



New Brunswick Census of Agriculture Report 2021

JUNE 2023

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Province of New Brunswick
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PDF English version: ISBN 978-1-4605-3485-4
PDF French version: ISBN 978-1-4605-3486-1

22-00343 | 2023.06 | Designed in New Brunswick

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SYMBOLS

The following standard symbols are used in this report:

- .. Data are not available or are no longer collected.
- X Data are suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of Statistics Canada.
- F Data are too unreliable to be published.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication was prepared by the following staff from the Strategic Planning and Intergovernmental Relations Branch, Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Government of New Brunswick: Bintu Bayong and Ayesha Noël.

Special thanks are extended to the agriculture product specialists for their review and suggestions and to our GIS team for mapping assistance.

The support by Statistics Canada of providing the necessary data is gratefully acknowledged.

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2021 census of agriculture

– New Brunswick highlights

The 2021 Census of Agriculture was released by Statistics Canada on May 11, 2022. This is the only source of uniform and comprehensive agricultural data for every county/parish in Canada. Data collection is conducted every five years and covers topics such as the number of farms and farm operators, farm area, farm size, farm type, crop area, number of livestock, farm capital, farm machinery, farm expenses and revenues and land management practices.

The 2021 Census of Agriculture introduced a significant conceptual change to the main statistical unit: a farm now refers to a unit that produces agricultural products and reports revenues or expenses for tax purposes to the Canada Revenue Agency. Before 2021, a farm was defined as an agricultural operation that produced at least one agricultural product intended for sale. The application of the new farm concept will affect the comparability of farm counts with previous censuses.¹

KEY FACTS – 2021 CENSUS:

	UNIT	2021
Total census farms	#	1,851
Total gross farm receipts	\$ million	734.2
Area of census farms	ha	277,363
Share of total land area in N.B.		3.9%
Average age of farm operators	years	57.0
Total farm capital	\$ billion	2.7

2021 HIGHLIGHTS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK (COMPARED TO 2016)

- In 2021, New Brunswick farm revenues (gross receipts) increased by 19 per cent to \$734.2 million, from \$619.4 million in 2016. New Brunswick reported the highest farm revenues in Atlantic Canada. Nationally, revenues were up by one-quarter compared to 2016.

- More farms in the province earned higher revenues in 2021 than in 2016. The number of farms with revenues of more than \$500,000 increased by nine per cent, while the lower revenue farms (those earning less than \$500,000) decreased by 22 per cent. This is part of a long-term trend in farm consolidation where some small farms are exiting and the remaining farms are expanding to reduce their average costs (economies of scale).
- Total operating expenses of New Brunswick farms increased by 20 per cent to reach \$627.1 million in 2021, compared to a 26 per cent increase nationally.
- In 2021, New Brunswick producers invested more in their farms compared to five years ago, with the total value of farm capital up by 18 per cent to reach \$2.7 billion. Increases were noted in the value of land and buildings, by 21 per cent (\$379.7 million), and the value of machinery and equipment, by 14 per cent (\$58.1 million).
- There was a decline in the number of farms in New Brunswick by 18 per cent, from 2,255 farms in 2016 to 1,851 farms in 2021, compared to a two-per-cent decline at the national level. About 42 per cent of this decline was from farms with annual gross revenues of less than \$10,000. The change in the definition of a census farm also contributed to the decrease in farm count.
- The total farm area reported fell by 18 per cent to 277,363 hectares in 2021, however, the average farm size remained stable at 150 hectares. In comparison, total farm area across Canada decreased by three per cent from 2016.
- Land in crops (excluding Christmas trees) declined by about seven per cent to 130,210 hectares in 2021. Decreases were seen in hay (by 7,082 hectares, 11 per cent) and some grains and oilseeds, such as soybeans (by 2,265 hectares, 42 per cent), wheat (by 1,242 hectares, 31 per cent) and grain corn (by 1,086 hectares, 24 per cent). Total area of fruits also dropped, largely due to lower blueberry area (by 2,915 hectares, 17 per cent).²

¹ Statistics Canada, A portrait of a 21st century agricultural operation. [statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14811-eng.htm](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14811-eng.htm)

² The total area in blueberries reported by Statistics Canada may be over-estimated in 2016 and under-estimated in 2021. According to provincial estimates, the total farmland area dedicated to blueberry production in New Brunswick in 2016 was about 16,000 hectares and about 16,400 hectares in 2021.

- On the other hand, area under oats rose by 2,493 hectares (24 per cent) and potato acreage increased by 2,435 hectares (13 per cent) to 21,148 hectares in 2021.
- New Brunswick reported the second most maple taps in the country, after Quebec, with 3.5 million taps in 2021, an increase of 54 per cent from 2016. This marked the strongest growth in maple taps across Canada.
- The province reported 16,599 dairy cows in 2021 compared to 18,031 in 2016, marking an eight-per-cent decrease. However, improvements in animal nutrition, genetics and production practices contributed to an increase in annual milk production by 10 per cent.
- The total number of pigs increased by 16 per cent (5,002 head) to 35,717 head in 2021.
- The average age of New Brunswick's farm operators increased by 1.4 years to 57.0 years in 2021, compared to 56.0 years at the national level.
- The proportion of older farm operators (aged 55 and older) grew by six percentage points from the previous census. In 2021, 63 per cent of operators were aged 55 and older, compared to 57 per cent in 2016. Conversely, New Brunswick's share of young operators (below age 35) fell from nine per cent in 2016 to seven per cent in 2021.



New Brunswick results by census category

GROSS FARM RECEIPTS

- New Brunswick's gross farm receipts totaled \$734.2 million in 2021, up 19 per cent, from \$619.4 million in 2016.
- The number of farms generating revenues over \$500,000 rose by nine per cent. The greatest increase was noted in the number of farms with revenues over \$2 million, up by 43 per cent. On the other hand, lower revenue farms (those earning less than \$500,000) decreased by 22 per cent.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Total gross farm receipts³	\$'000	154,011	222,681	301,068	325,684	444,990	493,810	552,770	619,383	734,196
Farms classified by gross receipts class	#									
Total number of farms		4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255	1,851
Under \$10,000		1,873	1,421	1,185	1,317	1,045	942	997	706	536
\$10,000 to \$24,999		616	573	561	588	561	516	501	372	294
\$25,000 to \$49,999		362	338	338	376	328	306	284	269	230
\$50,000 to \$99,999		374	285	261	258	251	235	173	227	162
\$100,000 to \$249,999		530	521	426	384	318	276	219	235	182
\$250,000 to \$499,999		205	281	303	276	266	233	182	164	141
\$500,000 to \$999,999		69	97	123	139	172	167	149	135	136
\$1 million to \$1,999,999		22	29	44	52	63	65	66	91	90
\$2 million or more		12	9	11	15	30	36	40	56	80



³ Includes inter-farm sales and therefore does not compare with annual farm cash receipts reported by Statistics Canada, which are net of inter-farm sales.

FARMS

- The number of reported farms in New Brunswick has declined significantly, by 54 per cent, over the past four decades, from 4,063 in 1981 to 1,851 in 2021. Over the same period, a 40-per-cent decline was noted in the farm count nation-wide.
- Between 2016 and 2021, the total New Brunswick farm count fell by 18 per cent, compared to a 19-per-cent decline nationally.
- The greatest decline was noted in the number of farms with annual gross revenues of less than \$10,000, down by 170 farms (24 per cent).
- The rate of incorporation among farm operations continued to rise, with almost one-third of farms being incorporated in 2021. This compares to 27 per cent of farms in the last census period and only 5 per cent of farms in 1981. In 2021, the majority of corporations (91 per cent) were family corporations. Statistics Canada reported that, corporations potentially “offer business and legal advantages particularly as the size and complexity of operations increases.”⁴ Incorporation is particularly helpful when family farms are to be handed over to the next generation.
- Sole proprietorships and partnerships (with and without written agreements) accounted for 68 per cent of agricultural operations in 2021, compared to 72 per cent in 2016 and 95 per cent four decades ago, in 1981.

OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Total number of farms	#	4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255	1,851
Sole proprietorships and partnerships		3,844	3,259	2,832	2,854	2,554	2,200	2,024	1,631	1,251
Sole proprietorships		3,538	2,898	2,220	2,360	2,066	1,770	1,639	1,335	1,019
Partnerships		306	361	612	494	488	430	385	296	232
Corporations		206	281	411	522	475	563	578	619	599
Family corporation		179	239	334	427	378	488	481	520	548
Non-family corporation		27	42	77	95	97	75	97	99	51
Other operating arrangements		13	14	9	29	5	13	9	5	1



⁴ Statistics Canada, A portrait of a 21st century agricultural operation. statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14811-eng.htm

FARMLAND

- Between 2016 and 2021, the total farm area in New Brunswick declined by 18 per cent (60,683 hectares) to 277,363 hectares. Non-crop land accounted for 85 per cent (51,477 hectares) of this decline. At the national level, total farm area decreased by three per cent over the same period.
- Compared to 2016, the average size of New Brunswick farms remained stable at 150 hectares, despite the decline in total farm area. Some farm types noted increases in the average farm size, such as oats, by 49 per cent, potatoes, by 39 per cent, and barley, by 26 per cent.
- In 2021, about 81 per cent of farmland was owned, 11 per cent rented or leased from others and six per cent leased from government.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Total land area in N.B.	ha	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913
Total area of census farms⁵	ha	437,888	408,893	375,631	386,019	388,053	395,228	379,526	338,046	277,363
Total area owned	ha	378,702	347,068	315,345	319,527	323,949	332,313	316,933	278,817	225,405
Farms reporting	#	3,938	3,410	3,140	3,250	2,909	2,664	2,491	2,116	1,732
Total area leased from government	ha	..	13,511	14,673	17,490	10,897	12,764	19,592	19,333	17,372
Farms reporting	#	..	214	261	252	163	113	119	139	120
Total area rented or leased from others	ha	..	48,312	45,613	49,001	49,590	43,541	37,830	36,402	31,756
Farms reporting	#	..	1,029	1,004	1,059	964	770	628	600	530
All other	ha	..	..	..	..	3,617	6,610	5,171	3,494	2,830
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

⁵ Total provincial farmland area from 2006 onwards is not comparable to prior census years, due to a change in methodology in 2006 used to calculate land leased from governments.

FARMLAND USE

- Of the 277,363 hectares of farmland in New Brunswick in 2021:
 - Pastureland and other farmland use accounted for 53 per cent, while
 - Crops (i.e., field crops⁶, hay, vegetables, tree fruits, berries, sod and nursery products) accounted for the remaining 47 per cent.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Use of land on census farms										
Land in crops	ha	130,526	129,475	122,247	135,008	148,883	151,996	142,138	139,416	130,210
Farms reporting	#	3,559	2,913	2,587	2,587	2,521	2,256	2,101	1,832	1,471
Pasture land and all other land ⁷	ha	..	279,416	253,384	251,011	239,170	243,232	237,388	198,630	147,153
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

⁶ Field crops include: grain and oilseed crops, forage crops, potatoes, feed corn and other crops (i.e., flaxseed, dry beans, chick peas, lentils, mustard seed, sunflowers, canary seed, ginseng, buckwheat, sugar beets, caraway seeds, triticale, tobacco, hemp, spelt, coriander and other spices).

⁷ Includes tame or seeded pasture, natural land for pasture or grazing, summer fallow, woodland, wetlands and Christmas tree areas, as well as land on which farm buildings, barnyards, lanes, home gardens, greenhouses and mushroom houses are located and idle land.

FARM ENTERPRISES

New Brunswick recorded decreases in the number of farms across most farm types between 2016 and 2021. Nonetheless, increases were noted in the number of beef cattle, greenhouse vegetable, maple and poultry and egg farming operations.

- Below are the absolute and percentage increases in the number of New Brunswick farms classified as:
 - Beef cattle farms (+15 farms, +5%)
 - Greenhouse vegetable farms (+5 farms, +45%)
 - Maple syrup production farms (+3 farms, +3%)
 - Poultry and egg production farms (+2 farms, +4%)
- Below are the absolute and percentage decreases reported for those classified as:
 - Tree fruit and berry farms (-96 farms, -23%)
 - Other animal production farms (-91 farms, -40%)
 - Hay farms (-87 farms, -27%)
 - Nursery and floriculture production farms (-43 farms, -28%)
 - Dairy farms (-39 farms, -19%)
 - Potato farms (-33 farms, -23%)
 - Oilseed and grain farms (-15 farms, -26%)
 - Other crop farms (-7 farms, -8%)
 - Sheep and goat farms (-5 farms, -13%)
- The largest absolute decline across all farm types in 2021 was recorded for tree fruit and berry farms, down 96 farms (23 per cent) from 2016. Tree fruit and berry farms accounted for 17 per cent of New Brunswick farms in 2021.
- On the other hand, beef cattle farms reported the greatest increase, up 15 farms (five per cent) in 2021. This was likely a result of more start-up farms as opposed to larger commercial operations, as small-scale farming became more popular during the COVID-19 pandemic.

	UNIT	2016	2021	DIFFERENCE
Farms classified by farm type⁸	#			
Beef cattle		329	344	15
Tree fruit and berry farming		415	319	-96
Hay farming		319	232	-87
Dairy ⁹		201	162	-39
Other animal production ¹⁰		230	139	-91
Maple syrup production		111	114	3
Nursery and floriculture production		156	113	-43
Potato farming ¹¹		144	111	-33
Other crop farming ¹²		87	80	-7
Other field vegetable and melon farming		92	78	-14
Poultry and egg production		51	53	2
Oilseed and grain farming		58	43	-15
Sheep and goat farming		38	33	-5
Greenhouse Vegetables		11	16	5
Hog and pig farming		9	9	0
Mushroom		4	5	1



⁸ According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), an establishment (ranch, farm, feedlot, etc.) is classified as a particular farm type provided that 50 per cent or more of the establishment's agricultural production consists of that particular type of animal or crop production.

⁹ According to Dairy Farmers of New Brunswick there were 168 dairy operations in New Brunswick in 2021.

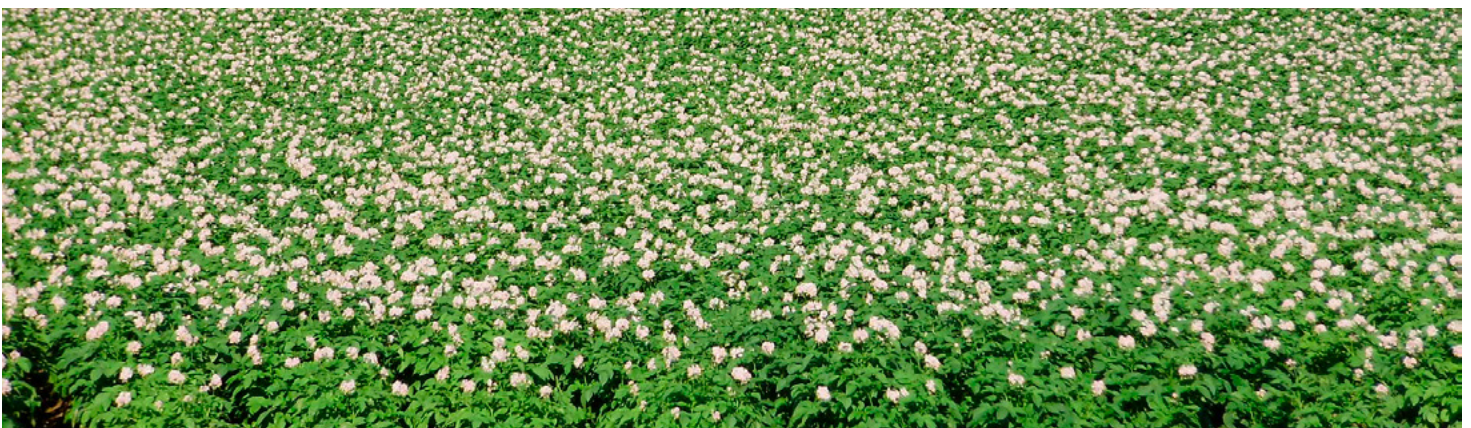
¹⁰ Other animal production farming includes apiculture, horse and other equine production, fur-bearing animal and rabbit production, animal combination farming and all other miscellaneous animal production.

¹¹ According to the annual Potato Acreage Registry there were 126 potato farming operations (with over 1.75 hectares) in the province in 2021.

¹² Other crop farm types in New Brunswick include fruit and vegetable combination farms and all other miscellaneous crop farms.

CROPS

- Between 2016 and 2021, New Brunswick had increases in farmland in:
 - Oats (+2,493 ha, +24%)
 - Potatoes (+2,435 ha, +13%)
 - Corn for silage (+762 ha, +28%)
 - Christmas trees (+559 ha, +31%)
 - Rye (+315 ha, +91%)
 - Buckwheat (+42 ha, +53%)
 - Apples (+27 ha, +12%)
 - Grapes (+7 ha, +14%)
- The province also reported decreases in farmland area in:
 - Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures (-4,228 ha, -31%)
 - Blueberries (-2,915 ha, -17%)
 - Other tame hay and fodder (-2,854 ha, -6%),
 - Soybeans (-2,265 ha, -42%)
 - Wheat (-1,242 ha, -31%)
 - Grain corn (-1,086 ha, -24%)
 - Sod (-253 ha, -53%)
 - Cranberries (-82 ha, -23%)
 - Field vegetables (-72 ha, -10%)
 - Barley (-54 ha, -1%)
 - Strawberries (-25 ha, -18%)
 - Raspberries (-15 ha, -48%)
 - Greenhouse products (-6,117 m², -4%)
- Compared to 2016, total land dedicated to tree fruit and berry production in New Brunswick fell by 16 per cent (3,003 hectares) to 15,402 hectares in 2021. According to Statistics Canada data, this was largely due to a decrease in blueberry area, by 2,915 hectares (17 per cent) to 14,636 hectares. Blueberry area accounted for 95 per cent of the total area dedicated to tree fruit and berries. In 2021, New Brunswick reported the second largest area for wild blueberry production in Canada, behind Quebec, accounting for 22 per cent of the national total.¹³
- New Brunswick reported a 54-per-cent increase in the number of maple taps on trees in 2021, from 2.3 million taps in 2016 to 3.5 million taps in 2021. This marks the largest proportional increase across the country. Additionally, farms reporting maple taps in New Brunswick had 18,744 taps per farm on average, compared to a national average of 4,735 taps per farm. This is a higher rate than the previous census year, where New Brunswick reported 10,782 taps per farm on average. New Brunswick posted the highest rate of taps per farm on average in the country in both 2016 and 2021. In 2021, the province accounted for six per cent of all maple taps across Canada, compared to five per cent in 2016.
- Farm area dedicated to potatoes in New Brunswick rose by 13 per cent (2,435 hectares) to reach 21,148 hectares in 2021. This is attributable to increased demand for processed potato products, new processed potato products coming online and the establishment of new processing infrastructure.
- With respect to grains and oilseeds, notable declines were seen in soybeans, by 2,265 hectares (42 per cent), wheat, by 1,242 hectares (31 per cent), and grain corn, by 1,086 hectares (24 per cent). Particularly, there was reduced interest in growing grain corn and soybeans following a couple of difficult production years. Higher fertilizer costs also deterred grain corn growers. Wheat has generally not been a preferred crop in rotation with potatoes due to harvest timing and is often not supported by pricing.
- On the other hand, area in oats increased by 2,493 hectares (24 per cent). A strong market has been developed for milling quality oats and producers have targeted this market with improved management (yields). Additionally, prices have generally been good.



