

# Nebraska Agriculture Rank and Agribusiness Facts

Issued May 2004, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

## Current Rank in U.S. Agriculture, Amount, and Percent of U.S. Total, Selected Commodities, Nebraska

Rank	Commodity and Date	Number	Unit	Percent of U.S. Total
1	Commercial livestock slaughter, live weight, 2003	11,472,013,000	<i>Pounds</i>	16.1
1	Commercial red meat production, 2003	7,249,800,000	<i>Pounds</i>	15.6
1	Commercial cattle slaughter, live weight, 2003	9,648,235,000	<i>Pounds</i>	22.1
1	Commercial cattle slaughter, number, 2003	7,660,500	<i>Head</i>	21.6
1	Great Northern bean production, 2003	1,743,000	<i>Cwt.</i>	78.7
1	Light red kidney bean production, 2003	292,000	<i>Cwt.</i>	26.3
2	Cash receipts from all meat animals, 2002	5,552,104,000	<i>Dollars</i>	11.6
2	Cash receipts from cattle and calves, 2002	4,958,569,000	<i>Dollars</i>	13.1
2	Total value of all cattle and calves, January 1, 2004	5,500,000,000	<i>Dollars</i>	7.1
2	Pinto beans production, 2003	1,019,000	<i>Cwt.</i>	9.8
2	All dry edible beans production, 2003	3,151,000	<i>Cwt.</i>	14.0
2	Proso millet production, 2003	3,230,000	<i>Bushels</i>	28.2
2	Alfalfa hay production, 2003	5,220,000	<i>Tons</i>	6.8
3	Cash receipts from all feed crops, 2002	2,433,175,000	<i>Dollars</i>	10.3
3	Cash receipts from corn, 2002	2,251,625,000	<i>Dollars</i>	12.9
3	Cash receipts from sorghum grain, 2002	45,889,000	<i>Dollars</i>	5.1
3	Cash receipts from livestock and livestock products, 2002	5,824,295,000	<i>Dollars</i>	6.2
3	All cattle on feed, January 1, 2004	2,450,000	<i>Head</i>	17.7
3	All cattle and calves, January 1, 2004	6,250,000	<i>Head</i>	6.6
3	Fed cattle and calves marketed (1,000+ capacity lots), 2003	4,565,000	<i>Head</i>	19.5
3	Corn for grain production, 2003	1,124,200,000	<i>Bushels</i>	11.1
3	Sorghum for grain production, 2003	31,000,000	<i>Bushels</i>	7.5
4	Cash receipts from farm marketings, 2002	9,588,658,000	<i>Dollars</i>	5.0
4	Beef cows and heifers that have calved, January 1, 2004	1,848,000	<i>Head</i>	5.6
4	Land in farms and ranches, 2003	45,900,000	<i>Acres</i>	4.9
4	On-farm grain storage capacity, December 1, 2003	960,000,000	<i>Bushels</i>	8.8
4	Off-farm grain storage capacity, December 1, 2003	711,910,000	<i>Bushels</i>	8.4
4	Sorghum silage production, 2003	333,000	<i>Tons</i>	9.4
4	All hay production, 2003	7,600,000	<i>Tons</i>	4.8
5	Cash receipts from hogs and pigs, 2002	584,369,000	<i>Dollars</i>	6.1
5	Cash receipts from soybeans, 2002	944,488,000	<i>Dollars</i>	7.0

