Cape Breton County Agricultural Profile

2021



Cape Breton County

The county produced



Operating Revenues

\$17,523,530

Accounting for 2.4 percent of all farm operating revenues in the province, Cape Breton was the 10th largest county in Nova Scotia out of 18, in terms of agricultural operating revenues.

SOME NUMBERS

DID YOU KNOW?

Cape Breton County accounted for **5%** of the provinces Vegetable and Melon farms OID YOU KNOW?

Cattle farming in Cape Breton increased **58%** from the previous census and comprised **3%** of the NS sector total. The most significant shift in Cattle farming was an **88%** increase in the number of Beef farms, while the number of dairy farms stayed the same.

FUN FACT:

Cape Breton county was home to **3** Apiculture farms in 2021, equal to **5%** of the provincial total.

MOST SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN NUMBER OF FARMS

100% DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF FLORICULTURE FARMS. FROM 6 TO 0. 68% DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF HAY FARMS. FROM 19 TO 6.

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.

2%

Farms in Nova Scotia

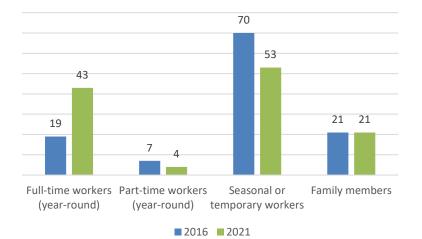
As of the past Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, Cape Breton County made up 2 percent of all farms in Nova Scotia.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016
Number of Farms	90	75	67	-11%
Total Farm Area (acres)	13,338	13,478	-	-
Average Farm Size (acres)	148	180	-	-
Gross Farm Receipts/	\$11.8	\$10.4	*\$17.5	
Operating Revenues*	million	million	million	-
Average Per Farm	\$130,986	\$139,141	*\$282,638	-
	\$8.9	\$9.3	\$14.8	
Operating Expenses	million	million	million	+59%
Average Per Farm	\$77,085	\$93,849	\$236,073	+152%
Average Expense to Revenue				
Ratio	0.59	0.67	*0.85	-

^{*} 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	100	95	-5%
Total Male Operators	80	70	-13%
Total Female Operators	20	25	+25%
Average Age of Principle Operator	59.4	58.7	-1%

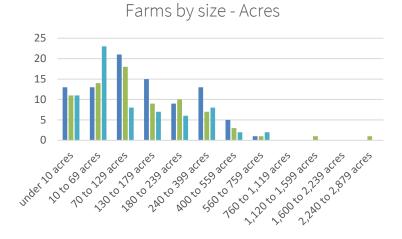
Paid labour by type



The number of full-time workers increased by 126% from 19 to 43 between 2016-2021.

The number of seasonal or temporary workers decreased by 24% from 70 to 53 workers between 2016-2021.

While the number of paid family members stayed the same at 21, the number of part-time workers decreased by 43% from 7 to 4 between 2016-2021.



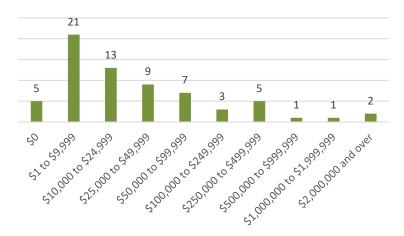
The most significant shift was in the number of farms sized 70 to 129 acres from 18 to 8.

Other notable changes include a reduction of 4 farms sized 180-239 acres and 2 fewer farms sized 130-179 acres.

The most significant increase was in the number of farms sized 10-69 acres from 14 to 23 farms.

Farms by revenue - 2021

■2011 **■**2016 **■**2021



The largest concentration of farms was in the \$1, to \$9,999 revenue category accounting for 31% of the total share of farms.

There were 3 farms that earned revenues over \$1,000,000.

16% of farms were earning revenues above \$100,000.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Total number of Farms	90	75	67	-11%	2%
Cattle ranching and farming	17	12	19	58%	3%
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	12	8	15	88%	3%
Dairy cattle and milk production	5	4	4	0%	2%
Hog and pig farming	1	1	0	-100%	0%
Poultry and egg production	4	1	3	200%	2%
Chicken egg production	4	1	2	100%	4%
Broiler and other meat-type chicken production	0	0	0		0%
Turkey production	0	0	0		0%
Poultry hatcheries	0	0	0		0%
Combination poultry and egg production	0	0	0		0%
All other poultry production	0	0	1		20%

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Sheep and goat farming	1	0	1		1%
Sheep farming	1	0	1		2%
Goat farming	0	0	0		0%
Other animal production	8	11	11	0%	4%
Apiculture	0	1	3	200%	5%
Horse and other equine production	7	5	1	-80%	1%
Fur-bearing animal and rabbit production	0	0	0		0%
Animal combination farming	1	4	6	50%	6%
All other miscellaneous animal production	0	1	1	0%	10%
Oilseed and grain farming	1	0	0		0%
Soybean farming	0	0	0		0%
Oilseed (except soybean) farming	0	0	0		0%
Wheat farming	0	0	0		0%
Corn farming	0	0	0		0%
Other grain farming	1	0	0		0%
Vegetable and melon farming	6	5	7	40%	5%
Potato farming	0	0	0		0%
Other vegetable (except potato) and melon farming	6	5	7	40%	5%
Fruit and tree nut farming	6	7	6	-14%	1%
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production	21	14	13	-7%	4%
Mushroom production	1	0	0		0%
Other food crops grown under cover	2	1	4	300%	7%
Nursery and tree production	10	7	9	29%	4%
Floriculture production	8	6	0	-100%	0%
Other crop farming	25	24	7	-71%	2%
Hay farming	18	19	6	-68%	3%
Fruit and vegetable combination farming	2	2	0	-100%	0%
Maple syrup and products production	1	2	1	-50%	3%
All other miscellaneous crop farming	4	1	0	-100%	0