

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

United States, 1960-71  
By States 1969-71



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Farm Numbers Decrease 26 Percent During Past Decade

The Nation had an estimated 2,924,000 operating farms during 1970, 2 percent less than in 1969. The preliminary estimate for 1971 indicates 2,876,000 farms will be in operation. This reduction would be slightly smaller than the average of recent years.

Total land in farms, estimated at about 1,121 million acres for 1970, continues a slow steady decline but at a slower rate than the farm numbers. For 1971, the preliminary estimate of land in farms is 1,118 million acres.

The past decade saw a 26 percent decline in number of farms while only a 5 percent drop was recorded in land in farms. These changes are associated with a 29 percent increase in the average size of farms. The continued disappearance of *small farms along with larger unit mergers into more efficient operations* contributed most to the change in farm numbers. Urbanization and highway construction were the major causes of decline in land in farms.

This report includes data for Alaska and Hawaii in national totals for all years presented. For explanation of basis for estimates of farms, see Number of Farms report, January 10, 1968.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms, U. S. 1960-71

Year	Farms	Land in Farms	Average size of farms
	Thousands	Thousand acres	Acres
1960	3,962	1,176,946	297
1961	3,821	1,169,899	306
1962	3,685	1,161,383	315
1963	3,561	1,153,072	324
1964	3,442	1,146,806	333
1965	3,340	1,141,536	342
1966	3,239	1,137,161	351
1967	3,146	1,131,982	360
1968	3,054	1,127,567	369
1969	2,971	1,123,984	378
1970	2,924	1,120,725	383
1971 1/	2,876	1,117,835	389

1/ Preliminary.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE      CROP REPORTING BOARD  
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Number of Farms and Land in Farms, by States, 1969-71

State	Farms			Land in Farms		
	1969	1970	1971 1/	1969	1970	1971 1/
		Number			1,000 acres	
Maine	10,300	10,000	9,700	2,400	2,350	2,300
N. H.	3,700	3,600	3,500	740	730	720
Vt.	7,600	7,200	7,100	2,320	2,220	2,200
Mass.	6,500	6,300	6,200	750	730	720
R. I.	1,000	900	900	90	90	90
Conn.	4,900	4,700	4,600	620	600	600
N. Y.	59,000	58,000	57,000	11,800	11,700	11,500
N. J.	8,900	8,600	8,400	1,010	1,010	990
Pa.	75,000	74,000	73,000	10,650	10,600	10,550
Ohio	113,000	112,000	111,000	17,500	17,400	17,300
Ind.	98,000	98,000	97,000	17,400	17,600	17,700
Ill.	128,000	126,000	124,000	29,700	29,500	29,300
Mich.	87,000	86,000	85,000	13,200	13,100	13,000
Wis.	114,000	112,000	110,000	20,600	20,400	20,200
Minn.	129,000	125,000	122,000	32,200	32,100	32,000
Iowa	143,000	141,000	139,000	34,500	34,400	34,400
Mo.	145,000	143,000	141,000	33,300	33,200	33,000
N. Dak.	43,000	42,000	41,000	42,000	42,000	42,000
S. Dak.	47,500	46,500	45,500	45,500	45,500	45,500
Nebr.	74,000	73,000	71,000	48,200	48,100	48,100
Kans.	88,000	87,000	86,000	50,000	50,000	49,900
Del.	3,800	3,700	3,600	710	700	690
Md.	18,700	18,300	18,000	3,250	3,220	3,200
Va.	73,000	72,000	71,000	11,600	11,500	11,400
W. Va.	30,000	29,000	28,000	5,200	5,100	5,000
N. C.	161,000	158,000	156,000	16,100	16,000	16,000
S. C.	53,000	52,000	51,000	8,400	8,300	8,200
Ga.	78,000	77,000	76,000	17,600	17,300	17,000
Fla.	34,000	34,000	34,000	16,200	16,200	16,200
Ky.	125,000	123,000	120,000	16,900	16,800	16,700
Tenn.	128,000	127,000	125,000	15,500	15,500	15,400
Ala.	89,000	86,000	84,000	15,000	14,700	14,500
Miss.	97,000	95,000	93,000	17,600	17,500	17,400
Ark.	75,000	74,000	74,000	17,900	17,900	17,900
La.	54,000	53,000	52,000	12,100	12,200	12,200
Okla.	91,000	91,000	90,000	37,200	37,100	37,100
Texas	191,000	188,000	185,000	145,000	145,000	145,000
Mont.	26,700	26,400	25,800	67,100	67,100	67,100
Idaho	28,900	28,500	28,200	15,400	15,500	15,500
Wyo.	8,600	8,400	8,200	37,000	37,000	37,000
Colo.	31,000	30,500	30,000	39,500	39,000	39,000
N. Mex.	13,800	13,600	13,200	48,300	48,200	48,000
Ariz.	6,000	5,900	5,800	43,400	43,300	43,200
Utah	14,500	14,500	14,500	13,300	13,300	13,400
Nev.	2,100	2,100	2,000	9,900	9,000	9,000
Wash.	46,000	45,500	45,000	18,100	18,100	18,000
Oreg.	40,500	40,000	39,500	20,900	20,900	20,900
Calif.	60,000	58,000	56,000	37,000	36,800	36,600
48 States	2,966,000	2,919,200	2,871,700	1,119,754	1,116,550	1,113,660
Alaska 2/	310	310	310	1,880	1,835	1,835
Hawaii	4,600	4,500	4,300	2,350	2,340	2,340
U. S.	2,970,910	2,924,010	2,876,310	1,123,984	1,120,725	1,117,835

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Exclusive of grazing land leased from U. S. Government, Alaska farmland totals about 70,000 acres.