

Farms and Land in Farms



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

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Farm Numbers Up Slightly While Land in Farms Remains Unchanged

The number of farms in the United States in 1995 is estimated at 2.07 million, up less than half a percent from 1994. Total land in farms is 972 million acres, virtually unchanged from last year. This is the first time since 1981 that farm numbers have increased from the previous year and is due to the increase in small farms. The increase in small farms is partly due to a change in definition that includes places with 5 or more horses, except horses in boarding stables and racetracks. This change in the definition was made to bring consistency with the Census Bureau. The average farm size decreased from 471 acres in 1994 to 469 in 1995.

The West Region had the largest percentage increase from 1994, at nearly one percent or 2,200 farms. The North Central Region showed the biggest increase in number of farms at 5,000 or about a half percent. The Northeast Region was the only region to show a decline in farm numbers from a year ago, with 1,400 or 1.1 percent fewer farms. Farm numbers in the South Region rose 2,800.

Texas remains the State with the most farms at 202,000, 2,000 more than a year earlier. Missouri is second with 106,000 farms, up 1,000 from last year, followed by Iowa with 100,000 farms, down 1,000 from 1994.

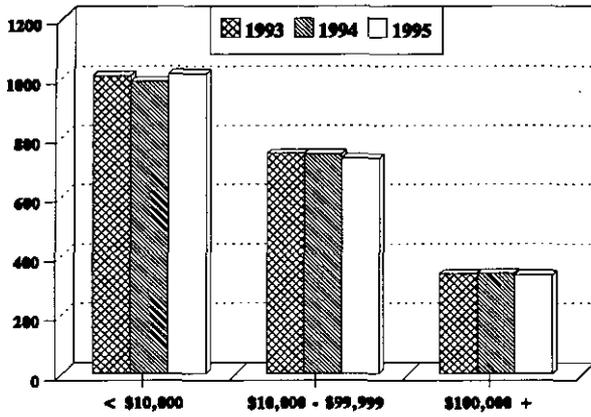
Seventeen States showed increases in farm numbers while 13 States showed decreases from a year ago. Three States that showed increases of 2,000 farms from last year were Michigan, Minnesota, and Texas. Seven States with decreases of 1,000 farms included Iowa, Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Tennessee.

Texas continued to lead the nation in land in farms and ranches with 129.0 million acres, unchanged from 1994. Three States with decreases of 200,000 acres in agricultural land from a year ago include New Mexico, New York, and South Dakota. States with the largest increases in land in farms were California, Louisiana, Minnesota, and Mississippi.

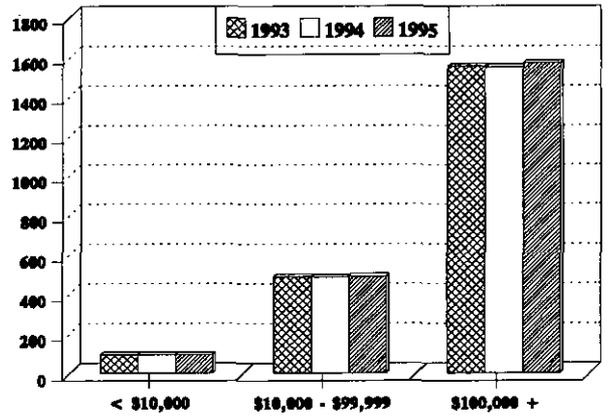
The number of U.S. farms in the economic sales class between \$1,000 and \$9,999 increased from 985,420 in 1994 to 1,012,220 in 1995. Those with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 group decreased from 741,700 to 727,400. The \$100,000 and over sales group decreased from 337,600 to 333,700 farms.

Estimates for the number of farms and land in farms refer to June 1. 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."

