

New Brunswick Census of Agriculture Report 2016

October 2017



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Province of New Brunswick
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Totals may not add up due to unavailability of detailed data, confidentiality or rounding on conversion.

Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in this report:

- .. Data are not available or are no longer collected.
- X Data are suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of Statistics Canada.

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2016 census of agriculture – New Brunswick highlights

Statistics Canada released the 2016 Census of Agriculture on May 10, 2017. The Census of Agriculture provides the only source of uniform and comprehensive agricultural data for every county/parish in Canada. Data are collected every five years and cover topics such as the number of farms and farm operators, farm size, crop area, number of livestock, number and value of farm machinery, farm expenses and revenues, and land management practices.

Key facts – 2016 census:

	Unit	2016
Total census farms	#	2,255
Total gross farm receipts	\$ million	619
Area of census farms	ha	338,046
Farmland's share of total land area in N.B.		5%
Average age of farm operators	years	55.6
Total farm capital	\$ billion	2.3

2016 highlights for New Brunswick

- New Brunswick generated \$619 million in farm revenues (gross receipts) in 2016, up 12 per cent from 2011.
- More New Brunswick farms were earning higher revenues in 2016 than in 2011. For instance, the number of farms with revenues of more than \$500,000 increased by 11 per cent.
- New Brunswick farms were more profitable, with gross profits increasing by 25 per cent between 2011 and 2016. This was due to stronger growth in revenues compared to the cost of production.
- In 2016, the value of farm capital was significantly more compared to 2011. Increases were in all three types of farm capital, with value of land and buildings up by 15 per cent, value of machinery and equipment up by 10 per cent, and value of livestock and poultry up by 33 per cent. This signified more capital investment in farm operations and a rise in quota values.
- The number of farms in New Brunswick declined by about 14 per cent, from 2,611 in 2011 to 2,255 in 2016. This compared to about a six-per-cent decline at the national level.
- More than 80 per cent of this decline was from non-commercial or hobby farms (farms with annual gross revenues of less than \$10,000). This was part of a long-term trend in farm consolidation across the country where small farms were exiting due to high cost of production while the remaining farms were expanding to reduce their average costs (economies of scale). Larger farms translate into fewer farms.
- The average farm size increased by three per cent from 145 hectares in 2011 to 150 hectares in 2016, an indication that producers were expanding to take advantage of economies of scale, depending on the farm type.
- The number of tree fruit and berry farms and the number of maple producers increased by about 10 per cent and three per cent, respectively.
- Land in crops (excluding Christmas trees) declined by about two per cent. This was mainly due to declines in canola, barley and potato production areas by 73 per cent, 26 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively.
- Wild blueberry area increased by 56 per cent to 17,551 hectares in 2016 compared to 2011.
- Wheat area more than doubled to 4,034 hectares while soybean area increased by 27 per cent to 5,437 hectares in 2016 compared to 2011. Area under oats and corn also increased.
- New Brunswick ranked second in Canada for total number of maple taps, with 2.3 million taps in 2016, an increase of 21 per cent from 2011. This was the strongest growth in maple taps in the country, partly attributable to new Crown land made available for maple production in addition to significant financial support provided by the provincial government.
- There were 18,031 dairy cows reported in the province in 2016 compared to 18,534 in 2011, a decline of about three per cent. Annual milk production increased by three per cent to around 144 million litres in 2016 due to increased production per animal, attributable to improvements in animal nutrition, genetics and production practices.
- The number of beef cows declined by 17 per cent to 13,610 in 2016 as some producers took advantage of higher prices to exit the sector or to shift focus to other types of agricultural production.

- The number of farm operators younger than age 35 (young farmers) increased by close to 16 per cent. The number of farm operators older than age 35 decreased by the same percentage.
- The increase in younger farmers and the equivalent decrease in older farmers stabilized the average age of New Brunswick farmers at 55.6 years.
- In 2016, 22 per cent of farm operations sold at least some of their production directly to consumers for human consumption, compared to 13 per cent nationally. This partly reflected the larger livestock feed (and livestock production) sector in other parts of Canada.



New Brunswick results by census category

Gross farm receipts

- Gross farm receipts for New Brunswick increased by 12 per cent, from \$553 million in 2011 to \$619 million in 2016.
- The number of farms with revenues of more than \$500,000 increased by 11 per cent, with the largest increase among farms with revenues of more than \$1 million (by 39 per cent).
- Overall, more New Brunswick farms earned higher gross receipts in 2016 than in 2011.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Total gross farm receipts¹	\$'000	..	154,011	222,681	301,068	325,684	444,990	493,810	552,770	619,383
Farms classified by gross receipts class	#									
Less than \$10,000		..	1,873	1,421	1,185	1,317	1,045	942	997	706
\$10,000 to \$24,999		..	616	573	561	588	561	516	501	372
\$25,000 to \$49,999		..	362	338	338	376	328	306	284	269
\$50,000 to \$99,999		..	374	285	261	258	251	235	173	227
\$100,000 to \$249,999		..	530	521	426	384	318	276	219	235
\$250,000 to \$499,999		..	205	281	303	276	266	233	182	164
\$500,000 to \$999,999		..	69	97	123	139	172	167	149	135
\$1 million to \$1,999,999		..	22	29	44	52	63	65	66	91
\$2 million or more		..	12	9	11	15	30	36	40	56



¹ Includes inter-farm sales and therefore does not compare with annual farm cash receipts reported by Statistics Canada, which are net of inter-farm sales.

Farms

- During the past four decades, the number of farms reported in New Brunswick has halved, from 4,551 in 1976 to 2,255 in 2016. This decrease was seen nation-wide, with the farm count down 43 per cent from 1976.
- New Brunswick had a 14-per-cent decrease in the total farm count between 2011 and 2016, compared to six per cent nationally.
- More than 80 per cent of the decline in New Brunswick was from non-commercial or hobby farms (farms with annual gross revenues of less than \$10,000). This was part of a long-term trend in farm consolidation where some small farms were exiting due to high cost of production and the remaining farms were expanding to reduce their average costs (economies of scale). Larger farms translate into fewer farms.
- During the past seven census periods, there has been a steady rise in the rate of incorporation among farm operations. According to Statistics Canada, corporations potentially “offer business and legal advantages particularly as the size and complexity of operations increases.”² Incorporation is particularly helpful when family farms are to be handed over to the next generation.
- In 1981, sole proprietorships and partnerships (with and without written agreements) accounted for 95 per cent of agricultural operations, while corporations accounted for only five per cent. By 2016, however, the share of farms reported as sole proprietorships and partnerships was down to 72 per cent, while the share reported as corporations increased to 27 per cent. Note that the vast majority of corporations (84 per cent) were family corporations.

Operating arrangements	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Total number of farms	#	4,551	4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255
Sole proprietorships and partnerships		4,303	3,844	3,259	2,832	2,854	2,554	2,200	2,024	1,631
Sole proprietorships		4,232	3,538	2,898	2,220	2,360	2,066	1,770	1,639	1,335
Partnership with a written agreement		71	94	138	134	104	84	54	50	56
Partnership with no written agreement		..	212	223	478	390	404	376	335	240
Corporations		226	206	281	411	522	475	563	578	619
Family corporation		197	179	239	334	427	378	488	481	520
Non-family corporation		29	27	42	77	95	97	75	97	99
Other operating arrangements		22	13	14	9	29	5	13	9	5



² Statistics Canada, A portrait of a 21st century agricultural operation, page10.
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14811-eng.htm>

