



2022

CANADA ANIMAL WELFARE SCORECARD

Ranking major food companies on their animal welfare performance





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Executive Summary

Last year, the inaugural edition of the Canada Animal Welfare Scorecard provided Canadians with an in-depth analysis of the animal welfare policies of more than 40 of the country's best-known brands. For the first time, the report revealed which food companies operating in Canada were prioritizing farmed animal welfare and taking meaningful action to ban some of the cruelest practices from their supply chains—and which were not.

As Canadians are increasingly concerned about transparency in the food system, it is more important than ever that companies show that they are following through on their promises to transition to higher animal welfare standards.

This 2022 report evaluates the public animal welfare policies and progress of 55 major food companies, offering important insight into Canada's performance on three of the most pressing welfare issues affecting farmed land animals.

Key Animal Welfare Issues

These conventional practices at Canadian farms and slaughter plants result in poor animal welfare and have been the focus of most animal welfare policies adopted in Canada in the past decade: (1) housing, breed selection, and slaughter of chickens used in meat production (known in the industry as "broilers"); (2) cage confinement of chickens raised for egg production (commonly called "laying hens"); and (3) confinement of pregnant pigs in gestation crates.

Companies are addressing these welfare issues by publicly committing to banning cages for laying hens and crates for pregnant pigs and adopting a set of broiler chicken welfare standards known as the Better Chicken Commitment. These animal welfare policies are commonly referred to as cage-free policies, crate-free policies, and BCC policies:

Cage-free: Systems for housing laying hens that do not use cages, including enriched and colony cages and combination systems. Cage-free systems can be single-level (free-run barn floor), multitier (aviary), or "free-range" with varying access to outdoors.

Crate-free or stall-free: Group housing systems for pigs during gestation that do not involve individual confinement to crates, stalls, or other enclosures close in size to a pig's body.

Better Chicken Commitment (BCC): The leading set of standards driving the global food industry toward better welfare practices for broiler chickens. (See link for policy language.)

Company Evaluation Process

Company Selection

The companies evaluated in this report were selected on the basis of size in terms of number of locations and annual sales, brand recognition, and sector. This selection process aims to provide an accurate representation of how prominent food companies in Canada are performing on animal welfare and the degree to which they are following through on public promises to ban cruel practices from their supply chains.



The companies ranked include restaurants, retailers, foodservice providers, distributors, and consumer packaged goods companies.

Company Performance

We collected public information to determine the animal welfare performance of companies in this report, and we used it to analyze the quality and scope of animal welfare policies, as well as annual progress reporting to identify the extent of policy implementation. Companies were provided with a pre-assessment and detailed recommendations, and they were given the opportunity to update their policies and supply evidence of further policy implementation.

The most meaningful animal welfare policies are time-bound with a clear scope of coverage that includes all Canadian operations, and the most meaningful public progress reporting has a clear scope of coverage and shows the percentage of progress toward 100 percent fulfillment.

Sample Policy: [Company] is committed to sourcing 100 percent cage-free eggs (shell and liquid) in Canada by 2025.

Sample Progress Reporting: In 2021, X percent of the eggs we purchased in Canada (shell and liquid) were from cage-free sources.

From Consumers to the Food Industry:

The Case for Corporate Animal Welfare in Canada

Canadian Consumers Care

For years, research on Canadian public opinion, including by [EKOS](#), [NRG](#), and the [University of British Columbia](#), has demonstrated significant concern for animal welfare. And recently, studies have shown that Canadians also care deeply about transparency.

A [2020 study](#) conducted by Campaign Research Inc. found that 92 percent of Ontarians think that oversight and transparency concerning the condition of animals at farms are important. Those polled were about evenly divided between voting Conservative and voting Liberal, NDP, or Green, which means that the value of transparency in meat production is a nonpartisan issue shared by the vast majority of consumers.

Unsurprisingly, 88 percent of Ontarians surveyed also believe it is important for whistleblowers to expose conditions for animals at farms and in meat-processing plants. This is increasingly relevant in the context of multiple anti-whistleblower [“ag-gag” laws](#) passed in Canada since 2019. These laws prevent the public from knowing what goes on in facilities that raise and slaughter animals by making it illegal for journalists and advocates to enter Canadian farms and reveal animal abuse, risks to workers, or food safety issues.

It is no wonder, then, that even the [latest research](#) from The Canadian Centre for Food Integrity (CCFI), an industry-affiliated group, reveals that trust in Canada’s food system has decreased among Canadians and that those who believe the food system is headed in the wrong direction cite the lack of transparency and a profit-driven system as top reasons.

Canadians are more concerned now about the big picture of the food system, and they rate government agencies and food processors and manufacturers among the least-trusted entities, followed by restaurants and grocery retailers.

Investors Are Paying Attention

A [2021 Ipsos poll](#) found that two-thirds of Canadians consider environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors in investment decisions. Consumers have come to expect major companies to conduct their business ethically. Companies around the globe are not only expanding the scope of corporate social responsibility efforts but dedicating significant resources specifically to responsible sourcing practices—including those that promote animal welfare.

Most major foodservice providers operating in Canada publish ESG metrics annually, a growing area of attention for investors who are considering non-financial factors when investing. For companies that buy and sell meat, dairy, and eggs, farmed animal welfare practices are increasingly important risk factors to evaluate.

“Investors in the food sector, or those with an eye on protein supply chains, are increasingly recognising it as a material investment concern. Farm animal welfare can be a source of risk (e.g. food recalls, media scandals) but can also provide potential opportunities connected with adopting higher welfare standards which can support product differentiation, foster innovation and forge entry to new markets.”

