Agriculture and Food

NORTHUMBERLAND'S

VitalSigns.

Community Foundation
of Campbellford/Seymour
and Northumberland

Key Indicators:

- **Number of Farms**
- **Number of Farm Operators, by age**

Sustainable Development Goals:

2 ZERO HUNGER

[#2 Zero Hunger](#) - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Goal #2 is directly interconnected with four other goals, including #3 – Good Health and Well-Being, #8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, #10 – Reduced Inequalities and #12 – Responsible Consumption and Production.

[Target 2.4](#) - By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

Sources:

- [Statistics Canada – Characteristics of farm operators](#)
- [Total number of farms and farm operators, Census of Agriculture, 2011 and 2016, inactive (statcan.gc.ca)](#)
- [Ontario agriculture and food statistics | ontario.ca](#)
- [Food Insecurity | HKPR District Health Unit](#)
- [Feed The Change 2023 (northumberland.ca)](#)

Note: These data in the following report uses both percent change (%) and percentage point change (% pt.). Percent change describes how much a number has changed in relation to a previous number. Percentage point is the difference between percentages. (A value of 10% falling by 1 percentage point becomes 9% (10% has 10 percentage points). A fall of 1% would result in a value of 9.9%).

Number of Farms

Total number of farms reported in the Census of Agriculture.
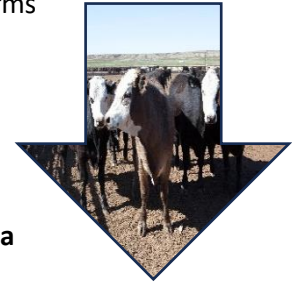
The "census farm" concept of the Census of Agriculture refers to a unit that produces agricultural products and reports revenues or expenses for tax purposes to the Canada Revenue Agency. Agricultural products include:

- Crops: grains, oilseeds, leguminous crops, potatoes, vegetables, fruits, berries, greenhouse products, mushrooms, sod, nursery, Christmas trees, maple tree taps, hay and fodder crops, cannabis, hemp and other crops.
- Livestock: dairy and beef cattle (including feedlots), pigs, poultry and eggs (including hatcheries), turkeys, ducks, geese, sheep, goats, horses and other equines, bison (buffalo), elk (wapiti), deer, llamas and alpacas, rabbits, mink, bees and other animals.

Not included are: forestry and logging, hunting and trapping, fishing and aquaculture, support activities for agriculture and post-harvest activities, horse boarding and riding lessons, operations producing products that are not for human consumption (e.g. genetic operations, insect farms for pet food).

In **Northumberland County,** in 2021, there were 840 farms. The number of farms is down 114 farms from 2016 (954).

In **Ontario**, in 2021, the number of farms is down 1,254 from 2016, and in **Canada** the number of farms is down 3,618 from 2016.

Number of Farm Operators, by age

Number of farm operators (farmers), by age, reported in the Census of Agriculture. Up to three operators can be reported per farm. This is a count of distinct operators; hence, operators of two or more separate farms are included only once in the total.

In **Northumberland County**, in 2021, there were 1,195 farmers. The number of farmers is down 190 farmers from 2016 (1,385). The average age of farmers in Northumberland County was 58.2 in 2021, up 0.9 years from 2016 (57.3).

Age of Farmers

■ Under 35　■ 35 to 54 Years　■ 55+

Northumberland's Vital Signs – Agriculture and Food