



Equine Industry

Statistics and Data

Feb. 2018

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Changes in the Size of the Ontario Horse Industry

Changes in the size of the Ontario horse industry over the past 80 years. Years 1936-2006 taken from Wright, B. Economic Impact of the Ontario Horse Industry. 2008 OMAFRA Factsheet. The 2008 factsheet is attached as Appendix One.

Table 1. Changes in the Size of the Ontario Horse Industry over the Past 70 Years

Census Year	Census Horse Population	Percent Change (from previous Census)	Census Farms	Estimated Horse Population (Wright)	Estimated Number of Horse Facilities
1936	562,916	- 2.6 %			
1941	533,742	- 5.2 %			
1946	491,287	- 8.0 %			
1951	260,627	- 47.0 %			
1956	139,661	- 50.3 %			
1960	95,000	- 32.0 %			
1966	75,355	- 20.7 %	25,366		
1971	79,869	6.0 %	23,308		
1976	N/A		N/A		
1981	74,986	- 6.1 %	14,565		
1986	74,961	- 0.03%	13,523		
1991	75,132	0.2 %	12,353	293,015	48,198
1996	76,553	1.9 %		298,582	49,114
2001	83,337	8.9 %	11,258	325,156	43,906
2006	97,285	16.7%	12,333	379,412	48,099
2011	86,642	-10.90%	11,170	337,904	43,563
2016	64,536	-25.50%	9,294	251,690	36,246

N/A Not available (horses were not specified separately on the 1976 Census of Agriculture form).

Table 2 - The Counties/Regional Municipalities of Ontario with the highest horse population (descending order)

The Counties/Regional Municipalities of Ontario with the highest horse population in descending order. Adapted from Wright, B. "The Economic Impact of the Ontario Horse Industry", 2008, OMAFRA Factsheet.

County or Regional Municipality	Estimated Number of Horses 2011	Estimated Number of Horses 2016	% Change
Wellington County	25,658	19,613	-23.6%
Grey County	17,566	14,719	-16.2%
Simcoe County	19,586	12,125	-38.1%
Durham Regional Municipality	16,754	13,124	-21.7%
Waterloo Regional Municipality	17,616	14,797	-16.0%
York Regional Municipality	13,662	9,060	-33.7%
Middlesex County	14,687	10,967	-25.3%
Bruce County	11,544	8,038	-30.4%
Huron County	10,351	7,878	-23.9%
Perth county	10,869	8,771	-19.3%

Table 3 2006 Estimated Economic impact of the horse industry for each region/county/regional municipality/district of Ontario.

These estimates are based on the 2011 Census horse numbers, adjusted by the 3.9 factor. No allowance has been made to the economic impact data for changes to the cost of living between 1995 and 2011. The Economic Impact model was based on Wright, B “Economic Impact of the Ontario Horse Industry, 2008 OMAFRA Factsheet.

Region/ County/Municipality/District	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Province of Ontario	43,563	337,904	601M	6.2B
Southern Ontario Region	9,130	71,647	127M	1.3B
Hamilton-Wentworth Region	858	9,235	16.4M	168M
Niagara Regional Municipality	1,045	7,153	12.7M	130M
Haldimand-Norfolk Region	1,174	8,276	14.7M	151M
Brant County	550	5,086	9.0M	92M
Oxford County	1,201	8,057	14.3M	147M
Elgin County	862	7,461	13.2M	136M
Chatham-Kent County	449	2,250	4M	41M
Essex County	476	4,076	7.2M	74.3M
Lambton County	866	5,366	9.5M	97.9M
Middlesex County	1,650	14,687	26.1M	268M
Western Ontario Region	17,382	134,359	239M	2.4B
Peel Regional Municipality	410	5,456	9.7M	99.5M
Dufferin County	956	7,960	14.1M	145M
Wellington County	3,167	25,658	45.7M	468M
Halton Regional Municipality	566	7,753	13.8M	141M
Waterloo Regional Municipality	2,496	17,616	31.3M	321M
Perth County	1,794	10,869	19.3M	198M
Huron County	1,646	10,351	18.4M	188M
Bruce County	1,798	11,544	20.5M	210M
Grey County	2,508	17,566	31.2M	320M
Simcoe County	2,044	19,586	34.8M	357M
Central Ontario Region	7,722	69,525	123M	1.3B
Hastings County	959	6,427	11.4M	117M
Prince Edward County	347	2,558	4.5M	46M
Northumberland County	815	6,521	11.6M	119M
Peterborough County	1,061	7,816	13.9M	142M
Kawartha Lakes	1,416	11,466	20.4M	209M
Durham Regional Municipality	1,587	16,754	29.8M	305M
York Regional Municipality	897	13,662	24M	249M
Toronto	0	0	0	0

Region/ County/Municipality/District	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Muskoka District Municipality	207	1,732	3M	31M
Haliburton County	62	413	736,265	7.5M
Parry Sound District	371	2,176	3.8M	39M
Eastern Ontario Region	7,012	46,145	8.2M	842M
Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	1,100	6,224	11M	113M
Prescott and Russell	737	4,941	8.8M	90M
Ottawa Region	1,119	10,292	18.3M	187M
Leeds and Grenville	1,326	9,278	16.5M	169M
Lanark County	780	4,770	8.5M	87M
Frontenac County	527	3,260	5.8M	59M
Lennox and Addington County	527	3,182	5.6M	58M
Renfrew County	897	4,196	7.4M	76.5M
Northern Ontario Region	2,317	16,228	28.9M	296M
Nipissing District	324	2,188	3.9M	39.9M
Manitoulin District	183	722	1.3M	13.1M
Sudbury District	179	1,322	2.3M	24M
Greater Sudbury Region	195	2,516	4.4M	45.9M
Timiskaming District	308	1,985	3.5M	36.2M
Cochrane	172	800	1.4M	14.6M
Algoma District	394	3,147	5.6M	57.4M
Thunder Bay District	238	1,755	3.1M	32M
Rainy River District	215	963	1.7M	17.5M
Kenora District	109	831	1.5M	15.1M

Table 4 – 2016 Estimated Economic impact of the horse industry for each region/county/regional municipality/district of Ontario.

