

Farm Computer Usage and Ownership

Released July 30, 2001, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Farm Computer Usage and Ownership" call Daryl Brinkman at (202) 690-3226, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

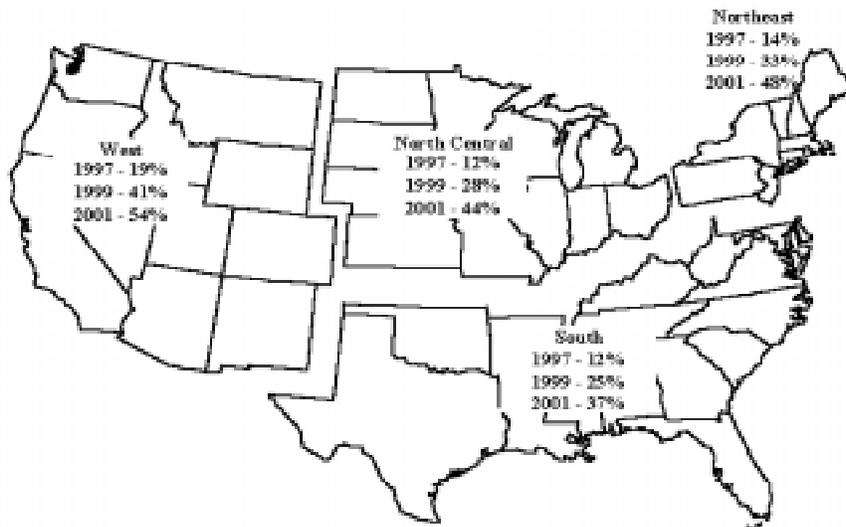
Over Forty Percent Of U.S. Farms Have Internet Access

A total of 43 percent of U.S. Farms now have Internet access, compared to 29 percent with Internet access in 1999. Nearly 55 percent of farms have access to a computer in 2001, compared to the 1999 level of 47 percent. Fifty percent of all U.S. farms own or lease a computer, up from 40 percent in 1999. Farms using computers for their farm business increased from 24 percent in 1999 to 29 percent in 2001.

In 2001, 73 percent of U.S. farms with sales of \$100,000 and more have access to a computer, 69 percent own or lease a computer, 55 percent are using a computer for their farm business, and 58 percent have Internet access. For farms with sales between \$10,000 and \$99,999 the figures are: 53 percent have access to a computer, 47 percent own or lease a computer, 30 percent are using a computer for their farm business, and 39 percent have Internet access. For Farms with sales less than \$10,000, 50 percent report having computer access, 45 percent own or lease a computer, 20 percent use a computer for their farm business, and 40 percent have Internet access.

In 2001, operators with access to the Internet were asked four additional questions on their specific uses of the Internet access. The additional Internet questions referred to the purchase of agricultural inputs, conducting agricultural marketing activities, accessing National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports, and accessing other USDA reports and research information. Of the U.S. farms with Internet access, 6 percent use the Internet to purchase agricultural inputs, to conduct agricultural marketing activities and to access NASS reports while 9 percent access other USDA reports and research information.

Farms with Internet Access By Region, 1997, 1999 and 2001



Survey Procedures: The June Agricultural Survey is conducted every year to provide estimates of farm numbers and land in farms, crop acres planted, grain in storage, livestock inventories, and land values. In 1997, 1999, and again in 2001, questions were added to the survey form that asked the operator about access and use of computers. The 2001 computer usage estimates are based on responses from over 32,500 agricultural operations and represent all sizes and types of farms. Coefficients of Variations (CVs) at the national level in 2001 were 1 percent or less, at the regional level, CVs ranged from 1 to 5 percent, and at the State level CVs generally ranged from 3 to 30 percent.

