

Pluriactivité: A retro-prospective

Presentation to

Rural Transformations in Troubled Times: A Policy Decade in Review

The 10th Anniversary Conference of the
International Comparative Rural Policy Seminar
June 22-23, 2013
Bertinoro, Italy

Ray D. Bollman

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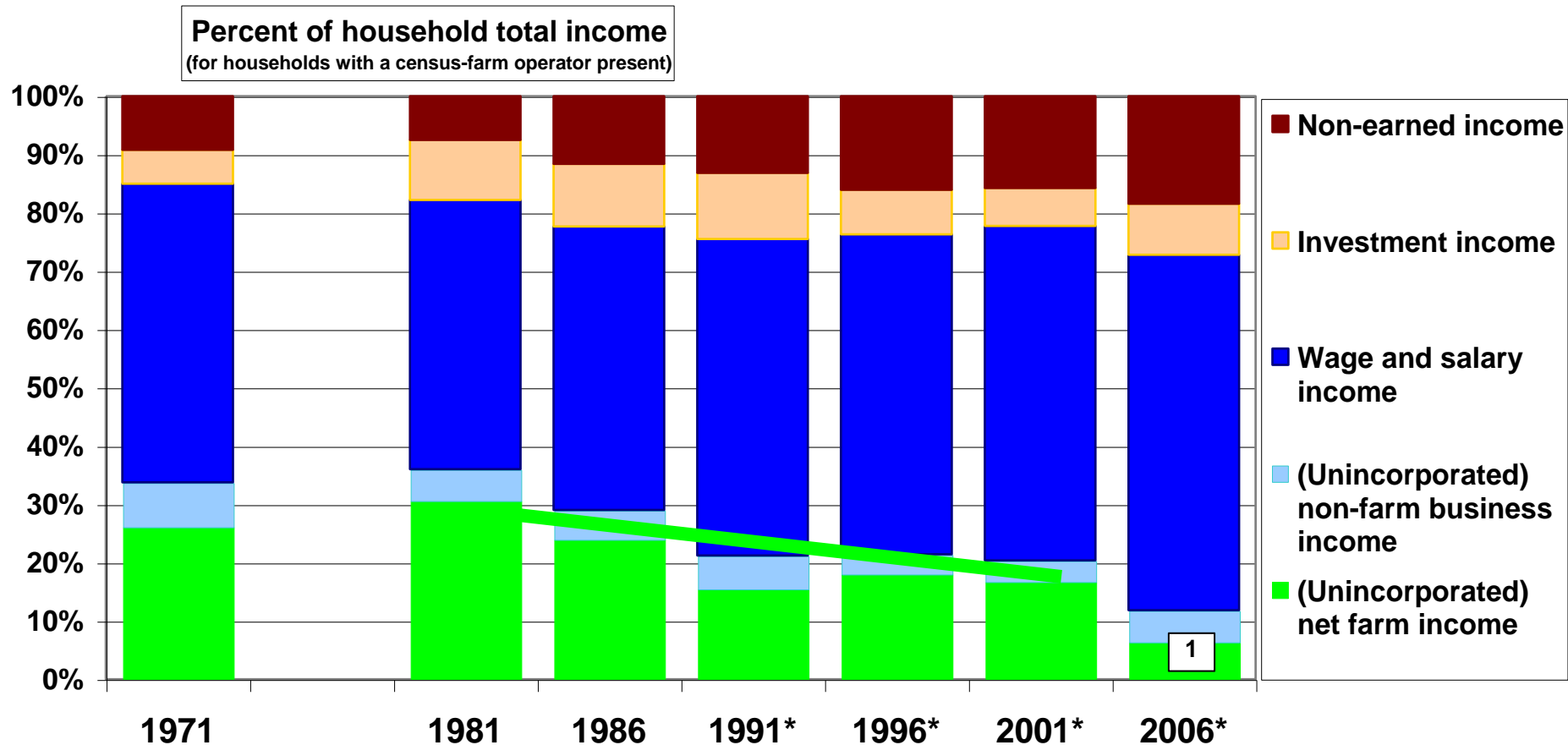
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The short(er) story

