

NOVA SCOTIA

AGRICULTURAL PROFILE | 2009

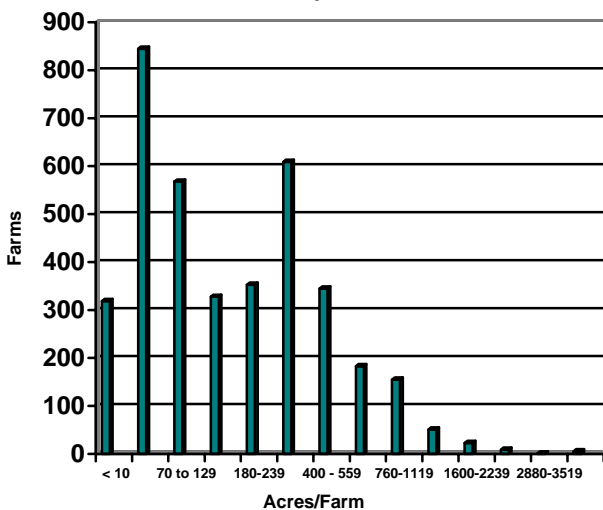


As of the 2006 Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, Nova Scotia made up 1.7 percent of all farms in Canada. In 2006, the leading agriculture sector in terms of number of farms was fruit farming. The province produced \$509,520,691 in gross farm receipts (excluding forest products), accounting for 1.2 percent of all gross farm receipts in the country, making Nova Scotia the seventh largest province in terms of agricultural production.

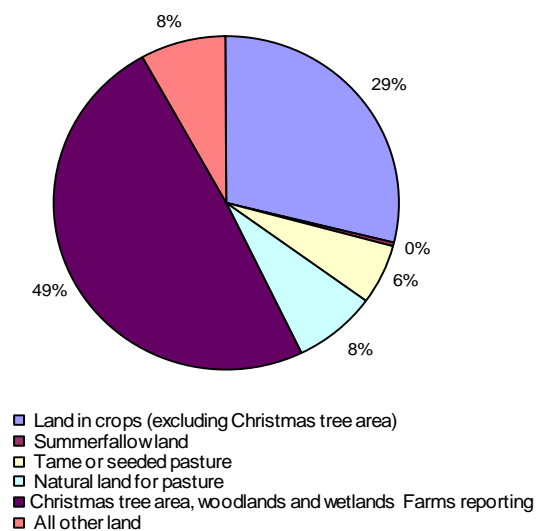
	2001	2006	% change	Canada 2006	Province/Canada
Number of farms	3,923	3,795	-3.3%	229,373	1.7%
Total farm area (hectares)	407,046	403,044	-1.0%	67,586,739	0.6%
Average size of farm (hectares)	104	106	+1.9%	295	35.9%

	2001	2006	% change	Canada 2006	Province/Canada
Gross farm receipts (exc forest products)	\$460,424,979	\$509,520,691	+10.6%	\$42,191,981,171	1.2%
Average per farm	\$117,366	\$134,261	+14.4%	\$183,945	73.0%

Farms by Size



Agriculture Land Use in Nova Scotia



Farms classified by industry (North American Industry Classification System), census year 2006,

Item	Quantity of NS Farms	Percentage of Canada
Total farms	3,795	2%
Fruit and tree-nut farming	907	11%
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	716	1%
Nursery and tree production	412	8%
Dairy cattle and milk production	297	2%
Hay farming	279	2%
Horse and other equine production	184	1%
Livestock combination farming	156	2%
Other vegetables (except potato) and melon farming	125	3%
All other miscellaneous crop farming	123	1%
Floriculture production	97	4%
Fur-bearing animal and rabbit production	95	25%
Broiler and other meat-type chicken production	67	3%
Sheep farming	54	2%
Hog and pig farming	51	1%
Chicken egg production	49	3%
Other food crops grown under cover	31	3%
Apiculture	25	2%
Fruit and vegetable combination farming	25	4%
Goat farming	22	2%
All other miscellaneous animal production	19	1%
Potato farming	17	1%
Other grain farming	15	0%
Turkey production	8	3%
Combination poultry and egg production	6	4%
Corn farming	6	0%
Wheat farming	3	0%
Mushroom production	3	2%
Poultry hatcheries	2	4%
Other poultry production	1	0%
Soybean farming	0	0%
Oilseed (except soybean) farming	0	0%
Dry pea and bean farming	0	0%
Tobacco farming	0	0%

