

Table 107: Census of Agriculture, Profile for Alberta, 1986-2006

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	% of Total	% Chg. '06/'01
<b>Number</b>							
<b>Population of Alberta</b> .....	<b>2,365,830</b>	<b>2,545,555</b>	<b>2,696,826</b>	<b>2,974,807</b>	<b>3,290,350</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>
Rural Population.....	488,070	514,660	554,011	569,647	590,499	17.9	3.7
Urban Population.....	1,877,760	2,030,895	2,142,815	2,405,160	2,699,851	82.1	12.3
<b>Total Census Farms (1)</b> .....	<b>57,777</b>	<b>57,245</b>	<b>59,007</b>	<b>53,652</b>	<b>49,431</b>	-	<b>-7.9</b>
<b>Total Census Farm Operators (2)</b>	...	...	<b>82,455</b>	<b>76,195</b>	<b>71,660</b>	-	<b>-6.0</b>
<b>Acres</b>							
<b>Average Farm Size</b> .....	<b>883</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>1,055</b>	-	<b>8.8</b>
<b>Number</b>							
<b>Distribution of Farms by Size</b>						<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Under 10 Acres.....	1,031	1,008	1,511	1,118	1,063	2.2	-4.9
10 - 69 Acres.....	3,365	3,420	4,458	4,098	4,593	9.3	12.1
70 - 239 Acres.....	12,588	13,268	14,724	13,374	12,040	24.4	-10.0
240 - 399 Acres.....	8,726	8,536	8,420	7,299	6,386	12.9	-12.5
400 - 559 Acres.....	6,267	5,911	5,594	4,986	4,209	8.5	-15.6
560 - 759 Acres.....	6,103	5,672	5,363	4,600	3,979	8.0	-13.5
760 - 1,119 Acres.....	7,341	6,825	6,424	5,625	4,807	9.7	-14.5
<b>1,120 Acres and Over</b> .....	<b>12,356</b>	<b>12,605</b>	<b>12,513</b>	<b>12,552</b>	<b>12,354</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
1,120 - 1,599 Acres.....	5,164	5,188	4,845	4,382	3,924	7.9	-10.5
1,600 acres and over.....	7,192	7,417	7,668	8,170	8,430	17.1	3.2
<b>Total Farms</b> .....	<b>57,777</b>	<b>57,245</b>	<b>59,007</b>	<b>53,652</b>	<b>49,431</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-7.9</b>
<b>Farms Reporting Gross Farm Receipts of \$2,500 or More by Type (3)</b>							
Dairy.....	1,828	1,379	1,418	776	627	1.3	-19.2
Cattle (Beef).....	17,110	22,143	24,718	22,939	20,474	44.0	-10.7
Hog.....	1,635	1,653	1,149	848	565	1.2	-33.4
Poultry and Egg.....	533	412	527	446	375	0.8	-15.9
Wheat.....	8,504	6,015	5,243	3,718	2,733	5.9	-26.5
Grain and Oilseed (except wheat).....	15,403	12,659	10,343	9,327	9,568	20.6	2.6
Field Crops (except grain and oilseed).....	1,187	2,540	3,825	4,725	3,923	8.4	-17.0
Fruit.....	14	62	95	73	136	0.3	86.3
Vegetable.....	105	80	68	70	96	0.2	37.1
Miscellaneous Specialty.....	1,944	3,730	4,794	5,495	6,403	13.8	16.5
Livestock Combination.....	1,399	1,775	1,448	1,165	1,019	2.2	-12.5
Other Combinations.....	2,081	995	998	998	627	1.3	-37.2
<b>Total Farms Classified</b> .....	<b>51,743</b>	<b>53,443</b>	<b>54,626</b>	<b>50,580</b>	<b>46,546</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-8.0</b>
<b>Acres</b>							
<b>Use of Land</b>						<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Total Area of Farms</b> .....	<b>51,040,463</b>	<b>51,425,111</b>	<b>51,964,360</b>	<b>52,058,898</b>	<b>52,127,857</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Total Land in Crops.....	22,641,092	22,961,142	23,590,033	24,038,861	23,775,509	45.6	-1.1
Summerfallow.....	5,255,965	4,377,212	3,550,265	3,053,214	2,239,633	4.3	-26.6
Tame or Seeded Pasture (4).....	3,402,183	4,305,760	4,731,087	5,512,654	6,137,362	11.8	11.3
Unimproved Land.....	19,148,947	16,492,059	...	...	...	-	-
Natural Land for Pasture.....	...	...	16,347,251	16,503,920	16,135,646	31.0	-2.2
All Other Land.....	592,276	3,288,938	3,745,724	2,950,249	3,839,707	7.4	30.1
Christmas Tree Area, Woodland and Wetland.....	...	...	...	...	2,849,415	5.5	-
All Other Land.....	...	...	...	...	990,292	1.9	-
<b>Farm Land Classified by Tenure</b>							
<b>Total Area of Farms</b> .....	<b>51,040,463</b>	<b>51,425,111</b>	<b>51,964,360</b>	<b>52,058,898</b>	<b>52,127,857</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Area Owned.....	29,785,690	30,467,667	31,344,893	30,701,572	30,033,280	57.6	-2.2
% of Total Area of Farms.....	58.4	59.2	60.3	59.0	57.6	-	-
Area Rented or Leased From Others.....	21,254,773	20,957,444	20,619,467	21,357,326	22,094,577	42.4	3.5
% of Total Area of Farms.....	41.6	40.8	39.7	41.0	42.4	-	-

