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# Battle of the North: Canada Market Update



BRIGHTFIELD GROUP



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**Canada Consumer Insights:**

Survey fielded quarterly. Responses are collected online from a balanced sample of 3,000 unique cannabis users age 18+ in Canada.

**Canada Distribution Trends:**

Visualizes digital menu audits of thousands of dispensaries around the United States for a comprehensive view of products available on shelf, and social media data to uncover consumer reactions to product trends and launches.

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# Introduction & Overview

- Canadian cannabis sales are expected to hit ~\$CAD 8.8 billion by 2027 with a CAGR of ~10%.
- After duking it out in the value-priced positionings, many large LPs are setting themselves for similar competition levels in the premium positioning.
- While branding remains a challenge due to regulatory constraints, a few companies have been able to separate themselves from the pack.
- Full-spectrum and high-terpene products drive innovation in Canadian cannabis.
- Distribution channel constraints limit opportunities in the CBD market, but opportunity exists for US foothold.
- Small-to-medium sized brands will continue to leverage their market agility in their quest to gain market share as larger LPs continue to streamline operations and build on strong distribution networks.



# Market Sizing

In 2021, we saw Canadian cannabis sales grow 39% to \$CAD 4.39 billion.

Leading growth categories pre-rolls (77.7%) vapes (47.3%), and flower (33%).

- In US, edibles saw lots of growth last wave and year. This is not repeated in Canada. **Consumers looking for more potent products are not well-served by the edibles market due to regulatory constraints on THC limits.**
- As a results, **vapes and other inhalable concentrates are expected to stay ahead of edibles sales until 2024**, when Brightfield projects several regulatory changes.

Canadian market CAGR (2022-2027): ~10%

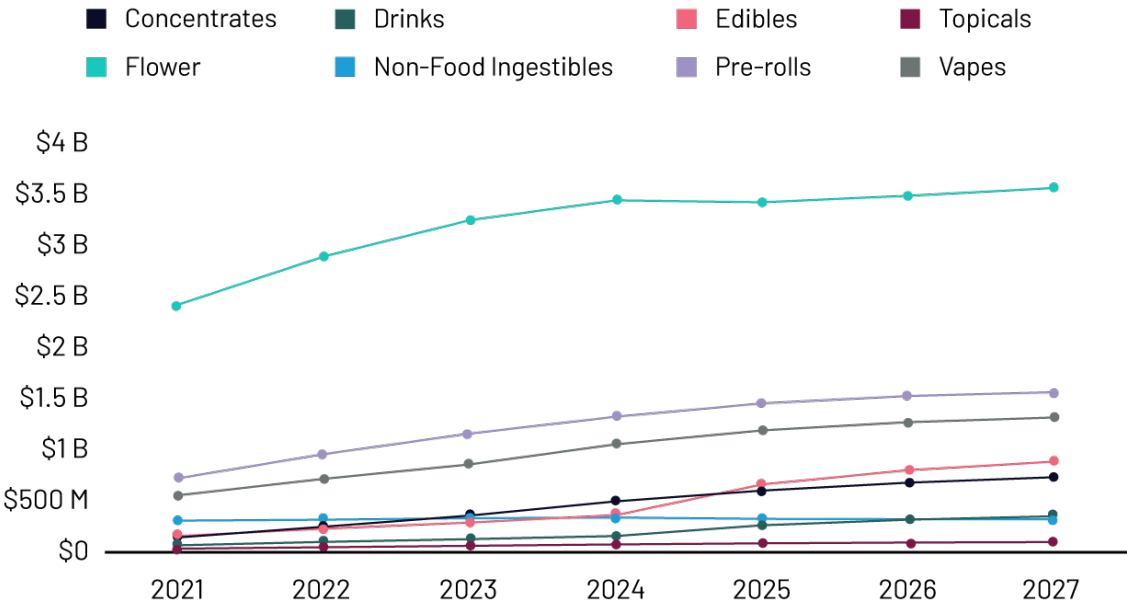
- Flower CAGR: ~4.25%
- Pre-roll CAGR: ~10.26%
- Vapes CAGR: ~12.89%
- Edibles CAGR: ~30.81%

New product category: Non-food ingestibles

- Capsules & Tablets; Tinctures; Sublinguals; Oral Sprays; Others

## CANADA MARKET SIZE

2021-2027, \$CAD



# Market Sizing (Cont.)

Alberta outperforming the market relative to its population size, and has the highest spend per capita on cannabis products.