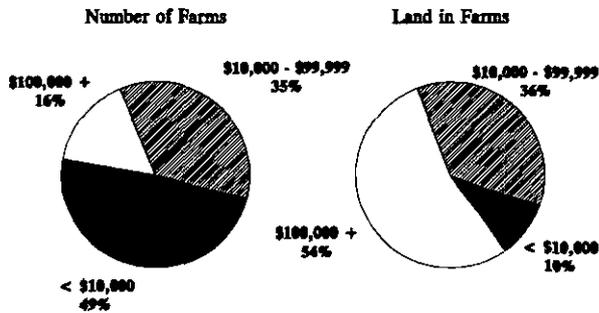
**U.S. Number of Farms by Sales Class
Gross Value of Sales, 1993-95**



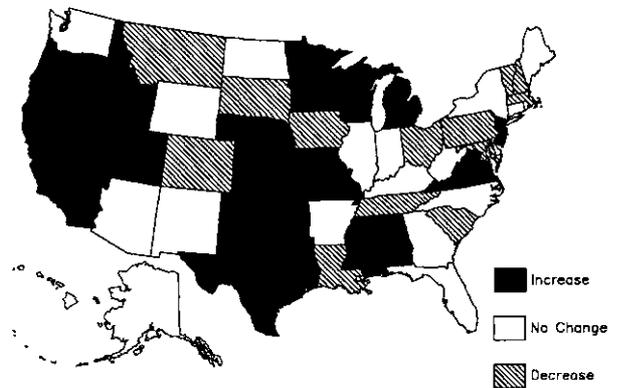
**U.S. Average Farm Size by Sales Class
Gross Value of Sales, 1993-95**



