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Department of
Agriculture

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service



Farms and Land in Farms

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Update Alert

The Average Size Farm by State table on Page 13 was corrected. Changes were made to 1999 for Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.

Farms and Ranches Decline in 2000

The number of farms and ranches in the United States in 2000 is estimated at 2.17 million, down 0.9 percent from 1999. The decline in farms and ranches occurred primarily in agricultural operations with less than \$10,000 in sales. This is the largest decline in farms and ranches since 1991 when just over 29,000 operations were lost. Total land in farms, at 943.0 million acres, declined 0.5 percent or 4.4 million acres from last year. The average size of farm increased 2 acres from 432 acres in 1999 to 434 acres in 2000.

The U.S. number of agricultural operations in the economic sales class \$1,000-\$9,999 declined 1.7 percent to 1,173,650 in 2000. Farms and ranches with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 economic class increased slightly from 1999 to 649,350 operations while the number of farms and ranches with sales over \$100,000 rose 0.1% to 349,080. The impact of adverse weather, lower commodity prices, and competition for land contributed to the overall reduction and consolidation of farms and ranches during 2000.

The North Central Region's loss of farms was the largest with a decline of 9,200 operations, 1.1% less than was estimated in 1999. The South Region lost 7,000 farms and ranches, 0.8% fewer than the previous year. The number of farms and ranches declined 2,690 or 0.9% in the West Region and 1,100 or 0.8% in the Northeast Region.

The number of farms and ranches during 2000 declined in 27 States, remained unchanged in 19 States, and increased in 4 States. States losing 1,000 or more farms during the year were Alabama, California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin. Of the four States showing increases in the number of farms and ranches, only Oklahoma increased significantly, adding 1,000 operations.

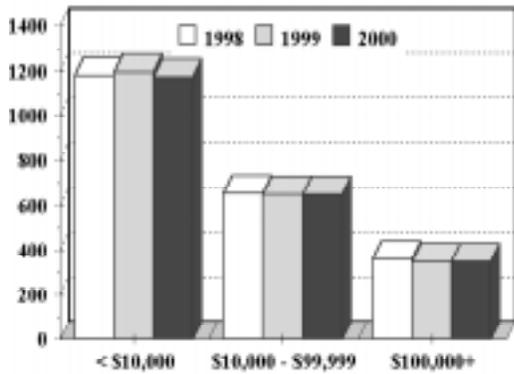
Texas, although losing 500,000 acres of farm and ranch land in 2000, continues to lead the Nation with 130 million acres in farms and ranches. Other States showing significant decreases in agricultural acreage were Arizona (800,000 acres), New Mexico (700,000 acres), Mississippi (300,000 acres), and Montana (300,000 acres). Overall, farm and ranch acreage declined in 20 States, remained unchanged in 29 States, and increased in 1 State.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm:
United States, 1990-2000 ¹**

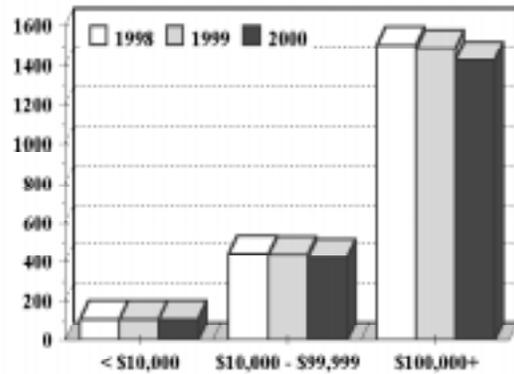
Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Farm Size
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1990	2,145,820	986,850	460
1991	2,116,760	981,736	464
1992	2,107,840	978,503	464
1993	2,201,590	968,845	440
1994	2,197,690	965,935	440
1995	2,196,400	962,515	438
1996	2,190,500	958,675	438
1997	2,190,510	956,010	436
1998	2,191,360	953,500	435
1999	2,192,070	947,440	432
2000	2,172,080	942,990	434

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.

