

# Understanding U.S. Agriculture

## The Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)



USDA is gathering data from farm operators like you. The data collected will inform ag producers, USDA, and the public on the financial condition, production practices, and resource use of America's farms and ranches. The results are useful in comparing your farm with others and for understanding the overall well-being of U.S. agriculture.

The Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) is conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and Economic Research Service (ERS) along with your state department of agriculture. Here are some results from previous ARMS surveys that help us understand these aspects of American agriculture:

### Farm Household Well-being

42% of family farms had income below the U.S. median, and 5% had wealth below the U.S. median in 2023.



### Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC)

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

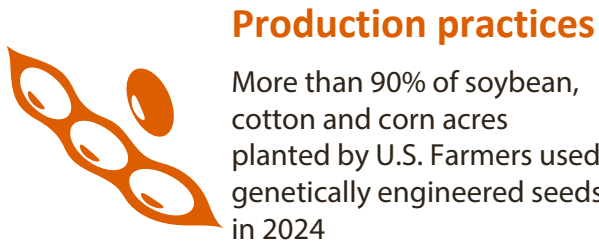
Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Economic Disaster Injury Loan (EIDL)

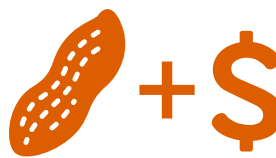
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Price Loss Coverage (PLC)



### Production practices

More than 90% of soybean, cotton and corn acres planted by U.S. Farmers used genetically engineered seeds in 2024



### Costs

Farms specializing in the production of specialty crops had the highest labor costs accounting for 38 cents of every dollar in cash expenses in 2022.



### Conservation

Forest and pasture/rangeland accounted for more than half of U.S. land use in 2024



### Farm types

Small family farms accounted for 86% of U.S. farms and generated 17% of the value of production in 2023

## Please Respond

Please help USDA tell the story of U.S. agriculture by completing the ARMS questionnaire today. Respond online at [accounts.usda.gov](https://accounts.usda.gov) or fill out the paper questionnaire and return it in the prepaid envelope provided. Responding online is fast and secure. The data of this survey will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified, as required by federal law.



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Economic Research Service

Find out more at [nass.usda.gov/go/arms](https://nass.usda.gov/go/arms)  
[ers.usda.gov/arms](https://ers.usda.gov/arms)