



MEASURE **environmental** TRENDS



Think About

What type of farm interests you most? Why?

Three horizontal dashed lines on a light beige background for writing.



Investigate


Numbers and statistics can give us information about the sizes of farms and what and how much they produce. They can also build understandings about trends and challenges in agriculture.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada uses **agri-environmental indicators**. These are measurements of important environmental conditions and changes from agricultural activities.

Create your own bar graphs, using the statistics from each of the agri-environmental indicator charts that follow. Your bar graphs will show the change of the condition over time.

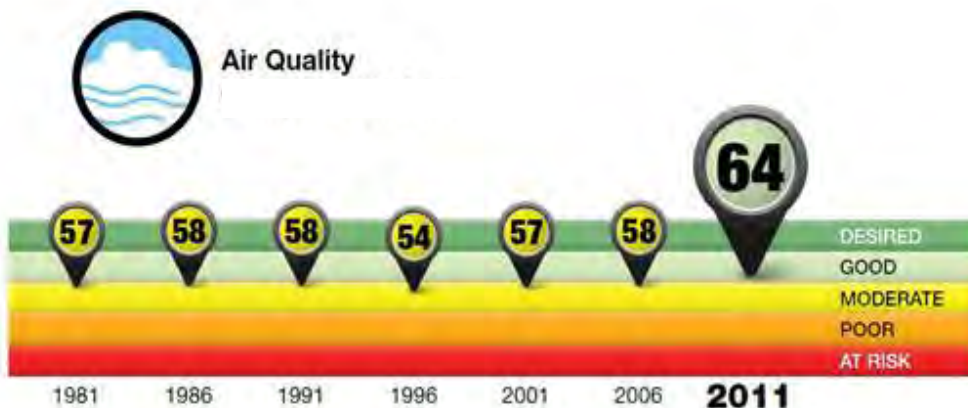
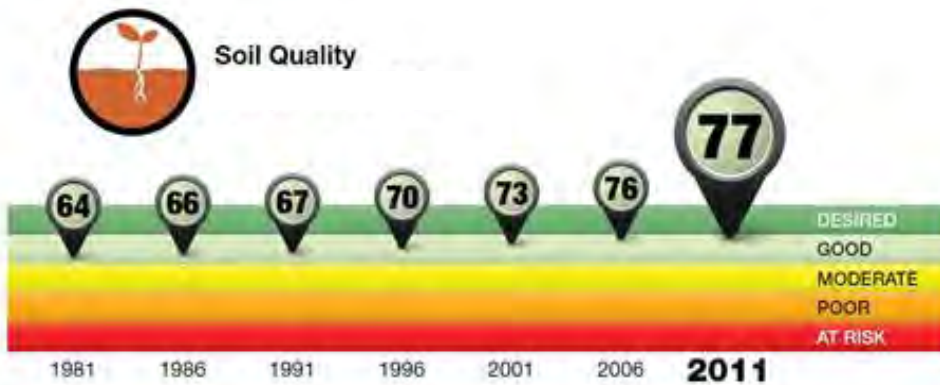
- ◆ Each number shows how good or bad the environmental condition is. A score of 100 is the best.
- ◆ The bottom of the chart shows the year.
- ◆ The bubbles in the chart show the score for the year.
- ◆ The bottom of the chart ranks the score, from at-risk to desired.

How do sustainability trends affect farming and food production? Go to www.projectagriculture.ca/elementary to find the carousel slide with this guiding question in the **trending** NOW topic. Use the information in the carousel slide and the **Trending Environments Learning Source** to help you complete these learning tasks.



These indicators are the latest statistics that are available from **Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**. They are still used to discuss and monitor the trends that happened over a longer period of time in the quality of water, soil and air. These indicators show trends over a 30 year period.

Use the **Grid Graph** to help you create your bar graphs. Then, answer the questions that follow.



From Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: *Environmental Sustainability of Canadian Agriculture: Agri-Environmental Indicator Report Series – Report #4*. This is a copy of an official work that is published by the Government of Canada and has not been produced in affiliation with, or with the endorsement of, the Government of Canada.

What do your bar graphs tell you about trends in environmental sustainability practices?

Handwritten response area with five horizontal dashed lines on a tan background.

Which three environmental factors do you think would be most important to consider for the type of farm that interests you most? Rank them first, second and third.

Handwritten response area with three numbered lines (1., 2., 3.) and horizontal dashed lines on a tan background.

Why did you rank each factor this way?

Handwritten response area with three numbered lines (1., 2., 3.) and horizontal dashed lines on a tan background.

What changes do you think you would see in water, soil and air quality since 2011?

--	--	--



Self-Check

	Yes	Sometimes	Not yet
I make connections from my experiences and prior learning to new learning.			
I identify how agricultural activities add value to my quality of life.			
I share what I have learned in new and creative ways.			
I make connections between agricultural trends and ways of life in Alberta and Canada.			
When I gather information and materials on a topic, I create a way to show my understanding.			