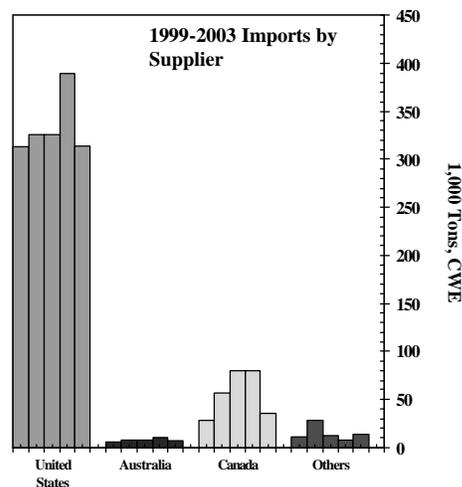
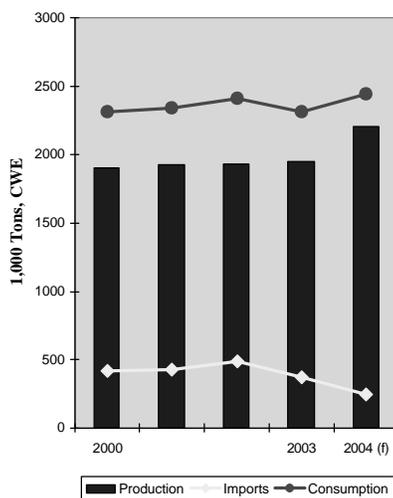


# Mexico's Beef Situation

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(f)
(1,000 tons; Carcass Weight Equivalence (CWE))							
Production	1,800	1,900	1,900	1,925	1,930	1,950	2,200
Imports	307	358	420	426	489	370	250
Exports	6	8	11	10	10	12	10
Consumption	2,101	2,250	2,309	2,341	2,409	2,308	2,440

## Mexico Imports of Beef to be Reduced by Bans on U.S. Beef Due to BSE Finding



In 2004, beef imports are forecast to decline 32 percent from 2003 to 250,000 tons due to the impacts from finding BSE in the United States, Mexico's largest supplier. The trade restrictions on U.S. beef, now relaxed for boneless beef from cattle less than 30 months of age, will allow a resumption of beef imports, but are expected to constrain Mexico's ability to import lower-value cow beef. U.S. beef must compete on price and lower transportation costs with Canada to regain lost market share, but factors such as the strong U.S. dollar and high U.S. beef prices may make this a difficult challenge. Therefore, Canada has an opportunity to increase its market share. Mexico's cattle herd further declined to 19.5 million head on January 1, 2004, 35 percent below a decade earlier.

**Mexico**  
**BEEF IMPORTS**  
(metric tons)

**Fresh/Chilled**

<b>Origin</b>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Canada	177	143	680	3,636	18,607	38,080	52,488	51,861	23,333
United States	31,097	59,126	127,491	191,446	209,626	225,496	229,340	278,787	221,561
Others	24	99	63	369	1,193	4,156	317	743	810
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,297</b>	<b>59,368</b>	<b>128,235</b>	<b>195,451</b>	<b>229,426</b>	<b>267,733</b>	<b>282,145</b>	<b>331,391</b>	<b>245,704</b>
US market share	99%	100%	99%	98%	91%	84%	81%	84%	90%

**Frozen**

<b>Origin</b>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Australia	376	646	1,547	3,821	4,227	5,664	5,685	7,316	5,308
Canada	278	325	319	700	1,822	3,966	6,616	7,203	2,648
New Zealand	78	206	583	1,695	1,495	2,065	6,241	3,092	6,466
Nicaragua	0	0	1	41	24	144	1,233	717	790
Panama	0	0	0	179	594	1,429	564	1,340	1,443
United States	9,045	15,803	17,039	22,152	19,205	12,184	6,545	4,584	5,599
Uruguay	0	0	0	153	5,127	13,765	450	23	0
Others	40	8	13	38	60	0	61	66	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,817</b>	<b>16,987</b>	<b>19,502</b>	<b>28,779</b>	<b>32,553</b>	<b>39,217</b>	<b>27,394</b>	<b>24,341</b>	<b>22,280</b>
US market share	92%	93%	87%	77%	59%	31%	24%	19%	25%

**Processed**

<b>Origin</b>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
United States	1,225	1,183	1,394	1,243	1,230	2,001	3,223	2,492	2,949
Others	6	17	92	194	130	142	233	402	991
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,486</b>	<b>1,437</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>2,143</b>	<b>3,457</b>	<b>2,894</b>	<b>3,940</b>
US market share	100%	99%	94%	86%	90%	93%	93%	86%	75%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>42,346</b>	<b>77,554</b>	<b>149,223</b>	<b>225,668</b>	<b>263,339</b>	<b>309,093</b>	<b>312,996</b>	<b>358,626</b>	<b>271,924</b>
Total US market share	98%	98%	98%	95%	87%	78%	76%	80%	85%

Source: Mexican Ministry of the Economy.

Note: All data reported in Product Weight

**Mexico**  
**BEEF EXPORTS**  
(metric tons)

**Fresh/Chilled**

<b>Destination</b>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
United States	303	395	282	474	1,030	1,339	1,963	2,109	3,108
Others	29	37	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>3,108</b>

**Frozen**

<b>Destination</b>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Japan	0	28	6	0	0	0	5	0	1
United States	1,914	3,346	2,842	2,224	1,956	2,195	36	573	1,557
Others	0	19	19	69	10	0	0	1	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,914</b>	<b>3,392</b>	<b>2,868</b>	<b>2,293</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>2,196</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>1,572</b>

**Processed**

<b>Destination</b>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Japan	15	21	22	4	525	611	488	64	4
United States	361	1,246	1,107	1,826	2,499	4,228	4,916	4,644	4,096
Others	16	50	10	34	0	24	1	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>1,863</b>	<b>3,025</b>	<b>4,862</b>	<b>5,404</b>	<b>4,708</b>	<b>4,104</b>

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,639</b>	<b>5,142</b>	<b>4,288</b>	<b>4,629</b>	<b>6,021</b>	<b>8,398</b>	<b>7,409</b>	<b>7,391</b>	<b>8,784</b>
Total Share to US	98%	97%	99%	98%	91%	92%	93%	99%	100%

Source: Mexican Ministry of the Economy

Note: All data reported in Product Weight