See Census of Agriculture - Notes

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture. For more information visit the Statistics Canada web site at: [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)

Table 107 (Cont'd.): Census of Agriculture, Profile for Alberta, 1986-2006

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	% of Total	% Chg. '06/'01
<b>Acres</b>							
<b>Land Management Practices (5)</b>						%	%
Commercial Fertilizer.....	16,938,768	15,690,907	17,375,043	16,556,173	17,211,462	-	4.0
Lime.....	...	...	...	...	29,942	-	-
Herbicides.....	15,005,557	14,012,340	14,949,086	16,368,127	15,858,085	-	-3.1
Insecticides or Fungicides.....	1,981,004	1,367,186	2,082,940	2,186,122	2,832,747	-	29.6
Irrigation.....	1,150,936	1,132,086	1,276,535	1,233,649	1,325,929	100.0	7.5
Irrigated Field Crops (6).....	...	...	...	...	902,105	68.0	-
Irrigated Hay and Pasture (6).....	...	...	...	...	406,257	30.6	-
Irrigated Vegetables (6).....	...	...	...	...	9,420	0.7	-
Irrigated Fruit (6).....	...	...	...	...	992	0.1	-
Other Irrigated Areas (nursery, sod, etc.) (6).....	...	...	...	...	7,155	0.5	-
Tillage Incorporating Crop Residue.....	...	14,291,324	10,657,824	6,847,096	4,589,714	-	-33.0
Tillage Retaining Crop Residue on Surface.....	...	4,779,955	6,166,922	6,550,489	5,185,594	-	-20.8
No-till or Zero-till Seeding.....	...	614,109	1,936,370	5,068,199	8,950,836	-	76.6
<b>% of Farms</b>							
<b>Soil Conservation Practices and Features</b>						%	%
Crop Rotation.....	...	38.5	55.7	58.2	59.3	-	-
Winter Cover Crops.....	...	5.8	3.0	2.3	3.9	-	-
Windbreaks or Shelterbelts.....	...	15.6	18.7	18.2	50.2	-	-
Green Manure Crops for Plough-down.....	...	...	...	2.9	5.7	-	-
Rotational Grazing for Soil Conservation.....	...	...	...	...	43.7	-	-
Buffer Zones Around Water Bodies.....	...	...	...	...	18.5	-	-
<b>Acres</b>							
<b>Total Land in Crops</b> .....	<b>22,641,092</b>	<b>22,961,142</b>	<b>23,590,033</b>	<b>24,038,861</b>	<b>23,775,509</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
% Change From Previous Census Year.....	8.5	1.4	2.7	1.9	-1.1	-	-
<b>Selected Field Crops Grown</b>							
<b>Grains</b> .....	<b>15,021,037</b>	<b>14,935,426</b>	<b>14,818,647</b>	<b>13,645,690</b>	<b>12,327,276</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>-9.7</b>
Total Wheat.....	7,601,700	7,714,992	7,324,846	6,852,596	6,467,628	27.2	-5.6
