



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

2012 Census of Agriculture Final Data Release

Released May 2, 2014 at noon

CENSUS HISTORY

- The first Census of Agriculture was conducted in 1840.



170 YEARS LATER

- This is the 28th in the series and the 4th Census of Agriculture conducted by NASS since 1997 with the transfer of authority from the Census Bureau.
- Data will be available for:
 - National, State and County levels
 - Congressional Districts
 - Watersheds
 - American Indians, Organic Production, Irrigation, Horticulture, Specialty Crops, Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Profiles, and Aquaculture



FARM DEFINITION

- Any place from which \$1,000 of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally, would have been sold, during the Census year.
- This definition is unchanged since 1974.



OUTREACH EFFORTS

- NASS worked with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to assist in building the list of farm operations.
- NASS partnered with CBOs to provide hands-on assistance and support to producers in filling out census forms.
- NASS targeted media advertisements to encourage census response.



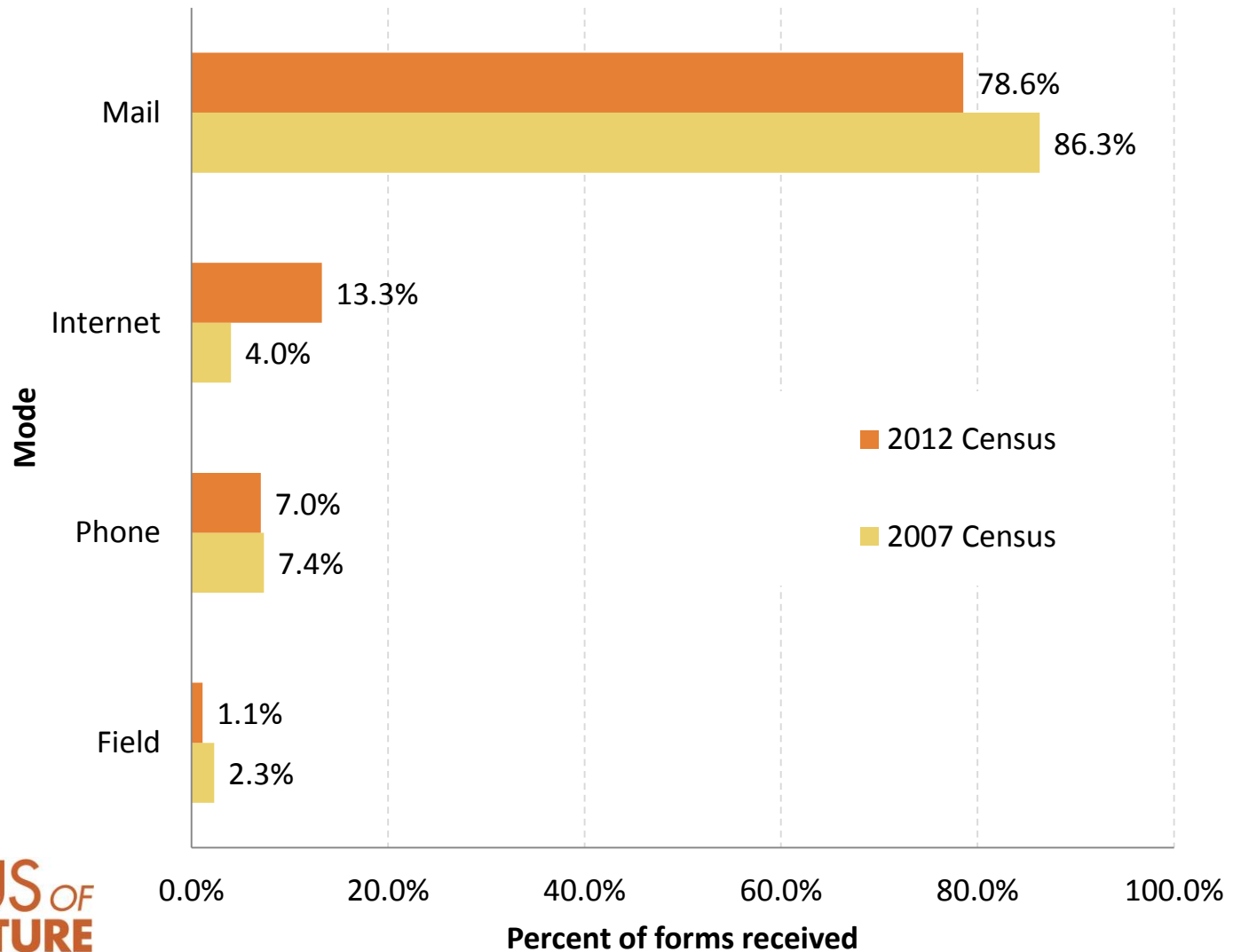
2012 DATA COLLECTION

- NASS mailed 3.0 million questionnaires for the 2012 Census of Agriculture to potential farm and ranch operators in late December 2012.
- All paper forms were mailed from and returned by mail to the Census Bureau's National Processing Center in Jeffersonville, IN.
- Data collection was conducted through:
 - Online responses
 - Mail questionnaires
 - Telephone Interviews
 - Face-to-face Interviews