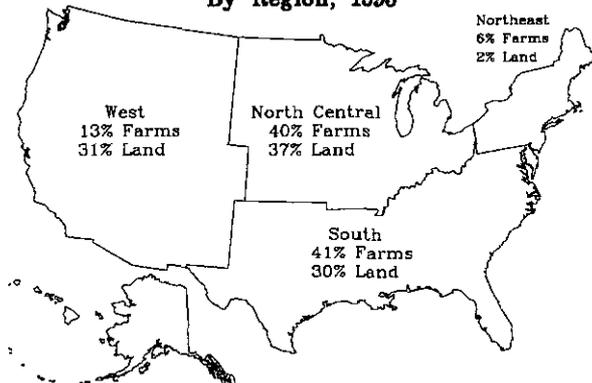
U.S. Percentages by Sales Class - 1995



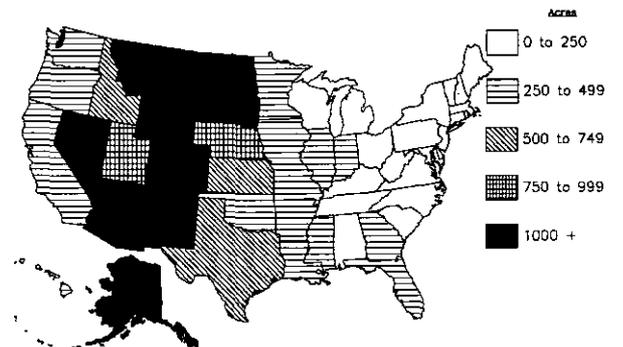
Change in Number of Farms Since 1994



**Distribution of Farms and Land in Farms
By Region, 1995**



Average Farm Size - June 1995

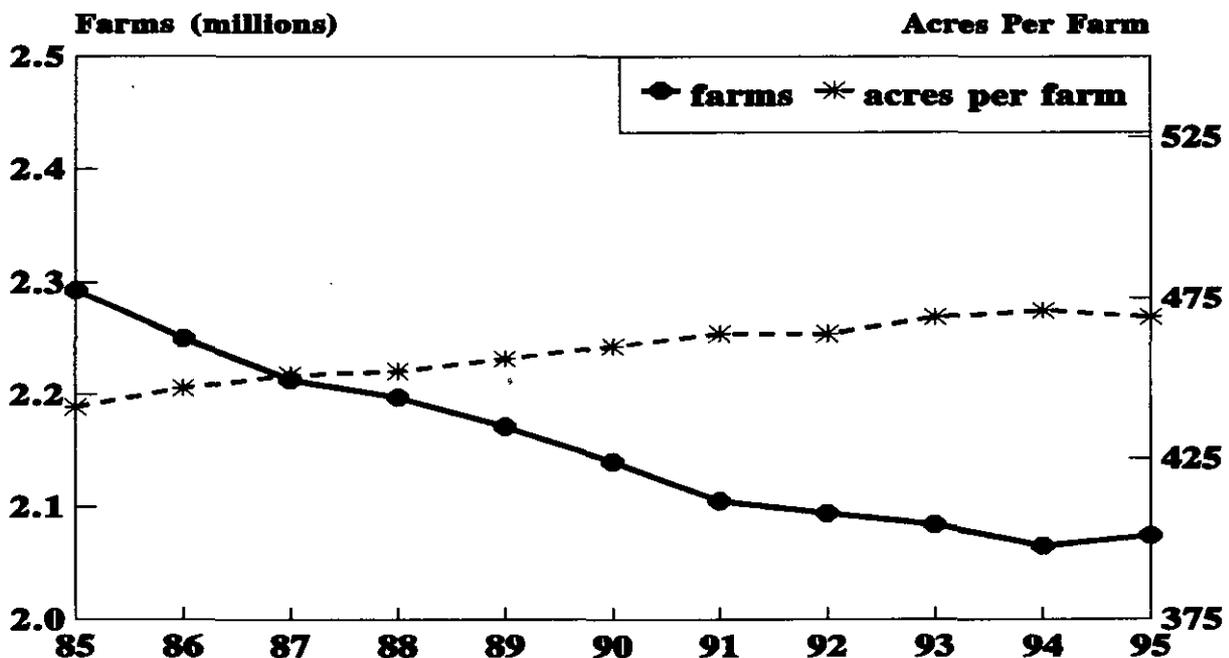


Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size:
United States, June 1, 1985-95 1/

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Farm Size
	1,000	1,000 Acres	Acres
1985	2,293	1,012,073	441
1986	2,250	1,005,333	447
1987	2,213	998,923	451
1988	2,201	994,423	452
1989	2,175	990,723	456
1990	2,146	986,850	460
1991	2,117	981,736	464
1992	2,108	978,503	464
1993	2,083	976,463	469
1994	2,065	973,403	471
1995	2,073	972,253	469

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.

Number of Farms and Average Farm Size United States, June 1, 1985 - 1995



Number of Farms: By State and United States, June 1, 1993-95

State	1993	1994	1995
	Number		
AL	46,000	46,000	47,000
AK	530	520	520
AZ	7,400	7,400	7,400
AR	45,000	44,000	44,000
CA	79,000	79,000	80,000
CO	25,500	25,300	25,000
CT	3,800	3,800	3,800
DE	2,500	2,500	2,500
FL	39,000	39,000	39,000
GA	46,000	45,000	45,000
HI	4,800	4,800	4,800
ID	20,500	20,500	21,500
IL	79,000	77,000	77,000
IN	63,000	63,000	63,000
IA	102,000	101,000	100,000
KS	65,000	65,000	66,000
KY	91,000	89,000	89,000
LA	29,000	28,000	27,000
ME	7,300	7,600	7,600
MD	15,000	14,500	14,300
MA	6,200	6,000	5,800
MI	52,000	52,000	54,000
MN	87,000	85,000	87,000
MS	39,000	39,000	40,000
MO	106,000	105,000	106,000
MT	23,800	22,500	22,000
NE	55,000	55,000	56,000
NV	2,400	2,400	2,500
NH	2,500	2,400	2,300
NJ	8,900	8,900	9,000
NM	13,500	13,500	13,500
NY	37,500	36,000	36,000
NC	59,000	58,000	58,000
ND	32,500	32,000	32,000
OH	76,000	75,000	74,000
OK	70,500	70,000	71,000
OR	37,500	38,000	38,500
PA	51,000	51,000	50,000
RI	700	700	700
SC	24,000	23,000	22,000
SD	34,500	34,000	33,000
TN	84,000	83,000	82,000
TX	200,000	200,000	202,000
UT	13,000	13,000	13,400
VT	6,400	6,200	6,000
VA	45,000	46,000	47,000
WA	36,000	36,000	36,000
WV	20,000	20,000	20,000
WI	79,000	79,000	80,000
WY	9,200	9,200	9,200
US	2,083,430	2,064,720	2,073,320