Spring Wheat (excluding durum).....	6,516,630	6,885,763	6,448,110	5,809,275	5,768,705	24.3	-0.7
Durum Wheat.....	638,807	745,179	781,627	962,906	570,771	2.4	-40.7
Winter Wheat.....	446,263	84,050	95,109	80,415	128,152	0.5	59.4
Oats (7).....	1,183,426	1,285,430	1,386,179	1,364,674	1,269,229	5.3	-7.0
Barley.....	5,892,677	5,404,324	5,775,824	4,902,090	4,094,689	17.2	-16.5
Mixed grains.....	122,398	360,757	226,374	404,174	373,005	1.6	-7.7
Corn for Grain.....	7,235	8,670	2,559	5,018	4,326	0.0	-13.8
Rye Total.....	213,601	161,253	102,865	117,138	118,399	0.5	1.1
Fall Rye.....	168,709	126,007	80,701	89,480	105,059	0.4	17.4
Spring Rye.....	44,892	35,246	22,164	27,658	13,340	0.1	-51.8
<b>Oilseeds</b> .....	<b>2,891,727</b>	<b>3,056,282</b>	<b>3,188,142</b>	<b>2,702,432</b>	<b>4,133,352</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>52.9</b>
Canola.....	2,802,720	2,982,130	3,151,296	2,660,509	4,068,511	17.1	52.9
Flaxseed.....	84,572	70,506	34,082	40,219	60,372	0.3	50.1
Soybeans.....	x	797	1,059	88	2,677	0.0	2,942.0
Sunflowers.....	4,435	2,849	1,705	1,616	1,792	0.0	10.9
<b>Hay and Fodder Crops</b> .....	<b>4,330,864</b>	<b>4,357,124</b>	<b>4,765,965</b>	<b>6,232,188</b>	<b>6,066,400</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Corn for Silage.....	21,769	20,768	12,800	36,814	70,411	0.3	91.3
Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures.....	...	...	2,997,653	3,915,607	3,935,022	16.6	0.5
All Other Tame Hay and Fodder Crops.....	4,309,095	4,336,356	1,755,512	2,279,767	2,060,967	8.7	-9.6
<b>Other Field Crops</b>							
Forage Seed.....	...	230,609	236,974	409,251	244,615	1.0	-40.2
Potatoes.....	22,450	28,339	31,488	58,341	54,759	0.2	-6.1
Mustard Seed.....	69,268	59,872	91,909	57,116	62,538	0.3	9.5
Sugar Beets.....	29,668	35,075	36,231	29,726	38,803	0.2	30.5
Triticale.....	6,674	7,618	25,675	68,412	76,299	0.3	11.5
Dry Field Peas.....	14,630	167,056	286,037	608,217	587,263	2.5	-3.4
Total Dry Field Beans.....	13,054	29,352	28,416	150,006	102,788	0.4	-31.5
<b>Vegetables Grown for Sale (excl. greenhouse)</b> .....	<b>8,895</b>	<b>11,536</b>	<b>13,743</b>	<b>14,194</b>	<b>13,193</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-7.1</b>

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Table 107 (Cont'd.): Census of Agriculture, Profile for Alberta, 1981-2006

