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Farms and Land in Farms 2016 Summary

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2016 Farms and Land in Farms Highlights

The number of farms in the United States for 2016 is estimated at 2.06 million, down 8 thousand farms from 2015. Total land in farms, at 911 million acres, decreased 1 million acres from 2015. The average farm size for 2016 is 442 acres, up 1 acre from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2016 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2015 calendar year.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced but not sold. The 2012 Census of Agriculture showed that 428,810 farms or 20.3 percent of the 2.11 million farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 63.0 million acres or 6.9 percent of the 914.5 million acres of farmland.

Number of farms declined by 8 thousand from 2015. The number of farms in Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999 increased while all other sales classes declined slightly. Fifty percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales. Eighty percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. Eight percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

Changes in the number of farms by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999 at 1.03 million farms, declined by 5 thousand farms.
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999 at 621 thousand farms, declined by 2 thousand farms.
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999 at 145 thousand farms, declined by 4 hundred farms.
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999 at 98 thousand farms, increased by 4 hundred farms.
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999 at 82 thousand farms, declined by 5 hundred farms.
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more at 82 thousand farms, declined by 2 hundred farms.

The percent of all farms by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999: 50.1%
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999: 30.1%
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999: 7.0%
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999: 4.8%
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999: 4.0%
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more: 4.0%

Land in farms, at 911 million acres, was down 1 million acres from 2015. The biggest changes for 2016 are that producers in Sales Class \$250,000-\$499,999 operated 1.29 million more acres and those in Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more operated 1.01 million fewer acres. Similar to the previous year, in 2016 nearly 31 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with less than \$100,000 in sales. Forty-one percent of all farmland was operated by farms with sales of \$500,000 or more.

Farmland changes by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999 at 86.9 million acres, declined by 850 thousand acres.
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999 at 192.0 million acres, increased by 410 thousand acres.
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999 at 129.9 million acres, declined by 940 thousand acres.
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999 at 127.1 million acres, increased by 1.29 million acres.
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999 at 156.5 million acres, increased by 100 thousand acres.
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more at 218.6 million acres, declined by 1.01 million acres.

Percent of all farmland by sales class are:

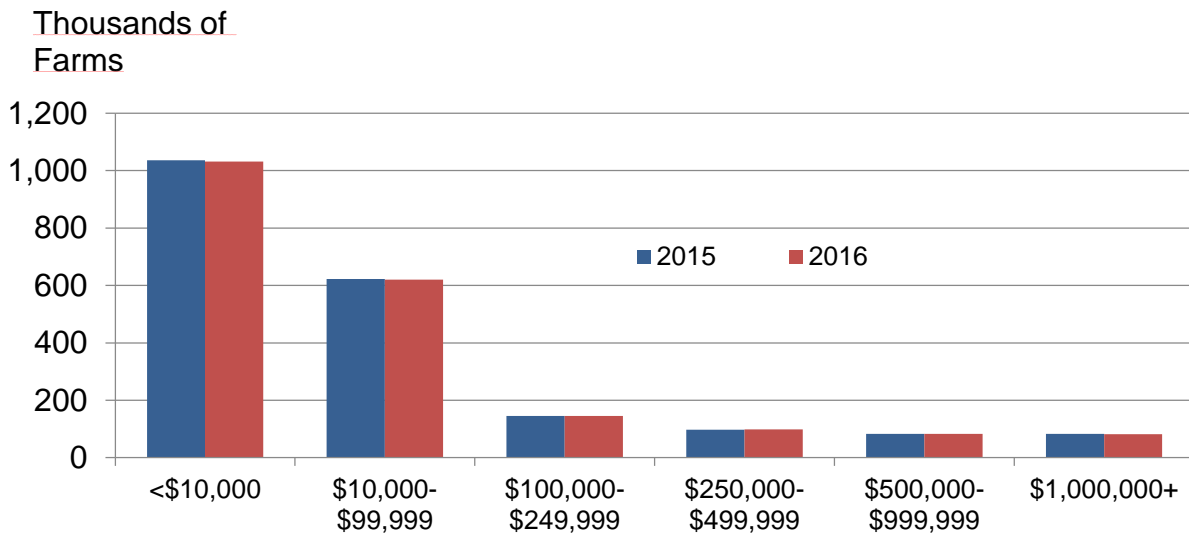
- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999: 9.5%
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999: 21.1%
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999: 14.3%
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999: 14.0%
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999: 17.2%
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more: 24.0%

The **average farm size** continued to increase in 2016 as the number of farms declined more than land in farms. The overall average size increased by 1 acre to 442 acres per farm. Average farm sizes increased in the \$10,000 - \$99,999, \$250,000 - \$499,999, and \$500,000 - \$999,999 sales classes and decreased in the others.

