

## Very Large Livestock Farms, 2001

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### Abstract

Large livestock farms (which includes very large livestock farms) have been expanding in the last few years. This reflects the trend throughout Canadian agriculture towards fewer, larger farms producing more food, either for Canadian tables or for export. Large livestock farms are found in most agricultural areas of Canada. Notably, they've expanded in some of the country's more intensely settled rural areas – those within commuting distance of metropolitan centres – where the human population has also been rising.

Record numbers of cattle and hogs were reported in the 2001 Census of Agriculture. Cattle and calf numbers were up 20% from 1991; hog numbers rose 37%. However, those animals were being raised on fewer farms; thus, the average size of livestock farms was much larger in 2001 than in 1991.

But a simple head count isn't a precise measure of the concentration of large livestock operations, because some animals are bigger than others. To overcome this problem, a measure called "animal units" has been developed, which compares how much different animals eat and excrete.

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This map corresponds to an article published in the Statistics Canada publication Canadian Agriculture at Glance (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/ads-annonces/96-325-x/index-eng.htm>). This is a full-colour book of short analytical articles on the agriculture sector.

The data used to make this map are derived from the 2001 Census of Agriculture. For further information on this census and other important mapping information, please read the "6th\_Data and Mapping Notes on Agriculture 2001 Maps" document.

The map and accompanying text have been published in partnership with Census of Agriculture, Statistics Canada and The Atlas of Canada, Natural Resources Canada.

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### Map Sources

#### **Animal Units per km<sup>2</sup> of Farmland on Very Large Livestock Operations**

Statistics Canada. 2004. Canadian Agriculture at a Glance. Catalogue no. 96-325-XPB.



## References

Statistics Canada 2002. 2001 Census of Agriculture: Canadian farm operations in the 21st century. The Daily, May 15, 2002. (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/020515/dq020515a-eng.htm>)

Statistics Canada 2002. 2001 Census of Agriculture: Profile of farm operators. The Daily, November 20, 2002 (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/021120/dq021120a-eng.htm>)

Statistics Canada 2003. Census of Agriculture: Agriculture-population linkage database. The Daily, December 2, 2003 (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/031202/dq031202a-eng.htm>)

Statistics Canada 2001. Cattle and calves, by province, Census Agricultural Region and Census Division, May 15, 2001. Census of Agriculture data table (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95f0301x/t/html/4064782-eng.htm>)

Statistics Canada 2001. Pigs, by province, Census Agricultural Region and Census Division, May 15, 2001. Census of Agriculture data table (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95f0301x/t/html/4064783-eng.htm>)

## Related Web sites (1999 – 2009)

### Federal Government

Statistics Canada. 2001 Agriculture Community Profiles  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/ca-ra2001/first-premier/profiles/toc-tdm-eng.htm>

Statistics Canada. 2001 Census of Agriculture  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/ca-ra2001/index-eng.htm>

Statistics Canada. 2001 Community Profiles  
<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/profil01/CP01/Index.cfm?Lang=E>

Statistics Canada. Canadian Statistics: Census of Agriculture  
<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/census-eng.htm>

Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture, 1996  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/c1996-r1996/agri-eng.htm>  
The site where general information can be obtained about the 1996 Census of Agriculture.

Statistics Canada. Free Internet Publications: Agriculture  
[http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-win/cnsmcgi.pgm?Lang=E&ResultTemplate=/Stu-Etu/Stu-Etu3&ChunkSize=25&AS\\_Theme=920&ChunkStart=1&AS\\_Date=.&AS\\_Ser=.&AS\\_Auth=.&AS\\_Srch=&AS\\_SORT=0&AS\\_UNIV=3&Version=2&AS\\_Mode=2](http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-win/cnsmcgi.pgm?Lang=E&ResultTemplate=/Stu-Etu/Stu-Etu3&ChunkSize=25&AS_Theme=920&ChunkStart=1&AS_Date=.&AS_Ser=.&AS_Auth=.&AS_Srch=&AS_SORT=0&AS_UNIV=3&Version=2&AS_Mode=2)