¹³ The total area in blueberries reported by Statistics Canada may be over-estimated in 2016 and under-estimated in 2021. According to provincial estimates, the total farmland area dedicated to blueberry production in New Brunswick in 2016 was about 16,000 hectares and about 16,400 hectares in 2021.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Area in crops	ha	130,526	129,475	122,247	135,008	148,883	151,996	142,138	139,416	130,210
Hay										
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures		5,618	..	9,517	7,768	10,417	12,527	12,945	13,535	9,307
Other tame hay & fodder		63,649	..	55,033	62,272	68,058	70,912	57,661	51,482	48,628
Field Crops										
Potatoes		21,769	19,613	20,486	21,879	23,620	24,229	20,968	18,713	21,148
Oats		17,057	13,098	8,804	9,518	8,623	10,108	9,439	10,238	12,731
Barley		3,901	10,611	12,807	16,538	17,804	13,451	9,366	6,903	6,849
Corn for silage		1,611	1,015	882	1,012	2,006	2,732	2,831	2,765	3,527
Corn for grain		304	332	268	181	478	1,768	4,294	4,453	3,367
Soybeans		21	59	18	566	328	762	4,290	5,437	3,172
Wheat		3,504	3,823	2,214	3,501	4,165	1,375	1,698	4,034	2,792
Rye		125	604	824	536	744	1,169	279	348	663
Mixed grains		2,013	1,673	1,213	771	883	367	382	512	448
Buckwheat		1,077	591	366	222	250	301	678	79	121
Canola		2	0	6	89	195	359	3,643	978	F
Dry field peas		352	0	106	x	13	x	14	6	F
Forage seed for seed		..	0	0	67	409	248	44	0	F
Other field crops		..	..	x	x	x	x	x	x	..



	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Area in vegetables	ha	3,402	3,269	2,891	2,322	1,028	864	778	696	624
Squash, zucchini, pumpkins		65	96	92	106	137	170	174	180	169
Sweet corn		226	250	287	272	235	195	157	123	127
Carrots		93	109	84	51	24	93	56	68	60
Green or wax beans		578	x	271	267	70	82	83	81	45
Cabbage		110	109	132	93	111	78	66	45	43
Broccoli		266	284	124	139	51	29	25	19	27
Cucumbers		28	37	28	39	30	30	27	27	20
Tomatoes		34	31	53	210	103	22	20	21	19
Green peas		1,397	1,522	1,496	839	63	19	19	21	17
Rutabagas and turnips		155	109	79	88	91	59	44	22	16
Beets		21	16	18	20	14	16	19	17	15
Peppers		5	5	8	17	15	11	6	8	6
Dry onions		8	10	4	18	6	5	6	7	6
Lettuce		17	15	34	25	7	9	10	7	6
Cauliflower		128	97	93	64	34	12	8	6	6
Brussels sprouts		241	82	27	12	2	2	2	4	4
Green onion and shallots		1	1	4	5	4	3	4	4	3
Spinach		2	0	4	3	2	3	3	4	2
Radishes		0	2	3	5	4	2	2	6	F
Asparagus, producing		3	10	5	3	3	6	6	3	F
Chinese cabbage		..	..	4	11	1	1	1	1	F
Celery		1	x	x	1	0	1	1	1	F
Other Vegetables		26	34	43	33	21	17	35	23	26



	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Area in tree fruit and berries	ha	3,798	4,982	4,904	7,183	9,319	9,783	12,080	18,405	15,402
Blueberries		..	3831	3,735	6,297	8,382	8,946	11,282	17,551	14,636
Cranberries		..	x	x	3	190	220	350	354	272
Apples		616	640	669	531	417	324	223	224	251
Strawberries		297	450	433	285	227	189	132	139	114
Grapes		0	x	x	3	24	22	28	49	56
Haskaps		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Raspberries		..	43	50	54	71	66	47	31	16
Pears		4	2	4	3	2	3	2	3	5
Prunes and plums		2	3	5	3	1	2	1	2	1
Apricot		0	0	x	x	x	0	0	x	0
Sour cherry		2	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	F
Sweet cherry		0	1	x	0	1	1	x	x	F
Peach		0	x	1	x	x	0	x	x	F
Other fruits and berries		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Area in greenhouse products	m²	86,428	104,013	119,246	178,527	192,090	173,229	177,075	165,502	159,385
Flowers		..	69,065	71,038	103,040	136,358	127,999	133,196	119,572	F
Greenhouse vegetables		..	23,448	40,128	42,855	20,096	21,502	17,763	13,511	F
Other greenhouse products		..	11,500	8,080	32,633	35,636	23,729	26,116	32,419	..
Area in sod and nursery products	ha	85	321	365	383	460	649	626	588	..
Sod		..	169	199	230	295	515	533	476	223
Nursery products		85	152	166	153	165	134	93	112	F
Maple taps on trees	#	114,121	251,780	463,743	921,693	1,318,866	1,702,530	1,896,773	2,285,785	3,523,948
Area in Christmas Trees	ha	..	..	..	4,284	2,928	2,214	2,131	1,785	2,344

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

- During the last census period (2016-2021), New Brunswick noted an increase in the number of:
 - Pigs (+5,002 head, +16%)
- During the same period, the province had declines in the number of:
 - Hens and chickens (-73,600 birds, -2%)
 - Heifers (-3,174 head, -25%)
 - Beef cows (-2,593 head, -19%)
 - Calves (-2,378 head, -13%)
 - Dairy cows (-1,432 head, -8%)
 - Sheep and lambs (-1,137 head, -15%)
 - Steers (-1,011 head, -28%)
 - Horses and ponies (-781 head, -51%)
 - Goats (-472 head, -47%)
 - Bulls (-359 head, -35%)
- According to Statistics Canada, “the pandemic posed many challenges to the Canadian livestock sector from 2020 to 2021. One of the more significant challenges was the early shutdown of meat processing facilities in an effort to contain outbreaks of COVID-19. A labour shortage further challenged the meat processing industry.”¹⁴
- The number of dairy cows declined by eight per cent to 16,599 head in 2021, compared to 18,031 head in 2016. Dairy replacement heifers also fell by 1,345 head (17 per cent) to 6,691 head in 2021. However, over the same period, annual milk production within the province increased by one-tenth, from 144.2 million litres in 2016 to 159.1 million litres in 2021. This can be attributed to improved animal nutrition, genetics and production practices.
- The number of beef cows declined by 2,593 head (19 per cent) to 11,017 head in 2021. Additionally, beef replacement heifers were down by 1,012 head (40 per cent) to 1,547 head in 2021. Serious drought affected pastures and forage supplies in 2020, which forced many beef farms to downsize. Rising costs and lower profits have also discouraged farmers. Additionally, New Brunswick beef farmers are getting older and retiring from production.
- New Brunswick reported a 16-per-cent increase in the number of pigs to 35,717 head in 2021, largely due to an increase in backyard production. This compares to a national increase of three per cent.