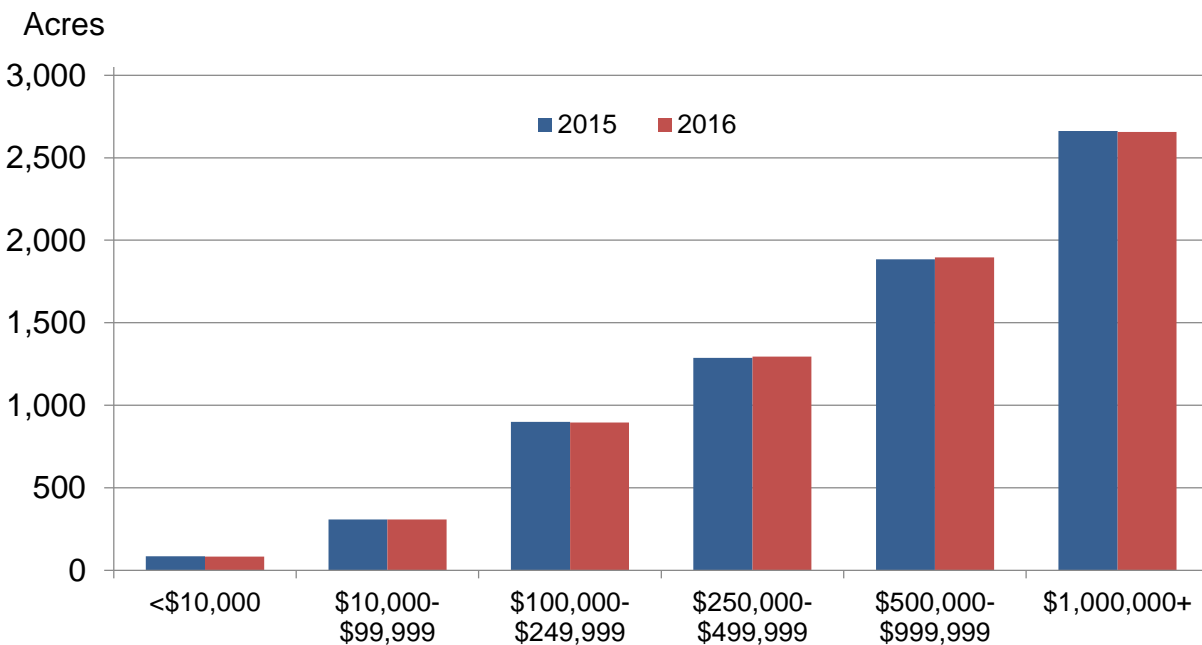
Average farm size by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999: 84 acres
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999: 309 acres
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999: 896 acres
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999: 1,296 acres
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999: 1,897 acres
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more: 2,656 acres

Number of Farms by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2015 and 2016

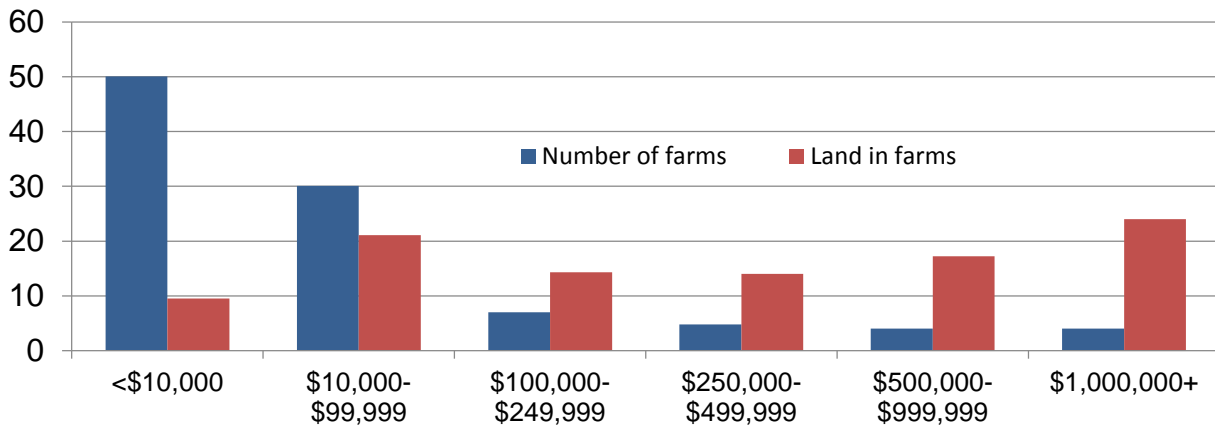


Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2015 and 2016



Farms and Land in Farms by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2016