1. Share of farm family income from net farm income is declining
2. But when income received by families from the incorporated farm is taken into account
 - The share of family income from farming activity and from non-farming activity has not changed (much)
3. Increase in share of “wives” with a non-farm occupation
4. (Very) small increase in share of “husbands” with a non-farm occupation
5. In the longer-run, (very) little increase in share of operators with off-farm work
6. And there has been a decline in non-farm activities on the farm
7. Thus, pluriactivité of operators appears the same now as in the 1920s

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The contribution of (unincorporated) net farm income to the total income of households with a census-farm operator present has declined (although constant in the 1990s), Canada



1. There was a break in the farm income series in 2006 because 79% of the operators chose the option to have Statistics Canada obtain their income data from their income tax form and the latter did not have rounded income estimates (e.g. \$20,000) and the latter had more operators reporting the maximum loss of \$-8,750 that is allowed for a taxfiler with non-farm earnings as the major source of income. Statistics Canada. (2008) **Break in the Agriculture-Population Linkage net farm income data series** (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 95-633) (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/95-633-x/2007000/6500081-eng.htm>)

* More than one operator per census-farm may be reported and, if they live in different households, there will be more than one household per census-farm.

Source: Statistics Canada. Agriculture-Population Linkage, 1971 to 2006.

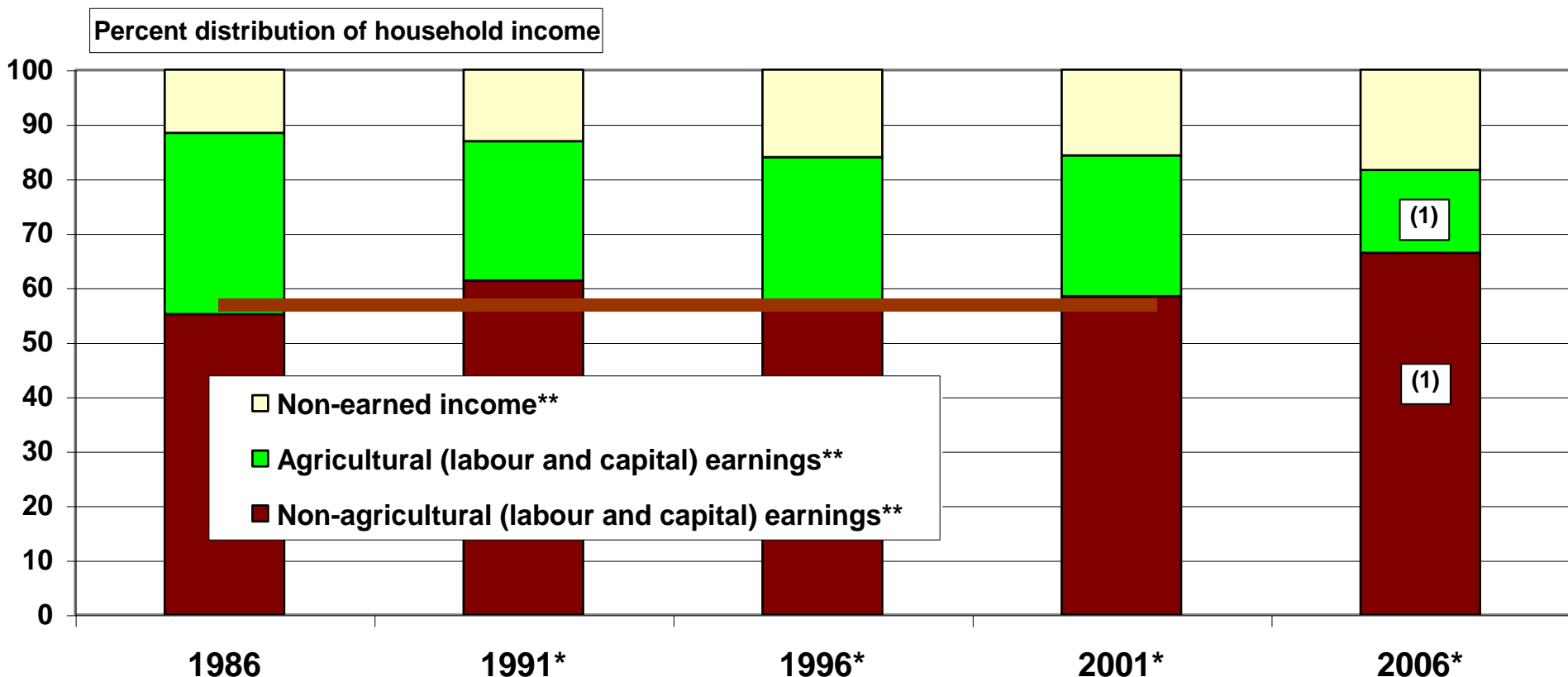
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Non-agricultural (labour and capital) earnings were 55% to 61% of the total income of census-farm operator households from 1986 to 2001, Canada



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** Total household income is allocated as "agricultural" and "non-agricultural" earnings and non-earned income according to the algorithm described in Appendix D.