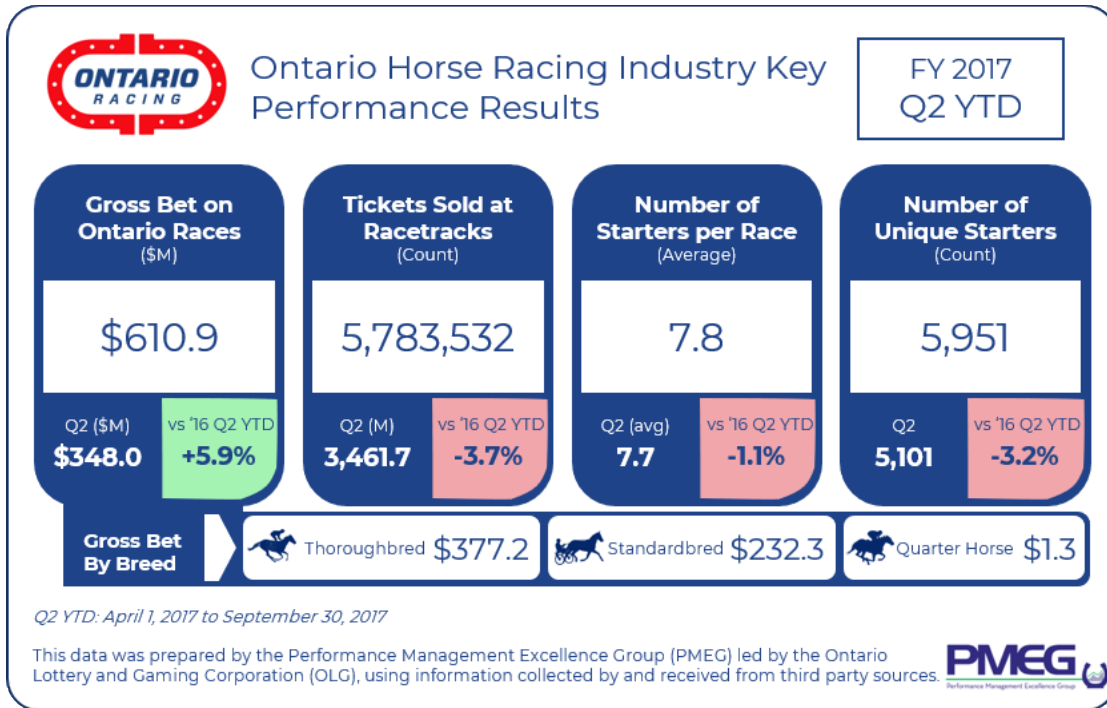
These estimates are based on the 2016 Census horse numbers, adjusted by the 3.9 factor. No allowance has been made to the economic impact data for changes to the cost of living between 1995 and 2016. The Economic Impact model was based on Wright, B “Economic Impact of the Ontario Horse Industry, 2008 OMAFRA Factsheet.

Region/ County/Municipality/District	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Province of Ontario	36,246	251,690	448.3M	4.6B
Southern Ontario Region	7,687	54,335	96M	991M
Hamilton-Wentworth Region	710	7,956	14.2M	145M
Niagara Regional Municipality	831	5,944	10.6M	108M
Haldimand-Norfolk Region	924	5,741	10.2M	104M
Brant County	433	2,683	4.7M	48M
Oxford County	1,073	6,689	11.9M	122M
Elgin County	671	5,359	9.5M	97M
Chatham-Kent County	394	2,048	3.6M	37.4M
Essex County	503	3,502	6.2M	64M
Lambton County	651	3,448	6.1M	62.9M
Middlesex County	1,498	10,967	19.5M	200M
Western Ontario Region	15,085	104,302	185M	1.9B
Peel Regional Municipality	410	4,700	8.3M	85M
Dufferin County	788	5,963	10.6M	108M
Wellington County	2,617	19,613	34.9M	358B
Halton Regional Municipality	581	7,699	13.7M	140M
Waterloo Regional Municipality	2,344	14,797	26M	270M
Perth County	1,494	8,771	15.6M	160M
Huron County	1,365	7,878	14M	143M
Bruce County	1,529	8,038	14.3M	146M
Grey County	2,422	14,719	26M	268M
Simcoe County	1,537	12,125	21.6M	221M
Central Ontario Region	6,404	49,058	87M	895M
Hastings County	729	4,497	8M	82M
Prince Edward County	289	1,884	3.3M	34M
Northumberland County	749	5,109	9M	93M
Peterborough County	842	4,813	8.6M	87.8M
Kawartha Lakes	1,236	6,981	12.4M	127M
Durham Regional Municipality	1,310	13,124	23.3M	239M
York Regional Municipality	702	9,060	16.1M	165M
Toronto	94	1,143	2M	20M

Region/ County/Municipality/District	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Muskoka District Municipality	164	998	1.7M	18.2M
Haliburton County	39	218	388,970	3.9M
Parry Sound District	250	1,232	2.2M	22.5M
Eastern Ontario Region	5,316	32,019	57M	584M
Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	866	4,551	8.1M	83M
Prescott and Russell	519	3,280	5.8M	59M
Ottawa Region	858	7,137	1.3M	130M
Leeds and Grenville	983	5,632	10M	102M
Lanark County	569	3,467	6.2M	63.3M
Frontenac County	398	2,777	4.9M	50.6M
Lennox and Addington County	425	2,153	3.8M	39.2M
Renfrew County	698	3,023	5.4M	55.1M
Northern Ontario Region	1,755	11,977	21.3M	218M
Nipissing District	203	1,505	2.7M	27.4M
Manitoulin District	140	675	1.2M	12.3M
Sudbury District	160	1,123	2M	20.5M
Greater Sudbury Region	129	1,108	1.9M	20.2M
Timiskaming District	230	1,392	2.5M	25.4M
Cochrane	140	651	1.1M	11.8M
Algoma District	308	2,753	4.9M	50.2M
Thunder Bay District	164	1,256	2.2M	22.9M
Rainy River District	203	1,026	1.8M	18.7M
Kenora District	78	488	868,237	8.9M

Ontario Horse Racing Industry Performance Results

Table 5 Ontario Horse Racing Industry Performance Results Q2 YTD April 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017