¹⁴ Statistics Canada, The Daily — Canada's 2021 Census of Agriculture: A story about the transformation of the agriculture industry and adaptiveness of Canadian farmers. www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220511/dq220511a-eng.htm

LIVESTOCK ¹⁵	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Total cattle and calves	#	110,942	107,131	105,137	100,297	91,176	89,191	75,091	67,637	56,690
Farms reporting		2,733	2,216	1,926	1,736	1,421	1,262	1,029	834	683
Calves		30,796	28,492	28,240	27,966	25,978	25,499	20,192	18,549	16,171
Farms reporting		2,447	2,018	1,754	1,586	1,305	1,153	929	777	640
Dairy cows		28,050	26,740	23,330	21,265	18,978	18,814	18,534	18,031	16,599
Farms reporting		1,264	879	637	496	369	303	257	227	175
Beef cows		19,454	19,335	22,267	22,881	20,397	22,248	16,312	13,610	11,017
Farms reporting		1,586	1,384	1,297	1,235	979	909	712	557	473
Heifers		21,480	21,273	23,523	17,506	18,435	16,242	15,384	12,813	9,639
Farms reporting		2,208	1,802	1,547	1,360	1,078	906	774	665	537
Steers		8,485	9,333	6,126	8,886	6,078	5,160	3,693	3,614	2,603
Farms reporting		943	822	608	677	424	425	320	276	234
Bulls		2,677	1,958	1,651	1,793	1,310	1,228	976	1,020	661
Farms reporting		1,683	1,334	1,197	1,105	866	764	621	498	375
Total pigs	#	89,620	101,144	76,093	74,471	137,006	107,254	54,630	30,715	35,717
Farms reporting		849	406	291	225	195	124	82	64	58
Sows and bred gilts		11,044	10,241	7,584	7,288	13,027	12,161	9,622	8,151	7,458
Farms reporting		429	229	144	120	104	64	35	40	24
Boars		725	583	446	437	372	206	101	64	27
Farms reporting		322	179	129	106	95	60	31	35	15
All other pigs ¹⁶		77,851	90,320	68,063	66,746	123,607	94,887	44,907	22,500	28,233
Farms reporting		774	374	274	213	180	113	77	58	..
Total sheep and lambs	#	13,317	9,329	10,217	7,266	9,601	7,341	9,283	7,481	6,344
Farms reporting		223	179	161	127	148	131	137	113	104
Lambs		6,177	4,412	5,098	3,692	4,770	3,530	4,780	3,904	3,303
Farms reporting		200	170	150	107	128	110	113	103	87
Ewes and wethers ¹⁷		7,140	4,707	4,918	3,441	4,620	3,620	4,219	3,346	2,873
Farms reporting		213	168	156	118	137	120	128	111	94
Rams		..	210	201	133	211	191	284	231	168
Farms reporting		..	127	110	90	103	101	106	89	84

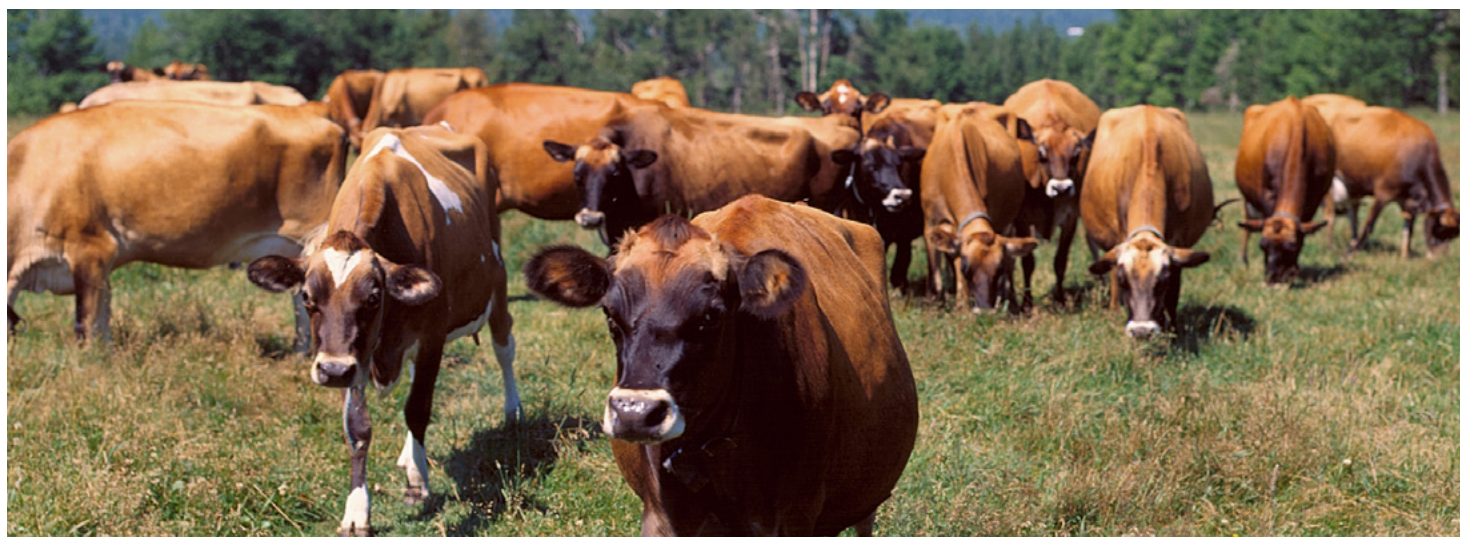
¹⁵ Non-supply managed livestock numbers are likely under-reported since many smaller livestock farms do not file income tax as farmers.

¹⁶ Includes nursing, wiener, grower and finisher pigs.

¹⁷ Census data for 1981 includes rams.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Other livestock	#									
Horses and ponies		2,972	3,339	3,133	2,757	2,661	2,973	2,449	1,518	737
Farm reporting		930	839	667	552	471	476	406	290	127
Goats		816	448	547	806	1,172	1,119	927	994	522
Farms reporting		126	90	90	78	91	77	86	67	43
Llamas and alpacas		0	15	204	303	117	118
Farms reporting		0	8	29	35	25	15
Donkeys and mules		51
Farm reporting		29
Rabbits		19,448	1,584	1,648	1,579	1,113	..	379	265	F
Farms reporting		128	120	118	102	35	..	50	33	8
Mink ¹⁸		18,863	22,069	20,644	x	26,786	46,825	16,524	10,094	F
Farms reporting		11	15	7	2	8	8	13	6	1
Deer		760	177	94	79	F
Farms reporting		8	5	3	3	1
Elk		x	x	46	x	0
Farms reporting		3	2	3	2	0
Bison		x	x	x	x	x	0
Farms reporting		2	2	3	2	1	0
Fox		7,904	32,094	9,448	6,585	1,461	2,327	..	..	..
Farms reporting		42	149	110	49	18	22	..	..	..

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Colonies of bees	#	..	1,996	3,759	4,929	4,291	..	..	..	..
Farms reporting		..	97	113	97	77	96	102	134	..
Colonies of honeybees ¹⁹		7,111	7,806	26,618	10,056
Farms reporting		71	87	116	75



¹⁸ As of 2011, breeding stock only are included in this category. Prior to 2011, all mink were included.

¹⁹ The Census of Agriculture reports the number of live colonies of honeybees owned on census day regardless of location. According to provincial statistics, in 2021 about 13,250 colonies were owned by beekeepers in New Brunswick, compared to 13,619 colonies in 2016, while 28,028 colonies were imported from outside the province and rented for pollination in 2021, compared to 28,658 colonies in 2016.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Poultry inventory	#									
Total hens and chickens		2,241,161	2,668,055	2,413,042	2,663,684	3,487,452	3,272,263	3,131,845	3,142,017	3,068,417
Farms reporting		1,093	651	494	351	305	286	308	312	255
Pullets & pullet chicks <19 weeks ²⁰		316,985	524,537	457,809	330,415	302,795	435,075	229,915	x	236,890
Farms reporting		265	185	132	62	45	51	61	57	49
Laying hens, >19 weeks ²¹		514,673	598,050	579,608	557,693	648,278	640,032	440,698	488,694	488,054
Farms reporting		921	495	337	287	261	245	266	272	208
Broilers, roasters and Cornish hens ²²		1,409,503	1,545,468	1,375,625	1,775,576	2,536,379	2,197,156	2,311,041	2,124,922	2,053,008
Farms reporting		512	329	237	106	94	82	92	76	73
Layer and broiler breeders (pullets and hens) ²³		150,191	x	290,466
Farms reporting		18	19	12
Birds in hatchery supply flocks		..	154,152	174,200	160,727	233,709	227,763	..	..	..
Farms reporting		..	12	9	4	5	5	..	..	..
Turkeys²⁴		85,742	94,557	153,937	188,984	100,629	100,684	x	x	60,527
Farms reporting		92	117	99	56	52	50	41	21	11
Other poultry		2,514	1,254	6,719	10,135	4,079	9,190	4,827	8,254	F
Farms reporting		331	108	114	123	78	65	57	58	..



²⁰ Pullets younger than 19 weeks, intended for laying. Prior to 2011 this category included pullets intended for laying table eggs and pullets intended for layer or broiler breeding. As of 2011, this category includes pullets intended for laying table eggs only.

²¹ Laying hens, 19 weeks and older. Prior to 2011 this category included hens that produce table eggs and hens kept as layer or broiler breeders. As of 2011, this category includes laying hens that produce table eggs only.

²² Broilers, roasters and Cornish hens. Broiler inventories reflect the total number of birds on Census Day and should be used with caution. Poultry inventories will fluctuate because barns that were empty on Census Day had no inventories to report. Users are advised to use the annual production data as a more accurate reflection of changes in these agricultural sectors over time.