Source: Statistics Canada. Agriculture-Population Linkage, 1986 to 2006.

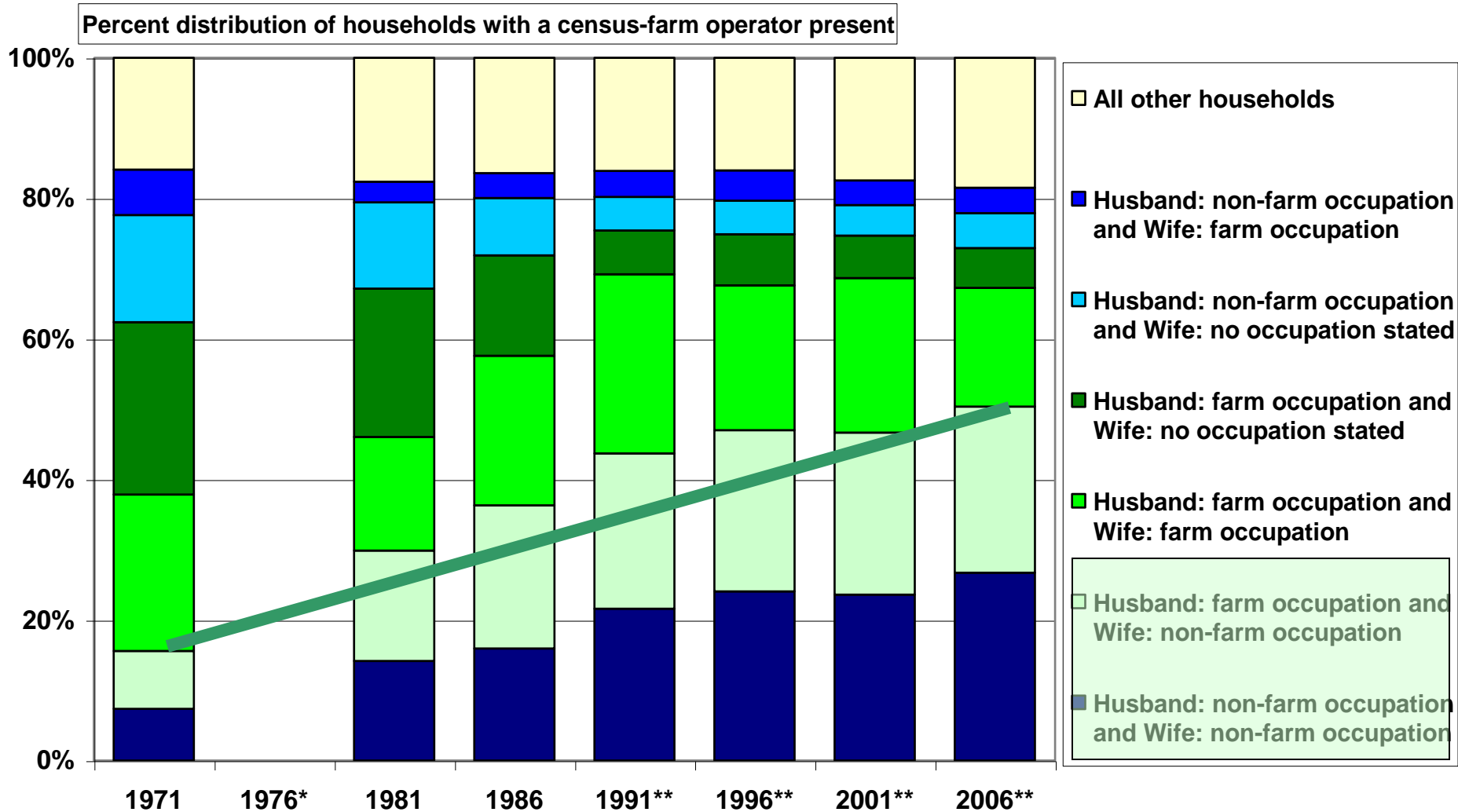
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In 2006, 51% of census-farm operator households reported the "wife" with a non-farm occupation (up from 15% in 1971), Canada



* There was no Agriculture-Population Linkage in 1976.

