

Census of Agriculture



Highlights

The following statistics are from the 2001 Census of Canada which occurred on May 15, 2001.

Number of Farms

The total number of farms in the Yukon on May 15, 2001, was 170, which is 10 more than the 160 farms reported in the 1996 Census. The Northwest Territories also saw an increase from 23 in 1996 to 30 in 2001.



Land Area



In 2001, the land area of farms in the Yukon was 29,318 acres, which is 4,880 more than the 1996 total of 24,438 acres. The Northwest Territories reported 1,676 acres of farmland in 2001, which is 1,064 more than the 612 acres reported in 1996.

Costs

Total gross farm receipts for the year 2000 in the Yukon were \$4,194,864, which is \$658,766 or a 19% increase over the 1996 Census which totalled \$3,536,098. The Northwest Territories saw a 22% in gross farm receipts, which reported \$5,009,589 in 1996 and \$3,932,439 in 2001.



The 2001 Census of Agriculture did not identify any farms in Nunavut.

Hay accounted for three-quarters of total field crops in the Yukon Territory in 2001.

According to the 2001 Census there were no farms in the north producing certified organic products.

Farm Types

For farms reporting total gross farm receipts greater than \$2,499

Farm Type	Yukon	NWT
Cattle ranching and farming	2	0
Hog and pig farming	1	0
Poultry and egg production	6	2
Sheep and goat farming	0	0
Other animal production	46	3
Oilseed and grain farming	3	1
Vegetable and melon farming	6	0
Fruit and tree nut farming	0	0
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production	17	2
Other crop farming	30	1
Total number of farms	111	9

Total Farm Area

Farm Area	2001		1996		1991	
	Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT
Under 10 acres	29	16	31	11	17	9
10 to 69 acres	57	12	54	9	47	12
70 to 129 acres	14	0	19	0		
130 to 179 acres	24	1	22	0	* 33	1
180 to 239 acres	12	1	8	1		
240 to 399 acres	14	0	14	1	5	1
400 to 559 acres	11	0	6	0	4	0
560 to 759 acres	3	0	1	0	2	0
760 to 1,119 acres	2	0	2	1	1	0
1,120 to 1,599 acres	2	0	1	0	1	0
1,600 to 2,239 acres	1	0	1	0	3	4
2,240 to 2,879 acres	1	0	1	0	0	0
2,880 to 3,519 acres	0	0	0	0	0	0
3,520 acres and over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of farms	170	30	160	23	113	27

* Note: The 1991 Census collapsed the 70-239 acre area into one, but was later expanded in 1996 and 2001.

Farm Land Area by Tenure

	2001		1996		1991	
	Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT
Total area of farms	29,318	612	24,438	1,676	20,421	2,853
Farms reporting	170	30	160	23	113	27
Area owned	17,204	389	12,811	353	8,160	472
Farms reporting	161	25	140	19	96	22
Area leased from government	10,778	x	11,422	x	12,133	2,331
Farms reporting	26	6	39	5	32	9
Total area rented, leased or crop shared from all sources	12,114	223	205	x	128	50
Farms reporting	35	8	3	2	4	2

History of the Census of Agriculture

How the Census of Agriculture began



The British North America (BNA) Act of 1867 determined that a census would be taken every 10 years starting in 1871. However, rapid expansion in western Canada at the turn of the last century made a more frequent census necessary. Starting in 1896, a separate Census of Agriculture was taken every five years in Manitoba, and in Alberta and Saskatchewan beginning in 1906.

By 1956, rapid economic growth and development created the need for both national demographic and agricultural information at more frequent intervals. In 1956, the five-year Census of Agriculture was extended to the entire country, and the Census of Population became a regular enumeration every five years. That year the two started a long tradition of being conducted concurrently.

Land Use

		2001		1996	
		Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT
Total area of farms	Farms reporting	170	30	160	23
	Acres	29,318	612	24,438	1,676
Land in crops (excluding Christmas tree area)	Farms reporting	108	18	104	10
	Acres	7,015	225	5,678	87
Summerfallow land	Farms reporting	11	4	8	2
	Acres	525	16	254	x
Tame or seeded pasture	Farms reporting	24	2	23	1
	Acres	940	x	859	x
Natural land for pasture	Farms reporting	55	3	44	5
	Acres	10,391	165	6,043	1,108
All other land (including Christmas tree area)	Farms reporting	160	26	142	14
	Acres	10,447	x	11,604	394

The definition of an **agricultural operation** was expanded in 1991 for the Yukon and Northwest Territories to include:

- **herding wild animals (such as caribou, muskox, etc.)**
- **breeding sled dogs**
- **horse outfitting and rigging**
- **harvesting indigenous plants and berries.**

The same definition was used for the 1996 and 2001 Census of Agriculture (which included Nunavut).

Changing land use practices

Yukon farmers reported that they had 7,015 acres in crops in 2001, up 23.5% from the previous census in 1996. The average Yukon farm was 12.4% larger in 2001, increasing from 153 acres in 1996 to 172 acres in 2001.

