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YEAR 2020

# GOAL 15: FISHERIES AND AGRICULTURE

NEW BRUNSWICK'S SEAFOOD AND  
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT EXPORTS WILL  
BE WORTH \$2 BILLION OR MORE BY 2024.

STATUS: PROGRESSING



# Overview

## Problem

Over the past ten years the total value of New Brunswick's exports has more than doubled.

## Cause

Most of this increase comes from the Seafood Production and Packaging sector, which makes up nearly 70% of the export value in the province, though all sectors have been growing since 2012. These upward trends have put New Brunswick on track to reach the suggested goal of achieving a total domestic export value worth at least \$2 billion.

## Importance

Fisheries and agriculture are both valuable resources to New Brunswick. They both improve food security, increase wealth, provide employment opportunities, and promote economic growth. In addition, sustainable use of these resources preserves the province's environment and natural resources

## Recommendation

In 2019, New Brunswick's seafood, crop production, and animal production exports were valued at \$1.90 Billion—the highest amount on record. Therefore, to promote further progress, it is recommended that New Brunswick aim to increase its seafood and agricultural export value to at least \$2 billion by the year 2024.

According to OneNS, the recent growth in Nova Scotia's seafood exports was driven by increasing lobster prices, rather than volume increases. New Brunswick, on the other hand, relies on higher volumes of agricultural exports and has seen improvements in animal production exports due to volume increases coming from aquaculture, or the farming of fish products, rather than price changes. The value of the province's crop production exports has remained stagnant.

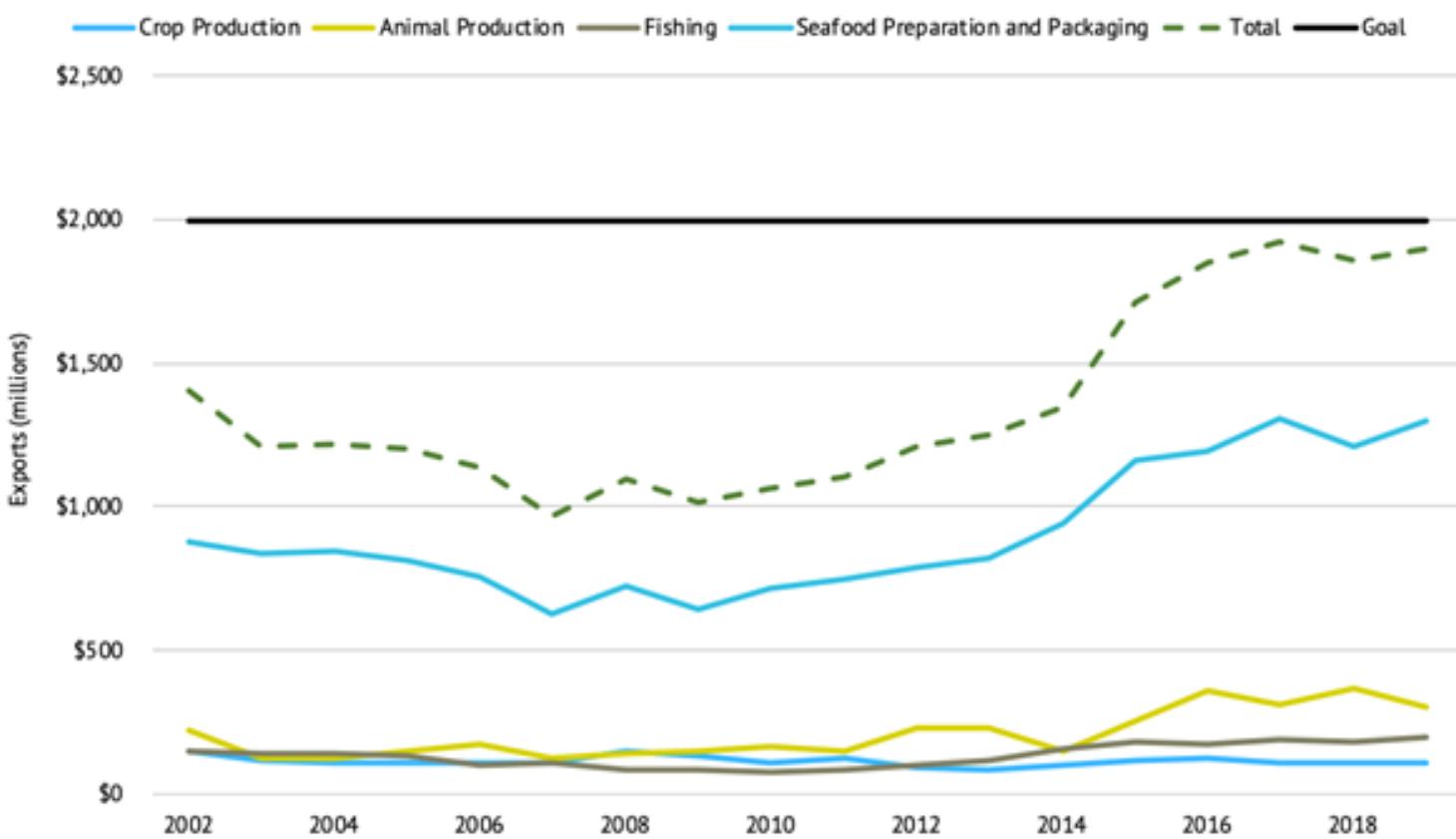
# In the Numbers

## Agriculture and Seafood Product Exports

Figure 1 shows that although animal production, which includes aquaculture, has fluctuated, crop production has seen minimal fluctuations since 2002. After facing a low of \$627 million in 2007, New Brunswick's domestic fishery and seafood packaging exports reached a high of \$1.30 billion in 2019.

