

Hants County Agricultural Profile

2021



Hants County

The county produced



Operating Revenues

\$99,247,886

Accounting for 13.7 percent of all farm operating revenues in the province, Hants was the 2nd largest county in Nova Scotia out of 18, in terms of agricultural operating revenues.

SOME NUMBERS

DID YOU KNOW?

Hants County accounted for **12%** of the provinces Poultry and Egg farms.

DID YOU KNOW?

Cattle farming in Hants increased **16%** from the previous census and comprised **13%** of the NS industry total. The most significant shift in Cattle farming was an **38%** increase in the number of Beef farms, while the number of Dairy farms decreased by **5%**.

FUN FACT:

Hants county was home to **16** Sheep and Goat farms in 2021, equal to **22%** of the provincial total.

MOST SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN NUMBER OF FARMS

31%
DECLINE IN THE
NUMBER OF HAY
FARMS.
FROM 49 TO 34.

46%
DECLINE IN THE
NUMBER OF FRUIT AND
TREE NUT FARMS.
FROM 24 TO 13.

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.

10%

**Farms in
Nova Scotia**

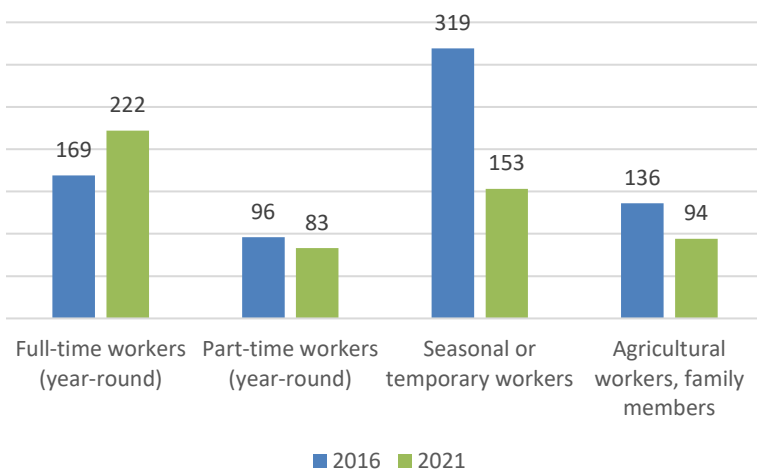
As of the past Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, Hants County made up 10 percent of all farms in Nova Scotia.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016
Number of Farms	342	289	263	-9%
Total Farm Area (acres)	93,218	76,469	74,146	-3%
Average Farm Size (acres)	272	264	282	+7%
Gross Farm Receipts/ Operating Revenues*	\$65.6 million	\$74.6 million	*\$26.0 million	-
Average Per Farm	\$191,839	\$258,325	*\$220,646	-
Operating Expenses	\$53.1 million	\$60.3 million	\$86.0 million	+43%
Average Per Farm	\$155,464	\$208,816	\$341,557	+64%
Average Expense to Revenue Ratio	0.81	0.81	*0.94	-

* 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	410	385	-6%
Total Male Operators	295	260	-12%
Total Female Operators	115	125	+9%
Average Age of Principle Operator	53.9	55.1	+2%

Paid labour by worker type

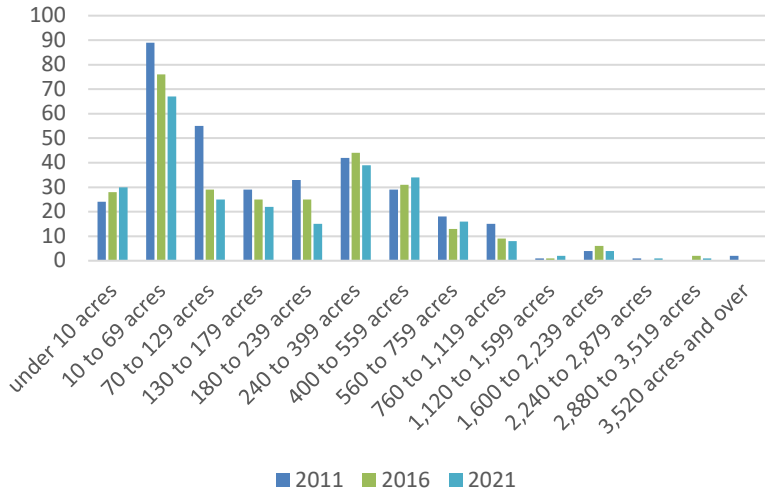


The number of full-time workers increased 31% between 2016-2021.