** Starting in 1991, up to three operators could be identified for each census-farm.

In cases where the operators lived in different households, we will have more than one household per census-farm.

Source: Statistics Canada. Agriculture-Population Linkage, 1971 to 2006.

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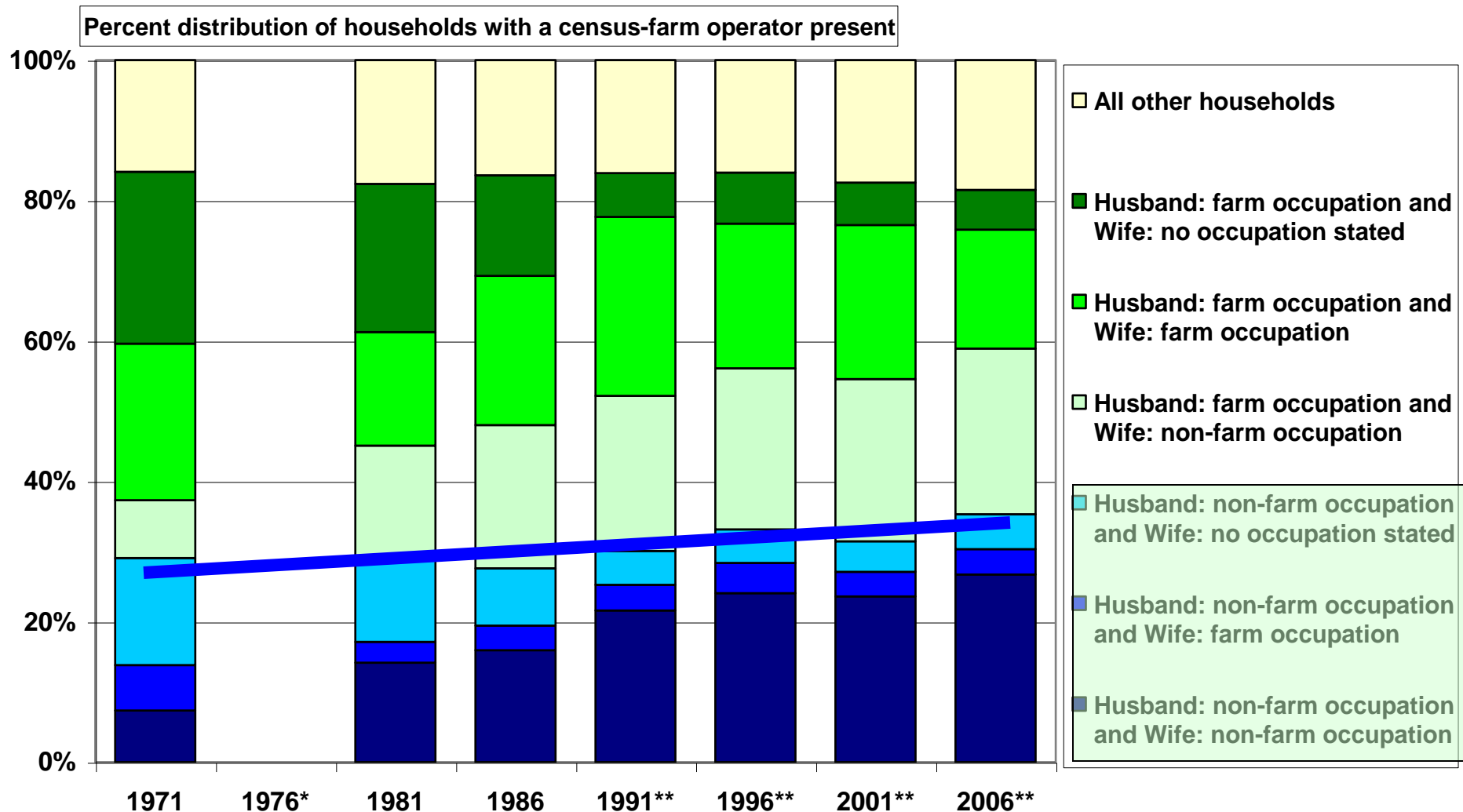
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3. Increase in share of “wives” with a non-farm occupation

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In 2006, 34% of census-farm operator households reported the "husband" with a non-farm occupation (up from 28% in 1971), Canada



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In cases where the operators lived in different households, we will have more than one household per census-farm.