If New Brunswick's seafood and agriculture exports are to reach the suggested value of \$2 billion, high animal production values need to be maintained, and crop production must be accelerated. If this occurs, and seafood exports continue to grow, further progress is possible.

**Figure 1: New Brunswick Agriculture and Seafood Product Exports  
(2019 Dollars)**



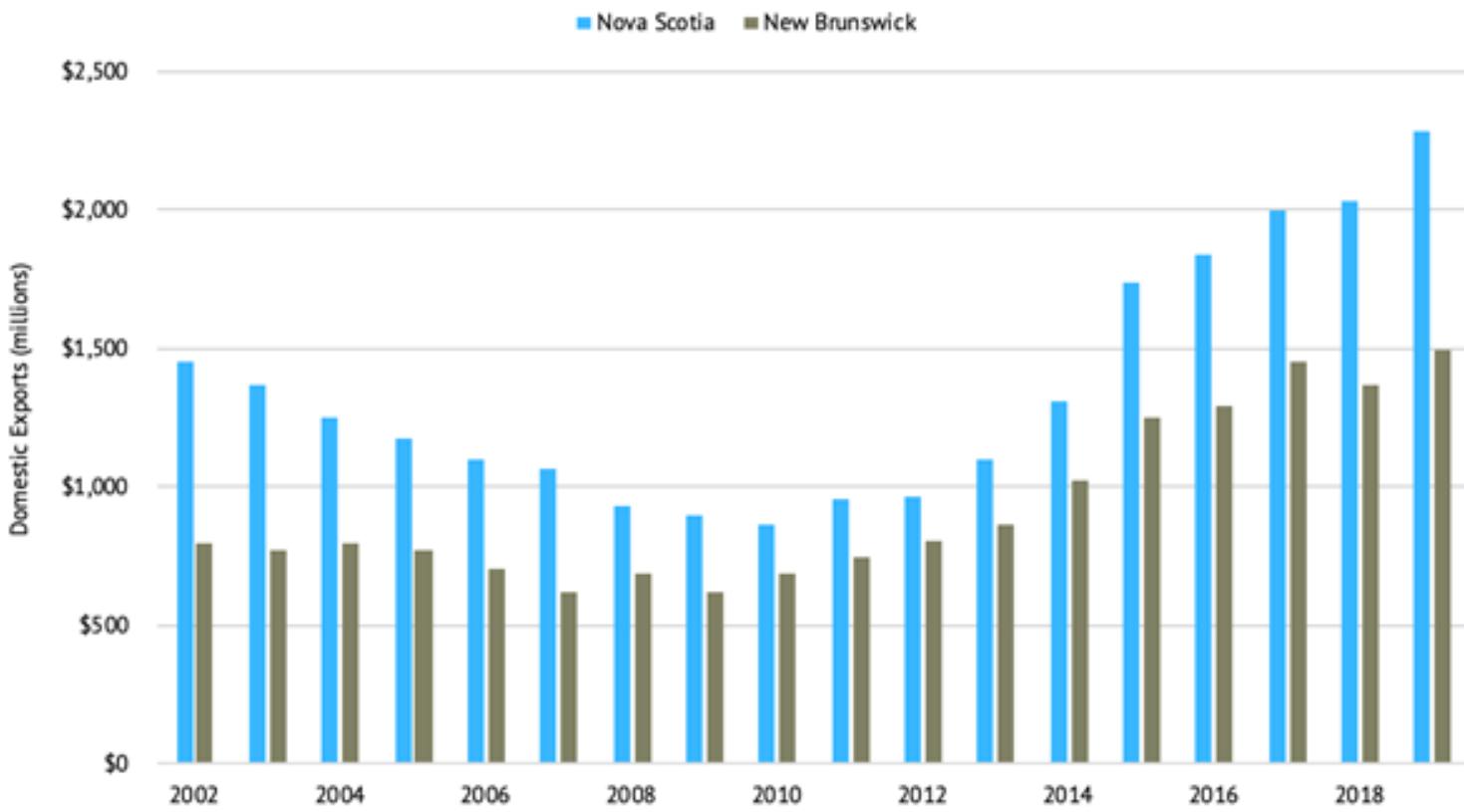
(See full data set in Appendix A)

# A Closer Look

## Domestic New Brunswick Exports in the Fishing and Seafood Industries Compared with Nova Scotia

Fishery exports have brought about major growth in the Atlantic provinces over the past few years, with rising lobster prices driving much of the progress within the seafood industry. As displayed in Figure 2, New Brunswick's crustacean exports (which include lobster, crab, shrimp, and prawns) increased from \$504 million in 2012 to \$875 million in 2018. While lobster prices—which rose from \$2.87 per pound to \$5.54 between 2012 and 2018—are a key factor behind the accelerated growth, this progress is also due to a weak Canadian dollar and the favourable exchange rate for the United States, which consequently imported larger amounts of Canadian lobster. High levels of growth in other seafood products, such as crab and shrimp, also boosted the upward trend in crustacean exports.

