



Population Characteristics

Population ²	#	604,651	12.1%
Population Increase since 2016 ²	#	58,364	16.5%
Jurisdictional Land Area ²	ha	9,403,938	10.2%
Agricultural Land Reserve ³	ha	808,602	17.5%

Farm Characteristics

Total Farmland Area ⁵	ha	691,950	30.3%
Number of Farms	#	4,415	27.9%
Average Farm Size	ha	157	NA
Total Farm Operators	#	6,585	27.8%
Total Farm Capital	\$	\$13,901,689,251	26.3%
Total Farm Cash Receipts	\$	\$608,291,231	14.9%
Total Number of Agricultural Workers	#	8,338	27.0%

Farmland Use

Crops ⁶	ha	75,367	13.5%
Summerfallow	ha	274	5.6%
Tame or Seeded Pasture	ha	16,128	9.1%
Natural Land for Pasture	ha	520,569	41.8%
All Other Land ⁷	ha	14,149	17.9%

Crop Area

Hay Crops ⁸	ha	17,555	10.7%
Field Crops ⁸	ha	62,297	12.0%
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	ha	11,688	41.6%
Vegetables	ha	816	13.5%
Nursery Products	ha	510	21.5%
Sod Grown for Sale	ha	60	9.2%
Greenhouse Flower Area	m ²	62,193	3.5%
Greenhouse Vegetable Area	m ²	99,524	2.9%
Other Greenhouse Production Area	m ²	46,646	6.6%
Mushroom Growing Area	m ²	360	0.1%
Christmas Tree Growing Area	ha	308	24.3%

Area Irrigated

	ha	109,453	44.8%
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Farms Reporting Organic Products for Sale⁹

		Farms Reporting	
Farms Reporting Certified Products	#	193	42.2%
Farms Reporting in Transition Products	#	29	50.9%

Farms With Written Succession Plans⁹

		Farms	
Family Members as Successors	#	370	25.4%
Non-family Members as Successors	#	31	34.1%

Sources

1 Sector Insights and Corporate Initiatives adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture 2021, unless otherwise specified.

2 Sector Insights and Corporate Initiatives adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Population 2021.

3 Source: Agricultural Land Commission, <https://catalogue.data.gov.bc.ca/dataset/92e17599-ac8a-47c8-877c-107768cb373c>

Thompson-Okanagan Census Agriculture Region

	Unit of Measure	2021 ¹		Share of B.C.	
Animals on Farms					
		Farms	Number	Farms	Number
Hens & Chickens	#	1,016	1,944,029	23.8%	8.5%
Turkeys	#	75	25,028	19.9%	3.4%
Total Other Poultry	#	192	2,301	26.3%	0.4%
Cattle & Calves	#	1,141	160,459	23.8%	26.0%
<i>Dairy Cows</i>	#	107	12,426	17.4%	15.4%
<i>Beef Cows</i>	#	763	55,921	23.1%	28.7%
Pigs	#	178	1,627	22.6%	1.8%
Sheep & Lambs	#	316	11,871	22.3%	21.7%
Horses & Ponies	#	609	5,702	27.1%	29.6%
Goats	#	186	2,386	23.4%	13.8%
Mink	#	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Bison	#	9	1,017	18.8%	6.8%
Deer	#	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Llamas & Alpacas	#	65	704	27.4%	42.3%
Rabbits	#	45	333	21.6%	18.7%
Colonies of Bees for Honey	#	231	7,575	27.1%	15.2%
Sales Direct to Consumers⁹					
		Farms Reporting			
Sales of Unprocessed Agricultural Products	#	1,425		27.5%	
Sales of Value-added Products	#	175		29.6%	
Using Farm Gate, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	#	938		27.8%	
Using Farmers' Markets	#	248		28.9%	
Using Community Supported Agriculture	#	42		21.1%	
Through direct deliveries to consumers	#	741		27.6%	
Using off-site farm stores or stands	#	165		33.0%	
Using Other Methods	#	52		20.6%	
Technologies Use on Farms					
		Farms Reporting			
Robotic Greenhouse Equipment	#	4		9.8%	
Use of Automated Steering (Auto-Steer)	#	110		17.2%	
Use of GIS Mapping (e.g., Soil Mapping)	#	124		31.0%	
Use of Robotic Milking	#	17		13.7%	
Variable Rate Input Application	#	500		34.3%	
Slow-release Fertilizer	#	1,001		31.5%	
Soil Sample Test	#	808		28.7%	
Drones	#	101		33.3%	
Renewable Energy Systems Production					
		Farms Reporting			
Geothermal Electric Power Generator	#	119		43.6%	
Solar Panels	#	260		28.5%	
Wind Turbines	#	23		26.7%	
Bioenergy	#	168		22.8%	

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding

x - indicates farms reporting but information suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

NA - indicates data is not available or applicable

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

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

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

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

9 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. A new conceptual definition of a "farm" was introduced in 2021 so historical comparisons are not recommended.