—[Robert Black](#), Chronos Sustainability

For these reasons, the trend to include animal welfare metrics in their standards is growing among prominent global ESG frameworks, such as the [Sustainable Accounting Standards Board](#) (SASB) and the [Global Reporting Initiative](#) (GRI). For example, the SASB standards ask for disclosures on percentage of cage-free egg sales and percentage of pork produced without the use of gestation crates.

Investors look to these disclosures, so companies that are either failing to establish meaningful animal welfare policies or failing to publicly demonstrate progress toward these policies will stand out as higher risk.



Debunking Myths About Industrial Animal Agriculture in Canada

Canada's **progressive values** and **collaborative approach to social issues** often lead food company representatives and consumers to believe that the country must also be doing well for animals. **Sadly, this is not the case** for many critical animal welfare issues in the country's agricultural sector.



⊗ **Myth:** Canada does not have factory farms.

✓ **Fact:** The majority of Canadian farms are factory farms.

Large industrial farms, often called “factory farms,” raise large numbers of animals using intensive methods and controlled conditions intended to maximize production and lower costs.

Industry consolidation means that the number of farms in Canada, both crop and animal operations, has decreased by about [75 percent](#) over the past 75 years while the average farm size has more than tripled.

Family run or not, the average egg farm in Canada houses [23,000 hens](#), and the average chicken farm in Canada houses [36,000 chickens](#).

This is factory farming.



⊗ **Myth:** Canada does not raise enough animals to be concerned about this issue.

✓ **Fact:** Hundreds of millions of animals are slaughtered every year in Canada.

Every year in Canada, nearly one billion land animals are slaughtered for food. In 2021, that number was over [825 million](#), and 90 percent were chickens.



⊗ **Myth:** Canada has good protections for farmed animals.

✓ **Fact:** Canada has no federal animal welfare laws.

The country's only national farmed animal welfare standards are [not legal standards](#). They are created every 10 years by the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC), an organization that flaunts a multi-stakeholder collaborative approach while the majority of member groups represent industry.

The NFACC's codes of practice are not only unlegislated but unenforceable, and they have [failed to ban cage confinement](#) at Canadian egg farms.





⊗ **Myth:** Canada is a world leader in the treatment of animals raised for food.

✓ **Fact:** Canada is far behind Europe and even the United States on critical animal welfare issues.

Table 1. Percentage of laying hens confined in cages in the European Union, the United States, and Canada in 2021 as reported by industry

Percentage of laying hens confined in cages in 2021	
United Kingdom	35%
European Union	45%
United States	71%
Canada	83%

The concept of a collaborative multi-stakeholder council responsible for setting animal welfare standards is progressive, but the reality of unenforceable animal welfare codes under Canada’s NFACC is an industry left to regulate itself. With just a few vastly outnumbered dissenting voices on the council, the Canadian egg industry is getting away with caging a higher percentage of laying hens every year than the United States and Europe do.



Table 2. Number of retailers with public broiler welfare policies aligned with the Better Chicken Commitment (or equivalent European Chicken Commitment) in the European Union, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada in 2022

Number of retailers with broiler welfare policies	
European Union	42
United States	12
United Kingdom	4
Canada	0

Sources: [Chicken Watch](#) and [WelfareCommitments.com](#) (interpreted to exclude meal-kit companies and duplicates in the UK and EU).

Many large retailers in the United States and Europe—including Giant Eagle, Albertsons, Kroger, and Carrefour—have committed to meaningful broiler welfare standards and are even reporting progress toward their commitments. Not a single major retailer in Canada has a public broiler welfare policy in place.

When chickens raised for meat represent 90 percent of the land animals farmed for food in the country, failure to implement welfare standards that protect them from the most egregious practices—while competitors in other regions take action—is an indication that Canada is falling behind on critical animal welfare problems.

Corporate Animal Welfare Commitments in Canada

A single corporate animal welfare policy can reduce suffering for millions of animals each year.

As consolidation and farm size increase, federal animal welfare legislation is still lacking, and a publicly funded council sets standards that are out of touch with public opinion and global shifts in animal welfare practices.

Grocery retailers, restaurants, and foodservice providers are the country's largest purchasers of meat, dairy, and eggs. These companies can make real change by taking action to improve animal welfare practices in their supply chains.

Which companies are leading the way? Which companies are falling behind?

Company Rankings

Gold Tier

COMPANY	SCORE
WHOLE FOODS	300
CHIPOTLE	270
CAMPBELL'S	260
IKEA	260
PANAGO PIZZA	240
STARBUCKS	240
UNILEVER	240
A&W CANADA	210
PITA PIT	210

Silver Tier

COMPANY	SCORE
ARAMARK	160
KELLOGG'S	160
NESTLÉ	160
SODEXO	160
COMPASS GROUP	150
HARVEY'S (RECIPE UNLIMITED)	150
THE KEG (RECIPE UNLIMITED)	150
SWISS CHALET (RECIPE UNLIMITED)	150

Bronze Tier

COMPANY	SCORE
METRO	140
SUBWAY	140
WENDY'S	140
KRAFT HEINZ	130
SOBEYS	130
MCDONALD'S	120
241 PIZZA (CHAIRMAN'S BRANDS)	110
BOSTON PIZZA	110
COFFEE TIME (CHAIRMAN'S BRANDS)	110
DENNY'S (NORTHLAND PROPERTIES)	110
TACO BELL (YUM! BRANDS)	100