Farms classified by gross farm receipts	Quantity
Under \$10,000	1357
\$10,000 to \$24,999	835
\$25,000 to \$49,999	438
\$50,000 to \$99,999	317
\$100,000 to \$249,999	355
\$250,000 to \$499,999	236
\$500,000 to \$999,999	161
\$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999	64
\$2,000,000 and up	32

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Total number of operators	5,095
Total male operators	3,840
Total female operators	1,260
Median age of principle operator	51

Net cash income (revenues less expenses) has been declining over the past few years, although the trend has been volatile over time. The gap between total net income and net cash income has been widening due to higher depreciation.

Figure 1. Net Cash Income and Total Net Income

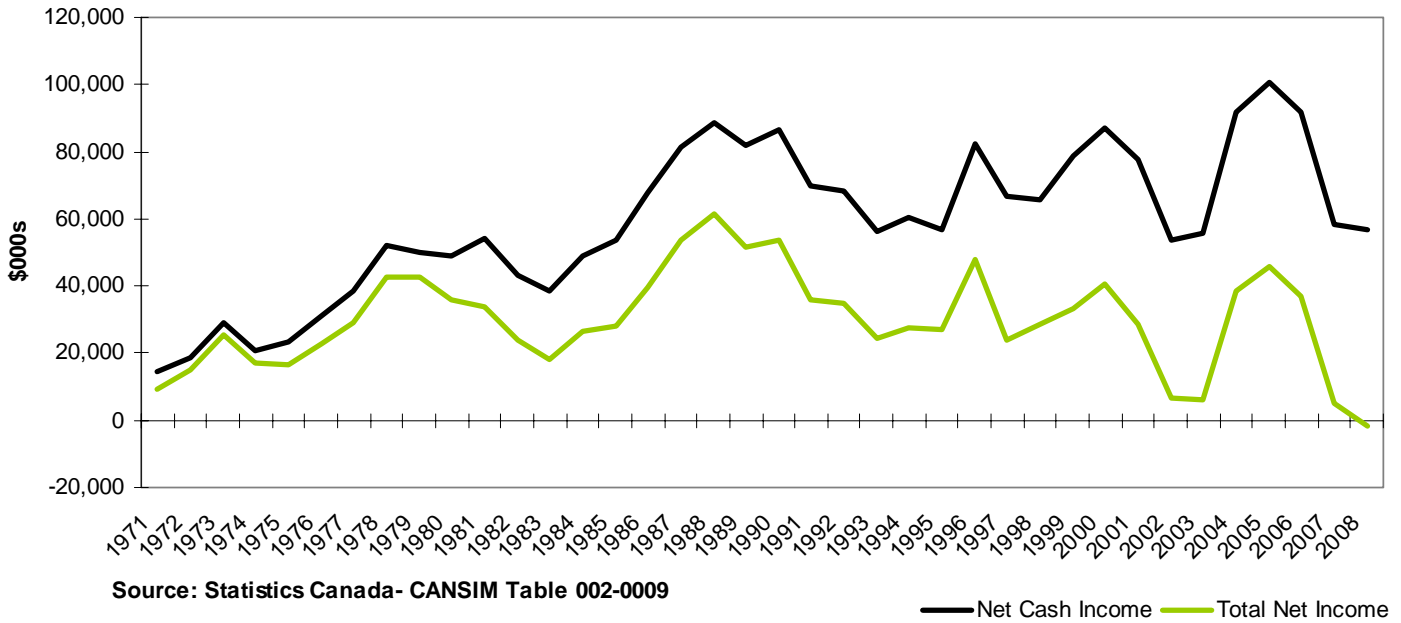
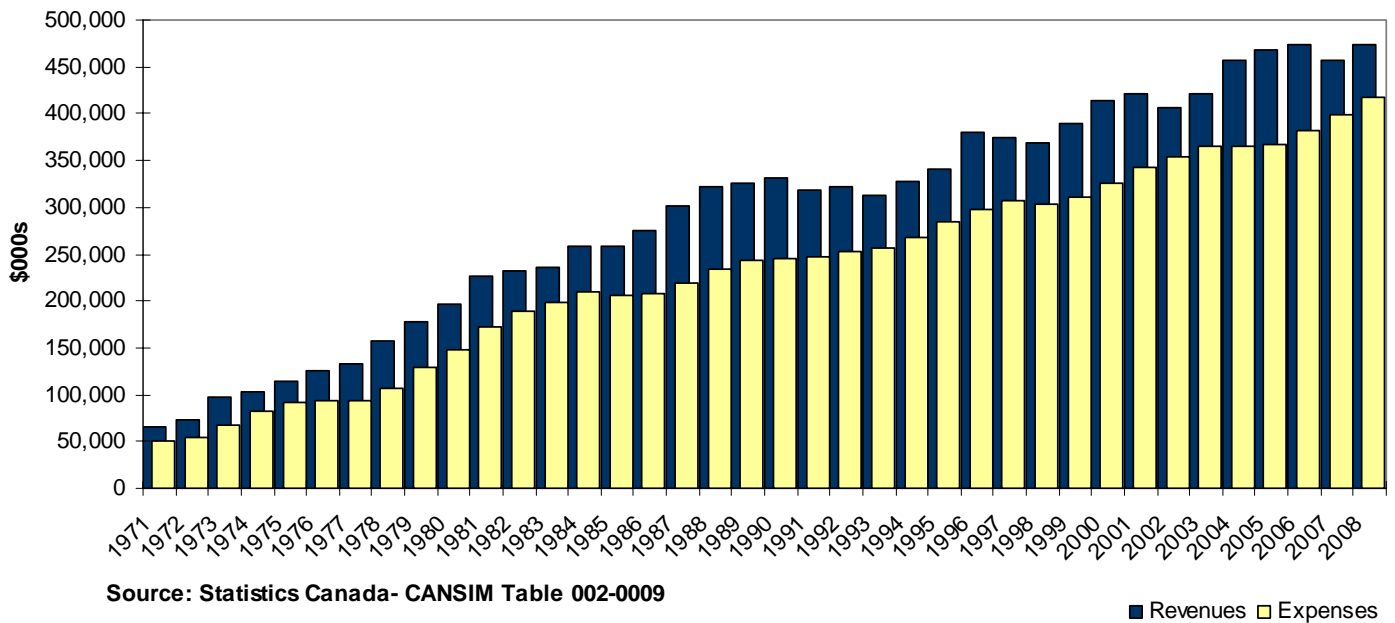
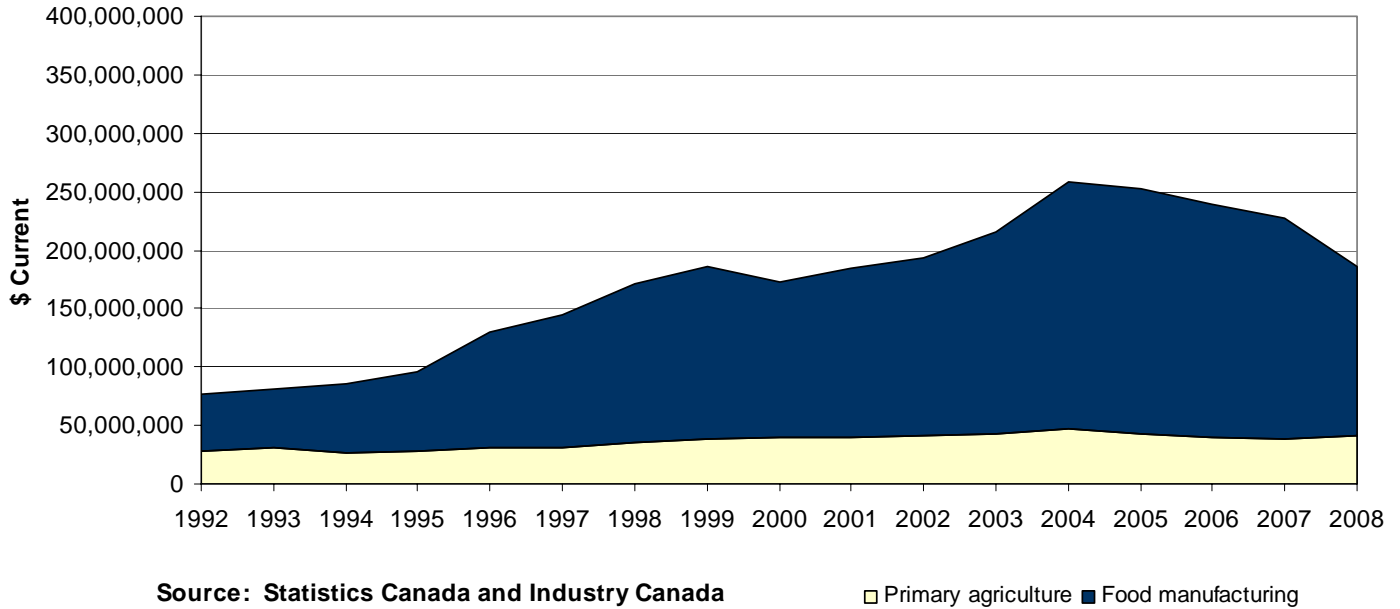


