



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service



ISSN: 1995-2004

# Farms and Land in Farms 2018 Summary

## April 2019

# USDA





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## 2018 Farms and Land in Farms Highlights

The number of farms in the United States for 2018 is estimated at 2,029,200, down 12,800 farms from 2017. Total land in farms, at 899,500,000 acres, decreased 870,000 acres from 2017. The average farm size for 2018 is 443 acres, up 2 acres from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2018 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2017 calendar year.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced but not sold. The 2017 Census of Agriculture showed that 471,593 farms or 23.1 percent of the 2.04 million farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 59.2 million acres or 6.6 percent of the 900.2 million acres of farmland.

**Number of farms** declined by 12,800 from 2017. The number of farms in Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999 increased while all other sales classes declined. Fifty-one percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales. Eighty-two percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. Seven percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

Changes in the number of farms by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999, at 1,035,690 farms, declined by 8,400 farms.
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999, at 619,030 farms, declined by 1,600 farms.
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999, at 135,110 farms, declined by 1,230 farms.
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999, at 88,610 farms, declined by 900 farms.
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999, at 72,180 farms, increased by 180 farms.
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more, at 78,580 farms, declined by 850 farms.

The percent of all farms by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999: 51.0%
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999: 30.5%
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999: 6.7%
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999: 4.4%
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999: 3.6%
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more: 3.9%

**Land in farms**, at 899,500,000 acres, is down 870,000 acres from 2017. The biggest change for 2018 is that producers in Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999 operated 1,080,000 fewer acres than in 2017. In 2018, 30.1 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with less than \$100,000 in sales, while 40.8 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with sales of \$500,000 or more.

Farmland changes by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999, at 84,370,000 acres, declined by 690,000 acres.
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999, at 186,770,000 acres, increased by 110,000 acres.
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999, at 133,310,000 acres, increased by 900,000 acres.
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999, at 128,500,000 acres, declined by 1,080,000 acres.
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999, at 138,920,000 acres, declined by 60,000 acres.
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more, at 227,630,000 acres, declined by 50,000 acres.

Percent of all farmland by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999: 9.4%
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999: 20.8%
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999: 14.8%
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999: 14.3%
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999: 15.4%
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more: 25.3%

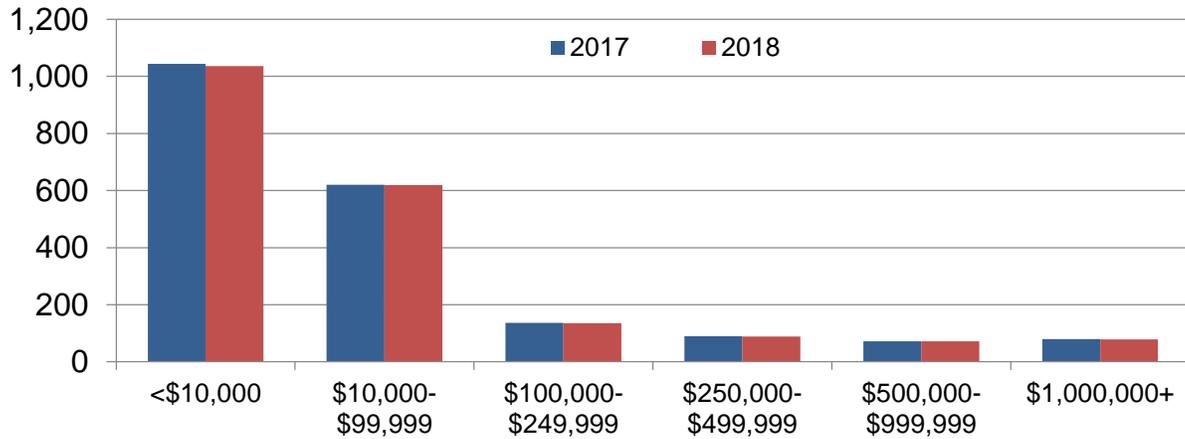
The **average farm size** continued to increase in 2018 as the number of farms declined more than land in farms. The overall average size increased by 2 acres to 443 acres per farm. Average farm size decreased in the \$500,000 - \$999,999 sales class and increased or remained unchanged in all others.