Source: Statistics Canada. Agriculture-Population Linkage, 1971 to 2006.

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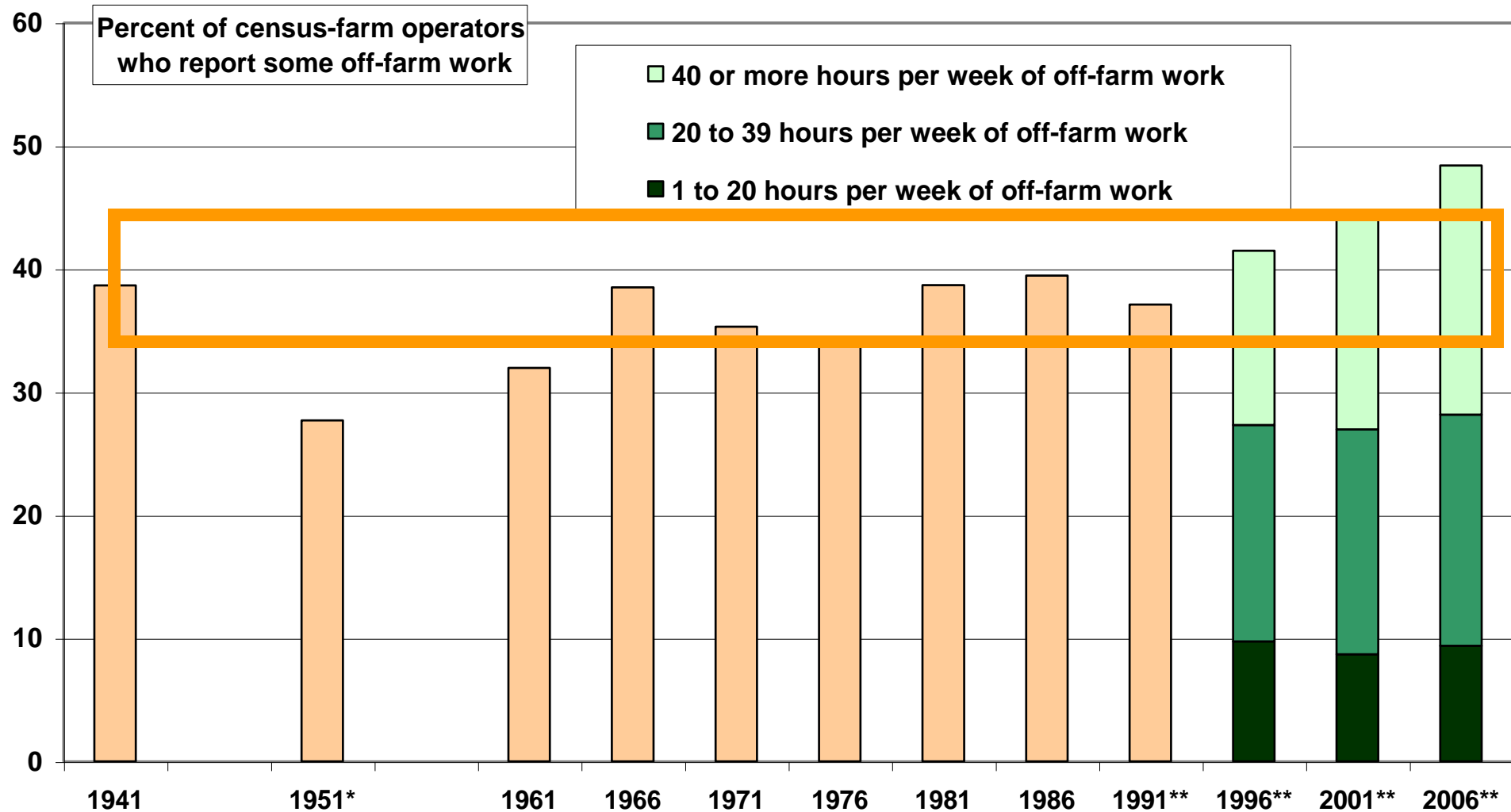
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4. **(Very) small increase in share of “husbands” with a non-farm occupation**

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Since 1941, 35 to 45 percent of census-farm operators have reported some off-farm work, Canada



* 1951 appears low, in part, because the definition of a census-farm in 1951 excluded smaller holdings that were included in 1941 and in subsequent censuses.