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	% of Total	% Chg. '06/'01
	<b>Square Feet</b>					<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Greenhouse Area in Use</b> .....	<b>5,588,482</b>	<b>5,744,516</b>	<b>7,959,527</b>	<b>10,556,535</b>	<b>12,432,719</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17.8</b>
Flowers (cut, bedding plants, etc.).....	3,369,112	3,458,812	4,257,565	5,030,590	5,794,901	46.6	15.2
Vegetables.....	2,057,056	2,163,808	2,752,860	3,644,696	4,729,622	38.0	29.8
Other Greenhouse Products.....	162,314	121,896	949,102	1,881,249	1,908,196	15.3	1.4
<b>Growing Area for Mushrooms</b> .....	<b>433,752</b>	<b>391,644</b>	<b>497,304</b>	<b>470,020</b>	<b>497,304</b>	-	<b>5.8</b>
	<b>Number</b>					<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Total Farms Reporting Organic Production</b> .....	...	...	...	...	<b>2,629</b>	<b>100.0</b>	-
<b>Certified Organic Production</b> .....	...	...	...	<b>197</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>16.8</b>
Hay or Field Crops.....	...	...	...	142	193	7.3	35.9
Fruits, Vegetables or Greenhouse Products.....	...	...	...	21	31	1.2	47.6
Animals or Animal Products.....	...	...	...	60	84	3.2	40.0
Other Organic Products.....	...	...	...	30	13	0.5	-56.7
<b>Transitional Organic Production (6)</b> .....	...	...	...	...	<b>26</b>	<b>1.0</b>	-
<b>Uncertified Organic Production (6)</b> .....	...	...	...	...	<b>2,405</b>	<b>91.5</b>	-
<b>Livestock and Poultry on Farms at May 16, 2006</b>							
<b>Total Cattle and Calves (8)</b> .....	<b>3,827,143</b>	<b>4,756,365</b>	<b>5,942,257</b>	<b>6,615,201</b>	<b>6,369,116</b>	100.0	-3.7
Total Cows.....	1,445,760	1,741,632	2,119,719	2,183,332	2,114,716	33.2	-3.1
Dairy Cows.....	124,204	105,905	102,830	84,044	78,875	1.2	-6.2
Beef Cows.....	1,321,556	1,635,727	2,016,889	2,099,288	2,035,841	32.0	-3.0
Total Heifers.....	571,158	733,665	952,563	1,159,329	1,119,315	17.6	-3.5
Bulls - One Year and Over.....	78,996	95,525	118,600	111,379	109,753	1.7	-1.5
Steers - One Year and Over.....	478,147	626,350	892,696	991,554	974,559	15.3	-1.7
Calves - Under One Year.....	1,253,082	1,559,193	1,858,679	2,169,607	2,050,773	32.2	-5.5
<b>Other Livestock and Poultry</b>							
Pigs.....	1,454,824	1,729,870	1,729,810	2,027,533	2,052,067	-	1.2
Sheep and Lambs.....	179,123	305,642	259,817	307,302	222,340	-	-27.6
Horses and Ponies.....	135,025	109,237	149,960	159,962	155,533	-	-2.8
