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FARM COMPUTER USAGE INCREASES

In 2009, 71 percent of New York farms had computer access, up from 67 percent in 2007 and 63 percent in 2005, reports Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. Nationally, 64 percent had access. Only eight states had a higher percentage of farms with computer access. Sixty-six percent of New York farms have internet access, compared with 59 percent of U.S. farms. Forty-four percent of New York farms use computers for farm business, also higher than the U.S. percent of 36. The primary method of internet access in New York was DSL with 31 percent of the total. Next was cable at 23 percent, then dialup at 29 percent.

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