Farmland

- In 2016, total farm area in New Brunswick was 338,046 hectares compared to 379,526 hectares in 2011, a decline of 11 per cent. However, most of this decline (38,758 hectares or 93 per cent) was in non-crop land.
- Despite the decline in total farm area, the average size of New Brunswick farms increased by three per cent to 150 hectares in 2016, compared to 145 hectares in 2011, indicating that producers were expanding to take advantage of economies of scale, depending on the farm type. For instance, the average size of potato farms increased by 12 per cent.
- Further breakdown shows that 82 per cent of farmland was owned, 11 per cent was rented or leased from others and six per cent was leased from government.
- Nationally, young farmers were more likely to rent land due to the increased average value of owned land and buildings. Particularly, renting land presents a more flexible and less capital-intensive way than ownership for farmers to establish and grow their operations.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Total land area in N.B.	ha	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913	7,156,913
Total area of census farms³	ha	466,780	437,888	408,893	375,631	386,019	388,053	395,228	379,526	338,046
Total area owned	ha	423,117	378,702	347,068	315,345	319,527	323,949	332,313	316,933	278,817
Farms reporting	#	4,551	3,938	3,410	3,140	3,250	2,909	2,664	2,491	2,116
Total area leased from government	ha	..	..	13,511	14,673	17,490	10,897	12,764	19,592	19,333
Farms reporting	#	..	..	214	261	252	163	113	119	139
Total area rented or leased from others	ha	..	..	48,312	45,613	49,001	49,590	43,541	37,830	36,402
Farms reporting	#	..	..	1,029	1,004	1,059	964	770	628	600
All other	ha	..	..	..	..	..	3,617	6,610	5,171	3,494
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Farmland use

- Of the 338,046 hectares of farmland in New Brunswick in 2016:
 - 59 per cent was dedicated to pasture land and other farmland use;
 - 41 per cent was dedicated to crops (i.e., field crops,⁴ hay, vegetables, tree fruits, berries, sod and nursery products).

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Use of land on census farms										
Land in crops	ha	137,069	130,526	129,475	122,247	135,008	148,883	151,996	142,138	139,416
Farms reporting	#	4,033	3,559	2,913	2,587	2,587	2,521	2,256	2,101	1,832
Pasture land and all other land ⁵	ha	..	..	279,416	253,384	251,011	239,170	243,232	237,388	198,630
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

³ Total provincial farmland area in 2006, 2011, and 2016 is not comparable to prior census years, due to a change in methodology in 2006 used to calculate land leased from governments.

⁴ Field crops include: grain and oilseed crops (i.e., wheat, oats, barley, mixed grains, rye, sunflowers, soybean and canola), forage crops, potatoes, feed corn and other crops (i.e., flaxseed, dry beans, chick peas, lentils, mustard seed, canary seed, ginseng, buckwheat, sugar beets, caraway seeds, triticale, tobacco, hemp, spelt, coriander and other spices).

⁵ Includes tame or seeded pasture, natural land for pasture or grazing, summer fallow, woodland, wetlands and Christmas tree areas, as well as land on which farm buildings, barnyards, lanes, home gardens, greenhouses and mushroom houses are located and idle land.

Farm enterprises

Between 2011 and 2016, New Brunswick experienced declines in the number of farms across most farm types. However, there were notable increases for fruit and vegetable farms as well as maple farms.

- Below are the absolute and percentage increases in the number of New Brunswick farms classified as:
 - Tree fruit and berry farms (+36 farms, +10%)
 - Other field vegetable and melon farms (+5 farms, +6%)
 - Maple syrup production farms (+3 farms, +3%)
- Below are the absolute and percentage decreases reported for those classified as:
 - Hay farms (-87 farms, -21%)
 - Other animal production farms (-87 farms, -27%)
 - Potato farms (-49 farms, -25%)
 - Nursery and tree production farms (-44 farms, -27%)
 - Beef cattle farms (-29 farms, -8%)
 - Dairy farms (-27 farms, -12%)
 - Other crop farms (-26 farms, -23%)
 - Floriculture production farms (-22 farms, -37%)
 - Sheep and goat farms (-19 farms, -33%)
 - Hog and pig farms (-7 farms, -44%)
 - Greenhouse vegetable farms (-6 farms, -35%)
- Hay farms reported the largest absolute decline across all farm types, down 87 farms from 2011. This was in part attributable to the decline in the number of cattle and cattle farms. Hay is used as feed for livestock, thus the decrease in cattle and cattle farms negatively affected the demand for hay.
- Additionally, New Brunswick experienced a shift away from hay farming to more valuable crop farming such as tree fruit and berry production (mainly wild blueberries). Particularly, there was an increase of 36 tree fruit and berry farms in the province.

	Unit	2011	2016	Difference
Farms classified by farm type⁶	#			
Tree fruit and berry farming		379	415	36
Beef cattle		358	329	-29
Hay farming		406	319	-87
Other animal production ⁷		317	230	-87
Dairy		228	201	-27
Potato farming		193	144	-49
Nursery and tree production		162	118	-44
Maple syrup production		108	111	3
Other field vegetable and melon farming		87	92	5
Other crop farming ⁸		113	87	-26
Oilseed and grain farming		59	58	-1
Poultry and egg production		50	51	1
Sheep and goat farming		57	38	-19
Floriculture production		60	38	-22
Greenhouse vegetables		17	11	-6
Hog and pig farming		16	9	-7
Mushroom		1	4	3



⁶ According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), an establishment (ranch, farm, feedlot, etc.) is classified as a particular farm type provided that 50 per cent or more of the establishment's agricultural production consists of that particular type of animal or crop production.

⁷ Other animal production farming includes apiculture, horse and other equine production, fur-bearing animal and rabbit production, animal combination farming and all other miscellaneous animal production.

⁸ Other crop farm types in New Brunswick include fruit and vegetable combination farms and all other miscellaneous crop farms.

Crops

- During the last census period (2011-2016), New Brunswick had increases in farmland area in:
 - Blueberries (+6,269 ha, +56%)
 - Wheat (+2,336 ha, +138%)
 - Soybeans (+1,147 ha, +27%)
 - Oats (+799 ha, +8%)
 - Corn for grain (+159 ha, +4%)
 - Tree fruits (+50 ha, +22%)
 - Grapes (+21 ha, +75%)
 - Nursery products (+19 ha, +20%)
 - Strawberries (+7 ha, +5%)
 - Cranberries (+4 ha, +1%)
- There were declines in farmland area in:
 - Tame hay and other fodder (-6,179 ha, -11%)
 - Canola (-2,665 ha, -73%)
 - Barley (-2,463 ha, -26%)
 - Potatoes (-2,255 ha, -11%)
 - Buckwheat (-599 ha, -88%)
 - Christmas trees (-346 ha, -16%)
 - Field vegetables (-82 ha, -11%)
 - Sod (-57 ha, -10%)
 - Raspberries (-16 ha, -34%)
 - Greenhouse flowers (-13,624 m², -10%)
 - Greenhouse vegetables (-4,252 m², -24%)
- From 2011 to 2016, the area of land in the province dedicated to tree fruits and berries increased by 52 per cent to 18,405 hectares. This increase marked the largest across Canada proportionally and in terms of acreage. As of 2016, the area dedicated to tree fruits and berries in New Brunswick was the second-largest in the Atlantic provinces.
- The considerable increase in tree fruit and berry area was primarily attributable to the 53-per-cent rise in wild blueberry area during the same period. In 2016, land in wild blueberries accounted for 95 per cent of total tree fruit and berry area at 17,551 hectares. Increased international demand was largely accountable for this rise. According to Statistics Canada, “blueberries are amenable to mechanized harvesting, allowing operators to increase the scale of their operation with a minimal increase in the number of employees.”⁹
- During the same period, the number of maple taps on trees reported within the province increased 21 per cent, from about 1.9 million taps to nearly 2.3 million, demonstrating the largest proportional increase across Canada. This significant increase was partly attributable to new Crown land made available for maple production in addition to significant financial support provided by the provincial government. New Brunswick accounted for five per cent of Canada’s maple taps in 2016 and continued to have the second-largest reported count across the nation.
- Nationally, oilseeds and pulses¹⁰ combined rose 27 per cent between 2011 and 2016. However, New Brunswick was one of only two provinces to experience a decrease, primarily due to the significant decline in area dedicated to canola. Crop rotation, disease and price challenges were responsible for the decline in canola area. Nevertheless, the area dedicated to soybeans has increased significantly since 1981, ranking the fourth-largest field crop in the province in 2016.
- Between 2011 and 2016, the area in crops fell by nearly two per cent due largely to decreases in canola, barley and potato production areas. The area in barley decreased due to low demand, resulting from declines in livestock numbers in 2016 compared to 2011. It should also be noted that corn significantly replaced barley in livestock feed rations. Although total area in potato production declined, farms expanded to take advantage of economies of scale, with average farm size dedicated to potatoes up 12 per cent from 2011.