²³ Layer and broiler breeders. This is a new category as of 2011 and includes pullets intended for layer or broiler breeding and hens kept as layer or broiler breeders. Prior to 2011, these pullets and hens were included under the categories: "Pullets & pullet chicks <19 weeks" and "Laying hens, >19 weeks".

²⁴ Turkeys. Turkey inventories reflect the total number of birds on Census Day and should be used with caution. Poultry inventories will fluctuate because barns that were empty on Census Day had no inventories to report. Users are advised to use the annual production data as a more accurate reflection of changes in these agricultural sectors over time.

ORGANIC FARMS

- In 2021, four per cent of New Brunswick farms reported certified or transitional organic products for sale, compared to two per cent in 2016. This was higher than the national rate of three per cent of farms in 2021. Between 2016 and 2021, the number of farms reporting certified or transitional organic products increased by over half to 74 farms.

	UNIT	2006	2011	2016	2021
Organic products for sale²⁵	#				
Total farms reporting certified		42	48	40	66
Total farms reporting in transition		2	11	9	8
Total farms reporting uncertified		196	..	..	..
Total farms reporting ²⁶		239	59	49	74



²⁵ Organic products for sale. In the 2006 Census of Agriculture, producers were asked to identify commodities grown that were certified, in transition or uncertified. In 2011, 2016 and 2021, producers were asked to report only those products that were certified or in transition to be certified organic production.

²⁶ The total number of farms reporting does not necessarily equal the sum of the parts because a farm could report more than one category. In the 2006 Census of Agriculture, producers were asked to identify commodities grown that were certified, in transition or uncertified; and in 2011, 2016 and 2021, producers were asked to report only those products that were certified or in transition to be certified organic production.

LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- The area to which commercial fertilizers were applied rose by 2,036 hectares (three per cent), from 75,906 hectares in 2016 to 77,942 hectares in 2021. On the other hand, the area to which insecticides/ fungicides and herbicides were applied decreased by 3,032 hectares (four per cent) and 2,836 hectares (five per cent), respectively.
- The area of conservation tillage totaled 20,530 hectares in 2021, up 42 per cent (6,040 hectares) from 2016. On the contrary, declines were seen in the area of conventional tillage, by three per cent (1,392 hectares) to 40,956 hectares, and no-till area, by two per cent (135 hectares) to 7,397 hectares in 2021.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Land management practices										
Commercial fertilizer - area	ha	75,997	84,048	78,136	90,740	90,067	88,119	78,268	75,906	77,942
Farms reporting	#	2,466	2,291	1,887	1,926	1,806	1,436	1,192	969	856
Insecticide or fungicide - area	ha	26,832	25,589	24,089	49,966	55,622	59,119	56,490	68,299	65,267
Farms reporting	#	926	768	608	1,126	1,076	910	853	828	650
Herbicide - area	ha	40,199	45,799	39,860	45,395	54,018	55,154	60,352	58,422	55,586
Farms reporting	#	1,258	1,170	859	918	995	843	788	743	544
Conventional tillage ²⁷	ha	..	..	52,586	46,463	55,892	51,244	44,231	42,348	40,956
Farms reporting	#	..	..	1,668	1,299	1,339	1,095	836	740	649
Conservation tillage ²⁸	ha	..	..	7,709	10,746	10,083	11,131	15,810	14,490	20,530
Farms reporting	#	..	..	216	268	246	298	278	242	319
No tillage ²⁹	ha	..	..	1,386	1,233	2,052	3,356	4,609	7,532	7,397
Farms reporting	#	..	..	93	94	125	113	160	239	289



²⁷ Conventional tillage is a technique that involves incorporating most crop residue into the soil.

²⁸ Conservation tillage is a technique that involves retaining most crop residue on the surface.

²⁹ No tillage occurs when there is minimal or no disruption of the soil during planting (e.g., the planter does not go as deep into the soil to plant the seeds, and no crop residue is turned over).

AGE OF FARMERS

- The average age of New Brunswick farmers increased by 1.4 years to 57.0 years in 2021, compared to a 1-year increase to 56.0 years at the national level. According to Statistics Canada, “the aging of Canadian farmers is not a new phenomenon and follows general population trends.”³⁰
- Compared to 2016, the proportion of older farm operators (aged 55 and older) increased by six percentage points. Particularly, 63 per cent of operators were aged 55 and older in 2021, compared to 57 per cent in 2016. Conversely, New Brunswick’s share of young operators (below age 35) fell from nine per cent in 2016 to seven per cent in 2021.



AGE CATEGORY	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Younger than age 35	#	777	588	695	525	350	270	225	260	165
35 to 54 years		1,830	1,703	2,225	2,355	2,135	1,815	1,355	1,025	755
55 years and over		1,456	1,263	1,320	1,460	1,410	1,605	1,895	1,720	1,555
Average age of N.B. farmers	years	47.9	48.5	48.1	49.4	51.0	52.8	55.5	55.6	57.0

TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION

- The use of technology on farms has become more popular as the agriculture sector adapts and modernizes. Of note, is a 61 per cent increase in the use of automatic steering systems, from 97 farms reporting use in 2016 to 156 farms in 2021; as well as a 100-per-cent rise in the number of farms using robotic milkers to reach 44 farms in 2021.

	UNIT	2016	2021
Technology adoption	#		
Soil sample test ³¹		..	485
Slow-release fertilizer ³²		..	398
Variable-rate input application ³³		..	258
Automated steering (auto-steer)		97	156
GIS mapping (e.g. soil mapping)		129	131
Drones ³⁴		..	52
Robotic milking		22	44
Greenhouse automation		25	4

³⁰ Statistics Canada, The Daily — Canada’s 2021 Census of Agriculture: A story about the transformation of the agriculture industry and adaptiveness of Canadian farmers. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220511/dq220511a-eng.htm>

³¹ New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

³² New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

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³⁴ New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

FARM LABOUR

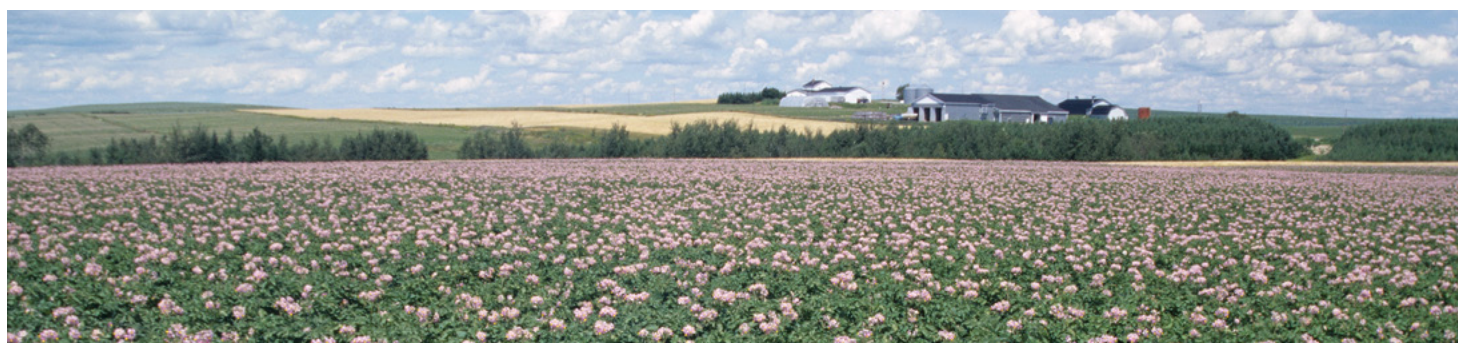
- In 2021, 644 (35 per cent) of New Brunswick farms paid wages or salaries for agricultural work.
- Of these 644 farming operations, 56 per cent (362 farms) reported full-time year-round workers, 26 per cent (168 farms) reported part-time year-round workers and 66 per cent (428 farms) reported paying seasonal or temporary wages or salaries.
- In 2021, New Brunswick reported an 11- per-cent decrease in the total number of agricultural employees. Particularly, the number of year-round employees (full- and part-time) fell by five per cent (125 employees), while the number of seasonal or temporary employees declined by 14 per cent (569 employees).
- The number of farm operators³⁵ in New Brunswick fell by 18 per cent (530 operators), from 3,005 in 2016 to 2,475 in 2021; this is similar to the 18-per-cent decline seen in farm numbers over the same period.

	UNIT	2011	2016	2021
Paid agricultural work	#			
Total employees		7,452	6,262	5,569
Year-round employees (full-and part-time)		2,024	2,282	2,157
Seasonal or temporary employees		5,428	3,980	3,411

FARM REVENUES AND EXPENSES

- New Brunswick's total gross farm receipts (farm revenues) rose by \$114.8 million (19 per cent), from \$619.4 million in 2016 to \$734.2 million in 2021, marking the highest farm revenues in Atlantic Canada. Nationally, revenues increased by one-quarter over the same period.
- Operating expenses also increased by one-fifth (\$103.1 million) to reach \$627.1 million in 2021.
- On average, for every dollar in gross farm revenues, farms incurred 85 cents in expenses in 2021 for an expense-to-receipt ratio of 0.85. Rounded to the nearest cent, the ratio was unchanged from 2016. The stability in the expense-to-receipt ratio indicates that farms were similarly profitable in 2021 as they were in 2016.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Farm revenues and expenses	\$'000									
Total gross farm receipts		154,011	222,681	301,068	325,684	444,990	493,810	552,770	619,383	734,196
Total farm operating expenses		..	204,447	250,600	284,157	383,725	423,017	476,630	524,051	627,118
Total gross profits ³⁶		..	18,234	50,469	41,527	61,264	70,793	76,140	95,333	107,078



³⁵ Farm operators are individuals involved in the day-to-day management decisions in operating a census farm. The total number of farm operators is higher than the number of farms since it is possible to have more than one operator on a farm.

