

# Victorian beef industry

Fast Facts  
June 2024

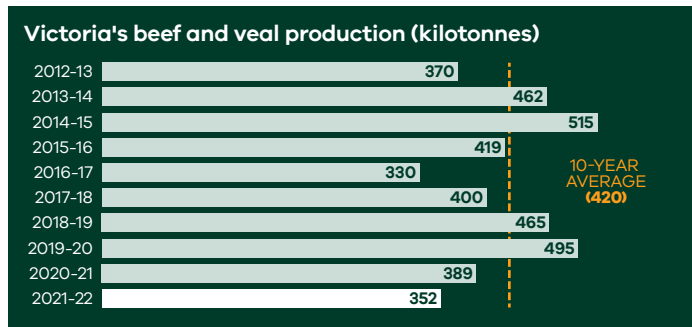


## Herd facts and figures

- In 2021-22, there were 5,000 beef specialist farms in Victoria, accounting for 24% of national beef specialist farms. Victoria also had 2,100 mixed-livestock and 650 sheep-beef farms.
- Victoria's beef production is mainly located in the south-west, north-central, north-east and Gippsland.
- Victoria accounted for 9.8% (or 2.2 million cattle) of Australia's 22.3 million beef herd. Victoria has the third-highest number of beef cattle in Australia, after Queensland (10.8 million) and New South Wales (NSW) (4.4 million).

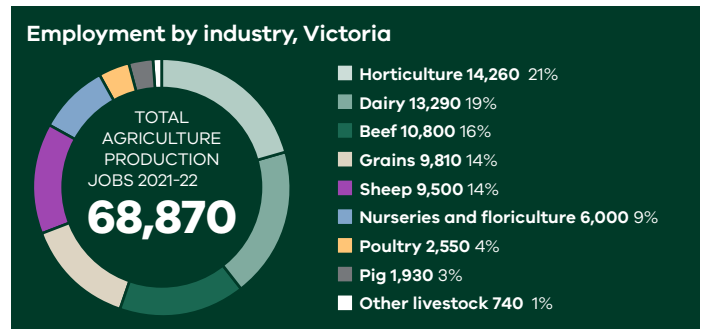
- The beef sector is Victoria's fourth largest agricultural industry, following grains (\$4.2 billion), horticulture (\$3.9 billion), and dairy (\$3.0 billion).
- Victoria contributed 19% to Australia's gross value of beef and veal production (\$15.3 billion).

## How much beef and veal is produced?



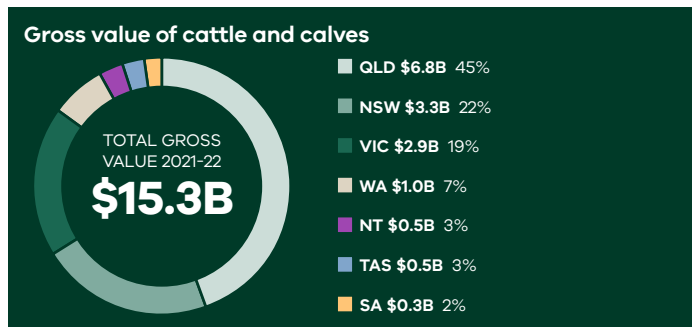
- In 2021-22, Victoria processed 1.3 million cattle and calves and produced 352,000 tonnes of beef and veal, which was 9.6% lower than the previous year.
- Victoria accounted for 18.8% of Australia's beef production (1.9 million tonnes).
- Victoria is Australia's third-largest beef producer, after Queensland (925,000 tonnes) and NSW (394,000 tonnes).

## Industry employment



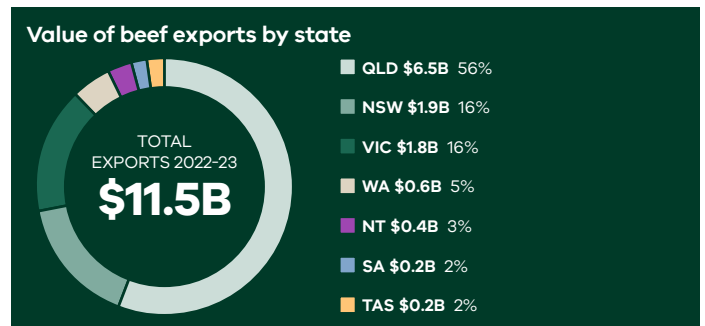
- The Victorian beef industry employed 10,800 people in 2021-22, which is a 3.3% increase from the job numbers in 2020-21.
- The beef industry contributed 16% to the total agricultural jobs in Victoria in 2021-22.

## What is the gross value of cattle and calves?



- In 2021-22, the gross value of Victorian cattle and calves processed for meat production was \$2.9 billion.
- Cattle for beef accounted for 15% of Victoria's gross value of agricultural production (\$20.2 billion).

## How much beef is exported?



- In 2022-23, Victoria's beef exports were worth \$1.8 billion, representing 41% of all meat exports.
- Beef exports made up 9% of Victoria's food and fibre exports, amounting to \$19.6 billion.
- Victoria accounted for 16% of Australia's beef exports, ranking third after Queensland (\$6.5 billion) and NSW (\$1.9 billion).
- The top three markets for Victoria's beef exports in 2022-23 were the United States (\$534 million), followed by China (\$323 million) and Japan (\$260 million).