OAHN Equine Veterinarian Survey

Ontario Animal Health Network – Equine Network

Increases in reporting of the diseases/conditions

Network members:

Dr. Drew Hunnisett , Dr. Alison Moore (co-leads)

Dr. Chris Grossenbacher, Dr. Melissa McKee, Dr. Jessica Peatling, Dr. Memo Arroyo, Dr. Murray Hazlett,
Dr. Tim Pasma

2017 compared to the same quarter in 2016

Q1

Foals and Breeding Stock

- Late term abortion 10.9%
- Dystocia 10.8%
- Perinatal death (within 48hrs of birth) 4.3%

Adults

- Strangles 16.5%
- Lymphoma/lymphosarcoma 6.5%

Q2

Foals and Breeding Stock

- Perinatal death 25.0%
- Uterine artery hemorrhage 11.1%

Adults

- Pruritic skin disease on face/body 16.7%
- Diarrhea with hypoproteinemia 5.6%
- Colic/other 5.6%

Q3

Foals and Breeding Stock

- Mare infertility 16.4%
- Anthelmintic Resistance 10.8%
- *Rhodococcus equi* infection 5.6%

Adults

- Potomac Horse Fever—diarrhea 24.7%
- Potomac Horse Fever—no diarrhea 17.8%
- Colic-impaction 14.5%
- Fever of unknown origin 13.5%
- Skin disease non pruritic 10.5%
- Pneumonia 10.1%
- Neurological disease/infectious 10.1%
- RAO/Equine asthma 7.2%
- Diarrhea with normal protein 6.3%
- Diarrhea with hypoproteinemia 6.3%
- Upper respiratory tract infections 5.4%

- Strangles 5.4%
- Lyme disease 5.4%
- Lymphoma 5.4%

Q4

Foals and Breeding Stock

- *Lawsonia intracellularis* infection 11.0%
- Dystocia 2.2%
- **Adults**
- Fever of unknown origin 28.5%
- Potomac Horse Fever—diarrhea 9.5%
- Potomac Horse Fever—no diarrhea 4.4%
- Pneumonia 7.3%
- RAO/Equine asthma 4.8%
- Pastern dermatitis 4.0%
- Diarrhea with normal protein 2.7%
- colic 2.5%

List of Equine Organizations

Table 6 Equine Organizations in Ontario

Organizations	Website
Arts and Entertainment	
9th New York Volunteer Calvary, Co. A	https://www.facebook.com/pg/9th-New-York-Volunteer-Cavalry-Company-A-152433878116440/
Medieval Times	https://www.medievaltimes.com/
Auctions	
D. Carson Farms & Auction Services Ltd.	https://www.davidcarson.on.ca/
Ontario Livestock Exchange	http://www.olex.on.ca/Olex/Default.aspx
Breed Associations - Provincial	
American Saddle Horse Association of Ontario	https://www.facebook.com/pg/ASHAofOntario/about/?ref=page_internal
Arabian Horse Association of Eastern Canada	http://ahaec.on.ca/on/
Canadian Sport Horse Association - Ontario	http://www.c-s-h-a.org/
Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society - Ontario	http://www.cthsont.com/
Central Canada Paso Fino Horse Association	http://centralcanadapfha.com/
Central Ontario Standardbred Association	http://www.cosaonline.com/
Eastern Ontario Miniature Horse club	http://easternontariominiaturehorseclub.ca/
Eastern Ontario Paint Horse Club	https://www.facebook.com/groups/516903175143075/
Eastern Ontario Quarter Horse Association	https://eoqha.com/
Miniature Horse Club of Ontario	https://www.facebook.com/Miniature-Horse-Club-of-Ontario-120325871333053/
North Superior Quarter Horse Association	http://www.nsqha.com/
Ontario Appaloosa Horse Association	http://www.ontarioappaloosa.org/
Ontario Belgian Horse Association	http://www.ontariobelgians.ca/
Ontario Friesian Horse Association	http://ontariofriesianhorse.com/

Ontario Icelandic Horse Association	https://www.oiha.ca/
Ontario Morgan Horse Club	http://ontariomorgan.com/
Ontario Paint Horse Association	https://www.facebook.com/OntarioPaintHorse/
Ontario Percheron Horse Association Inc.	http://www.ontariopercherons.ca/
Ontario Peruvian Horse Association	http://www.peruvianpaso.ca/
Ontario Pinto Horse Association	https://www.ontariopinto.com/
Ontario Quarter Horse Association	https://www.oqha.on.ca/
Standardbred Showcase Riding Club	http://www.standardbredshowcase.com/
Upper Canada District (Ontario) Canadian Horse Breeders	http://www.ucdcanadianhorse.ca/
Welsh Pony and Cob Association of Ontario	http://wpcao.com/
Clubs	
CEREC (Club Equestre Ramsayville Equestrian Club)	http://www.cerec.ca/
Chesley Saddle Club	http://chesleysaddleclub.ca/about/
Eastern Ontario Horses of Course club	http://www.vkirkwood.ca/eohc.htm
Ganaraska Forest Horse Club	https://www.gfhc.ca/
Odessa Horse and Pony Club	http://odessa-h-p-c.webs.com/
Prince Edward County Horse and Pony Club	https://www.facebook.com/groups/8601927841/
Hunt Clubs	
Eglinton Caledon Hounds	http://www.eglintoncaledonhounds.com/
Hamilton Hunt Club	http://www.thehamiltonhuntclub.ca/
London Hunt	http://www.londonhunt.ca/
Ottawa Valley Hunt Club	https://www.facebook.com/OttawaValleyHunt/
Toronto & North York Hunt	https://www.tnyh.horse/
Wellington-Waterloo Hunt Club	https://www.facebook.com/wellingtonwaterloo.hunt
Farrier Associations	
Ontario Farriers Association	http://www.ontariofarriersassociation.com/