Average farm size by sales class are:

- Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999: 81 acres
- Sales Class \$10,000 - \$99,999: 302 acres
- Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999: 987 acres
- Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999: 1,450 acres
- Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999: 1,925 acres
- Sales Class \$1,000,000 or more: 2,897 acres

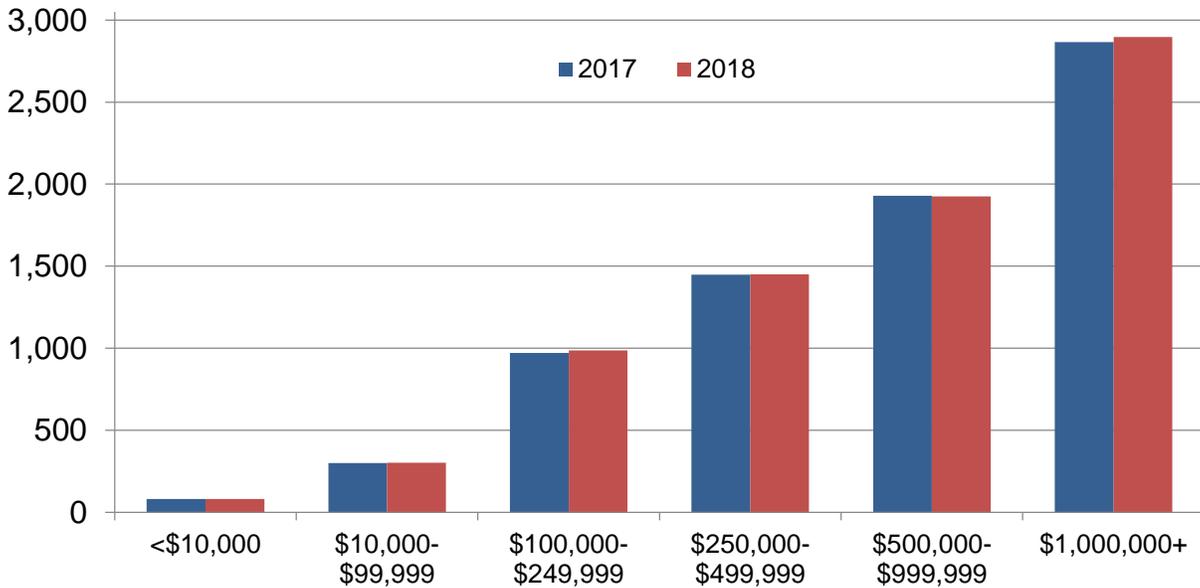
## Number of Farms by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2017 and 2018

Thousands of farms



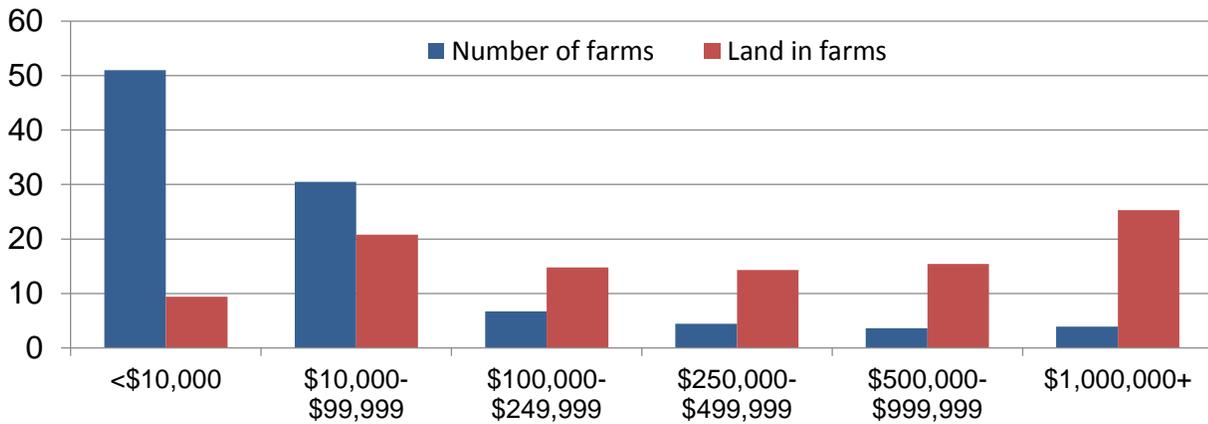
## Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2017 and 2018

