



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service



Farms and Land in Farms

February 2003

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USDA



Farms and Land in Farms Up Slightly in 2002

The number of farms in the United States in 2002 is estimated at 2.16 million, up 0.1 percent from 2001. The increase in farms occurred primarily in agricultural operations with \$1,000-\$9,999 in sales. Total land in farms, at 941.5 million acres, increased 170,000 acres from last year. The average size of farm at 436 acres, decreased one acre from 2001. The increase in the number of farms and land in farms primarily resulted from the inclusion of pasture only farms in 2002.

The U.S. number of agricultural operations in the economic sales class \$1,000-\$9,999 increased 1.0 percent to 1,172,770 in 2002. Farms with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 economic class decreased 0.9% from 2001 to 637,160 operations. The number of farms with sales over \$100,000 at 348,160 decreased 1.1 percent. Dry weather, below normal yields, and lower commodity prices contributed to the shifting of farms among the economic sales classes.

The number of farms in the South Region increased by 5,700, 0.6 percent, and the number of farms in the West Region increased by 510, 0.2 percent. The North Central Region lost 3,300 farms, 0.4 percent. The number of farms declined 500, or 0.4 percent in the Northeast Region.

The number of farms in 2002 increased in nine States, remained unchanged in 32 States, and decreased in nine States. Texas gained 3,000 farms while Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Oregon added 1,000 farms during the year. Arkansas, Montana, and South Carolina farms increased by 500. California, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Tennessee farms declined by 1,000. New York lost 500 farms and North Dakota lost 300.

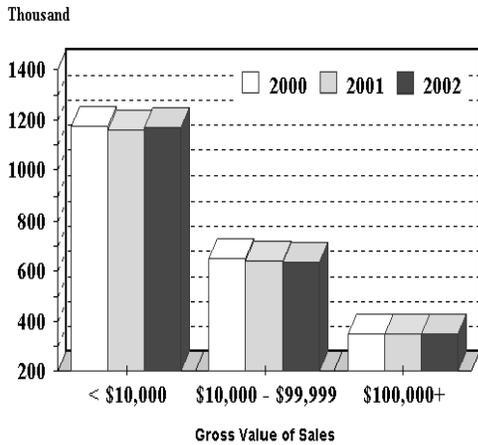
Texas, which leads the Nation in acres in farms with 131 million acres, increased agricultural acreage during 2002 adding 1.0 million acres. States with decreases in land in farms were; Wisconsin, down 200,000 acres, and Arizona, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee which declined 100,000 acres. Other states losing agricultural acreage were Delaware, New Hampshire, and New Jersey, each down 10,000 acres.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm:
United States, 1992-2002 ¹**

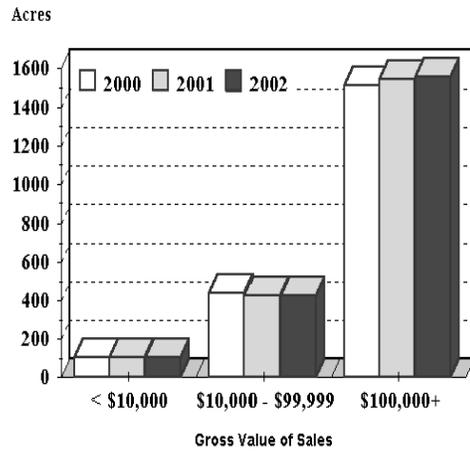
Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Farm Size
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1992	2,107,840	978,503	464
1993	2,201,590	968,845	440
1994	2,197,690	965,935	440
1995	2,196,400	962,515	438
1996	2,190,500	958,675	438
1997	2,190,510	956,010	436
1998	2,191,360	953,500	435
1999	2,192,070	947,440	432
2000	2,172,280	943,090	434
2001	2,155,680	941,310	437
2002	2,158,090	941,480	436

¹ A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

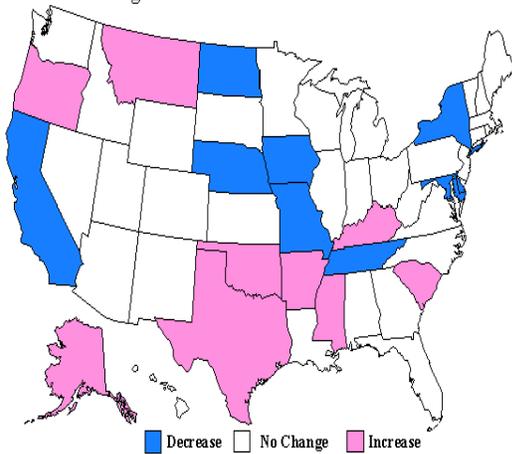
U. S. Number of Farms by Sales Class, 2000-2002