**Farm Computer Usage: Access, Ownership, and Use by State
and United States, 1997, 1999 and 2001**

| State | Farms | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | With Computer Access | | | That Own or Lease Computers | | | Using Computers for Farm Business | | | With Internet Access | | |
| | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 |
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| AL | 25 | 47 | 48 | 21 | 37 | 42 | 13 | 24 | 24 | 9 | 28 | 34 |
| AR | 25 | 41 | 49 | 22 | 35 | 47 | 17 | 23 | 26 | 10 | 25 | 32 |
| CA | 51 | 61 | 63 | 47 | 55 | 56 | 30 | 40 | 36 | 23 | 46 | 51 |
| CO ¹ | 51 | 66 | 67 | 44 | 58 | 63 | 30 | 39 | 38 | 17 | 39 | 53 |
| FL | 41 | 45 | 50 | 35 | 39 | 47 | 24 | 27 | 29 | 19 | 34 | 45 |
| GA | 25 | 33 | 36 | 23 | 29 | 33 | 12 | 18 | 19 | 11 | 20 | 26 |
| ID | 48 | 75 | 80 | 36 | 59 | 74 | 21 | 34 | 46 | 12 | 41 | 62 |
| IL | 45 | 51 | 61 | 36 | 46 | 57 | 27 | 32 | 37 | 17 | 30 | 48 |
| IN | 37 | 46 | 57 | 29 | 41 | 51 | 16 | 22 | 28 | 10 | 25 | 42 |
| IA | 46 | 51 | 59 | 37 | 45 | 54 | 25 | 32 | 38 | 12 | 30 | 45 |
| KS | 36 | 52 | 58 | 31 | 46 | 54 | 21 | 26 | 31 | 11 | 27 | 39 |
| KY | 23 | 25 | 28 | 18 | 20 | 27 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 14 | 17 |
| LA | 26 | 35 | 53 | 21 | 32 | 47 | 14 | 20 | 19 | 4 | 21 | 40 |
| MI | 47 | 59 | 60 | 38 | 51 | 49 | 20 | 25 | 27 | 17 | 28 | 48 |
| MN | 43 | 49 | 55 | 32 | 40 | 50 | 22 | 26 | 34 | 11 | 27 | 40 |
| MS | 22 | 30 | 37 | 15 | 24 | 34 | 9 | 11 | 16 | 4 | 18 | 24 |
| MO | 33 | 39 | 55 | 27 | 34 | 49 | 16 | 19 | 30 | 10 | 19 | 44 |
| MT | 54 | 65 | 71 | 41 | 52 | 67 | 33 | 36 | 43 | 15 | 38 | 57 |
| NE | 45 | 49 | 58 | 38 | 44 | 54 | 29 | 31 | 36 | 14 | 26 | 40 |
| NH ² | 35 | 57 | 72 | 31 | 46 | 58 | 22 | 31 | 34 | 11 | 43 | 56 |
| NY | 42 | 50 | 65 | 33 | 40 | 58 | 19 | 25 | 35 | 14 | 30 | 56 |
| NC | 30 | 42 | 51 | 24 | 36 | 47 | 13 | 20 | 24 | 10 | 30 | 37 |
| ND | 44 | 53 | 59 | 34 | 47 | 54 | 28 | 35 | 38 | 11 | 32 | 47 |
| OH | 41 | 58 | 63 | 30 | 49 | 56 | 18 | 25 | 28 | 14 | 35 | 46 |
| OK | 31 | 45 | 48 | 26 | 33 | 42 | 15 | 17 | 21 | 9 | 28 | 38 |
| OR | 61 | 65 | 75 | 52 | 55 | 73 | 30 | 31 | 43 | 22 | 29 | 59 |
| PA ³ | 37 | 47 | 54 | 27 | 37 | 45 | 15 | 22 | 28 | 15 | 30 | 41 |
| SC | 25 | 30 | 48 | 20 | 27 | 40 | 11 | 12 | 19 | 9 | 17 | 35 |
| SD | 43 | 50 | 56 | 30 | 39 | 48 | 24 | 31 | 31 | 13 | 29 | 43 |
| TN | 24 | 35 | 42 | 17 | 28 | 36 | 7 | 13 | 16 | 8 | 24 | 34 |
| TX | 41 | 48 | 57 | 32 | 39 | 52 | 21 | 23 | 26 | 18 | 31 | 46 |
| VA ⁴ | 31 | 42 | 58 | 25 | 31 | 49 | 13 | 15 | 26 | 12 | 24 | 48 |
| WA | 58 | 61 | 59 | 50 | 52 | 56 | 35 | 39 | 37 | 20 | 50 | 54 |
| WI | 36 | 50 | 61 | 29 | 40 | 55 | 19 | 24 | 31 | 9 | 33 | 46 |
| US ⁵ | 38 | 47 | 55 | 31 | 40 | 50 | 20 | 24 | 29 | 13 | 29 | 43 |

¹ Includes AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, and WY.

² Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

³ Includes NJ and PA.

⁴ Includes DE, MD, VA, and WV.

⁵ Excludes AK and HI.

**Farm Computer Usage: Access, Ownership, and Use by Economic Class,
Type of Farm ¹, Region, and United States, 1997, 1999 and 2001**

| Region | Farms | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | With Computer Access | | | That Own or Lease Computers | | | Using Computers for Farm Business | | | With Internet Access | | |
| | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 | 1997 | 1999 | 2001 |
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Northeast ² | 38 | 50 | 61 | 30 | 40 | 51 | 18 | 25 | 31 | 14 | 33 | 48 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 38 | 50 | 60 | 27 | 40 | 49 | 11 | 16 | 25 | 14 | 33 | 49 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 31 | 45 | 59 | 27 | 33 | 52 | 19 | 32 | 39 | 11 | 29 | 47 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 48 | 61 | 63 | 43 | 54 | 54 | 38 | 47 | 42 | 21 | 41 | 45 |
| Crop Farms | 43 | 55 | 65 | 36 | 45 | 56 | 21 | 28 | 34 | 17 | 36 | 54 |
| Livestock Farms | 34 | 46 | 57 | 25 | 36 | 48 | 15 | 22 | 30 | 12 | 31 | 44 |
| North Central ³ | 41 | 49 | 58 | 32 | 42 | 53 | 22 | 26 | 32 | 12 | 28 | 44 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 36 | 43 | 55 | 26 | 36 | 49 | 11 | 13 | 21 | 12 | 25 | 42 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 34 | 45 | 51 | 26 | 38 | 45 | 19 | 25 | 29 | 10 | 24 | 37 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 61 | 69 | 73 | 53 | 62 | 69 | 45 | 52 | 55 | 17 | 39 | 57 |
| Crop Farms | 43 | 50 | 58 | 35 | 43 | 52 | 24 | 27 | 33 | 13 | 29 | 44 |
| Livestock Farms | 39 | 48 | 59 | 29 | 42 | 54 | 20 | 25 | 32 | 11 | 26 | 43 |
| South ⁴ | 31 | 40 | 48 | 24 | 32 | 43 | 15 | 18 | 22 | 12 | 25 | 37 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 27 | 35 | 42 | 20 | 28 | 38 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 11 | 22 | 33 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 32 | 42 | 52 | 25 | 35 | 45 | 18 | 22 | 26 | 12 | 28 | 38 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 56 | 64 | 71 | 50 | 56 | 67 | 44 | 49 | 53 | 21 | 42 | 57 |
| Crop Farms | 31 | 34 | 48 | 25 | 28 | 42 | 17 | 18 | 23 | 12 | 21 | 37 |
| Livestock Farms | 31 | 43 | 48 | 24 | 34 | 43 | 14 | 18 | 21 | 12 | 27 | 37 |
| West ⁵ | 53 | 64 | 67 | 46 | 55 | 63 | 30 | 37 | 39 | 19 | 41 | 54 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 47 | 60 | 67 | 39 | 49 | 63 | 17 | 24 | 31 | 16 | 36 | 55 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 53 | 60 | 61 | 47 | 52 | 55 | 34 | 40 | 37 | 18 | 37 | 49 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 70 | 80 | 80 | 66 | 77 | 78 | 62 | 69 | 66 | 30 | 59 | 66 |
| Crop Farms | 60 | 62 | 67 | 53 | 54 | 62 | 38 | 39 | 41 | 23 | 44 | 54 |
| Livestock Farms | 47 | 66 | 69 | 39 | 56 | 65 | 22 | 35 | 38 | 16 | 37 | 56 |
| US ⁶ | 38 | 47 | 55 | 31 | 40 | 50 | 20 | 24 | 29 | 13 | 29 | 43 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 32 | 42 | 50 | 25 | 34 | 45 | 11 | 14 | 20 | 12 | 25 | 40 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 36 | 46 | 53 | 29 | 38 | 47 | 20 | 26 | 30 | 12 | 27 | 39 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 60 | 68 | 73 | 54 | 62 | 69 | 47 | 53 | 55 | 20 | 43 | 58 |
| Crop Farms | 41 | 47 | 57 | 34 | 40 | 51 | 24 | 25 | 31 | 14 | 29 | 44 |
| Livestock Farms | 36 | 47 | 55 | 28 | 39 | 49 | 17 | 23 | 27 | 12 | 28 | 42 |