Acres



## Farms and Land in Farms by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2018

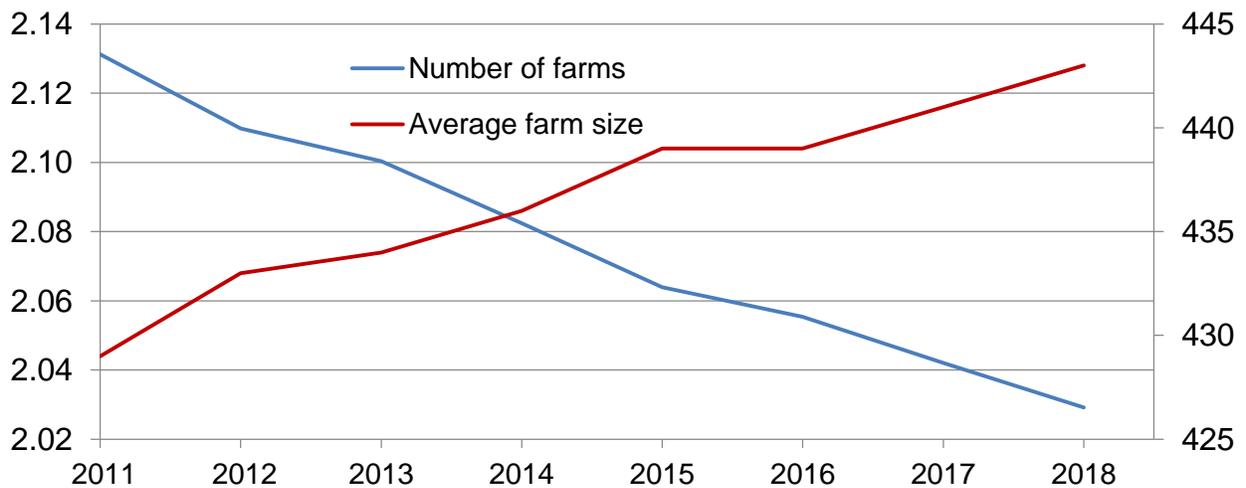
Percent of total



## Number of Farms and Average Farm Size – United States: 2011-2018

Millions of farms

Average farm size (acres)



**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size – United States: 2011-2018**

Year	Number of farms	Land in farms	Average farm size
	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)
2011 .....	2,131,240	914,420	429
2012 .....	2,109,810	914,600	433
2013 .....	2,100,350	911,720	434
2014 .....	2,082,440	908,920	436
2015 .....	2,063,890	905,790	439
2016 .....	2,055,340	902,680	439
2017 .....	2,042,000	900,370	441
2018 .....	2,029,200	899,500	443

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – United States: 2017-2018**

Economic sales class	Percent of total				Average farm size	
	Farms		Land in farms		2017	2018
	2017	2018	2017	2018		
(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(acres)	(acres)	
\$ 1,000 - \$ 9,999 .....	51.1	51.0	9.4	9.4	81	81
\$ 10,000 - \$ 99,999 .....	30.4	30.5	20.7	20.8	301	302
\$100,000 - \$249,999 .....	6.7	6.7	14.7	14.8	971	987
\$250,000 - \$499,999 .....	4.4	4.4	14.4	14.3	1,448	1,450
\$500,000 - \$999,999 .....	3.5	3.6	15.4	15.4	1,930	1,925
\$1,000,000 or more .....	3.9	3.9	25.3	25.3	2,866	2,897
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.1	99.9	100.0	441	443

<sup>1</sup> May not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

## Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size – States and United States: 2017-2018

State	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017 (number)	2018 (number)	2017 (1,000 acres)	2018 (1,000 acres)	2017 (acres)	2018 (acres)
Alabama .....	40,600	39,700	8,600	8,500	212	214
Alaska .....	1,000	1,000	850	850	850	850
Arizona .....	19,100	19,200	26,100	26,200	1,366	1,365
Arkansas .....	42,600	42,500	13,900	13,900	326	327
California .....	70,500	69,400	24,500	24,300	348	350
Colorado .....	38,900	38,900	31,800	31,800	817	817
Connecticut .....	5,500	5,500	380	380	69	69
Delaware .....	2,300	2,300	530	530	230	230
Florida .....	47,600	47,500	9,700	9,700	204	204
Georgia .....	42,400	41,600	10,000	10,100	236	243
Hawaii .....	7,300	7,300	1,100	1,100	151	151
Idaho .....	25,000	24,800	11,700	11,600	468	468
Illinois .....	72,700	72,000	27,000	27,000	371	375
Indiana .....	56,600	56,100	15,000	15,000	265	267
Iowa .....	86,100	86,000	30,600	30,600	355	356
Kansas .....	58,600	58,900	45,800	45,800	782	778
Kentucky .....	76,000	75,100	13,000	12,900	171	172
Louisiana .....	27,400	27,400	8,000	8,000	292	292
Maine .....	7,600	7,600	1,300	1,300	171	171
Maryland .....	12,400	12,400	2,000	2,000	161	161
Massachusetts .....	7,200	7,200	490	500	68	69
Michigan .....	47,600	47,000	9,800	9,800	206	209
Minnesota .....	68,800	68,500	25,500	25,500	371	372
Mississippi .....	35,000	34,700	10,400	10,400	297	300
Missouri .....	95,300	95,000	27,800	27,700	292	292
Montana .....	27,000	26,900	58,100	58,000	2,152	2,156
Nebraska .....	46,300	45,900	45,000	45,000	972	980
Nevada .....	3,400	3,400	6,100	6,100	1,794	1,794
New Hampshire .....	4,100	4,100	430	430	105	105
New Jersey .....	9,900	9,900	730	750	74	76
New Mexico .....	25,000	24,700	40,700	40,500	1,628	1,640
New York .....	33,400	33,400	6,900	6,900	207	207
North Carolina .....	46,400	46,400	8,400	8,400	181	181
North Dakota .....	26,400	26,100	39,300	39,300	1,489	1,506
Ohio .....	77,800	77,800	14,000	13,900	180	179
Oklahoma .....	78,500	77,300	34,200	34,200	436	442
Oregon .....	37,600	37,200	16,000	16,000	426	430
Pennsylvania .....	53,200	53,000	7,300	7,300	137	138
Rhode Island .....	1,100	1,100	60	60	55	55
South Carolina .....	24,800	24,600	4,700	4,800	190	195
South Dakota .....	30,000	29,600	43,200	43,200	1,440	1,459
Tennessee .....	70,000	70,000	10,900	10,900	156	156
Texas .....	248,500	247,000	127,000	127,000	511	514
Utah .....	18,400	18,100	10,800	10,700	587	591
Vermont .....	6,800	6,800	1,200	1,200	176	176
Virginia .....	43,200	42,500	7,800	7,800	181	184
Washington .....	35,800	35,700	14,700	14,700	411	412
West Virginia .....	23,600	23,400	3,700	3,600	157	154
Wisconsin .....	64,800	64,800	14,300	14,300	221	221
Wyoming .....	11,900	11,900	29,000	29,000	2,437	2,437
United States .....	2,042,000	2,029,200	900,370	899,500	441	443