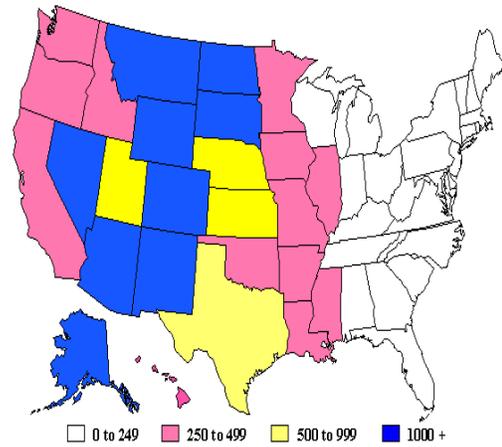
U.S. Average Size Farm by Sales Class, 2000-2002



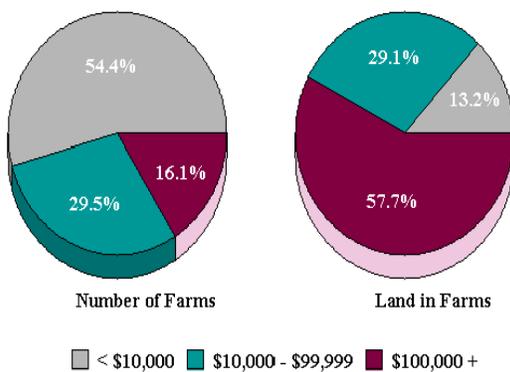
Change in Number of Farms Since 2001



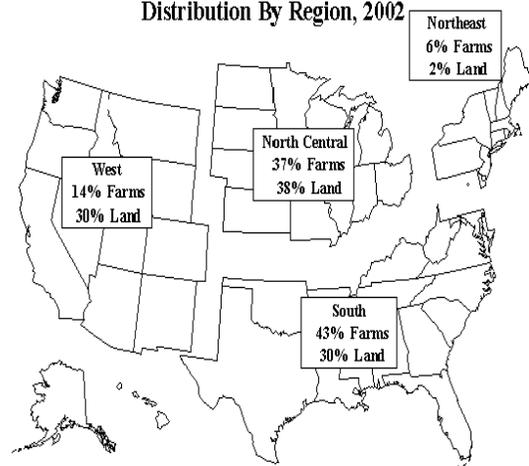
Average Farm Size in Acres, 2002



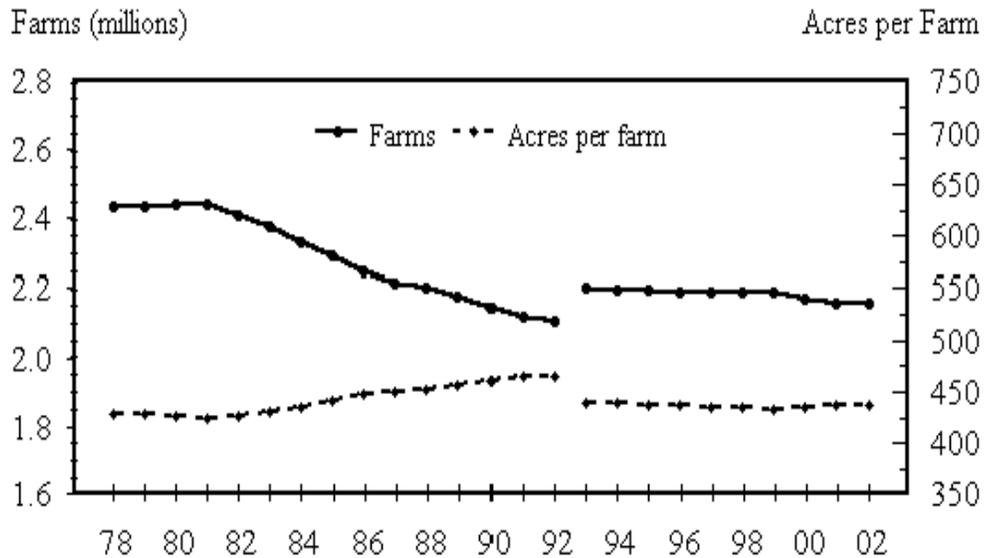
U.S. Number of Farms and Land in Farms Percentages by Sales Class, 2002



Number of Farms and Land in Farms Distribution By Region, 2002



Number of Farms and Average Farm Size United States, 1978 - 2002¹



¹ See the Survey Procedures, page 14, for changes in the farm definition which occurred between 1992 and 1993.