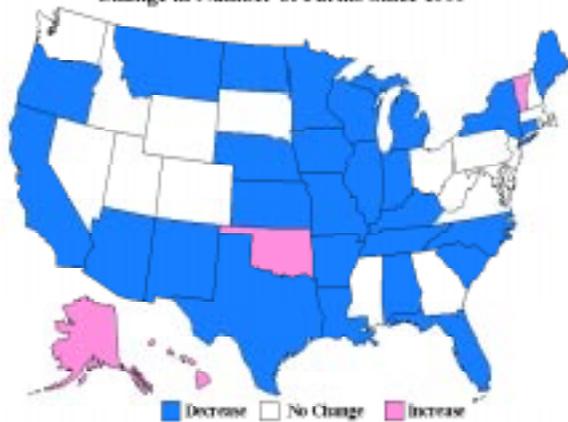
**U. S. Number of Farms by Sales Class
Gross Value of Sales, 1998-2000**



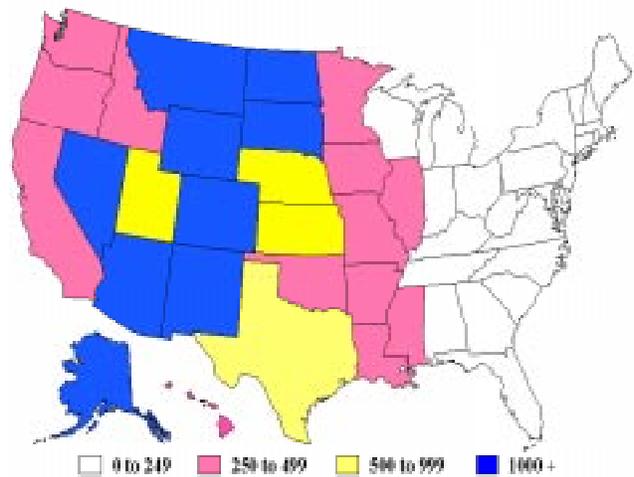
**U.S. Average Size Farm by Sales Class
Gross Value of Sales, 1998-2000**



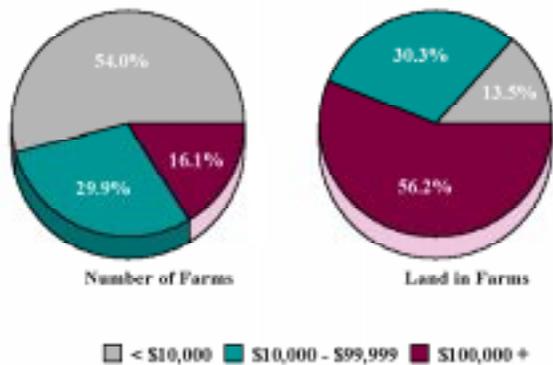
Change in Number of Farms Since 1999



Average Farm Size in Acres, 2000



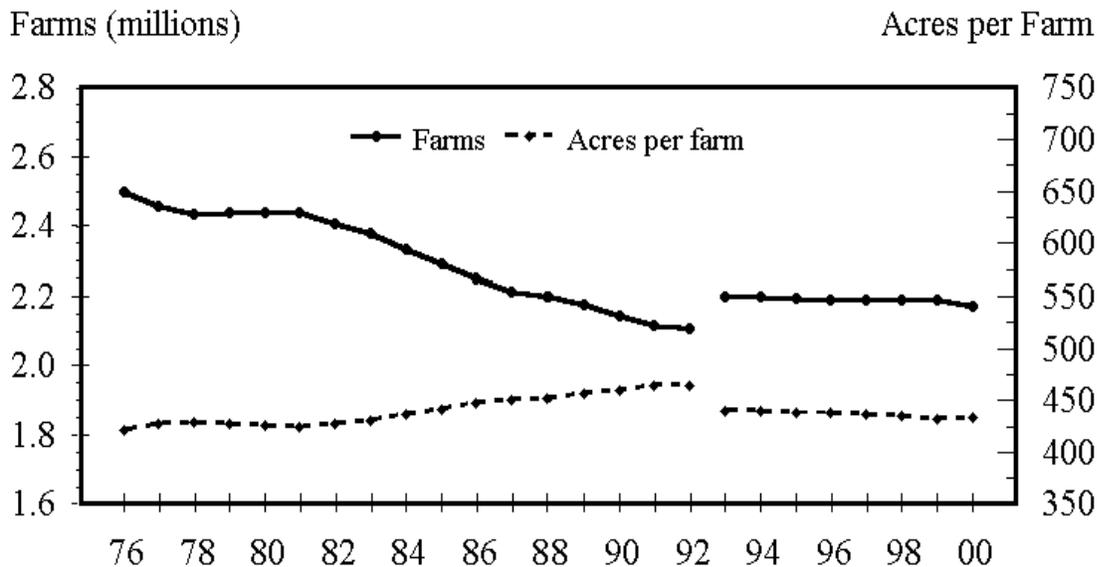
**U.S. Number of Farms and Land in Farms
Percentages by Sales Class, 2000**