¹ Crop and livestock farms are based on 1997 Census of Agriculture percentages by farm type.

² Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, and VT.

³ Includes IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, and WI.

⁴ Includes AL, AR, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WV.

⁵ Includes AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY.

⁶ Excludes AK and HI.

**Farm Computer Usage: Access and Use of Internet by State
and United States, 2001**

| State | Farms | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|---|---|
| | Purchase Agricultural Inputs Over Internet ¹ | Conduct Agricultural Marketing Activities Over Internet ² | Access USDA/NASS Reports Over Internet ³ | Access Other USDA Reports/Services Over Internet ³ |
| | 2001 | 2001 | 2001 | 2001 |
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| AL | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| AR | 6 | 5 | 4 | 8 |
| CA | 5 | 6 | 8 | 11 |
| CO ⁴ | 6 | 9 | 5 | 11 |
| FL | 10 | 12 | 6 | 8 |
| GA | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| ID | 6 | 12 | 9 | 13 |
| IL | 7 | 7 | 9 | 12 |
| IN | 4 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| IA | 6 | 9 | 9 | 14 |
| KS | 4 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| KY | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| LA | 7 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| MI | 6 | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| MN | 5 | 7 | 9 | 13 |
| MS | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| MO | 3 | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| MT | 7 | 10 | 8 | 13 |
| NE | 4 | 7 | 7 | 10 |
| NH ⁵ | 10 | 9 | 4 | 6 |
| NY | 10 | 12 | 6 | 10 |
| NC | 4 | 7 | 7 | 11 |
| ND | 5 | 8 | 10 | 14 |
| OH | 7 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| OK | 1 | 7 | 4 | 8 |
| OR | 8 | 14 | 7 | 13 |
| PA ⁶ | 9 | 5 | 5 | 8 |
| SC | 7 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| SD | 4 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| TN | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| TX | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| VA ⁷ | 9 | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| WA | 5 | 9 | 5 | 16 |
| WI | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 |
| US ⁸ | 6 | 6 | 6 | 9 |

¹ Agricultural inputs include seed, fertilizer, chemicals, veterinarian supplies, feed, machinery, replacement parts, farm supplies, office equipment, etc.

² Agricultural marketing activities include direct sales of commodities, on-line crop and livestock auctions, on-line market advisory services, commodity price tracking, etc.

³ Reference period for access and usage of USDA reports, research information, and services is last 12 months: June 2000 to June 2001.

⁴ Includes AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, and WY.

⁵ Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁶ Includes NJ and PA.

⁷ Includes DE, MD, VA, and WV.

⁸ Excludes AK and HI.