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2017-2018**

State	Economic sales class: \$1,000-\$9,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama .....	22,800	22,600	2,200	2,100	96	93
Alaska .....	540	540	80	80	148	148
Arizona .....	14,100	14,300	4,700	4,800	333	336
Arkansas .....	20,900	20,700	1,900	1,800	91	87
California .....	27,200	26,400	1,300	1,400	48	53
Colorado .....	22,300	21,900	2,300	2,100	103	96
Connecticut .....	3,650	3,650	130	130	36	36
Delaware .....	820	820	20	20	24	24
Florida .....	29,200	29,000	1,400	1,300	48	45
Georgia .....	23,600	23,300	2,200	2,300	93	99
Hawaii .....	4,250	4,250	70	70	16	16
Idaho .....	13,700	13,500	700	700	51	52
Illinois .....	28,100	27,900	1,200	1,200	43	43
Indiana .....	26,400	25,800	1,000	900	38	35
Iowa .....	25,400	25,400	900	900	35	35
Kansas .....	21,800	21,800	1,900	2,000	87	92
Kentucky .....	45,100	44,300	3,100	3,100	69	70
Louisiana .....	15,400	15,300	1,100	1,100	71	72
Maine .....	4,800	4,800	390	390	81	81
Maryland .....	6,700	6,700	260	260	39	39
Massachusetts .....	4,500	4,500	180	190	40	42
Michigan .....	24,500	24,000	1,200	1,200	49	50
Minnesota .....	25,600	25,400	1,600	1,600	63	63
Mississippi .....	20,000	19,700	2,300	2,300	115	117
Missouri .....	44,500	44,400	3,300	3,300	74	74
Montana .....	11,700	11,600	2,000	1,900	171	164
Nebraska .....	12,000	11,500	900	800	75	70
Nevada .....	1,700	1,700	500	500	294	294
New Hampshire .....	2,750	2,750	170	170	62	62
New Jersey .....	6,400	6,400	160	160	25	25
New Mexico .....	17,100	16,800	5,400	5,100	316	304
New York .....	15,400	15,400	1,100	1,100	71	71
North Carolina .....	26,100	26,100	1,500	1,500	57	57
North Dakota .....	7,400	7,200	1,100	1,100	149	153
Ohio .....	40,100	40,400	1,700	1,600	42	40
Oklahoma .....	40,400	39,800	4,100	4,100	101	103
Oregon .....	23,800	23,400	1,000	1,000	42	43
Pennsylvania .....	25,000	25,000	1,300	1,300	52	52
Rhode Island .....	630	630	20	20	32	32
South Carolina .....	16,700	16,500	1,500	1,600	90	97
South Dakota .....	7,500	7,200	900	900	120	125
Tennessee .....	43,800	43,800	2,800	2,700	64	62
Texas .....	157,000	156,500	15,600	15,600	99	100
Utah .....	11,200	11,000	600	600	54	55
Vermont .....	3,750	3,750	280	280	75	75
Virginia .....	24,700	24,100	1,700	1,700	69	71
Washington .....	21,800	21,800	800	800	37	37
West Virginia .....	17,000	17,000	1,600	1,600	94	94
Wisconsin .....	28,700	28,800	1,800	1,800	63	63
Wyoming .....	5,600	5,600	1,100	1,200	196	214
United States .....	1,044,090	1,035,690	85,060	84,370	81	81