**Number of Farms and Land in Farms
Distribution By Region, 2000**



Number of Farms and Average Farm Size United States, 1976 - 2000 1/



1/ See the Survey Procedures, page 14, for changes in the farm definition that 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, 1998-2000

Year	Percent of Total	
	Farms	Land
1998	14.5	1.5
1999	15.5	2.0
2000	14.5	2.0

Number of Farms: By State and United States, 1998-2000

State	1998 <i>Number</i>	1999 <i>Number</i>	2000 <i>Number</i>
AL	49,000	48,000	47,000
AK	560	570	580
AZ	7,800	7,700	7,500
AR	49,500	48,500	48,000
CA	89,000	89,000	87,500
CO	29,500	29,000	29,000
CT	4,100	4,000	3,900
DE	2,700	2,600	2,600
FL	45,000	45,000	44,000
GA	50,000	50,000	50,000
HI	5,500	5,500	5,700
ID	24,500	24,500	24,500
IL	79,000	79,000	78,000
IN	66,000	65,000	64,000
IA	97,000	96,000	95,000
KS	65,000	65,000	64,000
KY	90,000	91,000	90,000
LA	30,000	30,000	29,500
ME	6,900	6,900	6,800
MD	12,500	12,400	12,400
MA	6,000	6,100	6,100
MI	52,000	53,000	52,000
MN	80,000	80,000	79,000
MS	42,000	43,000	43,000
MO	110,000	110,000	109,000
MT	27,500	28,000	27,600
NE	55,000	55,000	54,000
NV	3,000	3,000	3,000
NH	3,100	3,100	3,100
NJ	9,600	9,600	9,600
NM	16,000	15,500	15,200
NY	38,000	39,000	38,000
NC	58,000	58,000	57,000
ND	31,000	30,500	30,300
OH	80,000	80,000	80,000
OK	83,000	84,000	85,000
OR	39,500	40,500	40,000
PA	60,000	59,000	59,000
RI	700	700	700
SC	25,000	25,000	24,000
SD	32,500	32,500	32,500
TN	91,000	91,000	90,000
TX	226,000	227,000	226,000
UT	15,000	15,500	15,500
VT	6,700	6,700	6,800
VA	49,000	49,000	49,000
WA	40,000	40,000	40,000
WV	21,000	20,500	20,500
WI	78,000	78,000	77,000
WY	9,200	9,200	9,200
US	2,191,360	2,192,070	2,172,080

Land in Farms: By State and United States, 1998-2000

State	1998 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	1999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	2000 <i>1,000 Acres</i>
AL	9,500	9,200	9,000
AK	910	910	920
AZ	28,100	27,500	26,700
AR	14,750	14,650	14,600
CA	28,500	27,800	27,800
CO	32,200	31,800	31,600
CT	380	370	360
DE	580	580	580
FL	10,600	10,400	10,300
GA	11,300	11,200	11,100
HI	1,440	1,440	1,440
ID	12,000	11,900	11,900
IL	27,800	27,700	27,700
IN	15,600	15,500	15,500
IA	33,000	33,000	32,800
KS	47,500	47,500	47,500
KY	13,800	13,600	13,600
LA	8,200	8,150	8,100
ME	1,270	1,270	1,270
MD	2,150	2,100	2,100
MA	570	570	570
MI	10,400	10,400	10,400
MN	28,900	28,800	28,600
MS	11,600	11,400	11,100
MO	30,100	30,100	30,000
MT	57,500	57,000	56,700
NE	46,400	46,400	46,400
NV	6,900	6,800	6,800
NH	420	420	420
NJ	830	830	830
NM	45,300	44,700	44,000
NY	7,800	7,800	7,700
NC	9,400	9,300	9,200
ND	39,500	39,400	39,400
OH	14,900	14,900	14,900
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	4,900	4,850	4,700
SD	44,000	44,000	44,000
TN	11,900	11,900	11,700
TX	131,500	130,500	130,000
UT	11,600	11,600	11,600
VT	1,340	1,340	1,340
VA	8,800	8,700	8,700
WA	15,700	15,700	15,700
WV	3,700	3,600	3,600
WI	16,400	16,300	16,200
WY	34,600	34,600	34,600
US	953,500	947,440	942,990

