

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, December 2, 2008**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

---

## Releases

---

### **Agriculture-population linkage data for the 2006 Census, 2006**

2

Canada's farm population continued its long-term decline between 2001 and 2006 and, like the population as a whole, got older. The farm population fell 6.2% to 684,260.

Residential construction investment, third quarter 2008

4

Investment in non-residential building construction, third quarter 2008

4

---

## **New products**

5

---



Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada

Canada

---

## Releases

---

### Agriculture-population linkage data for the 2006 Census

2006

Canada's farm population continued its long-term decline between 2001 and 2006 and, like the population as a whole, got older.

The farm population fell 6.2% to 684,260 in 2006 and accounted for only 2.2% of all Canadians, compared with 31.7% in 1931 when it was counted for the first time.

In 1931, 1 in every 3 Canadians lived on a farm; by 2006, this ratio had fallen to 1 out of every 46.

Ontario's farm population of 178,575 was the largest of any province, but it represented only 1.5% of its total population. In contrast, Saskatchewan's farm population accounted for 11.5% of its total population, the largest share.

Like the population as a whole, Canada's farm population is aging. In 2006, seniors aged 65 and older comprised 11.2% of the farm population, compared with 6.1% in 1971. In 2006, seniors accounted for 13.7% of the general population.

The percentage of the farm population that was 65 and older ranged from 7.2% in Quebec to 13.5% in British Columbia.

#### Immigrants represent declining proportion of the farm population

While immigrants represent a growing share of Canada's general population, the opposite is true for the farm population.

The 2006 Census counted 47,155 immigrants in the farm population. They represented 6.9% of the total farm population, down from 8.5% in 1971. During the same 35-year period, the share of immigrants in the general population rose from 15.3% to 19.8%.

In the general population, the proportion of immigrants born in Asia and the Middle East surpassed the share born in Europe for the first time in 2006.

However, in the farm population, the majority of the immigrant farm population was still European. Almost 40% of these individuals had immigrated before 1966.

In 2006, the top three places of birth were the Netherlands, which accounted for 19.8% of the immigrant farm population; the United Kingdom (13.9%); and the United States (11.3%). This order has not changed from 2001.

Ontario had 35.6% of Canada's immigrant farm population in 2006, the largest share. Within Ontario's

#### Note to readers

*This report, the final release from the 2006 Census of Agriculture, presents data from the Agriculture-Population Linkage Database for 2006.*

*The linkage combines data from the Census of Agriculture with data from the Census of Population. The result is a rich socioeconomic information base that allows in-depth analysis of Canada's farm population, farm census families and farm operators.*

*The **farm population** is defined as all persons living on farms in households with a farm operator.*

*A **farm census family** is one in which at least one family member is a farm operator.*

*A **farm operator** is a person responsible for the management decisions made in operating a census farm.*

*The **total income** of a census family is the sum of all incomes received during the calendar year preceding the census by all members of that family aged 15 years of age and over. Income includes wages and salaries (from both farm and non-farm sources), net farm income, net non-farm self-employment income, government transfer payments, investment income, retirement pensions and other money income.*

*An **immigrant** is a person who is or who has ever been a landed immigrant.*

*A previous report on data from the Census of Agriculture was released in The Daily on May 16, 2007.*

immigrant farm population, 30.0% reported the Netherlands as their place of birth, followed by the United Kingdom and Germany.

British Columbia had the second largest share (25.6%). Of its immigrant farm population, 21.1% reported India as their place of birth, followed by the United States and the United Kingdom.

In 2006, 70.1% of Canada's farm population reported English as their mother tongue, while 14.3% reported French. The remainder (15.6%) reported a mother tongue other than English or French. Of those who reported another mother tongue, the largest group was German, followed by Dutch.

The farm type with the highest proportion of immigrant operators (26.5%) was fruit and tree nut farms. One-fifth (20.8%) of operators of greenhouse, nursery and floriculture farms were immigrants. The farm type with the lowest proportion of immigrant operators (5.1%) was oilseed and grain farms.

#### Farm families getting smaller

Between 2001 and 2006, the number of farm families living on unincorporated farms declined 9.5% to 175,810. Slightly more than one-quarter of these

---

families were located in Ontario. In 2006, 39,265 farm families were living on incorporated farms.

Farm families are getting smaller, similar to the trend in the general population. In 1971, the average size of a farm family was 4.3 people; by 2006, this had declined to 3.1. During the same period, the average family size in the general population declined from 3.7 to 2.9.

The median total income for farm families on unincorporated farms in 2005 was \$56,412, compared with \$63,846 received by census families in the general population.