Fourth Tier

COMPANY	SCORE
CONAGRA	90
SAVE-ON-FOODS	90
SYSKO	90
BURGER KING (RESTAURANT BRANDS INTERNATIONAL)	80
GENERAL MILLS	80
KFC (YUM! BRANDS)	80
PIZZA HUT (YUM! BRANDS)	80
POPEYES (RESTAURANT BRANDS INTERNATIONAL)	80
TIM HORTONS (RESTAURANT BRANDS INTERNATIONAL)	80
DAIRY QUEEN	70
LOBLAWS	60
COSTCO	50

Fifth Tier

COMPANY	SCORE
COUNTRY STYLE (MTY GROUP)	40
EXTREME PITA (MTY GROUP)	40
FLANAGAN FOODSERVICE	40
GORDON FOOD SERVICE	40
MR. SUB (MTY GROUP)	40
PIZZA PIZZA	40
SECOND CUP	40
STEWART FOODSERVICE	40
WALMART	40
COUCHE-TARD	30

Lowest Tier

COMPANY	SCORE
CALGARY CO-OP	0
DOMINO'S PIZZA	0
FEDERATED CO-OPERATIVES	0
MARY BROWN'S	0
MOXIE'S (NORTHLAND PROPERTIES)	0

The information is current as of August 31, 2022.



2022 State of the Industry

Both 2021 and 2022 saw notable advancement in the number of policies with reported progress relative to the total number of policies assessed in this report. In 2022, growth in the number of policies with progress reporting is the result of two factors: (1) adding the assessment of broiler-welfare progress reporting, which was not assessed in 2021, and (2) companies reporting progress for the first time each year while those that have previously reported progress on a commitment expand their reporting to include additional commitments.

Table 3. Total animal welfare policies assessed in this report and percentage of total with reported progress (2021–2022)

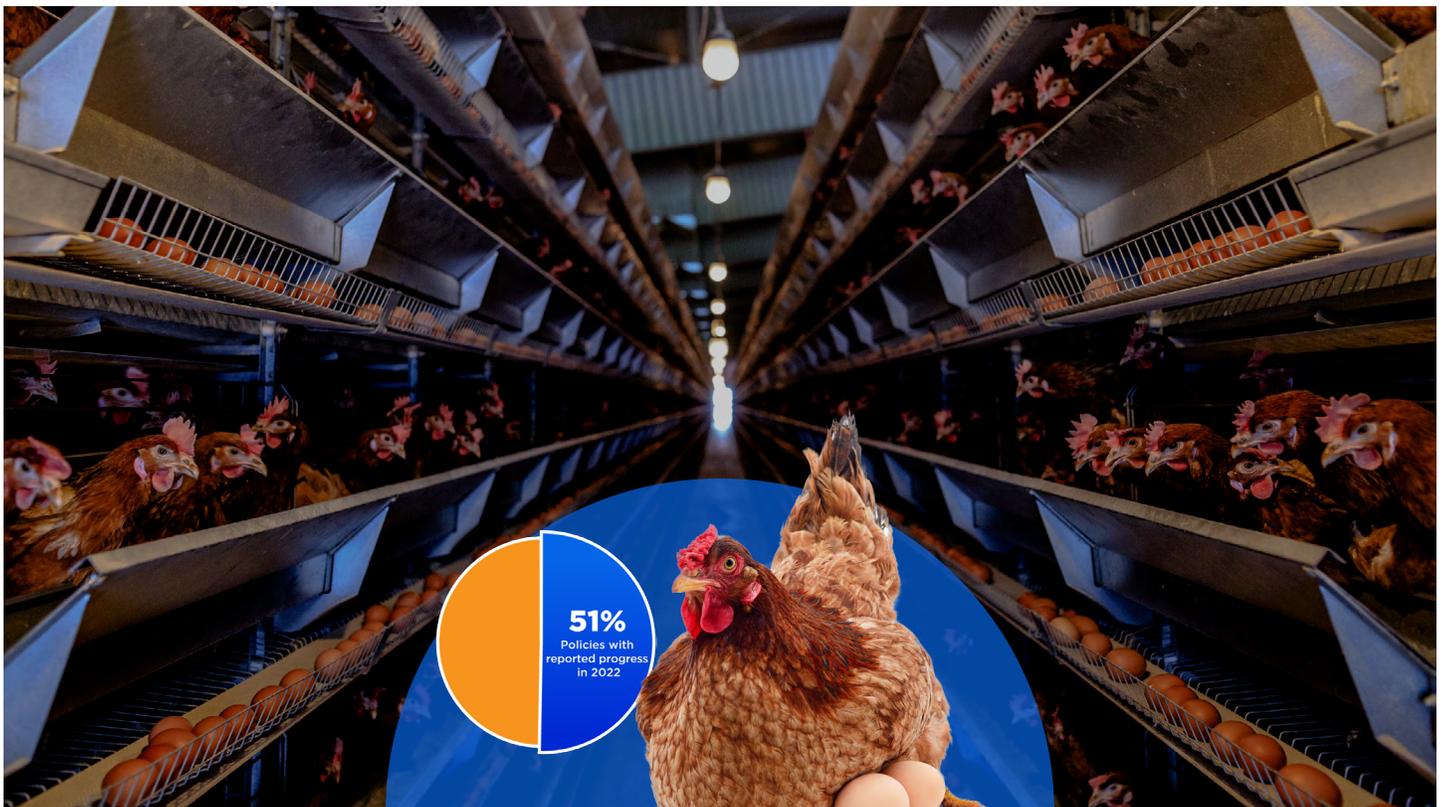
	Total animal welfare policies	Animal welfare policies with reported progress*	Percentage of policies with reported progress
2022	88	45 in 2021–2022	51%
2021	70	33 in 2020–2021	47%

*These figures reflect the number of policies reported over a two-year period to account for variations in company reporting cycles. This table does not consider reported progress that is unrelated to a public policy or commitment.

