

# FARM NUMBERS

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NUMBER OF FARMS

LAND IN FARMS

REVISED ESTIMATES FOR 1975-1980

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES FOR 1981

Farms and Land in Farms 1975-81  
Revised Estimates 1975-80

This publication contains the Department of Agriculture's official estimates for number of farms and land in farms. Revised State and U.S. estimates are based upon a review of the original estimates, taking into consideration: (1) the 1974 and 1978 Census data, (2) data from the ESS June Enumerative Survey, and (3) data in State offices such as State Farm Census and other data used to estimate crop acreages and livestock numbers.

In using the published 1974 and the 1978 preliminary Census data, it was necessary to be aware of the different data collection procedures used by the Bureau of the Census. The 1974 Census publication of farm numbers had considerable incompleteness. Factors indicating incompleteness were published by Bureau of Census in Volume IV, Special Reports, Part 3, Coverage Evaluation, Table 13. These factors were used to adjust the 1974 Census data. The 1978 published Census data contain the expanded land area sample estimate designed to account for the incompleteness of the list. The 1974 and 1978 Census data provided general benchmarks for farm numbers. Estimates for intracensus years were based largely upon changes indicated by the June Enumerative Survey which measures the number of farms as of June 1 of each survey year.

Estimates of land in farms represent land operated in places defined as farms. Estimates of farmland exclude government owned land grazed on a permit or fee basis but include land leased from the government for production of crops or livestock (includes grazing, if on a per acre basis).

Farms are defined as places from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold, or normally would be sold, during the previous year. All estimates in this publication are based upon this definition.

This publication is the complete series of farm numbers and land in farms since the current definition was adopted in 1975. Previous series using earlier definitions can be found in: Farm Numbers, December 28, 1978; Statistical Bulletin #599, December 1977 and Statistical Bulletin #507, January 1973.

## TRENDS

Farm numbers declined from 2.52 million in 1975 to 2.43 million in 1980. Nationally, the number of farms was relatively stable during the 1975-80 period. The number of farms in the Midwestern States has continued to decline while Northeastern and Westcoast States show increasing numbers of farms in recent years. The preliminary 1981 estimate at 2.42 million farms continues the slow decline of recent years. The Midwest States account for most of the decrease.

Land in farms show a gradual loss, decreasing about 2% since 1975. The average size of farm, however, increased from 420 acres in 1975 to 429 acres in 1980. For 1981, the preliminary forecast is 430 acres. This series does not estimate farms by size, or for geographic areas at less than the State level.

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS, UNITED STATES, 1975-81

YEAR	NUMBER OF FARMS	LAND IN FARMS	AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS
	THOUSANDS	THOUSAND ACRES	ACRES
1975	2,521	1,059,420	420
1976	2,497	1,054,075	422
1977	2,456	1,047,785	427
1978	2,436	1,044,790	429
1979	2,430	1,043,195	429
1980	2,428	1,042,245	429
1981 <sup>1/</sup>	2,419	1,041,370	430

<sup>1/</sup> PRELIMINARY.