** More than one operator may be identified for each census-farm.

Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture, 1941 to 2006.

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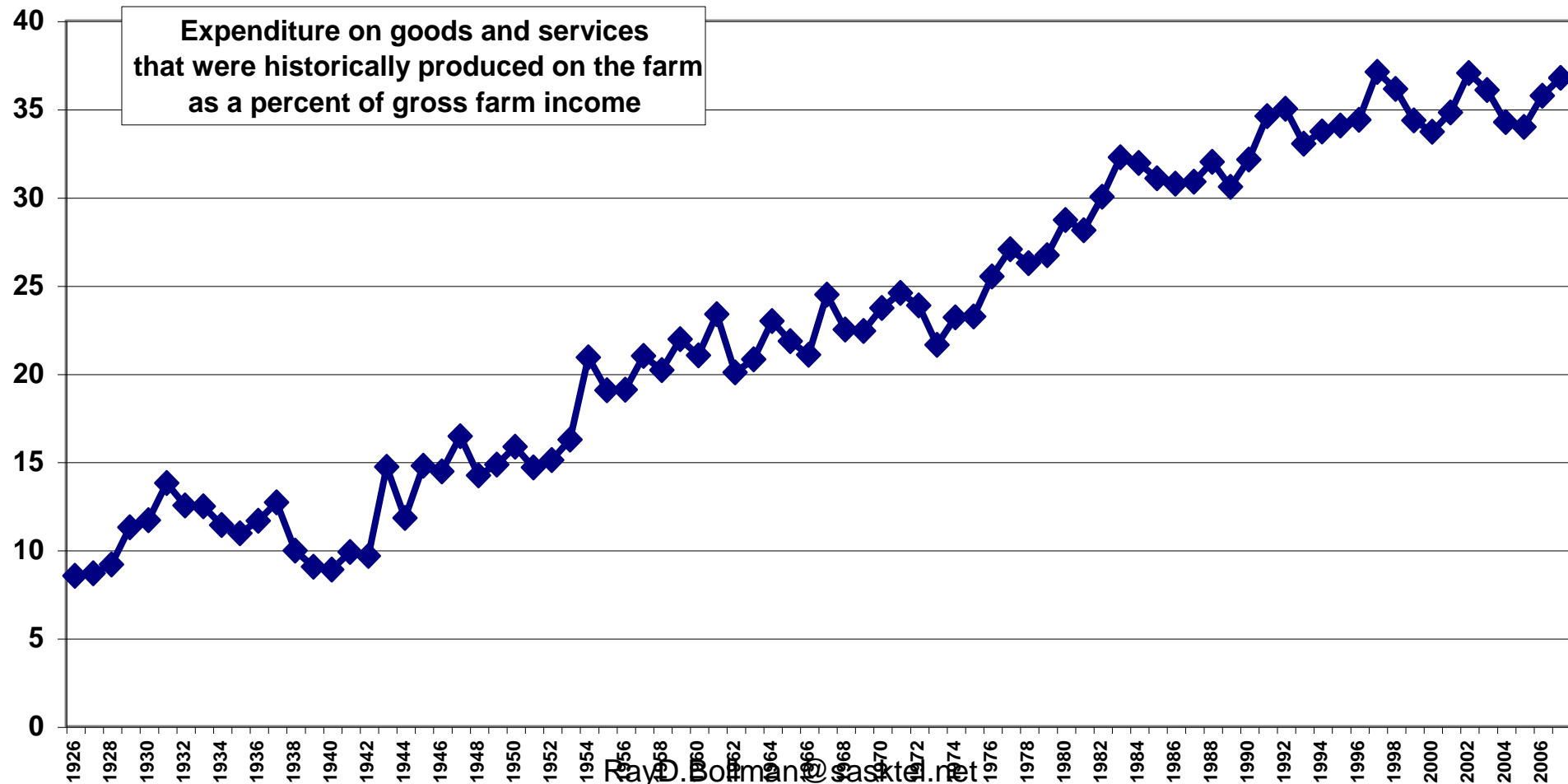
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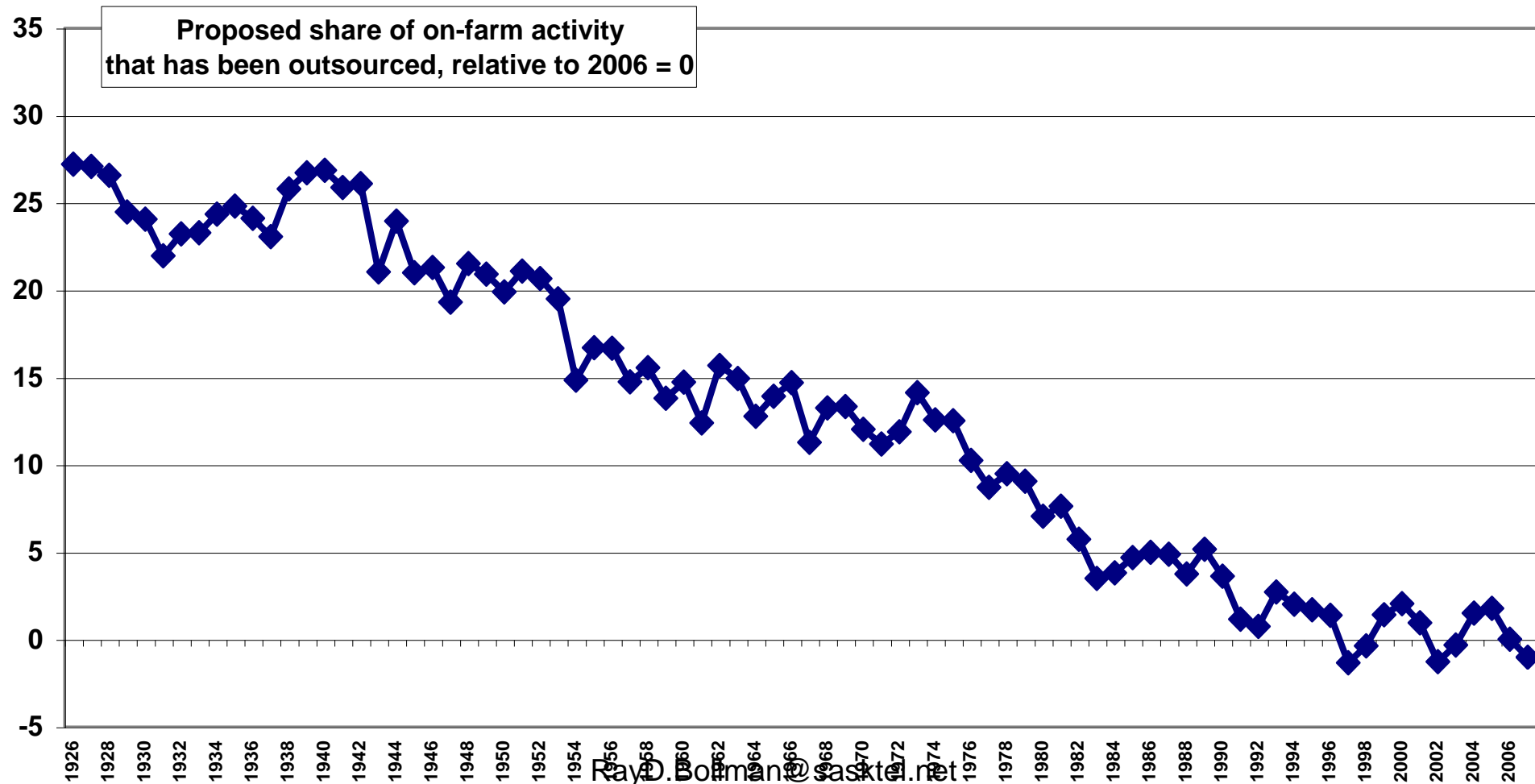
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By the beginning of the 1990s, the expenditure on goods and services that have been "outsourced" (i.e. items historically produced on the farm) reached one-third of the value of gross farm income, Canada



