- Buying local, quality grown products benefits our producers, rural communities and creates a secure food supply for consumers and contributes to growing our economy.

- Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture has completed an integrated food self-sufficiency analysis model[1] for the province. This analysis utilizes national per capita food data[2] as a proxy for Nova Scotia consumption, then combines that with annual, provincial agriculture production data[3] to evaluate the province's ability to meet its consumption and livestock feed needs[4].

- A self-sufficiency ratio of 100% would indicate there is enough locally produced product to meet Nova Scotia consumption.

- The results of the model show that, based on data from 2020, Nova Scotia's production of seafood, milk and milk products, and eggs exceeds consumption needs.

- The production of most vegetables, fruits, grains and oilseeds, meat, and honey does not fully meet consumption needs.

- For commodities with a self-sufficiency ratio of greater than 100%, the data suggests opportunities for export market or value-added product development.

- Commodities that Nova Scotia has a 100% or more self-sufficiency ratio in 2020:

Commodity	Self-Sufficiency Ratio (%), 2019	Self-Sufficiency Ratio (%), 2020
Apples	171	209
Blueberries	797	980
Carrots	348	488
Chicken	116	113
Eggs	116	109
Milk and milk products	123	120
Onions	135	110
Pumpkin and squash	95	103
Seafood	1161	1109

- For commodities with a self-sufficiency ratio of less than 100%, the data suggests Nova Scotia could increase production for local consumption, offsetting imports.

- Ratios close to 0% indicate that Nova Scotia may not have ideal growing conditions for this commodity, or the cost of production is not competitive.

- Commodities that Nova Scotia has less than a 100% self-sufficiency ratio in 2020:

Commodity	Self-Sufficiency Ratio (%), 2019	Self-Sufficiency Ratio (%), 2020
Barley	7	6
Beans	8	15
Beef	22	15
Broccoli	42	43
Cabbage	43	43
Canola	0	0
Cauliflower	31	22
Corn for grain	50	55
Cranberries	40	91
Cucumbers	45	49
Grapes	6	6
Honey	21	26
Lamb	41	31
Maple syrup	109	49
Oats	12	24
Pork	3	3
Potato	<1	<1
Rutabagas and turnips	92	85
Soybean	22	24
Strawberries	51	43
Sweet corn	10	13
Tomatoes	8	7
Turkey	91	90
Wheat	6	10

Footnotes:

1. The Nova Scotia Food Self-Sufficiency Model was adapted from a model used by New Brunswick (first developed in 2010).
2. Cansim Table 32-10-0054-01, Food available in Canada, is used along with Nova Scotia population estimates to estimate consumption.
3. Livestock feed requirements are from Statistics Canada reports/tables, with advice from Perennia and commodity associations.
4. Model was adjusted in May 2021 to use actual beef slaughter statistics from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change and Atlantic Beef Products, include greenhouse cucumbers and a revised feed model for grains.