Industry Associations	
4-H Ontario	http://www.4-hontario.ca/
Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame	http://www.canadianhorseracinghalloffame.com/
Equine Guelph	http://www.equineguelph.ca/
Horseman's Benevolent and Protection Agency	http://www.hbpa.on.ca/
National Capital Region Harness Horse Association	http://www.ncrhha.ca/
Northern Ontario Horseman's Association	https://www.facebook.com/groups/300054522579/permalink/10156382075542580/
Ontario Equestrian	https://ontarioequestrian.ca/
Ontario Harness Horse Association	http://www.ohha.ca/
Ontario Racing	http://ontarioracing.com/
Quarter Racing Owners of Ontario Inc	http://qrooi.com/
Upper Canada Equestrian Association	https://www.facebook.com/UpperCanadaEquestrian/
Pony Clubs	
Bright Water Pony club	http://brightwaterponyclub.webs.com/aboutus.htm
Caledon pony club	https://www.caledonponyclub.com/
Canadian Pony Club - Central Ontario Region	http://centralontario.ponyclub.ca/
Canadian Pony Club - St Lawrence/Ottawa Valley Region	http://canadianponyclub.org/SLOV/wp/
Canadian Pony Club - Western Ontario Region	http://canadianponyclub.org/WesternOntario/
Durham Pony Club	https://www.durhamponyclub.ca/
Kingston and Region pony club	http://canadianponyclub.org/SLOV/KingstonAndRegion/wp/
Rising Star Pony Club	http://www.canadianponyclub.org/CentralOntario/RisingStar/
Rescue/Adoption/Rehoming Organizations/Sanctuaries	
Adena Springs Retirement Program	http://www.adenaretirement.com/

Adopt a Preloved Horse	http://www.adoptaprelovedhorse.com/
Animal Outreach-Farmed Animals Sanctuary	http://www.animaloutreach.ca/
Big Sky Ranch Animal Sanctuary	https://www.bigskyranch.ca/
Birch Haven Rescue and Rehabilitation Services	www.birchhaven.org
Dw Stables	www.dwstables.com
Epic Tails Horse&Dog Rescue	https://www.facebook.com/pages/Epic-Tails-Dog-Horse-Rescue/116918094990724
Freedom Valley Horse Rescue	http://horseadoptontario.blogspot.ca/
Go and Play Stables	http://www.goandplaystables.org/
Guelph Equine Area Rescue Stables	http://www.animalshelter.org/shelters/Guelph Equine Area Rescue Stables GEARS rld7374 rS pC.html
Haven of the Heart	http://havenoftheheart.wordpress.com/
Heaven Can Wait Equine Rescue	http://www.heavencanwaitequinerescue.org/
Horse Rescue Ontario	http://www.horserescueontario.org/index.html
Last Chance Horse&Pony Rescue	http://www.lchpr.org/
LongRun	http://www.longrunretirement.com
New Horizons Equine Center	http://www.newhorizonsequinecenter.com/
Ontario Standardbred Adoption Society	www.osas.ca
PrimRose Donkey Sanctuary	http://www.primrosedonkeysanctuary.com/
Refuge R&R	http://www.refugerr.org/
Second Chance Farm	http://www.secondchancefarm.ca/
The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada	http://www.thedonkeysanctuary.ca/
Transitions Thoroughbreds	http://www.transitionsthoroughbreds.org/
Whispering Hearts Horse Rescue	www.whhrescue.com
Wind Dancer	www.winddancerponies.org

Sport Organizations - Provincial	
Caledon Dressage Association	http://www.caledondressage.ca/index.html
Canadian Cowgirls Rodeo Drill Team	http://canadiancowgirls.com/
Canadian Dressage Owners and Riders Association - Ontario	http://ontario.cadora.ca/
Eastern Canadian Cutting Horse Association	http://www.eccha.ca/
Eastern Ontario Draft Horse Pulling Association	http://www.horsepullresults.com/easternontariodrafhorsepullingassoc.asp
Eastern Ontario Pleasure Driving Society	http://www.eopds.ca/index.html
Encore Presentation Trick Riders	https://www.facebook.com/encoretrickriders/
Gaited Horse Group of Ontario	http://www.gaitedhorsegroup.com/
Mid Western Horseman's Association - Ontario	https://www.midwesternhorsemansociety.com/
Ontario Barrel Racing Association	http://obra.ca/index.html
Ontario Carriage Driving Association	http://www.carriagedriving.ca/
Ontario Commercial Horse Association	https://www.facebook.com/Ontario-Commercial-Horse-Association-174645076231707/
Ontario Competitive Trail Riding Association	http://octra.on.ca/
Ontario Cutting Horse Association	http://www.ontariocuttinghorseassociation.com/
Ontario Horse Trials Association	http://www.horsetrials.on.ca/
Ontario Hunter Jumper Association	http://www.ohja.ca/
Ontario Reining Horse Association	http://orha.on.ca/
Ontario Sidesaddle Association	http://onsidesaddle.blogspot.ca/
Ontario Trail Riders Association	http://www.ontariotrails.on.ca/support/members/view/ontario-trail-riders-association
Pentathlon Ontario	http://pentathloncanada.ca/provinces/ontario/?
RAM Rodeo Tour	http://www.ramrodeotour.rossmillargroup.com/
Rawhide Rodeo	http://www.rawhiderodeo.com/

South Algonquin Trail Riders Club	http://www.satrc.ca/
Southern Ontario Trail Riders Club	http://www.southernontariotrailriders.com/
The Silver Stars Precision Drill Riding Club	http://lazeegranch.ca/silverstars.html
Tri-County Carriage Association	https://www.tricountycarriage.com/
Trillium Hunter Jumper Association	https://www.thja.ca/
Western Horse association of Ontario	https://www.facebook.com/groups/whao1952/
Therapeutic Riding Associations	
EquuSolutions	http://equusolutions.com/
Georgian Riding Association for challenged equestrians	https://www.graceriding.ca/
Hope Haven Therapeutic Riding and Wellness Centre	http://www.hopehavencentre.org/
Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Association	http://www.therapeuticriding.ca/
Northern Lights Therapeutic Riding Association	https://www.facebook.com/equinetherapynorth/
Ontario Therapeutic Riding Association	http://www.ontra.ca/
PARD Therapeutic Riding	http://www.pard.ca/
Quinte Therapeutic Riding Association	http://www.quintra.org/
SARI Therapeutic Riding	http://www.sari.ca/
Sunrise Therapeutic and Riding Centre	https://sunrise-therapeutic.ca/
The Community Association for Riders with Disabilities	http://card.ca/
Therapeutic Riding Association of Ottawa-Carlton	http://trott.ncf.ca/
Timmins Therapeutic Riding Association	http://www.ttra.ca/
Windsor-Essex Therapeutic Riding Association	https://wetra.ca/
Transporters - Commercial	
BWD Equine Services	http://www.bwdequineservices.com/contact-us/
Doyle Bloodstock Transportation Inc.	http://www.doylebloodstock.ca/
International Horse Transport Ltd.	http://www.inthorse.com/
Perry Transport	http://www.perryt.com/