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2017-2018**

State	Economic sales class: \$10,000-\$99,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama .....	13,300	12,500	3,200	3,200	241	256
Alaska .....	360	360	450	450	1,250	1,250
Arizona .....	3,650	3,550	5,100	5,300	1,397	1,493
Arkansas .....	14,500	14,700	3,700	3,700	255	252
California .....	22,800	22,500	4,300	4,000	189	178
Colorado .....	10,900	11,200	7,200	7,100	661	634
Connecticut .....	1,400	1,400	100	100	71	71
Delaware .....	(D)	510	(D)	50	(D)	98
Florida .....	13,400	13,500	2,000	2,100	149	156
Georgia .....	12,000	11,500	2,700	2,700	225	235
Hawaii .....	2,500	2,500	200	200	80	80
Idaho .....	6,500	6,500	1,800	1,800	277	277
Illinois .....	20,400	20,200	2,600	2,600	127	129
Indiana .....	16,200	16,600	1,800	1,800	111	108
Iowa .....	26,300	26,200	3,700	3,700	141	141
Kansas .....	21,100	21,300	7,000	7,100	332	333
Kentucky .....	24,200	24,200	4,400	4,400	182	182
Louisiana .....	8,700	8,800	1,900	1,900	218	216
Maine .....	2,050	2,050	350	350	171	171
Maryland .....	3,300	3,300	390	390	118	118
Massachusetts .....	1,950	1,950	160	160	82	82
Michigan .....	14,200	14,400	1,700	1,700	120	118
Minnesota .....	20,400	20,400	3,600	3,600	176	176
Mississippi .....	10,700	10,700	3,000	3,000	280	280
Missouri .....	37,100	37,200	8,600	8,600	232	231
Montana .....	7,900	8,000	10,100	10,400	1,278	1,300
Nebraska .....	14,200	14,500	4,900	5,000	345	345
Nevada .....	970	970	500	500	515	515
New Hampshire .....	1,100	1,100	170	170	155	155
New Jersey .....	2,350	2,350	160	170	68	72
New Mexico .....	6,000	6,100	10,100	10,400	1,683	1,705
New York .....	11,300	11,400	1,800	1,800	159	158
North Carolina .....	12,500	12,700	1,700	1,800	136	142
North Dakota .....	7,400	7,400	3,800	4,000	514	541
Ohio .....	23,500	23,000	2,800	2,700	119	117
Oklahoma .....	29,400	29,000	11,400	11,400	388	393
Oregon .....	9,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	333	333
Pennsylvania .....	16,700	16,700	2,200	2,200	132	132
Rhode Island .....	(D)	340	(D)	20	(D)	59
South Carolina .....	5,900	5,900	1,300	1,300	220	220
South Dakota .....	9,300	9,300	4,600	4,600	495	495
Tennessee .....	21,700	21,700	3,800	3,900	175	180
Texas .....	73,800	72,800	39,100	38,300	530	526
Utah .....	5,200	5,100	1,900	1,900	365	373
Vermont .....	1,950	1,950	310	310	159	159
Virginia .....	14,000	14,000	2,800	2,800	200	200
Washington .....	8,200	8,300	1,800	1,800	220	217
West Virginia .....	5,800	5,600	1,500	1,400	259	250
Wisconsin .....	20,100	20,100	2,900	2,900	144	144
Wyoming .....	3,600	3,700	4,000	4,000	1,111	1,081
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	850	-	70	-	(X)	(X)
United States .....	620,630	619,030	186,660	186,770	301	302

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data withheld above.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2017-2018**

