

Pictou County Agricultural Profile

2021



Pictou County

The county produced



Operating
Revenues

\$22,240,173

Accounting for 3.1 percent of all farm operating revenues in the province, Pictou was the 9th largest county in Nova Scotia out of 18, in terms of agricultural operating revenues.

SOME NUMBERS

DID YOU KNOW?

Pictou County accounted for **11%** of the provinces Other Crop farms. (*Hay, Maple Syrup, Fruit & Veg combinations, and miscellaneous crops.*)

DID YOU KNOW?

Cattle farming in Pictou increased **12%** from the previous census and comprised **9%** of the NS industry total. The most significant shift in Cattle farming was an **18%** increase in the number of Beef farms, while the number of Dairy farms decreased by **8%**.

FUN FACT:

Pictou county was home to **4** Maple syrup farms in 2021, equal to **10%** of the provincial total.

MOST SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN NUMBER OF FARMS

52%
DECLINE IN THE
NUMBER OF HAY
FARMS.
FROM 48 to 23

64%
DECLINE IN THE
NUMBER OF OTHER
VEGETABLE & MELON
FARMS.
FROM 11 to 4.

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.

7%

**Farms in
Nova Scotia**

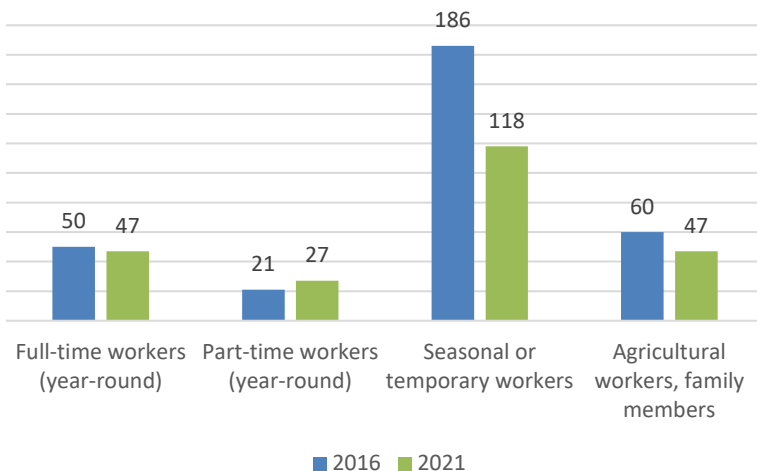
As of the past Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, Pictou County made up 7 percent of all farms in Nova Scotia.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016
Number of Farms	277	252	201	-20%
Total Farm Area (acres)	67,863	63,036	52,566	-17%
Average Farm Size (acres)	245	250	262	+5%
Gross Farm Receipts/ Operating Revenues*	\$19.7 million	\$22.2 million	*\$22.2 million	-
Average Per Farm	\$71,043	\$88,138	*\$117,054	-
Operating Expenses	\$16.1 million	\$18.8 million	\$17.5 million	-7%
Average Per Farm	\$58,092	\$74,798	\$92,858	+24%
Average Expense to Revenue Ratio	0.82	0.85	*0.79	-

* 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	320	285	-13%
Total Male Operators	240	210	-13%
Total Female Operators	80	70	-13%
Average Age of Principle Operator	58.7	58.5	0%

Paid labour by worker type

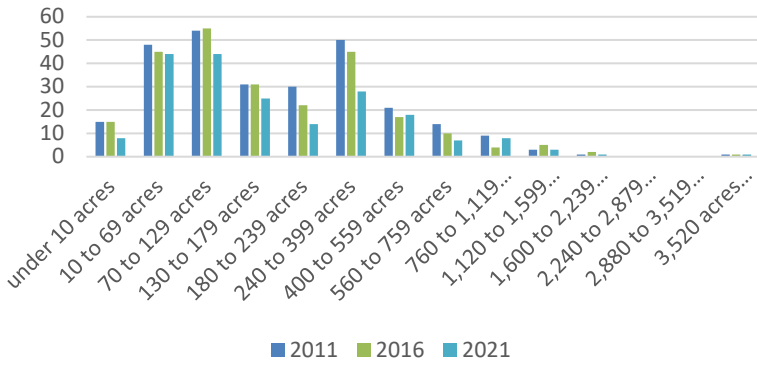


The number of full-time workers decreased by 6% between 2016-2021.