**Figure 2: Domestic Exports of Lobster and Crustaceans Compared to Nova Scotia (2019 constant dollars)**



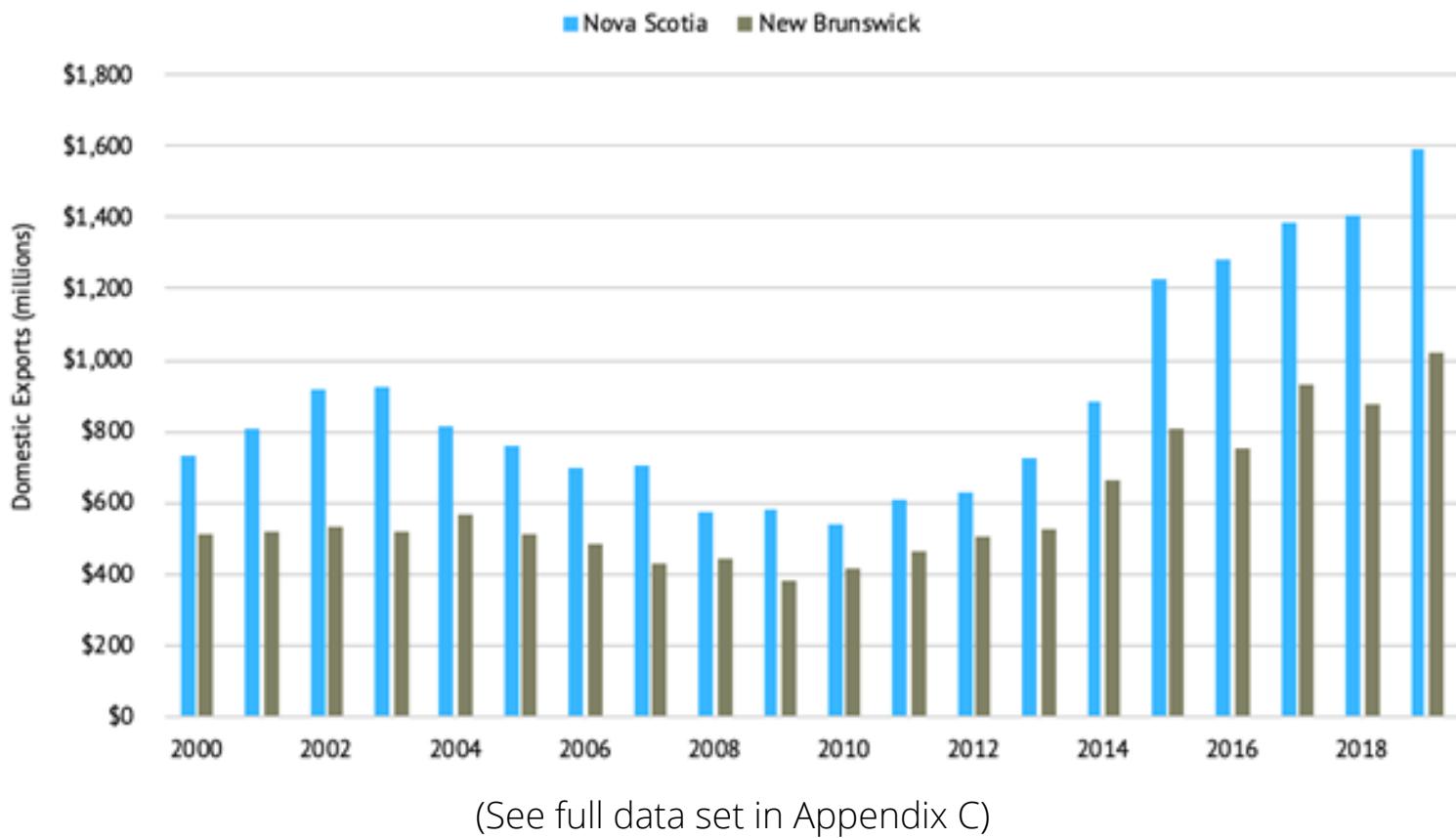
(See full data set in Appendix B)

The United States is the dominant market for New Brunswick's seafood exports. In 2017, 77% of New Brunswick's seafood products (worth \$1 billion) were exported directly to the United States. The province has also seen significant growth in its exports to Japan and China, and in 2017 they received the second- and third-highest percentages of New Brunswick's seafood exports at 9% and 7% respectively.

