

## Production

The Coop Group also includes numerous manufacturing companies, chief among them the Bell Food Group, in which Coop is a majority shareholder. The Bell Food Group, which is one of the leading companies in meat processing and the production of convenience products in Europe, gives Coop a strong international presence.

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**1.68** bn in sales  
**of sustainable products in  
Production**

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Net sales of the Coop Cooperative Production segment came to 834 million francs in 2022. Added to this are net sales for the Bell Food Group, which grew to almost 4.3 billion francs. Total sales of sustainable ranges in Production totalled around 1.68 billion francs in 2022. Coop therefore increased its sales of sustainable products in the production area by 7.6% year on year.

## Bell Food Group

In a challenging business year in 2022, the Bell Food Group generated a very good result that was in line with that of the record previous year. This is particularly encouraging, as 2022 was characterized by the normalization of the Covid situation and by considerable cost increases, which had a significant impact on business. Business with international cured ham and sustainable poultry products in Europe, which increased again substantially in the year under review, accounted for a large part of the good result.

As expected, the normalization of the Covid situation meant that retail sales declined slightly, while the food service sales channel recovered. The convenience business, which is geared more heavily to the food service and the to-go segment, was the main beneficiary. By contrast, the meat and cold cuts business in Switzerland, with its strong retail pillar, was no longer able to quite match the very high volume of previous years.

Cost increases for energy, animal and plant-based raw materials, feed and auxiliary and packaging materials had a substantial impact on business in the year under review. On the purchasing market, quality and availability problems for animal and plant-based raw materials and higher prices were discernible owing to the hot, dry summer. Overall, this led to a significant recovery in input costs, which could only be recouped by raising prices.

In the course of the year, inflation rates rose everywhere in Europe. Towards the end of the year, this increasingly affected consumer behaviour in addition to impacting on production costs. Recessionary fears and declining purchasing power led to a shift in demand. Sales of expensive branded articles and products with sustainable added value declined, while less expensive standard ranges and own-label brands were popular.

### Highlights Bell Food Group

The Bell Food Group is one of the leading processors of meat and convenience products in Europe and is market leader in Switzerland.

## Highlights 2022

- › In a challenging market environment, the Bell Food Group achieved an encouraging annual result and followed on from the excellent previous year.
- › The food service channel benefited from the normalization of the Covid situation and advanced strongly over the year under review.
- › Bell Switzerland had a good business year. Owing to its strong position in the retail segment, it was not quite able to match the high pandemic-driven volumes of previous years, but posted clear gains in the food service.
- › Thanks to its good market position in the strategic focus segments of poultry and cured ham, Bell International was able to grow and again clearly exceed the results of the already very good previous year.
- › The Eisberg business area was successful in the food service and the trendy to-go product ranges. However, the traditional business with bagged salads suffered from the difficult operating conditions.
- › The Hilcona business area enjoyed record sales in 2022. The pasta and sandwiches segments were successful. Rising costs and weak consumer sentiment weighed on earnings, however.
- › The Swiss investment programme is on track.
- › The first stage of the gradual expansion at the main Hilcona site in Schaan (Liechtenstein) was completed in the reporting year.
- › Eisberg closed its Villigen site as part of its consolidation drive and moved these activities to other plants.
- › Construction of the refrigerated warehouse at the Oensingen site was completed.



## New products



# 2 000

More information:

[www.bellfoodgroup.com](http://www.bellfoodgroup.com)

## Coop's manufacturing companies

### Highlights from Coop's manufacturing companies

The table below lists the highlights during the year under review, along with a factsheet on the individual Coop manufacturing companies. Additional information can be found at [www.coop.ch/produktion](http://www.coop.ch/produktion).