The vast majority of companies that publicly reported progress toward their animal welfare commitments in 2021 updated their progress this year. Around the same number of companies reported annual progress for the first time each year.

The increased number of companies reporting progress for the first time, coupled with the higher percentage of policies with reported progress out of total policies assessed, is a good indication that food companies are responding to rising public concern for transparency and incorporating animal welfare in their ESG reporting.

In the coming years, food businesses can expect that animal welfare will transition from an emerging ESG issue to an integral one and can prepare by engaging suppliers and developing reporting frameworks.



Egg Industry Insights

A [2022 study](#) of the Canadian public’s beliefs about chickens found that over 80 percent of respondents believe that chickens need room to explore and exercise and that chickens can feel pain and stress. This belief, shared by most Canadians, has been demonstrated time and time again, and over the past decade, it has been a key force behind cage-free pledges from dozens of the country’s major companies. Over [2,300 companies](#) worldwide have cage-free commitments, while entire countries and states are enacting cage-free legislation.

Yet according to the Egg Farmers of Canada’s [2021 annual report](#), 83 percent of hens raised in Canadian egg farms still spend their entire lives in wire cages. Caged birds are prevented from engaging in natural behaviours, such as perching, nesting, foraging, and dustbathing—which are prerequisites for good welfare. This leads to health conditions such as [osteoporosis](#) and [foot lesions](#), as well as [chronic stress](#), which often prompts [aggression](#) and injuries from [feather pecking](#).

Despite the well-known animal welfare problems caused by cage confinement, the Canadian egg industry has increasingly

replaced conventional cages with “enriched” cages (also called “colony housing” by the industry) instead of cage-free systems. In enriched cages, hens still spend their entire lives on wire flooring, with floor space per bird about the size of a standard sheet of printer paper. This concerning trend has unfortunately become more entrenched each year since the industry first announced the ban on conventional cages in 2017.

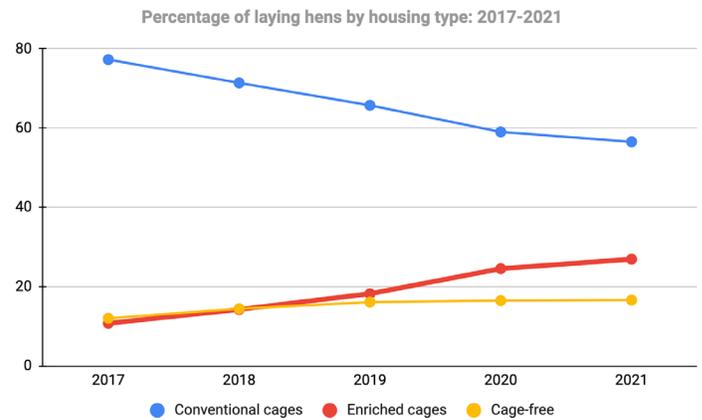
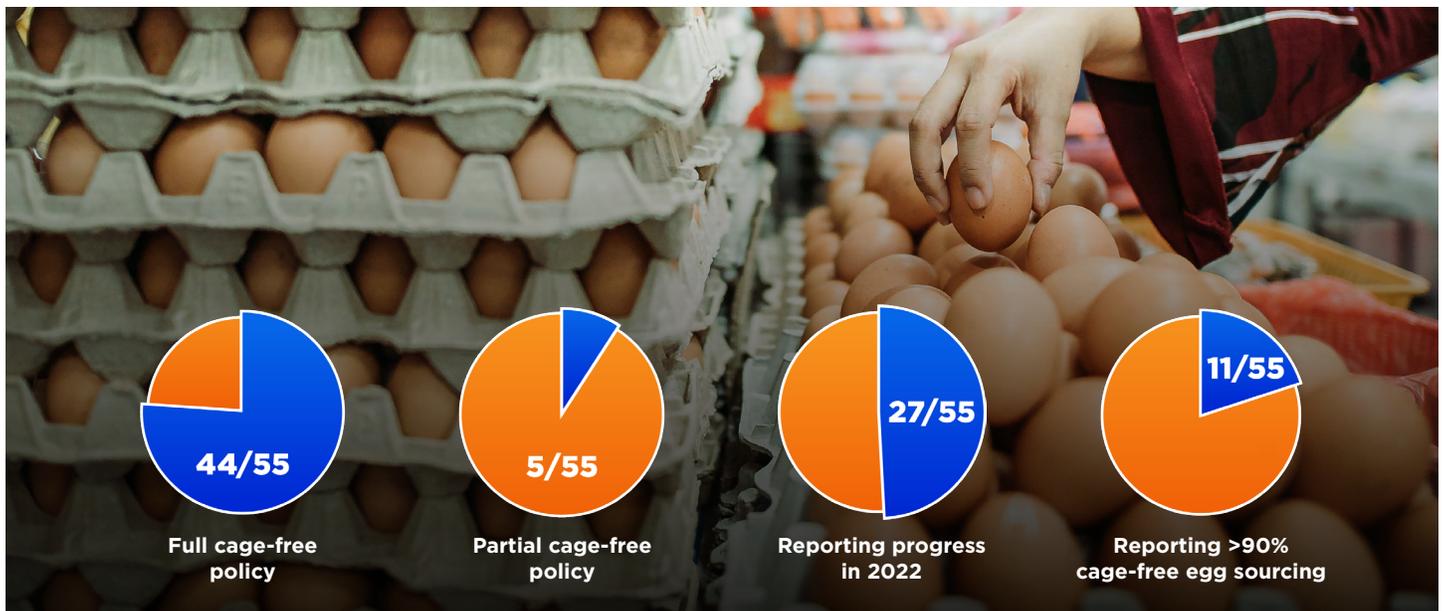


Figure 1. Percentage of laying hens by housing type from 2017 to 2021 in Canada.