continued

**Current Rank in U.S. Agriculture, Amount, and Percent of U.S. Total,  
Selected Commodities, Nebraska (continued)**

Rank	Commodity and Date	Number	Unit	Percent of U.S. Total
5	Cash receipts from all oil crops, 2002	948,539,000	<i>Dollars</i>	6.5
5	Value of principal crops produced, 2003	5,032,492,000	<i>Dollars</i>	4.7
5	Soybean production, 2003	179,600,000	<i>Bushels</i>	7.4
5	Winter wheat production, 2003	83,720,000	<i>Bushels</i>	4.9
5	Calf crop, 2003	1,770,000	<i>Head</i>	4.7
5	Pig crop, 2003	6,470,000	<i>Head</i>	6.4
6	Commercial hog slaughter, live weight, 2003	1,823,631,000	<i>Pounds</i>	6.8
6	Commercial hog slaughter, number, 2003	6,873,800	<i>Head</i>	6.8
6	Value of all hogs and pigs on farms, December 1, 2003	205,900,000	<i>Dollars</i>	5.2
6	Oats production, 2003	6,570,000	<i>Bushels</i>	4.5
7	Cash receipts from crops, 2002	3,764,363,000	<i>Dollars</i>	3.8
7	Cash receipts from sugarbeets, 2002	28,044,000	<i>Dollars</i>	2.6
7	All hogs and pigs, December 1, 2003	2,900,000	<i>Head</i>	4.8
7	Table eggs produced, 2003	3,126,000,000	<i>Eggs</i>	4.2
7	Sunflower production, 2003	57,900,000	<i>Pounds</i>	2.2
7	Harvested acreage, principal crops, 2003	18,560,000	<i>Acres</i>	6.0
7	Sugarbeet production, 2003	861,000	<i>Tons</i>	2.8
8	Corn silage production, 2003	3,600,000	<i>Tons</i>	3.4
10	All wheat production, 2003	83,720,000	<i>Bushels</i>	3.6
10	Cash receipts from wheat, 2002	171,072,000	<i>Dollars</i>	3.1
10	Net farm income, 2002	980,475,000	<i>Dollars</i>	2.8
10	Other hay (excludes alfalfa) production, 2003	2,380,000	<i>Tons</i>	2.9
11	Cash receipts from hay, 2002	133,022,000	<i>Dollars</i>	2.9
11	All potato production, 2003	9,860,000	<i>Cwt.</i>	2.1
12	Cash receipts from all food grains, 2002	179,924,000	<i>Dollars</i>	2.8
12	All chickens, December 1, 2003	14,223,000	<i>Head</i>	3.2
13	Honey production, 2003	3,330,000	<i>Pounds</i>	1.8
14	Cash receipts from potatoes, 2002	48,246,000	<i>Dollars</i>	1.6
14	Cash receipts from chicken eggs, 2002	84,596,000	<i>Dollars</i>	2.0
14	Value of all chickens on hand, December 1, 2003	25,601,000	<i>Dollars</i>	2.3
15	Wool production, 2003	630,000	<i>Pounds</i>	1.7
15	All sheep and lambs, January 1, 2004	102,000	<i>Head</i>	1.7
16	Value of wool production, 2003	221,000	<i>Dollars</i>	0.8
18	Number of farms, 2003	48,500	<i>Farms</i>	2.3
26	Barley production, 2003	200,000	<i>Bushels</i>	0.1

## Nebraska Agribusiness Facts

- ◆ Total assets (excluding operator households) in Nebraska farms and ranches totaled an estimated \$45.5 billion as of December 31, 2002, up 2 percent from a year ago.
- ◆ Farm and ranch equity (excluding operator households) was estimated at nearly \$35.6 billion as of December 31, 2002. This represents a 2 percent increase compared to \$34.9 billion in farm equity the previous year.
- ◆ Total farm debt (excluding operator households) increased to \$9.9 billion on December 31, 2002 from \$9.6 billion a year earlier.
- ◆ Farm and ranch real estate was valued at \$34.4 billion as of December 31, 2002, up from \$32.9 billion in 2001. Farm holdings of crops, livestock, and poultry (excludes horses, mules, and broilers) on December 31, 2002, were worth \$5.9 billion.
- ◆ Farm and ranch machinery and motor vehicles were valued at \$3.3 billion as of December 31, 2002.
- ◆ Ranking fourth in the United States, Nebraska's total cash receipts from farm and ranch marketings amounted to nearly \$9.6 billion in 2002, a 4 percent increase from the \$9.2 billion reported in 2001. Receipts for livestock and livestock products totaled \$5.8 billion, and crops receipts totaled \$3.8 billion. Direct government payments were \$485 million.
- ◆ Gross farm income in 2002 averaged \$207,932 per farm for farms and ranches in Nebraska.
- ◆ Ranking tenth in the United States, Nebraska's net farm income in 2002 totaled \$980 million. Net farm income per operation was \$19,848 ranking sixteenth.
- ◆ Gross expenditures for farm production in 2002 amounted to \$9.3 billion.
- ◆ Farmers and ranchers in 2002 spent \$870 million for feed purchased, \$2.3 billion for livestock and poultry purchased, and \$426 million for seed purchased.
- ◆ Total outlays in 2002 for fertilizers, lime, and pesticides were \$790 million. Fuel, oil and electricity totaled \$486 million. Hired labor expenses totaled \$362 million. Expenditures for repairs and maintenance of capital items totaled \$413 million.
- ◆ In 2002, Nebraska farmers paid \$433 million for on farm and ranch property taxes and \$584 million in net rent to non-operator landlords. They also paid \$657 million in interest on farm real estate mortgage debt and on non real estate interest.
- ◆ Total depreciation and accidental damage to farm buildings and depreciation to motor vehicles and other farm machinery and equipment totaled \$678 million in 2002.
- ◆ Of every dollar spent on food in 1999, the farm value is 20 cents; 39 cents goes to labor used by manufactures, wholesalers, and retailers. The remaining 41 cents pays for marketing costs such as packaging, transportation, and advertising.

