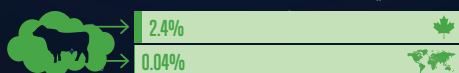


# Wondering About Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Beef?

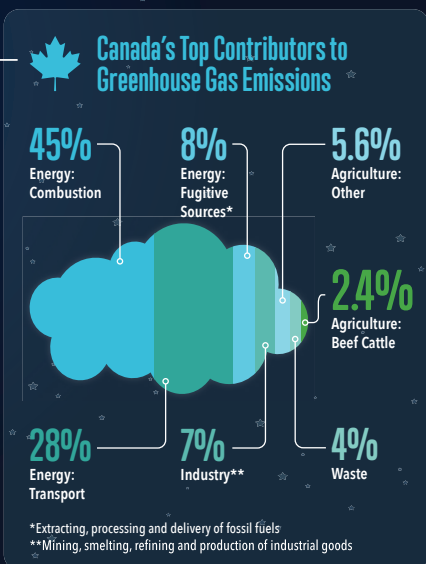


## Will Eating Less Beef Reduce My Greenhouse Gas Emissions?

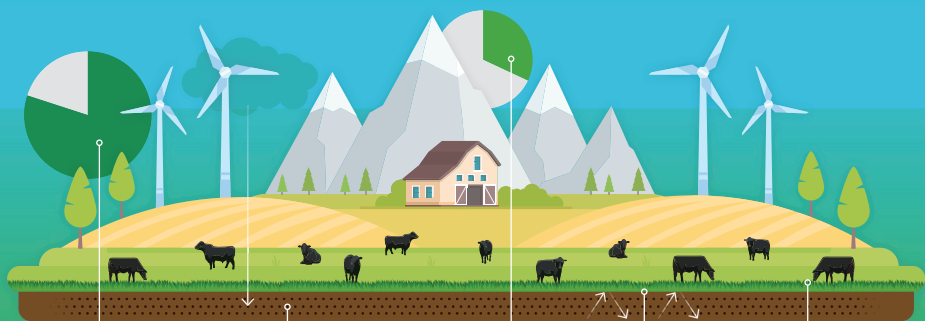
Maybe, but not as much as you'd think! In fact, Canadian beef production only accounts for 2.4% of Canada's GHG emissions, and only 0.04% of global emissions.



If everyone in Canada stopped eating beef today, the effect on overall emissions would be minimal at best.



## Environmental Benefits of Cattle



Grass and pasture lands provide 80% of the cattle diet used in Canadian beef production. These pasturelands are able to remove GHGs from the air and store them in the soil.

Land used for cattle production currently stores 1.5 billion tonnes of carbon, thanks to environmentally friendly grazing techniques.

32% of Canada's agricultural land isn't suitable for growing crops for human consumption, making cattle grazing the best option for using them.

Intact pasture land prevents tillage and erosion, keeping carbon trapped in the soil and providing habitat for wildlife.

Cattle convert plants that humans can't digest into high-quality protein.

## What Kind of GHG Emissions Occur in Beef Production?

### Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)

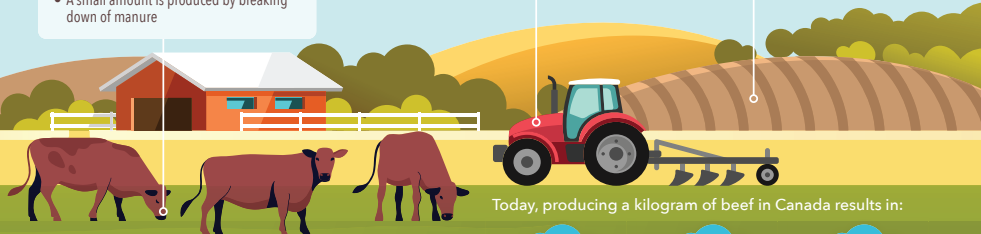
- Primarily produced through animal digestion, also known as enteric fermentation
- A small amount is produced by breaking down of manure

### Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

- Produced through the use of fuel in farm machinery

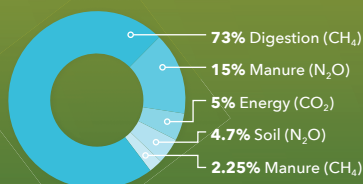
### Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)

- Associated with the breakdown of manure and fertilization of crop and pasture land



Today, producing a kilogram of beef in Canada results in:

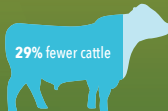
### Breakdown of GHG Emissions in Beef Production



14% less methane

15% less nitrous oxide

12% less carbon dioxide



29% fewer cattle



24% less land

than it did in 1981, thanks to improved production and feed efficiencies, crop yields and management practices.