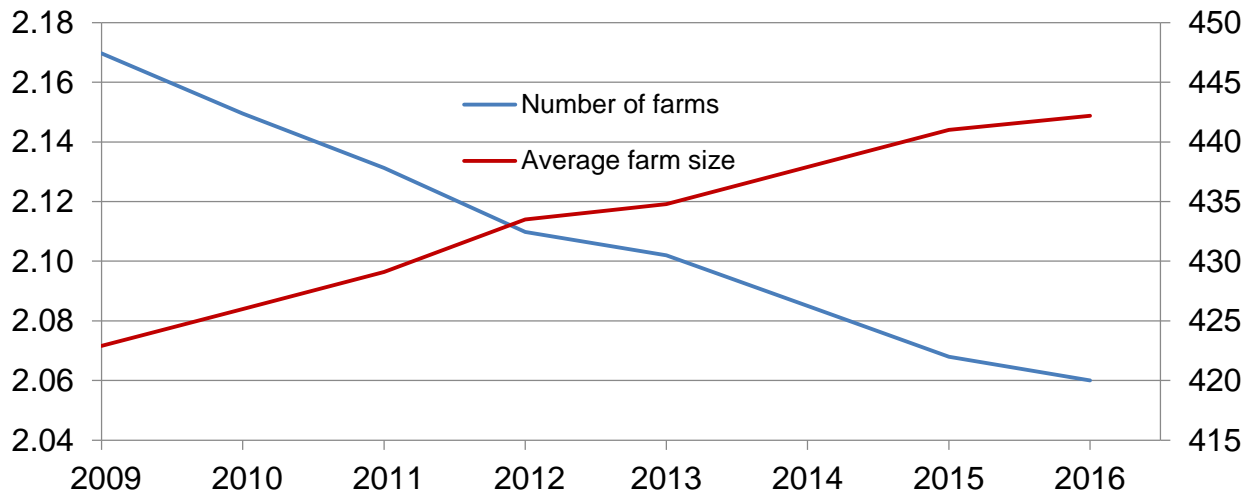
Percent of total



Number of Farms and Average Farm Size – United States: 2009-2016

Millions of farms

Average farm size



Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size – United States: 2009-2016

Year	Number of farms	Land in farms	Average farm size
	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)
2009	2,169,660	917,590	423
2010	2,149,520	915,660	426
2011	2,131,240	914,420	429
2012	2,109,810	914,600	433
2013	2,102,010	914,030	435
2014	2,085,000	913,000	438
2015	2,068,000	912,000	441
2016	2,060,000	911,000	442

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2015-2016

Economic sales class	Percent of total				Average farm size	
	Farms		Land in farms		2015	2016
	2015	2016	2015	2016		
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(acres)	(acres)
\$ 1,000 - \$ 9,999	50.1	50.1	9.6	9.5	85	84
\$ 10,000 - \$ 99,999	30.1	30.1	21.0	21.1	308	309
\$100,000 - \$249,999	7.0	7.0	14.3	14.3	900	896
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.7	4.8	13.8	14.0	1,288	1,296
\$500,000 - \$999,999	4.0	4.0	17.1	17.2	1,884	1,897
\$1,000,000 or more	4.0	4.0	24.1	24.0	2,662	2,656
Total ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	441	442

¹ May not add due to rounding.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015 (number)	2016 (number)	2015 (1,000 acres)	2016 (1,000 acres)	2015 (acres)	2016 (acres)
Alabama	43,200	44,000	8,900	8,900	206	202
Alaska	760	760	830	830	1,092	1,092
Arizona	19,500	19,600	26,000	25,900	1,333	1,321
Arkansas	43,500	43,000	13,800	13,700	317	319
California	77,400	76,700	25,400	25,400	328	331
Colorado	34,200	33,800	31,700	31,700	927	938
Connecticut	6,000	6,000	440	440	73	73
Delaware	2,500	2,500	500	500	200	200
Florida	47,300	47,100	9,450	9,410	200	200
Georgia	41,000	41,800	9,400	9,500	229	227
Hawaii	7,000	7,000	1,120	1,120	160	160
Idaho	24,400	24,300	11,800	11,800	484	486
Illinois	73,400	72,200	26,800	26,700	365	370
Indiana	57,700	57,500	14,700	14,700	255	256
Iowa	87,500	87,000	30,500	30,500	349	351
Kansas	60,400	59,600	46,000	45,900	762	770
Kentucky	76,400	76,000	13,000	12,900	170	170
Louisiana	26,900	26,900	7,750	7,750	288	288
Maine	8,200	8,200	1,450	1,450	177	177
Maryland	12,200	12,300	2,030	2,030	166	165
Massachusetts	7,800	7,800	520	520	67	67
Michigan	51,500	51,400	9,950	9,950	193	194
Minnesota	73,600	73,300	25,900	25,900	352	353
Mississippi	36,700	36,200	10,800	10,700	294	296
Missouri	97,100	96,800	28,300	28,500	291	294
Montana	27,500	27,400	59,700	59,700	2,171	2,179
Nebraska	48,700	48,400	45,200	45,200	928	934
Nevada	4,200	4,000	5,950	5,960	1,417	1,490
New Hampshire	4,400	4,400	470	470	107	107
New Jersey	9,100	9,100	720	720	79	79
New Mexico	24,700	24,600	43,200	43,200	1,749	1,756
New York	35,500	35,500	7,200	7,300	203	206
North Carolina	48,800	48,000	8,300	8,200	170	171
North Dakota	30,000	29,800	39,200	39,100	1,307	1,312
Ohio	74,400	74,500	14,000	14,000	188	188
Oklahoma	78,000	78,100	34,200	34,200	438	438
Oregon	34,600	34,400	16,400	16,300	474	474
Pennsylvania	57,900	58,200	7,700	7,630	133	131
Rhode Island	1,240	1,240	70	70	56	56
South Carolina	24,400	24,500	5,000	5,000	205	204
South Dakota	31,300	31,000	43,300	43,300	1,383	1,397
Tennessee	67,300	66,600	10,900	10,800	162	162
Texas	242,000	241,500	130,000	129,800	537	537
Utah	18,100	18,100	11,000	11,000	608	608
Vermont	7,300	7,300	1,250	1,250	171	171
Virginia	45,000	44,800	8,100	8,100	180	181
Washington	36,000	35,900	14,700	14,700	408	409
West Virginia	20,900	20,600	3,600	3,600	172	175
Wisconsin	68,900	68,700	14,400	14,400	209	210
Wyoming	11,600	11,600	30,400	30,300	2,621	2,612
United States	2,068,000	2,060,000	912,000	911,000	441	442