Figure 2. Revenues and Expenses



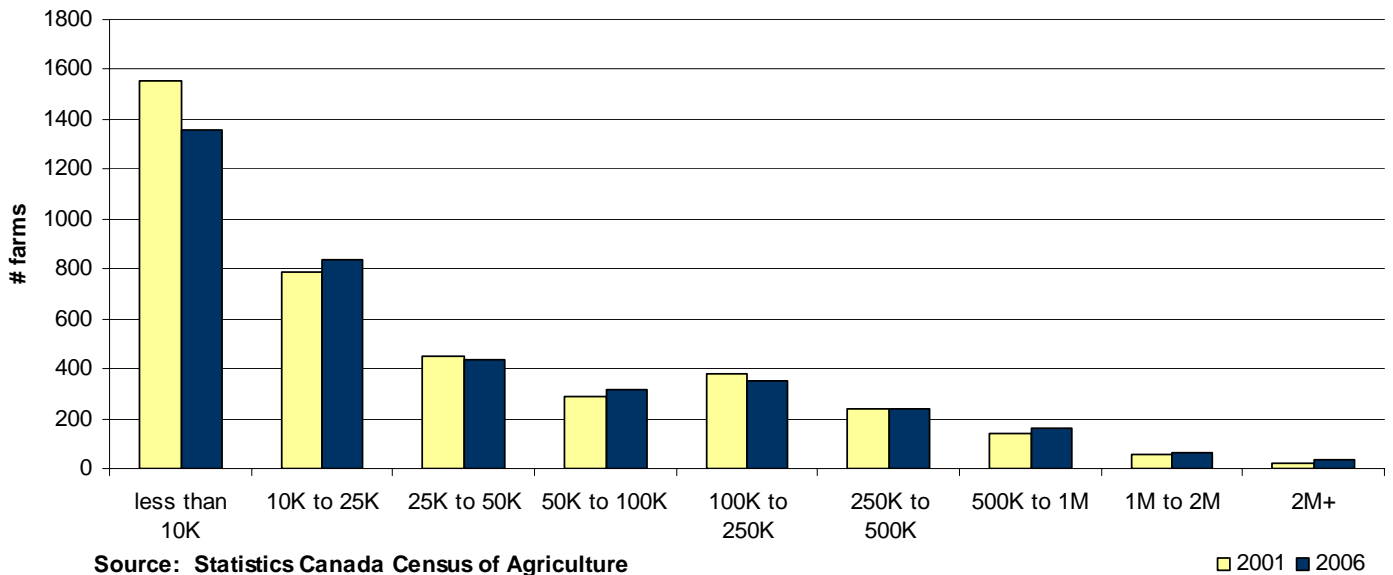
Primary agricultural exports (crop and animals) have increased slightly over time but have been relatively constant in recent years. Food manufacturing exports (processed or value added food) have increased substantially, although this growth has recently been reversed somewhat by a rising Canadian dollar.