- Due to hands-off approach to retail licensing and opening of market to free competition
- **2022 sales: \$825,940,251; 2027 sales: \$1,136,970,387; CAGR: 6.6%**
- Flower, pre-rolls, vapes are leading the market, but the Alberta vape market is becoming increasingly saturated

Quebec continues to underperform despite population size.

- Limited by product choice and potency, many Quebec consumers continue to purchase from illicit markets. However, **projected regulatory changes in 2024 should open the market to concentrate and vape products**
- **2022 sales: \$687,831,633; 2027 sales: \$1,212,388,867; CAGR: 12.0%**
- Several LPs have launched and/or are acquiring local producers to tap into the region’s culture history and civic pride (e.g. Organigram’s Laurentian acquisition)

## PROVINCIAL MARKET SIZE 2021-2027, \$CAD

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Alberta	\$803.4 M	\$904.4 M	\$992.9 M	\$1,058.1 M	\$1,136.3 M	\$1,182.2 M	\$1,212.2 M
British Columbia	\$576.8 M	\$747.8 M	\$897.1 M	\$1,009.7 M	\$1,130.0 M	\$1,205.4 M	\$1,256.4 M
Manitoba	\$166.5 M	\$209.3 M	\$246.6 M	\$273.6 M	\$302.8 M	\$320.8 M	\$331.9 M
New Brunswick	\$93.9 M	\$103.6 B	\$112.4 M	\$119.3 M	\$128.2 M	\$133.5 M	\$137.3 M
Newfoundland and Labrador	\$69.2 M	\$85.1 M	\$97.1 M	\$106.2 M	\$118.4 M	\$125.3 M	\$127.8 M
Northwest Territories	\$8.1 M	\$10.0 M	\$11.3 M	\$12.2 M	\$12.8 M	\$13.1 M	\$13.4 M
Nova Scotia	\$116.3 M	\$126.8 M	\$136.1 M	\$143.7 M	\$154.0 M	\$160.7 M	\$164.9 M
Nunavut	\$4.6 M	\$5.7 M	\$6.5 M	\$7.1 M	\$7.7 M	\$8.0 M	\$8.2 M
Ontario	\$1,722.8 M	\$2,352.0 M	\$2,856.9 M	\$3,235.4 M	\$3,588.4 M	\$3,810.7 M	\$3,960.4 M
Prince Edward Island	\$23.5 M	\$28.0 M	\$32.1 M	\$35.1 M	\$38.6 M	\$40.8 M	\$42.1 M
Quebec	\$630.1 M	\$716.8 M	\$798.1 M	\$980.3 M	\$1,089.9 M	\$1,178.2 M	\$1,243.1 M
Saskatchewan	\$166.9 M	\$187.5 M	\$206.6 M	\$223.2 M	\$245.9 M	\$262.7 M	\$273.1 M
Yukon	\$9.4 M	\$10.7 M	\$11.7 M	\$12.2 M	\$13.0 M	\$13.3 M	\$13.6 M

# Market Sizing (Cont.)

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To see how our interactive data platforms can support your business, [schedule a demo](#).

# Product Category Spotlight: Premium

After slogging through the value-priced market in 2020, many LPs saw little return on their investments in that highly competitive space. As such, many of them are turning their focus to **premium-priced products**.

