

2016 Census of Agriculture for Alberta

Provincial Highlights



Gross Farm Receipts ⁽⁵⁾

	2011	2016
Total Gross Farm Receipts ⁽⁶⁾	11,436.2	17,730.0

Millions of Dollars

Number of Farms

Farms Classified by Gross Farm Receipts

	2011	2016
Under \$50,000	21,620	16,953
\$50,000 - \$99,999	5,934	5,516
\$100,000 - \$249,999	7,015	7,065
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4,211	4,503
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2,494	3,356
\$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999	1,175	1,909
\$2,000,000 and Over	785	1,336

Farm Business Operating Expenses ⁽⁵⁾

	2011	2016
Total Farm Operating Expenses	9,710.7	14,969.0

Millions of Dollars

Paid Agricultural Labour

	2011	2016
Total Farms Reporting Paid Labour	12,798	9,565
Year Round Paid Labour (full or part-time)	6,467	6,728
Seasonal or Temporary Paid Labour	8,687	6,093

Number of Farms

Succession Planning

	2011	2016
Total Farms Reporting a Succession Plan	—	3,440
Successor(s) - Family Member(s)	—	3,335
Successor(s) - Non-Family Member(s)	—	112

Number of Farms

Farm Direct Marketing ⁽⁵⁾

	2011	2016
Total Farms Reporting Direct Sales	—	2,062
Unprocessed Agricultural Products Sold	—	1,986
Using Farm Gate Sales, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	—	1,761
Using Farmers' Markets	—	425
Value-added Products Sold	—	197
Using Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)	—	119
Using Other Methods	—	94

Number of Farms

Use of Technology ⁽⁵⁾

	2011	2016
Use of Technologies for Farm Management		
Computers/laptops for Farm Management	—	23,725
Smartphones/tablets for Farm Management	—	19,093
GPS Technology	—	13,684
Automated Steering (auto-steer)	—	10,462
GIS Mapping (e.g., soil mapping)	—	2,589

Number of Farms

(5) For calendar year prior to the Census.

(6) Excluding sales of forest products.

Types of Farms ⁽⁷⁾

	2011	2016
Classified by Gross Farm Receipts		
Dairy	485	411
Cattle (beef, incl. feedlots)	12,022	12,282
Hog	193	166
Poultry and Egg	339	373
Sheep and Goat	490	399
Other Animals	6,374	5,101
Grain and Oilseed	12,692	13,451
Soybean	4	4
Oilseed (except soybean)	5,243	3,735
Dry Pea and Bean	162	582
Wheat	2,083	2,894
Corn	9	25
Other Grain Farming	5,191	6,211
Fruit and Tree Nut	151	137
Vegetable and Melon	277	299
Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture	826	605
Other Crop Farming	9,385	7,414

Number of Farms

Paid Agricultural Employees

	2011	2016
Total Number of Agricultural Employees	37,852	33,498
Year Round Employees (full or part-time)	15,598	16,661
Seasonal or Temporary Employees	22,254	16,837

Number of Employees

Farm Operators ⁽⁸⁾

	2011	2016
Total Farm Operators	62,050	57,605
Per cent of Canada	21.1%	21.2%
Total Farms Reporting	43,234	40,638
Per cent of Canada	21.0%	21.0%

Number of Operators

Farm Operators by Sex

	2011	2016
Male	44,075	39,845
Female	17,975	17,760
On Farms With One Operator	25,155	23,225
Male	23,010	20,410
Female	2,145	2,805
On Farms With Two or More Operators	36,890	34,380
Male	21,065	19,435
Female	15,830	14,955

Number of Operators

(7) Farms classified by the commodity or group of commodities that make up the majority of total receipts; based on the North American Industry Classification System.

(8) Up to three operators can be reported per farm. As this is a count of distinct operators, operators of two or more separate farms are included only once.

Average Age of Farm Operators

	2011	2016
All Farm Operators	54.5	55.7
On Farms With One Operator	56.2	56.6
On Farms With Two or More Operators	53.3	55.0

Years

Farm Operators by Age Group

	2011	2016
All Farm Operators		
Under 35 Years	4,550	4,910
35 - 54 Years	26,720	20,155
55 Years and Over	30,785	32,535
Farms With One Operator		
Under 35 Years	1,370	1,890
35 - 54 Years	10,125	7,630
55 Years and Over	13,665	13,700
Farms With Two or More Operators		
Under 35 Years	3,180	3,020
35 - 54 Years	16,595	12,525
55 Years and Over	17,120	18,835

Number of Operators

Farm Operator Labour

	2011	2016
Farm Operators by Hours of Farm Work ⁽⁹⁾		
Less Than 20 Hours per Week	19,660	18,905
20 - 40 Hours per Week	18,905	18,370
More Than 40 Hours per Week	23,480	20,325
Farm Operators Reporting Paid Non-Farm Work	32,245	27,245
Less Than 20 Hours per Week	5,860	5,360
20 - 40 Hours per Week	13,520	12,050
More Than 40 Hours per Week	12,865	9,835

Number of Operators

(9) Average number of hours per week worked for the agricultural operation.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding

— **Figures not comparable or questions not asked on 2011 Census of Agriculture questionnaire**

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture, 2011 and 2016

This Factsheet was prepared by:

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For more Census information visit the Statistics Canada website at www.statcan.gc.ca