⁹ Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Agriculture, page 8. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170510/dq170510a-eng.htm>

¹⁰ Oilseeds in New Brunswick consist of soybeans, canola and sunflowers. Pulses consist of dry field peas, dry white beans and other dry beans.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Area in hay and field crops	ha									
Hay										
Tame hay and other fodder		66,534	63,649	..	55,033	62,272	68,058	70,912	57,661	51,482
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures		6,023	5,618	..	9,517	7,768	10,417	12,527	12,945	13,535
Field crops										
Potatoes		22,469	21,769	19,613	20,486	21,879	23,620	24,229	20,968	18,713
Oats		23,005	17,057	13,098	8,804	9,518	8,623	10,108	9,439	10,238
Barley		2,860	3,901	10,611	12,807	16,538	17,804	13,451	9,366	6,903
Soybeans		4	21	59	18	566	328	762	4,290	5,437
Corn for grain		118	304	332	268	181	478	1,768	4,294	4,453
Wheat		2,331	3,504	3,823	2,214	3,501	4,165	1,375	1,698	4,034
Corn for silage		2,448	1,611	1,015	882	1,012	2,006	2,732	2,831	2,765
Canola		0	2	0	6	89	195	359	3,643	978
Mixed grains		2,623	2,013	1,673	1,213	771	883	367	382	512
Rye		32	125	604	824	536	744	1,169	279	348
Buckwheat		769	1,077	591	366	222	250	301	678	79
Dry field peas		216	352	0	106	x	13	x	14	6
Forage seed for seed		..	..	0	0	67	409	248	44	0



	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Area in vegetables	ha	2,879	3,402	3,269	2,891	2,322	1,028	864	778	696
Squash, zucchini, pumpkins		..	65	96	92	106	137	170	174	180
Sweet corn		..	226	250	287	272	235	195	157	123
Green or wax beans		..	578	x	271	267	70	82	83	81
Carrots		..	93	109	84	51	24	93	56	68
Cabbage		..	110	109	132	93	111	78	66	45
Cucumbers		..	28	37	28	39	30	30	27	27
Rutabagas and turnips		..	155	109	79	88	91	59	44	22
Tomatoes		..	34	31	53	210	103	22	20	21
Green peas		..	1,397	1,522	1,496	839	63	19	19	21
Broccoli		..	266	284	124	139	51	29	25	19
Beets		..	21	16	18	20	14	16	19	17
Peppers		..	5	5	8	17	15	11	6	8
Dry onions		..	8	10	4	18	6	5	6	7
Lettuce		..	17	15	34	25	7	9	10	7
Cauliflower		..	128	97	93	64	34	12	8	6
Radishes		..	0	2	3	5	4	2	2	6
Brussels sprouts		..	241	82	27	12	2	2	2	4
Green onion and shallots		..	1	1	4	5	4	3	4	4
Spinach		..	2	0	4	3	2	3	3	4
Asparagus, producing		..	3	10	5	3	3	6	6	3
Chinese cabbage		..	..	..	4	11	1	1	1	1
Celery		..	1	x	x	1	0	1	1	1
Other vegetables		..	26	34	43	33	21	17	35	23



	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Area in tree fruits	ha	870	625	650	682	538	423	331	229	279
Apples		..	616	640	669	531	417	324	223	224
Pears		..	4	2	4	3	2	3	2	3
Prunes and plums		..	2	3	5	3	1	2	1	2
Sour cherry		..	2	1	3	0	1	1	1	0
Sweet cherry		..	0	1	x	0	1	1	x	x
Peach		..	0	x	1	x	x	0	x	x
Apricot		..	0	0	x	x	x	0	0	x
Other fruits and berries		..	..	x	x	x	..	x	11	49
Area in greenhouse products	m²	..	86,428	104,013	119,246	178,527	192,090	173,229	177,075	165,502
Flowers		..	..	69,065	71,038	103,040	136,358	127,999	133,196	119,572
Greenhouse vegetables		..	..	23,448	40,128	42,855	20,096	21,502	17,763	13,511
Other greenhouse products		..	..	11,500	8,080	32,633	35,636	23,729	26,116	32,419
Area in sod and nursery products	ha	27	85	321	365	383	460	649	626	588
Sod		..	..	169	199	230	295	515	533	476
Nursery products		27	85	152	166	153	165	134	93	112
Maple taps on trees	#	..	114,121	251,780	463,743	921,693	1,318,866	1,702,530	1,896,773	2,285,785
Area in Christmas trees	ha	..	..	..	..	4,284	2,928	2,214	2,131	1,785

	Unit	1971	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Area in berries and grapes	ha	1,344	3,173	4,332	4,222	6,645	8,896	9,452	11,851	18,126
Blueberries ¹¹		..	..	3,831	3,735	6,297	8,382	8,946	11,282	17,551
Cranberries		..	..	x	x	3	190	220	350	354
Strawberries		..	297	450	433	285	227	189	132	139
Grapes		..	0	x	x	3	24	22	28	49
Raspberries		..	..	43	50	54	71	66	47	31
Saskatoons		..	..	..	..	..	x	x	x	2

¹¹ The total area in blueberries reported by Statistics Canada may be slightly over-estimated. According to provincial statistics, the total farmland area dedicated to blueberry production in New Brunswick in 2016 was 15,780 hectares.

Livestock and poultry

- Between 2011 and 2016 New Brunswick had increases in the number of:
 - Colonies of honey bees (+18,812 colonies, +241%)
 - Hens and chickens (+10,172 birds, less than +1%)
 - Goats (+67 head, +7%)
 - Bulls (+44 head, +5%)
- During the same period, the province had declines in the number of:
 - Pigs (-23,915 head, -44%)
 - Mink (-6,430 head, -39%)
 - Beef cows (-2,702 head, -17%)
 - Heifers (-2,571 head, -17%)
 - Sheep and lambs (-1,802 head, -19%)
 - Calves (-1,643 head, -8%)
 - Dairy cows (-503 head, -3%)
- Regardless of the decline in the number of dairy cows during the last census period, annual milk production within the province increased by seven per cent to around 144 million litres in 2016. According to Statistics Canada, “improvements in animal nutrition, genetics and production practices”¹² were responsible for this increased level of production efficiency.
- The decline in beef cattle was attributable to some producers selling inventory due to increased prices as a result of increased demand combined with limited supply. According to Statistics Canada “some producers took advantage of the higher prices to retire or shift focus to other types of agricultural production.”¹³
- The significant decline in pig numbers from 54,630 head in 2011 to 30,715 head in 2016 was the largest reported across Canada. Prior to 2011, the Canadian pig production sector faced unfavourable market conditions, including high feed and transportation costs coupled with low prices for market pigs in addition to disease outbreaks. According to Statistics Canada, producers in the Atlantic provinces found it considerably more challenging to recover from these adverse conditions due to the “smaller nature of the sector,”¹⁴ which led to the closure of many operations.