State	Economic sales class: \$100,000-\$249,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama .....	1,000	1,050	710	750	710	714
Alaska .....	40	40	210	210	5,250	5,250
Arizona .....	490	530	10,400	10,300	21,224	19,434
Arkansas .....	1,350	1,350	900	950	667	704
California .....	6,700	6,450	3,400	3,200	507	496
Colorado .....	2,500	2,550	5,800	5,900	2,320	2,314
Connecticut .....	(D)	190	(D)	30	(D)	158
Delaware .....	(D)	130	(D)	40	(D)	308
Florida .....	1,950	1,900	1,200	1,200	615	632
Georgia .....	1,400	1,450	700	690	500	476
Hawaii .....	270	270	130	130	481	481
Idaho .....	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,000	1,000
Illinois .....	8,200	8,000	2,800	2,700	341	338
Indiana .....	5,100	5,000	1,600	1,700	314	340
Iowa .....	11,100	11,100	3,600	3,600	324	324
Kansas .....	6,200	6,300	6,500	6,600	1,048	1,048
Kentucky .....	3,000	2,900	1,300	1,200	433	414
Louisiana .....	930	950	780	790	839	832
Maine .....	320	320	100	100	313	313
Maryland .....	720	720	210	210	292	292
Massachusetts .....	340	340	40	40	118	118
Michigan .....	3,350	3,150	1,100	1,200	328	381
Minnesota .....	7,700	7,700	2,900	2,900	377	377
Mississippi .....	930	920	610	610	656	663
Missouri .....	6,000	5,800	3,600	3,500	600	603
Montana .....	3,050	3,100	10,300	10,200	3,377	3,290
Nebraska .....	6,600	6,400	5,700	5,700	864	891
Nevada .....	220	220	900	900	4,091	4,091
New Hampshire .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey .....	450	450	100	110	222	244
New Mexico .....	850	820	6,600	6,300	7,765	7,683
New York .....	3,050	3,000	880	880	289	293
North Carolina .....	1,650	1,650	600	600	364	364
North Dakota .....	3,200	3,100	4,700	4,700	1,469	1,516
Ohio .....	6,100	6,400	2,000	2,200	328	344
Oklahoma .....	4,350	4,250	6,300	6,300	1,448	1,482
Oregon .....	1,850	1,850	2,600	2,600	1,405	1,405
Pennsylvania .....	5,100	5,100	1,100	1,100	216	216
Rhode Island .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina .....	620	630	320	320	516	508
South Dakota .....	4,450	4,450	6,700	6,800	1,506	1,528
Tennessee .....	1,800	1,800	850	850	472	472
Texas .....	7,500	7,500	19,200	20,200	2,560	2,693
Utah .....	910	900	1,200	1,300	1,319	1,444
Vermont .....	470	470	140	140	298	298
Virginia .....	1,750	1,750	950	950	543	543
Washington .....	1,900	1,800	3,200	3,100	1,684	1,722
West Virginia .....	370	370	270	270	730	730
Wisconsin .....	7,000	6,900	2,100	2,100	300	304
Wyoming .....	1,300	1,200	5,300	5,400	4,077	4,500
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	510	190	110	40	(X)	(X)
United States .....	136,340	135,110	132,410	133,310	971	987

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data withheld above.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2017-2018**

State	Economic sales class: \$250,000-\$499,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama .....	650	650	590	560	908	862
Alaska .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona .....	230	210	1,600	1,700	6,957	8,095
Arkansas .....	1,050	1,050	700	750	667	714
California .....	4,100	3,900	2,500	2,300	610	590
Colorado .....	1,400	1,450	5,500	5,700	3,929	3,931
Connecticut .....	(D)	110	(D)	20	(D)	182
Delaware .....	(D)	110	(D)	50	(D)	455
Florida .....	1,050	1,000	850	850	810	850
Georgia .....	1,050	1,050	600	610	571	581
Hawaii .....	120	120	170	170	1,417	1,417
Idaho .....	1,200	1,200	1,500	1,500	1,250	1,250
Illinois .....	6,400	6,200	4,100	4,000	641	645
Indiana .....	3,450	3,350	2,000	2,000	580	597
Iowa .....	8,900	8,900	5,500	5,500	618	618
Kansas .....	3,950	4,050	7,700	7,600	1,949	1,877
Kentucky .....	1,400	1,450	900	900	643	621
Louisiana .....	560	540	620	610	1,107	1,130
Maine .....	180	180	100	100	556	556
Maryland .....	490	490	230	230	469	469
Massachusetts .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan .....	2,200	2,200	1,300	1,200	591	545
Minnesota .....	5,800	5,800	3,800	3,900	655	672
Mississippi .....	590	600	590	590	1,000	983
Missouri .....	2,900	2,950	2,800	2,900	966	983
Montana .....	2,300	2,300	13,300	13,400	5,783	5,826
Nebraska .....	5,100	5,000	8,200	7,800	1,608	1,560
Nevada .....	240	240	1,000	1,000	4,167	4,167
New Hampshire .....	(D)	70	(D)	30	(D)	429
New Jersey .....	280	280	80	80	286	286
New Mexico .....	420	390	6,600	6,400	15,714	16,410
New York .....	1,750	1,750	780	780	446	446
North Carolina .....	1,250	1,250	700	700	560	560
North Dakota .....	3,000	3,000	6,600	6,500	2,200	2,167
Ohio .....	3,600	3,300	2,000	1,900	556	576
Oklahoma .....	2,050	2,050	4,600	4,600	2,244	2,244
Oregon .....	1,150	1,150	2,900	2,900	2,522	2,522
Pennsylvania .....	3,250	3,150	980	980	302	311
Rhode Island .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina .....	340	280	270	270	794	964
South Dakota .....	3,700	3,700	8,700	8,700	2,351	2,351
Tennessee .....	1,000	1,000	660	660	660	660
Texas .....	3,550	3,650	15,200	14,700	4,282	4,027
Utah .....	510	520	2,100	2,000	4,118	3,846
Vermont .....	320	320	130	130	406	406
Virginia .....	960	910	680	680	708	747
Washington .....	1,300	1,250	2,000	2,100	1,538	1,680
West Virginia .....	130	130	120	120	923	923
Wisconsin .....	4,300	4,300	2,000	2,000	465	465
Wyoming .....	800	810	6,100	6,200	7,625	7,654
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	540	250	230	130	(X)	(X)
United States .....	89,510	88,610	129,580	128,500	1,448	1,450