Source: Egg Farmers of Canada [2021 annual report](#).



The Canadian egg industry is out of touch with corporate commitments, consumer demand, and the global trend toward eliminating cage confinement. The industry needs to move swiftly toward increasing cage-free production and banning all cages.

With these pressing animal welfare concerns, it is important to publicly highlight which companies are taking the business of eliminating cage confinement seriously through their policies and actions.

Table 4. Number of companies reporting cage-free progress in 2022 and number of companies reporting over 90 percent cage-free sourcing relative to number of cage-free policies (full and partial) evaluated in this report

	Full cage-free policy	Partial cage-free policy	Reporting progress in 2022	Reporting >90% cage-free egg sourcing
Number of companies featured in report	44	5	27	11



Cage-free leaders

These companies have publicly reported fulfilling their cage-free egg commitments



McCain Foods demonstrated impressive progress in just one year and is now publicly reporting 93 percent cage-free sourcing, up from 52 percent reported for the first time in 2021. This accelerated timeline comes well ahead of the 2025 deadline.

Note that the company was not included in the rankings this year because they no longer source chicken or pork products.

Retailers making progress on cage-free sourcing



For the second year in a row, Save-On-Foods is reporting the highest cage-free transition rate among major Canadian retailers and attributes this success to a comprehensive labeling and marketing program. With Save-On's cage-free egg sales reaching 40 percent in 2022, this west coast grocery chain is well on its way to becoming the first major retailer to transition its entire supply chain to cage-free.

"The incredible results of the program illustrate the importance of offering our customers transparent information about our products—helping people purchase items that reflect their values."

—Julie Dickson Olmstead, Managing Director, Public Affairs and Corporate Responsibility



This year, Sobeys updated its corporate responsibility reporting and integrated cage-free progress into the framework. Not only did the company report annual cage-free progress for its total supply chain for the second time, reaching 18 percent in 2022, but its newly released animal welfare statement indicates that Sobeys will introduce new commitments and goals with measurable targets and advocate regulations that aim to improve and enforce animal care standards across the industry.



Notable improvements



Rising from the lowest tier in the 2021 edition of this report, food distributor Sysco earned a spot in the fourth tier this year. The company affirmed that its cage-free commitment covers Canada and became the first major food distributor in the country to report cage-free progress. Sysco reported 13 percent cage-free sourcing at the end of 2021.



Shortly before the release of the 2021 edition of this report, major restaurant chains KFC and Pizza Hut, owned by parent company Yum! Brands, announced global cage-free egg commitments and avoided a lowest-tier ranking. Impressively, only one year later, they have already reported sourcing over 75 percent cage-free eggs in the United States, Canada, Australia, and Western Europe.

Stalling or lacking transparency on cage-free sourcing progress



Tim Hortons

Iconic Canadian brand and the country's highest-grossing restaurant chain, Tim Hortons, has once again failed to publicly report any progress toward the company's commitment to banning cages from its Canadian supply chain.

Parent company Restaurant Brands International, which also owns Burger King and Popeyes, committed to going cage-free in North America back in 2016 after Burger King's cage-free commitment announcement in 2012. A decade after this initial commitment and more than halfway to the 2025 deadline, the company's lack of public progress reporting in North America gives the impression that implementation of its animal welfare commitments is not a priority.

Lacking cage-free policies and transparency on cage-free sourcing



Federated Co-ops



Calgary Co-op



Domino's





Photo credit: Jo-Anne McArthur / We Animals Media

Pork Industry Insights

In accordance with NFACC's pig-code transition deadline of 2024, the Canadian pork industry supported efforts to phase out stalls for pregnant and nursing sows. However, in 2021, the industry proposed a five-year extension of this deadline. If this extension is approved, not only will food companies be challenged to fulfill their public promises to ban this cruel practice, but the [1.2 million pigs kept for breeding](#) every year will be confined in crates so small they are unable to turn around for five more years.

"It [the transition] has to be about money. The industry needs to be profitable." —Frank Wood, Manager of Industry and Member Services, Ontario Pork, to Bob Reid in "[Pork Producers Face Pressure on Loose Housing Timing](#)," *Ontario Farmer*, June 21, 2022.

When profit comes before animal care, the most egregious forms of cruelty continue to run rampant, and Canadians lose trust in our food system.

Metal sow stalls, also known as gestation and farrowing crates, confine pigs individually in narrow spaces that prevent them from lying down with their legs fully extended. This extreme confinement causes joint pain and muscle weakness from inactivity and prevents them from engaging in natural behaviours that are essential to good welfare. The inability to root, forage, nest, and socialize causes intense stress and frustration, leading these animals to engage in abnormal repetitive behaviours, such as chewing on crate bars in a hopeless effort to cope with the harmful conditions.