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Economic sales class: \$1,000-\$9,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama	25,000	25,700	2,650	2,650	106	103
Alaska	380	380	270	270	711	711
Arizona	14,700	14,800	700	600	48	41
Arkansas	21,700	21,500	1,650	1,700	76	79
California	30,400	29,500	1,400	1,300	46	44
Colorado	18,500	18,300	2,300	2,200	124	120
Connecticut	4,000	4,000	150	150	38	38
Delaware	870	870	20	20	23	23
Florida	27,100	27,000	1,240	1,240	46	46
Georgia	23,000	23,700	2,100	2,400	91	101
Hawaii	3,850	3,850	100	100	26	26
Idaho	12,200	12,100	800	800	66	66
Illinois	29,300	28,500	1,300	1,200	44	42
Indiana	27,500	27,600	960	930	35	34
Iowa	26,600	26,000	1,100	900	41	35
Kansas	22,000	21,400	2,400	2,400	109	112
Kentucky	42,000	41,500	2,800	2,800	67	67
Louisiana	16,200	16,200	1,180	1,180	73	73
Maine	5,000	5,000	480	480	96	96
Maryland	6,500	6,500	300	300	46	46
Massachusetts	5,000	5,000	210	210	42	42
Michigan	25,600	25,500	1,050	1,100	41	43
Minnesota	26,500	26,500	2,100	2,100	79	79
Mississippi	21,100	21,300	2,700	2,600	128	122
Missouri	44,200	44,200	3,700	3,900	84	88
Montana	11,600	11,500	2,800	2,700	241	235
Nebraska	12,500	12,000	800	900	64	75
Nevada	2,300	2,150	150	140	65	65
New Hampshire	3,100	3,100	240	240	77	77
New Jersey	5,600	5,600	160	160	29	29
New Mexico	16,200	16,100	4,200	4,100	259	255
New York	16,700	16,900	1,450	1,600	87	95
North Carolina	27,500	26,500	1,400	1,300	51	49
North Dakota	9,000	9,100	1,500	1,600	167	176
Ohio	33,300	33,200	1,600	1,600	48	48
Oklahoma	41,100	41,000	5,100	5,000	124	122
Oregon	21,000	20,900	1,500	1,440	71	69
Pennsylvania	26,100	26,300	1,800	1,800	69	68
Rhode Island	710	710	20	20	28	28
South Carolina	16,800	17,000	1,800	1,800	107	106
South Dakota	8,500	8,600	1,200	1,300	141	151
Tennessee	42,400	42,400	2,950	2,900	70	68
Texas	151,000	150,000	17,200	16,500	114	110
Utah	10,600	10,700	650	700	61	65
Vermont	4,050	4,050	340	340	84	84
Virginia	25,800	25,500	1,800	1,800	70	71
Washington	21,500	21,400	1,020	1,020	47	48
West Virginia	14,600	14,400	1,600	1,600	110	111
Wisconsin	30,500	30,400	1,950	1,950	64	64
Wyoming	5,000	5,000	900	900	180	180
United States	1,036,660	1,031,410	87,790	86,940	85	84