Bison (Buffalo).....	...	...	22,782	79,731	97,366	-	22.1
Deer and Elk.....	...	...	10,687	39,635	42,748	-	7.9
Total Hens and Chickens.....	8,852,415	8,702,434	9,485,635	12,175,246	11,757,860	-	-3.4
Total Turkeys.....	763,485	812,849	842,798	864,438	703,462	-	-18.6
Chicks and Poults Hatched in Commercial Hatcheries.....	...	...	58,452,442	71,319,860	63,625,470	-	-10.8
Colonies of Honey Bees.....	-	147,706	170,288	209,821	230,894	-	10.0
Gallons of Other Pollinating Bees (6).....	...	...	...	...	89,580	-	-
<b>Poultry Production</b>							
	<b>kilograms</b>					<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Broilers, Roasters and Cornish.....	...	...	72,660,726	105,387,692	115,766,269	-	9.8
Turkey.....	...	...	12,984,255	15,068,034	16,054,282	-	6.5
<b>Operating Arrangements of Farms (9)</b>							
	<b>Number of Farms</b>					<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Sole Proprietorship.....	47,862	35,875	35,938	30,409	27,815	56.3	-8.5
<b>Total Partnership</b> .....	<b>6,448</b>	<b>16,742</b>	<b>16,672</b>	<b>16,147</b>	<b>13,920</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>-13.8</b>
Partnership With a Written Agreement.....	1,654	2,455	2,664	2,135	1,458	2.9	-31.7
Partnership with No Written Agreement.....	4,794	14,287	14,008	14,012	12,462	25.2	-11.1
<b>Total Corporation</b> .....	<b>3,063</b>	<b>4,307</b>	<b>6,209</b>	<b>7,096</b>	<b>7,696</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>8.5</b>
Family Corporation.....	2,864	3,663	5,248	6,124	6,714	13.6	9.6
Non-Family Corporation.....	199	644	961	733	697	1.4	-4.9
Other Types.....	404	321	188	239	285	0.6	19.2
<b>Total Farms</b> .....	<b>57,777</b>	<b>57,245</b>	<b>59,007</b>	<b>53,652</b>	<b>49,431</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-7.9</b>
<b>Value of Farm Capital</b>							
<b>Total Capital (\$'000)</b> .....	<b>28,623,414</b>	<b>30,806,123</b>	<b>40,150,414</b>	<b>55,256,378</b>	<b>71,781,210</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>29.9</b>
Land and Buildings (\$'000) (10).....	20,773,519	21,291,475	28,733,732	38,872,514	57,101,345	79.5	46.9
Farm Machinery and Equipment (\$'000) (11).....	5,382,302	6,079,438	7,466,999	8,684,163	9,680,138	13.5	11.5
Livestock and Poultry (\$'000).....	2,467,592	3,435,210	3,949,683	7,699,701	4,999,727	7.0	-35.1
Average Per Reporting Farm (\$)......	495,412	538,145	680,435	1,029,903	1,452,150	-	41.0

