

# HIGHLIGHTS

## from the *Québec Survey on Potatoes* April 2023

### Disposition of the 2021 harvest

The Québec Survey on Potatoes was conducted by the Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ) for the 2021 harvest. The data produced from this survey provide an overview of Québec potato producers with at least 0.2 hectares in production.

To view the full results, click on the following link: [statistique.quebec.ca/en/recherche?sujet=potatoes](https://statistique.quebec.ca/en/recherche?sujet=potatoes).

### Production area stable

In 2021, the area planted to potatoes in Québec was estimated at 18.7 thousand hectares (kha), similar to the area planted in 2020 (18.6 kha) and to the average annual planting from 2016 to 2020 (17.4 kha). On a regional level, the largest planted areas were observed in the combined administrative regions of Capitale-Nationale and Chaudière-Appalaches (4.7 kha) and Montréal, Laval and Lanaudière (3.8 kha).

### Production and yield up

The potato harvested area was 18.5 kha, up 2.7% (+0.48 kha) from 2020. Potato production totalled 639.6 thousand metric tonnes (kt), up 10.8% (+62.3 kt) from 2020 and 16.3% (+89.4 kt) from the average annual production between 2016 and 2020.

The potato yield was 34.6 tonnes per hectare (t/ha) in 2021, up 2.5 t/ha from 2020. It was also higher (+2.4 t/ha) than the average annual yield obtained between 2016 and 2020 (32.2 t/ha).

### Sales volume and revenues increased

In 2021, nearly 577.3 kt of potatoes were sold outside the sector<sup>1</sup>, up 39.4 kt from 2020. Compared with the average annual volume sold outside the sector between 2016 and 2020 (496.2 kt), this was an increase of 7.3% (+81.1 kt).

Market revenues totalled \$199.4 million, which is similar to the revenues in 2020 (\$200.5 million). This compares to an average of \$172.4 million per year over the 2016-2020 period. For table stock potatoes overall, the average price was \$372.15 per tonne in 2021, down 14.5% (-\$63 per tonne) compared with 2020.

Between 2016 and 2020, average potato prices rose by 21.1%, increasing from \$359.46 per tonne to \$435.15 per tonne. The decrease in the average price of potatoes in 2021 has reduced this growth to 3.5% for the period from 2016 to 2021.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes sales in the agricultural sector.

## Preliminary results from the survey on the 2022 harvest

According to preliminary data from the survey on the 2022 harvest, the area planted to potatoes should increase to 19.4 kha, the harvested area should reach 19.2 kha, and production should rise to 673.3 kt. In addition, per hectare yield should be 35.0 t/ha.

Final data on the 2022 harvest will be collected in the summer of 2023. These data are scheduled to be released on the ISQ's website in the fall of 2023.

### Suggested citation:

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