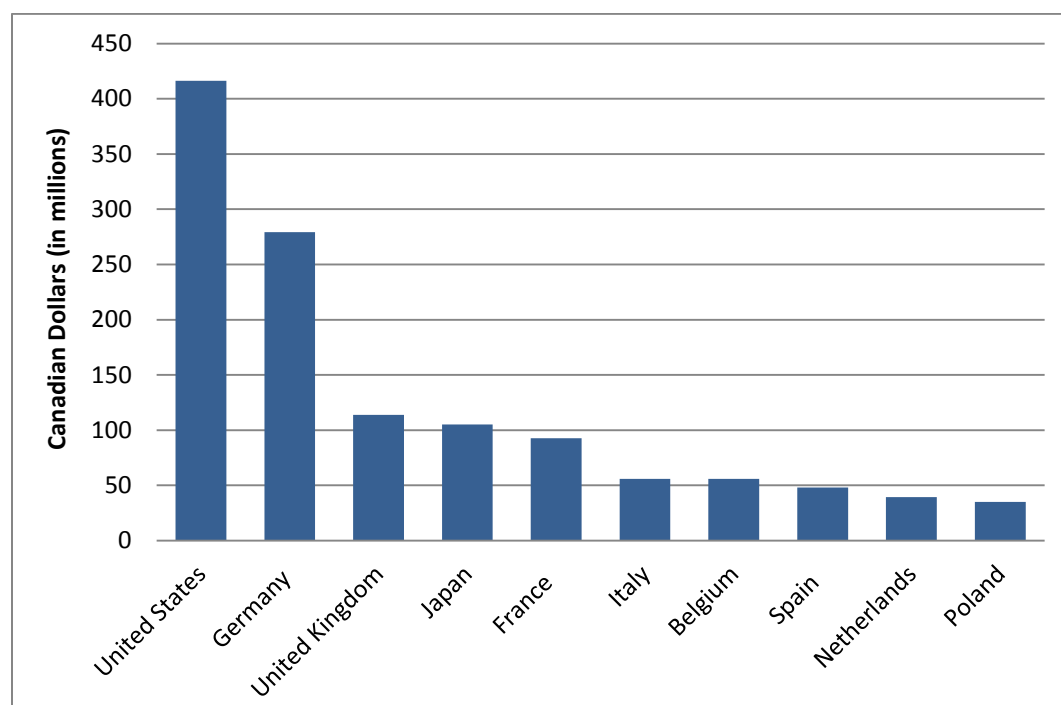


5.3. Top 10 Importers of Honey Worldwide

Countries	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	CAD\$ (in millions)				
United States	233	251	302	381	416
Germany	269	296	303	270	279
United Kingdom	111	117	108	125	114
Japan	92	99	104	117	105
France	101	98	100	108	93
Italy	48	59	55	57	56
Belgium	45	52	52	56	56
Spain	44	42	39	45	48
Netherlands	33	42	35	44	39
Poland	17	24	32	38	35
Other	249	282	305	309	348
Total	1,243	1,362	1,436	1,551	1,590

Source: *Global Trade Atlas (October 2013)*

5.4. Top 10 Honey Importing Countries, 2012



Source: *Global Trade Atlas (October 2013)*



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