

LOCAL ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE

How our food system operates from land and sea to table.

What makes up our local food economy and infrastructure?

The diversity of the Halifax region's food economy and the strength of individuals all along the supply chain are significant determinants of the resilience and self-reliance of the food system. A healthy, just, and sustainable food system for all is economically, environmentally, and socially viable for everyone involved including farmers, fishers, workers, and consumers.

What does the Halifax municipality's local food economy and infrastructure include?



Local food production & consumption, urban & rural agriculture, fisheries, processing, labour, distribution, and farmer's markets.

Within the Halifax municipality over half of farm operators are age 55 years and older, and only 8% are 35 years or younger.

Despite the income from farm sales, about half (45%) of farmers work outside the farm, typically 30+ hours per week.



Local Food System Infrastructure

41 community gardens & growing

3 urban farms
(equivalent to 6 football fields)



~40 beekeepers
& 250 colonies



6 greenhouses



3 chicken keepers on Halifax peninsula
and **dozens** others in rural parts of Halifax municipality

164 farms
run by 235 operators



3 of which are certified organic farms



A rich fishing history exists in Nova Scotia with several fishing communities located within the Halifax municipality.



22 fish processing plants

1 meat processing plant

1 master distributor [Sysco]

4 commodity distributors [seafood, bread, dairy]

On a typical day in July & August 2013 between 486 and 9,482 people attended farmers markets within Halifax municipality.



Only a small percentage of our total food dollars is returned to Nova Scotia farmers.



~17%
(1997)



~13%
(2011)

LOCALECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE

For further information and sources download a copy of the Halifax Food Assessment at: www.cdha.nshealth.ca/public-health/halifax-food-assessment