Distribution of Responses by Mode, 2012

Forms by Mode of Data Collection



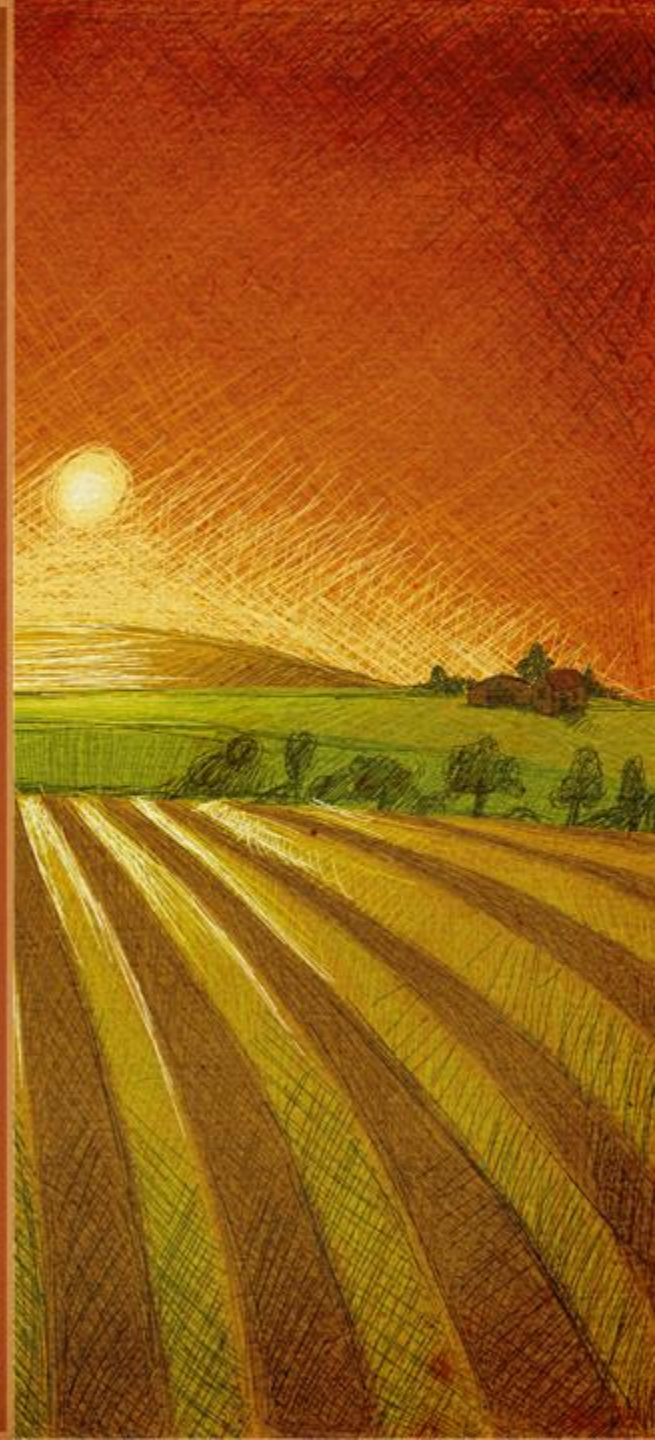
THANK YOU

Thank you to the producers who responded to our request for data, making a quality Census Of Agriculture possible.



Key Findings

- **Farms**
- **Land In Farms**
- **Economics**
- **Demographics**



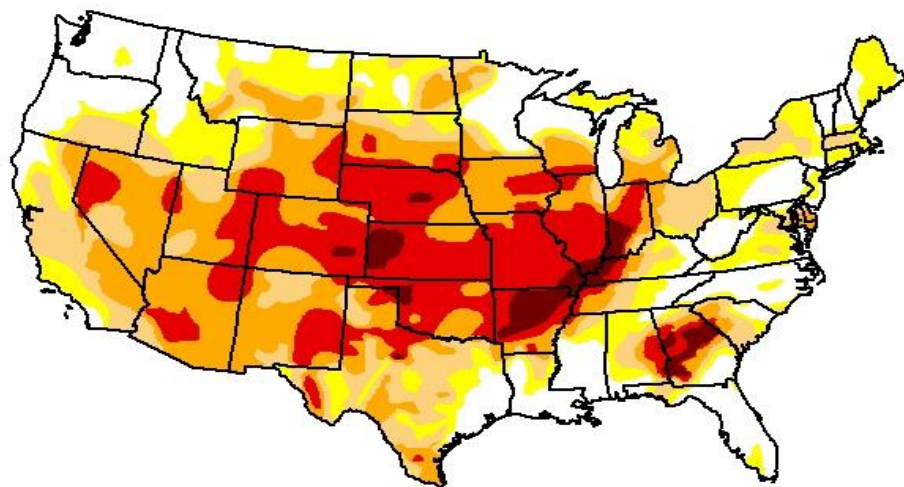
SNAPSHOT OF 2012 AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

U.S. Drought Monitor Total U.S.