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Economic sales class: \$10,000-\$99,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama	13,300	13,300	3,400	3,450	256	259
Alaska	290	290	450	450	1,552	1,552
Arizona	3,350	3,350	8,200	8,000	2,448	2,388
Arkansas	14,100	13,700	3,600	3,600	255	263
California	26,400	26,200	4,200	4,400	159	168
Colorado	10,000	10,000	7,000	6,900	700	690
Connecticut	1,550	1,550	110	110	71	71
Delaware	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	14,600	14,500	1,900	1,850	130	128
Georgia	10,500	10,400	2,200	2,100	210	202
Hawaii	2,600	2,600	260	260	100	100
Idaho	7,000	7,000	2,050	2,050	293	293
Illinois	18,300	18,300	2,700	2,900	148	158
Indiana	15,500	15,300	1,830	1,900	118	124
Iowa	23,600	23,800	3,100	3,300	131	139
Kansas	21,500	21,300	8,000	8,300	372	390
Kentucky	27,400	27,600	4,700	4,700	172	170
Louisiana	7,300	7,300	1,800	1,800	247	247
Maine	2,400	2,400	400	400	167	167
Maryland	3,500	3,600	400	400	114	111
Massachusetts	2,000	2,000	140	140	70	70
Michigan	14,700	14,600	1,650	1,600	112	110
Minnesota	21,900	21,600	3,700	3,600	169	167
Mississippi	10,800	10,000	2,900	2,800	269	280
Missouri	38,300	38,500	8,700	9,300	227	242
Montana	7,800	7,900	8,800	8,900	1,128	1,127
Nebraska	13,900	13,500	4,800	4,700	345	348
Nevada	850	830	280	270	329	325
New Hampshire	1,050	1,050	150	150	143	143
New Jersey	2,350	2,350	160	160	68	68
New Mexico	6,200	6,200	11,300	11,100	1,823	1,790
New York	11,600	11,200	1,800	1,600	155	143
North Carolina	12,800	12,800	1,500	1,500	117	117
North Dakota	6,200	7,100	2,600	3,400	419	479
Ohio	25,300	25,300	2,650	2,650	105	105
Oklahoma	28,000	28,100	11,300	11,400	404	406
Oregon	9,100	9,000	2,860	2,830	314	314
Pennsylvania	19,400	19,800	2,300	2,280	119	115
Rhode Island	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina	5,500	5,400	1,300	1,300	236	241
South Dakota	9,400	9,300	4,900	4,900	521	527
Tennessee	20,200	19,500	3,700	3,600	183	185
Texas	71,000	71,000	41,700	41,000	587	577
Utah	5,500	5,500	1,900	2,000	345	364
Vermont	2,100	2,100	320	320	152	152
Virginia	14,200	14,200	2,800	2,800	197	197
Washington	8,400	8,400	1,900	1,900	226	226
West Virginia	5,400	5,400	1,400	1,400	259	259
Wisconsin	21,000	20,900	2,900	2,850	138	136
Wyoming	3,700	3,800	4,800	4,600	1,297	1,211
Other States ¹	1,010	1,010	60	60	(NA)	(NA)
United States	622,850	620,830	191,570	191,980	308	309

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes data withheld above.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Economic sales class: \$100,000-\$249,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama	1,100	1,150	750	800	682	696
Alaska	50	50	70	70	1,400	1,400
Arizona	590	570	11,200	11,300	18,983	19,825
Arkansas	1,600	1,900	1,000	1,200	625	632
California	6,100	6,300	3,700	3,700	607	587
Colorado	2,600	2,500	5,400	5,500	2,077	2,200
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	2,300	2,250	940	920	409	409
Georgia	1,400	1,500	630	630	450	420
Hawaii	280	280	160	160	571	571
Idaho	1,900	1,900	1,650	1,650	868	868
Illinois	8,500	8,500	2,900	3,100	341	365
Indiana	5,300	5,300	1,580	1,540	298	291
Iowa	10,400	10,300	3,000	2,900	288	282
Kansas	6,500	6,400	7,200	6,900	1,108	1,078
Kentucky	3,300	3,300	1,200	1,200	364	364
Louisiana	850	800	520	520	612	650
Maine	340	340	100	100	294	294
Maryland	600	600	230	230	383	383
Massachusetts	380	380	50	50	132	132
Michigan	4,100	4,200	1,050	1,100	256	262
Minnesota	8,500	8,600	2,500	2,600	294	302
Mississippi	1,000	1,100	600	700	600	636
Missouri	7,400	6,200	4,400	3,900	595	629
Montana	3,100	3,150	9,700	9,800	3,129	3,111
Nebraska	7,300	7,600	5,900	5,900	808	776
Nevada	270	260	600	580	2,222	2,231
New Hampshire	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey	450	450	80	80	178	178
New Mexico	1,050	1,050	7,600	7,700	7,238	7,333
New York	3,300	3,600	850	950	258	264
North Carolina	1,800	2,000	600	700	333	350
North Dakota	3,600	3,100	3,800	3,700	1,056	1,194
Ohio	7,100	7,200	1,950	1,950	275	271
Oklahoma	4,450	4,450	5,750	5,700	1,292	1,281
Oregon	1,700	1,700	2,900	2,900	1,706	1,706
Pennsylvania	5,600	5,500	1,050	1,040	188	189
Rhode Island	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina	600	600	270	270	450	450
South Dakota	4,200	4,100	5,300	5,200	1,262	1,268
Tennessee	2,000	2,000	800	850	400	425
Texas	8,700	8,700	21,600	20,500	2,483	2,356
Utah	900	800	1,400	1,300	1,556	1,625
Vermont	490	490	140	140	286	286
Virginia	1,950	2,050	1,000	1,000	513	488
Washington	2,150	2,200	1,550	1,550	721	705
West Virginia	400	350	240	240	600	686
Wisconsin	7,300	7,300	1,900	1,950	260	267
Wyoming	1,300	1,300	4,900	5,000	3,769	3,846
Other States ¹	530	530	100	100	(NA)	(NA)
United States	145,330	144,900	130,810	129,870	900	896