Figure 3. Agri Food Exports (less fishery products)- Nova Scotia



Much of Nova Scotia's agricultural industry is made up of small and diversified farms (Fig 4). In percentage terms, there are fewer large and specialized farms in the province than the Canadian average.

Figure 4. Farms by gross revenue class



Revenues at the farm level totaled \$474 million in 2008 (Fig 5). Livestock revenues increased 18 percent over 2007, while crop revenues increased 16 percent and program payments decreased 20 percent. Figure 6 shows the revenues of the top 15 agricultural sectors. Fur production was the sector which made the biggest gains over 2007, increasing by \$15 million (23 percent), while hog revenues were down \$9.9 million (53 percent)

Figure 5. Breakdown of farm revenues

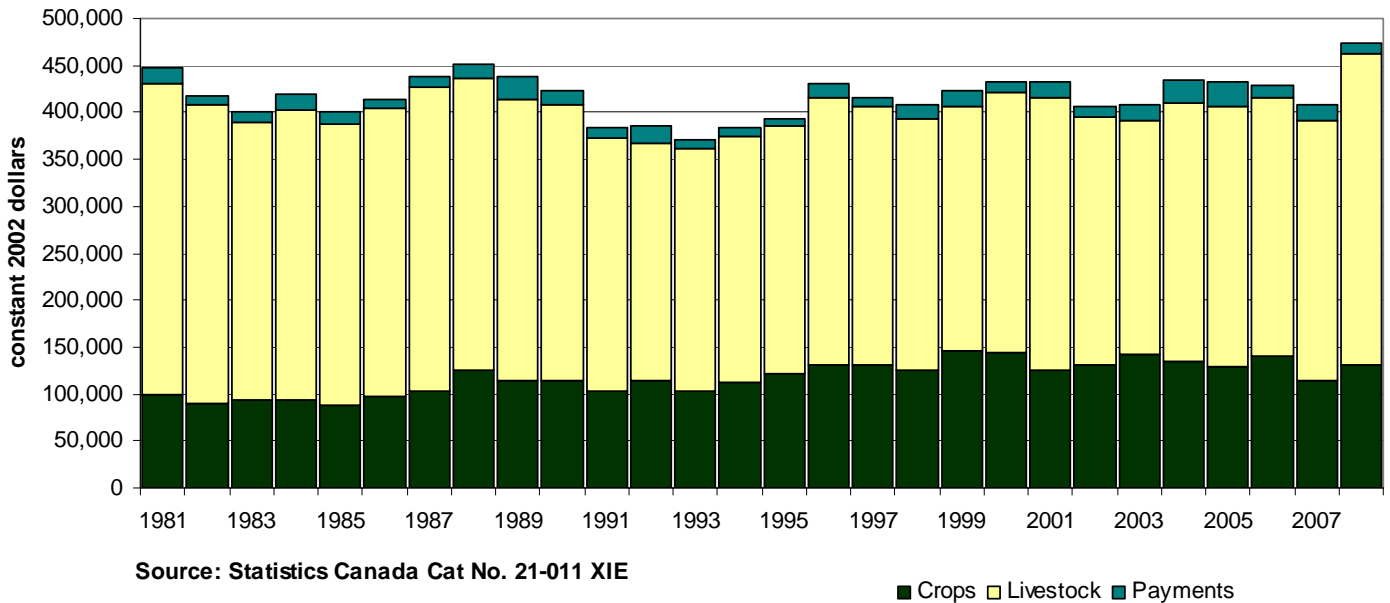
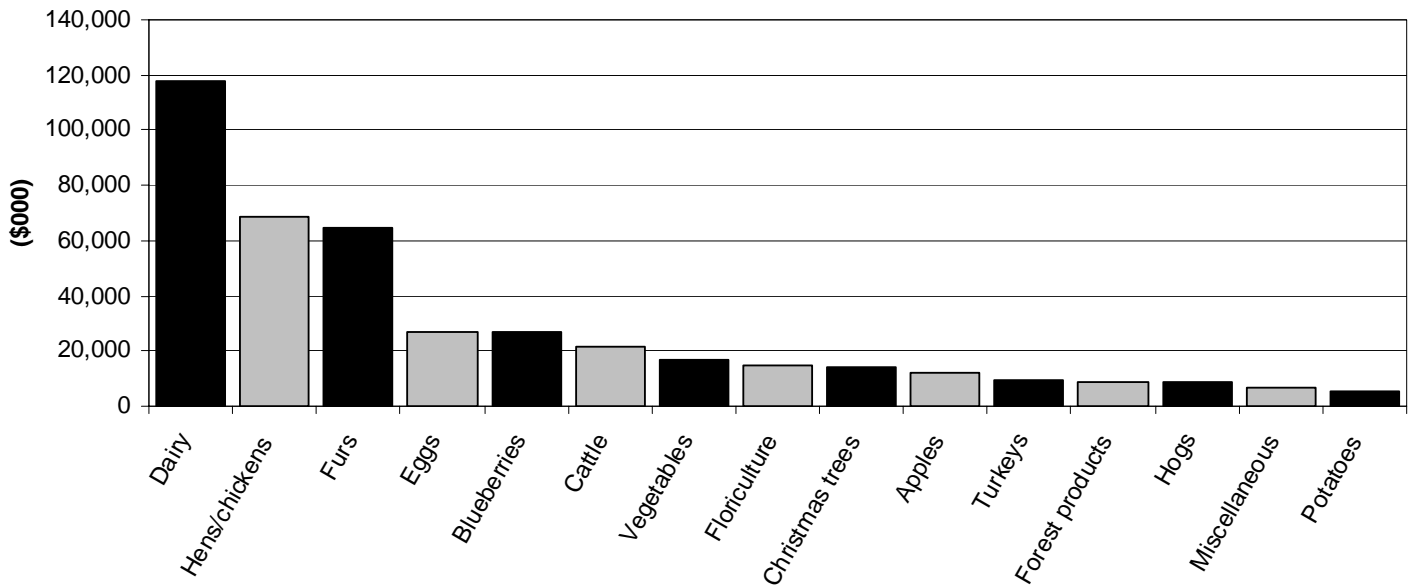