According to the Government of Canada, New Brunswick is also likely to see increased exports to the European Union because the new Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union will reduce tariffs on seafood, which could have a positive impact on Atlantic Canada moving forward.[1]

After facing a low of \$622 million in 2007, New Brunswick's domestic fishery and seafood packaging exports reached a high of \$1.49 billion in 2019. This is shown in Figure 3. Although the value of New Brunswick's exported seafood products has consistently fallen short of Nova Scotia's, this growth has nonetheless been significant and progressive for the province.

**Figure 3: Domestic Exports in Fishing and Seafood Preparation/Packaging Compared to Nova Scotia (2019 constant dollars)**



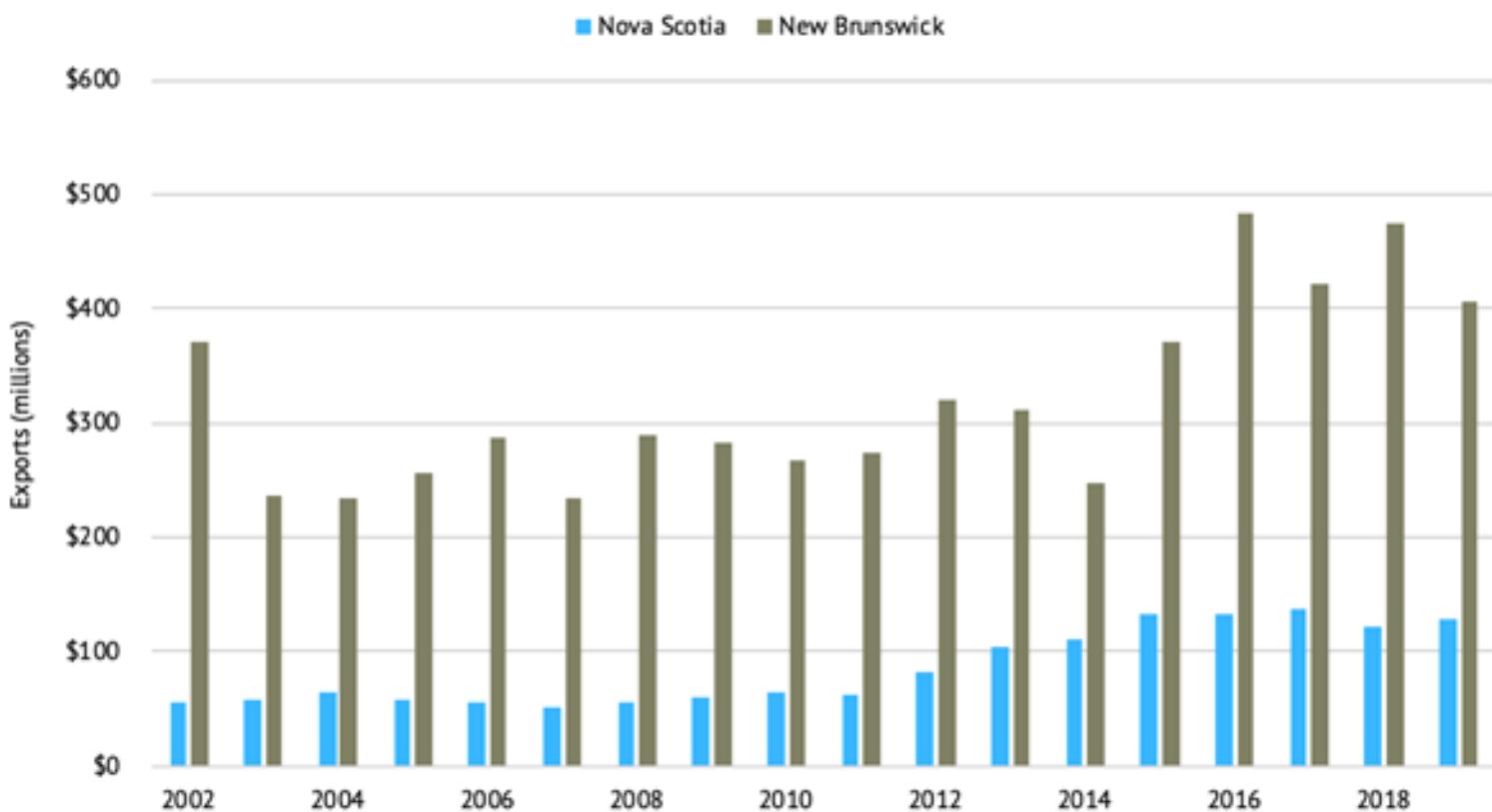
(See full data set in Appendix C)

[1] "Benefits for Nova Scotia." Canadian-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/assets/pdfs/agreements-accords/ns-nova-scotia-eng.pdf>

## Total Crop and Animal Production Compared to Nova Scotia

As seen from Figure 4, New Brunswick's agriculture exports increased by approximately \$173 million between 2007 and 2019, growing from \$234 million to \$406 million during that time. Aquaculture (or, fish farming) products are currently the major animal product exported from New Brunswick, with a 2019 value of \$277 million. New Brunswick sends the bulk of its agriculture products to the United States, which received 90% of the province's agriculture exports in 2017. The next largest importer of New Brunswick agriculture is India, which received 1.13% in the same year.