July 31, 2012

(Released Thursday, Aug. 2, 2012)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	28.78	71.22	52.65	38.12	18.62	2.52
Last Week <i>7/24/2012</i>	28.19	71.81	53.44	38.11	17.20	1.99
3 Months Ago <i>5/1/2012</i>	50.33	49.67	31.98	17.10	5.80	1.61
Start of Calendar Year <i>1/3/2012</i>	58.47	41.53	26.73	15.78	8.51	2.77
Start of Water Year <i>9/27/2011</i>	63.45	36.55	24.42	19.61	14.87	9.50
One Year Ago <i>8/2/2011</i>	60.03	39.97	27.06	21.04	15.28	9.13

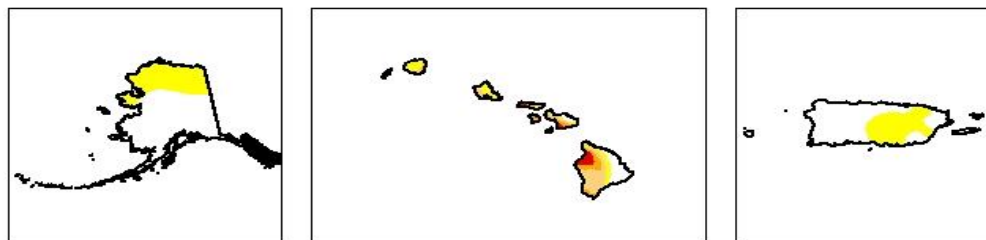
Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

Mark Svoboda
National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- In the slides that follow, you will see an asterisk (*) next to every item that is a statistically significant change from the 2007 Census to the 2012 Census.
- For this report, the measure of statistical significance is the difference between the two censuses of two or more standard errors.

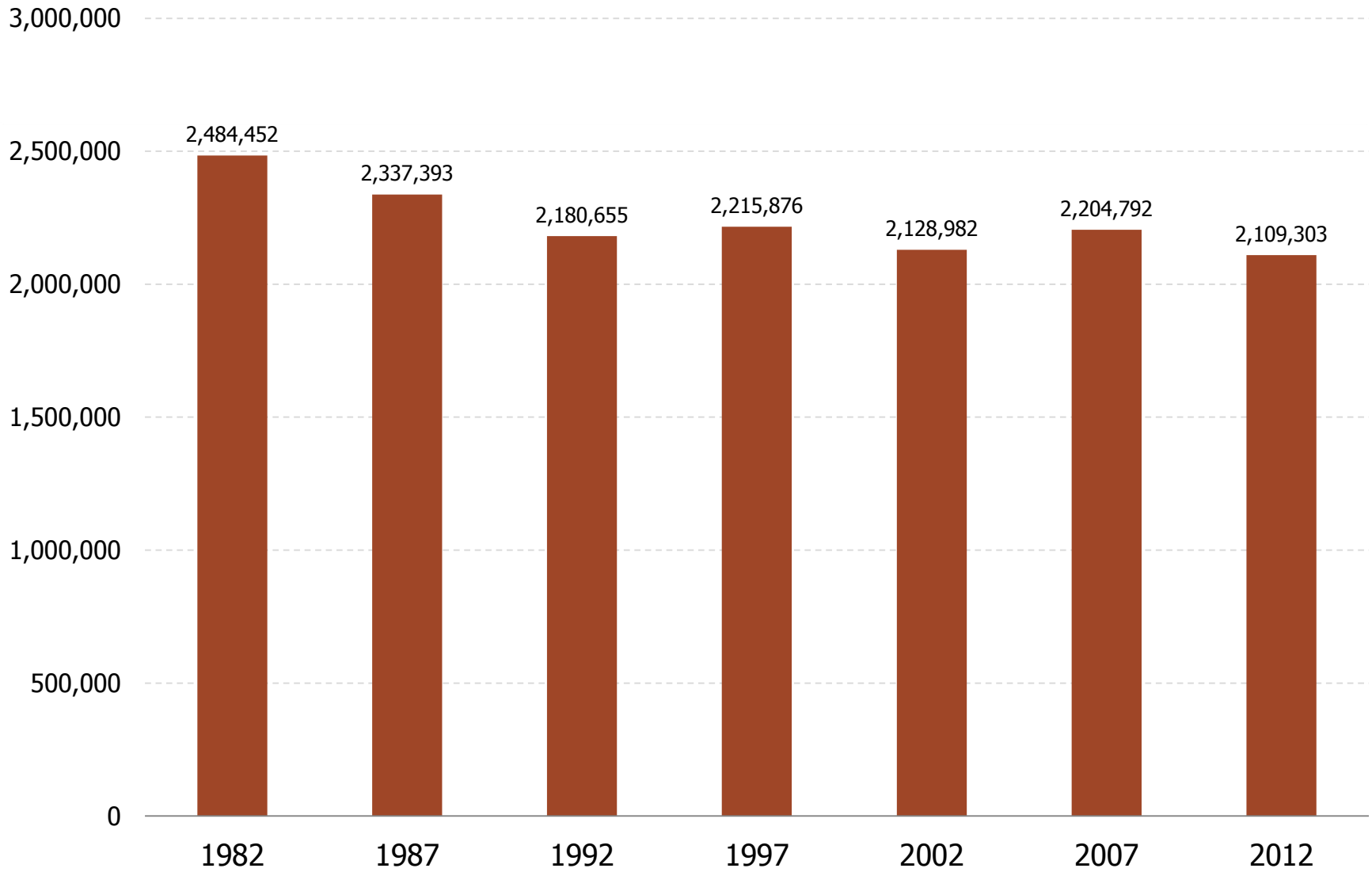


NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

	2007	2012	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
Farms*	2,204,792	2,109,303	-4.3	1.6
Land in farms	922,095,840	914,527,657	-0.8	0.9
Average size of farms*	418	434	3.8	1.3