Percent of Farms and Land in Farms for Places With Less Than \$1,000 of Reported Sales, but with Sufficient Crops and Livestock to Normally Have Sales of at least \$1,000, United States, 1999-2002

Year	Percent of Total	
	Farms	Land
1999	15.5	2.0
2000	15.0	2.0
2001	16.0	2.0
2002	18.0	3.0

Number of Farms: By State and United States, 2000-2002

State	2000	2001	2002
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	47,000	47,000	47,000
AK	580	580	590
AZ	7,500	7,300	7,300
AR	48,000	48,000	48,500
CA	87,500	85,000	84,000
CO	29,500	30,000	30,000
CT	3,900	3,900	3,900
DE	2,600	2,500	2,400
FL	44,000	44,000	44,000
GA	50,000	50,000	50,000
HI	5,500	5,300	5,300
ID	24,500	24,000	24,000
IL	78,000	76,000	76,000
IN	64,000	63,000	63,000
IA	95,000	93,500	92,500
KS	64,000	63,000	63,000
KY	90,000	88,000	89,000
LA	29,500	29,000	29,000
ME	6,800	6,700	6,700
MD	12,400	12,400	12,200
MA	6,100	6,000	6,000
MI	52,000	52,000	52,000
MN	79,000	79,000	79,000
MS	43,000	42,000	43,000
MO	109,000	108,000	107,000
MT	27,600	27,500	28,000
NE	54,000	53,000	52,000
NV	3,000	3,000	3,000
NH	3,100	3,100	3,100
NJ	9,600	9,600	9,600
NM	15,200	15,000	15,000
NY	38,000	37,500	37,000
NC	57,000	56,000	56,000
ND	30,300	30,300	30,000
OH	80,000	78,000	78,000
OK	85,000	86,000	87,000
OR	40,000	40,000	41,000
PA	59,000	59,000	59,000
RI	700	700	700
SC	24,000	24,000	24,500
SD	32,500	32,500	32,500
TN	90,000	91,000	90,000
TX	226,000	227,000	230,000
UT	15,500	15,000	15,000
VT	6,700	6,600	6,600
VA	49,000	49,000	49,000
WA	40,000	39,000	39,000
WV	20,500	20,500	20,500
WI	77,000	77,000	77,000
WY	9,200	9,200	9,200
US	2,172,280	2,155,680	2,158,090

Land in Farms: By State and United States, 2000-2002

State	2000	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
AL	9,000	8,900	8,900
AK	920	920	920
AZ	26,700	26,600	26,500
AR	14,600	14,600	14,600
CA	27,800	27,700	27,700
CO	31,600	31,300	31,300
CT	360	360	360
DE	580	570	560
FL	10,300	10,200	10,200
GA	11,100	11,000	11,000
HI	1,440	1,440	1,440
ID	11,900	11,900	11,900
IL	27,700	27,700	27,700
IN	15,500	15,400	15,400
IA	32,800	32,700	32,600
KS	47,500	47,400	47,400
KY	13,600	13,600	13,600
LA	8,100	8,050	8,050
ME	1,270	1,260	1,260
MD	2,100	2,100	2,100
MA	570	560	560
MI	10,400	10,400	10,400
MN	28,600	28,500	28,400
MS	11,100	11,000	11,000
MO	30,000	29,900	29,800
MT	56,700	56,700	56,700
NE	46,400	46,400	46,400
NV	6,800	6,800	6,800
NH	420	420	410
NJ	830	830	820
NM	44,000	44,000	44,000
NY	7,700	7,600	7,600
NC	9,200	9,100	9,100
ND	39,400	39,400	39,400
OH	14,900	14,800	14,700
OK	34,000	34,000	34,000
OR	17,200	17,200	17,200
PA	7,700	7,700	7,700
RI	60	60	60
SC	4,800	4,800	4,800
SD	44,000	44,000	44,000
TN	11,700	11,800	11,700
TX	130,000	130,000	131,000
UT	11,600	11,600	11,600
VT	1,340	1,340	1,340
VA	8,700	8,700	8,700
WA	15,700	15,700	15,700
WV	3,600	3,600	3,600
WI	16,200	16,100	15,900
WY	34,600	34,600	34,600
US	943,090	941,310	941,480

**Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 2002**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Northeast						
CT ²	2,450					3,900
ME ²	4,200					6,700
MA ²	3,200					6,000
NH ²	2,100					3,100
NJ ²	6,400					9,600
NY	16,800	11,400	4,000	3,000	1,800	37,000
PA	35,000	14,500	6,900	1,800	800	59,000
RI ²	350					700
VT ²	3,500					6,600
Oth Sts ¹		8,880	3,240	1,070	1,210	
Total	74,000	34,780	14,140	5,870	3,810	132,600
North Central						
IL	26,000	26,000	13,300	7,600	3,100	76,000
IN	29,500	22,000	6,300	2,900	2,300	63,000
IA	28,000	36,000	17,000	7,500	4,000	92,500
KS	22,000	27,500	8,500	2,800	2,200	63,000
MI	28,500	15,500	4,600	1,600	1,800	52,000
MN	31,000	28,000	12,500	5,000	2,500	79,000
MO	61,300	35,400	6,500	2,400	1,400	107,000
NE	13,000	20,500	10,700	5,000	2,800	52,000
ND	8,400	12,500	5,800	2,400	900	30,000
OH	40,000	27,300	6,400	2,800	1,500	78,000
SD	7,000	14,500	6,500	3,000	1,500	32,500
WI	37,700	20,800	11,500	4,600	2,400	77,000
Total	332,400	286,000	109,600	47,600	26,400	802,000
South						
AL	34,000	8,000	1,600	1,500	1,900	47,000
AR	26,500	12,000	3,700	3,300	3,000	48,500
DE ²	710					2,400
FL	26,000	12,000	2,600	1,600	1,800	44,000
GA	33,000	10,500	3,500	1,500	1,500	50,000
KY	49,000	33,500	4,300	1,400	800	89,000
LA	18,300	6,500	1,700	1,300	1,200	29,000
MD ²	5,700					12,200
MS	31,000	7,500	2,000	1,000	1,500	43,000
NC	34,000	13,000	3,500	2,400	3,100	56,000
OK	55,000	26,000	3,500	1,500	1,000	87,000
SC	18,300	4,000	1,300	400	500	24,500
TN	69,000	17,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	90,000
TX	156,000	57,000	10,000	4,000	3,000	230,000
VA	31,900	13,800	1,400	1,000	900	49,000
WV ²	17,000					20,500
Other States ³		9,530	800	624	736	
Total	605,410	230,330	41,900	22,524	21,936	922,100
West						
AK ²	360					590
AZ ²	4,400					7,300
CA	40,000	25,000	7,000	3,500	8,500	84,000
CO	14,800	10,000	2,800	1,300	1,100	30,000
HI ²	3,000					5,300
ID	12,500	6,600	2,500	1,300	1,100	24,000
MT	11,500	9,900	4,000	1,800	800	28,000
NV ²	1,600					3,000
NM	9,000	4,400	700	400	500	15,000
OR	27,500	9,000	1,400	1,600	1,500	41,000
UT	8,300	5,000	900	400	400	15,000
WA	24,600	7,500	2,800	2,000	2,100	39,000
WY ²	3,400					9,200
Other States ⁴		8,650	2,130	950	900	
Total	160,960	86,050	24,230	13,250	16,900	301,390
US	1,172,770	637,160	189,870	89,244	69,046	2,158,090