¹² Statistics Canada, Blueberries: A bright spot for New Brunswick agriculture, page 6. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14803-eng.htm>

¹³ Statistics Canada, Blueberries: A bright spot for New Brunswick agriculture, page 6. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14803-eng.htm>

¹⁴ Statistics Canada, Blueberries: A bright spot for New Brunswick agriculture, page 6. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-640-x/2016001/article/14803-eng.htm>

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Total cattle and calves	#	121,088	110,942	107,131	105,137	100,297	91,176	89,191	75,091	67,637
Farms reporting		3,303	2,733	2,216	1,926	1,736	1,421	1,262	1,029	834
Calves		29,851	30,796	28,492	28,240	27,966	25,978	25,499	20,192	18,549
Farms reporting		2,873	2,447	2,018	1,754	1,586	1,305	1,153	929	777
Dairy cows ¹⁵		30,510	28,050	26,740	23,330	21,265	18,978	18,814	18,534	18,031
Farms reporting		1,702	1,264	879	637	496	369	303	257	227
Beef cows		27,625	19,454	19,335	22,267	22,881	20,397	22,248	16,312	13,610
Farms reporting		2,219	1,586	1,384	1,297	1,235	979	909	712	557
Heifers		19,609	21,480	21,273	23,523	17,506	18,435	16,242	15,384	12,813
Farms reporting		2,546	2,208	1,802	1,547	1,360	1,078	906	774	665
Steers		10,482	8,485	9,333	6,126	8,886	6,078	5,160	3,693	3,614
Farms reporting		1,340	943	822	608	677	424	425	320	276
Bulls		3,011	2,677	1,958	1,651	1,793	1,310	1,228	976	1,020
Farms reporting		1,852	1,683	1,334	1,197	1,105	866	764	621	498
Total pigs	#	39,972	89,620	101,144	76,093	74,471	137,006	107,254	54,630	30,715
Farms reporting		941	849	406	291	225	195	124	82	64
Sows and bred gilts		4,784	11,044	10,241	7,584	7,288	13,027	12,161	9,622	8,151
Farms reporting		460	429	229	144	120	104	64	35	40
Boars		..	725	583	446	437	372	206	101	64
Farms reporting		..	322	179	129	106	95	60	31	35
All other pigs ¹⁶		..	77,851	90,320	68,063	66,746	123,607	94,887	44,907	22,500
Farms reporting		..	774	374	274	213	180	113	77	58
Total sheep and lambs	#	12,852	13,317	9,329	10,217	7,266	9,601	7,341	9,283	7,481
Farms reporting		262	223	179	161	127	148	131	137	113
Lambs		5,747	6,177	4,412	5,098	3,692	4,770	3,530	4,780	3,904
Farms reporting		251	200	170	150	107	128	110	113	103
Ewes and wethers ¹⁷		7,105	7,140	4,707	4,918	3,441	4,620	3,620	4,219	3,346
Farms reporting		243	213	168	156	118	137	120	128	111
Rams		210	201	133	211	191	284	231
Farms reporting		127	110	90	103	101	106	89

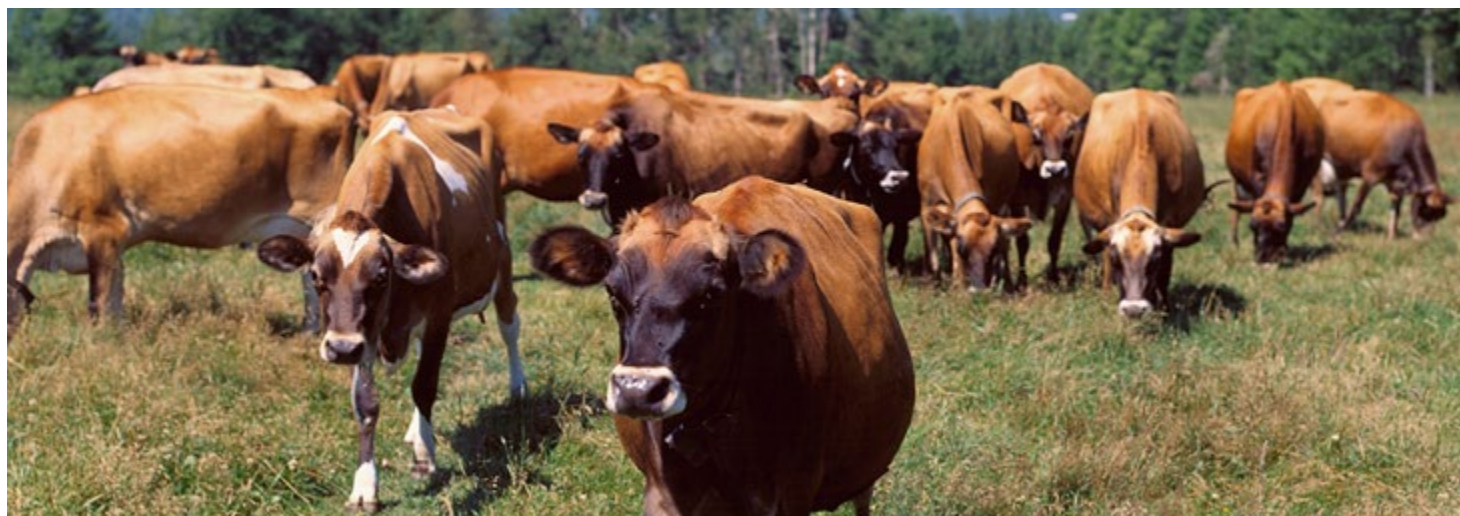
¹⁵ Note that the number of dairy cows collected through Statistics Canada's survey (CANSIM Table 003-0032) is slightly different from the Census of Agriculture number. For instance, while the Census of Agriculture reports 18,031 dairy cows in 2016, the survey reports 18,450 dairy cows (i.e., January to July average).

¹⁶ Includes nursing and wiener pigs and grower and finisher pigs.

¹⁷ Census data for 1981 and earlier includes rams.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Colonies of bees	#	1,996	3,759	4,929	4,291	..	..	..
Farms reporting		97	113	97	77	96	102	134
Colonies of honey bees ¹⁸		7,111	7,806	26,618
Farms reporting		71	87	116

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Other livestock	#									
Mink ¹⁹		..	18,863	22,069	20,644	x	26,786	46,825	16,524	10,094
Farms reporting		..	11	15	7	2	8	8	13	6
Goats		..	816	448	547	806	1,172	1,119	927	994
Farms reporting		..	126	90	90	78	91	77	86	67
Rabbits		..	19,448	1,584	1,648	1,579	1,113	..	379	265
Farms reporting		..	128	120	118	102	35	..	50	33
Llamas and alpacas		0	15	204	303	117
Farms reporting		0	8	29	35	25
Deer		760	177	94	79
Farms reporting		8	5	3	3
Elk		x	x	46	x
Farms reporting		3	2	3	2
Bison		x	x	x	x	x
Farms reporting		2	2	3	2	1
Fox		..	7,904	32,094	9,448	6,585	1,461	2,327	..	..
Farms reporting		..	42	149	110	49	18	22	..	..



¹⁸ The Census of Agriculture reports the colonies in use on census day. This includes the colonies registered in the province and those imported from other provinces, if the main point of activity is in New Brunswick. In 2016, according to provincial registrations, 13,619 colonies were owned by beekeepers in New Brunswick, while about 28,658 colonies were imported for pollination.

¹⁹ Due to conceptual changes, 2011 and 2016 data are not comparable with 2006 data: 2011 and 2016 data include breeding stock only, whereas 2006 includes all mink.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Poultry inventory	#									
Total hens and chickens		2,046,488	2,241,161	2,668,055	2,413,042	2,663,684	3,487,452	3,272,263	3,131,845	3,142,017
Farms reporting		1,213	1,093	651	494	351	305	286	308	312
Pullets and pullet chicks <19 weeks ²⁰		176,268	316,985	524,537	457,809	330,415	302,795	435,075	229,915	x
Farms reporting		254	265	185	132	62	45	51	61	57
Laying hens, >19 weeks ²¹		506,596	514,673	598,050	579,608	557,693	648,278	640,032	440,698	488,694
Farms reporting		1,062	921	495	337	287	261	245	266	272
Broilers, roasters and Cornish hens ²²		1,363,624	1,409,503	1,545,468	1,375,625	1,775,576	2,536,379	2,197,156	2,311,041	2,124,922
Farms reporting		466	512	329	237	106	94	82	92	76
Layer and broiler breeders (pullets and hens) ²³		150,191	x
Farms reporting		18	19
Birds in hatchery supply flocks		154,152	174,200	160,727	233,709	227,763	..	..
Farms reporting		12	9	4	5	5	..	..
Turkeys²⁴		93,537	85,742	94,557	153,937	188,984	100,629	100,684	x	x
Farms reporting		38	92	117	99	56	52	50	41	21
Other poultry		..	2,514	1,254	6,719	10,135	4,079	9,190	4,827	8,254
Farms reporting		..	331	108	114	123	78	65	57	58



²⁰ Pullets younger than 19 weeks, intended for laying. Due to conceptual changes, 2011 and 2016 data are not comparable with 2006 data: 2011 and 2016 data include pullets intended for laying table eggs only, whereas census data for 2006 include pullets intended for laying table eggs and pullets intended for layer or broiler breeding. 2016 data are suppressed to meet confidentiality requirements of Statistics Canada.