**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	3,700			6,800
Oth Sts ¹		10,300	4,100	
Total	74,000	38,000	22,000	134,000
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	14,000	10,100	4,900	29,000
HI ²	3,400			5,700
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	86,930	54,000	305,280
US	1,173,650	649,350	349,080	2,172,080

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	1,100	1,100	4,700
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	96,607	124,875	282,380
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	106			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	46,159	
Total	28,816	76,885	181,259	286,960
US	127,684	286,092	529,214	942,990

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, 1999**

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	2,550			4,000
ME ²	4,400			6,900
MA ²	3,300			6,100
NH ²	2,100			3,100
NJ ²	6,400			9,600
NY	19,400	10,900	8,700	39,000
PA	33,000	16,500	9,500	59,000
RI ²	350			700
VT ²	3,600			6,700
Oth Sts ¹		9,700	4,700	
Total	75,100	37,100	22,900	135,100
North Central				
IL	28,500	26,500	24,000	79,000
IN	30,200	22,000	12,800	65,000
IA	28,000	38,100	29,900	96,000
KS	24,400	27,200	13,400	65,000
MI	28,500	16,500	8,000	53,000
MN	30,500	29,500	20,000	80,000
MO	63,100	36,700	10,200	110,000
NE	14,000	22,600	18,400	55,000
ND	8,400	13,500	8,600	30,500
OH	43,000	27,000	10,000	80,000
SD	7,000	15,300	10,200	32,500
WI	35,000	25,000	18,000	78,000
Total	340,600	299,900	183,500	824,000
South				
AL	34,000	9,000	5,000	48,000
AR	26,500	11,500	10,500	48,500
DE ²	800			2,600
FL	29,500	10,500	5,000	45,000
GA	32,600	9,700	7,700	50,000
KY	52,000	33,000	6,000	91,000
LA	19,000	6,600	4,400	30,000
MD ²	6,200			12,400
MS	31,000	7,500	4,500	43,000
NC	35,000	13,000	10,000	58,000
OK	52,600	25,500	5,900	84,000
SC	18,700	4,000	2,300	25,000
TN	69,000	18,000	4,000	91,000
TX	155,000	55,500	16,500	227,000
VA	33,000	13,000	3,000	49,000
WV ²	17,000			20,500
Other States ³		7,320	4,180	
Total	611,900	224,120	88,980	925,000
West				
AK ²	340			570
AZ ²	4,700			7,700
CA	44,500	25,500	19,000	89,000
CO	13,700	10,400	4,900	29,000
HI ²	3,200			5,500
ID	12,500	7,200	4,800	24,500
MT	11,500	10,700	5,800	28,000
NV ²	1,600			3,000
NM	9,600	4,200	1,700	15,500
OR	27,000	9,000	4,500	40,500
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	166,740	87,730	53,500	307,970
US	1,194,340	648,850	348,880	2,192,070