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 2002**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Northeast						
CT ²	130					360
ME ²	440					1,260
MA ²	220					560
NH ²	200					410
NJ ²	180					820
NY	1,500	2,300	1,600	1,300	900	7,600
PA	2,300	2,200	1,700	800	700	7,700
RI ²	20					60
VT ²	350					1,340
Oth Sts ¹		1,150	935	535	650	
Total	5,340	5,650	4,235	2,635	2,250	20,110
North Central						
IL	1,400	5,400	8,300	5,900	6,700	27,700
IN	1,100	3,900	4,000	3,200	3,200	15,400
IA	1,700	9,300	11,000	6,700	3,900	32,600
KS	2,400	15,000	15,000	8,000	7,000	47,400
MI	1,800	2,800	2,100	1,500	2,200	10,400
MN	3,000	8,300	7,600	5,300	4,200	28,400
MO	7,100	11,300	5,800	3,100	2,500	29,800
NE	1,700	10,800	14,500	9,900	9,500	46,400
ND	3,500	12,600	12,500	6,800	4,000	39,400
OH	2,600	4,600	3,000	2,500	2,000	14,700
SD	2,000	13,500	16,000	8,000	4,500	44,000
WI	3,000	4,100	4,500	2,700	1,600	15,900
Total	31,300	101,600	104,300	63,600	51,300	352,100
South						
AL	3,700	2,300	1,100	800	1,000	8,900
AR	2,200	3,300	1,850	2,350	4,900	14,600
DE ²	30					560
FL	1,000	2,200	1,400	1,200	4,400	10,200
GA	2,800	2,600	1,800	1,300	2,500	11,000
KY	3,500	5,800	1,900	1,100	1,300	13,600
LA	1,700	1,900	1,500	1,350	1,600	8,050
MD ²	350					2,100
MS	3,300	2,600	1,100	1,000	3,000	11,000
NC	2,200	1,800	1,400	1,500	2,200	9,100
OK	6,600	13,400	6,700	4,200	3,100	34,000
SC	2,500	1,150	400	250	500	4,800
TN	4,500	3,900	1,200	900	1,200	11,700
TX	22,300	45,700	24,000	16,000	23,000	131,000
VA	2,300	3,800	800	800	1,000	8,700
WV ²	2,300					3,600
Other States ³		2,135	465	405	575	
Total	61,280	92,585	45,615	33,155	50,275	282,910
West						
AK ²	210					920
AZ ²	1,800					26,500
CA	2,400	6,900	2,900	2,800	12,700	27,700
CO	4,000	9,500	10,300	4,500	3,000	31,300
HI ²	105					1,440
ID	1,500	3,200	2,300	1,800	3,100	11,900
MT	3,500	15,700	19,000	11,500	7,000	56,700
NV ²	1,000					6,800
NM	4,000	12,000	9,000	8,000	11,000	44,000
OR	1,700	4,500	3,500	3,000	4,500	17,200
UT	1,000	2,300	4,400	1,500	2,400	11,600
WA	2,500	2,700	3,900	2,800	3,800	15,700
WY ²	3,100					34,600
Other States ⁴		17,465	11,435	16,205	18,940	
Total	26,815	74,265	66,735	52,105	66,440	286,360
US	124,735	274,100	220,885	151,495	170,265	941,480

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

**Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 2001**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Northeast				
CT ²	2,450			3,900
ME ²	4,200			6,700
MA ²	3,200			6,000
NH ²	2,100			3,100
NJ ²	6,400			9,600
NY	17,800	11,000	8,700	37,500
PA	32,800	16,500	9,700	59,000
RI ²	350			700
VT ²	3,500			6,600
Oth Sts ¹		10,600	3,800	
Total	72,800	38,100	22,200	133,100
North Central				
IL	26,000	25,000	25,000	76,000
IN	29,000	22,000	12,000	63,000
IA	27,500	37,000	29,000	93,500
KS	21,500	28,500	13,000	63,000
MI	28,500	15,500	8,000	52,000
MN	30,500	28,500	20,000	79,000
MO	61,500	36,000	10,500	108,000
NE	13,000	21,000	19,000	53,000
ND	8,300	13,000	9,000	30,300
OH	41,500	25,500	11,000	78,000
SD	7,000	14,500	11,000	32,500
WI	35,900	22,700	18,400	77,000
Total	330,200	289,200	185,900	805,300
South				
AL	33,000	9,000	5,000	47,000
AR	26,000	12,000	10,000	48,000
DE ²	740			2,500
FL	26,000	12,000	6,000	44,000
GA	32,000	10,500	7,500	50,000
KY	49,000	32,500	6,500	88,000
LA	18,000	6,700	4,300	29,000
MD ²	5,900			12,400
MS	30,000	7,500	4,500	42,000
NC	34,000	13,000	9,000	56,000
OK	54,000	26,000	6,000	86,000
SC	17,700	4,100	2,200	24,000
TN	69,000	18,000	4,000	91,000
TX	154,000	56,000	17,000	227,000
VA	31,900	14,000	3,100	49,000
WV ²	17,000			20,500
Other States ³		7,280	4,480	
Total	598,240	228,580	89,580	916,400
West				
AK ²	350			580
AZ ²	4,400			7,300
CA	40,000	26,000	19,000	85,000
CO	14,600	10,500	4,900	30,000
HI ²	3,000			5,300
ID	12,500	6,600	4,900	24,000
MT	11,000	10,000	6,500	27,500
NV ²	1,600			3,000
NM	9,300	4,100	1,600	15,000
OR	26,500	9,000	4,500	40,000
UT	8,500	5,000	1,500	15,000
WA	24,600	7,500	6,900	39,000
WY ²	3,400			9,200
Other States ⁴		8,130	4,500	
Total	159,750	86,830	54,300	300,880
US	1,160,990	642,710	351,980	2,155,680