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data withheld above.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2017-2018**

State	Economic sales class: \$500,000-\$999,999					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama .....	1,150	1,200	700	690	609	575
Alaska .....	(D)	30	(D)	20	(D)	667
Arizona .....	210	200	1,100	1,000	5,238	5,000
Arkansas .....	1,350	1,350	1,200	1,200	889	889
California .....	3,300	3,550	2,500	2,200	758	620
Colorado .....	920	900	4,600	4,500	5,000	5,000
Connecticut .....	(D)	70	(D)	20	(D)	286
Delaware .....	260	260	110	110	423	423
Florida .....	800	900	650	650	813	722
Georgia .....	1,800	1,800	1,400	1,400	778	778
Hawaii .....	70	70	210	210	3,000	3,000
Idaho .....	800	800	1,800	1,800	2,250	2,250
Illinois .....	5,200	5,300	5,900	6,100	1,135	1,151
Indiana .....	2,650	2,450	2,800	2,800	1,057	1,143
Iowa .....	8,000	8,000	7,800	7,800	975	975
Kansas .....	2,950	3,000	9,300	9,200	3,153	3,067
Kentucky .....	1,000	1,000	900	900	900	900
Louisiana .....	710	710	1,100	1,050	1,549	1,479
Maine .....	110	110	70	70	636	636
Maryland .....	520	520	330	330	635	635
Massachusetts .....	(D)	140	(D)	30	(D)	214
Michigan .....	1,650	1,550	1,500	1,500	909	968
Minnesota .....	4,800	4,800	5,100	5,100	1,063	1,063
Mississippi .....	880	880	900	900	1,023	1,023
Missouri .....	2,400	2,400	3,700	3,700	1,542	1,542
Montana .....	1,400	1,300	12,200	12,200	8,714	9,385
Nebraska .....	4,300	4,400	9,400	9,400	2,186	2,136
Nevada .....	140	140	700	700	5,000	5,000
New Hampshire .....	(D)	30	(D)	10	(D)	333
New Jersey .....	200	200	90	90	450	450
New Mexico .....	290	260	5,900	6,300	20,345	24,231
New York .....	930	930	640	640	688	688
North Carolina .....	1,450	1,450	900	900	621	621
North Dakota .....	2,800	2,800	9,100	9,100	3,250	3,250
Ohio .....	2,450	2,550	2,300	2,300	939	902
Oklahoma .....	1,250	1,150	3,700	3,600	2,960	3,130
Oregon .....	850	850	2,800	2,800	3,294	3,294
Pennsylvania .....	1,700	1,700	750	750	441	441
Rhode Island .....	(D)	20	(D)	10	(D)	500
South Carolina .....	360	410	400	400	1,111	976
South Dakota .....	2,700	2,700	8,900	8,900	3,296	3,296
Tennessee .....	830	830	890	890	1,072	1,072
Texas .....	3,000	3,000	14,300	14,500	4,767	4,833
Utah .....	310	310	1,000	1,000	3,226	3,226
Vermont .....	140	140	80	80	571	571
Virginia .....	880	830	670	670	761	807
Washington .....	1,100	1,100	2,300	2,300	2,091	2,091
West Virginia .....	150	150	100	100	667	667
Wisconsin .....	2,550	2,550	1,900	1,900	745	745
Wyoming .....	400	390	6,200	6,100	15,500	15,641
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	290	-	90	-	(X)	(X)
United States .....	72,000	72,180	138,980	138,920	1,930	1,925

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data withheld above.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class – States and United States: 2017-2018**

