



BRITISH COLUMBIA AGRICULTURE IN BRIEF 2021

Population (2021)¹	#	5,000,879
Jurisdictional Land Area (2021)²	ha	92,068,600
Agricultural Land Reserve (2021)³	ha	4,612,870
Population Increase (2016-2021)⁴	#	352,824

Census of Agriculture Data	Unit	2021
Total Farmland Area⁵	ha	2,285,729
Number of Farms⁶	#	15,841
Average Farm Size	ha	144.3
Total Farm Operators	#	23,680
Total Farm Capital		\$52,913,810,371
Total Operating Revenue		\$4,795,494,785
Total Number of Employees	#	30,829

Farmland Use	ha	2,285,729
Crops ⁷	ha	557,009
Summerfallow	ha	4,929
Tame or Seeded Pasture	ha	177,696
Natural Land for Pasture	ha	1,246,042
All Other Land ⁸	ha	300,053

Crop Area		
Hay Crop ⁹	ha	317,209
Field Crops ⁹	ha	202,644
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	ha	28,072
Vegetables	ha	6,053
Nursery Products	ha	2,376
Sod Grown for Sale	ha	656
Greenhouse Fruit & Vegetable Area	m ²	3,467,480
Greenhouse Cut Flowers Area	m ²	354,616
Greenhouse Potted Plants, Indoor or Outdoor Area	m ²	1,398,927
Other Greenhouse Production Area	m ²	710,796
Mushroom Growing Area	m ²	319,930
Christmas Tree Growing Area	ha	1,272

Area Irrigated	ha	98,899
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Farms Reporting Organic Products for Sale¹⁰	#	511
Farms Reporting Certified Products	#	457
Farms Reporting in Transition Products	#	57

Farms With Written Succession Plans¹⁰	#	1,530
Family Members as Successors	#	1,455
Non-family Members as Successors	#	91

Farms With No Written Succession Plans¹⁰	#	14,311
The plan is not in place, but discussed	#	2,947
The plan is not in place and not discussed	#	11,364

Census of Agriculture Data (continued)	2021	
Animals on Farms	Farms	Number of Animals
Hens & Chickens	4,262	22,869,453
Turkeys	376	733,784
Ducks	634	123,743
Geese	236	6,996
Other Poultry (Total)	730	599,506
Cattle & Calves	4,790	617,336
Dairy Cows	3,309	194,831
Beef Cows	614	80,594
Pigs	788	88,709
Sheep & Lambs	1,415	54,608
Horses & Ponies	2,245	19,260
Goats	795	17,259
Mink	12	54,303
Bison	48	14,888
Deer	6	318
Llamas & Alpacas	237	1,663
Rabbits	208	1,778
Colonies of Bees for Honey	851	49,927

	Unit	Farms
Farms Selling Direct to Consumers¹⁰	#	5,381
Farms Reporting Sales of Unprocessed Agricultural Products	#	5,190
Farms Reporting Sales of Value-added Products	#	591
Farms Reporting Using On-Site Farm Stores, Farm Gate, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	#	3,372
Farms Reporting Using Off-Site Farm Stores or Stands	#	500
Farms Reporting Using Farmers' Markets	#	857
Farms Reporting Using Direct Deliveries to Consumers	#	2,688
Farms Reporting Using Community Supported Agriculture	#	199
Farms Reporting Using Other Methods	#	252

Farms Reporting Technologies Used on Farms		
Automated steering (Auto-steer)	#	640
GIS Mapping (e.g., Soil Mapping)	#	400
Variable Rate Input Application	#	1,458
Drones	#	303
Soil Sample Test	#	2,811
Slow-release Fertilizer	#	3,182
Robotic Milking	#	124
Robotic Greenhouse Equipment	#	41

Farms Reporting Renewable Energy Systems Produced For Use on Farm or for Sale ¹⁰	#	1,420
Farms Reporting Renewable Energy For Operation	#	1,304
Farms Reporting Renewable Energy For Sale	#	119
Farms Reporting Solar Panels	#	912
Farms Reporting Wind Turbines	#	86
Farms Reporting Bioenergy (Biomass Combustion, Biomethane, Biofuel, Other Biogas)	#	361
Farms Reporting Geothermal	#	273
Farms Reporting Other Renewable Energy Producing Systems	#	13

Source: Statistics Canada and Adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture, 2021, unless otherwise specified.
Prepared by Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Sector Insights and Corporate Initiatives Unit, Summer 2022.

End Notes

1 Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population.

2 Source: Statistics Canada. <https://geosuite.statcan.gc.ca/geosuite/en/index>

3 Source: Adapted from Agricultural Land Commission. Agricultural Land Reserve as of March 31, 2021.

4 Source: Adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Population.

5 Total farmland area includes both workable and non-workable land on farm operations in B.C.

6 In 2021, there have been changes to the definition of a census farm. Caution should be taken when comparing the 2021 Census of Agriculture data with data from previous censuses. For a summary of these changes, refer to <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/dict/index-eng.cfm>

7 Crops include hay crops, field crops, field vegetables, fruits and nuts, sod and nursery products.

8 Other farmland area includes: woodland, wetlands, Christmas tree land, land on which farm buildings, barnyards, lanes, home gardens, greenhouses and mushroom houses are located, and idle land.

9 Does not include those crop areas suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act.

10 The "number of farms reporting" may not equal the sum of the parts because farms reporting more than one category (or activity) are only counted once.