²¹ Laying hens, 19 weeks and older. Due to conceptual changes, 2011 and 2016 data are not comparable with 2006 data: 2011 and 2016 data include laying hens that produce table eggs only, whereas 2006 data include hens that produce table eggs and hens kept as layer or broiler breeders. Also, prior to 1996 the category was "All other Chickens" (which excluded meat-type birds, i.e., broilers and roasters, etc.). This may affect comparability slightly.

²² Broilers, roasters and Cornish hens. Broiler inventories reflect the total number of birds on Census Day and should be used with caution. Poultry inventories will fluctuate because barns that were empty on Census Day had no inventories to report. Users are advised to use the annual production data as a more accurate reflection of changes in these agricultural sectors over time.

²³ Laying hens, 19 weeks and older. Due to conceptual changes, 2011 and 2016 data are not comparable with 2006 data: 2011 and 2016 data include laying hens that produce table eggs only, whereas 2006 data include hens that produce table eggs and hens kept as layer or broiler breeders. Also, prior to 1996 the category was "All other Chickens" (which excluded meat-type birds, i.e., broilers and roasters, etc.). This may affect comparability slightly.

²⁴ Turkeys. Turkey inventories reflect the total number of birds on Census Day and should be used with caution. Poultry inventories will fluctuate because barns that were empty on Census Day had no inventories to report. Users are advised to use the annual production data as a more accurate reflection of changes in these agricultural sectors over time.

Organic farms

- The number of farms reporting certified or transitional organic products in 2016 was down 17 per cent from the previous census year to 49 farms, accounting for two per cent of all New Brunswick farms.

	Unit	2006	2011	2016
Organic products for sale²⁵	#			
Total farms reporting being certified		42	48	40
Total farms reporting being in transition		2	11	9
Total farms reporting being uncertified		196	..	..
Total farms reporting ²⁶		239	59	49



²⁵ Organic products for sale. In the 2006 Census of Agriculture, producers were asked to identify commodities grown that were certified, in transition or uncertified. In 2011 and 2016, producers were asked to report only those products that were certified or in transition to be certified organic production.

²⁶ The total number of farms reporting does not necessarily equal the sum of the parts because a farm could report more than one category. In the 2006 Census of Agriculture, producers were asked to identify commodities grown that were certified, in transition or uncertified; and in 2011 and 2016, producers were asked to report only those products that were certified or in transition to be certified organic production.

Land management practices

- During the last census period, the area to which insecticides and fungicides were applied increased by 11,809 hectares (21 per cent), while the area to which commercial fertilizers and herbicides were applied decreased by 2,362 hectares (three per cent) and 1,930 hectares (three per cent), respectively. While it is not clear why the area under insecticides and fungicides increased, it may reflect the increased land and management practices in wild blueberry production. The decrease in the area under commercial fertilizers and herbicides could be due to the 2,722-hectare decline in the area in crops.
- The area of conventional tillage fell 1,883 hectares (four per cent), while the area of conservation tillage fell about 1,320 hectares, down eight per cent from 2011. The area of no tillage increased by 63 per cent, almost a 3,000-hectare rise, continuing the trend of improved soil management practices.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Land management practices										
Commercial fertilizer – area	ha	..	75,997	84,048	78,136	90,740	90,067	88,119	78,268	75,906
Farms reporting	#	..	2,466	2,291	1,887	1,926	1,806	1,436	1,192	969
Insecticide or fungicide – area	ha	..	26,832	25,589	24,089	49,966	55,622	59,119	56,490	68,299
Farms reporting	#	..	926	768	608	1,126	1,076	910	853	828
Herbicide – area	ha	..	40,199	45,799	39,860	45,395	54,018	55,154	60,352	58,422
Farms reporting	#	..	1,258	1,170	859	918	995	843	788	743
Conventional tillage ²⁷	ha	..	..	..	52,586	46,463	55,892	51,244	44,231	42,348
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	1,668	1,299	1,339	1,095	836	740
Conservation tillage ²⁸	ha	..	..	..	7,709	10,746	10,083	11,131	15,810	14,490
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	216	268	246	298	278	242
No tillage ²⁹	ha	..	..	..	1,386	1,233	2,052	3,356	4,609	7,532
Farms reporting	#	..	..	..	93	94	125	113	160	239



²⁷ Conventional tillage is a technique that involves incorporating most crop residue into the soil.

²⁸ Conservation tillage is a technique that involves retaining most crop residue on the surface.

²⁹ No tillage occurs when there is minimal or no disruption of the soil during planting (e.g., the planter does not go as deep into the soil to plant the seeds, and no crop residue is turned over).

Age of farmers

- The average age of New Brunswick farmers was stable at 55.6 years in 2016, slightly older than the national average of 55 years.
- For the first time in more than two decades, the number of farm operators younger than age 35 rose, from 225 to 260. This translated to a 16-per-cent increase in the number of young farmers.
- The number of farm operators 55 years and older decreased by 175, suggesting that more farmers retired without being replaced. Overall, however, the average age remained virtually unchanged.



	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Age category	#									
Younger than age 35		678	777	588	695	525	350	270	225	260
35 to 54 years		2,005	1,830	1,703	2,225	2,355	2,135	1,815	1,355	1,025
55 years and older		1,868	1,456	1,263	1,320	1,460	1,410	1,605	1,895	1,720
Average age of N.B. farmers	years	50.3	47.9	48.5	48.1	49.4	51.0	52.8	55.5	55.6

Technology adoption

- Of all the 2,255 farms in New Brunswick:
 - 45 per cent used computers/laptops for farm management;
 - 31 per cent used smartphones/tablets for farm management;
 - 15 per cent used GPS technology;
 - 6 per cent used GIS mapping (e.g., soil mapping).

Technologies used in 2016 ³⁰	# of farms
Computers/laptops for farm management	1,019
Smartphones/tablets for farm management	692
GPS technology	328
GIS mapping (e.g., soil mapping)	129
Automated animal feeding	120
Automated steering (auto-steer)	97
Automated environmental controls for animal housing	93
Other technologies	26
Greenhouse automation	25
Robotic milking	22

- Note also that:
 - 26 per cent of farms producing greenhouse products used greenhouse automation;
 - 14 per cent of livestock operations used automated animal feeding;
 - 11 per cent of livestock operations used automated environmental controls for animal housing;
 - 10 per cent of farms reporting dairy cows used robotic milking;
 - 7 per cent of crop farm operations used automated steering (auto-steer).
- Nationally, younger operators were more likely to take advantage of technology than older operators. Particularly, a significantly larger proportion of young operators (younger than age 40) worked on farms that reported the use of technology, compared to older operators. This age breakdown was not available for New Brunswick.

³⁰ New for 2016 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

Farm labour

- Of the 2,255 farms in New Brunswick, 38 per cent reported paying wages or salaries for agricultural work.
- About one-half of these farms reported paying full-time year round wages or salaries, about one-quarter reported paying part-time year round wages or salaries and more than three-quarters reported paying seasonal or temporary wages or salaries.
- The total number of year round employees, including both full- and part-time employees, was up 13 per cent in 2016. Of note, 1,448 fewer seasonal employees were reported than in 2011, indicating a decrease of 27 per cent. This may have reflected a reported reduction in seasonal labour availability.
- Similar to the decline in farm numbers (-14 per cent), New Brunswick had a decrease of 13 per cent in the number of farm operators,³¹ from 3,470 in 2011 to 3,005 in 2016.

