



Red Tape
Research

FIELDS OF PAPERWORK

Red Tape in Agriculture

CANADA'S FARMERS AND FOOD SUPPLY ARE UNDER THREAT

68%

would not advise
the next generation
to run a business

89%

believe the future
of Canadian agriculture
is at risk because of red tape



95% report stress
from red tape



90% say red tape hurts
productivity & growth



70% say red tape limits
competitiveness*

Top red tape irritants for agri-businesses:

Federal:

52%

Statistics
Canada Survey
Requirements

Provincial:

60%

Environmental
Regulations

Municipal:

65%

Building & Renovation
Permitting
Regulations

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Annually report total regulatory burden.
- Enable ongoing public input.
- Adopt a "2-for-1" rule to cut regulations.
- Keep compliance flexible with clear examples.
- Simplify rules and guidance.

"It's frustrating to deal with a government who makes regulations and doesn't even understand the type of businesses they impact."

—AGRI-BUSINESS,
SASKATCHEWAN

"Our business puts in significant effort to comply with CFIA regulation. The biggest problem is responsiveness, both in questions and applications. Some of our product applications have taken more than 3 years to be approved."

—AGRI-BUSINESS,
ONTARIO

"Our business is at the size it is due to the fact that governments policies and regulations make it unpalatable to want to expand and even to run a small business."

—AGRI-BUSINESS,
ONTARIO

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REDTAPE

Sources: CFIB, Regulation and Paperburden Survey 2024, July 4 to September 8, 2024, n = 136.
CFIB, Agri-business Survey 2024, December 18, 2023 to February 7, 2024, 2024, n=543.
CFIB, Agriculture Survey 2022, November 24, 2022, to January 12, 2023, n=426.
CFIB, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Survey, January 23, 2025, to March 1, 2025, n=73.
*Of those interacting with the CFIA in the past five years.

