



CULLING AND REPLACEMENT RATES IN DAIRY HERDS IN CANADA

COWS	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of herds enrolled on a milk recording program	8,299	7,827	7,246	6,787	6,446	6,284
Number of cows	691,743	703,143	661,638	621,509	614,064	600,480

Culling Reasons	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)
Reproductive	42,251	16.6%	39,772	16.9%	44,646	16.8%	39,993	15.9%	38,120	15.2%	37,408	15.5%
Mastitis	27,708	10.9%	24,695	10.5%	27,562	10.4%	23,832	9.5%	22,528	9.0%	21,469	8.9%
Feet and leg problems	17,643	6.9%	16,084	6.8%	17,861	6.7%	16,151	6.4%	15,243	6.1%	15,550	6.4%
Low milk production	17,650	6.9%	16,174	6.9%	19,785	7.5%	18,872	7.5%	18,744	7.5%	19,378	8.0%
Sickness	12,140	4.8%	11,841	5.0%	11,352	4.3%	10,521	4.2%	9,717	3.9%	9,405	3.9%
Injury to udder/teats	10,801	4.2%	7,655	3.3%	10,799	4.1%	10,063	4.0%	9,741	3.9%	10,364	4.3%
Injury/Accident	9,414	3.7%	9,161	3.9%	9,134	3.4%	8,321	3.3%	7,992	3.2%	8,023	3.3%
Old age	4,785	1.9%	4,498	1.9%	5,334	2.0%	5,006	2.0%	4,776	1.9%	5,058	2.1%
Difficult calving	1,520	0.6%	1,438	0.6%	1,434	0.5%	1,367	0.5%	1,186	0.5%	1,144	0.5%
Bad temperament	1,758	0.7%	1,501	0.6%	1,784	0.7%	1,902	0.8%	1,855	0.7%	2,052	0.8%
Conformation	1,502	0.6%	1,254	0.5%	1,550	0.6%	1,646	0.7%	1,392	0.6%	1,473	0.6%
Displaced abomasum	848	0.3%	841	0.4%	838	0.3%	816	0.3%	622	0.2%	605	0.3%
Milk fever	1,085	0.4%	1,075	0.5%	1,016	0.4%	1,005	0.4%	801	0.3%	794	0.3%
Slow milker	1,277	0.5%	1,076	0.5%	1,352	0.5%	1,254	0.5%	1,222	0.5%	1,246	0.5%
Arthritis	746	0.3%	709	0.3%	778	0.3%	700	0.3%	645	0.3%	639	0.3%
Pneumonia	903	0.4%	912	0.4%	970	0.4%	913	0.4%	942	0.4%	1,056	0.4%
Staph aureus	537	0.2%	458	0.2%	535	0.2%	458	0.2%	396	0.2%	303	0.1%
Leukosis	565	0.2%	511	0.2%	549	0.2%	457	0.2%	430	0.2%	400	0.2%
Low fat	71	0.0%	65	0.0%	111	0.0%	82	0.0%	81	0.0%	104	0.0%
Paratuberculosis	57	0.0%	41	0.0%	48	0.0%	25	0.0%	32	0.0%	35	0.0%
Low protein	16	0.0%	8	0.0%	21	0.0%	23	0.0%	35	0.0%	17	0.0%
Unknown	50,524	19.9%	50,012	21.2%	60,552	22.9%	59,819	23.7%	62,197	24.8%	54,904	22.7%
Total culling reasons	203,801	80.1%	189,781	80.6%	218,011	82.3%	203,226	80.6%	198,697	79.1%	191,427	79.3%
Culling Rate	29.46%		26.99%		32.95%		32.70%		32.36%		31.88%	

Other reasons for replacement	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)	Number of cows	Total (%)
Sold for Production												
Dairy production	34,358	13.5%	30,861	13.1%	31,046	11.7%	33,699	13.4%	37,788	15.0%	35,664	14.8%
Exported	2,291	0.9%	1,488	0.6%	1,502	0.6%	1,606	0.6%	1,651	0.7%	1,347	0.6%
Transfers	859	0.3%	927	0.4%	788	0.3%	769	0.3%	992	0.4%	905	0.4%
Rented out	521	0.2%	598	0.3%	556	0.2%	435	0.2%	279	0.1%	347	0.1%
Mortality												
Poison	218	0.1%	193	0.1%	204	0.1%	181	0.1%	204	0.1%	159	0.1%
Peritonitis	232	0.1%	273	0.1%	252	0.1%	257	0.1%	221	0.1%	276	0.1%
Bloat	79	0.0%	93	0.0%	82	0.0%	73	0.0%	50	0.0%	63	0.0%
Electrocution	11	0.0%	24	0.0%	13	0.0%	18	0.0%	7	0.0%	3	0.0%
Others	11,941	4.7%	11,233	4.8%	12,534	4.7%	11,783	4.7%	11,214	4.5%	11,337	4.7%
Total other reasons for replacement	50,510	19.9%	45,690	19.4%	46,977	17.7%	48,821	19.4%	52,406	20.9%	50,101	20.7%
Total Replacement Rate¹	36.76%		33.49%		40.05%		40.55%		40.89%		40.22%	

- Nil

¹ Includes total culling reasons and total other reasons

Source: Lactanet

Calculations done by AAFC-AID, Market Information Section