

The agriculture and agri-food sector is an important component of the provincial economy, generating employment, income, and nourishment to both rural and urban communities. The sector combines 2,255 farms and 139 processing plants to produce farm cash receipts of \$869 million and processed agri-food products worth over \$1 billion. The sector is quite diverse with over 30 commodities being produced in New Brunswick. Potatoes, dairy products, chicken, cattle and calves, floriculture, nursery and sod, and tree fruits and berries accounted for about 57 per cent of total farm cash receipts in 2020. New Brunswick enjoys one of the highest levels of value-added processing in the country from its agriculture and agri-food sector with around 80 per cent of the province's agriculture production being processed in-province before reaching the market. The sector has an extensive network of export markets comprising 70 countries, with total exports valued at \$413 million in 2020. In terms of employment, the sector generated 9,025 full-year equivalent jobs in primary agricultural production and agri-food processing activities.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Industry

Number of farms (2016 Census of Agric.)	2,255
Farmland, hectares (2016 Census of Agric.)	338,046
Land in crops, hectares (2016 Census of Agric.)	139,416
Total farm assets	\$3.7 billion
Farm cash receipts	\$869 million
Number of processing plants	139
Shipments of processed food products ¹	Over \$1 billion
Agri-food exports	\$413 million
GDP (direct)	\$995 million
Employment, farm ²	3,670
Employment, processing ³	5,355

¹ Estimate.

^{2,3} Full-year equivalent jobs.

Major Crops - Seeded/Cultivated Area (Hectares)

	2019	2020
Potatoes	21,408	19,643
Blueberries	15,492	15,909
Barley	5,500	8,100
Oats	7,600	5,700
Grain corn	3,700	3,600
Soybeans	4,500	3,100

Major Commodities - Value (\$ Million)

	2019	2020
Cannabis	x	223.7
Potatoes	166.8	153.5
Dairy products	115.7	119.7
Chicken ⁴	74.3	77.1
Cattle and calves	46.2	53.6
Floriculture, nursery, and sod	48.1	51.0
Tree fruits and berries	47.9	36.9
Eggs	28.6	29.0
Maple products	23.2	20.6
Grains and oilseeds	23.6	19.0
Christmas trees	13.4	13.3
Hogs	12.3	10.6
Hay	7.5	7.8
Turkey ⁵	7.7	7.5
Government payments	12.9	11.7
Other	..	34.3

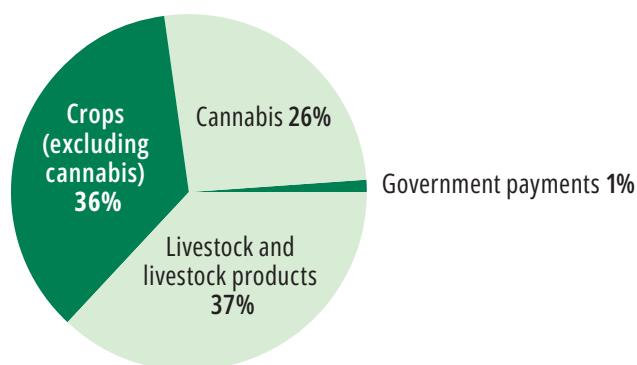
x Data are suppressed.

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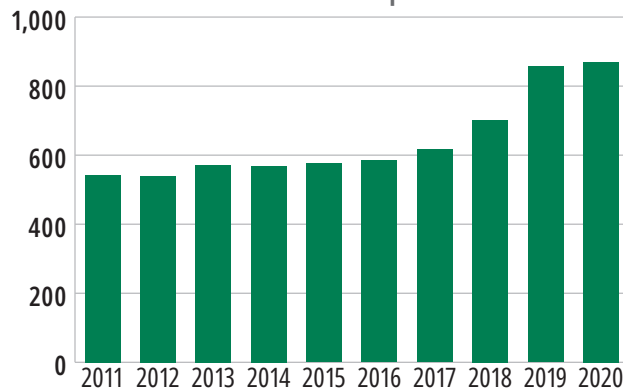
⁴ Chicken receipts for New Brunswick were suppressed by Statistics Canada. As a result, receipts were estimated based on data retrieved from Chicken Farmers of Canada.

⁵ Turkey receipts for New Brunswick were suppressed by Statistics Canada. As a result, these are estimates retrieved from Turkey Farmers of Canada.

2020 Farm Cash Receipts: \$869 Million



Total Farm Cash Receipts: 2011-2020



Revisions were made to 2019 farm cash receipts and export values by Statistics Canada.