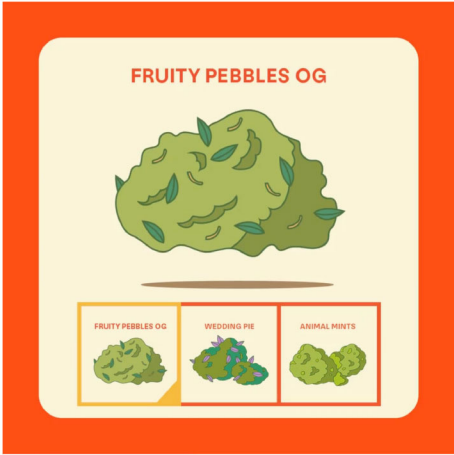
- **Premium and craft cannabis is increasingly coming into the spotlight**, with big LPs now shifting their focus away from the value segment and local producers seeing significant revenues in their home markets.
- As competition stiffens in the premium market, we will need to pay attention to how LPs decide to market their products: **Will they be able to highlight their products’ competitive advantages, or will they be competing on price as they were in the value-priced market?**
- With current potency caps in place, vapes and concentrates still are expected to be where consumers turn to once the novelty (and strength) of flower wears off in the near-term.
- **Strong craft brands are emerging in the premium cannabis space.** Given their stronger reputations amongst budtenders and heavy cannabis consumers in the category, craft vs. LP competition will become increasingly fierce throughout 2022 and beyond.





# Canadian Branding Trends

- Back Forty
- Pure Sunfarms



Branding in the Canadian market is extremely limited due to regulatory oversight, but **a handful of brands are breaking out from the pack thanks to innovative approaches to visuals.**

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# Product Innovations: Tasty, Tasty Terps

There is a focus on **full-spectrum products** and **products with high-terpene contents** when it comes to innovation.

Fritz’s Cannabis Company using hash rosin to make soft chews.

- Launched: January ‘22
- Retail: ~\$CAD12 (2-pack, 5mg each)
- **Note: Already sold out in multiple retailers**

Cookies’ sauce concentrate (50%-65% THC, but has ~3%-5% terpene content).

- Launch: March ‘22
- Retail: ~\$CAD50 (1 gram)

Broken Coast’s Full Spectrum Liquid Wax cartridge (73%-80% THC, >1% CBD).

- Launched: January ‘22
- Retail: ~\$CAD43 (0.5 gram)



<b>Fritz’s Cannabis Company</b> It Takes Two to Mango Hash Rosin Soft Chews	<b>Broken Coast</b> Up In The Sky Full Spectrum Liquid Wax Cartridge	<b>C. GP20 Sauce</b>
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# CBD Usage in Canada

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# Competitive Landscape

## TOP BRANDS BY SHARE OF SHELF

February 2022

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## Key Takeaways

- Despite long-standing regulatory hurdles, a handful of brands are starting to figure out interesting marketing strategies and voices. As competition amongst LPs and smaller craft growers continues, **brands able to stand out from the broader market through targeting specific occasions of use and effectively communicating brand values will see the highest return on their marketing investments.**
- **Brands looking to compete in the premium positioning will have to know and communicate their products' competitive advantage to consumers.** Failing to do so likely means a return to competing on price, which yields diminishing returns over time.
- **Craft brands' strong reputations amongst budtenders and heavy cannabis consumers will only increase market competition—but can also present interesting M&A opportunities for larger firms.**
- While many brands are focusing efforts on their premium positionings, **the top distributed brands in Canada are the ones with core-priced offerings, signifying the importance of having a presence at that price point.**
- **High-terpene and full-spectrum products offer opportunities for brands to promote their extraction and manufacturing processes, in addition to providing truer-to-flower experiences that highlight brands' genetic libraries** (and can entice consumers to try the raw flower form of the extracted strain).



# Diagnose brand roadblocks and delight your customers with forward-looking data on:



Brand  
Health



Consumer  
Insights



Market  
Landscape



Distribution  
Trends

To learn more about our insights solutions for Canadian cannabis, [request your demo here](#).

**Brightfield Group** is the leading research firm for emerging categories including CBD, cannabis, and wellness. By integrating multi-source data with AI and research expertise into our cross-comparable data lake, we uncover robust insights as new markets develop. We have helped Marketing, Innovation, and Insights leaders drive customer-centric strategies on their next big idea since 2015.

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