Figure 6. Nova Scotia farm revenues by sector-2008



With increased mechanization and consolidation, agricultural employment has declined over time. The average age of a farmer was 53.2 in 2006, higher than the Canadian average of 52.

Figure 7. Farm level employment

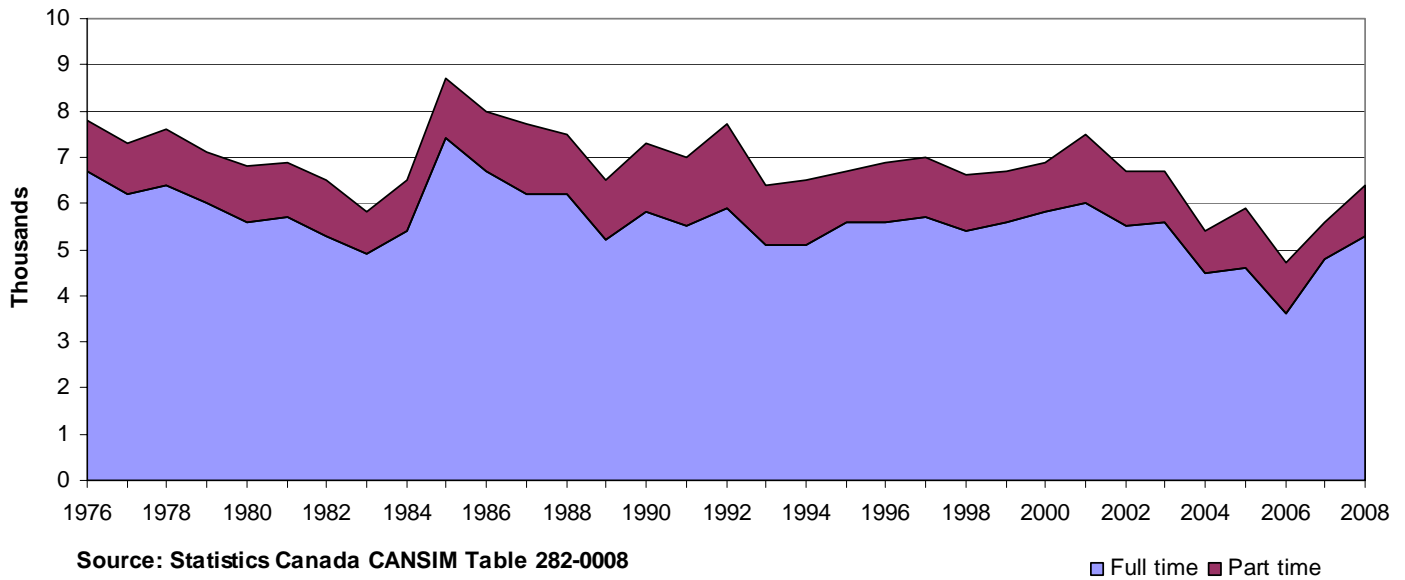


Table 1. 2006 Farms numbers and farm area by land use, Nova Scotia

County	# of farms	Total farm area (acres)	Land in crops (acres)	Summerfallow land (acres)	Tame or seeded pasture (acres)	Natural land for pasture (acres)	All other land (acres) ¹
Cumberland	553	180,449	51,837	122	x	13,557	104,061
Colchester	442	125,036	40,905	197	8,735	6,410	68,789
Kings	604	120,105	52,961	1,678	5,923	9,231	50,312
Hants	343	90,349	34,937	179	5,938	6,044	43,251
Lunenburg	326	74,715	9,304	32	2,778	4,082	58,519
Pictou	273	74,137	22,386	81	5,334	6,841	39,495
Antigonish	226	71,719	19,916	41	3,914	5,183	42,665
Annapolis	228	71,290	18,699	132	4,996	5,611	41,852
Inverness	138	44,407	10,370	0	2,090	6,332	25,615
Halifax	154	35,280	9,980	x	x	1,538	20,766
Guysborough	90	27,967	3,252	0	655	1,050	23,168
Victoria	39	17,488	1,722	0	596	7,056	8,114
Cape Breton	94	15,105	4,590	x	x	895	8,170
Yarmouth	93	14,715	3,017	x	x	x	9,429
Queens	35	13,060	2,339	0	302	1,052	9,367
Digby	118	12,442	1,342	173	486	1,414	9,027
Shelburne	19	4,885	311	x	x	x	4,476
Richmond	20	2,794	278	0	114	483	1,919
TOTAL	3,795	995,943	288,146	2,675	57,775	78,352	568,995

Notes:

X= suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act.

1. includes Christmas tree area, woodlands and wetlands.