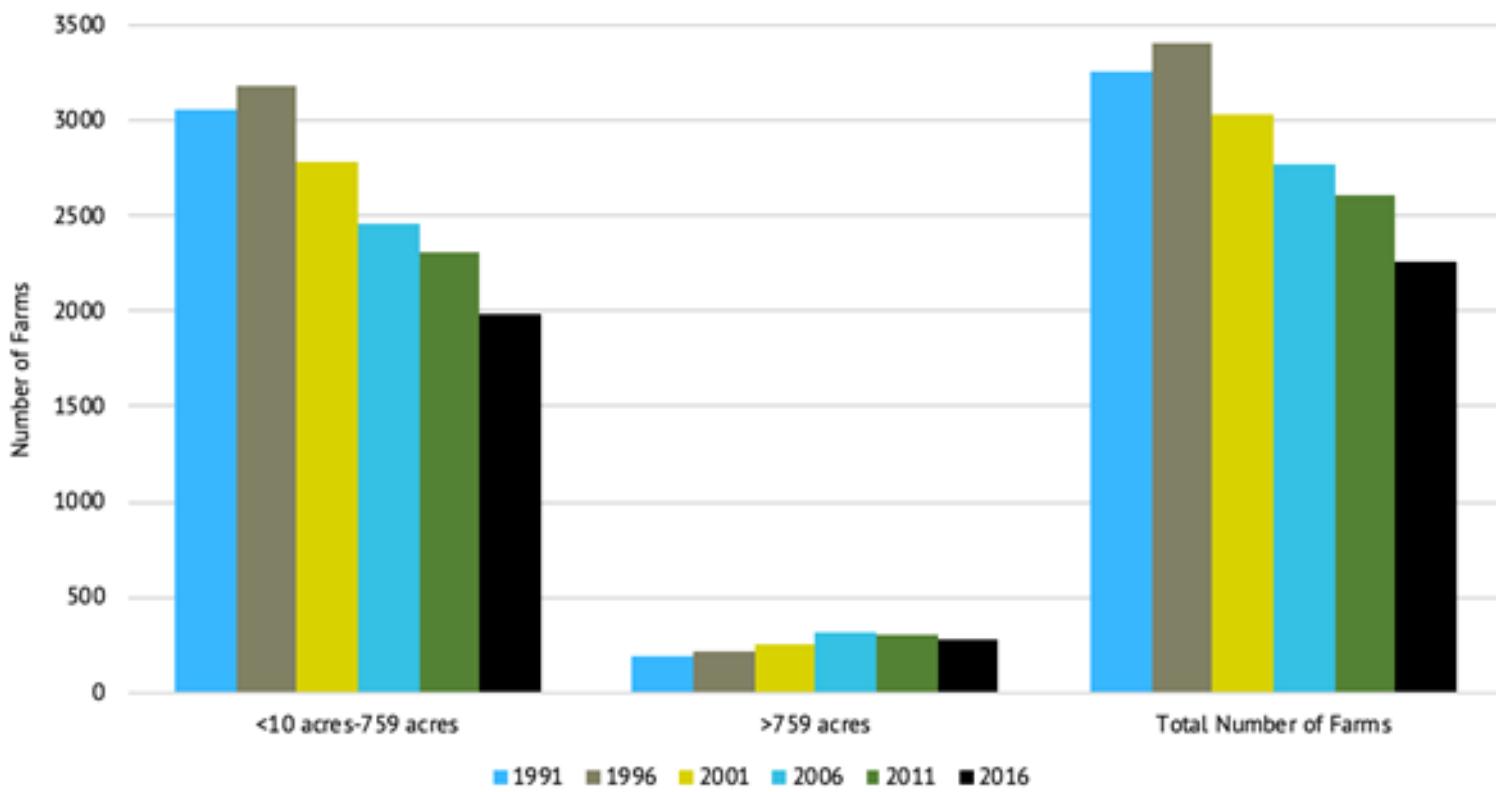
**Figure 4: Total Crop and Animal Production Compared to Nova Scotia  
(2019 constant dollars)**



(See full data set in Appendix D)

The number of farms in New Brunswick vary by size, ranging from under 10 acres to 3,520 acres and above. Farms between 10 acres and 759 acres have been decreasing, while larger farms have been increasing. This is a result of farm consolidation, which also explains the overall decrease in the total number of farms, from 3252 in 1991 to 2255 in 2016. This is displayed in Figure 5.

