

Victorian grains industry

Fast Facts
January 2023

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

1,700

↑ 10%

Grains specialist farms
(2020-21)

9,700

↑ 3%

Jobs in grains industry
(2020-21)

\$3.6B

↑ 19%

Gross value of grains
(2020-21)

\$4.4B

↑ 73%

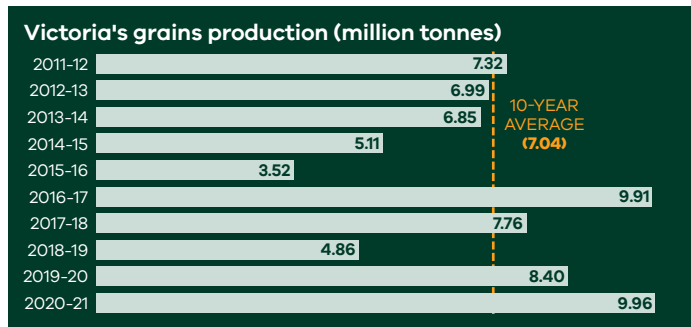
Grains exports
(2021-22)

Grains farm growing facts and figures

- Victoria's grain growing areas are mainly located in western and northern Victoria, predominantly in the Mallee, Wimmera and North Central regions, and some parts of southern Victoria's high rainfall zone.
- Victoria's grains farms operated on 3.7 million hectares.
- In 2020-21, approximately 1,700[#] grains specialist farms in Victoria produced grains, representing 23 per cent of Australia's grains farm businesses. There are a further 1,750[#] mixed cropping-livestock farms.

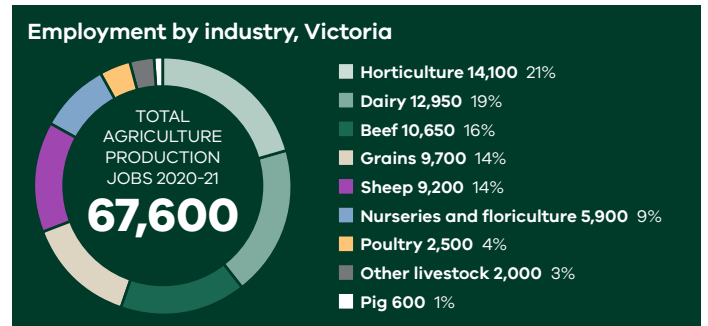
- The gross value of Victoria's major grains commodities included \$1.27 billion from wheat, \$850 million from barley and \$437 million from canola.
- Victoria contributed 17.5 per cent to the national gross value of grain production (\$20.3 billion). By value, Victoria was Australia's third largest grains producer, behind New South Wales (\$6.8 billion) and Western Australia (\$5.85 billion).

How much is produced?



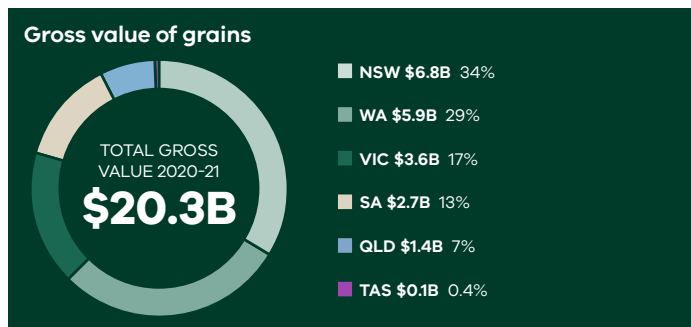
- In 2020-21, Victoria produced 9.96 million tonnes of grains, an increase of 18.5 per cent on 2019-20 production (8.4 million tonnes).
- The grains industry consists of three types of broadacre crops: cereals (mainly wheat and barley), oilseeds and pulses. Major grains commodities produced include wheat (4.5 million tonnes), barley (2.9 million tonnes), canola (1.2 million tonnes), pulses (977,000 tonnes) and oats (334,000 tonnes).
- Victoria's grains production accounted for 16.7 per cent of Australia's grains production. Victoria was the third largest producer after New South Wales (21.5 million tonnes) and Western Australia (16.5 million tonnes).

Industry employment



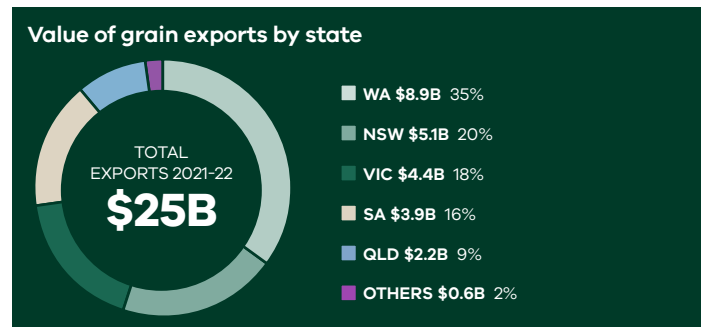
- It is estimated that approximately 9,700 people worked on farms producing grains in 2020-21.

What is the value of production?



- The gross value of Victoria's grain production was \$3.6 billion in 2020-21, up 19 per cent year-on-year. Grain production contributed 20 per cent to Victoria's total farm production value of \$17.5 billion.

How much is exported?



- In 2021-22, Victoria's total grains exports were valued at \$4.4 billion, up 73 per cent year-on-year. Victoria's grains exports represent 31 per cent of Victoria's total food exports (\$14.4 billion).
- Cereals exports were valued at \$2.5 billion (representing 56 per cent of Victoria's grain exports), oilseeds were valued at \$1.2 billion, and pulses exports were valued at \$548 million. Of the cereal exports, wheat exports were valued at \$1.8 billion.
- Victoria was the third largest grains exporter by value, accounting for 18 per cent of Australia's total grains exports valued at \$25 billion.
- China was the highest-value export market (\$555 million), followed by Bangladesh (\$302 million) and Japan (\$299 million).

Data attribution: Sourced from publicly available data published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) | *ABARES | Agriculture Policy and Programs Branch analysis. Data are the latest available as of December 2022.