Land in summerfallow increased in the Yukon contrary to the national trend which saw a 25% decline in summerfallow practices, whereas the Yukon saw a 107% increase in this practice from 1996.

A large increase in natural land for pasture was evident in the 2001 numbers, rising from 6,043 acres in 1996 to 10,391 acres in 2001, a 72% increase.

Vegetables

Yukon NWT

Total vegetables	Farms reporting	18	10
	Acres	24	13
Carrots	Farms reporting	11	4
	Acres	3	1
Lettuces	Farms reporting	9	2
	Acres	3	x
Other vegetables	Farms reporting	8	6
	Acres	6	7
Cabbage	Farms reporting	8	4
	Acres	2	1
Beets	Farms reporting	7	5
	Acres	1	1
Green peas	Farms reporting	6	2
	Acres	1	x
Cauliflower	Farms reporting	5	1
	Acres	1	x
Broccoli	Farms reporting	5	1
	Acres	1	x
Rutabagas and turnips	Farms reporting	5	5
	Acres	1	1
Tomatoes	Farms reporting	4	0
	Acres	1	0
Cucumbers	Farms reporting	4	0
	Acres	1	0
Green or wax beans	Farms reporting	4	3
	Acres	1	1
Radishes	Farms reporting	4	1
	Acres	1	x
Rhubarb	Farms reporting	4	1
	Acres	1	x
Spinach	Farms reporting	3	0
	Acres	1	0
Sweet corn	Farms reporting	2	2
	Acres	x	x
Dry onions	Farms reporting	2	2
	Acres	x	x
Shallots, green and seed onions	Farms reporting	2	0
	Acres	x	0
Celery	Farms reporting	1	1
	Acres	x	x
Squash, pumpkins and zucchini	Farms reporting	2	1
	Acres	x	x

Hay & Field Crops

Yukon NWT

All other tame hay and fodder crops	Farms reporting	62	5
	Acres	4,686	35
Oats	Farms reporting	30	1
	Acres	1,293	x
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures	Farms reporting	13	4
	Acres	637	29
Potatoes	Farms reporting	13	9
	Acres	30	17
Total rye	Farms reporting	4	0
	Acres	157	0
Fall rye	Farms	4	0
	Acres	157	0
Total wheat	Farms reporting	3	0
	Acres	70	0
Spring wheat (excluding durum)	Farms reporting	3	0
	Acres	x	0
Barley	Farms reporting	3	0
	Acres	x	0
Mixed grains	Farms reporting	1	0
	Acres	x	0
Buckwheat	Farms reporting	1	0
	Acres	x	0
Winter wheat	Farms reporting	1	0
	Acres	x	0

Greenhouse products

Yukon NWT

Total area under glass plastic protection or other	Farms reporting	29	6
	Square Feet	53,700	21,928
Total area of greenhouse in use on May 15, 2001	Farms reporting	29	6
	Square Feet	53,700	21,928
Greenhouse flowers	Farms reporting	22	2
	Square Feet	30,850	x
Greenhouse vegetables	Farms reporting	21	5
	Square Feet	20,916	7,128
Other greenhouse products	Farms reporting	3	1
	Square Feet	1,934	x
Total growing area for mushrooms	Farms reporting	1	0
	Square Feet	x	0

Crops and Livestock

* x represents an amount too small to report and is suppressed for confidentiality.



Farms reporting are the number of farms who had actual figures to report for that crop.

The size of the land area being used to accommodate a crop or livestock is reported in acres or square feet.



Fruits, berries and nuts

		Yukon	NWT
Total area (producing/non-producing) of fruits, berries and nuts	Farms reporting	10	6
	Acres	11	9
Total producing area of fruits, berries and nuts	Farms reporting	10	6
	Acres	8	7
Saskatoons total area	Farms reporting	5	4
	Acres	6	6
Saskatoons producing area	Farms reporting	5	4
	Acres	3	4
Strawberries total area	Farms reporting	3	2
	Acres	1	x
Strawberries producing area	Farms reporting	3	2
	Acres	1	x
Raspberries total area	Farms reporting	3	3
	Acres	1	2
Raspberries producing area	Farms reporting	3	3
	Acres	1	2
Other fruits, berries and nuts total area	Farms reporting	2	1
	Acres	x	x
Other fruits, berries and nuts producing area	Farms reporting	2	1
	Acres	x	x
Apples total area	Farms reporting	1	1
	Acres	x	x
Apples producing area	Farms reporting	1	1
	Acres	x	x
Grapes total area	Farms reporting	1	0
	Acres	x	0
Grapes producing area	Farms reporting	1	0
	Acres	x	0

Nursery products, sod and Christmas trees

		Yukon	NWT
Total area of nursery products	Farms reporting	7	1
	Acres	9	x
Total area of sod grown for sale	Farms reporting	1	0
	Acres	x	0
Total area of Christmas trees grown for sale	Farms reporting	2	0
	Acres	x	0