**Farm Computer Usage: Access and Use of Internet by Economic Class,
Type of Farm ¹, Region, and United States, 2001**

| State | Farms | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| | Purchase Agricultural Inputs Over Internet ² | Conduct Agricultural Marketing Activities Over Internet ³ | Access USDA/NASS Reports Over Internet ⁴ | Access Other USDA Reports/Services Over Internet ⁴ |
| | 2001 | 2001 | 2001 | 2001 |
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Northeast ⁵ | 9 | 8 | 5 | 8 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 8 | 12 | 5 | 8 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 13 | 10 | 7 | 16 |
| Crop Farms | 10 | 9 | 8 | 11 |
| Livestock Farms | 9 | 7 | 3 | 6 |
| North Central ⁶ | 5 | 6 | 7 | 11 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 10 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 8 | 12 | 13 | 19 |
| Crop Farms | 6 | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| Livestock Farms | 5 | 6 | 6 | 10 |
| South ⁷ | 5 | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 8 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 12 | 15 | 14 | 21 |
| Crop Farms | 6 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| Livestock Farms | 5 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| West ⁸ | 6 | 10 | 7 | 12 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 12 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 10 | 14 | 14 | 22 |
| Crop Farms | 7 | 9 | 7 | 13 |
| Livestock Farms | 6 | 11 | 6 | 12 |
| US ⁹ | 6 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| \$1,000-9,999 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| \$10,000-99,999 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 10 |
| \$100,000 & Over | 10 | 13 | 13 | 20 |
| Crop Farms | 6 | 7 | 7 | 11 |
| Livestock Farms | 5 | 6 | 5 | 8 |

¹ Crop and Livestock farms are based on 1997 Census of Agriculture percentages by farm type.

² Agricultural inputs include seed, fertilizer, chemicals, veterinarian supplies, feed, machinery, replacement parts, farm supplies, office equipment, etc.

³ Agricultural marketing activities include direct sales of commodities, on-line crop and livestock auctions, on-line market advisory services, commodity price tracking, etc.

⁴ Reference period for access and usage of USDA reports, research information, and services is last 12 months: June 2000 to June 2001.

⁵ Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, and VT.

⁶ Includes IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, and WI.

⁷ Includes AL, AR, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WV.

⁸ Includes AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY.

⁹ Excludes AK and HI.

Number of Farms: by State and United States, 1997, 1999, 2000

| State | 1997 <i>Number</i> | 1999 <i>Number</i> | 2000 ¹ <i>Number</i> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| AL | 49,000 | 48,000 | 47,000 |
| AZ | 7,900 | 7,700 | 7,500 |
| AR | 49,000 | 48,500 | 48,000 |
| CA | 87,000 | 89,000 | 87,500 |
| CO | 29,500 | 29,000 | 29,000 |
| DE | 2,800 | 2,600 | 2,600 |
| FL | 45,000 | 45,000 | 44,000 |
| GA | 49,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| ID | 24,500 | 24,500 | 24,500 |
| IL | 79,000 | 79,000 | 78,000 |
| IN | 66,000 | 65,000 | 64,000 |
| IA | 98,000 | 96,000 | 95,000 |
| KS | 65,000 | 65,000 | 64,000 |
| KY | 91,000 | 91,000 | 90,000 |
| LA | 30,000 | 30,000 | 29,500 |
| MD | 13,000 | 12,400 | 12,400 |
| MI | 53,000 | 53,000 | 52,000 |
| MN | 81,000 | 80,000 | 79,000 |
| MS | 42,000 | 43,000 | 43,000 |
| MO | 110,000 | 110,000 | 109,000 |
| MT | 27,000 | 28,000 | 27,600 |
| NE | 55,000 | 55,000 | 54,000 |
| NV | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| NH ² | 27,450 | 27,500 | 27,400 |
| NJ | 9,600 | 9,600 | 9,600 |
| NM | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,200 |
| NY | 38,000 | 39,000 | 38,000 |
| NC | 59,000 | 58,000 | 57,000 |
| ND | 31,500 | 30,500 | 30,300 |
| OH | 79,000 | 80,000 | 80,000 |
| OK | 83,000 | 84,000 | 85,000 |
| OR | 39,000 | 40,500 | 40,000 |
| PA | 60,000 | 59,000 | 59,000 |
| SC | 25,000 | 25,000 | 24,000 |
| SD | 32,500 | 32,500 | 32,500 |
| TN | 91,000 | 91,000 | 90,000 |
| TX | 225,000 | 227,000 | 226,000 |
| UT | 15,000 | 15,500 | 15,500 |
| VA | 49,000 | 49,000 | 49,000 |
| WA | 39,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| WV | 21,000 | 20,500 | 20,500 |
| WI | 79,000 | 78,000 | 77,000 |
| WY | 9,200 | 9,200 | 9,200 |
| US ³ | 2,184,450 | 2,185,000 | 2,165,800 |

¹ 2001 Number of Farms not available until February 2002.

² Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

³ Excludes AK and HI.

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