³⁶ These are nominal profits; i.e., they have not been adjusted for inflation.

FARM CAPITAL

- The value of farm capital in New Brunswick totaled \$2.7 billion in 2021, up 18 per cent (\$408.0 million) from 2016. This was driven by higher values of land and buildings as well as machinery/equipment. The average value of farm capital per farm rose by 43 per cent, from \$1.0 million in 2016 to \$1.5 million in 2021.
- In 2021, farmland and buildings increased in value by \$379.7 million (21 per cent) to \$2.2 billion, representing the largest absolute increase during this period. The value of land and buildings accounted for 80 per cent of the total capital value in 2021. According to statistics Canada, “strong commodity prices, low interest rates and a growing demand for housing in urban areas have been identified as contributing factors to the rising value of farmland in Canada.”³⁷
- The value of machinery and equipment increased by 14 per cent (\$58.1 million) to reach \$463.4 million in 2021. The value of machinery and equipment per farm depends on the type of production, for example, potato and dairy farming are particularly capital intensive, with the average value of machinery per farm notably higher than that on most other farming operations.
- The value of livestock and poultry capital declined by \$29.9 million (27 per cent) to \$82.6 million in 2021.

	UNIT	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Total farm capital	\$'000	667,245	760,748	919,550	1,129,098	1,519,440	1,828,016	2,022,358	2,319,572	2,727,535
Farms reporting	#	4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255	1,851
Land and buildings	\$'000	440,550	489,384	598,540	776,910	1,064,895	1,341,303	1,568,960	1,801,748	2,181,477
Farms reporting	#	4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255	1,851
Machinery and equipment	\$'000	141,671	176,820	220,473	258,512	334,213	389,273	368,930	405,333	463,430
Farms reporting	#	4,006	3,470	3,194	3,268	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255	1,743
Livestock and poultry	\$'000	85,024	94,544	100,537	93,676	120,332	97,440	84,468	112,491	82,628
Farms reporting	#	3,076	2,678	2,413	2,191	1,836	1,719	1,486	1,269	984

³⁷ Statistics Canada, The Daily — Canada’s 2021 Census of Agriculture: A story about the transformation of the agriculture industry and adaptiveness of Canadian farmers. www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220511/dq220511a-eng.htm

DIRECT MARKETING

- About 26 per cent of New Brunswick farm operations sold agricultural products directly to consumers for human consumption in 2021, compared to 22 per cent in 2016. This is higher than the national average of 14 per cent in 2021.
- About 95 per cent of these farms reported selling unprocessed agricultural products directly to consumers, while 16 per cent sold value-added products.
- Out of the 480 farm operations selling agricultural products directly to consumers:
 - 61 per cent used on-site farm stores, stands, kiosks, U-pick or farm gate sales;
 - 53 per cent reported direct deliveries;
 - 27 per cent sold their products at farmers markets;
 - 13 per cent used off-site farm stores or stands; and
 - Six per cent reported using Community Supported Agriculture.

	UNIT	2016	2021
Direct sales	#		
All farms reporting		498	480
<u>Type</u>			
Farms reporting unprocessed agricultural products sold		482	456
Farms reporting value-added products sold		89	78
<u>Method</u>			
Farms reporting using on-site farm stores, stands, kiosks, U-pick or farm gate sales		420	294
Farms reporting using direct deliveries to consumers ³⁸		..	254
Farms reporting using farmers' markets		163	129
Farms reporting using off-site farm stores or stands ³⁹		..	60
Farms reporting using Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)		33	30
Farms reporting using other methods		..	10

SUCCESSION PLANNING

- The share of New Brunswick farm operations with a written succession plan increased slightly from seven per cent in 2016 to eight per cent in 2021, with 98 per cent listing a family member as the successor. This compares to a national average of farms with a written succession plan of 12 per cent in 2021. According to Statistics Canada, "farms in the larger revenue classes were more likely to report a succession plan in New Brunswick."⁴⁰ This may explain the difference between provincial and national rates, since the proportion of New Brunswick farms in larger revenue classes (over \$100,000) was lower than the national average (34 per cent compared to 44 per cent).
- In 2021, 21 per cent of the province's farms (382 farms) reported having a verbal succession plan. This census year was the first year farm operators were required to report having such a plan.

	UNIT	2016	2021
Succession planning	#		
Written succession plan		160	142
Successor(s) - family member(s)		142	139
Successor(s) - non-family member(s)		18	7
Verbal succession plan only ⁴¹		..	382
No succession plan ⁴²		..	1,327

³⁸ New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

³⁹ New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

⁴⁰ Statistics Canada, New Brunswick leads Atlantic Canada in maple taps and lowbush blueberries. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/96-325-x/2021001/article/00004-eng.htm>

⁴¹ New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

⁴² New for 2021 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

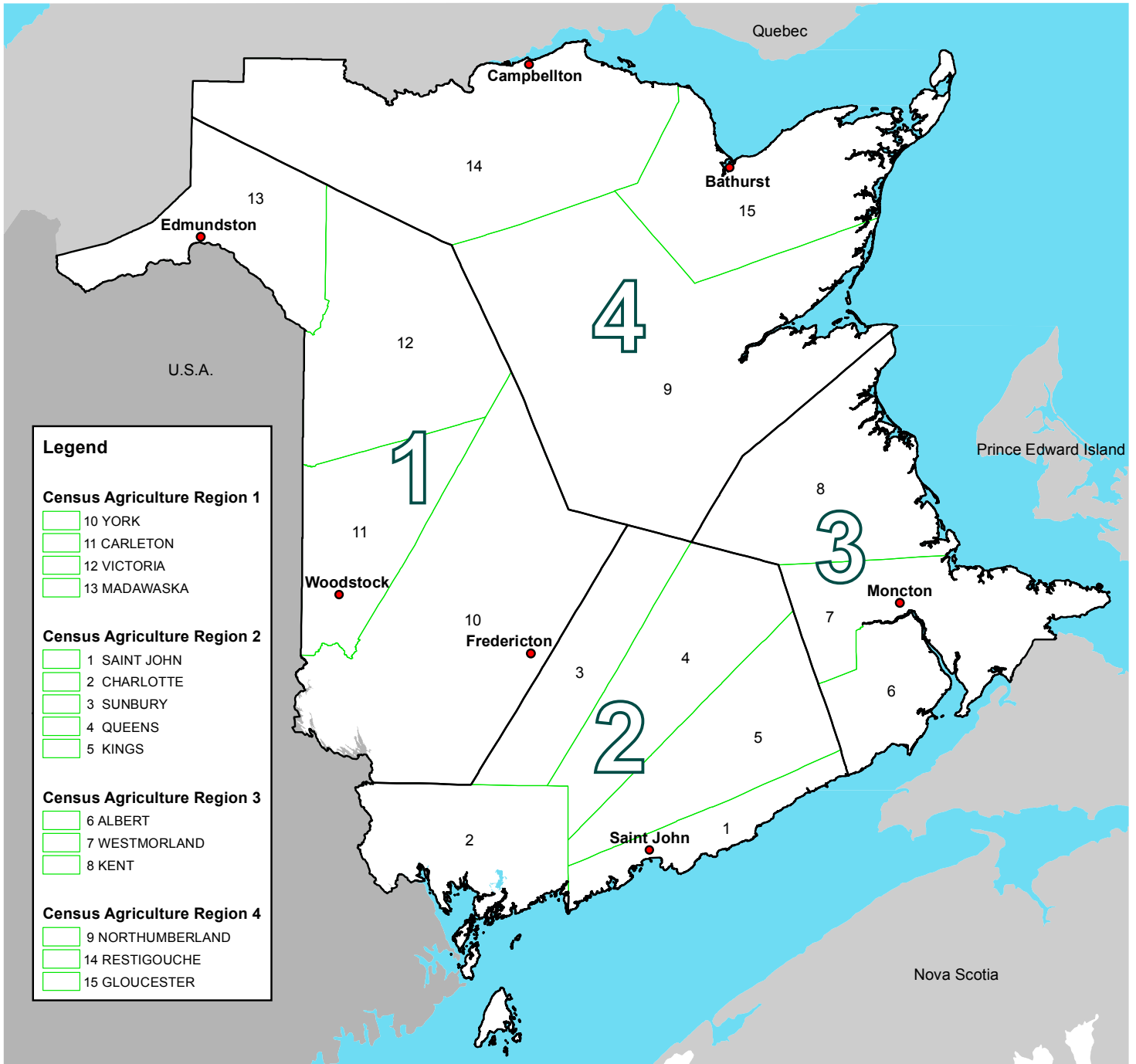
- The number of New Brunswick farm operations with renewable energy producing systems increased by 318 per cent (124 farms) to 163 farms in 2021. Proportionately, the share of farms reporting renewable energy production rose to nine per cent in 2021, compared to two per cent in 2016. Nationally, about 12 per cent of all farms reported renewable energy production in 2021.
- Solar energy and bioenergy production were the most popular forms of renewable energy production on New Brunswick farms.