Veterinary Associations - Provincial	
Central Canada Veterinary Association	http://www.centralcanadavetassociation.com/
Ontario Association of Equine Practitioners	http://ontarioequinevets.ca/
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Breed Associations - National	
American Saddlebred Horse Association of Canada	https://www.saddlebredcanada.com/
Canadian Belgian Horse Association	http://www.canadianbelgianhorse.com/
Canadian Fjord Horse Association	http://www.cfha.org/
Canadian Gypsy Vanner Horse club	https://www.facebook.com/groups/239257926262273/?ref=group_header
Canadian Hackney Association	https://www.hackney.ca/
Canadian Morgan Horse Association	https://www.morganhorse.ca/
Canadian shire Horse Association	https://www.canadianshirehorse.com/
Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society	https://www.cthsnational.com/
Clydesdale Horse Association of Canada	http://canadianclydesdales.ca/
Standardbred Canada	http://standardbredcanada.ca/
Newfoundland Pony society	http://newfoundlandpony.com/
Industry Associations - National	
Equestrian Canada	https://www.equestrian.ca/
Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada	http://www.horsewelfare.ca/index.php
Sport Organizations - National	
Canadian Cutting Horse Association	https://www.ccha.ca/
Canadian Recreational Horse and Rider	https://crhra.ca/
Canadian Road Horse Association	http://www.roadhorse.ca/
Canadian Western Horse Association	http://www.cwha.ca/
Mounted Games Across Canada Inc	http://mountedgamescanada.com/
National Barrel Horse Association Canada	http://nbhacanada.com/

Economic Impact of the Ontario Horse Industry

Dr. Bob Wright

Infosheet

February 2008

Wright and Cation, 1996, completed an extensive survey of the horse industry over a three-year period and published a summary, the *1996 Ontario Horse Industry Report*. In this research, respondent horse owners were cross-referenced to the horse-owner respondents in the 1991 Census of Agriculture.

The Census of Agriculture enumerates all farms regardless of size. It is the basic inventory of Canadian agriculture taken every five years. Questions are asked on a variety of topics, including farmland use, crops, livestock, paid agricultural labour, land management practices, etc. Horse-farm owners should take the opportunity to self identify, to ensure they complete a Census questionnaire to make the horse-farm Census more

complete.

Research determined that the 1991 Census data for total horses and total number of farms underestimated the Ontario horse industry in 1995 by a factor of 3.9. However, the Census is useful in that it is completed every five years and can be used along with the factor of 3.9 to estimate the horse population and number of horse farms on a continuing basis.

Table 1 summarizes the changes in the size of the Ontario horse industry over the past 70 years. In the 30 years from 1966 to 1996, the Census horse population was around 76,000 horses. However, over the past ten years, the horse industry has increased 27%.

Table 1. Changes in the Size of the Ontario Horse Industry over the Past 70 Years

Census Year	Census Horse Population	Percent Change (from previous Census)	Census Farms	Estimated Horse Population (Wright)	Estimated Number of Horse Facilities
1936	562,916	- 2.6 %			
1941	533,742	- 5.2 %			
1946	491,287	- 8.0 %			
1951	260,627	- 47.0 %			
1956	139,661	- 50.3 %			
1960	95,000	- 32.0 %			
1966	75,355	- 20.7 %	25,366		
1971	79,869	6.0 %	23,308		
1976	N/A		N/A		
1981	74,986	- 6.1 %	14,565		
1986	74,961	- 0.03%	13,523		
1991	75,132	0.2 %	12,353	293,015	48,198
1996	76,553	1.9 %		298,582	49,114
2001	83,337	8.9 %	11,258	325,156	43,906
2006	97,285	16.7%	12,333	379,412	48,099

N/A Not available (horses were not specified separately on the 1976 Census of Agriculture form).

Table 2. The Counties/Regional Municipalities of Ontario with the Highest Horse Population, in Descending Order.

County or Regional Municipality	Estimated Number of Horses 2001	Estimated Number of Horses 2006	% Change
Wellington County	18,293	27,530	+50.5%
Grey County	14,005	21,754	+55.3%
Simcoe County	14,581	19,516	+33.8%
Durham Regional Municipality	18,341	18,147	-1.1%
Waterloo Regional Municipality	15,017	17,636	+17.4%
York Regional Municipality	19,544	16,735	-14.4%
Middlesex County	17,152	16,684	-2.7%
Bruce County	9,546	13,549	+41.9%
Huron County	8,171	12,890	+57.8%
Perth County	9,430	12,780	+35.5%

Table 2 summarizes the changes to the horse population in the top ten counties/regions of Ontario over the past years.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Over the past ten years, the growth in horse population has been primarily in those counties (Grey, Bruce, Simcoe, Waterloo, Wellington) directly north/northwest of the traditional heavy concentrations of horses (York, Peel, Halton, Middlesex). Regional planners need to be aware of and prepared for expansion into these areas. There are opportunities to enhance the regional horse industry. Development strategies should be planned to encourage the growth and well-being of the local industry and the local economy.

Agribusiness and new **entrepreneurs** need to be aware of the tremendous size and economic impact of the horse industry in their county/municipality/region, so they can plan the future development of their businesses and recognize opportunities for growth.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE HORSE INDUSTRY IN ONTARIO

The tables on the following pages estimate the economic impact of the horse industry for each region, county/regional municipality and cities/town/villages of Ontario. These estimates are based on the 2006



Census horse numbers, adjusted by the 3.9 factor. No allowance has been made to the economic impact data for changes to the cost of living between 1995 and 2007.

SUMMARY

- There are 379,412 horses in Ontario on 48,099 facilities.
- The annual economic impact is \$675.5 million.
- The total economic impact in fixed assets is \$6.9 billion.
- \$199.4 million are spent annually on hay, grain, and bedding.