	Unit	2011	2016
Paid agricultural work	#		
Total employees ³²		7,452	6,262
Year-round employees (full- and part-time)		2,024	2,282
Seasonal or temporary employees		5,428	3,980

Farm revenues and expenses

- Between 2011 and 2016, total gross farm receipts (farm revenues) of New Brunswick farms increased by 12 per cent to \$619 million.
- Operating expenses of New Brunswick farms rose 10 per cent to \$553 million.
- Due to the stronger growth in revenues compared to operating expenses, New Brunswick farms were more profitable in 2016, with gross profits up 25 per cent from 2011.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Farm revenues and expenses	\$'000									
Total gross farm receipts		..	154,011	222,681	301,068	325,684	444,990	493,810	552,770	619,383
Total farm operating expenses		..	..	204,447	250,600	284,157	383,725	423,017	476,630	524,051
Total gross profits ³³		..	..	18,234	50,469	41,527	61,264	70,793	76,140	95,333



³¹ Farm operators are individuals involved in the day-to-day management decisions in operating a census farm. The total number of farm operators is higher than the number of farms since it is possible to have more than one operator on a farm.

³² New for 2011 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

³³ These are nominal profits; i.e., they have not been adjusted for inflation.

Farm capital

- The value of farm capital in New Brunswick increased by nearly \$300 million (15 per cent), from \$2 billion in 2011 to about \$2.3 billion in 2016. The average value of farm capital per farm rose by one-third to more than \$1 million. This was largely attributable to an increase in land and building values.
- The value of land and buildings increased by \$233 million between 2011 and 2016. This category demonstrated the largest absolute increase during this period and accounted for 78 per cent of the total capital value in 2016.
- The value of livestock and poultry capital rose by one-third, likely due to a rise in the quota values.
- The value of machinery and equipment continued to rise (10 per cent) as farmers invested in larger and more expensive equipment. This increase was in line with the growth in average farm size.
- The type of production helps determine the value of machinery and equipment per farm. For instance, potato and dairy farming are particularly capital-intensive, with the average value of machinery per farm notably higher than that on most other farm operations.

	Unit	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
Total farm capital	\$'000	347,796	667,245	760,748	919,550	1,129,098	1,519,440	1,828,016	2,022,358	2,319,572
Farms reporting	#	4,551	4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255
Land and buildings	\$'000	232,356	440,550	489,384	598,540	776,910	1,064,895	1,341,303	1,568,960	1,801,748
Farms reporting	#	4,551	4,063	3,554	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255
Machinery and equipment	\$'000	80,632	141,671	176,820	220,473	258,512	334,213	389,273	368,930	405,333
Farms reporting	#	4,459	4,006	3,470	3,194	3,268	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255
Livestock and poultry	\$'000	34,807	85,024	94,544	100,537	93,676	120,332	97,440	84,468	112,491
Farms reporting	#	3,606	3,076	2,678	2,413	2,191	1,836	1,719	1,486	1,269

Direct marketing

- In 2016, 22 per cent of farm operations in New Brunswick sold agricultural products directly to consumers for human consumption, compared to 13 per cent nationally. Of these farms, about 97 per cent reported selling unprocessed agricultural products directly to consumers, while 18 per cent reported selling value-added products.
- Of the 498 farm operations selling agricultural products directly to consumers:
 - 84 per cent reported using farm gate sales, stands, kiosks or U-picks to sell their products;
 - 33 per cent reported using farmers' markets to sell their products;
 - Seven per cent reported using Community Supported Agriculture (CSA);
 - Four per cent reported using other methods.

Direct sales in 2016 ³⁴	# of farms
All farms reporting	498
Farms reporting unprocessed agricultural products sold	482
Farms reporting using farm gate sales, stands, kiosks, U-pick	420
Farms reporting using farmers' markets	163
Farms reporting value-added products sold	89
Farms reporting using Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)	33
Farms reporting using other methods	20

³⁴ New for 2016 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

Succession planning

- In 2016, seven per cent of New Brunswick farm operations reported having a written succession plan, compared to eight per cent nationally. This census year was the first year farm operators were required to report having such a formalized plan.
- Of these 160 farm operations that reported a succession plan, 89 per cent stated a family member as their successor, while 11 per cent reported a non-family member.

Succession planning in 2016 ³⁵	# of farms
All farms reporting a succession plan	160
Successor(s) – family member(s)	142
Successor(s) – non-family member(s)	18

Renewable energy

- About two per cent of farm operations in New Brunswick reported having renewable energy producing systems in 2016. This was less than the national level of five per cent.
- The most popular renewable energy producing systems reported on New Brunswick farms were solar panels and wind turbines.

Renewable energy producing systems in 2016 ³⁶	# of farms
All farms reporting	39
Solar panels	31
Wind turbines	3
Anaerobic biodigester (biogas or methane) ³⁷	0
Biodiesel production systems	0
Geothermal electric power generator	0
Hydroelectric power generator	0
Other renewable energy producing systems	8

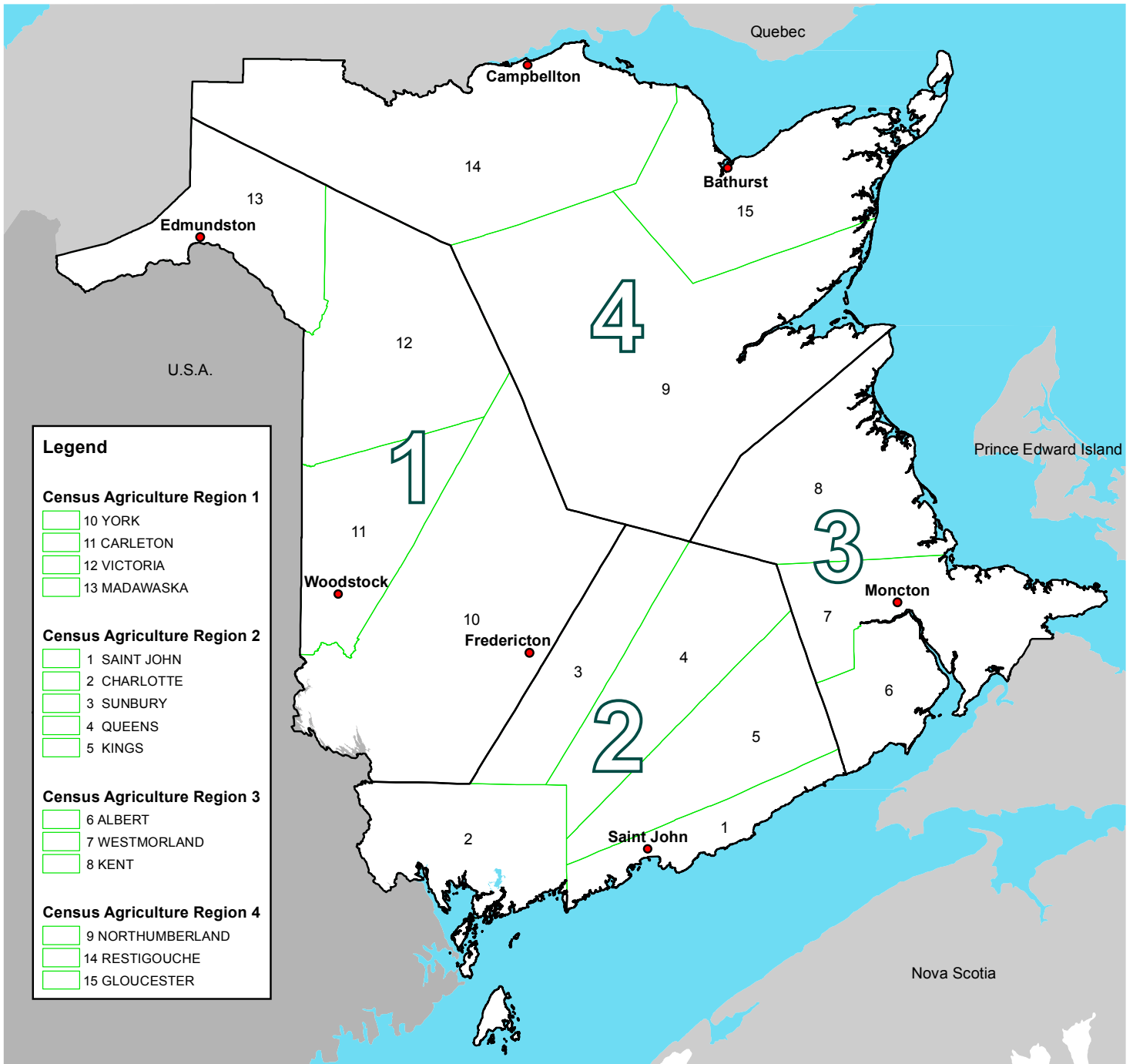


³⁵ New for 2016 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

³⁶ New for 2016 Census of Agriculture, therefore comparison with previous years was not possible.