	UNIT	2016	2021
Renewable energy producing systems	#		
All farms reporting		39	163
Solar		31	79
Wind		3	9
Geothermal		0	26
Hydroelectric power generator		0	0
Bioenergy		0	74
Other renewable energy producing systems		8	0



⁴³ Bioenergy includes anaerobic biodigesters (biogas or methane) and biodiesel production systems. According to provincial statistics, New Brunswick had one anaerobic biodigester in 2016.

Census of agriculture regions for New Brunswick



HIGHLIGHTS FOR CENSUS AGRICULTURAL REGION 1

Regional profile

- This census agricultural region comprises York, Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska counties.
- Between 2016 and 2021, the number of farms decreased by 16 per cent (117 farms) to 625 farms in 2021. This region had the largest farm count, representing about one-third of New Brunswick farms.
- At 127,869 hectares, the region accounted for the largest share (46 per cent) of total provincial farmland area.
- This region also generated the highest gross farm receipts, totaling \$433.5 million in 2021, accounting for 59 per cent of total provincial receipts. Compared to 2016, receipts grew by 26 per cent (\$90.5 million).

Farm enterprises

- Compared to 2016, the number of maple farms rose by 21 per cent (eight farms) to 47 farms in 2021. With respect to farm count, the following farm types remained relatively stable: beef cattle (127 farms in 2021), tree fruit and berry (37 farms), field vegetables (22 farms), poultry and egg (21 farms) and greenhouse vegetables (three farms).
- On the other hand, declines were noted in the number of potato farms (by 31 farms, 24 per cent), other animal farms (by 31 farms, 50 per cent), hay and other crop farms (by 20 farms, 15 per cent), dairy farms (by 14 farms, 25 per cent), nursery and floriculture farms (by 11 farms, 17 per cent), oilseed and grain farms (by 8 farms, 25 per cent) and sheep and goat farms (by 7 farms, 54 per cent).

Crops

- At 20,395 hectares, this region accounted for the largest share (96 per cent) of provincial farmland dedicated to potatoes. Compared to the previous census, potato area rose by 12 per cent.
- The number of maple taps in the region increased by 57 per cent to total 1.2 million taps in 2021. This region had the second largest number of taps, after census agricultural region 4, representing 35 per cent of the total count.
- This region also had the largest share of provincial area dedicated to oats (83 per cent) and barley (80 per cent). Compared to the previous census, increases were seen in both oat and barley areas in 2021, by 2,576 hectares (32 per cent) and 238 hectares (five per cent), respectively.
- The area in Christmas trees also rose by 49 per cent (707 hectares) to 2,139 hectares in 2021, representing 91 per cent of the provincial total.

Livestock and poultry products

- The number of hens and chickens in the region declined slightly by two per cent to total 2.2 million birds in 2021; nonetheless, the region continued to account for the largest share (72 per cent) across the province.
- The region also accounted for 97 per cent of New Brunswick turkeys, at 58,495 birds in 2021.
- The number of beef cows and dairy cows declined by 14 per cent (624 head) and nine per cent (402 head), respectively. Nonetheless, the region reported the largest share (34 per cent) of the province's beef cows.
- A four-per-cent decrease was noted in the number of sheep and lambs to 2,228 head in 2021.



	UNIT	2016	2021		UNIT	2016	2021
Population	#	176,989	182,536	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	742	625	Potatoes	ha	18,171	20,395
Total farm area	ha	145,595	127,869	Hay	ha	20,599	20,225
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	342,964	433,502	Oats	ha	8,027	10,603
				Barley	ha	5,272	5,510
Farms classified by farm type				Soybeans	ha	4,530	2,705
Beef cattle	#	128	127	Wheat	ha	3,539	2,372
Hay and other crops	#	131	111	Grain corn	ha	3,395	2,360
Potato	#	130	99	Christmas trees	ha	1,432	2,139
Nursery and floriculture	#	65	54	Corn for silage	ha	955	1,039
Maple products	#	39	47	Field vegetables	ha	131	135
Dairy	#	55	41	Apples	ha	60	73
Tree fruit and berry	#	37	37	Cranberries	ha	x	0
Other animals	#	62	31	Blueberries	ha	112	F
Oilseed and grain	#	32	24	Greenhouse area in use	m ²	60,155	69,222
Field vegetables and melon	#	21	22	Maple taps	#	796,883	1,247,885
Poultry and egg	#	22	21				
Sheep and goat	#	13	6	Selected livestock (head)			
Greenhouse vegetable	#	3	3	Hens and chickens	#	2,276,819	2,224,052
Hog and pig	#	3	2	Turkeys	#	x	58,495
Mushroom	#	1	0	Dairy cows	#	4,431	4,029
				Beef cows	#	4,401	3,777
Organics products (farms reporting)				Sheep and lambs	#	2,325	2,228
Certified organic products for sale	#	11	17	Goats	#	212	F
Transitional organic products for sale	#	4	3	Pigs	#	x	F
Farms reporting direct sales	#	150	154	Colonies of honey bees	#	1,203	F



HIGHLIGHTS FOR CENSUS AGRICULTURAL REGION 2

Regional profile

- This census agricultural region includes Saint John, Charlotte, Sunbury, Queens and Kings counties.
- One-quarter of New Brunswick's farms were in this region, marking the second-largest share. This region also reported the largest decline in farm numbers of 130 farms (22 per cent) to 468 farms in 2021.
- Farmland area totaled 56,950 hectares in 2021, down 27 per cent (21,187 hectares) from 2016. Nonetheless, the region continued to report the second-largest farmland area in the province.
- Furthermore, the region reported a decline in gross farm revenues of 11 per cent to \$103.6 million in 2021.

Farm enterprises

- The number of beef farms rose by 11 farms (13 per cent) to 98 farms in 2021. Increases were also seen in the number of greenhouse vegetable farms (by 2 farms, 100 per cent), oilseed and grain farms (by two farms, 40 per cent), pig farms (by one farm, 25 per cent), sheep and goat farms (by one farm, 20 per cent) and poultry and egg farms (by one farm, eight per cent).
- On the other hand, the following farm types experienced reductions: hay and other crops (by 49 farms, 38 per cent), other animals (by 38 farms, 43 per cent), tree fruit and berry (by 24 farms, 25 per cent), nursery and floriculture (by 21 farms, 46 per cent), maple products (by 7 farms, 78 per cent), dairy (by six farms, eight per cent) and field vegetables (by four farms, 13 per cent).

Crops

- In 2021, there were 740 hectares dedicated to grain corn, an increase of 75 per cent from 2016. The region accounted for 22 per cent and the second-largest share of New Brunswick's farmland in grain corn. Farmland area in corn silage also rose, by 37 per cent to 1,001 hectares.
- With respect to greenhouse area in use, the region ranked second with 55,183 m² in use, representing 35 per cent of provincial share. Compared to 2016, the area in use decreased by three per cent.
- Decreases were noted in the area dedicated to oats (by 24 per cent), hay (by 15 per cent), blueberries (by eight per cent), field vegetables (by seven per cent) and apples (by seven per cent).

Livestock and poultry products

- Between 2016 and 2021, the number of hens and chickens increased by 41 per cent to 434,816 birds.
- This region reported the largest share of pigs (58 per cent) and dairy cows (40 per cent) in the province in 2021. Compared to 2016, the number of pigs dropped by 1,663 head (seven per cent), while the dairy cow count declined by 444 head (six per cent). The number of beef cows also fell during this period by 1,048 head (27 per cent).
- Increases were seen in the number of goats (by 14 per cent) and sheep and lambs (by nine per cent).

Honey bee colonies

- The number of farms reporting honey bee colonies in this region decreased by 15 farms (44 per cent) to 19 farms in 2021, while the number of colonies also dropped by 11 per cent to 4,919 colonies in 2021. The region accounted for 49 per cent of honey bee colonies in New Brunswick, ranking first in the province.



