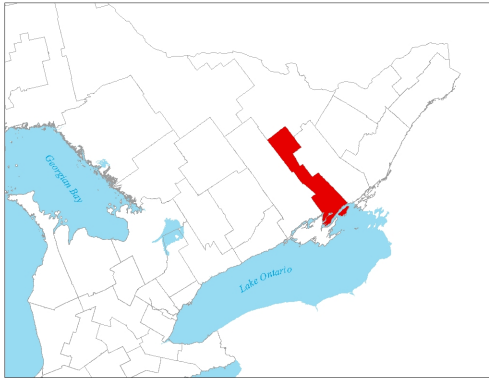


LENNOX & ADDINGTON COUNTY



Total Land Area (Census 2016)¹: 283,968 ha
Area of Census Farms (2001)²: 79,901 ha
Area of Census Farms (2016)²: 61,239 ha
Gross Farm Receipts (2016)⁴: \$ 84,557,702
Gross Farm Receipts per Hectare of Census Farm: \$1,380
Population (2016)¹: 42,888
Growth Rate 2006–2011⁵: 3.2%
Growth Rate 2011–2016¹: 2.6%

Purpose of the Summary

This county summary is part of a wider study on farmland availability in Ontario. The study quantifies the conversion of prime agricultural areas based on Official Plan Amendments in upper and single-tier municipalities across the province over a 17-year study period from 2000–2017. This summary is meant to provide detail of the findings in by Lennox & Addington County. In conjunction with similar case studies from other counties/regions in Ontario, these findings will form the basis of the University of Guelph's *Measuring Farmland Conversion* research project.

Methods in Brief

The study involved the examination of Official Plan Amendments (OPAs) approved by Lennox & Addington County, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and/or the Ontario Municipal Board during the years 2000–2017. Lennox & Addington County is an upper-tier municipality that adopted its first Official Plan (OP) on September 30, 2015. It was later approved by Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs in 2016. Lennox & Addington's OP recognizes and emphasizes lower-tier municipal land use designations and priorities and places them within a broader framework that can function across municipal boundaries. Though lower-tier municipalities must conform to Lennox & Addington County's OP, land use designations are first established within lower-tier OPs.

The lower-tier municipalities that comprise Lennox & Addington County include Town of Greater Napanee, the Township of Addington Highlands, the Township of Loyalist, and the Township of Stone Mills. During data collection, planners from the lower-tier throughout Lennox & Addington County confirmed that zero OPAs relevant to prime agricultural soils have been approved within the County during the timeframe of this study. The assistance of planning staff is greatly appreciated in making this research possible.

Agricultural Land Use Designations in Lennox & Addington County

Prime agricultural lands in Lennox & Addington County are designated under *Agriculture* in both upper- and lower-tier OPs. *Agricultural* areas were identified based on the presence of prime agricultural soils according to the Canada Land Inventory system (Classes 1–3), or in recognition of a concentration of farms that have been in long-term production that may also include Class 4–7 lands. Prime agricultural lands are protected through local and County level policies. There are some instances where certain lands within the Agricultural Area designation have been approved for non-agricultural uses through local OPs. In these cases, land would instead be subject to corresponding policies within lower-tier OPs.

Trends in Agricultural Land Conversion

Zero approved OPAs in Lennox & Addington County affecting prime agricultural land from 2000–2017 were captured in this study. Loyalist Township did note one approved amendment (OPA 3) at the lower-tier that impacted prime agricultural lands but this OPA resulted in an increase in the amount of area protected. Loyalist also noted that the settlement area boundaries have been the same since 2001 except one minor change in Bath, which took place in response to an error.

Lennox & Addington does have varying flexibility in lower-tier OPs that allow new lot creation within the *Agricultural* designation. Generally, lot creation can take place given that either both the severed and retained parcel may remain in agricultural production, it is the result of a farm consolidation, any changes will not be onerous on municipal services, or is required for infrastructure.

Provincial Land Use Plans:

Lennox & Addington County's Official Plan is subject to the Provincial Policy Statement, however Lennox & Addington County does not fall under the Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, the Niagara Escarpment Plan, or the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

1. Statistics Canada. 2017. Lennox & Addington County, *CV [Census subdivision], Ontario and Canada [Country]* (table). *Census Profile*. 2016 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2016001. Ottawa. Released November 29, 2017.
<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed April 26, 2020).

2 OMAFRA (adopted). 2017. Area of Census Farms (Acres) by County, Ontario: 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016. With data from Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture.

3 Statistics Canada. Table 004-0233 –Census of Agriculture, farms classified by total gross farm receipts in the year prior to the census, every 5 years (number of farms reporting unless otherwise noted), CANSIM (database).

4 Statistics Canada. 2012. Lennox & Addington County, Ontario (Code 3531) and Canada (Code 01) (table). Census 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released October 24, 2012.

5. Statistics Canada. 2012. Lennox & Addington County , *Ontario (Code 3506008) and Ottawa, Ontario (Code 3506)* (table). *Census Profile*. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released October 24, 2012.

<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed April 26, 2020).