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 2001**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Northeast				
CT ²	130			360
ME ²	440			1,260
MA ²	220			560
NH ²	200			420
NJ ²	190			830
NY	1,600	2,200	3,800	7,600
PA	2,000	2,500	3,200	7,700
RI ²	20			60
VT ²	350			1,340
Oth Sts ¹		1,150	2,130	
Total	5,150	5,850	9,130	20,130
North Central				
IL	1,500	5,200	21,000	27,700
IN	1,200	3,800	10,400	15,400
IA	1,700	9,400	21,600	32,700
KS	2,500	15,900	29,000	47,400
MI	1,800	2,700	5,900	10,400
MN	3,000	8,400	17,100	28,500
MO	7,100	11,300	11,500	29,900
NE	1,700	10,900	33,800	46,400
ND	3,500	13,300	22,600	39,400
OH	2,700	4,500	7,600	14,800
SD	2,000	13,500	28,500	44,000
WI	2,900	4,400	8,800	16,100
Total	31,600	103,300	217,800	352,700
South				
AL	3,500	2,500	2,900	8,900
AR	2,100	3,400	9,100	14,600
DE ²	30			570
FL	1,000	2,200	7,000	10,200
GA	2,600	2,700	5,700	11,000
KY	3,600	5,700	4,300	13,600
LA	1,650	1,900	4,500	8,050
MD ²	400			2,100
MS	3,400	2,500	5,100	11,000
NC	2,000	1,800	5,300	9,100
OK	6,600	13,700	13,700	34,000
SC	2,500	1,200	1,100	4,800
TN	4,500	4,000	3,300	11,800
TX	22,000	45,000	63,000	130,000
VA	2,400	3,900	2,400	8,700
WV ²	2,300			3,600
Other States ³		1,585	1,955	
Total	60,580	92,085	129,355	282,020
West				
AK ²	210			920
AZ ²	1,800			26,600
CA	2,500	6,800	18,400	27,700
CO	3,900	9,400	18,000	31,300
HI ²	105			1,440
ID	1,500	3,200	7,200	11,900
MT	3,700	15,900	37,100	56,700
NV ²	1,000			6,800
NM	4,500	11,500	28,000	44,000
OR	1,700	4,500	11,000	17,200
UT	1,100	2,500	8,000	11,600
WA	2,500	2,700	10,500	15,700
WY ²	3,100			34,600
Other States ⁴		18,145	46,000	
Total	27,615	74,645	184,200	286,460
US	124,945	275,880	540,485	941,310