* Indicates significant change

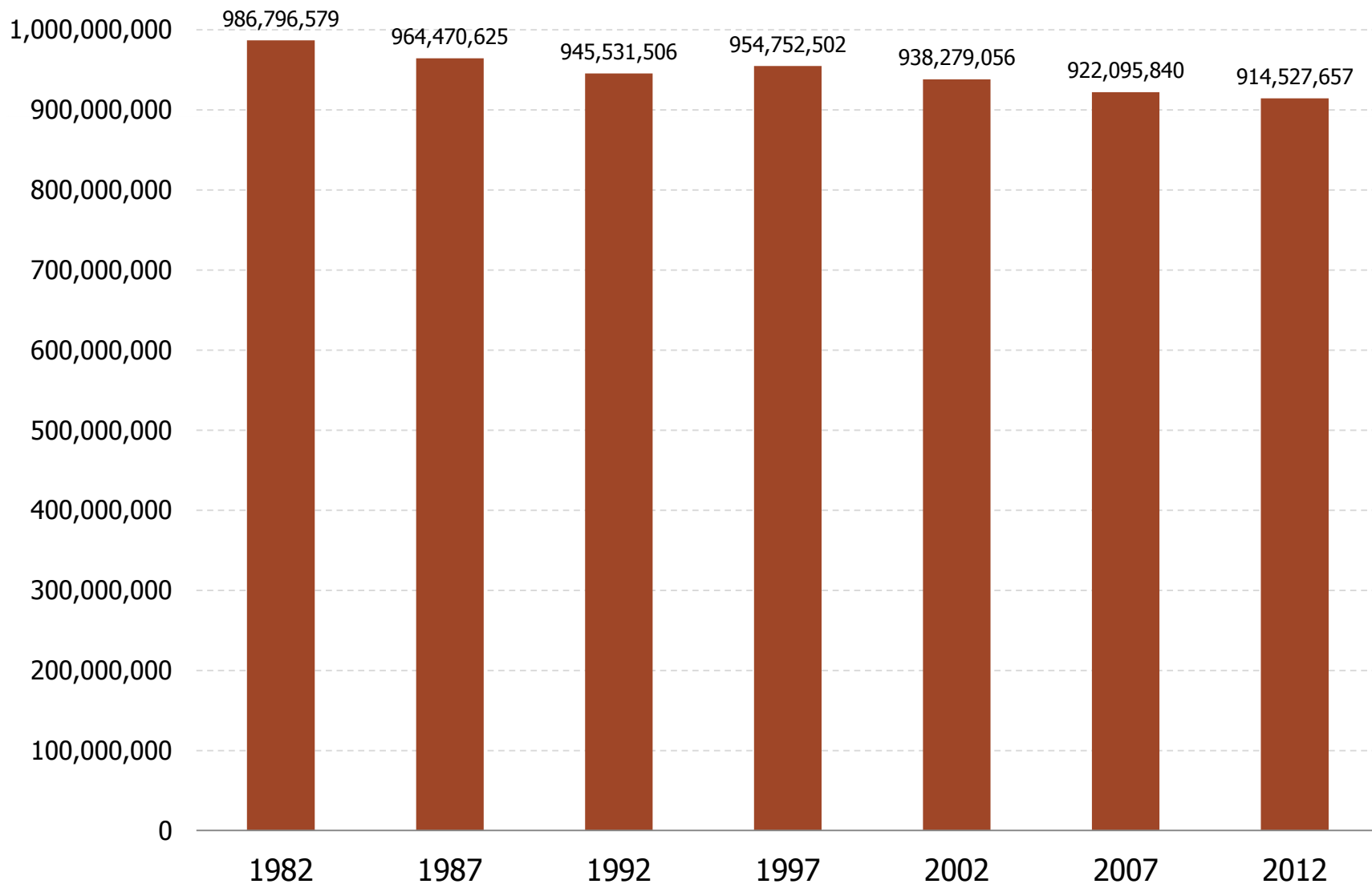
Number of Farms, 1982 to 2012



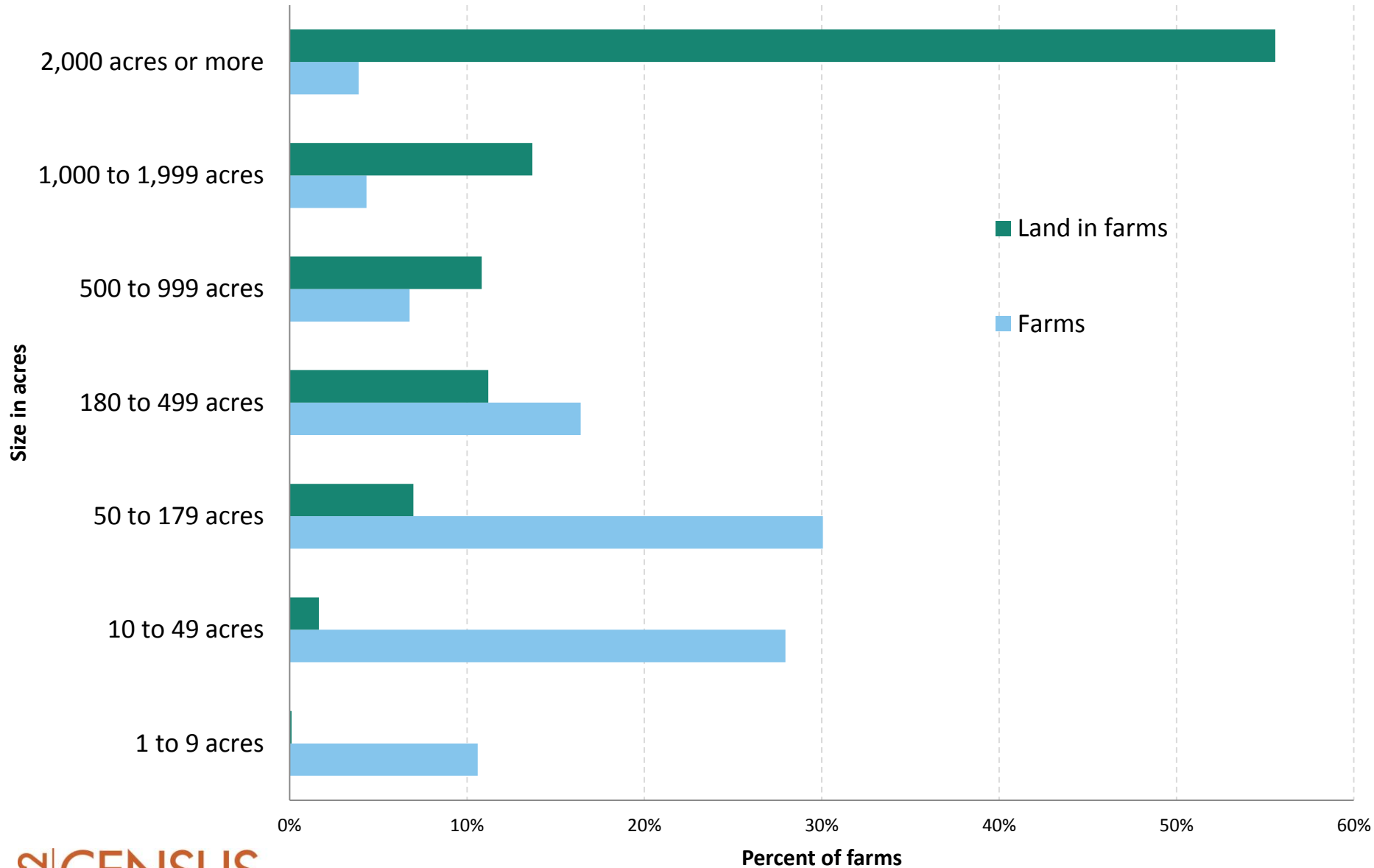
TOP 10 STATES NUMBER OF FARMS

2007 State	2007 Farms		2012 State	2012 Farms
Texas	247,437		Texas	248,809
Missouri	107,825		Missouri	99,171
Iowa	92,856		Iowa	88,637
Oklahoma	86,565		Oklahoma	80,245
Kentucky	85,260		California	77,857
California	81,033		Kentucky	77,064
Minnesota	80,992		Ohio	75,462
Tennessee	79,280		Illinois	75,087
Wisconsin	78,463		Minnesota	74,542
Illinois	76,860		Wisconsin	69,754