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes data withheld above.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Economic sales class: \$250,000-\$499,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama	900	950	450	400	500	421
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	230	240	2,600	2,600	11,304	10,833
Arkansas	1,200	1,000	650	600	542	600
California	4,600	4,700	2,500	2,400	543	511
Colorado	1,300	1,300	5,800	5,800	4,462	4,462
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	1,250	1,300	970	1,000	776	769
Georgia	900	1,000	470	470	522	470
Hawaii	120	120	60	60	500	500
Idaho	1,300	1,300	1,400	1,400	1,077	1,077
Illinois	7,300	7,000	4,500	4,400	616	629
Indiana	3,900	4,000	2,100	2,100	538	525
Iowa	9,700	9,700	5,100	4,900	526	505
Kansas	4,200	4,300	7,400	7,500	1,762	1,744
Kentucky	1,500	1,500	1,000	900	667	600
Louisiana	550	650	450	550	818	846
Maine	220	220	110	110	500	500
Maryland	650	650	250	250	385	385
Massachusetts	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	2,900	2,900	1,250	1,200	431	414
Minnesota	6,300	6,200	3,300	3,300	524	532
Mississippi	800	800	500	500	625	625
Missouri	3,000	3,500	3,400	3,400	1,133	971
Montana	2,500	2,450	12,200	12,300	4,880	5,020
Nebraska	5,300	5,600	7,500	7,700	1,415	1,375
Nevada	440	420	970	970	2,205	2,310
New Hampshire	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey	270	270	90	90	333	333
New Mexico	550	500	6,300	6,300	11,455	12,600
New York	1,800	1,700	800	750	444	441
North Carolina	1,500	1,600	700	700	467	438
North Dakota	3,000	3,000	5,100	5,300	1,700	1,767
Ohio	3,800	3,800	1,900	1,900	500	500
Oklahoma	2,050	2,100	4,550	4,600	2,220	2,190
Oregon	1,000	1,000	2,290	2,280	2,290	2,280
Pennsylvania	3,600	3,500	950	960	264	274
Rhode Island	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina	300	300	230	230	767	767
South Dakota	3,300	3,100	7,200	7,000	2,182	2,258
Tennessee	950	950	700	700	737	737
Texas	4,600	4,800	16,700	18,300	3,630	3,813
Utah	600	600	1,550	1,450	2,583	2,417
Vermont	350	350	150	150	429	429
Virginia	1,200	1,200	700	700	583	583
Washington	1,250	1,200	2,250	2,250	1,800	1,875
West Virginia	150	150	110	120	733	800
Wisconsin	4,900	4,800	2,050	2,050	418	427
Wyoming	850	800	6,400	6,300	7,529	7,875
Other States ¹	560	560	150	150	(NA)	(NA)
United States	97,640	98,080	125,800	127,090	1,288	1,296

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes data withheld above.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Economic sales class: \$500,000-\$999,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama	1,500	1,500	500	550	333	367
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	300	300	400	500	1,333	1,667
Arkansas	1,500	1,400	1,300	1,100	867	786
California	3,200	3,250	2,600	2,800	813	862
Colorado	900	800	5,400	5,400	6,000	6,750
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware	370	370	100	100	270	270
Florida	820	820	650	600	793	732
Georgia	2,900	2,900	1,680	1,620	579	559
Hawaii	70	70	240	240	3,429	3,429
Idaho	800	800	1,900	2,000	2,375	2,500
Illinois	5,500	5,400	6,300	6,100	1,145	1,130
Indiana	3,000	2,900	2,880	2,930	960	1,010
Iowa	9,900	10,000	8,700	8,900	879	890
Kansas	3,000	3,000	9,600	9,600	3,200	3,200
Kentucky	1,100	1,000	1,340	1,290	1,218	1,290
Louisiana	900	850	1,000	900	1,111	1,059
Maine	110	110	90	90	818	818
Maryland	400	400	250	260	625	650
Massachusetts	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	2,350	2,350	1,800	1,800	766	766
Minnesota	5,100	5,100	4,800	4,900	941	961
Mississippi	1,100	1,100	950	1,000	864	909
Missouri	2,300	2,400	4,000	4,000	1,739	1,667
Montana	1,500	1,450	13,600	13,500	9,067	9,310
Nebraska	4,900	5,000	9,800	9,800	2,000	1,960
Nevada	180	180	1,050	1,100	5,833	6,111
New Hampshire	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey	210	210	80	80	381	381
New Mexico	370	370	8,100	8,300	21,892	22,432
New York	1,000	1,000	650	650	650	650
North Carolina	1,600	1,600	950	950	594	594
North Dakota	4,700	4,200	10,800	10,100	2,298	2,405
Ohio	2,850	2,850	2,400	2,400	842	842
Oklahoma	1,350	1,400	4,000	3,900	2,963	2,786
Oregon	850	800	2,650	2,650	3,118	3,313
Pennsylvania	1,950	1,850	750	750	385	405
Rhode Island	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina	400	400	450	450	1,125	1,125
South Dakota	3,500	3,500	11,300	11,500	3,229	3,286
Tennessee	850	850	850	900	1,000	1,059
Texas	3,400	3,700	15,100	15,400	4,441	4,162
Utah	240	240	4,500	4,550	18,750	18,958
Vermont	160	160	90	90	563	563
Virginia	1,050	1,050	830	830	790	790
Washington	1,050	1,050	2,930	2,880	2,790	2,743
West Virginia	170	170	110	110	647	647
Wisconsin	2,850	2,900	2,050	2,050	719	707
Wyoming	500	470	6,800	6,800	13,600	14,468
Other States ¹	260	260	80	80	(NA)	(NA)
United States	83,010	82,480	156,400	156,500	1,884	1,897