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, 1999**

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	140			370
ME ²	450			1,270
MA ²	230			570
NH ²	200			420
NJ ²	190			830
NY	1,900	2,100	3,800	7,800
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	5,580	5,800	8,980	20,360
North Central				
IL	1,700	5,800	20,200	27,700
IN	1,300	3,900	10,300	15,500
IA	1,800	9,700	21,500	33,000
KS	3,400	16,100	28,000	47,500
MI	1,900	2,800	5,700	10,400
MN	3,100	8,600	17,100	28,800
MO	7,300	11,600	11,200	30,100
NE	2,000	12,000	32,400	46,400
ND	3,500	14,000	21,900	39,400
OH	3,000	4,900	7,000	14,900
SD	2,000	14,400	27,600	44,000
WI	2,900	4,700	8,700	16,300
Total	33,900	108,500	211,600	354,000
South				
AL	3,700	2,800	2,700	9,200
AR	2,150	3,350	9,150	14,650
DE ²	33			580
FL	1,800	2,600	6,000	10,400
GA	3,000	2,400	5,800	11,200
KY	4,000	5,700	3,900	13,600
LA	1,750	1,900	4,500	8,150
MD ²	360			2,100
MS	3,700	2,600	5,100	11,400
NC	2,200	1,900	5,200	9,300
OK	6,800	14,700	12,500	34,000
SC	2,550	1,150	1,150	4,850
TN	4,800	4,000	3,100	11,900
TX	22,500	48,000	60,000	130,500
VA	2,700	3,600	2,400	8,700
WV ²	2,300			3,600
Other States ³		1,607	1,980	
Total	64,343	96,307	123,480	284,130
West				
AK ²	200			910
AZ ²	2,000			27,500
CA	2,800	7,000	18,000	27,800
CO	3,800	10,300	17,700	31,800
HI ²	105			1,440
ID	1,500	3,300	7,100	11,900
MT	4,100	17,000	35,900	57,000
NV ²	1,000			6,800
NM	5,200	12,000	27,500	44,700
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	46,860	
Total	29,205	77,885	181,860	288,950
US	133,028	288,492	525,920	947,440

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, 1998**

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	2,650			4,100
ME ²	4,400			6,900
MA ²	3,300			6,000
NH ²	2,100			3,100
NJ ²	6,300			9,600
NY	18,400	11,000	8,600	38,000
PA	33,300	17,200	9,500	60,000
RI ²	350			700
VT ²	3,600			6,700
Oth Sts ¹		9,700	4,700	
Total	74,400	37,900	22,800	135,100
North Central				
IL	27,700	27,800	23,500	79,000
IN	31,000	22,500	12,500	66,000
IA	26,500	38,500	32,000	97,000
KS	24,200	27,300	13,500	65,000
MI	27,000	17,000	8,000	52,000
MN	29,500	29,500	21,000	80,000
MO	62,700	36,700	10,600	110,000
NE	14,000	22,600	18,400	55,000
ND	8,200	14,000	8,800	31,000
OH	41,500	27,300	11,200	80,000
SD	7,000	15,300	10,200	32,500
WI	34,000	25,500	18,500	78,000
Total	333,300	304,000	188,200	825,500
South				
AL	35,000	9,000	5,000	49,000
AR	27,500	11,500	10,500	49,500
DE ²	800			2,700
FL	29,500	10,500	5,000	45,000
GA	32,500	9,700	7,800	50,000
KY	51,000	33,000	6,000	90,000
LA	19,000	6,500	4,500	30,000
MD ²	6,300			12,500
MS	30,000	7,400	4,600	42,000
NC	34,000	14,000	10,000	58,000
OK	52,000	25,000	6,000	83,000
SC	18,700	4,000	2,300	25,000
TN	69,000	18,000	4,000	91,000
TX	153,000	56,000	17,000	226,000
VA	32,000	13,000	4,000	49,000
WV ²	17,400			21,000
Other States ³		7,400	4,300	
Total	607,700	225,000	91,000	923,700
West				
AK ²	350			560
AZ ²	4,800			7,800
CA	42,600	24,400	22,000	89,000
CO	13,900	10,800	4,800	29,500
HI ²	3,200			5,500
ID	12,500	7,200	4,800	24,500
MT	12,000	10,000	5,500	27,500
NV ²	1,600			3,000
NM	10,000	4,200	1,800	16,000
OR	26,500	8,600	4,400	39,500
UT	9,000	4,500	1,500	15,000
WA	25,700	7,500	6,800	40,000
WY ²	3,400			9,200
Other States ⁴		8,210	4,500	
Total	165,550	85,410	56,100	307,060
US	1,180,950	652,310	358,100	2,191,360

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, SC, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, and WY.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, 1998**