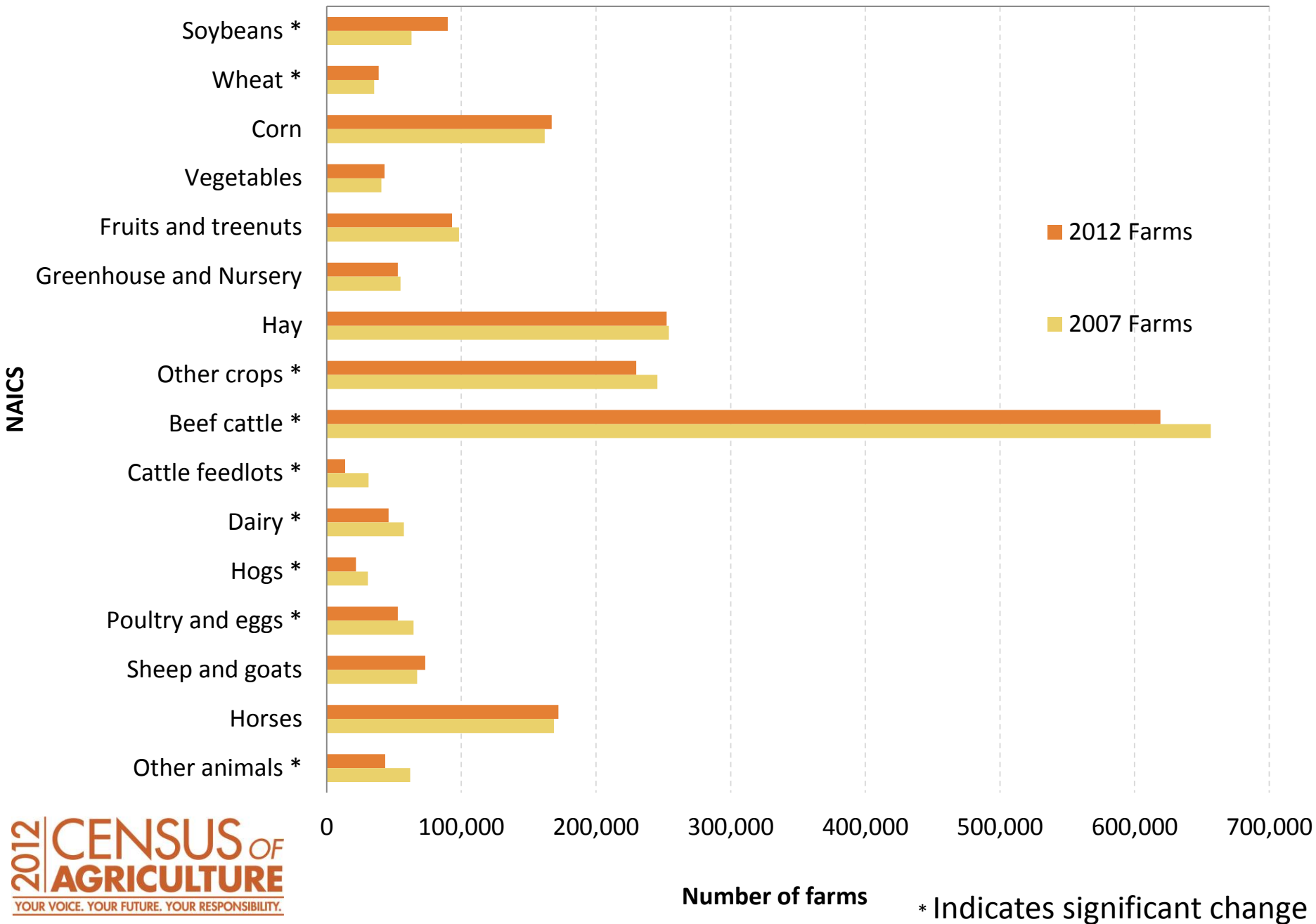
Land in Farms, 1982 to 2012



Farms and Land in Farms as Percent of All Farms, 2012



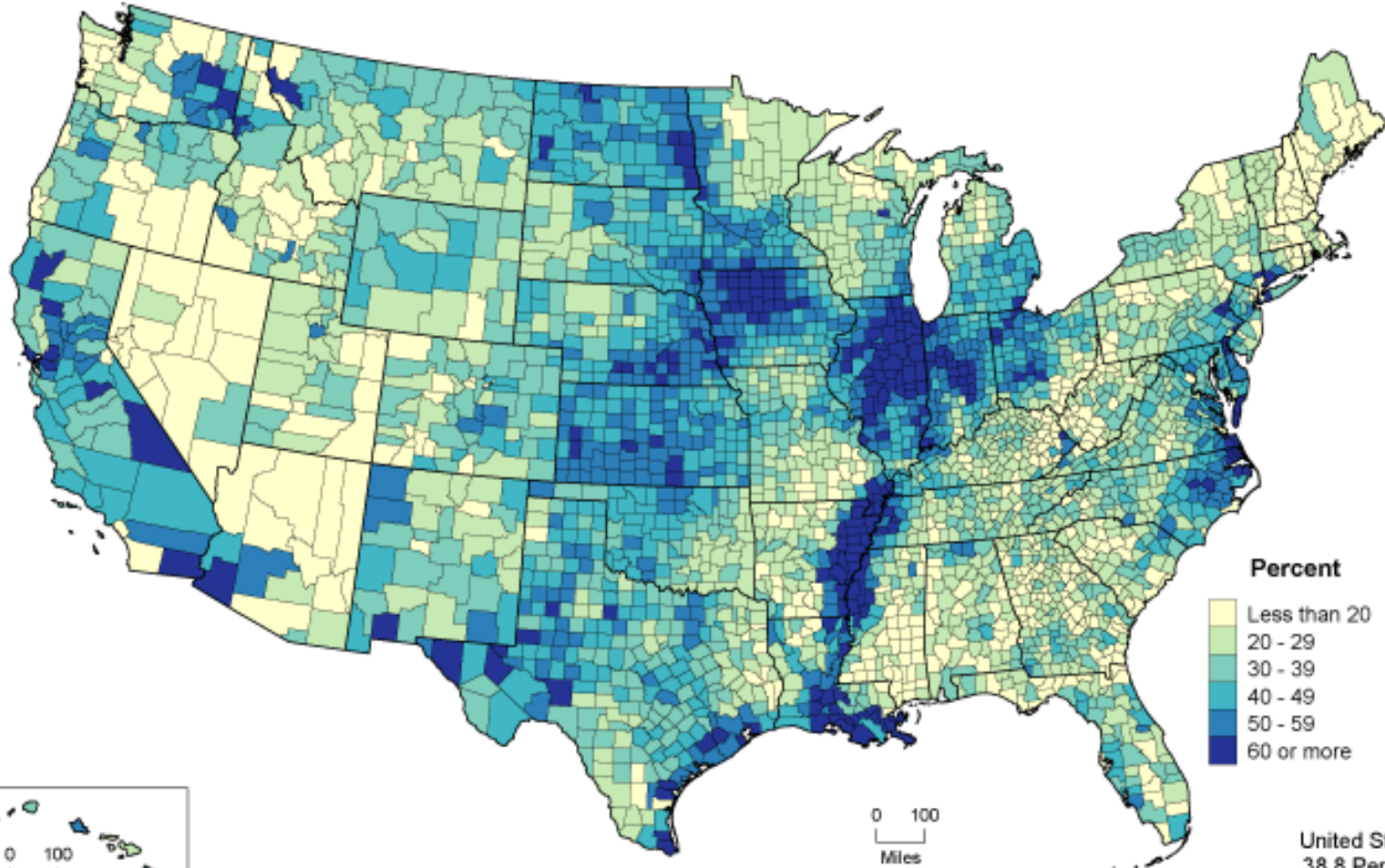
Number of Farms by Commodity Specialization, 2012 and 2007