Land in Farms: By State and United States, June 1, 1993-95

State	1993	1994	1995
	1,000 Acres		
AL	10,000	10,200	10,200
AK	940	930	920
AZ	35,500	35,400	35,400
AR	15,300	15,100	15,000
CA	30,000	29,900	30,000
CO	32,800	32,700	32,700
CT	400	390	380
DE	570	570	570
FL	10,300	10,300	10,300
GA	12,100	12,100	12,000
HI	1,590	1,590	1,590
ID	13,500	13,500	13,500
IL	28,100	28,100	28,100
IN	16,000	16,000	15,900
IA	33,300	33,200	33,200
KS	47,800	47,800	47,800
KY	14,100	14,100	14,000
LA	8,600	8,400	8,500
ME	1,400	1,360	1,350
MD	2,200	2,200	2,200
MA	610	600	570
MI	10,700	10,700	10,700
MN	29,700	29,700	29,800
MS	12,800	12,800	12,900
MO	30,200	30,100	30,000
MT	59,800	59,700	59,700
NE	47,100	47,100	47,100
NV	8,900	8,800	8,800
NH	440	440	440
NJ	870	860	850
NM	44,200	44,200	44,000
NY	8,100	7,900	7,700
NC	9,400	9,300	9,200
ND	40,400	40,400	40,300
OH	15,200	15,200	15,200
OK	34,000	34,000	34,000
OR	17,500	17,500	17,500
PA	7,900	7,800	7,700
RI	63	63	63
SC	5,150	5,100	5,050
SD	44,200	44,200	44,000
TN	12,100	12,000	12,000
TX	130,000	129,000	129,000
UT	11,200	11,100	11,100
VT	1,430	1,400	1,370
VA	8,600	8,600	8,600
WA	16,000	15,800	15,800
WV	3,700	3,700	3,700
WI	17,100	16,900	16,900
WY	34,600	34,600	34,600
US	976,463	973,403	972,253

Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, June 1, 1995

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
Number				
Northeast				
NY	16,800	11,400	7,800	36,000
PA	24,000	17,700	8,300	50,000
Other States 1/	21,500	8,000	5,700	35,200
Total	62,300	37,100	21,800	121,200
North Central				
IL	22,000	31,500	23,500	77,000
IN	25,000	25,500	12,500	63,000
IA	26,000	42,800	31,200	100,000
KS	25,000	30,000	11,000	66,000
MI	29,000	17,000	8,000	54,000
MN	35,000	34,000	18,000	87,000
MO	55,300	40,800	9,900	106,000
NE	10,500	27,500	18,000	56,000
ND	5,600	15,600	10,800	32,000
OH	37,500	26,500	10,000	74,000
SD	6,000	17,000	10,000	33,000
WI	32,600	28,100	19,300	80,000
Total	309,500	336,300	182,200	828,000
South				
AL 2/	32,000			47,000
AR	21,000	13,000	10,000	44,000
FL 2/	24,000			39,000
GA	25,400	12,500	7,100	45,000
KY 2/	48,000			89,000
LA 2/	15,500			27,000
MS 2/	27,200			40,000
NC	32,000	17,000	9,000	58,000
OK	39,200	26,500	5,300	71,000
TN 2/	57,000			82,000
TX	123,000	61,000	18,000	202,000
VA 2/	31,000			47,000
Other States 2/ 3/	38,500			58,800
Total	513,800	254,000	82,000	849,800
West				
CA	33,000	28,800	18,200	80,000
OR 2/	27,500			38,500
WA	20,300	8,000	7,700	36,000
Other States 2/ 4/	45,820			119,820
Total	126,620	100,000	47,700	274,320
US	1,012,220	727,400	333,700	2,073,320