NUMBER OF FARMS, 1/ BY STATES, 1975-78

STATE	1975	1976	1977	1978
	NUMBER			
ALA	63,000	63,000	61,000	59,000
ALAS	300	310	330	350
ARIZ	6,300	6,400	6,600	6,700
ARK	60,000	60,000	59,000	59,000
CALIF	73,000	75,000	76,000	78,000
COLO	27,600	27,500	27,300	26,900
CONN	4,000	4,000	4,200	4,100
DEL	3,700	3,600	3,500	3,500
FLA	36,000	36,000	37,000	38,000
GA	60,000	60,000	59,000	59,000
HAW	3,900	4,000	4,100	4,300
IDAHO	24,100	24,300	24,200	23,900
ILL	113,000	112,000	111,000	110,000
IND	94,000	93,000	90,000	89,000
IOWA	130,000	127,000	125,000	123,000
KANS	79,000	78,000	77,000	76,000
KY	107,000	106,000	105,000	104,000
LA	38,000	38,000	36,000	37,000
MAINE	6,800	7,100	7,400	7,700
MD	16,500	16,600	16,700	17,000
MASS	5,800	6,300	6,200	5,900
MICH	70,000	70,000	68,000	66,000
MINN	104,000	104,000	104,000	104,000
MISS	64,000	63,000	58,000	56,000
MO	127,000	125,000	123,000	122,000
MONT	23,400	23,400	23,500	23,600
NEBR	67,000	67,000	66,000	66,000
NEV	2,200	2,400	2,600	2,900
N H	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,200
N J	8,600	8,900	8,600	9,000
N MEX	12,000	12,300	12,600	13,000
N Y	49,000	48,000	47,000	47,000
N C	105,000	100,000	95,000	93,000
N DAK	42,000	41,500	41,000	41,000
OHIO	101,000	99,000	97,000	96,000
OKLA	75,000	74,000	74,000	73,000
OREG	30,000	30,000	30,000	32,000
PA	66,000	65,000	62,000	60,000
R I	620	760	700	800
S C	37,000	37,000	36,000	35,000
S DAK	43,000	42,000	41,000	40,000
TENN	106,000	104,000	102,000	97,000
TEX	189,000	187,000	186,000	185,000
UTAH	12,600	12,700	12,800	12,900
VT	6,300	6,900	6,700	7,000
VA	62,000	61,000	60,000	59,000
WASH	34,000	34,000	34,000	36,000
W VA	22,000	21,000	20,000	19,600
WIS	100,000	98,000	96,000	95,000
WYO	8,100	8,400	8,700	8,900
U S	2,521,420	2,497,270	2,455,830	2,436,250

1/ A FARM IS A PLACE THAT SELLS OR NORMALLY WOULD SELL \$1,000 OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

NUMBER OF FARMS, <sup>1/</sup> BY STATES, 1979-81

STATE	1979	1980	1981 <sup>2/</sup>
NUMBER			
ALA	59,000	58,000	58,000
ALAS	360	370	380
ARIZ	6,800	7,000	7,100
ARK	58,000	59,000	59,000
CALIF	79,000	80,000	80,000
COLO	26,300	26,500	26,500
CONN	4,300	4,200	4,100
DEL	3,600	3,500	3,500
FLA	38,000	39,000	39,000
GA	59,000	59,000	59,000
HAW	4,300	4,300	4,300
IDAHO	24,000	24,100	24,200
ILL	108,000	107,000	105,000
IND	89,000	88,000	87,000
IOWA	121,000	119,000	118,000
KANS	75,000	75,000	74,000
KY	103,000	102,000	101,000
LA	37,000	37,000	37,000
MAINE	8,000	8,300	8,300
MD	17,000	17,500	17,500
MASS	6,200	5,900	5,800
MICH	66,000	66,000	65,000
MINN	104,000	104,000	105,000
MISS	56,000	55,000	55,000
MO	121,000	120,000	119,000
MONT	23,700	23,800	23,900
NEBR	65,000	65,000	64,000
NEV	2,900	2,900	2,900
N H	3,200	3,400	3,600
N J	9,600	9,400	9,100
N MEX	13,300	13,500	13,600
N Y	48,000	48,000	48,000
N C	92,000	93,000	93,000
N DAK	40,500	40,000	40,000
OHIO	96,000	95,000	94,000
OKLA	72,000	72,000	72,000
OREG	34,000	35,000	35,000
PA	61,000	62,000	62,000
R I	900	860	860
S C	35,000	35,000	34,000
S DAK	39,000	38,500	38,000
TENN	96,000	96,000	96,000
TEX	185,000	186,000	186,000
UTAH	13,000	13,000	13,000
VT	7,300	7,700	7,900
VA	59,000	58,000	58,000
WASH	37,000	38,000	39,000
W VA	19,700	20,000	20,000
WIS	94,000	93,000	93,000
WYO	9,000	9,100	9,200
U S	2,429,960	2,427,830	2,418,740

<sup>1/</sup> A FARM IS A PLACE THAT SELLS OR NORMALLY WOULD SELL \$1,000 OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

<sup>2/</sup> PRELIMINARY.

