Digby County Agricultural Profile **2021**



Digby County

The county produced



Operating Revenues

\$8,953,113

Accounting for 1.2 percent of all farm operating revenues in the province, Digby was the 12th largest county in Nova Scotia out of 18, in terms of agricultural operating revenues.

SOME NUMBERS

DID YOU KNOW?

Digby County accounted for **8%** of the province's other animal farms. (apiculture, Horse, furbearing, animal combination, and miscellaneous farms) SID YOU KNOW?

Cattle farming increased **7%** from the previous census and comprised **2%** of the NS sector total. The most significant shift in Cattle farming was an **14%** decrease in the number of Beef farms, while the number of Dairy farms increased by **3** farms.

FUN FACT:

Digby county was home to **15** Fur-bearing animal and rabbit farms in 2021, equal to **60%** of the provincial total.

MOST SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN NUMBER OF FARMS

74% DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF FUR-BEARING ANIMAL AND RABBIT FARMS. FROM 58 TO 15. 62%
DECLINE IN THE
NUMBER OF FRUIT AND
TREE NUT FARMS.
FROM 21 TO 8.

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

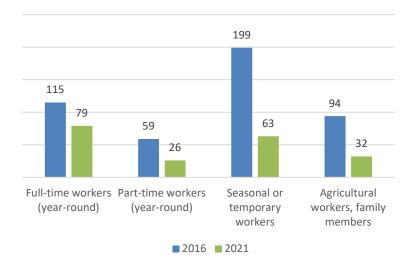
As of the past Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, Digby County made up 2 percent of all farms in Nova Scotia.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016
Number of Farms	150	137	68	-55%
Total Farm Area (acres)	12,310	13,716		-
Average Farm Size (acres)	82	90		=
Gross Farm Receipts/	\$63.1	\$55.8	*\$8.9	
Operating Revenues*	million	million	million	-
Average Per Farm	\$420,861	\$407,231	*\$196,518	-
	\$49.7	\$72.2	\$11.3	
Operating Expenses	million	million	million	-84%
Average Per Farm	\$331,490	\$526,754	\$192,147	-64%
Average Expense to Revenue Ratio	0.79	1.29	*1.37	-

^{*} 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	185	95	-50%
Total Male Operators	145	65	-55%
Total Female Operators	45	30	-33%
Average Age of Principle Operator	51.8	55.9	+8%

Paid labour by worker type

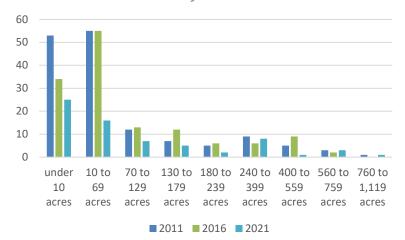


The number of full-time workers decreased by 31% between 2016-2021.

The number of seasonal or temporary workers decreased by 68% between 2016-2021.

Both the number of part-time workers and paid family members decreased by 68% and 66% respectively between 2016-2021.

Farms by size - Acres

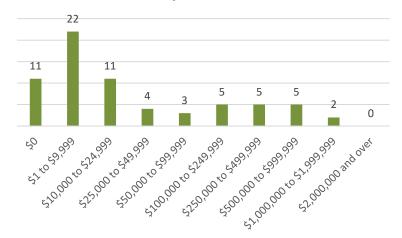


The most significant shift in the number of farms sized 10-69 acres from 55 to 16.

Other notable changes include a reduction of 9 farms sized under 10 acres and 8 fewer farms sized 400-559 acres.

The most significant increase was in the number of farms sized 240-399 acres, from 6 to 8 farms.

Farms by revenue - 2021



The largest concentration of farms by a revenue category was 22 farms in the \$1 to \$9,999, accounting for 32% of the total share of farms.

There were 2 farms earning revenues over \$1,000,000.

24% of farms earned revenues above \$100,000.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Total number of Farms	150	137	68	-50%	2%
Cattle ranching and farming	11	14	15	7%	2%
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	10	14	12	-14%	2%
Dairy cattle and milk production	1	0	3		1%
Hog and pig farming	0	2	0	-100%	0%
Poultry and egg production	2	2	2	0%	1%
Chicken egg production	1	1	0	-100%	0%
Broiler and other meat-type chicken production	0	1	0	-100%	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	1	0	2		40%

Sheep and goat farming	3	2	2	0%	3%
Sheep farming	1	1	1	0%	2%
Goat farming	2	1	1	0%	10%
Other animal production	100	68	22	-68%	8%
Apiculture	1	3	4	33%	6%
Horse and other equine production	4	3	1	-67%	1%
Fur-bearing animal and rabbit production	86	58	15	-74%	60%
Animal combination farming	7	4	2	-50%	2%
All other miscellaneous animal production	2	0	0		0%
Oilseed and grain farming	0	1	0	-100%	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	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Vegetable and melon farming	2	7	4	-43%	3%
Potato farming	1	1	0	-100%	0%
Other vegetable (except potato) and melon farming	1	6	4	-33%	3%
Fruit and tree nut farming	14	21	8	-62%	1%
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production	12	10	10	0%	3%
Mushroom production	0	0	0		0%
Other food crops grown under cover	2	1	3	200%	5%
Nursery and tree production	7	8	7	-13%	3%
Floriculture production	3	1	0	-100%	0%
Other crop farming	6	10	5	-50%	1%
Hay farming	4	7	3	-57%	1%
Fruit and vegetable combination farming	0	0	0		0%
Maple syrup and products production	0	2	0	-100%	0%
All other miscellaneous crop farming	2	1	2	100%	3%