	UNIT	2016	2021		UNIT	2016	2021
Population	#	206,505	212,619	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	598	468	Hay	ha	20,718	17,570
Total farm area	ha	78,137	56,950	Blueberries	ha	1,578	1,452
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	115,824	103,642	Corn for silage	ha	729	1,001
				Grain corn	ha	424	740
Farms classified by farm type				Oats	ha	836	636
Beef cattle	#	87	98	Field vegetables	ha	269	250
Hay and other crops	#	130	81	Cranberries	ha	x	76
Dairy	#	80	74	Apples	ha	74	69
Tree fruit and berry	#	95	71	Wheat	ha	245	F
Other animals	#	89	51	Barley	ha	199	F
Field vegetables and melon	#	30	26	Christmas trees	ha	177	F
Nursery and floriculture	#	46	25	Soybeans	ha	156	F
Poultry and egg	#	13	14	Potatoes	ha	59	F
Oilseed and grain	#	5	7	Greenhouse area in use	m ²	56,901	55,183
Sheep and goat	#	5	6	Maple taps	#	19,648	F
Hog and pig	#	4	5				
Greenhouse vegetable	#	2	4	Selected livestock (head)			
Potato	#	3	3	Hens and chickens	#	308,355	434,816
Maple products	#	9	2	Pigs	#	22,386	20,723
Mushroom	#	0	1	Dairy cows	#	7,056	6,612
				Beef cows	#	3,871	2,823
Organics products (farms reporting)				Sheep and lambs	#	1,658	1,799
Certified organic products for sale	#	5	5	Goats	#	152	174
Transitional organic products for sale	#	0	0	Turkeys	#	x	F
Farms reporting direct sales	#	130	128	Colonies of honey bees	#	5,511	4,919



HIGHLIGHTS FOR CENSUS AGRICULTURAL REGION 3

Regional profile

- This census region comprises Albert, Westmorland and Kent counties.
- In 2021, the region reported 24 per cent of New Brunswick's farms. Compared to 2016, the number of farms fell by 17 per cent (91 farms) to 445 farms in 2021.
- Over the same period, the total farmland area in the region dropped by 22 per cent (15,229 hectares) to 53,237 hectares.
- Nonetheless, gross farm receipts increased by 31 per cent, from \$88.2 million in 2016 to \$115.4 million in 2021.

Farm enterprises

- Between 2016 and 2021, there were increases in the number of poultry and egg farms (by two farms, 22 per cent) and greenhouse vegetable farms (by one farm, 25 per cent).
- The number of sheep and goat, pig and mushroom farms remained stable in the region.
- Farm types that declined the most in number were tree fruit and berry (by 23 farms, 20 per cent), other animals (by 18 farms, 32 per cent), hay and other crops (by 16 farms, 16 per cent), dairy (by 14 farms, 29 per cent) and maple (by 11 farms, 58 per cent).

Crops

- The region reported the largest share of cranberries (43 per cent) and apples (41 per cent) in the province in 2021. Farmland area dedicated to apples was up 18 per cent compared to 2016.

- Blueberry area rose by 29 per cent (719 hectares) to 3,213 hectares in 2021.
- The total greenhouse area in use increased by 18 per cent to 20,531 m².
- The region reported declines in hay (by 16 per cent), field vegetables (by 15 per cent) and oats (by 12 per cent).

Livestock and poultry products

- In 2021, the largest share of New Brunswick's sheep and lambs were reported in this region at 83 per cent. Compared to 2016, the head count increased by 1,984 head (61 per cent) to 5,260 head in 2021.
- The region also reported the second-largest share of the province's pigs (41 per cent), beef cows (34 per cent), goats (31 per cent) and dairy cows (29 per cent).
- The number of hens and chickens was 14 per cent lower in 2021 than in 2016, totaling 274,948 birds in 2021.

Honey bee colonies

- Both the number of honey bee farms and colonies decreased during the last census period, by 35 per cent (12 farms) and 28 per cent (1,574 colonies), respectively. A total of 4,032 colonies were reported in the region in 2021, accounting for 40 per cent and the second-largest share of colonies in the province.



	UNIT	2016	2021		UNIT	2016	2021
Population	#	209,256	226,494	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	536	445	Hay	ha	18,288	15,271
Total farm area	ha	68,466	53,237	Blueberries	ha	2,494	3,213
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	88,199	115,411	Corn for silage	ha	x	1,328
				Oats	ha	994	876
Farms classified by farm type				Field vegetables	ha	215	183
Beef cattle	#	104	101	Cranberries	ha	x	116
Tree fruit and berry	#	114	91	Apples	ha	87	103
Hay and other crops	#	97	81	Soybeans	ha	624	F
Other animals	#	57	39	Barley	ha	502	F
Dairy	#	49	35	Potatoes	ha	397	F
Field vegetables and melon	#	24	22	Wheat	ha	104	F
Nursery and floriculture	#	22	19	Christmas trees	ha	89	F
Sheep and goat	#	17	17	Grain corn	ha	x	F
Poultry and egg	#	9	11	Greenhouse area in use	m ²	17,460	2,0531
Maple products	#	19	8	Maple taps	#	89,077	F
Oilseed and grain	#	11	8				
Greenhouse vegetable	#	4	5	Selected livestock (head)			
Potato	#	5	4	Hens and chickens	#	319,650	274,948
Hog and pig	#	2	2	Pigs	#	x	14,678
Mushroom	#	2	2	Sheep and lambs	#	3,276	5,260
				Dairy cows	#	4,967	4,845
Organics products (farms reporting)				Beef cows	#	4,718	3,753
Certified organic products for sale	#	10	8	Goats	#	401	161
Transitional organic products for sale	#	3	3	Turkeys	#	454	F
Farms reporting direct sales	#	140	132	Colonies of honey bees	#	5,606	4,032



HIGHLIGHTS FOR CENSUS AGRICULTURAL REGION 4

Regional profile

- Census agricultural region 4 consists of Northumberland, Restigouche and Gloucester counties.
- This region reported the lowest farm count in New Brunswick at 313 farms, down 17 per cent from 2016. The region accounted for 17 per cent of the province's farms.
- Similarly, the region posted the lowest share of farmland in the province at 14 per cent or a total of 39,307 hectares.
- Nonetheless, gross revenues from agricultural operations grew by 13 per cent to reach \$81.6 million in 2021.

Farm enterprises

- In 2021, there were increases in the following farm types: maple (by 13 farms, 30 per cent), beef cattle (by eight farms, 80 per cent), greenhouse vegetables (by two farms, 100 per cent), sheep and goat (by one farm, 33 per cent) and mushroom (by one farm, 100 per cent). The number of poultry and egg farms remained stable.
- The greatest declines were seen in the number of tree fruit and berry farms (by 49 farms, 29 per cent), field vegetable farms (by nine farms, 53 per cent), hay and other crop farms (nine farms, 19 per cent), nursery and floriculture farms (by eight farms, 35 per cent), oilseed and grain farms (by six farms, 60 per cent) and dairy farms (by five farms, 29 per cent).

Crops

- Between 2016 and 2021, the number of maple taps in the region increased by three-fifths to reach 2.2 million taps, accounting for the largest share (63 per cent) in the province.
- About 65 per cent of the area dedicated to blueberry production in 2021 was reported in this region. From 2016, the area in blueberries declined by 29 per cent (3,882 hectares) to 9,484 hectares in 2021.⁴⁴
- The area dedicated to oats rose by 62 per cent (237 hectares), while decreases were seen in areas dedicated to hay (by 544 hectares, 10 per cent), barley (by 261 hectares, 28 per cent), field vegetables (by 25 hectares, 31 per cent) and greenhouse vegetables (by 16,539 m², 53 per cent).

Livestock and poultry products

- The number of beef cows reported increased by seven per cent (44 head) in 2021 compared to 2016.
- On the other hand, hens and chickens, dairy cows and goats in this region declined in numbers by 102,592 head (43 per cent), 464 head (29 per cent) and 88 head (38 per cent), respectively.



⁴⁴ The blueberry area reported by Statistics Canada may be over-estimated in 2016 and under-estimated in 2021. According to provincial estimates, the area dedicated to blueberry production in this region increased slightly between 2016 and 2021.

	UNIT	2016	2021		UNIT	2016	2021
Population	#	154,351	153,961	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	379	313	Blueberries	ha	13,366	9,484
Total farm area	ha	45,848	39,307	Hay	ha	5,413	4,869
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	72,397	81,641	Barley	ha	930	669
				Oats	ha	380	617
Farms classified by farm type				Cranberries	ha	77	80
Tree fruit and berry	#	169	120	Field vegetables	ha	81	56
Maple products	#	44	57	Wheat	ha	145	F
Hay and other crops	#	48	39	Soybeans	ha	127	F
Beef cattle	#	10	18	Christmas trees	ha	86	F
Other animals	#	22	18	Potatoes	ha	85	F
Nursery and floriculture	#	23	15	Apples	ha	2	F
Dairy	#	17	12	Grain corn	ha	x	F
Field vegetables and melon	#	17	8	Corn for silage	ha	x	F
Poultry and egg	#	7	7	Greenhouse area in use	m ²	30,987	14,448
Potato	#	6	5	Maple taps	#	1,380,177	2,207,168
Greenhouse vegetable	#	2	4				
Oilseed and grain	#	10	4	Selected livestock (head)			
Sheep and goat	#	3	4	Hens and chickens	#	237,193	134,601
Mushroom	#	1	2	Dairy cows	#	1,577	1,113
Hog and pig	#	0	0	Beef cows	#	620	664
				Goats	#	229	141
Organics products (farms reporting)				Pigs	#	266	F
Certified organic products for sale	#	14	36	Sheep and lambs	#	222	F
Transitional organic products for sale	#	2	2	Turkeys	#	x	F
Farms reporting direct sales	#	78	66	Colonies of honey bees	#	14,298	F