LAND IN FARMS, 1/ BY STATES, 1975-78

STATE	1975	1976	1977	1978
	1,000 ACRES			
ALA	13,400	13,100	12,800	12,500
ALAS	1,670	1,670	1,670	1,600
ARIZ	40,000	39,800	39,200	39,100
ARK	17,000	17,000	16,600	16,600
CALIF	34,300	34,200	34,100	34,000
COLO	37,500	37,500	37,100	37,000
CONN	490	500	500	500
DEL	690	680	670	665
FLA	14,000	13,800	13,700	13,500
GA	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
HAW	2,150	2,100	2,050	1,980
IDAHO	15,400	15,400	15,400	15,400
ILL	29,100	29,000	28,900	28,800
IND	17,100	17,000	16,900	16,900
IOWA	34,100	33,900	33,800	33,800
KANS	48,700	48,600	48,400	48,300
KY	14,800	14,700	14,700	14,800
LA	10,400	10,300	10,000	10,200
MAINE	1,585	1,595	1,605	1,615
MD	2,950	2,850	2,650	2,650
MASS	700	700	690	680
MICH	11,500	11,400	11,400	11,400
MINN	30,200	30,100	30,100	30,000
MISS	15,500	15,300	15,000	14,700
MO	32,400	31,900	31,700	31,500
MONT	62,200	62,200	62,100	62,100
NEBR	47,900	47,900	47,800	47,800
NEV	8,990	8,990	8,990	8,990
N H	515	525	535	545
N J	1,035	1,020	1,000	1,040
N MEX	47,000	46,900	46,800	46,800
N Y	10,600	10,200	10,000	9,800
N C	12,300	12,200	12,000	11,800
N DAK	42,300	42,000	41,800	41,700
OHIO	16,700	16,500	16,400	16,300
OKLA	35,500	35,300	35,000	35,000
OREG	18,600	18,500	18,400	18,300
PA	9,600	9,300	9,100	9,000
R I	75	75	75	75
S C	6,800	6,700	6,600	6,500
S DAK	45,400	45,200	45,100	45,000
TENN	14,000	13,900	13,800	13,800
TEX	140,000	139,700	139,300	139,000
UTAH	12,600	12,600	12,600	12,600
VT	1,770	1,770	1,750	1,750
VA	10,100	10,000	9,900	9,800
WASH	16,100	16,100	16,100	16,100
W VA	4,300	4,200	4,100	4,000
WIS	19,300	19,100	18,900	18,800
WYO	35,100	35,100	35,000	35,000
U S	1,059,420	1,054,075	1,047,785	1,044,790

1/ A FARM IS A PLACE THAT SELLS OR NORMALLY WOULD SELL \$1,000 OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

LAND IN FARMS, 1/ BY STATES, 1979-81

STATE	1979	1980	1981 <u>2/</u>
	1,000 ACRES		
ALA	12,700	12,700	12,600
ALAS	1,500	1,520	1,520
ARIZ	39,000	38,900	38,800
ARK	16,500	16,500	16,500
CALIF	33,900	33,900	33,800
COLO	36,700	36,500	36,500
CONN	490	490	490
DEL	660	650	650
FLA	13,400	13,400	13,300
GA	15,300	15,500	15,500
HAW	1,970	1,970	1,965
IDAHO	15,400	15,400	15,400
ILL	28,800	28,800	28,800
IND	16,900	16,800	16,800
IOWA	33,800	33,800	33,800
KANS	48,300	48,300	48,300
KY	14,700	14,600	14,500
LA	10,100	10,100	10,100
MAINE	1,615	1,615	1,615
MD	2,700	2,750	2,800
MASS	680	680	680
MICH	11,400	11,400	11,400
MINN	30,000	30,000	30,000
MISS	14,700	14,600	14,600
MO	31,500	31,500	31,500
MONT	62,100	62,100	62,100
NEBR	47,700	47,700	47,600
NEV	8,990	8,990	8,990
N H	545	545	545
N J	1,030	1,020	1,000
N MEX	46,800	46,800	46,700
N Y	9,600	9,400	9,200
N C	11,700	11,700	11,700
N DAK	41,700	41,700	41,700
OHIO	16,300	16,300	16,300
OKLA	34,600	34,600	34,600
OREG	18,200	18,100	18,100
PA	9,000	9,000	9,000
R I	75	75	75
S C	6,500	6,400	6,400
S DAK	45,000	45,000	45,000
TENN	13,700	13,600	13,600
TEX	138,900	138,800	138,800
UTAH	12,600	12,600	12,600
VT	1,740	1,740	1,740
VA	9,800	9,800	9,800
WASH	16,100	16,100	16,100
W VA	4,100	4,200	4,200
WIS	18,700	18,600	18,600
WYO	35,000	35,000	35,000
U S	1,043,195	1,042,245	1,041,370

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2/ PRELIMINARY.

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