

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

United States, 1959-67
By States 1965-67

January 13, 1967

DROP IN FARM NUMBERS CONTINUES

Farms operating in the Nation during 1966 are estimated at 3,258 thousand, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Although this is 4 percent less than the number of farms operating in 1965, the actual number of farms disappearing was less than a year earlier. Total land in farms, accounting for 1,145 million acres, continued to decrease but at a much slower pace than number of farms.

For 1967, the number of farms in the U. S. is expected to show a further decline to 3,176 thousand. Regionally, however, this is not expected to be as large as the reduction in past years in mid-western and southwestern States. Reduction in the acreage of farmland is also expected to be less than the rate for recent years.

During the past 8 years the number of the Nation's farms have declined nearly a fourth. During the same period, land in farms has decreased only 4 percent. These changes have caused the acreage in the average farm to increase from 288 acres in 1959 to 359 in 1967, or a 25 percent increase. Discontinuance of small farming enterprises and merging of larger units with existing farms continue as the important influences in the change in farm numbers.

This report includes data for Alaska and Hawaii in national totals for all years presented. State data for farm numbers for 48 States, 1910-1959, are published in Statistical Bulletin No. 316, June 1962. For explanation of basis for estimates of farms see number of farms report, January 12, 1966.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms, U.S. 1959-67

Year	Farms (Thousands)	Land in Farms (Thousand Acres)	Average size of Farm (Acres)
1959	4,105	1,182,658	288
1960	3,956	1,177,565	298
1961	3,818	1,172,910	307
1962	3,695	1,168,115	316
1963	3,580	1,163,180	325
1964	3,479	1,158,505	333
1965	3,380	1,154,560	342
1966	3,258	1,145,170	351
1967 1/	3,176	1,139,644	359

1/ Preliminary.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms, by States, 1965-67

State	Number of Farms			Land in Farms		
	1965	1966	1967 1/	1965 1,000 acres	1966 1,000 acres	1967 1/ 1,000 acres
Maine	15,700	14,500	13,500	3,100	2,950	2,820
N.H.	5,200	4,400	4,100	1,070	1,000	900
Vt.	11,200	9,500	9,200	2,910	2,810	2,700
Mass.	9,800	9,300	8,800	1,100	1,000	900
R.I.	1,200	1,200	1,100	120	110	104
Conn.	7,400	6,100	5,700	960	880	780
N.Y.	69,000	67,000	65,000	13,300	13,000	12,700
N.J.	12,000	10,000	9,400	1,250	1,180	1,160
Pa.	85,000	82,000	80,000	11,300	11,100	11,000
Ohio	124,000	122,000	117,000	18,200	18,000	17,800
Ind.	119,000	112,000	108,000	18,900	18,400	18,300
Ill.	141,000	136,000	132,000	30,200	30,100	30,000
Mich.	101,000	97,000	94,000	14,000	13,800	13,600
Wis.	124,000	121,000	118,000	21,400	21,200	21,000
Minn.	143,000	139,000	135,000	32,400	32,400	32,400
Iowa	166,000	153,000	150,000	34,500	34,400	34,400
Mo.	160,000	157,000	154,000	34,400	33,000	32,900
N.Dak.	49,000	48,000	47,000	42,000	42,000	42,000
S.Dak.	52,000	51,000	50,000	44,900	44,900	44,900
Nebr.	82,000	80,000	78,000	48,100	48,200	48,200
Kans.	99,000	97,000	95,000	49,900	49,900	49,800
Del.	4,900	4,500	4,300	750	740	730
Md.	23,000	21,300	20,400	3,500	3,400	3,350
Va.	85,000	81,000	78,000	13,000	12,500	12,100
W.Va.	37,000	35,000	33,000	6,100	5,700	5,500
N.C.	188,000	175,000	173,000	17,200	17,100	17,100
S.C.	65,000	60,000	57,500	9,000	8,600	8,400
Ga.	88,000	84,000	82,000	19,800	18,700	18,400
Fla.	39,000	39,000	37,000	15,700	15,700	15,400
Ky.	142,000	140,000	138,000	17,500	17,300	17,100
Tenn.	152,000	145,000	140,000	16,100	15,600	15,400
Ala.	101,000	99,000	97,000	16,100	15,400	15,200
Miss.	109,000	104,000	101,000	18,300	18,000	17,800
Ark.	78,000	78,000	78,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
La.	65,000	62,000	59,000	10,000 ¹⁰⁰	10,100	10,100
Okla.	86,000	86,000	86,000	37,300	37,300	37,300
Texas	202,000	202,000	201,000	154,000	153,000	152,000
Mont.	29,900	29,400	28,500	66,600	66,600	66,600
Idaho	35,600	35,100	34,500	15,300	15,300	15,300
Wyo.	9,500	9,100	9,000	35,800	35,800	35,800
Colo.	33,000	32,000	31,000	41,000	41,000	41,000
N.Mex.	14,900	14,600	14,300	51,600	51,500	51,400
Ariz.	6,700	6,400	6,200	45,000	45,000	45,000
Utah	15,000	15,000	15,000	13,500	13,500	13,500
Nev.	2,100	2,100	2,100	8,800	8,800	8,800
Wash.	51,000	49,000	48,000	18,200	18,200	18,200
Oreg.	43,500	42,000	40,500	21,200	21,000	20,900
Calif.	91,000	84,000	80,000	38,600	38,500	38,400
48 States:	3,373,600	3,251,500	3,169,100	1,151,060	1,141,670	1,136,144
Alaska 2/	350	340	320	900	900	900
Hawaii	6,500	6,400	6,400	2,600	2,600	2,600
U. S.	3,380,450	3,258,240	3,175,820	1,154,560	1,145,170	1,139,644

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