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## Nebraska Agribusiness Facts (continued)

- ◆ Ranking fourth in the United States, Nebraska agriculture exports in fiscal year 2002 totaled \$3.1 billion. Nebraska ranked first in live animals and meat exports at \$930 million, third in feed grains and products at \$779 million, and fifth in soybeans and products at \$565 million.
- ◆ Every dollar in agricultural exports generates \$1.48 in economic activities such as transportation, financing, warehousing, and production. Nebraska's \$3.1 billion in agricultural exports translate into over \$4.6 billion in additional economic activity each year.
- ◆ Twenty-two percent of all Nebraskans are employed in farm or farm-related jobs.
- ◆ In 2003, Nebraska ranked third in the United States in ethanol production capacity of 420 million gallons. Approximately 15 percent of the State's corn crop went into production of ethanol.
- ◆ Nebraska is a water-rich State. Underneath over half of its 49-million-acre land surface is stored about 2 billion acre-feet of good quality groundwater. Currently, 86,101 registered wells and some 8,435 surface water rights supply water to nearly 8.2 million acres of crop and pastureland.

### Trends in Agriculture: Nebraska, Selected Years, 1980-2002

Item	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002
Value of farm real estate (mil.\$) <sup>1</sup>	33,252	18,577	22,930	26,235	31,396	32,901	34,406
Average size of farm (acres)	734	787	826	829	887	920	929
Acres harvested (000) acres	18,978	17,509	18,044	17,769	18,536	18,705	17,724
Index of crop yields per acre <sup>2</sup>	90	120	118	107	116	134	113
Index of crop production <sup>2</sup>	98	135	131	123	149	173	140
Index of livestock production <sup>2</sup>	117	121	139	145	153	149	154
Index of total agricultural production <sup>2</sup>	109	127	136	135	151	159	148
Real estate debt (mil.\$) <sup>1</sup>	3,385	3,652	2,467	2,892	3,805	3,997	4,286
Debt/asset, total, ratio <sup>1</sup>	17.4	28.5	18.3	20.5	21.1	21.6	21.8
Irrigation wells <sup>3</sup>	63,821	70,767	72,852	77,301	82,478	84,061	86,101
Irrigated land (000) acres	7,200	7,900	8,000	8,100	8,150	8,175	8,175
Commercial fertilizer sold (000) tons <sup>4</sup>	2,020	1,894	1,889	1,996	2,453	2,173	2,548
Final agricultural sector output (mil.\$)	6,560	7,784	9,785	9,079	9,488	10,317	9,787
Net farm income (mil.\$)	(91)	1,550	2,508	1,645	1,370	1,792	980
Net farm income/assets, total, ratio	-0	5.7	7.5	4.6	3.1	4.0	2.2

<sup>1</sup>Beginning 1980, excluding operator households as of January 1.

<sup>2</sup>1977=100.

<sup>3</sup>Registered as of January 1.

<sup>4</sup>Year ending June 30.