



Foreign Agricultural Service

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Canada

Agricultural Situation

Per-Capita Food Consumption for 2000

2001

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Report Highlights:

According to Statistics Canada per-capita food consumption data, consumption of cereal products increased to almost 89 kilograms per person in 2000, up from 74 kilograms in 1990. Consumption of fluid milk rebounded slightly in 2000 to 88 liters per person, up from just over 87 liters in 1999. Red meat consumption reached 63 kilograms per person in 2000, down from 64 kilograms in 1999.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
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STATISTICS CANADA REPORTS 2000 PER-CAPITA FOOD CONSUMPTION:

The following is based on a report released June 14 from Statistics Canada.

Canadians continue to include more cereal products and lower-fat varieties of milk in their diets according to per-capita food consumption data. The data also reflect changes in lifestyle patterns. For example, the growing number of coffee shops featuring traditional and speciality coffees has fueled an increase in coffee consumption. In 2000, each Canadian drank just over 101 liters of coffee, up from 99 liters in 1999 and 96 liters in 1990.

After declining in the early 1990s, tea consumption is on the rise, perhaps in response to the growing availability of speciality teas and literature promoting the health benefits of tea. In 2000, Canadians sipped just over 70 liters per person, up from almost 68 liters in 1999, and only 42 litres in 1990.

In addition, consumers are eating more pasta, specialty and multi-grain breads, and cereal-based snacks. As a result, consumption of cereal products increased to almost 89 kilograms per person in 2000, up from 74 kilograms in 1990. Wheat flour accounted for just over 80% of all cereal products consumed.

Although consumers have shifted away from high-fat milk and butter, it appears that this shift has moderated. Following steady declines during the 1990s, consumption of fluid milk rebounded slightly in 2000 to 88 liters per person, up from just over 87 liters in 1999. Lower-fat varieties such as 1% and skim milk accounted for more than 29% of all milk consumed in 2000, more than double the level at the start of the 1990s.

Cheese consumption stood at about 12 kilograms per person in 2000, consistent with trends in the 1990s when each Canadian ate more than 11 kilograms a year. Butter consumption has stabilized, after dipping to historically low levels in the late 1990s. In 2000, each Canadian ate nearly 3 kilograms of butter, slightly below 1999 levels, but above the record low level of just over 2.5 kilograms in 1997.

According to data previously released by Statistics Canada, red meat consumption reached 63 kilograms per person in 2000, down from 64 kilograms in 1999. A decrease in beef consumption contributed in large part to this decline, although beef still represented almost 50% of all red meat consumed. Per capita pork consumption reached close to 29 kilograms, its highest level since 1989.

Per-capita consumption of poultry reached 35 kilograms per person in 2000, up more than 1 kilogram per person from 1999. Each Canadian consumed 29 kilograms of chicken.

These data represent food available for consumption. They do not represent actual quantities of food consumed because they do not allow for losses, such as waste or spoilage, in stores, households, private institutions or restaurants.

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