³⁷ According to provincial statistics, New Brunswick had one anaerobic biodigester in 2016.

Census of agriculture regions for New Brunswick



Highlights for census agricultural region 1

Regional profile

- This census agricultural region includes York, Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska counties.
- The region accounted for 97% of provincial farmland area in potatoes. However, the area dedicated to potato farming declined 8%.
- The number of farms fell 17% to 742 farms in 2016. This region accounted for nearly one-third of New Brunswick's farms, marking the largest share in the province.
- The region accounted for the largest share (43%) of total provincial farmland area, at 145,595 hectares.
- Gross farm receipts accounted for more than half of New Brunswick's farm revenue and increased by 7% to \$343 million in 2016.

Farm enterprises

- The number of beef and dairy farms in this region remained stable during the last census period at 128 and 55, respectively.
- The number of floriculture, and poultry and egg farms also remained stable at 11 and 22 farms, respectively.
- During the same period, farm types that decreased in their numbers were greenhouse (-50%), other animal production (-39%), nursery (-31%), pig (-25%), oilseed and grain (-20%), hay and other crop (-17%), field vegetable (-15%), tree fruit and berry (-14%) and sheep and goat (-7%).

Crops

- This region had the second-largest share (35%) of maple taps in the province. There were 796,883 maple taps, up 48% from 2011, the largest proportional increase in New Brunswick.

- During this period, the region had increases in farmland area in soybeans (+20%), oats (+18%), wild blueberries (+17%), corn for grain (+4%) and greenhouse floriculture products (+4%).
- More than three-quarters (78%) of New Brunswick's farmland area dedicated to oats were found in this region, along with 83% of the area in soybeans.
- Farmland area dedicated to greenhouse vegetable products fell by more than one-half to 5,537 m². This region continued to account for the largest share (41%) of New Brunswick's total area in greenhouse vegetable products.
- In addition to potatoes, this region accounted for more than three-quarters of the province's area in barley, a rotation crop, although farm area in barley also fell (-23%).

Livestock and poultry products

- The region continued to account for the largest share (72%) of New Brunswick's hens and chickens, reporting nearly 2.3 million birds, down 12% from 2011.
- The number of sheep and lambs reported rose to 2,325 in 2016, an 11% increase from 2011.
- There were declines in the number of goats (-27%), beef cows (-20%) and dairy cows (-4%).

Honey bee colonies

- Farms reporting honey bee colonies were down 19% from 26 farms in 2011 to 21 farms in 2016. However, the number of colonies increased 354%, to 1,203 colonies in 2016, the largest proportional increase in the province. The growth in honey bee colonies was directly related to increases in wild blueberry acreage.



	Unit	2011	2016		Unit	2011	2016
Population	#	177,600	176,989	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	889	742	Potatoes	ha	19,743	18,171
Total farm area	ha	164,627	145,595	Oats	ha	6,791	8,027
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	320,045	342,964	Barley	ha	6,890	5,272
				Soybeans	ha	3,781	4,530
Farms classified by farm type				Corn for grain	ha	3,254	3,395
Hay and other crops	#	206	170	Christmas trees	ha	1,569	1,432
Field vegetables and melon	#	178	151	Blueberries	ha	96	112
Beef cattle	#	129	128	Nursery	ha	21	x
Other animals	#	101	62	Greenhouse total area in use	m ²	81,850	60,155
Dairy cattle and milk	#	57	55	Greenhouse floriculture products	m ²	46,349	47,989
Nursery and tree	#	78	54	Greenhouse vegetable products	m ²	11,166	5,537
Tree fruit and berry	#	43	37	Maple taps	#	538,759	796,883
Oilseed and grain	#	40	32				
Poultry and egg	#	22	22	Selected livestock (head)			
Sheep and goat	#	14	13	Hens and chickens	#	2,590,611	2,276,819
Floriculture	#	11	11	Dairy cows	#	4,623	4,431
Hog and pig	#	4	3	Beef cows	#	5,534	4,401
Greenhouse	#	6	3	Sheep and lambs	#	2,102	2,325
Mushroom	#	0	1	Goats	#	292	212
				Pigs	#	5,707	x
Organic products (farms reporting)				Turkeys	#	x	x
Certified organic products for sale	#	18	11				
Transitional organic products for sale	#	1	4	Colonies of honey bees	#	265	1,203



Highlights for census agricultural region 2

Regional profile

- This area includes Saint John, Charlotte, Sunbury, Queens and Kings counties.
- The region accounted for the second-largest share of the province's farms at 27%, with the number of farms decreasing by 18%, the largest decline in New Brunswick.
- Total farmland area decreased 13% to 78,137 hectares.
- Gross farm receipts for this region increased by 10% during the last census period to \$116 million in 2016.

Farm enterprises

- During the last census period, the number of tree fruit and berry farms in the region was up 7%, while the number of poultry and egg farms was unchanged.
- Conversely, farm types that experienced reductions were greenhouse (-75%), sheep and goat (-72%), floriculture (-37%), pig (-33%), nursery (-29%), oilseed and grain (-29%), beef (-21%), hay and other crop (-20%), field vegetable (-18%), other animal production (-17%) and dairy (-13%).

Crops

- Between 2011 and 2016, the number of maple taps in the region increased by 42% to 19,648 taps.
- In 2016, there were 75 hectares dedicated to nursery production, an increase of 32% from 2011. This area accounted for two-thirds of New Brunswick's farmland in nursery products. This region also had the largest share (44%) of provincial farmland area dedicated to greenhouse floriculture production, at 52,654 m².
- There were declines in the area dedicated to potatoes (-77%), barley (-50%), Christmas trees (-47%), corn for grain (-36%), wild blueberries (-26%) and oats (-12%).

Livestock and poultry products

- The number of hens and chickens more than doubled in 2016 compared to 2011.
- This region constituted 39% of New Brunswick's dairy cows, with the number of dairy cows up 5% from 2011.
- The region accounted for the largest share (73%) of the province's pigs, although the pig head count declined by 46%.
- There were fewer sheep and lambs (-50%), goats (-23%) and beef cows (-18%) reported in 2016 compared to 2011.

Honey bee colonies

- Both the number of honey bee farms and colonies increased considerably during the last census period to 34 farms and 5,511 colonies, respectively. This region, together with the Census Agricultural Region 3, reported the highest honey bee farm count.