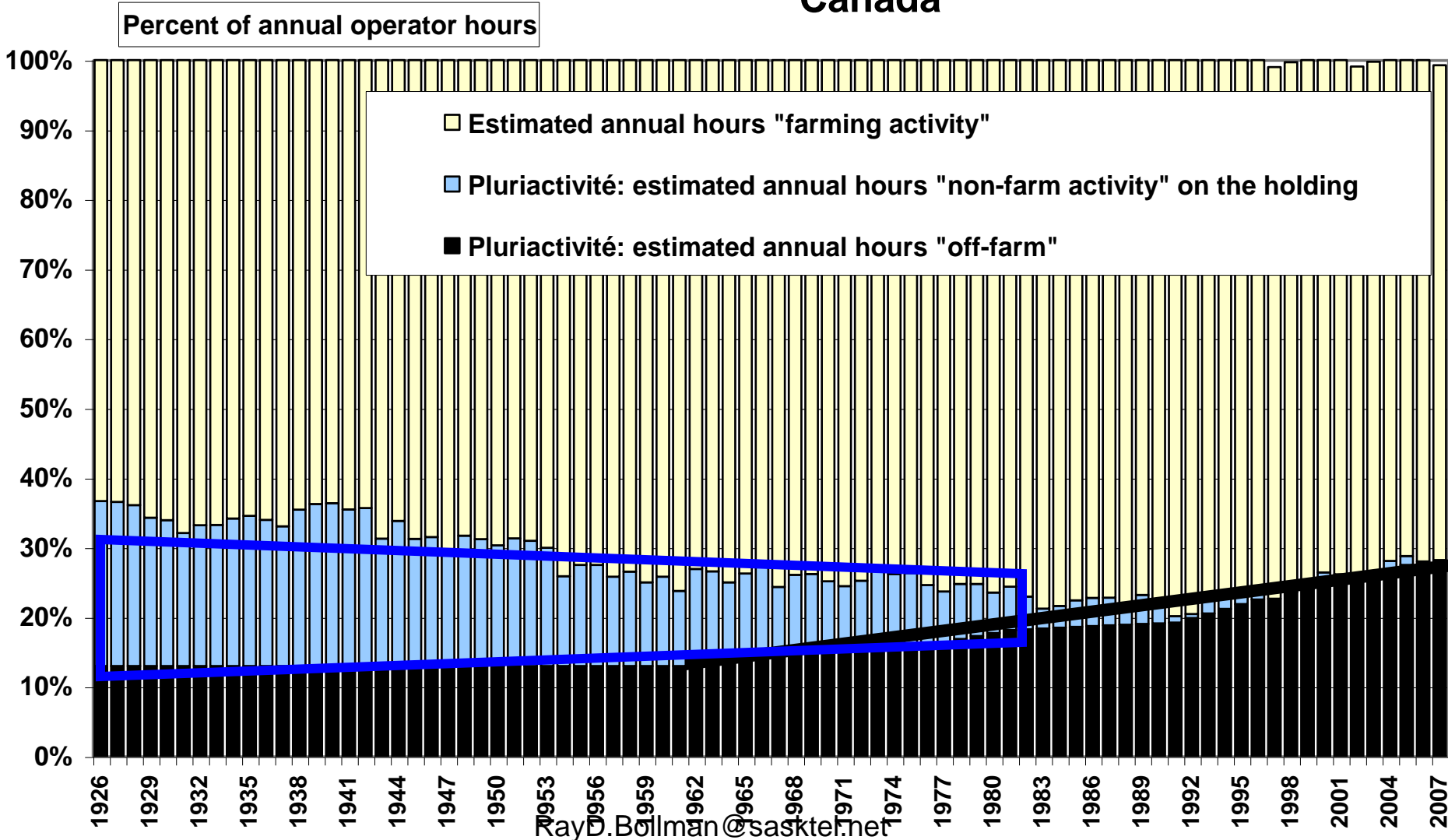
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Relative to 2006=zero, over 20% of farming activity up to the 1950s may have been spent on activities that have since been outsourced, Canada



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Farm operator pluriactivité (i.e. work that is not a "farming activity") is estimated to have declined from the 1920s to the 1980s, Canada



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Questions / Discussion

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