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, June 1, 1995

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	1,000 Acres			
Northeast				
NY	1,500	2,200	4,000	7,700
PA	1,900	3,000	2,800	7,700
Other States 1/	1,523	1,300	2,200	5,023
Total	4,923	6,500	9,000	20,423
North Central				
IL	800	6,800	20,500	28,100
IN	1,300	5,100	9,500	15,900
IA	1,800	11,200	20,200	33,200
KS	3,200	21,500	23,100	47,800
MI	1,500	3,100	6,100	10,700
MN	3,600	9,600	16,600	29,800
MO	5,400	14,000	10,600	30,000
NE	900	15,700	30,500	47,100
ND	1,200	13,600	25,500	40,300
OH	2,800	5,600	6,800	15,200
SD	1,300	19,400	23,300	44,000
WI	2,700	5,200	9,000	16,900
Total	26,500	130,800	201,700	359,000
South				
AL 2/	3,800			10,200
AR	1,800	2,300	10,900	15,000
FL 2/	1,800			10,300
GA	2,400	3,500	6,100	12,000
KY 2/	3,700			14,000
LA 2/	1,600			8,500
MS 2/	3,000			12,900
NC	1,600	2,700	4,900	9,200
OK	5,300	18,400	10,300	34,000
TN 2/	4,300			12,000
TX	14,000	55,000	60,000	129,000
VA 2/	2,200			8,600
Other States 2/ 3/	3,800			11,520
Total	49,300	119,000	118,920	287,220
West				
CA	2,300	7,500	20,200	30,000
OR 2/	1,700			17,500
WA	950	3,700	11,150	15,800
Other States 2/ 4/	8,500			242,310
Total	13,450	99,300	192,860	305,610
US	94,173	355,600	522,480	972,253

- 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.

Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, June 1, 1994

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	Number			
Northeast				
NY	16,600	11,200	8,200	36,000
PA	24,300	18,300	8,400	51,000
Other States 1/	21,600	8,000	6,000	35,600
Total	62,500	37,500	22,600	122,600
North Central				
IL	21,000	33,000	23,000	77,000
IN	25,500	24,500	13,000	63,000
IA	25,000	45,000	31,000	101,000
KS	24,000	30,000	11,000	65,000
MI	27,000	17,000	8,000	52,000
MN	30,000	34,000	21,000	85,000
MO	53,500	41,700	9,800	105,000
NE	9,000	28,500	17,500	55,000
ND	6,000	15,400	10,600	32,000
OH	38,000	27,000	10,000	75,000
SD	6,000	18,000	10,000	34,000
WI	28,000	32,400	18,600	79,000
Total	293,000	346,500	183,500	823,000
South				
AL 2/	31,000			46,000
AR	21,000	13,000	10,000	44,000
FL 2/	24,000			39,000
GA	25,300	12,800	6,900	45,000
KY 2/	48,000			89,000
LA 2/	17,000			28,000
MS 2/	26,100			39,000
NC	32,000	17,000	9,000	58,000
OK	37,400	27,000	5,600	70,000
TN 2/	58,000			83,000
TX	119,000	61,000	20,000	200,000
VA 2/	30,000			46,000
Other States 2/ 3/	38,500			60,000
Total	507,300	256,700	83,000	847,000
West				
CA	32,500	27,800	18,700	79,000
OR 2/	27,000			38,000
WA	20,100	8,300	7,600	36,000
Other States 2/ 4/	43,020			119,120
Total	122,620	101,000	48,500	272,120
US	985,420	741,700	337,600	2,064,720

- 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, June 1, 1994

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	1,000 Acres			
Northeast				
NY	1,400	2,300	4,200	7,900
PA	1,800	3,200	2,800	7,800
Other States 1/	1,563	1,300	2,250	5,113
Total	4,763	6,800	9,250	20,813
North Central				
IL	800	6,800	20,500	28,100
IN	1,200	4,900	9,900	16,000
IA	1,700	11,500	20,000	33,200
KS	3,200	22,000	22,600	47,800
MI	1,500	3,100	6,100	10,700
MN	3,400	9,700	16,600	29,700
MO	5,400	14,200	10,500	30,100
NE	800	15,800	30,500	47,100
ND	1,100	14,300	25,000	40,400
OH	2,700	5,800	6,700	15,200
SD	1,400	19,500	23,300	44,200
WI	2,500	5,800	8,600	16,900
Total	25,700	133,400	200,300	359,400
South				
AL 2/	3,600			10,200
AR	1,900	2,300	10,900	15,100
FL 2/	1,800			10,300
GA	2,600	3,500	6,000	12,100
KY 2/	3,700			14,100
LA 2/	1,800			8,400
MS 2/	3,000			12,800
NC	1,800	2,600	4,900	9,300
OK	5,000	18,500	10,500	34,000
TN 2/	4,300			12,000
TX	14,000	54,000	61,000	129,000
VA 2/	2,200			8,600
Other States 2/ 3/	3,800			11,570
Total	49,500	119,000	118,970	287,470
West				
CA	2,100	7,200	20,600	29,900
OR 2/	1,700			17,500
WA	900	3,900	11,000	15,800
Other States 2/ 4/	8,500			242,520
Total	13,200	99,500	193,020	305,720
US	93,163	358,700	521,540	973,403

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.

Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,
Region, and United States, June 1, 1993

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	Number			
Northeast				
NY	17,600	11,900	8,000	37,500
PA	24,400	18,500	8,100	51,000
Other States 1/	22,000	8,500	5,300	35,800
Total	64,000	38,900	21,400	124,300
North Central				
IL	21,000	35,000	23,000	79,000
IN	26,000	24,500	12,500	63,000
IA	24,000	45,000	33,000	102,000
KS	24,000	30,000	11,000	65,000
MI	27,000	17,000	8,000	52,000
MN	31,000	34,000	22,000	87,000
MO	54,000	42,400	9,600	106,000
NE	9,000	29,000	17,000	55,000
ND	6,300	15,500	10,700	32,500
OH	38,900	27,000	10,100	76,000
SD	6,000	18,500	10,000	34,500
WI	29,000	32,000	18,000	79,000
Total	296,200	349,900	184,900	831,000
South				
AL 2/	30,000			46,000
AR	23,500	11,500	10,000	45,000
FL 2/	24,000			39,000
GA	25,500	13,500	7,000	46,000
KY 2/	50,000			91,000
LA 2/	18,000			29,000
MS 2/	26,000			39,000
NC	33,000	17,500	8,500	59,000
OK	37,700	27,200	5,600	70,500
TN 2/	59,000			84,000
TX	122,000	61,000	17,000	200,000
VA 2/	28,000			45,000
Other States 2/ 3/	38,300			61,500
Total	515,000	257,000	83,000	855,000
West				
CA	34,000	26,200	18,800	79,000
OR 2/	27,000			37,500
WA	20,200	8,300	7,500	36,000
Other States 2/ 4/	48,700			120,630
Total	129,900	97,000	46,230	273,130
US	1,005,100	742,800	335,530	2,083,430

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, June 1, 1993

State and Region	Economic Sales Class			Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 & Over	
	1,000 Acres			
Northeast				
NY	1,400	2,500	4,200	8,100
PA	1,800	3,300	2,800	7,900
Other States 1/	1,458	1,455	2,300	5,213
Total	4,658	7,255	9,300	21,213
North Central				
IL	800	7,200	20,100	28,100
IN	1,200	5,100	9,700	16,000
IA	1,500	11,000	20,800	33,300
KS	3,300	22,200	22,300	47,800
MI	1,500	3,100	6,100	10,700
MN	3,200	9,700	16,800	29,700
MO	5,500	14,300	10,400	30,200
NE	800	16,300	30,000	47,100
ND	1,100	14,600	24,700	40,400
OH	2,700	5,800	6,700	15,200
SD	1,400	19,500	23,300	44,200
WI	2,600	6,500	8,000	17,100
Total	25,600	135,300	198,900	359,800
South				
AL 2/	3,600			10,000
AR	2,000	2,400	10,900	15,300
FL 2/	1,800			10,300
GA	2,500	3,700	5,900	12,100
KY 2/	3,800			14,100
LA 2/	2,000			8,600
MS 2/	3,000			12,800
NC	1,850	2,700	4,850	9,400
OK	4,900	18,500	10,600	34,000
TN 2/	4,500	0		12,100
TX	15,000	54,000	61,000	130,000
VA 2/	2,100			8,600
Other States 2/ 3/	3,920			11,620
Total	50,970	119,000	118,950	288,920
West				
CA	2,100	7,100	20,800	30,000
OR 2/	1,700			17,500
WA	900	4,000	11,100	16,000
Other States 2/ 4/	9,020			243,030
Total	13,720	99,600	193,210	306,530
US	94,948	361,155	520,360	976,463

- 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 and Land in Farms: By Economic Sales
Class, United States, June 1, 1993-95