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

**Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 2000**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Northeast				
CT ²	2,450			3,900
ME ²	4,300			6,800
MA ²	3,300			6,100
NH ²	2,100			3,100
NJ ²	6,400			9,600
NY	18,400	11,200	8,400	38,000
PA	33,000	16,500	9,500	59,000
RI ²	350			700
VT ²	3,600			6,700
Oth Sts ¹		10,300	4,100	
Total	73,900	38,000	22,000	133,900
North Central				
IL	28,000	26,000	24,000	78,000
IN	29,700	22,000	12,300	64,000
IA	27,000	38,000	30,000	95,000
KS	23,100	27,200	13,700	64,000
MI	27,500	16,500	8,000	52,000
MN	30,000	29,000	20,000	79,000
MO	62,000	36,600	10,400	109,000
NE	13,500	22,000	18,500	54,000
ND	8,500	13,100	8,700	30,300
OH	43,000	27,000	10,000	80,000
SD	7,000	15,300	10,200	32,500
WI	34,500	24,500	18,000	77,000
Total	333,800	297,200	183,800	814,800
South				
AL	33,000	9,000	5,000	47,000
AR	26,000	12,000	10,000	48,000
DE ²	800			2,600
FL	28,500	10,500	5,000	44,000
GA	32,600	9,900	7,500	50,000
KY	51,000	33,000	6,000	90,000
LA	18,500	6,600	4,400	29,500
MD ²	5,900			12,400
MS	31,000	7,400	4,600	43,000
NC	34,000	13,000	10,000	57,000
OK	52,500	26,500	6,000	85,000
SC	17,700	4,000	2,300	24,000
TN	68,000	18,000	4,000	90,000
TX	153,000	56,000	17,000	226,000
VA	32,000	14,000	3,000	49,000
WV ²	17,000			20,500
Other States ³		7,320	4,480	
Total	601,500	227,220	89,280	918,000
West				
AK ²	350			580
AZ ²	4,500			7,500
CA	43,500	25,000	19,000	87,500
CO	14,200	10,300	5,000	29,500
HI ²	3,200			5,500
ID	12,500	7,200	4,800	24,500
MT	10,400	10,800	6,400	27,600
NV ²	1,600			3,000
NM	9,500	4,100	1,600	15,200
OR	26,500	9,000	4,500	40,000
UT	9,000	5,000	1,500	15,500
WA	25,700	7,500	6,800	40,000
WY ²	3,400			9,200
Other States ⁴		8,230	4,500	
Total	164,350	87,130	54,100	305,580
US	1,173,550	649,550	349,180	2,172,280

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 2000**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Northeast				
CT ²	130			360
ME ²	450			1,270
MA ²	230			570
NH ²	200			420
NJ ²	190			830
NY	1,800	2,200	3,700	7,700
PA	2,100	2,400	3,200	7,700
RI ²	20			60
VT ²	350			1,340
Oth Sts ¹		1,300	1,980	
Total	5,470	5,900	8,880	20,250
North Central				
IL	1,700	5,600	20,400	27,700
IN	1,300	3,900	10,300	15,500
IA	1,700	9,400	21,700	32,800
KS	2,800	15,500	29,200	47,500
MI	1,900	2,800	5,700	10,400
MN	3,000	8,500	17,100	28,600
MO	7,200	11,500	11,300	30,000
NE	1,800	11,800	32,800	46,400
ND	3,400	13,800	22,200	39,400
OH	2,900	4,800	7,200	14,900
SD	2,000	14,400	27,600	44,000
WI	2,800	4,700	8,700	16,200
Total	32,500	106,700	214,200	353,400
South				
AL	3,500	2,800	2,700	9,000
AR	2,100	3,400	9,100	14,600
DE ²	33			580
FL	1,800	2,500	6,000	10,300
GA	2,900	2,500	5,700	11,100
KY	3,700	5,800	4,100	13,600
LA	1,700	1,900	4,500	8,100
MD ²	365			2,100
MS	3,500	2,500	5,100	11,100
NC	2,000	1,800	5,400	9,200
OK	6,700	14,800	12,500	34,000
SC	2,500	1,200	1,100	4,800
TN	4,400	4,000	3,300	11,700
TX	21,000	48,000	61,000	130,000
VA	2,400	3,900	2,400	8,700
WV ²	2,300			3,600
Other States ³		1,607	1,975	
Total	60,898	96,707	124,875	282,480
West				
AK ²	210			920
AZ ²	1,900			26,700
CA	2,800	7,000	18,000	27,800
CO	3,800	10,200	17,600	31,600
HI ²	105			1,440
ID	1,500	3,300	7,100	11,900
MT	4,300	16,400	36,000	56,700
NV ²	1,000			6,800
NM	4,700	11,700	27,600	44,000
OR	1,700	4,800	10,700	17,200
UT	1,100	2,800	7,700	11,600
WA	2,600	2,700	10,400	15,700
WY ²	3,100			34,600
Other States ⁴		17,985	46,160	
Total	28,815	76,885	181,260	286,960
US	127,683	286,192	529,215	943,090

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

Percent of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm: By Economic Sales Class, United States, 2000-2002 ¹