	Unit	2011	2016		Unit	2011	2016
Population	#	210,993	206,505	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	731	598	Blueberries	ha	2,136	1,578
Total farm area	ha	90,128	78,137	Oats	ha	953	836
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	105,623	115,824	Corn for grain	ha	664	424
				Barley	ha	399	199
Farms classified by farm type				Christmas trees	ha	335	177
Hay and other crops	#	174	139	Soybeans	ha	x	156
Tree fruit and berry	#	89	95	Nursery	ha	57	75
Other animals	#	107	89	Potatoes	ha	261	59
Beef cattle	#	110	87	Greenhouse total area in use	m ²	58,546	56,901
Dairy cattle and milk	#	92	80	Greenhouse floriculture products	m ²	53,907	52,654
Nursery and tree	#	48	34	Greenhouse vegetable products	m ²	x	1,314
Field vegetables and melon	#	40	33	Maple taps	#	13,838	19,648
Poultry and egg	#	13	13				
Floriculture	#	19	12	Selected livestock (head)			
Sheep and goat	#	18	5	Hens and chickens	#	152,613	308,355
Oilseed and grain	#	7	5	Pigs	#	41,531	22,386
Hog and pig	#	6	4	Dairy cows	#	6,743	7,056
Greenhouse	#	8	2	Beef cows	#	4,701	3,871
Mushroom	#	0	0	Sheep and lambs	#	3,326	1,658
				Goats	#	197	152
Organic products (farms reporting)				Turkeys	#	x	x
Certified organic products for sale	#	10	5				
Transitional organic products for sale	#	3	0	Colonies of honey bees	#	1,546	5,511



Highlights for census agricultural region 3

Regional profile

- This region includes Albert, Westmorland and Kent counties.
- The region accounted for 24% of New Brunswick farms. The number of farms fell by 10%, to 536 farms in 2016.
- Total farmland area in this region dropped 9% in 2016.
- However, gross farm receipts increased by 23% to \$88 million in 2016.

Farm enterprises

- Between 2011 and 2016, there were increases in the number of oilseed and grain farms (+83%), greenhouse farms (+33%) and tree fruit and berry farms (+9%) in the region.
- During the same period, farm types that declined in number were floriculture (-50%), pig (-33%), other animal production (-30%), poultry and egg (-25%), sheep and goat (-19%), hay and other crop (-18%), nursery (-17%), field vegetable (-9%), dairy (-6%) and beef (-4%).

Crops

- Maple tap count in the region was down nearly 6%, to 89,077 taps in 2016. This was the only region that reported a decrease in maple taps in New Brunswick.
- This region accounted for nearly one-third (32%) of New Brunswick's total area in greenhouse vegetable products in 2016, compared to 8% in 2011. There was 4,347 m² of farmland area dedicated to greenhouse vegetable products in 2016, more than triple the area reported in 2011.

- Farmland area in soybeans rose by 87% to 624 hectares in 2016, while the area in wild blueberries and oats increased by 47% and 35%, respectively.
- The area dedicated to potatoes fell by 38%, while that dedicated to barley and Christmas trees was down 9% and 7%, respectively.

Livestock and poultry products

- The number of hens and chickens increased by 22% in 2016 compared to 2011, while the number of turkeys increased more than five-fold.
- The largest share of New Brunswick's beef cows, goats, and sheep and lambs were reported in this region, at 44%, 40% and 35% respectively.

Honey bee colonies

- Honey bee farm count in the region was up 10 farms (42%) to 34 farms in 2016. The number of honey bee colonies reported increased by 3,183 colonies (131%) to 5,606 colonies, accounting for 21% of New Brunswick's colonies. The growth in honey bee colonies was directly related to increases in wild blueberry acreage.



	Unit	2011	2016		Unit	2011	2016
Population	#	203,837	209,256	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	597	536	Blueberries	ha	1,692	2,494
Total farm area	ha	75,206	68,466	Oats	ha	737	994
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	71,764	88,199	Soybeans	ha	333	624
				Barley	ha	552	502
Farms classified by farm type				Potatoes	ha	643	397
Hay and other crops	#	141	116	Christmas trees	ha	96	89
Tree fruit and berry	#	105	114	Nursery	ha	7	x
Beef cattle	#	108	104	Corn for grain	ha	x	x
Other animals	#	82	57	Greenhouse total area in use	m ²	20,987	17,460
Dairy cattle and milk	#	52	49	Greenhouse floriculture products	m ²	19,586	x
Field vegetables and melon	#	32	29	Greenhouse vegetable products	m ²	1,354	4,347
Sheep and goat	#	21	17	Maple taps	#	94,491	89,077
Nursery and tree	#	18	15				
Oilseed and grain	#	6	11	Selected livestock (head)			
Poultry and egg	#	12	9	Hens and chickens	#	261,889	319,650
Floriculture	#	14	7	Dairy cows	#	5,079	4,967
Greenhouse	#	3	4	Beef cows	#	5,373	4,718
Hog and pig	#	3	2	Sheep and lambs	#	3,516	3,276
Mushroom	#	0	2	Turkeys	#	89	454
				Goats	#	353	401
Organic products (farms reporting)				Pigs	#	7,040	x
Certified organic products for sale	#	11	10				
Transitional organic products for sale	#	4	3	Colonies of honey bees	#	2,423	5,606



Highlights for census agricultural region 4

Regional profile

- This area consists of Northumberland, Restigouche and Gloucester counties.
- It had the lowest farm count in New Brunswick with 379 farms, accounting for 17% of the province's farms.
- Total farm area in this region accounted for 14% of provincial farmland area, the lowest share in the province.
- Between 2011 and 2016, gross farm receipts for this region's agricultural operations rose 31% to \$72 million.

Farm enterprises

- Farm types with increased counts in 2016 compared to 2011 included poultry and egg (+133%), oilseed and grain (+67%), tree fruit and berry (+19%) and greenhouse (+2 farms).
- Farm types that declined in number were floriculture (-50%), dairy (-37%), sheep and goat (-25%), field vegetable (-23%), nursery (-17%) and beef (-9%).

Crops

- This region had the largest share (60%) of New Brunswick's maple taps at 1.4 million taps in 2016, up 10% from 2011.
- The region accounted for more than three-quarters of total area dedicated to wild blueberries. Area in wild blueberries increased by 82% to 13,366 hectares in 2016 compared to 2011.
- There were declines in the area dedicated to potatoes (-74%), oats (-60%), barley (-39%) and Christmas trees (-35%).

Livestock and poultry products

- The number of goats reported was up 169% in 2016, while the number of hens and chickens rose 87% to 237,193 birds in 2016.
- A significant decline in the number of sheep and lambs (-35%) was reported. Dairy cow and pig numbers were down nearly one-quarter from 2011.

Honey bee colonies

- 14,298 honey bee colonies were reported in this region, accounting for more than one-half (54%) of the colonies in New Brunswick.
- The number of honey bee farms reported during this period increased 69%, from 16 farms to 27 farms.
- As in regions 1 and 3, the growth in bee farms and honey bee colonies in Region 4 was directly related to increases in wild blueberry acreage.



	Unit	2011	2016		Unit	2011	2016
Population	#	158,741	154,351	Selected crops (planted area)			
Number of farms	#	394	379	Blueberries	ha	7,358	13,366
Total farm area	ha	49,565	45,848	Barley	ha	1,524	930
Total gross farm receipts	\$'000	55,337	72,397	Oats	ha	957	380
				Soybeans	ha	x	127
Farms classified by farm type				Christmas trees	ha	132	86
Tree fruit and berry	#	142	169	Potatoes	ha	322	85
Hay and other crops	#	106	92	Nursery	ha	7	x
Field vegetables and melon	#	30	23	Corn for grain	ha	x	x
Other animals	#	27	22	Greenhouse total area in use	m ²	15,691	30,987
Dairy cattle and milk	#	27	17	Greenhouse floriculture products	m ²	13,354	x
Nursery and tree	#	18	15	Greenhouse vegetable products	m ²	x	2,313
Beef cattle	#	11	10	Maple taps	#	1,249,685	1,380,177
Oilseed and grain	#	6	10				
Floriculture	#	16	8	Selected livestock (head)			
Poultry and egg	#	3	7	Hens and chickens	#	126,732	237,193
Sheep and goat	#	4	3	Dairy cows	#	2,089	1,577
Greenhouse	#	0	2	Beef cows	#	704	620
Mushroom	#	1	1	Pigs ³⁸	#	352	266
Hog and pig	#	3	0	Goats	#	85	229
				Sheep and lambs	#	339	222
Organic products (farms reporting)				Turkeys	#	48	x
Certified organic products for sale	#	9	14				
Transitional organic products for sale	#	3	2	Colonies of honey bees	#	3,572	14,298



³⁸ Although no hog and pig farms (as per the North American Industry Classification System) were reported in this region in 2016, seven farms reported raising pigs as part of their operations, compared to 11 farms in 2011.