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes data withheld above.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Economic sales class: \$1,000,000 or more					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama	1,400	1,400	1,150	1,050	821	750
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	330	340	2,900	2,900	8,788	8,529
Arkansas	3,400	3,500	5,600	5,500	1,647	1,571
California	6,700	6,750	11,000	10,800	1,642	1,600
Colorado	900	900	5,800	5,900	6,444	6,556
Connecticut	90	90	100	100	1,111	1,111
Delaware	380	380	270	270	711	711
Florida	1,230	1,230	3,750	3,800	3,049	3,089
Georgia	2,300	2,300	2,320	2,280	1,009	991
Hawaii	80	80	300	300	3,750	3,750
Idaho	1,200	1,200	4,000	3,900	3,333	3,250
Illinois	4,500	4,500	9,100	9,000	2,022	2,000
Indiana	2,500	2,400	5,350	5,300	2,140	2,208
Iowa	7,300	7,200	9,500	9,600	1,301	1,333
Kansas	3,200	3,200	11,400	11,200	3,563	3,500
Kentucky	1,100	1,100	1,960	2,010	1,782	1,827
Louisiana	1,100	1,100	2,800	2,800	2,545	2,545
Maine	130	130	270	270	2,077	2,077
Maryland	550	550	600	590	1,091	1,073
Massachusetts	80	80	50	50	625	625
Michigan	1,850	1,850	3,150	3,150	1,703	1,703
Minnesota	5,300	5,300	9,500	9,400	1,792	1,774
Mississippi	1,900	1,900	3,150	3,100	1,658	1,632
Missouri	1,900	2,000	4,100	4,000	2,158	2,000
Montana	1,000	950	12,600	12,500	12,600	13,158
Nebraska	4,800	4,700	16,400	16,200	3,417	3,447
Nevada	160	160	2,900	2,900	18,125	18,125
New Hampshire	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey	220	220	150	150	682	682
New Mexico	330	380	5,700	5,700	17,273	15,000
New York	1,100	1,100	1,650	1,750	1,500	1,591
North Carolina	3,600	3,500	3,150	3,050	875	871
North Dakota	3,500	3,300	15,400	15,000	4,400	4,545
Ohio	2,050	2,150	3,500	3,500	1,707	1,628
Oklahoma	1,050	1,050	3,500	3,600	3,333	3,429
Oregon	950	1,000	4,200	4,200	4,421	4,200
Pennsylvania	1,250	1,250	850	800	680	640
Rhode Island	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina	800	800	950	950	1,188	1,188
South Dakota	2,400	2,400	13,400	13,400	5,583	5,583
Tennessee	900	900	1,900	1,850	2,111	2,056
Texas	3,300	3,300	17,700	18,100	5,364	5,485
Utah	260	260	1,000	1,000	3,846	3,846
Vermont	150	150	210	210	1,400	1,400
Virginia	800	800	970	970	1,213	1,213
Washington	1,650	1,650	5,050	5,100	3,061	3,091
West Virginia	180	130	140	130	778	1,000
Wisconsin	2,350	2,400	3,550	3,550	1,511	1,479
Wyoming	250	230	6,600	6,700	26,400	29,130
Other States ¹	40	40	40	40	(NA)	(NA)
United States	82,510	82,300	219,630	218,620	2,662	2,656

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes data withheld above.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data are collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) during the June Agricultural Survey using sampling procedures to ensure every farm and ranch has a chance of being selected. NASS uses a multiple sampling frame approach to count farms and measure land in farms. An Area Sampling Frame that divides all land into segments is built for every State except Alaska. A sample of segments is selected in each State except Alaska and Hawaii and enumerated in early June. Highly trained interviewers locate each sampled segment and identify every farm and ranch operating land in the segment and the number of acres in each operation.

These data are used to compute summaries of farm numbers and acres of land in farms. Additionally, all farms found in the segments are checked against a list of farms and ranches maintained by NASS to determine if the farm is on the list. Operations found in the Area Frame sample that are not on the list provide a measure of incompleteness of the list. The summarized totals for these non-overlap (or not-on-list) operations are combined with summarized totals collected from a sample selected from the list to calculate additional indications of farms and land in farms.

Estimation Procedures: Data are checked for reasonableness and consistency and summarized for each state. State estimates are aggregated to national totals for Headquarters review. Field Offices perform a thorough review of their survey results and historical data relationships and recommend official estimates. Headquarters establishes national estimates and ensures that state estimates are in balance with the national numbers.

Revision Policy: Estimates are subject to revision the following year and following review of the five-year Census of Agriculture. The basis for revision must be supported by additional data which directly affect the level of the estimate.

Reliability: Two types of errors, sampling and non-sampling, are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types can affect the quality of the estimates.