Southern Ontario Region

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	48,099	379,412	675.7M	6.9B
SOUTHERN ONTARIO REGION	10,148	81,990	146.0M	1.5B
Hamilton-Wentworth Region	870	9,348	16.6M	170.6M
Niagara Regional Municipality	1,151	8,510	15.2M	155.3M
Fort Erie	133	1,158	2.1M	21.1M
Port Colborne	86	694	1.2M	12.7M
Wainfleet	137	1,065	1.9M	19.4M
West Lincoln	254	1,408	2.5M	25.7M
Pelham	160	1,459	2.6M	26.6M
Welland	20	152	0.27M	2.8M
Thorold	47	378	0.67M	6.9M
Niagara Falls	70	456	0.81M	8.3M
Niagara-on-the Lake	62	433	0.77M	7.9M
St. Catharines	20	121	0.22M	2.2M
Lincoln	129	1,030	1.8M	18.8M
Grimsby	35	156	0.28M	2.8M
Haldimand-Norfolk Region	1,236	8,432	15.0M	153.9M
Haldimand County	690	5,004	8.9M	91.3M
Norfolk County	546	3,428	6.1M	62.6M
Brant County	632	6,041	10.8M	110.3M
Oxford County	1,252	9,001	16.0M	164.3M
Norwich	285	1,981	3.5M	36.2M
South-West Oxford	234	1,599	2.8M	29.2M
Zorra	359	2,765	4.9M	50.5M
East Zorra-Tavistock	199	1,303	2.3M	23.8M
Blandford-Blenheim	176	1,353	2.4M	24.7M
Elgin County	1,014	8,502	15.1M	155.2M
Bayham	129	706	1.3M	12.9M
Malahide	332	2,340	4.2M	42.7M
Central Elgin	129	1,346	2.4M	24.6M
Southwold	121	1,127	2.0M	20.6M
Dutton/Dunwich	140	1,595	2.8M	29.1M
West Elgin	164	1,388	2.5M	25.3M
Chatham-Kent County	519	3,097	5.5M	56.5M

Southern Ontario Region (continued)

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Essex County	597	4,875	8.7M	89.0M
Leamington	47	269	0.48M	4.9M
Kingsville	109	679	1.2M	12.4M
Essex	152	1,552	2.8M	28.3M
Amherstburg	78	761	1.4M	13.9M
LaSalle	27	250	0.44M	4.6M
Tecumseh	31	398	0.71M	7.3M
Lakeshore				
Lambton County	1,076	7,500	13.4M	136.9M
St. Clair	300	2,024	3.6M	36.9M
Dawn-Euphemia	113	679	1.2M	12.4M
Brooke-Alvinston	121	920	1.6M	16.8M
Enniskillen	207	1,326	2.4M	24.2M
Sarnia	35	550	0.98M	10.0M
Plympton-Wyoming	168	1,154	2.1M	21.1M
Lambton Shores	70	460	0.82M	8.4M
Warwick				
Middlesex County	1,802	16,684	29.7M	304.5M
Southwest Middlesex	226	1,186	2.1M	21.6M
Strathroy-Caradoc	207	1,369	2.4M	25.0M
Thames Centre	413	3,814	6.8M	69.6M
Middlesex Centre	402	4,099	7.3M	74.8M
London	133	2,071	3.7M	37.8M
North Middlesex	191	1,143	2.0M	20.9M
Adelaide Metcalfe	133	690	1.2M	12.6M
Lucan Biddulph	98	2,313	4.1M	42.2M

Western Ontario Region

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	48,099	379,412	675.7M	6.9B
WESTERN ONTARIO REGION	19,024	153,301	273.0M	2.8B
Peel Regional Municipality	476	7,359	13.1M	134.3M
Mississauga	4	X	X	X
Brampton	43	X	X	X
Caledon	429	6,494	11.6M	118.5M
Dufferin County	1,061	9,309	16.6M	169.9M
East Garafraxa	176	2,009	3.6M	36.7M
Amaranth	230	1,642	2.9M	30.0M
East Luther Grand Valley	82	390	0.69M	7.1M
Mono	230	2,968	5.3M	54.2M
Mulmur	156	1,229	2.2M	22.4M
Melancthon	187	1,073	1.9M	19.6M
Wellington County	3,221	27,530	49.0M	502.4M
Puslinch	293	4,224	7.5M	77.1M
Guelph/Eramosa	312	4,278	7.6M	78.1M
Erin	441	6,131	10.9M	111.9M
Centre Wellington	488	3,463	6.2M	63.2M
Mapleton	776	4,427	7.9M	80.8M
Minto	339	1,759	3.1M	32.1M
Wellington North	573	3,249	5.8M	59.3M
Halton Regional Municipality	737	10,979	19.6M	200.4M
Oakville	31	850	1.5M	15.5M
Burlington	94	1,115	2.0M	20.3M
Milton	367	5,558	9.9M	101M
Halton Hills	246	3,455	6.2M	63.1M
Waterloo Regional Municipality	2,504	17,636	31.4M	321.9M
North Dumfries	98	1,626	2.9M	29.7M
Cambridge	31	X	X	X
Kitchener	8	X	X	X
Wilmont	195	1,778	3.2M	32.4M
Wellesley	1,271	8,642	15.4M	157.7M
Woolwich	901	5,394	9.6M	98.4M
Perth County	1,915	12,780	22.8M	233.2M
Perth South	211	1,942	3.5M	35.4M
West Perth	293	1,607	2.9M	29.3M
Perth East	998	6,150	11.0M	112.2M
North Perth	413	3,081	5.5M	56.2M

Western Ontario Region (continued)