Economic Sales Class	Economic Sales Class Estimates		
	Percent of Total		Average Size Farm (Acres)
	Farms	Land	
1993			
\$1,000 - \$2,499	21.1	2.7	60
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.3	3.0	98
\$5,000 - \$9,999	12.8	4.0	146
\$10,000 - \$19,999	11.5	6.6	269
\$20,000 - \$39,999	10.8	9.9	430
\$40,000 - \$99,999	13.4	20.5	717
\$100,000 - \$249,999	10.6	25.6	1,132
\$250,000 - \$499,999	3.3	12.9	1,832
\$500,000 +	2.2	14.8	3,153
Total	100.0	100.0	469
1994			
\$1,000 - \$2,499	20.4	2.6	60
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.0	2.9	98
\$5,000 - \$9,999	13.3	4.0	142
\$10,000 - \$19,999	11.9	6.7	265
\$20,000 - \$39,999	10.7	9.7	427
\$40,000 - \$99,999	13.3	20.5	726
\$100,000 - \$249,999	10.7	25.7	1,132
\$250,000 - \$499,999	3.4	13.1	1,816
\$500,000 +	2.3	14.8	3,032
Total	100.0	100.0	471
1995			
\$1,000 - \$2,499	21.4	2.7	59
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.4	2.9	94
\$5,000 - \$9,999	13.0	4.1	148
\$10,000 - \$19,999	11.7	6.6	265
\$20,000 - \$39,999	10.5	9.8	438
\$40,000 - \$99,999	12.9	20.2	734
\$100,000 - \$249,999	10.3	25.7	1,170
\$250,000 - \$499,999	3.5	13.1	1,755
\$500,000 +	2.3	14.9	3,038
Total	100.0	100.0	469

Reliability of Data in this Report

Survey Procedures: These data were collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service during the first two weeks of June using sampling procedures to ensure every farm operator had a chance of being selected. Two samples of farm operators are selected. First, NASS maintains a list of farms which are classified and sampled by size and type. Larger farms are selected with greater frequency but all farms are represented. A second sample consists of segments of land scientifically selected from aerial photography. Each June, highly trained interviewers locate each selected land segment and identify every farm operating land within the sample segment's boundaries. The names of farms found in these area segments are matched against the list of farms; those 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 number of farms and land in farms.

Beginning in 1995, interviewers counted operations having 5 or more horses or ponies and no sales as horse farms. Horses in boarding stables and racetracks and maple syrup only operations are excluded. This is a continuing effort to have NASS and Census publish comparable data.

Estimation Procedures: National, Regional, and State data were reviewed for reasonableness and consistency. Each State Statistical Office submits its analysis to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) which prepares the June 1 based 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 numbers information is subject to revision the following year and following review of the Department of Commerce's 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 1988-92 will be published July 28, 1995.

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 less than 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 to 4 percent for number of farms and 2 to 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 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 Definitions

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. To be considered a farm, the place must be operating on June 1. Places with all their acreage enrolled in set aside or other government programs are considered operating farms. All places classified using the Standard Industrial code Classification System coded as 01, crops or 02, livestock are considered to be farms if agricultural production is equal to \$1,000 or more. According to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Manual,

"agricultural production covers establishments (e.g., farms, ranches, dairies, greenhouses, nurseries, orchards, hatcheries) primarily engaged in the production of crops, plants, vines, or trees (excluding forestry operations); and the keeping, grazing, or feeding of livestock for the sale of livestock or livestock products (including serums), for livestock increase, or for value increase. Livestock as used here includes cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, and poultry. Also included are animal specialties, such as horses, rabbits, bees, pets, fur-bearing animals in captivity, and fish in captivity. Agricultural production also includes establishments primarily engaged in the operation of sod farms, cranberry bogs, and poultry hatcheries; in the production of mushrooms, bulbs, flower seeds, and vegetable seeds; and in the growing of hydroponic crops."

This standard classification of agricultural production is generally followed by NASS and the Census Bureau in the classification of farms with the exception of "pets." Both NASS and the Census Bureau do not classify as farms places that raise household pets, such as dogs or cats, for sale.

Land in farms is all land operated by farms as of June 1. 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 (excluding pleasure horses), honey, furs, fish, nursery and greenhouse products, rabbits, etc. Government program payments from the previous year are also included.

The next "Farms and Land in Farms" report will be released in July 1996.

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