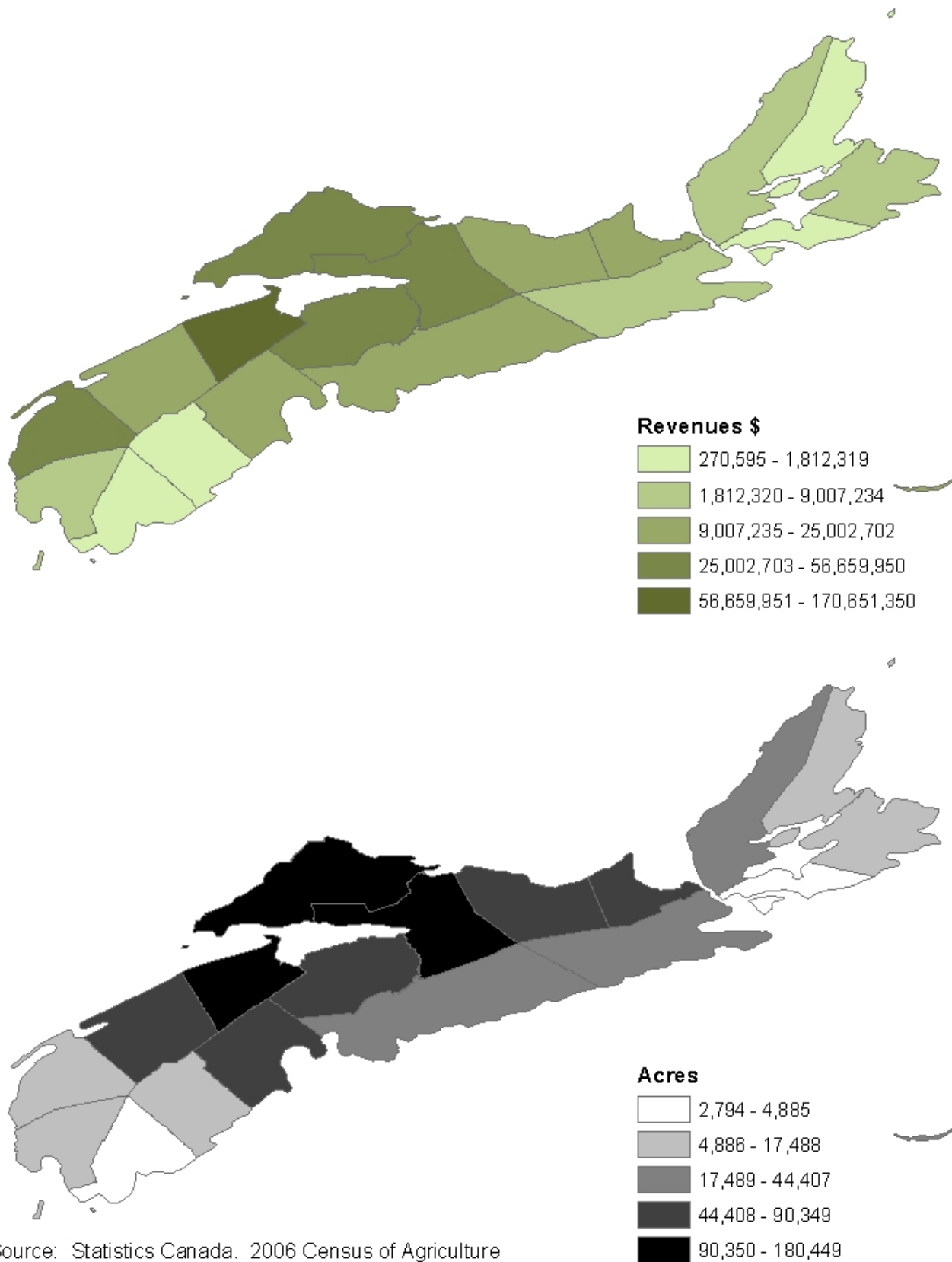
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture 2006

Table 2. Largest agricultural sector by county

# of farms		
Shelburne	Nursery and tree production tied with fruit farming	4
Yarmouth	fruit farming	30
Digby	fur bearing animals	61
Queens	nursery and tree production	15
Lunenburg	nursery and tree production	150
Annapolis	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	63
Kings	fruit farming	140
Hants	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	77
Halifax	fruit farming	31
Colchester	fruit farming	141
Cumberland	fruit farming	319
Pictou	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	71
Guysborough	Nursery and tree production	57
Antigonish	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	59
Inverness	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	49
Richmond	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	4
Cape Breton	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	18
Victoria	Beef cattle ranching and feedlots	10

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture 2006

Figure 8. Farm acres and revenue by county- 2006



Source: Statistics Canada. 2006 Census of Agriculture