Exports of Agri-Food Products

By Country	\$ Million	
	2019	2020
United States	463.3	352.1
Costa Rica	8.5	6.8
Panama	2.4	6.5
Mexico	7.4	4.8
United Arab Emirates	4.2	4.6
Kuwait	3.2	4.0
Japan	4.7	2.8
Saudi Arabia	1.6	2.7
Other	33.4	28.9
Total	528.7	413.1

By Commodity	\$ Million	
	2019	2020
Potatoes and potato products	320.8	231.4
Animal feed	33.4	38.8
Live trees, plants, and flowers	36.4	37.2
Preparations of grains	29.4	33.3
Maple products	10.8	13.9
Live animals	22.7	11.4
Wild blueberries	21.7	10.0
Beer	7.7	8.8
Other	45.7	28.3
Total	528.7	413.1

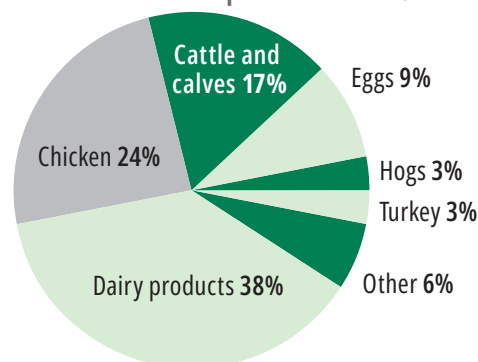
Note: Due to rounding, numbers in the above tables may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

Source: Statistics Canada, CATSNET Analytics (November 2021).

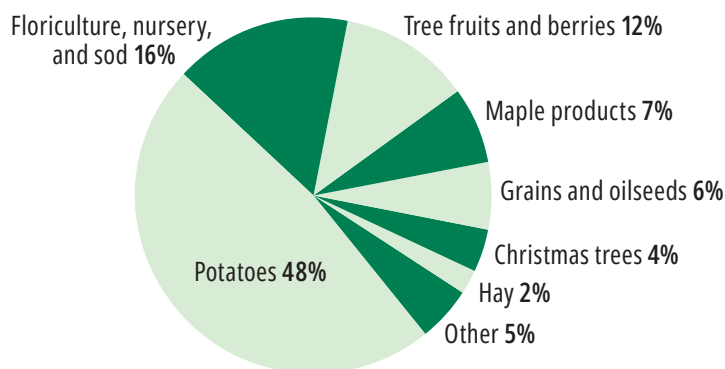
2020 Highlights

- New Brunswick's total farm cash receipts increased marginally by \$13 million (one per cent) to reach a record-high \$869 million in 2020, the highest reported in Atlantic Canada. Crop receipts (including cannabis) remained stable, while livestock receipts rose by four per cent and program payments fell by nine per cent.
- Potato receipts fell by eight per cent (\$13 million) to \$154 million in 2020, due to a decrease in marketed production of the 2019 crop, outweighing a rise in average price. Note, the majority of the 2019 potato crop was marketed in 2020. The 2019 growing season produced a high yielding crop; however, as COVID-19 restrictions were imposed upon the food service industry, processors reduced production, leaving processing potato growers with millions of pounds of excess potatoes. Consequently, some of these processing potatoes went to food banks while others were diverted to the open market.
- Blueberry receipts decreased by \$14 million (40 per cent) to \$21 million in 2020, due to a significant decline in the quantity sold, outweighing a considerable price increase. Particularly, production levels fell as a result of low yields, due to drought.
- Revenues from maple products totaled \$21 million in 2020, down 11 per cent (\$2.6 million) compared to 2019. This resulted from reduced production coupled with lower prices.
- Receipts from grains and oilseeds decreased by one-fifth (\$4.6 million) to \$19 million in 2020, due mainly to lower grain corn and soybean receipts. Particularly, marketed production of grain corn and soybeans declined sharply, due to lower seeded area and yield. Note, for grain corn, the 2019 crop was marketed in 2020.

Total Livestock Receipts in 2020: \$317 million



Crop Receipts (excluding cannabis) in 2020: \$317 Million



- Dairy receipts increased by \$4.0 million (three per cent) to \$120 million in 2020, as prices and marketed production rose.
- Revenues from cattle and calf production totaled \$54 million in 2020, up 16 per cent (\$7.4 million) from 2019. Interprovincial exports and slaughter receipts rose on higher marketings and prices, while international exports plummeted, as less cattle were exported to the United States, due to outbreaks of COVID-19 at processing facilities, which caused temporary plant closures and backlogs.
- Hog receipts decreased by 14 per cent (\$1.7 million) to \$11 million in 2020, as lower prices outweighed greater marketed production. Disruptions to the supply chain resulted in backlogs at processing facilities which suppressed prices.
- Program payments amounted to \$12 million in 2020, down \$1.2 million (nine per cent) from 2019. This decrease was driven by lower payments under the Federal Dairy Direct Payment Program, down by \$4.6 million (89 per cent). On the other hand, Crop insurance, Agri-Stability, and AgriInvest payments rose.
- New Brunswick's total agri-food exports fell by \$116 million (22 per cent) to \$413 million in 2020, largely due to global market disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The greatest declines were seen in sales of potatoes and potato products, by \$89 million (28 per cent), preparations of nuts and seeds, by \$15 million (73 per cent), wild blueberries, by \$12 million (54 per cent), and live animals, by \$11 million (50 per cent).
- The top destination market for New Brunswick's agri-food products in 2020 was the United States, with sales totaling \$352 million. Compared to 2019, exports fell by \$111 million (24 per cent).