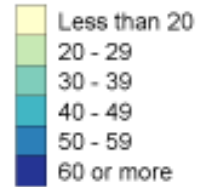
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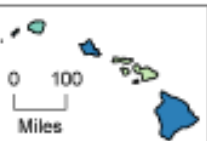
Percent of Land in Farms Rented or Leased: 2012



Percent



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U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

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United States
38.8 Percent

LAND USE PRACTICES 2012

	Farms	Acres (millions)
Conventional Tillage	405,692	105.7
No-Till	278,290	96.5
Conservation Tillage	195,738	76.6
Tiling	217,931	48.6
Drainage Ditches	216,314	42.2
Cover Crop	133,124	10.3
Conservation Easement	76,441	13.2

RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION

	2007 Farms	2012 Farms
Renewable energy systems*	23,451	57,299
Wind rights leased to others	N/A	10,181

RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION 2012

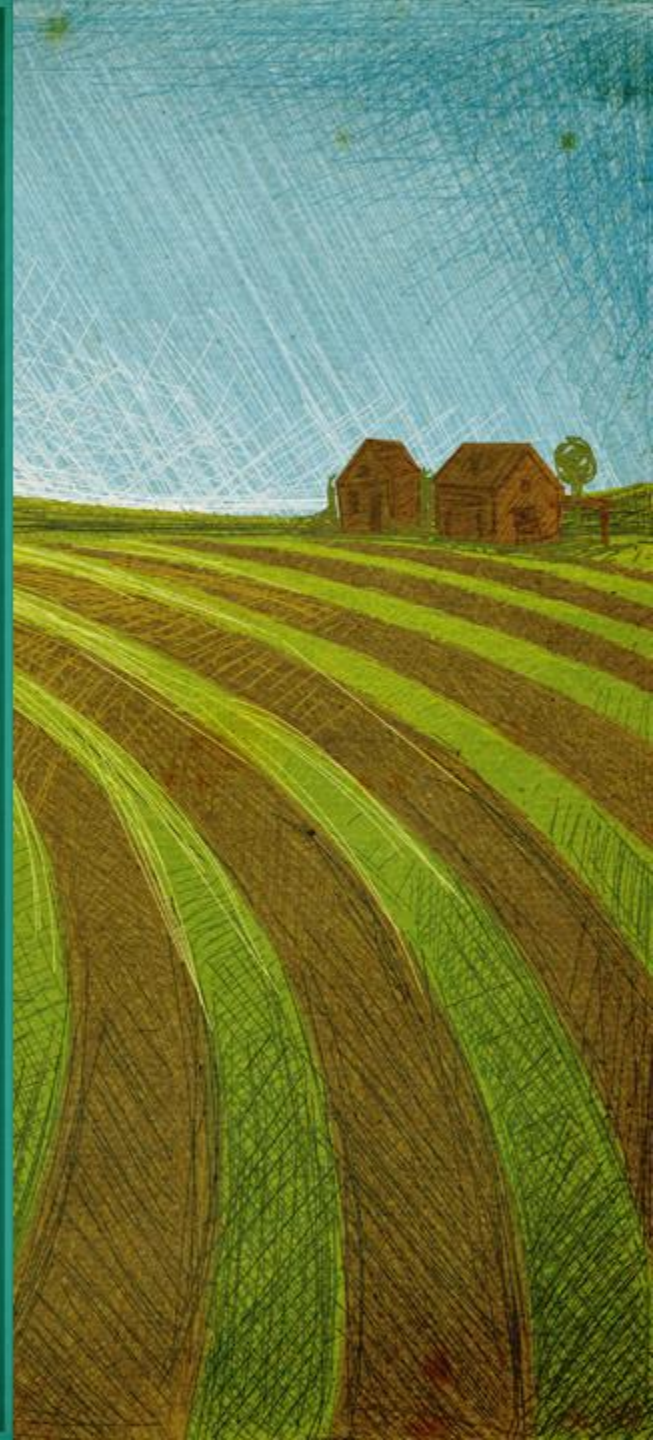
	Farms
Solar Panels	36,331
Geoexchange Systems	9,403
Wind Turbines	9,054
Biodiesel	4,099
Ethanol	2,364
Small Hydro Systems	1,323
Methane Digesters	537