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	150			380
ME ²	450			1,270
MA ²	230			570
NH ²	200			420
NJ ²	180			830
NY	1,800	2,200	3,800	7,800
PA	2,100	2,500	3,100	7,700
RI ²	20			60
VT ²	350			1,340
Oth Sts ¹		1,305	1,985	
Total	5,480	6,005	8,885	20,370
North Central				
IL	1,700	6,000	20,100	27,800
IN	1,500	4,000	10,100	15,600
IA	1,700	9,200	22,100	33,000
KS	3,500	16,000	28,000	47,500
MI	1,900	2,800	5,700	10,400
MN	3,100	8,500	17,300	28,900
MO	7,300	11,600	11,200	30,100
NE	2,100	12,500	31,800	46,400
ND	3,400	14,000	22,100	39,500
OH	2,800	4,600	7,500	14,900
SD	2,000	14,400	27,600	44,000
WI	2,800	4,800	8,800	16,400
Total	33,800	108,400	212,300	354,500
South				
AL	4,000	2,800	2,700	9,500
AR	2,250	3,300	9,200	14,750
DE ²	33			580
FL	1,800	2,800	6,000	10,600
GA	3,000	2,400	5,900	11,300
KY	3,900	5,900	4,000	13,800
LA	1,800	1,900	4,500	8,200
MD ²	370			2,150
MS	3,800	2,900	4,900	11,600
NC	2,300	1,900	5,200	9,400
OK	6,900	14,100	13,000	34,000
SC	2,550	1,200	1,150	4,900
TN	4,800	4,000	3,100	11,900
TX	22,000	45,500	64,000	131,500
VA	2,800	3,200	2,800	8,800
WV ²	2,350			3,700
Other States ³		1,652	2,025	
Total	64,653	93,552	128,475	286,680
West				
AK ²	200			910
AZ ²	2,100			28,100
CA	3,000	7,300	18,200	28,500
CO	4,100	10,600	17,500	32,200
HI ²	105			1,440
ID	1,500	3,400	7,100	12,000
MT	4,000	16,900	36,600	57,500
NV ²	1,000			6,900
NM	5,350	12,000	27,950	45,300
OR	1,700	4,800	10,700	17,200
UT	1,100	2,800	7,700	11,600
WA	2,600	2,800	10,300	15,700
WY ²	3,100			34,600
Other States ⁴		18,460	46,985	
Total	29,855	79,060	183,035	291,950
US	133,788	287,017	532,695	953,500

¹ CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

² Estimates not available for all sales classes.

³ DE, MD, SC, and WV.

⁴ AK, AZ, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, and WY.

Percent of Farms, Land in Farms and Average Size Farm: By Economic Sales Class, United States, 1998-2000

Economic Sales Class	Percent of Total		Average Size Farm (Acres)
	Farms	Land	
	<i>1998</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1998</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	26.9	4.4	71
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.6	4.4	131
\$5,000 - \$9,999	12.4	5.2	182
\$10,000 - \$19,999	10.0	5.9	257
\$20,000 - \$39,999	9.0	7.4	358
\$40,000 - \$99,999	10.8	16.8	677
\$100,000 - \$249,999	9.0	23.8	1,151
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.2	14.6	1,513
\$500,000 +	3.1	17.5	2,456
Total	100.0	100.0	435
	<i>1999</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>1999</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	27.2	4.5	72
\$2,500 - \$4,999	15.0	4.4	127
\$5,000 - \$9,999	12.3	5.1	179
\$10,000 - \$19,999	10.2	6.0	254
\$20,000 - \$39,999	8.5	7.5	381
\$40,000 - \$99,999	10.9	16.9	670
\$100,000 - \$249,999	9.2	23.3	1,095
\$250,000 - \$499,999	3.7	13.3	1,554
\$500,000 +	3.0	19.0	2,737
Total	100.0	100.0	432
	<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