Economic Sales Class	Percent of Total		Average Size Farm (Acres)
	Farms	Land in Farms	
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2000</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	26.8	4.4	71
\$2,500 - \$4,999	15.1	4.2	121
\$5,000 - \$9,999	12.1	4.9	176
\$10,000 - \$19,999	10.2	5.6	238
\$20,000 - \$39,999	9.0	8.6	415
\$40,000 - \$99,999	10.7	16.1	653
\$100,000 - \$249,999	9.3	22.8	1,064
\$250,000 - \$499,999	3.8	13.9	1,588
\$500,000 +	3.0	19.5	2,822
Total	100.0	100.0	434
	<i>2001</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2001</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	25.6	4.3	73
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.9	4.0	117
\$5,000 - \$9,999	13.4	5.0	163
\$10,000 - \$24,999	12.5	7.5	264
\$25,000 - \$49,999	8.7	8.4	424
\$50,000 - \$99,999	8.6	13.2	675
\$100,000 - \$249,999	9.1	24.1	1,158
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.0	14.3	1,564
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2.0	10.1	2,205
\$1,000,000 +	1.2	9.1	3,311
Total	100.0	100.0	437
	<i>2002</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2002</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	26.9	4.5	73
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.8	3.8	113
\$5,000 - \$9,999	12.7	4.9	169
\$10,000 - \$24,999	12.7	7.7	264
\$25,000 - \$49,999	8.7	9.9	496
\$50,000 - \$99,999	8.1	11.5	619
\$100,000 - \$249,999	8.8	23.5	1,161
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.1	16.1	1,708
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2.0	8.6	1,872
\$1,000,000 +	1.2	9.5	3,457
Total	100.0	100.0	436

¹ Economic Sales Classes changed for 2001 to standard government groupings.

Average Size Farm: By State and United States, 2000-2002

State	2000	2001	2002
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
AL	191	189	189
AK	1,586	1,586	1,559
AZ	3,560	3,644	3,630
AR	304	304	301
CA	318	326	330
CO	1,071	1,043	1,043
CT	92	92	92
DE	223	228	233
FL	234	232	232
GA	222	220	220
HI	262	272	272
ID	486	496	496
IL	355	364	364
IN	242	244	244
IA	345	350	352
KS	742	752	752
KY	151	155	153
LA	275	278	278
ME	187	188	188
MD	169	169	172
MA	93	93	93
MI	200	200	200
MN	362	361	359
MS	258	262	256
MO	275	277	279
MT	2,054	2,062	2,025
NE	859	875	892
NV	2,267	2,267	2,267
NH	135	135	132
NJ	86	86	85
NM	2,895	2,933	2,933
NY	203	203	205
NC	161	163	163
ND	1,300	1,300	1,313
OH	186	190	188
OK	400	395	391
OR	430	430	420
PA	131	131	131
RI	86	86	86
SC	200	200	196
SD	1,354	1,354	1,354
TN	130	130	130
TX	575	573	570
UT	748	773	773
VT	200	203	203
VA	178	178	178
WA	393	403	403
WV	176	176	176
WI	210	209	206
WY	3,761	3,761	3,761
US	434	437	436

Reliability of Data in this Report

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 frame approach to measuring farms and land in farms. An area sampling frame is built for every state that divides all land into segments. A sample of segments, designed for the state, is selected 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 estimates of farm numbers and 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 not on the list provide a measure of incompleteness of the list. These data are combined with data collected from a sample selected from the list to calculate estimates 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 regional and national totals for Headquarters review. State Statistical Offices perform a thorough review of their survey results and historical data relationships and recommend official estimates. Headquarters establishes regional and national estimates and ensures that state estimates are in balance with the Regional and 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 affects the level of the estimate. A historical publication with revisions for 1993-1997 was published January 19, 1999.

Reliability: Two types of errors, sampling and nonsampling, are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types affect the "precision" 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. The relative sampling error for the U.S. number of farms and land in farms is just above 1.5 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 generally ranged from 1.2 to 4.7 percent for number of farms and 2.6 to 9.8 percent for land in farms at the U.S. level.

Nonsampling 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 nonsampling 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), or other government 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 the Conservation Reserve, Wetlands Reserve Programs, or other government 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 from the previous year are also included.

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.

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	-- --	-- --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1870 - 1890	Less than 3 3 or more	-- --	\$500 or more --	-- X	Apiaries --
1860	--	--	--	--	--
1850	--	\$100 or more	--	--	Apiaries
1840	--	--	--	--	--

Released February 28, 2003, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Farms and Land in Farms" call Daryl Brinkman at 202-720-6146, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

The next "Farms and Land in Farms" report will be released February, 2004.

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