Sampling error occurs because a complete census is not taken. The sampling error measures the variation in estimates from the average of all possible samples. An estimate of 100 with a sampling error of 1 would mean that chances are 19 out of 20 that the estimates from all possible samples averaged together would be between 98 and 102; which is the survey estimate, plus or minus two times the sampling error. The sampling error expressed as a percent of the estimate is called the relative sampling error. In 2016, the relative sampling error for the United States number of farms is 1.6 percent and land in farms is 2.2 percent. The sampling error for total number of farms and total land in farms is less than the sampling error for each component of the total, such as number of farms by economic sales class. Relative sampling errors by economic sales class ranged from 2.3 to 6.4 percent for number of farms and 2.8 to 9.1 percent for land in farms at the United States level.

Non-sampling errors can occur in complete censuses as well as sample surveys. They are caused by the inability to obtain correct information from each person surveyed, differences in interpreting questions or definitions, and mistakes in coding or processing the data. Special efforts are taken at each step of the survey to minimize non-sampling errors.

Terms and Definitions

A **farm** is “any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year.” Government payments are included in sales. Ranches, institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and other government conservation programs are counted as farms.

The definition of a farm was first established in 1850 and has changed nine times since. The current definition was first used for the 1974 Census.

Land in farms consists of agricultural land used for crops, pasture, or grazing. Also included is woodland and wasteland not actually under cultivation or used for pasture or grazing, provided it was part of the farm operator’s total operation. Land in farms includes acres in CRP, WRP, and other government conservation programs.

Land in farms includes land owned and operated as well as land rented from others. Land used rent-free is included as land rented from others. All grazing land, except land used under government permits on a per-head basis, is included as land in farms provided it was part of a farm or ranch. Land under the exclusive use of a grazing association is reported by the grazing association and included as land in farms. All land in American Indian reservations used for growing crops or grazing livestock is included as land in farms. Land in reservations not reported by individual American Indians or non-Native Americans is reported in the name of the cooperative group that used the land. In many instances, the entire American Indian reservation is reported as one farm.

Economic sales classes are based on the gross value of agricultural products sold. Government program payments are also included.

Point Farms are places that did not have \$1,000 of reported sales for the year, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more.

Farm Definition History

The definition of a farm has remained the same since 1974. Activities included as agriculture, however, have undergone modification in recent years. Beginning in 1995, operations having 5 or more horses or ponies and no other agricultural sales were counted as horse farms. An operation with 1 or more horses with agricultural sales of at least \$1,000, qualified as a farm. Two industries, maple syrup and short rotation woody crop farms, were added beginning in 1997 as a result of the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). These changes were made to achieve comparability with the Census of Agriculture farm definition. All the changes in the farm definition beginning in 1995 were carried back to 1993 and included in the 1993-1998 estimates. These changes bring comparability between the Census of Agriculture data and the annually published NASS estimates. Because of these changes in the farm definition, the official estimates show a level difference in the number of farms between 1992 and 1993 in some states. To further align the counting of farms with the Census of Agriculture, places with 100 acres or more of pasture only in 2002 were included in farm and land in farm numbers. The handling of Indian reservation land was changed in 2002 to provide some accounting for individual farms.

Minimum Criteria for “FARM” Definition, 1840 – Present and Enumeration of Apiaries and Fur Farms

Year	Acres in Place	Value of Agricultural Products (Produced)	Value of Sales of Agricultural Products	Required some Agricultural Operations	Apiaries and Fur Farms Enumerated
1974 - Present	--	--	\$1,000 or more	--	--
1959	Less than 10 10 or more	-- --	\$250 or more \$50 or more	-- --	-- --
1954	Less than 3 3 or more	-- \$150 or more	\$150 or more --	-- --	-- --
1950	Less than 3 3 or more	-- \$150 or more	\$150 or more --	-- --	Apiaries Fur Farms
1935 - 1945	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries Fur Farms
1930	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1925	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	-- --
1910 - 1925	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1900	Less than 3 3 or more	-- --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1870 - 1890	Less than 3 3 or more	-- --	\$500 or more --	-- X	Apiaries --
1860	--	--	--	--	--
1850	--	\$100 or more	--	--	Apiaries
1840	--	--	--	--	--

Historic Estimates: Final estimates of Farms and Land in Farms in earlier years are available in Statistical Bulletins, No.1030 for 2008-2012, No. 1018 for 2003-2007, No. 991 for 1998-2002, No. 955 for 1993-97, No. 895 for 1988-92, No. 792 for 1979-87, SpSy3 for 1975-80, No. 594 for 1969-75, No. 507 for 1959-70, No. 316 for number of farm estimates for 1910-59 and land in farms estimates for 1950-59.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Environmental, Economics and Demographics Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. Email inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

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Daryl Brinkman – Prices Received, Prices Received Indexes, Parity Prices	(202) 720-8844
Kuan Chen – Prices, Prices Research.....	(202) 690-3347
Liana Cuffman – Prices Paid, Prices Paid Indexes.....	(202) 690-3229
Stephen Habets – Production Expenditures.....	(202) 720-9168
Joe Hagedorn – Cash Rents, Grazing Fees.....	(202) 690-3231
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