

# Antigonish County Agricultural Profile

2021



# Antigonish County

The county produced



**Operating Revenues**

**\$27,821,914**

Accounting for 3.9 percent of all farm operating revenues in the province, Antigonish is the 6th largest county in Nova Scotia out of 18, in terms of agricultural operating revenues.

## SOME NUMBERS

DID YOU KNOW?

Antigonish County accounted for **11%** of the provinces Dairy Cattle and Milk farms.

DID YOU KNOW?

Cattle farming in Antigonish decreased **9%** from the previous census and comprised **8%** of the NS sector total. The most significant shift in Cattle farming was a **24%** decrease in the number of Dairy farms, while the number of Beef farms increased by **3%**.

### FUN FACT:

Antigonish county was home to **1** Mushroom farm in 2021, equal to **20%** of the provincial total.

## MOST SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN NUMBER OF FARMS

**36%**  
DECLINE IN THE  
NUMBER OF  
NURSERY AND TREE  
FARMS.  
FROM 28 TO 18.

**37%**  
DECLINE IN THE  
NUMBER OF HAY  
FARMS.  
FROM 27 TO 17.

### DID YOU KNOW?

In 2021, the leading agriculture industry in terms of number of farms was Cattle Ranching and Farming (Beef & Dairy) at 728 farms, with the number of farms increasing by 53 from 2016.

**5%**

**Farms in  
Nova Scotia**

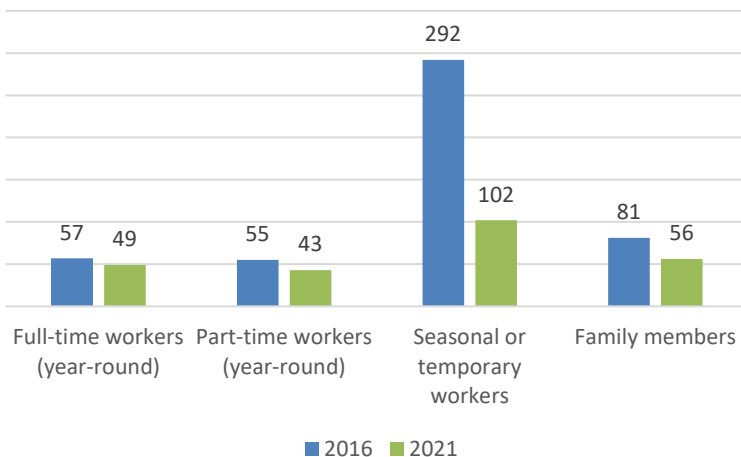
As of the past Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, Antigonish County made up 5 percent of all farms in Nova Scotia.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016
Number of Farms	235	201	147	-27%
Total Farm Area (acres)	64,864	54,261	38,844	-28%
Average Farm Size (acres)	276	270	264	-2%
Gross Farm Receipts/ Operating Revenues*	\$26.1 million	\$28.1 million	*\$27.8 million	-
Average Per Farm	\$111,145	\$133,209	*\$191,875	-
Operating Expenses	\$21.0 million	\$22.7 million	\$23.6 million	+4%
Average Per Farm	\$89,410	\$107,643	\$161,079	+50%
Average Expense to Revenue Ratio	0.80	0.81	*0.91	-

\* In 2021, the Census of Agriculture reported farm operating revenues in lieu of farm cash receipts.

2021 Operator Characteristics	2016	2021	% Change since 2016
Total Number of Operators	255	185	-27%
Total Male Operators	195	145	-26%
Total Female Operators	60	45	-25%
Average Age of Principle Operator	56	56.6	+1%

### Paid labour by type

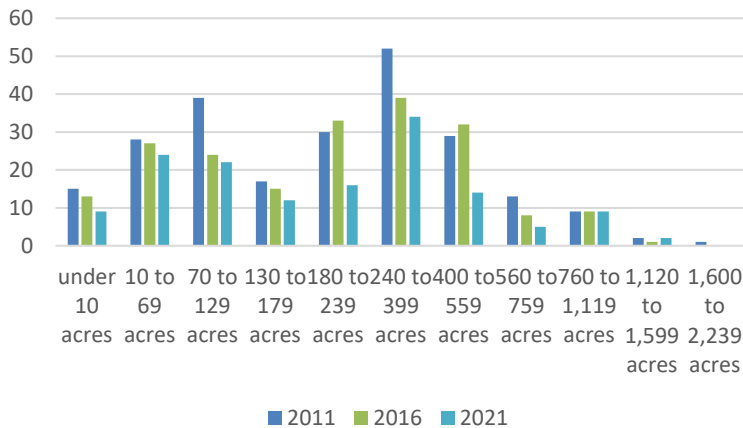


The number of full-time workers decreased 14% from 57 to 49 workers between 2016-2021.