The number of seasonal or temporary workers decreased by 52% between 2016-2021.

Both the number of part-time and paid family members decreased by 14%, and 31% respectively between 2016-2021.

Farms by size - Acres

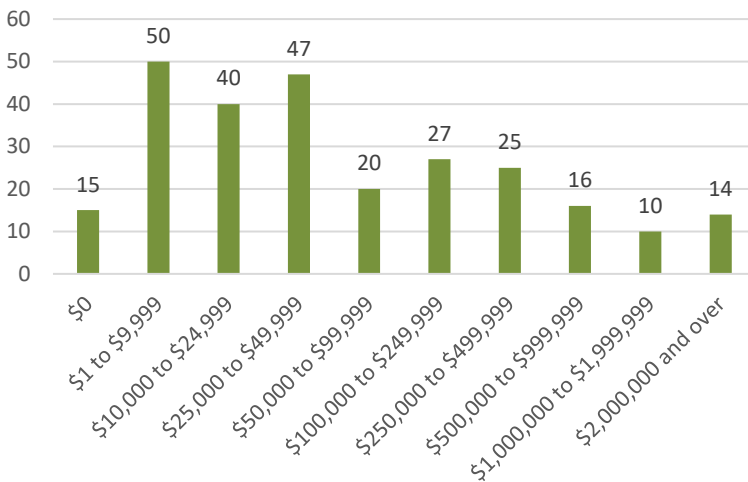


The most significant shift was in the number of farms sized 180-239 acres from 25 to 15.

Other notable changes include a reduction of 9 farms sized 10-69 acres and 5 fewer farms sized 240 to 399 acres.

The most significant increase was in the number of farms sized 560-759 acres, from 13 to 16 farms.

Farms by revenue - 2021



The largest concentration of farms by a revenue category was 50 farms in the \$1 to \$9,999, accounting for 19% of the total share of farms.

There were 24 farms earning revenues over \$1,000,000.

34% of farms were earning revenues over \$100,000.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Total number of Farms	342	289	264	-9%	10%
Cattle ranching and farming	86	83	96	16%	13%
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	36	40	55	38%	10%
Dairy cattle and milk production	50	43	41	-5%	20%
Hog and pig farming	1	0	0		0%
Poultry and egg production	10	10	19	90%	12%
Chicken egg production	6	7	7	0%	15%
Broiler and other meat-type chicken production	2	2	4	100%	5%
Turkey production	0	0	0		0%
Poultry hatcheries	1	1	2	100%	67%
Combination poultry and egg production	1	0	6		60%
All other poultry production	0	0	0		0%

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Sheep and goat farming	14	9	16	78%	22%
Sheep farming	12	7	14	100%	23%
Goat farming	2	2	2	0%	20%
Other animal production	74	51	33	-35%	12%
Apiculture	8	9	4	-56%	6%
Horse and other equine production	40	17	10	-41%	14%
Fur-bearing animal and rabbit production	4	2	0	-100%	0%
Animal combination farming	21	23	19	-17%	17%
All other miscellaneous animal production	1	0	0		0%
Oilseed and grain farming	2	8	7	-13%	13%
Soybean farming	0	2	1	-50%	7%
Oilseed (except soybean) farming	0	0	0		0%
Wheat farming	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Corn farming	1	3	3	0%	25%
Other grain farming	1	2	3	50%	14%
Vegetable and melon farming	16	21	14	-33%	10%
Potato farming	1	0	0		0%
Other vegetable (except potato) and melon farming	15	21	14	-33%	11%
Fruit and tree nut farming	32	24	13	-46%	2%
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production	28	16	18	13%	6%
Mushroom production	0	1	1	0%	20%
Other food crops grown under cover	12	5	8	60%	14%
Nursery and tree production	13	9	8	-11%	3%
Floriculture production	3	1	1	0%	33%
Other crop farming	79	67	48	-28%	13%
Hay farming	62	49	34	-31%	15%
Fruit and vegetable combination farming	1	3	1	-67%	6%
Maple syrup and products production	3	1	0	-100%	0%
All other miscellaneous crop farming	13	14	13	-7%	17%