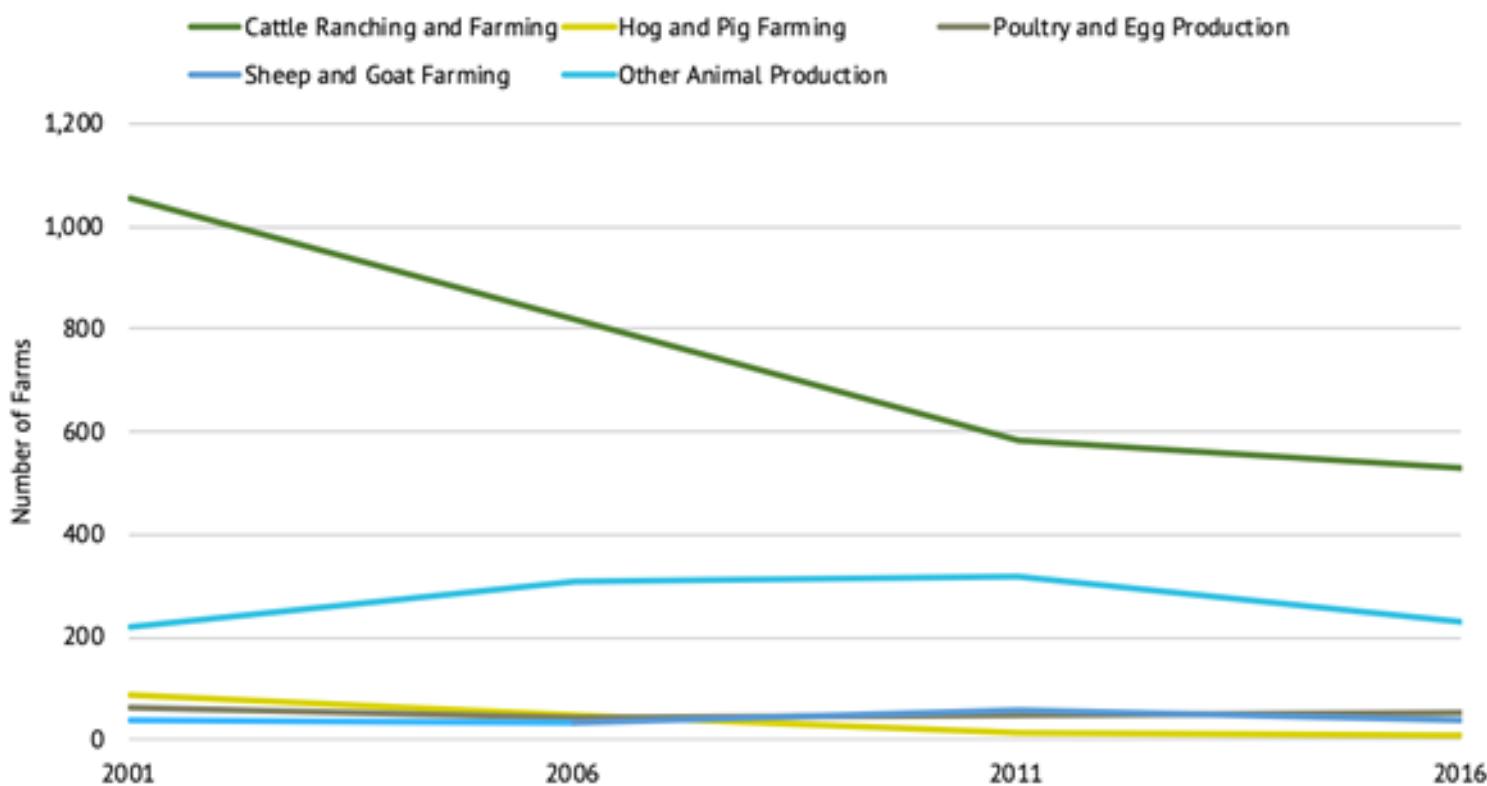
**Figure 5: Number of Farms in New Brunswick by Size**



(See full data set in Appendix E)

New Brunswick has numerous types of animal farming. The predominant form of farming is cattle ranching and farming, with around 530 farms in 2016. In general, the number of farms reporting in New Brunswick has decreased drastically from 2001 to 2016, falling from 3,034 farms to 2,255 farms in total. Major reductions are noted in the cattle ranching and farming and other animal production, while the other types appear to be constant. This is displayed in Figure 6.