The number of seasonal or temporary workers decreased 65% from 292 to 102 between 2016-2021.

The number of paid family members decreased by 31% from 81 to 56, while the number of part-time workers also decreased 22% from 55 to 43.

## Farms by size - Acres

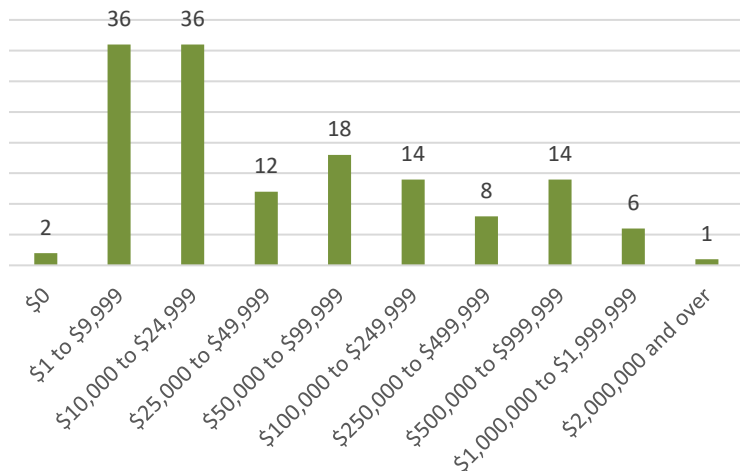


The most significant shift was in the number of farms sized 400-559 acres from 32 to 14 farms.

Other notable changes include a reduction of 17 farms sized 180-239 acres, and 5 fewer farms sized 240-399 acres.

The only increase was in the number of farms sized 1,120-1,599 acres, from 1 to 2 farms.

## Farms by revenue - 2021



The largest concentration of farms by a revenue category was in the \$1-\$9,999, and \$10,000-\$24,999 accounting for 24% respectively.

There were 7 farms earning revenues over \$1,000,000.

30% of farms were earning revenues above \$100,000.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Total number of Farms	235	201	147	-27%	5%
Cattle ranching and farming	74	66	60	-9%	8%
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	40	37	38	3%	7%
Dairy cattle and milk production	34	29	22	-24%	11%
Hog and pig farming	1	0	0		0%
Poultry and egg production	5	5	1	-80%	1%
Chicken egg production	4	4	0	-100%	0%
Broiler and other meat-type chicken production	1	0	1		1%
Turkey production	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Poultry hatcheries	0	0	0		0%
Combination poultry and egg production	0	0	0		0%
All other poultry production	0	0	0		0%

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
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Sheep and goat farming	6	3	3	0%	4%
Sheep farming	4	2	3	50%	5%
Goat farming	2	1	0		0%
Other animal production	22	13	12	-8%	4%
Apiculture	0	2	4	100%	6%
Horse and other equine production	9	6	3	-50%	4%
Fur-bearing animal and rabbit production	1	0	0		0%
Animal combination farming	12	5	4	-20%	4%
All other miscellaneous animal production	0	0	1		10%
Oilseed and grain farming	0	2	0	-100%	0%
Oilseed (except soybean) farming	0	0	0		0%
Dry pea and bean farming	0	0	0		0%
Wheat farming	0	0	0		0%
Corn farming	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Other grain farming	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Vegetable and melon farming	3	3	5	67%	4%
Potato farming	0	0	0		0%
Other vegetable (except potato) and melon farming	3	3	5	67%	4%
Fruit and tree nut farming	46	44	23	-48%	3%
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production	47	31	22	-29%	7%
Mushroom production	0	0	1		20%
Other food crops grown under cover	1	0	3		5%
Nursery and tree production	42	28	18	-36%	7%
Floriculture production	4	3	0	-100%	0%
Other crop farming	31	34	21	-38%	6%
Hay farming	27	27	17	-37%	7%
Fruit and vegetable combination farming	0	0	1		6%
Maple syrup and products production	0	3	2	-33%	5%
All other miscellaneous crop farming	4	4	1	-75%	1%