The largest source of income for all farm families on unincorporated farms in 2005 was wages and salaries, at 62.2% of total income received. This was followed by income from government (10.6%), such as pension and child benefits, investment income (7.1%), net farm income (6.3%), and net non-farm self-employment income (5.7%).

#### **Farm operators: An older population**

In 2006, Canada had 327,055 farm operators, down 5.5% from 2001 and 10.9% from 1971. These operators were on both unincorporated and incorporated farms, and these farms may have had more than one operator.

In 2006, 40.7% of these farm operators were aged 55 and over. In comparison, this age group accounted for 28.8% of self-employed people in the labour force.

Farmers and farm managers had the highest median age of all occupations in the country. The median age of

all farm operators was 51.0 years, while the median for the labour force was 41.2 years.

In 2006, 10.0% of farm operators had university degrees, that is, bachelor level and above, up from 8.7% in 2001. This was below the 21.8% for the total labour force. Overall, 12.3% of female operators had a university degree compared with 9.1% of their male counterparts.

Data suggest that more operators are working off the farm. In 2006, 46.1% of farm operators reported their main occupation as non-agricultural, up from 40.5% in 2001. Younger operators, and female operators, were more likely to work off the farm.

Among the non-agricultural occupations, the top occupation for male operators was transportation equipment operators. For women operators, clerical occupations predominated.

#### **Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3438.**

The report "Canada's Farm Population: Agriculture-Population Linkage Data for the 2006 Census" is now available in the publication *Agriculture-Population Linkage Data for the 2006 Census* (95-633-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Erik Dorff (613-951-2818), Agriculture Division. ■

---

## **Residential construction investment**

Third quarter 2008

Data on residential construction investment are now available for the third quarter of 2008.

**Available on CANSIM: table 026-0013.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5016.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-0087; [bdp\\_information@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca)), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

## **Investment in non-residential building construction**

Third quarter 2008 (revised)

Following the release of the Canadian economic accounts for the third quarter of 2008, revised estimates for investment in non-residential building construction for the third quarter are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: table 026-0016.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5014.**

For more information, consult the *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review* (13-010-XWE, free), available from the *Publications* module of our website.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bechir Oueriemmi (613-951-1165; [bdp\\_information@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca)), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

## New products

**Agriculture and Rural Working Paper Series:**  
"Structure and change in Canada's rural  
demography: An update to 2006 with provincial  
detail", 1851 to 2006  
Catalogue number 21-601-MIE2008090  
(free).

**Agriculture-Population Linkage Data for  
the 2006 Census**  
Catalogue number 95-633-XWE  
(free).

**All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales  
tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery  
outside Canada.**

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE  
extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or  
-XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions;  
-XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB  
or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB  
or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or  
-XBE a database.

### How to order products

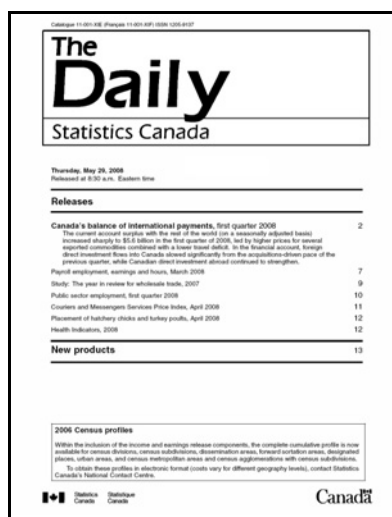
**To order by phone, please refer to:**

- The title
  - The catalogue number
  - The volume number
  - The issue number
  - Your credit card number.
- From Canada and the United States, call: **1-800-267-6677**  
From other countries, call: **1-613-951-2800**  
To fax your order, call: **1-877-287-4369**  
For address changes or account inquiries, call: **1-877-591-6963**

**To order by mail, write to:** Statistics Canada, Finance, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, K1A 0T6.  
Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers  
add 5% GST and applicable PST.

**To order by Internet, write to:** [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's  
website ([www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

**Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.**



### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to [listproc@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:listproc@statcan.gc.ca). Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2008. All rights reserved. The content of this electronic publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part, and by any means, without further permission from Statistics Canada, subject to the following conditions: that it be done solely for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary, and/or for non-commercial purposes; and that Statistics Canada be fully acknowledged as follows: Source (or "Adapted from", if appropriate): Statistics Canada, year of publication, name of product, catalogue number, volume and issue numbers, reference period and page(s). Otherwise, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, by any means—electronic, mechanical or photocopy—or for any purposes without prior written permission of Licensing Services, Client Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.