These welfare concerns are largely understood by industry, and consumers are in favour of eliminating crates. Yet from 2021 to 2022, only 12 of the companies evaluated in this report were publicly reporting their crate-free conversion rate. It is up to companies to track their suppliers' progress and ensure supply chains are transitioning in a timely manner.

Crate-free leaders



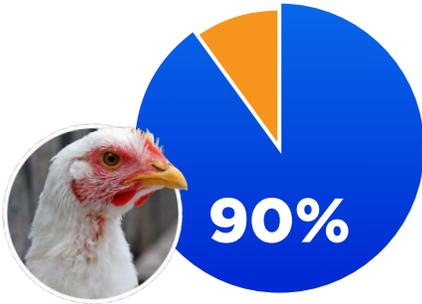
A&W Canada, the country's fifth-highest-grossing restaurant chain for the past two years, consistently demonstrates transparency by reporting annual progress toward eliminating crates. In 2022, the fast-food chain reported that its Canadian supply chain was 87 percent crate-free, up from 70 percent the year prior.



This year, Metro became the first major Canadian retailer to report crate-free progress for its total supply chain, while reaffirming its goal to get to 100 percent crate-free. Metro's pork suppliers averaged a 51 percent conversion rate in 2022, which established a baseline for the company to track progress over time. This reporting sets an important precedent for transparency among retailers on this issue.



Chicken Industry Insights



Ninety percent of the land animals slaughtered every year in the country are chickens, making the welfare issues affecting these animals some of the most critical of our time.

The modern chicken has been genetically selected for such rapid and disproportionate growth that in Canada they are sent to slaughter at just [35 days old](#). This is so young that their vocalizations are still characteristic of baby chicks. Rapid growth produces some of the most serious welfare concerns in the industry, including immobility, organ stress, and heart disease.

These chickens are crowded in barren sheds on floors covered in waste-soaked litter, which leads to ammonia burns and respiratory problems. The result of these miserable practices and conditions are birds so diseased and weak that millions each year die or are killed before they reach slaughter weight.

industry, the [NFACC's Poultry Code of Practice](#) does not contain guidelines on either.

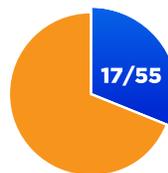


This is why the [Better Chicken Commitment](#) (BCC), the leading set of science-backed standards driving the global food industry toward higher welfare for chickens raised for meat, has established minimum measures that address stocking density, environment (litter, lighting, and enrichments), slaughter method (controlled-atmosphere stunning), and genetics. Globally, over 550 companies have committed to these standards, which include over 50 companies in Canada.

“There is evidence of poorer welfare at higher densities, including reductions in production, poorer litter quality, and increases in foot pad lesions, infectious mortality, fear and stress levels.”

—[Maple Leaf Foods 2021 sustainability report](#)

Sadly, it only gets worse from there if chickens are processed using live-shackle slaughter, a method by which birds are shackled upside down by their legs while conscious and painfully shocked before being slashed at the throat and defeathered in scalding water. Often these birds are ineffectively stunned and remain conscious through throat-cutting and even through scalding.



Of the 55 companies featured in this report, 17 have adopted the full BCC and an additional six companies have committed to one or more BCC standards. However, only eight of these companies are reporting progress toward at least one component of the BCC. Greater transparency on this issue is needed from major food companies and chicken producers.

Even though fast-growing breeds and live-shackle slaughter result in some of the worst animal suffering in the broiler

Chicken welfare leaders

These companies have committed to the full BCC and are publicly reporting their progress toward at least one component of the policy



These companies have committed to one or more components of the BCC and are publicly reporting their progress toward at least one component of the policy:



*Campbell's limited the scope of its broiler welfare policy in 2021, so while scoring well in this ranking due to transparent progress reporting, the company is encouraged to recommit to full BCC standards.

metro

Metro became the first major Canadian retailer to publicly acknowledge the higher welfare standards of the Better Chicken Commitment and report its progress on stocking density and processing using controlled-atmosphere stunning:

In line with the higher welfare standards of the Better Chicken Commitment, 99.5% of the chicken we purchase from producers and slaughterhouses is sourced from farms that meet NFACC's stocking density requirement, and 62% is rendered insensible through controlled atmosphere stunning.

Canadian Chicken Producer Spotlight

Many major food companies in the country have committed to the BCC, pledging to source chickens raised according to higher welfare standards. To shift their supply chains, these companies rely on chicken producers to elevate their standards. However, Canada's largest chicken producers vary in their standards and transparency.

Maple Leaf Foods

- Will offer BCC-compliant product line
- Annual reporting on BCC components:
 - Stocking density: 57% < 31 kg/m²
 - Enrichments: 4%
 - Slaughter method: 19% processed using controlled-atmosphere stunning
- Third-party audited