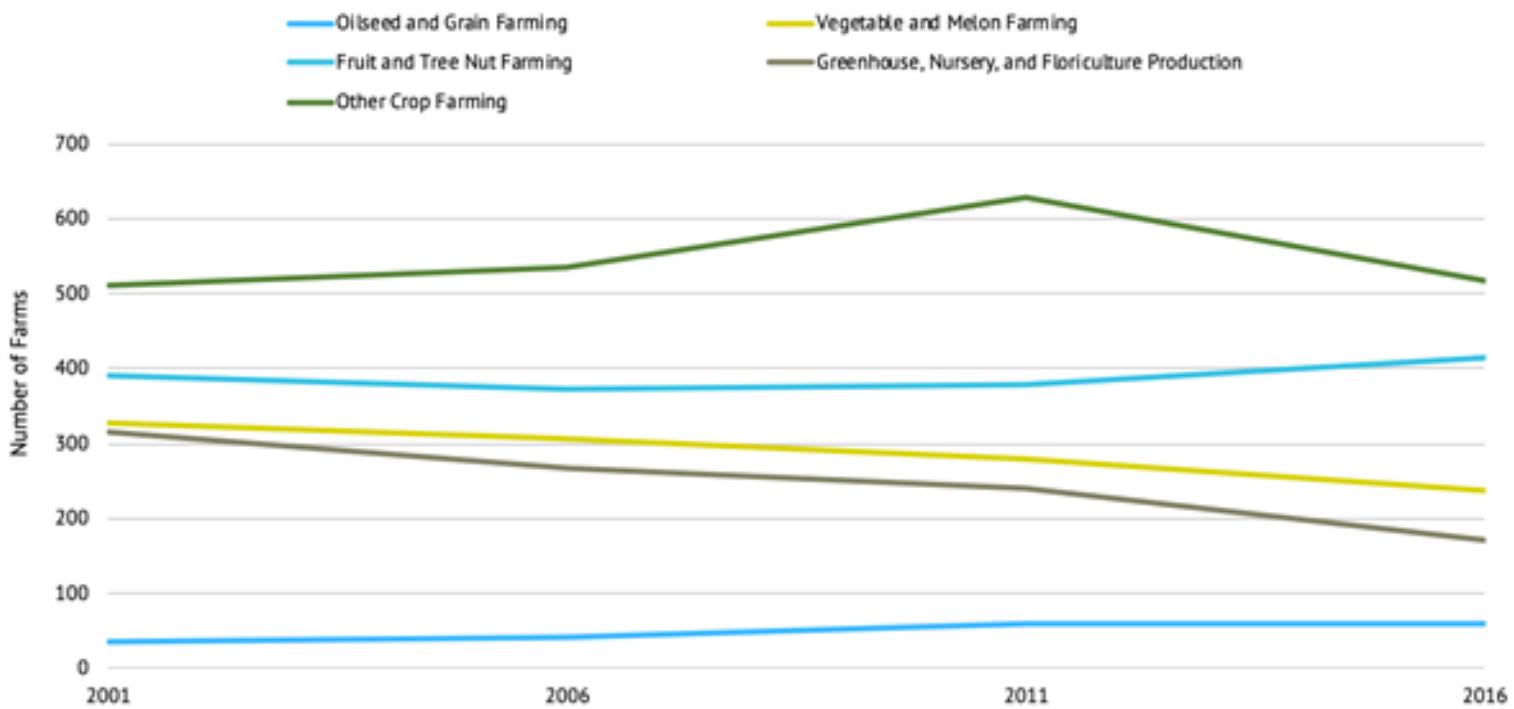
**Figure 6: Animal Production in New Brunswick**



(See full data set in Appendix F)

Crop production in New Brunswick has had some minor fluctuations between 2001 and 2016. Oilseed and grain farming as well as fruit and tree nut farming have increased; whereas, other forms of crop farming have decreased linearly. This is displayed in Figure 7.

**Figure 7: Crop Production in New Brunswick**



(See full data set in Appendix G)

## Summary

Fisheries and agriculture are valuable resources to New Brunswick, as they both improve food security, increase wealth, provide employment opportunities, and promote economic growth. The Seafood Production and Packaging sector makes up nearly 70% of the export value in the province and is a major reason behind the increase in New Brunswick's seafood and agriculture export values. This upward trend has put New Brunswick on track to reach the suggested goal of achieving a total domestic export value worth at least \$2 billion for this sector, making this goal progressing.

# Appendix A

## New Brunswick Agriculture and Seafood Product Exports (2019 dollars)

Year	Crop Production	Animal Production	Fishing	Seafood Preparation/Packaging
2002	150,400,936	220,564,486	153,071,429	879,071,040
2003	115,788,195	121,529,418	141,063,990	836,192,774
2004	108,540,861	125,385,570	144,225,763	844,391,799
2005	108,007,657	148,723,071	135,911,921	811,791,124
2006	112,328,731	173,611,038	99,663,278	754,484,783
2007	108,699,913	124,834,366	109,852,873	626,975,534
2008	146,383,941	142,449,708	87,380,767	724,327,113
2009	131,453,240	151,406,057	84,658,723	646,064,853
2010	105,709,400	162,313,034	78,341,226	714,454,509
2011	126,069,028	146,795,510	81,642,539	750,767,785
2012	89,619,483	229,530,762	99,632,589	790,707,302
2013	85,125,703	226,354,408	116,662,126	825,159,265
2014	99,681,584	147,690,282	157,619,906	945,355,291
2015	118,738,895	251,394,316	182,421,145	1,162,388,819
2016	123,419,399	359,110,148	173,110,948	1,194,168,694
2017	112,392,635	308,699,365	190,068,070	1,310,781,862
2018	108,289,229	366,573,663	178,095,412	1,207,745,184
2019	105,476,237	300,892,828	193,625,590	1,296,840,210

Data Source: Statistics Canada (Trade Data Online)