State	Economic sales class: \$1,000,000 or more					
	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average farm size	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(number)	(number)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Alabama .....	1,700	1,700	1,200	1,200	706	706
Alaska .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona .....	420	410	3,200	3,100	7,619	7,561
Arkansas .....	3,450	3,350	5,500	5,500	1,594	1,642
California .....	6,400	6,600	10,500	11,200	1,641	1,697
Colorado .....	880	900	6,400	6,500	7,273	7,222
Connecticut .....	80	80	80	80	1,000	1,000
Delaware .....	470	470	260	260	553	553
Florida .....	1,200	1,200	3,600	3,600	3,000	3,000
Georgia .....	2,550	2,500	2,400	2,400	941	960
Hawaii .....	90	90	320	320	3,556	3,556
Idaho .....	1,100	1,100	4,200	4,100	3,818	3,727
Illinois .....	4,400	4,400	10,400	10,400	2,364	2,364
Indiana .....	2,800	2,900	5,800	5,800	2,071	2,000
Iowa .....	6,400	6,400	9,100	9,100	1,422	1,422
Kansas .....	2,600	2,450	13,400	13,300	5,154	5,429
Kentucky .....	1,300	1,250	2,400	2,400	1,846	1,920
Louisiana .....	1,100	1,100	2,500	2,550	2,273	2,318
Maine .....	140	140	290	290	2,071	2,071
Maryland .....	670	670	580	580	866	866
Massachusetts .....	70	(D)	40	(D)	571	(D)
Michigan .....	1,700	1,700	3,000	3,000	1,765	1,765
Minnesota .....	4,500	4,400	8,500	8,400	1,889	1,909
Mississippi .....	1,900	1,900	3,000	3,000	1,579	1,579
Missouri .....	2,400	2,250	5,800	5,700	2,417	2,533
Montana .....	650	600	10,200	9,900	15,692	16,500
Nebraska .....	4,100	4,100	15,900	16,300	3,878	3,976
Nevada .....	130	130	2,500	2,500	19,231	19,231
New Hampshire .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey .....	220	220	140	140	636	636
New Mexico .....	340	330	6,100	6,000	17,941	18,182
New York .....	970	920	1,700	1,700	1,753	1,848
North Carolina .....	3,450	3,250	3,000	2,900	870	892
North Dakota .....	2,600	2,600	14,000	13,900	5,385	5,346
Ohio .....	2,050	2,150	3,200	3,200	1,561	1,488
Oklahoma .....	1,050	1,050	4,100	4,200	3,905	4,000
Oregon .....	950	950	3,700	3,700	3,895	3,895
Pennsylvania .....	1,450	1,350	970	970	669	719
Rhode Island .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Carolina .....	880	880	910	910	1,034	1,034
South Dakota .....	2,350	2,250	13,400	13,300	5,702	5,911
Tennessee .....	870	870	1,900	1,900	2,184	2,184
Texas .....	3,650	3,550	23,600	23,700	6,466	6,676
Utah .....	270	270	4,000	3,900	14,815	14,444
Vermont .....	170	170	260	260	1,529	1,529
Virginia .....	910	910	1,000	1,000	1,099	1,099
Washington .....	1,500	1,450	4,600	4,600	3,067	3,172
West Virginia .....	150	150	110	110	733	733
Wisconsin .....	2,150	2,150	3,600	3,600	1,674	1,674
Wyoming .....	200	200	6,300	6,100	31,500	30,500
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	50	120	20	60	(X)	(X)
United States .....	79,430	78,580	227,680	227,630	2,866	2,897

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data withheld above.

## Statistical Methodology

**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 sampling frame approach to count farms and measure land in farms. An Area Sampling Frame that divides all land into segments is built for every state except Alaska. A sample of segments is selected in each state except Alaska and Hawaii 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 summaries of farm numbers and acres of 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 found in the Area Frame sample that are not on the list provide a measure of incompleteness of the list. The summarized totals for these non-overlap (or not-on-list) operations are combined with summarized totals collected from a sample selected from the list to calculate additional indications 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 national totals for Headquarters review. Field Offices perform a thorough review of their survey results and historical data relationships and recommend official estimates. Headquarters establishes national estimates and ensures that state estimates are in balance with the 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 affect the level of the estimate.

**Reliability:** Two types of errors, sampling and non-sampling, are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types can affect the quality 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. In 2018, the relative sampling error for the United States number of farms was 1.8 percent and land in farms was 3.1 percent. Relative sampling errors by economic sales class ranged from 2.3 to 8.2 percent for number of farms and 3.9 to 13.4 percent for land in farms at the United States level.

Non-sampling 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 non-sampling 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), and other government conservation 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 CRP, WRP, and other government conservation 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 are also included.

**Point Farms** are places that did not have \$1,000 of reported sales for the year, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more.

## 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. The handling of Indian reservation land was changed in 2002 to provide some accounting for individual farms.

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

**Historic Estimates:** Final estimates of Farms and Land in Farms in earlier years are available in Statistical Bulletins No. 1049 for 2013-2017, No. 1030 for 2008-2012, No. 1018 for 2003-2007, No. 991 for 1998-2002, No. 955 for 1993-97, No. 895 for 1988-92, No. 792 for 1979-87, SpSy3 for 1975-80, No. 594 for 1969-75, No. 507 for 1959-70, No. 316 for number of farm estimates for 1910-59 and land in farms estimates for 1950-59.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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Bruce Boess, Head, Economics Section .....	(202) 720-4447
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Kuan Chen – Prices, Prices Indexes, Parity Prices.....	(202) 690-3347
Ryan Cowen – Cash Rents, Farms, Land in Farms, Land Values, Grazing Fees.....	(202) 720-2250
Doug Farmer – Chemical Use .....	(202) 690-3229
Stephen Habets – Prices, Prices Indexes, Parity Prices .....	(202) 720-9168
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Fred Granja – Census of Agriculture, Census of Horticulture .....	(202) 690-3233
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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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