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Huron County	1,899	12,890	23.0M	235.2M
South Huron	152	858	1.5M	15.7M
Bluewater	78	425	0.76M	7.8M
Central Huron	179	909	1.6M	16.6M
Huron East	289	1,377	2.5M	25.1M
Howick	386	3,342	6.0M	61.0M
Morris-Turnberry	320	2,512	4.5M	45.8M
North Huron	94	729	1.3M	13.3M
Ashfield-Colborne- Wawanosh	402	2,738	4.9M	50.0M
Bruce County	2,032	13,549	24.1M	247.3M
South Bruce	308	1,876	3.3M	34.2M
Huron-Kinloss	390	3,120	5.6M	56.9M
Kincardine	324	1,814	3.2M	33.1M
Brockton	351	2,196	3.9M	40.1M
Arran-Elderslie	339	1,989	3.5M	36.3M
Saugeen Shores	86	491	0.87M	9.0M
South Bruce Peninsula	148	1,490	2.7M	27.2M
North Bruce Peninsula	86	573	1.0M	10.5M
Grey County	3,062	21,754	38.7M	397.0M
West Grey	636	5,113	9.1M	93.3M
Southgate	612	3,935	7.0M	71.8M
Grey Highlands	624	4,419	7.9M	80.6M
Chatsworth	449	3,670	6.5M	67.0M
Blue Mountains	105	913	1.6M	16.7M
Meaford	281	2,051	3.7M	37.4M
Georgian Bluffs	250	1,654	2.9M	30.2M
Simcoe County	2,223	19,516	34.8M	356.2M
Adjala-Tosorontio	257	2,984	5.3M	54.5M
Clearview	273	2,133	3.8M	38.9M
New Tecumseth	183	1,759	3.1M	32.1M
Springwater	226	1,747	3.1M	31.9M
Bradford West Gwillimbury	82	729	1.3M	13.3M
Severn	207	1080	1.9M	19.7M
Innisfil	105	979	1.7M	17.9M
Ramara	125	948	1.7M	17.3M
Essa	164	1,977	3.5M	36.1M
Oro-Medonte	394	3,455	6.2M	63.1M
Tiny	109	784	1.4M	14.3M
Tay	98	940	1.7M	17.2M

Symbols: X - suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

Central Ontario Region

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investments in Fixed Assets ((Median = \$18,250/horse)
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	48,099	379,412	675.7M	6.9B
CENTRAL ONTARIO REGION	8,717	74,946	133.5M	1.4B
Hastings County	998	6,119	10.9M	111.7M
Tyendinaga	152	1,018	1.8M	18.6M
Belleville	121	788	1.4M	14.4M
Quinte West	195	1,427	2.5M	26.1M
Stirling-Rawdon	113	476	0.85M	8.7M
Centre Hastings	62	382	0.68M	7.0M
Tweed	129	745	1.3M	13.6M
Madoc	55	359	0.64M	6.5M
Marmora and Lake	55	382	0.68M	7.0M
Bancroft	55	257	0.46M	4.7M
Carlow/Mayo	27	90	0.16M	1.6M
Hastings Highlands	35	195	0.35M	3.6M
Prince Edward County	421	2,640	4.7M	48.2M
Northumberland County	870	5,959	10.6M	108.8M
Brighton	70	211	0.38M	3.8M
Cramahe	82	425	0.76M	7.8M
Hamilton	152	1,310	2.3M	23.9M
Port Hope	133	1,205	2.1M	22.0M
Alnwick/Haldimand	164	1,084	1.9M	19.8M
Trent Hills	269	1,724	3.1M	31.5M
Peterborough County	1,244	8,830	15.7M	161.1M
Asphodel-Norwood	156	1,174	2.1M	21.4M
Otonabee-South Monaghan	257	2,176	3.9M	39.7M
Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan	242	1,771	3.2M	32.3M
Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield	172	1,162	2.1M	21.2M
Douro-Dummer	285	1,825	3.3M	33.3M
Havelock-Belmont-Methuen	66	308	0.55M	5.6M
Galway-Cavendish and Harvey	66	413	0.74M	7.5M
Kawartha Lakes	1,626	11,739	20.9M	214.2M

Central Ontario Region (continued)

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investments in Fixed Assets ((Median = \$18,250/horse)
Durham Regional Municipality	1,747	18,147	32.3M	331.2M
Pickering	55	1,568	2.8M	28.6M
Whitby	74	706	1.3M	12.9M
Oshawa	47	1,264	2.3M	23.1M
Clarington	406	4,005	7.1M	73.1M
Scugog	394	3,764	6.7M	68.7M
Uxbridge	429	4,629	8.2M	84.5M
Brock	343	2,211	3.9M	40.4M
York Regional Municipality	1,049	16,735	29.8M	305.4M
Vaughan	86	1,197	2.1M	21.9M
Markham	43	644	1.1M	11.7M
Richmond Hill	39	1,127	2.0M	20.6M
Whitchurch-Stouffville	183	2,929	5.2M	53.5M
King	374	7,457	13.3M	136.1M
East Gwillimbury	164	1,899	3.4M	34.7M
Georgina	160	1,482	2.6M	27.0M
Muskoka District Municipality	257	1,841	3.3M	33.6M
Gravenhurst	66	585	1.0M	10.7M
Bracebridge	70	476	0.85M	8.7M
Huntsville	70	484	0.86M	8.8M
Muskoka Lakes	51	296	0.53M	5.4M
Haliburton County	82	382	0.68M	7.0M
Highlands East	20	78	0.14M	1.4M
Minden Hills	62	304	0.54M	5.6M
Parry Sound District	421	2,555	4.5M	46.6M
Seguin	20	55	97,242	1.0M
Armour	16	109	0.19M	2.0M
Ryerson	23	113	0.20M	2.1M
McKellar	43	152	0.27M	2.8M
Whitstone	27	183	0.33M	3.3M
Magnetawan	55	413	0.74M	7.5M
Strong	74	300	0.53M	5.5M
Machar	27	320	0.57M	5.8M
Powassan	78	616	1.1M	11.2M
Nipissing	27	176	0.31M	3.2M
Parry Sound, Unorganized, Centre	31	117	0.21M	2.1M