# Appendix B

## Domestic Exports of Lobster and Crustaceans Compared to Nova Scotia (2019 constant dollars)

Year	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
2002	1,453,177,153	798,024,503
2003	1,368,665,966	775,417,129
2004	1,250,566,643	794,091,498
2005	1,176,172,357	775,577,121
2006	1,100,007,138	704,136,780
2007	1,063,276,988	621,829,226
2008	931,495,624	688,949,580
2009	901,320,407	622,651,099
2010	867,641,886	685,863,439
2011	959,324,227	742,626,649
2012	964,989,643	807,382,338
2013	1,095,889,819	861,303,282
2014	1,308,768,740	1,023,213,012
2015	1,741,622,440	1,251,852,971
2016	1,840,527,545	1,296,312,904
2017	1,997,464,906	1,451,803,802
2018	2,034,388,080	1,365,460,450
2019	2,286,831,309	1,490,465,800

Source: Statistics Canada (*Trade Data Online*)

# Appendix C

## Domestic Exports in Fishing and Seafood Preparation/Packaging Compared to Nova Scotia (2019 constant dollars)

Year	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
2000	728,970,180	513,680,775
2001	804,297,002	520,718,808
2002	917,384,222	535,043,815
2003	924,976,569	518,583,080
2004	814,238,942	568,653,332
2005	758,051,265	513,630,879
2006	693,804,476	483,108,314
2007	700,675,261	426,489,609
2008	574,139,053	444,220,483
2009	579,612,216	378,948,811
2010	541,509,024	415,730,817
2011	607,114,610	461,678,629
2012	629,430,674	503,923,773
2013	723,478,926	522,086,864
2014	883,859,052	662,644,852
2015	1,227,495,121	805,742,688
2016	1,281,718,379	753,973,619
2017	1,385,231,035	928,637,538
2018	1,407,230,602	874,828,034
2019	1,589,893,297	1,022,970,120

*Lobster Price: US Department of Commerce exchanged to Canadian using annual rate  
(source: Canadian Forex Limited)*

# Appendix D

## Total Crop and Animal Production Compared to Nova Scotia (2019 constant dollars)

Year	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
2002	56,553,137	370,965,422
2003	58,365,418	237,317,613
2004	65,339,553	233,926,432
2005	58,610,402	256,730,728
2006	54,594,731	285,939,768
2007	51,910,255	233,534,278
2008	56,483,727	288,833,649
2009	60,840,932	282,859,297
2010	65,468,132	268,022,433
2011	61,140,869	272,864,538
2012	82,065,507	319,150,245
2013	104,187,573	311,480,111
2014	111,315,855	247,371,866
2015	132,377,085	370,133,211
2016	133,338,600	482,529,547
2017	136,363,533	421,092,000
2018	120,625,542	474,862,893
2019	127,351,344	406,369,065

Source: Statistics Canada (Trade Data Online)

# Appendix E

## Number of Farms in New Brunswick by Size

Year	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016
<b>Total number of farms</b>	3,252	3,405	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255
<b>Under 10 acres</b>	271	319	202	193	187	200
<b>10 to 69 acres</b>	387	524	473	387	420	402
<b>70 to 129 acres</b>	479	478	421	378	389	280
<b>130 to 179 acres</b>	304	312	267	240	198	184
<b>180 to 239 acres</b>	391	396	328	260	249	202
<b>240 to 399 acres</b>	646	576	546	503	408	362
<b>400 to 559 acres</b>	378	375	326	307	290	211
<b>560 to 759 acres</b>	204	208	225	192	174	143
<b>760 to 1,119 acres</b>	124	125	140	188	154	136
<b>1,120 to 1,599 acres</b>	39	58	61	65	70	60
<b>1,600 to 2,239 acres</b>	18	24	21	39	41	39
<b>2,240 to 2,879 acres</b>	4	5	11	8	11	14
<b>2,880 to 3,519 acres</b>	6	2	7	6	3	3
<b>3,520 acres and above</b>	1	3	6	10	17	19

Source: Statistics Canada Table: 32-10-0156-01 (formerly CANSIM 004-0005)

# Appendix F

## Animal Production in New Brunswick

Year	2001	2006	2011	2016
<b>Total Farms Reporting</b>	3,034	2,776	2,611	2,255
<b>Cattle Ranching and Farming</b>	1,054	818	586	530
<b>Hog and Pig Farming</b>	85	50	16	9
<b>Poultry and Egg Production</b>	62	45	50	51
<b>Sheep and Goat Farming</b>	36	33	57	38
<b>Other Animal Production</b>	221	309	317	230

Source: Statistics Canada Table: 32-10-0166-01 (formerly CANSIM 004-0014)

# Appendix G

## Crop Production in New Brunswick

Year	2001	2006	2011	2016
<b>Oilseed and Grain Farming</b>	34	41	59	58
<b>Vegetable and Melon Farming</b>	327	307	280	236
<b>Fruit and Tree Nut Farming</b>	391	372	379	415
<b>Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture Production</b>	314	267	240	171
<b>Other Crop Farming</b>	510	534	627	517

Source: Statistics Canada Table: 32-10-0166-01 (formerly CANSIM 004-0014)