Cargill

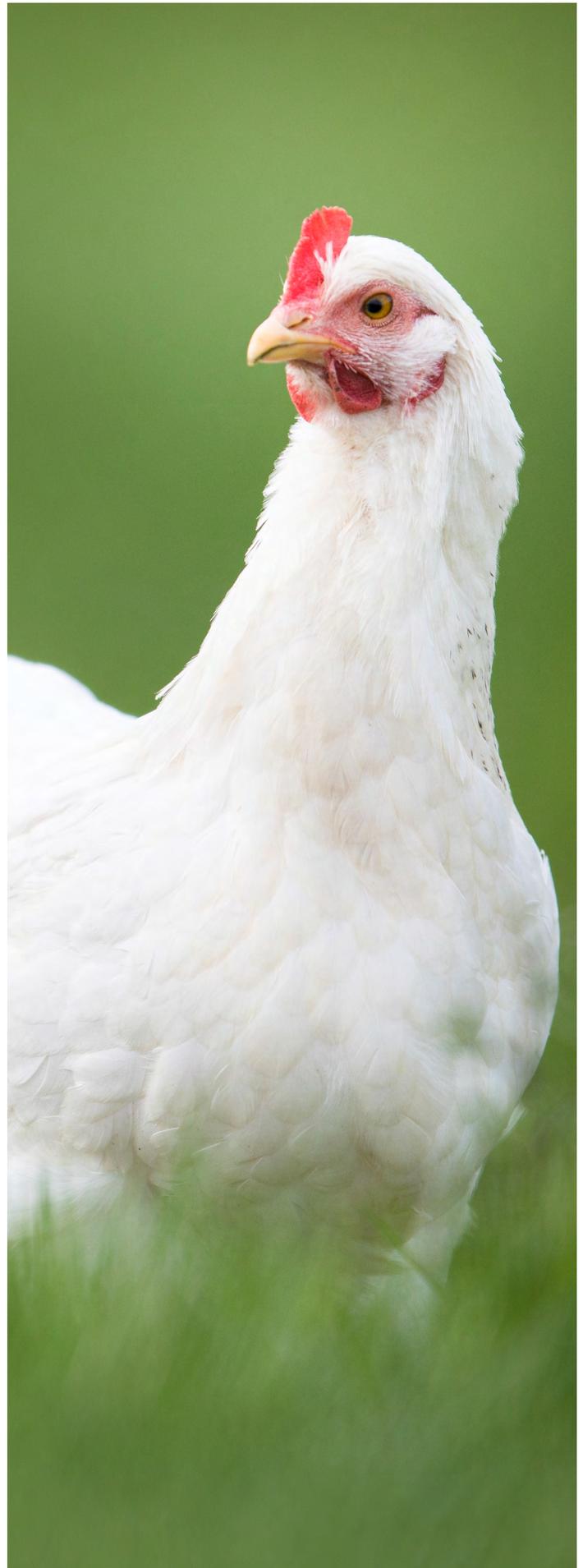
- 2021 global reporting on BCC components:
 - Stocking density: 47% < 30 kg/m²
 - Enrichments: 9%
 - Access to natural light: 25%
 - Higher-welfare breeds: 4%
 - Slaughter method: 100% controlled-atmosphere stunning in Canada
- Third-party audited

Olymel

- Reporting on one BCC component:
 - Slaughter method: 75% of poultry processing facilities use controlled-atmosphere stunning

Maple Lodge Farms

- Commitment to one BCC component:
 - Slaughter method: controlled-atmosphere stunning



Looking Ahead

Over a decade has passed since undercover exposés began to reveal cruel practices at Canadian farms and led scores of companies to adopt meaningful animal welfare policies. Today, animal welfare is an increasingly global issue that is also becoming integral to corporate citizenship.

While many companies are adopting animal welfare commitments, reporting progress toward their commitments, and expanding the scope of their progress reporting each year, many others still need to take action.

“What farm animal welfare has on its side as an ESG topic is that global standards and expectations of good practice and performance are well defined, making the specifics of what needs to be achieved clear to investors and companies.”

—Robert Black, Chronos Sustainability

Prioritizing implementation of meaningful animal welfare standards means companies establish time-bound goals with clear roadmaps and annual reporting that ensures progress is made.

This involves accelerating timelines when possible and demonstrating transparency when unexpected challenges arise; showing leadership with suppliers to push them to deliver the products needed for companies to keep their promises to consumers and the Canadian public; and lobbying industry associations, such as the Retail Council of Canada, to use their combined power to surmount obstacles and find solutions.

Additionally, associate members of NFACC must use their influence to represent their customers and improve national standards at every opportunity.

While this report shows that food companies in Canada are making progress on key animal welfare issues, much work remains to be done. The Canadian egg industry has fallen behind the United States and Europe by installing enriched cage systems and continuing to confine hens in cages. At the same time, Canadian retailers are falling behind their counterparts in these regions on broiler welfare.

The 2023 Canada Animal Welfare Scorecard will continue to track the progress of major food companies operating in the country and serve as a watchdog for industries that are intent on putting profit ahead of animal welfare progress.

In preparation for next year's ranking, we recommend that companies review the animal welfare issues evaluated in this report and ensure that they have time-bound policies in place for each and are publicly reporting their progress annually.



Appendices

Appendix 1: Scoring and Methodology

Scoring is broken down by animal welfare issue, each worth 100 points, for a potential total company score of 300. Each issue is scored on the basis of (1) the policy's timebound status and scope (some or all standards adopted) and (2) coverage (full or partial supply chain) and recency of progress reporting.

Cage-Free Eggs or Crate-Free Pork	Policy	40
	Partial Timebound Policy	30
	Partial Policy	20
	Reporting near Fulfillment (any region that includes Canada) Progress more than 90%	60
	Reporting Regionally (Canada, U.S. and Canada, or North America) Progress update in 2022	50
	Reporting Globally Progress update in 2022	40
	Reporting Regionally (Canada, U.S. and Canada, or North America) No progress update in 2022	30
	Reporting Regionally (Canada, U.S. and Canada, or North America) Partial progress update in 2022	20
	Reporting Globally No progress update in 2022	10
Broiler Chicken Welfare	Better Chicken Commitment Policy	70
	Partial Timebound Better Chicken Commitment Policy	50
	Partial Better Chicken Commitment Policy	30
	Reporting (any region that includes Canada) Progress reporting on one or more components of the Better Chicken Commitment	30

Appendix 2: Company Animal Welfare Policies and Progress Reporting

We used the following publicly available information to determine company rankings in this report. The information is current as of August 31, 2022. Companies are listed alphabetically.