Cattle

		Yukon	NWT
Total cattle and calves	Farms reporting	11	2
	Number	192	x
Bulls, 1 year and over	Farms reporting	8	1
	Number	13	x
Total cows	Farms reporting	9	1
	Number	72	x
Dairy cows	Farms reporting	1	0
	Number	x	0
Beef cows	Farms reporting	9	1
	Number	x	x
Total heifers 1 year and over	Farms reporting	8	2
	Number	27	x
Heifers for beef herd replacement	Farms reporting	6	0
	Number	10	0
Heifers for slaughter or feeding	Farms reporting	4	2
	Number	17	x
Steers, 1 year and over	Farms reporting	5	0
	Number	20	0
Calves, under 1 year	Farms reporting	8	1
	Number	60	x



Poultry production

		Yukon	NWT
Broilers, roasters and Cornish production	Farms reporting	11	1
	Kilograms	14,148	x
Turkey production	Farms reporting	10	0
	Kilograms	2,717	0

Poultry inventory

		Yukon	NWT
Total hens and chickens	Farms reporting	35	5
	Number of birds	9,319	x
Broilers, roasters and Cornish	Farms reporting	12	3
	Number of birds	2,154	60
Pullets under 19 weeks intended for laying	Farms reporting	11	2
	Number of birds	553	x
Laying hens, 19 weeks and over	Farms reporting	30	5
	Number of birds	6,612	x
Laying hens in hatchery supply flocks	Farms reporting	2	0
	Number of birds	x	0
Turkeys	Farms reporting	13	0
	Number of birds	294	0
Other poultry	Farms reporting	8	3
	Number of birds	161	61



Other

		Yukon	NWT
Horses and ponies	Farms reporting	79	2
	Number	818	x
Goats	Farms reporting	6	0
	Number	36	0
Wild boars	Farms reporting	3	0
	Number	13	0
Bison (buffalo)	Farms reporting	2	1
	Number	x	x
Deer (excluding wild deer)	Farms reporting	1	0
	Number	x	0
Elk	Farms reporting	6	0
	Number	129	0
Llamas and alpacas	Farms reporting	4	0
	Number	22	0
Rabbits	Farms reporting	4	1
	Number	89	x
Sled dogs for breeding	Farms reporting	10	4
	Number	334	101
Colonies of bees	Farms reporting	4	0
	Number	35	0



Sheep

		Yukon	NWT
Total sheep and lambs	Farms reporting	3	0
	Number	x	0
Rams	Farms reporting	2	0
	Number	x	0
Ewes	Farms reporting	2	0
	Number	11	0
Total lambs	Farms reporting	1	0
	Number	x	0

Pigs

		Yukon	NWT
Total pigs	Farms reporting	11	2
	Number	73	x
Boars	Farms reporting	4	0
	Number	7	0
Sows and gilts for breeding	Farms reporting	6	0
	Number	18	0
Nursing and weaner pigs	Farms reporting	3	0
	Number	33	0
Grower and finishing pigs	Farms reporting	3	2
	Number	15	x



Soil Conservation Practices

		2001		1996		1991	
		Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT
Total number of farms	Farms	170	30	160	23	113	27
Crop rotation	reporting	34	6	35	2	27	0
Winter cover crops	Farms	4	0	9	0	10	1
Contour cultivation	reporting	3	0	5	0	5	0
Strip-cropping	Farms	1	0	2	0	2	0
Grassed waterways	reporting	4	0	2	0	7	1
Windbreaks or shelterbelts	Farms	30	5	32	1	13	0
Permanent grass cover	reporting	50	3	44	0	*	
Green manure crops for plough-down	Farms	20	1	0	0	5	1
Mechanical or hand weeding of crops	reporting	32	6	0	0		

* Note: The 1991 Census combined permanent grass cover, Green manure and mechanical/hand weeding as one method.

Land Inputs

		2001		1996		1991	
		Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT	Yukon	NWT
Irrigation	Farms reporting	47	6	46	7	27	3
	Acres	1,395	17	980	36	420	30
Commercial fertilizer	Farms reporting	55	5	62	4	38	4
	Acres	3,976	113	3,072	22	1,795	64
Herbicides	Farms reporting	11	0	4	1	3	2
	Acres	632	0	87	x	41	x
Insecticides	Farms reporting	2	0				
	Acres	x	0	1	2	1	1
Fungicides	Farms reporting	1	0	x	x	x	x
	Acres	x	0				

* Note: The 1991 and 1996 Censuses combined Insecticides and Fungicides as one method for land inputs .

Notes For Using Census Figures

Data from the Census of Agriculture for the Yukon and Northwest Territories are presented separately and are not included in the national tools for two main reasons:

- 1) The definition of an agricultural operation for the Yukon and Northwest Territories is expanded to include operations not included in southern farms (see page 3).
- 2) The small number of respondents in the North would require that data be frequently suppressed to ensure confidentiality, and this would result in increased suppression of data in the provinces.

All photos contained in this publication are Yukon Government Photographs provided by YTG.