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Table 107 (Cont'd.): Census of Agriculture, Profile for Alberta, 1986-2006

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<b>Gross Farm Receipts (12)</b>							
<b>Current Dollars</b>							
<b>Total Receipts (\$'000)</b> .....	<b>4,473,871</b>	<b>5,541,937</b>	<b>7,911,131</b>	<b>9,919,447</b>	<b>9,889,045</b>	-	<b>-0.3</b>
Average Per Reporting Farm (\$)	77,433	96,811	134,071	184,885	200,058	-	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Farms by Class of Gross Farm Receipts</b>							
<b>Number of Farms</b>							
Under \$2,500.....	6,034	3,802	4,381	3,072	2,885	5.8	-6.1
\$2,500 - \$4,999.....	4,047	3,159	3,218	2,630	2,584	5.2	-1.7
\$5,000 - \$9,999.....	5,697	4,810	5,296	4,387	4,322	8.7	-1.5
\$10,000 - \$24,999.....	10,244	11,255	10,466	9,565	8,720	17.6	-8.8
<b>Under \$25,000.....</b>	<b>26,022</b>	<b>23,026</b>	<b>23,361</b>	<b>19,654</b>	<b>18,511</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>-5.8</b>
<b>\$25,000 - \$49,999.....</b>	<b>9,842</b>	<b>9,950</b>	<b>9,057</b>	<b>8,335</b>	<b>7,170</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>-14.0</b>
<b>\$50,000 - \$99,999.....</b>	<b>10,549</b>	<b>10,681</b>	<b>9,689</b>	<b>8,526</b>	<b>7,448</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>-12.6</b>
<b>Over \$100,000.....</b>	<b>11,364</b>	<b>13,588</b>	<b>16,900</b>	<b>17,137</b>	<b>16,302</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
\$100,000 - \$249,999.....	8,550	9,744	11,126	10,131	8,805	17.8	-13.1
\$250,000 - \$499,999.....	1,889	2,556	3,811	4,230	4,333	8.8	2.4
<b>\$500,000 and Over.....</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>2,776</b>	<b>3,164</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>14.0</b>
\$500,000 - \$999,999.....	...	...	...	1,628	1,871	3.8	14.9
\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999.....	...	...	...	625	688	1.4	10.1
\$2,000,000 and over.....	...	...	...	523	605	1.2	15.7
<b>Total Farms Classified.....</b>	<b>57,777</b>	<b>57,245</b>	<b>59,007</b>	<b>53,652</b>	<b>49,431</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-7.9</b>
<b>Farm Operating Expenses (13)</b>							
<b>Current Dollars</b>							
<b>Total Expenses (\$'000)</b> .....	<b>3,943,193</b>	<b>4,653,484</b>	<b>6,669,475</b>	<b>8,908,533</b>	<b>8,791,632</b>	-	<b>-1.3</b>
Average Per Reporting Farm.....	68,248	81,291	113,029	166,043	177,857	-	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Selected Average Farm Operating Expenses Per Reporting Farm (\$)</b>							
Rent or Leasing Expenses (14).....	7,309	7,587	9,837	9,825	13,508	-	37.5
Wages and Salaries.....	10,207	13,513	17,037	23,058	31,237	-	35.5
Fuel, Oil and Lubricants for Machinery (15).....	5,827	5,339	5,797	...	...	-	-
All Fuel Expenses (diesel, gasoline, oil, wood, nat. gas, etc.)	...	...	...	8,440	12,017	-	42.4
Fertilizer and Lime.....	8,949	8,410	13,825	16,251	23,580	-	45.1
Herbicides, Insecticides and Fungicides.....	4,294	5,180	7,801	12,138	16,124	-	32.8
Feed and Supplements.....	15,217	14,656	22,830	34,438	40,413	-	17.3
Custom Work, Contract Work and Machine Rental (16).....	3,350	4,703	7,564	...	...	-	-
Custom Work and Contract Work.....	...	...	...	9,944	15,024	-	51.1
Machine Rental or Leasing.....	...	...	...	6,313	7,180	-	13.7
<b>Use of a Personal Computer for Farm Management</b>							
<b>Number of Farms</b>							
<b>Total Farms Reporting</b> .....	<b>1,739</b>	<b>7,011</b>	<b>13,491</b>	<b>21,813</b>	<b>23,410</b>	-	<b>7.3</b>
% of Census Farms.....	3.0	12.2	22.9	40.7	47.4	-	-
<b>Type of Use</b>							
Bookkeeping, Payroll or Tax Preparation.....	...	...	...	17,039	17,222	73.6	1.1
Livestock or Crop Record Keeping.....	...	...	...	10,035	9,640	41.2	-3.9
Word Processing.....	...	...	...	15,062	16,486	70.4	9.5
Internet.....	...	...	...	15,658	17,195	73.5	9.8
E-Mail.....	...	...	...	14,468	16,130	68.9	11.5
Desktop Publishing (6).....	...	...	...	...	3,737	16.0	-
Banking (6).....	...	...	...	...	10,357	44.2	-
Other Applications.....	...	...	...	141	38	0.2	-73.0
<b>Paid Agricultural Labour</b>							
Total Farms Reporting.....	24,978	22,483	23,890	21,218	17,195	-	-19.0
<b>Number of Weeks</b>							
Paid Labour.....	867,535	784,665	1,008,064	1,084,852	959,231	-	-11.6
Average Per Reporting Farm.....	35	35	42	51	56	-	9.4

See Census of Agriculture - Notes

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture. For more information visit the Statistics Canada web site at: [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)