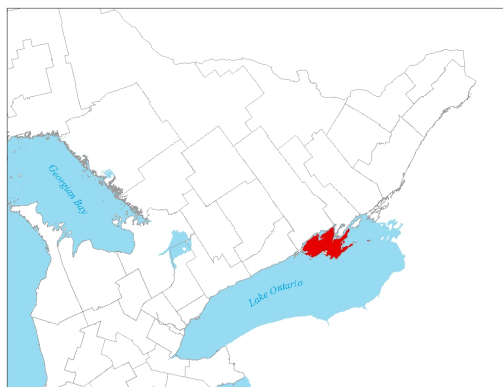


PRINCE EDWARD



Total Land Area (Census 2016)¹: 105,049 ha
Area of Census Farms (2001)²: 57,960.3 ha
Area of Census Farms (2016)²: 50,969 ha
Gross Farm Receipts (2016)⁴: \$113,981,990
Gross Farm Receipts per Hectare of Census Farm: \$2236.3
Population (2016)¹: 24,735
Growth Rate 2006-2011⁵: -0.9%
Growth Rate 2011-2016¹: -2.1%

Prime Agricultural Area Redesignated To A Development Designation (Including Urban, Residential, And Employment) 2000–2017	0 ha
Prime Agricultural Area Redesignated To A Rural Designation 2000–2017	109.6 ha
Land Designated As A Prime Agricultural Area With A Site-Specific Amendment To Allow Additional Uses 2000–2017	137 ha
Total Amount of Prime Agricultural Land Loss 2000-2017	246.6 ha
Total Prime Agricultural Land Loss as a Percentage (Per Census Farm Area 2001)	0.43 %

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 the County of Prince Edward. 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 the County of Prince Edward, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and/or the Ontario Municipal Board for the County of Prince Edward during the years 2000–2017. In Prince Edward, all lower-level municipalities are governed by the County’s Official Plan policies which were adopted by the county in

1993 and approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 1998. For data collection in Prince Edward, the electronic copies of original files that document OPAs approved by the County and/or the Ontario Municipal Board during study timeframe were provided by staff at the County's Planning and Development Division. The assistance of staff at Prince Edward's Planning Department are appreciated in making this research possible. Changes in farmland availability have been captured in three categories:

- 1) Prime agricultural areas redesignated to a development designation (including but not limited to urban, residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational designations);
- 2) Prime agricultural areas redesignated to a rural designation;
- 3) Land designated as a prime agricultural area with a site-specific amendment to allow additional uses.

Housekeeping type amendments have not been tallied as contributing to farmland conversion. Housekeeping type amendments arise as Official Plan schedules are updated to align land use designations with more accurate parcel lines, or to reflect existing physical features.

Agricultural Land Use Designations in the County of Prince Edward

In Prince Edward's Official Plan, there are two agricultural land use designations. The *Prime Agricultural* designation reflects prime agricultural lands with predominantly Soil Classes 1, 2 and 3 and some of the Class 4 soils as defined in the Canada Land Inventory of soil capability for agriculture. Agricultural uses are also permitted in the *Rural* designation, where agricultural activities remain active but dispersed, where soils are predominately shallow and where non- agricultural development has taken place over time. Lands in this designation are predominantly blocks of land consist primarily of soil classes 5, 6 and 7 and some of the class 4 soils as defined in Canada Land Inventory of soil capability for agriculture and are not considered prime agricultural lands. For this study, only amendments affecting the Prime Agricultural designation in the OP were collected.

Trends in Agricultural Land Conversion

Development Designations: Over the course of the study period, no amendments in Prince Edward was captured which converted prime agricultural land to development designation.

Rural Designation: Five amendments that converted agricultural lands to a rural designation were captured from 2000–2017. Three of these amendments were small in land size, affecting less than 4 hectares each. The fourth amendment changed the designation to permit a range of commercial uses on the subject land (13.8 hectare) including a restaurant, inn, winery, cooking school, and recreational

facilities. The fifth amendment was the largest in size and it changed the designation on an 89.2 hectare land to permit a gold course. These amendments are captured in category 2 of Table 1.

Site-Specific Amendments: From 2000–2017, four site-specific amendments affecting agricultural lands in Prince Edward were captured. Three of these amendments were small in size (less than 10 hectare) and use site-specific policies to allow for a range of industrial and commercial uses on the subject agricultural parcel. The largest amendment permitted the development of 7 lots for residential use on a 12-hectare land. These amendments are captured in category 3 of Table 1.

Table 1. Prime Agricultural Area Converted Through OPAs In Prince Edward County By Adoption Date (2000–2017)

Year of OPA adoption or approval by the OMB	Number Of OPAs Related to the Conversion of Prime Agricultural Area	CATEGORY 1 Prime Agricultural Area Redesignated to a Development Designation (ha)	CATEGORY 2 Prime Agricultural Area Redesignated to a Rural Designation (ha)	CATEGORY 3 Land Designated As A Prime Agricultural Area With Additional Site-Specific Permitted Uses (ha)
2000	1	0	13.8	0
2001	1	0	3.5	0
2002	1	0	1.8	0
2003	1	0	0	4.1
2004	1	0	0	9.7
2005	0	0	0	0
2006	1	0	0	3.2
2007	3	0	90.5	120
2008	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0
2011	0	0	0	0
2012	0	0	0	0
2013	0	0	0	0
2014	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	9	0	109.6	137

**Totals may not add due to rounding.

Provincial Land Use Plans: Prince Edward County's Official Plan is subject to the Provincial Policy Statement, however Prince Edward 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. Prince Edward, CTY [Census division], Ontario and Ontario [Province] (table). Census Profile. 2016 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2016001. Ottawa. Released May 3, 2017.

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 MMAH. 2005. "Greenbelt Outer Boundary" and MMAH, 2012. "Municipal Boundary - Upper Tier and District" data projected in UTM 17N.

⁴ 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).

⁵ Statistics Canada. 2012. Prince Edward, Ontario (Code 3531) and Canada (Code 01) (table). Census 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released October 24, 2012.