

PORK



BY THE NUMBERS – 2024

2.8 MILLION

hogs were
produced in
Alberta

1,300

registered
pork producers
in Alberta

11%

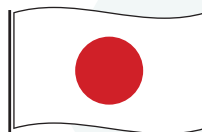
of Canadian pigs
are produced
in Alberta

60%

of Alberta pork
production is exported
internationally

DID YOU KNOW?

Pigs have a strong sense of smell. They have more functional olfactory receptor genes than dogs, and studies have shown pigs can outperform some dog breeds in discriminating between subtle scents.



The largest export market
for pork is Japan.

ENVIRONMENT

Pork farmers go beyond producing great pork – they're stewards of the land, taking steps to reduce their environmental footprint. From farm to fork, producers do what's best for their animals and the land they are raised on.

MEET A PRODUCER

Ken Hamoen – Sand Ridge Farm

Ken and his family run a hog farm in Northern Alberta, a legacy passed down from his uncle and father. Since taking over the farm in 2002, the Hamoens have raised their children with a deep respect for animals and the value of hard work. With 120 sows, they raise pigs to meet the specific needs of their customers. Ken is also active in the genetics business, providing purebred pigs to other farms. He finds joy in witnessing the birth of piglets and watching them grow. For Ken, helping others succeed by raising healthy pigs is the most rewarding part.



FUN FACTS

A 100 g serving of lean pork provides about 25–30 g of high-quality protein.



Pigs share over **98%** of their DNA with humans, making them valuable in biomedical research. Historically, insulin was extracted from pig pancreases to be used for human diabetes.



Pigs were first domesticated around **9,000 years** ago in modern-day China and Turkey.