Company	Cage-free egg policy deadline	Cage-free egg progress	Crate-free pork policy deadline	Crate-free pork progress	Better Chicken Commitment policy deadline	Better Chicken Commitment progress
241 Pizza (Chairman's Brands)	2025				2024	
A&W Canada	2024		2022	87% 🇨🇦	CAS by 2024	85% NFACC stocking density 100% enrichments 🇨🇦
Aramark	2022 for shell; 2025 for all eggs	31% shell; 4% liquid and processed eggs 🇨🇦			Higher-welfare breeds by 2026 All other components by 2024	
Boston Pizza	2025				2024	
Burger King (Restaurant Brands International)	2025		2022			
Calgary Co-op						
Campbell's	2025	11% 🌍	2022	17% 🌍	Improved environment by 2024 GAP 2 standards for Pacific Foods brand by 2023	13% litter and enrichments 🌍
Chipotle	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦	2024	
Coffee Time (Chairman's Brands)	2025				2024	
Compass Group Canada	2025	25% shell; 34% liquid 🌍			2026	
Conagra Brands	2024	20% 🌍				

Company	Cage-free egg policy deadline	Cage-free egg progress	Crate-free pork policy deadline	Crate-free pork progress	Better Chicken Commitment policy deadline	Better Chicken Commitment progress
Costco		22.9% 🇨🇦				
Couche-Tard	2025					
Country Style (MTY Group)	2025					
Dairy Queen	2025	No updated reporting; 39% in 2021 🇨🇦				
Denny's (Northland Properties)	2026				2024	
Domino's Pizza						
Extreme Pita (MTY Group)	2025					
Federated Co-operatives						
Flanagan Foodservice	2025					
General Mills	2025	61% 🌍				
Gordon Food Service	2026					
Harvey's (Recipe Unlimited)	Fulfilled	100%			CAS by 2025	
IKEA	2015	61% 🌍	2025	45% 🌍	2025	32% 🌍
The Keg (Recipe Unlimited)	Fulfilled	100%			CAS by 2025	
Kellogg's	2025	No updated reporting; 13% in 2021 🇨🇦	2025		CAS by 2024	
KFC (Yum! Brands)	2030	75%* 🌍				

Company	Cage-free egg policy deadline	Cage-free egg progress	Crate-free pork policy deadline	Crate-free pork progress	Better Chicken Commitment policy deadline	Better Chicken Commitment progress
Kraft Heinz	2025	0% 🇨🇦		19% 🌐		
Loblaws	2025	No updated reporting; PC® Free From brand (shell) 100% in 2021 🇨🇦	2022	PC® Free From brand 40% 🇨🇦		
Mary Brown's						
McDonald's	2025	57% 🇨🇦			Third-party auditing by 2024	100% CAS 🇨🇦
Metro	2026	LifeSmart brand Over 60% (shell) 🇨🇦	2026	51% 🇨🇦		99.5% NFACC stocking density 62% CAS 🇨🇦
Moxie's (Northland Properties)						
Mr. Sub (MTY Group)	2025					
Nestlé	2025	76.3% 🌐		No updated reporting; 56% in 2021 🌐	2024	
Panago Pizza	Fulfilled	100%	2026		GAP 2 by 2024 CAS by 2025	30% CAS 🇨🇦
Pita Pit	Fulfilled	100%	2030		2024	
Pizza Hut (Yum! Brands)	2030	75%* 🌐				
Pizza Pizza	2025					
Popeyes (Restaurant Brands International)	2025		2022			
Save-On-Foods	2025	40% 🇨🇦	2022			
Second Cup	2020					
Sobeys	2025	18.3% 🇨🇦	2022	52% Own Brand lean ground pork 🇨🇦		

Company	Cage-free egg policy deadline	Cage-free egg progress	Crate-free pork policy deadline	Crate-free pork progress	Better Chicken Commitment policy deadline	Better Chicken Commitment progress
Sodexo	2025	85% shell; 79% liquid; 73% processed 🇨🇦			Higher-welfare breeds by 2026 All other components by 2024	
Starbucks	2020	100% shell; 99.9% liquid; 96% all eggs 🇨🇦	2024	No updated reporting	2024	
Stewart Foodservice	2025					
Subway	2025	No updated reporting; 6% in 2021 🇨🇦			2024	
Swiss Chalet (Recipe Unlimited)	Fulfilled	100%			CAS by 2025	
Sysco	2026	13% 🇨🇦				
Taco Bell (Yum! Brands)	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦				
Tim Hortons (Restaurant Brands International)	2025		2022			
Unilever	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦	58% 🌐		2024	1.7% BCC stocking density and higher-welfare breeds 8% enrichments 🌐
Walmart	2025		2022			
Wendy's	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦	2022			
Whole Foods Market	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦	Fulfilled	100% 🇨🇦	Higher-welfare breeds by 2026 All other components by 2024	100% GAP 81% CAS 🌐

🇨🇦 Regional reporting in Canada, United States and Canada, or North America.

🌐 Global reporting.

*United States, Canada, Australia, and Western Europe.