The number of seasonal or temporary workers decreased by 37% between 2016-2021.

While the number of part-time workers increased by 29%, the number of paid family members decreased by 22%.

Farms by size - Acres

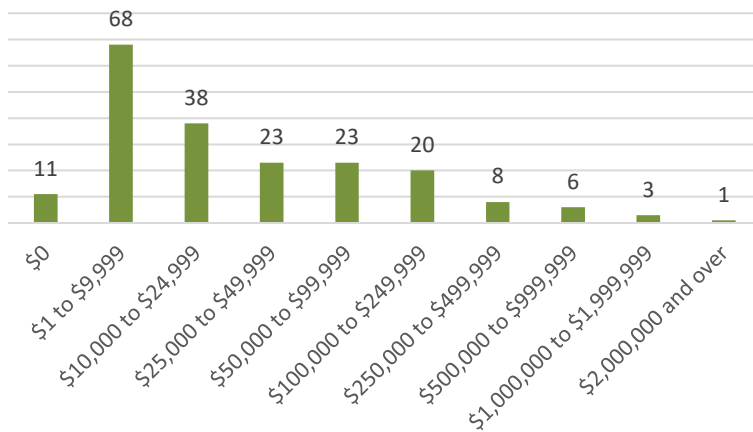


The most significant shift was in the number of farms sized 240-399 acres from 45 to 28.

Other notable changes include a reduction of 11 farms sized 70-129 acres and 8 fewer farms sized 180-239 acres.

The most significant increase was in the number of farms sized 760-1,119 acres, from 4 to 8 farms.

Farms by revenue - 2021



The largest concentration of farms by a revenue category was 68 farms in the \$1 to \$9,999, accounting for 34% of the total share of farms.

There were 4 farms that earned over \$1,000,000.

19% of farms earned revenues above \$100,000.

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Total number of Farms	277	252	201	-20%	7%
Cattle ranching and farming	54	57	64	12%	9%
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	40	44	52	18%	10%
Dairy cattle and milk production	14	13	12	-8%	6%
Hog and pig farming	1	0	0		0%
Poultry and egg production	3	3	1	-67%	1%
Chicken egg production	2	2	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	1		10%
All other poultry production	1	0	0		0%

	2011	2016	2021	% Change since 2016	Provincial Share (%)
Sheep and goat farming	15	4	4	0%	6%
Sheep farming	13	4	3	-25%	5%
Goat farming	2	0	1		10%
Other animal production	39	27	19	-30%	7%
Apiculture	2	3	4	33%	6%
Horse and other equine production	15	13	7	-46%	9%
Fur-bearing animal and rabbit production	1	0	0		0%
Animal combination farming	21	10	8	-20%	7%
All other miscellaneous animal production	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Oilseed and grain farming	4	4	1	-75%	2%
Soybean farming	1	0	0		0%
Oilseed (except soybean) farming	0	0	0		0%
Wheat farming	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Corn farming	1	1	0	-100%	0%
Other grain farming	2	2	1	-50%	5%
Vegetable and melon farming	9	11	4	-64%	3%
Potato farming	0	0	0		0%
Other vegetable (except potato) and melon farming	9	11	4	-64%	3%
Fruit and tree nut farming	70	68	50	-26%	8%
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production	20	15	18	20%	6%
Mushroom production	0	0	0		0%
Other food crops grown under cover	1	2	5	150%	9%
Nursery and tree production	17	11	13	18%	5%
Floriculture production	2	2	0	-100%	0%
Other crop farming	62	63	40	-37%	11%
Hay farming	51	48	23	-52%	10%
Fruit and vegetable combination farming	0	3	2	-33%	12%
Maple syrup and products production	3	3	4	33%	10%
All other miscellaneous crop farming	8	9	11	22%	14%