Eastern Ontario Region

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	48,099	379,412	675.7M	6.9B
EASTERN ONTARIO REGION	7,753	51,597	91.9M	941.6M
Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry				
	1,260	7,332	13.1M	133.8M
South Glengarry	211	1,271	2.3M	23.2M
South Stormont	195	1,490	2.7M	27.2M
South Dundas	148	897	1.6M	16.4M
North Dundas	238	1,061	1.9M	19.4M
North Stormont	168	725	1.3M	13.2M
North Glengarry	300	1,888	3.4M	34.4M
Prescott and Russell Unit				
	764	5,187	9.2M	94.7M
East Hawkesbury	137	807	1.4M	14.7M
Champlain	90	558	0.99M	10.2M
Alfred and Plantagenet	148	1,170	2.1M	21.4M
The Nation	183	1,147	2.0M	20.9M
Clarence-Rockland	129	1,123	2.0M	20.5M
Russell	78	382	0.68M	7.0M
Ottawa-Charlton Region				
	1,303	11,240	20.0M	205.1M
Leeds and Grenville Unit				
	1,427	9,715	17.3M	177.3M
Edwardsburgh/Cardinal	140	940	1.7M	17.2M
Augusta	160	991	1.8M	18.1M
Elizabethtown-Kitley	218	1,088	1.9M	19.9M
Front of Yonge	27	179	0.32M	3.3M
Leeds and the Thousand Islands	187	1,248	2.2M	22.8M
Rideau Lakes	254	1,568	2.8M	28.6M
Athens	39	176	0.31M	3.2M
Merrickville-Wolford	137	784	1.4M	14.3M
North Grenville	265	2,742	4.9M	50.0M
Lanark County				
	901	5,772	10.3M	105.3M
Montague	125	1,158	2.1M	21.1M
Drummond/North Elmsley	176	952	1.7M	17.4M
Tay Valley	94	706	1.3M	12.9M
Beckwith	101	577	1.0M	10.5M
Mississippi Mills	265	1,541	2.7M	28.1M
Lanark Highlands	140	839	1.5M	15.3M

Eastern Ontario Region (continued)

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Frontenac County	581	3,931	7.0M	71.7M
Frontenac Islands	51	472	0.84M	8.6M
Kingston	164	1,135	2.0M	20.7M
South Frontenac	250	1,619	2.9M	29.5M
Central Frontenac	117	706	1.3M	12.9M
Lennox and Addington County	573	3,732	6.6M	68.1M
Loyalist	129	706	1.3M	12.9M
Greater Napanee	234	1,907	3.4M	34.8M
Stone Mills	199	1,006	1.8M	18.4M
Addington Highlands	12	113	0.20M	2.1M
Renfrew County	944	4,688	8.3M	85.6M
McNab/Braeside	133	647	1.2M	11.8M
Greater Madawaska	27	47	83,350	0.85M
Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan	55	144	0.26M	2.6M
Madawaska Valley	16	39	69,459	0.71M
Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards	23	70	0.13M	1.3M
Bonnechere Valley	74	347	0.62M	6.3M
Admaston/Bromley	113	733	1.3M	13.4M
Horton	55	386	0.69M	7.0M
Whitewater Region	218	1,279	2.3M	23.3M
North Algona Wilberforce	66	195	0.35M	35.6M
Laurentian Valley	125	640	1.1M	11.7M
Laurentian Hills	39	160	0.28M	2.9M

Northern Ontario Region

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	48,099	379,412	675.7M	6.9B
NORTHERN ONTARIO REGION	2,457	17,577	31.3M	320.8M
Nipissing District				
	355	2,266	4.0M	41.4M
Calvin	59	390	0.69M	7.1M
Bonfield	39	300	0.53M	5.5M
Chisholm	101	686	1.2M	12.5M
East Ferris	23	234	0.42M	4.3M
West Nipissing	133	655	1.2M	12.0M
Manitoulin District				
	164	878	1.6M	16.0M
Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands	144	835	1.5M	15.2M
Gordon	20	43	76,404	0.78M
Sudbury District				
	148	1,244	2.2M	22.7M
French River	8	X	X	X
St. Charles	23	X	X	X
Markstay-Warren	59	577	1.0M	10.5M
Sables-Spanish Rivers	59	296	0.53M	5.4M
Greater Sudbury Region				
	230	1,899	3.4M	34.7M
Timiskaming District				
	394	2,488	4.4M	45.4M
Harris	23	140	0.25M	2.6M
Timiskaming Shores	82	745	1.3M	13.6M
Hudson	12	51	90,297	0.93M
Kerns	35	98	0.17M	1.8M
Harley	23	152	0.27M	2.8M
Casey	23	207	0.37M	3.8M
Brethour	12	27	48,621	0.50M
Hilliard	12	X	X	X
Armstrong	8	X	X	X
Charlton and Dack	20	148	0.26M	2.7M
Evanturel	27	230	0.41M	4.2M
Chamberlain	27	203	0.36M	3.7M
Timiskaming, Unorganized, West Part	90	359	0.64M	6.5M
Cochrane				
	156	819	1.5M	14.9M
Timmins	51	374	0.67M	6.8M
Cochrane, Unorganized, North Part	105	445	0.79M	8.1M

Northern Ontario Region (continued)

Region County/Regional Municipality City/Town/Village	Estimated Number of Farms	Estimated Number of Horses	Annual Economic Impact (Median = \$1,781/horse)	Investment in Fixed Assets (Median = \$18,250/horse)
Algoma District	374	3,214	5.7M	58.6M
St. Joseph	62	343	0.61M	6.3M
Laird	39	831	1.5M	15.2M
Johnson	47	359	0.64M	6.5M
Plummer Additional	31	113	0.20M	2.1M
Huron Shores	70	398	0.71M	7.3M
Macdonald, Meredith and Aberdeen Additional	35	476	0.85M	8.7M
Sault Ste. Marie	35	398	0.71M	7.3M
Algoma, Unorganized, North Part	55	296	0.53M	5.4M
Thunder Bay District	238	2,051	3.7M	37.4M
Neebing	31	X	X	X
Thunder Bay	8	X	X	X
Oliver Paipoonge	109	987	1.8M	18.0M
O'Connor	23	277	0.49M	5.1M
Thunder Bay, Unorganized	66	538	0.96M	9.8M
Rainy River District	285	1,669	3.0M	30.5M
Alberton	16	117	0.21M	21.4M
La Vallee	39	308	0.55M	5.6M
Emo	55	296	0.53M	54.1M
Chapple	55	176	0.31M	3.2M
Morley	39	121	0.22M	2.2M
Dawson	39	199	0.35M	3.6M
Rainy River, Unorganized	43	452	0.81M	8.3M
Kenora District	113	1,049	1.9M	19.1M

Symbols: X - suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

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Agricultural Statistics for Ontario -
www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/stats/census/index.html

Summary tables for the 2006 Census -
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