Average Size Farm: By State and United States, 1998-2000

State	1998 <i>Acres</i>	1999 <i>Acres</i>	2000 <i>Acres</i>
AL	194	192	191
AK	1,625	1,596	1,586
AZ	3,603	3,571	3,560
AR	298	302	304
CA	320	312	318
CO	1,092	1,097	1,090
CT	93	93	92
DE	215	223	223
FL	236	231	234
GA	226	224	222
HI	262	262	253
ID	490	486	486
IL	352	351	355
IN	236	238	242
IA	340	344	345
KS	731	731	742
KY	153	149	151
LA	273	272	275
ME	184	184	187
MD	172	169	169
MA	95	93	93
MI	200	196	200
MN	361	360	362
MS	276	265	258
MO	274	274	275
MT	2,091	2,036	2,054
NE	844	844	859
NV	2,300	2,267	2,267
NH	135	135	135
NJ	86	86	86
NM	2,831	2,884	2,895
NY	205	200	203
NC	162	160	161
ND	1,274	1,292	1,300
OH	186	186	186
OK	410	405	400
OR	435	425	430
PA	128	131	131
RI	86	86	86
SC	196	194	196
SD	1,354	1,354	1,354
TN	131	131	130
TX	582	575	575
UT	773	748	748
VT	200	200	197
VA	180	178	178
WA	393	393	393
WV	176	176	176
WI	210	209	210
WY	3,761	3,761	3,761
US	435	432	434

Reliability of Data in this Report

Survey Procedures: These data were collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service during the June Agricultural Survey using sampling procedures to ensure every farm and ranch had a chance of being selected. Two samples of farm and ranch operators are selected. First, NASS maintains a list of farms and ranches which are classified and sampled by size and type. Larger farms and ranches are selected with greater frequency but all farms are represented. A second sample consists of area segments of land scientifically selected from aerial photography. Each June, highly trained interviewers locate each selected land segment and identify every farm and ranch operating land within the boundaries of the sample segments. The names associated with those farms and ranches found in the area segments are matched against the list of farms. The names not found on the list represent all farms not on the NASS list. This methodology is known as multiple frame sampling, with an area sample used to measure incompleteness of the list. The area segments also provide independent indications of the number of farms and ranches and their associated land.

Beginning in 1995, interviewers counted operations having 5 or more horses or ponies and no other agricultural sales as horse farms. An operation with 1 or more horses with agricultural sales of at least \$1,000, qualified as a farm. Two new 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. These changes were efforts to have 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 and also provide users a consistent data series. 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.

Estimation Procedures: National, Regional, and State data are reviewed for reasonableness and consistency. Each State Statistical Office submits its analysis to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) which prepares the estimates for publication. Farm numbers and land in farm estimates are based on survey results and the historical relationship of official estimates to the survey results.

Revision Policy: Farm and ranch numbers information is 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 that directly affect 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 was just above 1 percent and just above 1 percent for land in farms. 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 1.8 to 3.8 percent for number of farms and 2.3 to 6.7 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 sampled, 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 Definition

A **farm** is defined as "any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year". Government payments are included in sales. Institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with their entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, set aside, or other government programs are considered operating.

Land in farms is all land operated by farms during the year. It includes crop and livestock acreage, wasteland, woodland, pasture, land in summer fallow, idle cropland, and land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program and other set aside or commodity acreage programs. It excludes public, industrial, and grazing association land and nonagricultural land. It excludes all land operated by establishments not qualifying as farms.

Economic sales classes are based on the gross value of sales, which includes sales of agricultural products such as crops, livestock, horses, honey, furs, fish, nursery and greenhouse products, rabbits, etc. Government program payments from the previous year are also included.

Farm Definition History

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	--	\$250 or more	--	
	10 or more	--	\$50 or more	--	
1954	Less than 3	--	\$150 or more	--	--
	3 or more	\$150 or more	--	--	--
1950	Less than 3	--	\$150 or more	--	Apiaries
	3 or more	\$150 or more	--	--	Fur Farms
1935-1945	Less than 3	\$250 or more	--	--	Apiaries
	3 or more	--	--	X	Fur Farms
1930	Less than 3	\$250 or more	--	--	Apiaries
	3 or more	--	--	X	
1925	Less than 3	\$250 or more	--	--	--
	3 or more	--	--	X	
1910-1920	Less than 3	\$250 or more	--	--	Apiaries
	3 or more	--	--	X	
1900	--	--	--	--	Apiaries
	--	--	--	X	
1870-1890	Less than 3	--	\$500 or more	--	Apiaries
	3 or more	--	--	X	
1860	--	--	--	--	--
1850	--	\$100 or more	--	--	Apiaries
1840	--	--	--	--	--

The next "Farms and Land in Farms" report will be released in February, 2002.

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