INTERNET ACCESS

	2007 Percent of all farms	2012 Percent of all farms
Farms with Internet access*	56.5	69.6
	2012 Number of farms	2012 Percent of farms
DSL service	584,384	39.8%
Satellite service	282,776	19.3%
Mobile broadband plan	267,804	18.2%
Cable modem service	225,917	15.4%
Dial-up service	139,677	9.5%
Fiber-optic service	75,982	5.2%
Broadband over power lines	37,580	2.6%

ECONOMICS

- Market value of agricultural products sold represents the gross market value before taxes and production expenses of all agricultural products sold or removed from the farm or ranch in 2012 regardless of who received the payment.



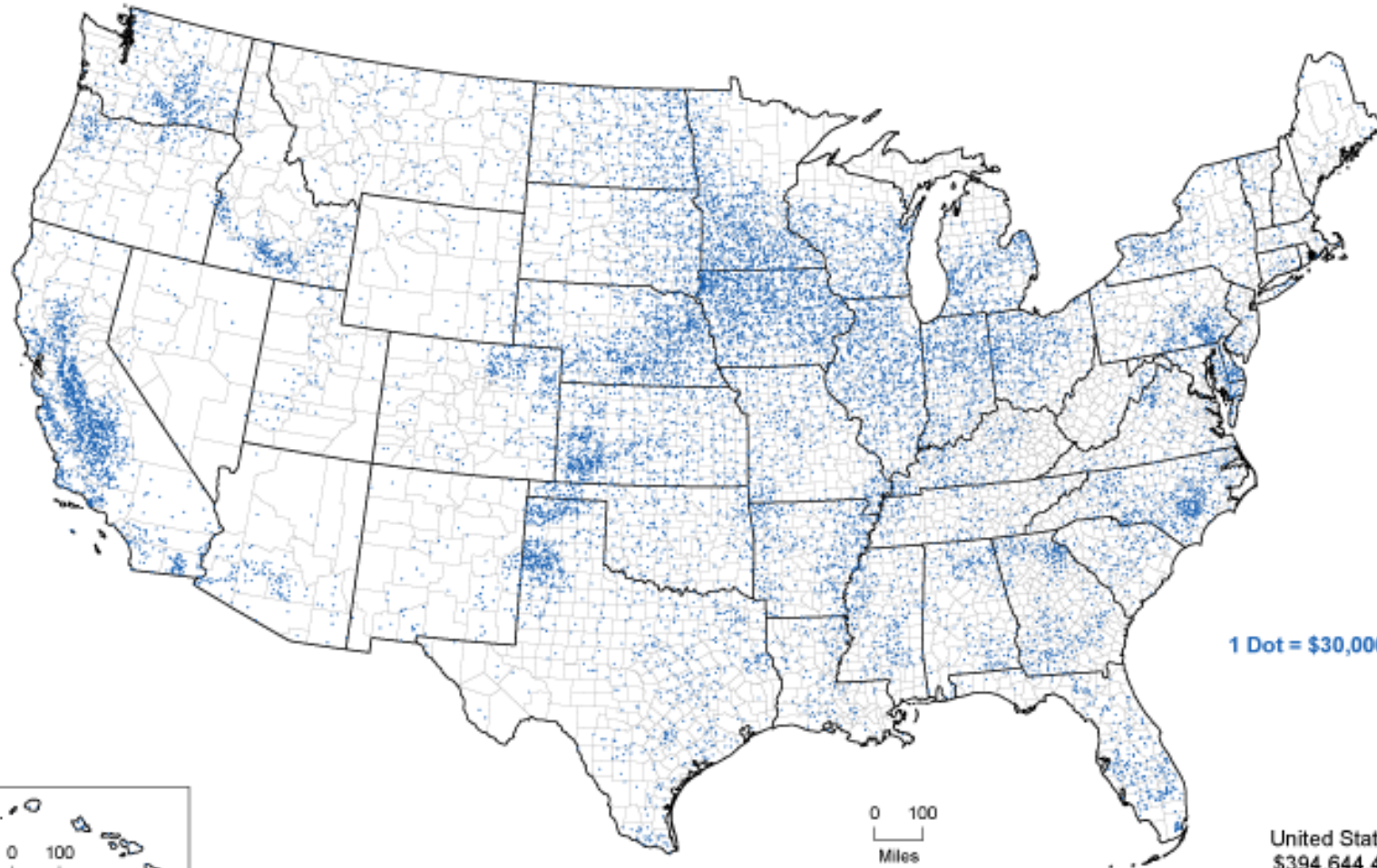
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD

	2007	2012	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
Total Value of Agricultural Products Sold * (billions \$)	\$297.2	\$394.6	32.8	2.1
Value of Crops sold* (billions \$)	\$143.6	\$212.4	47.8	1.6
Value of Livestock sold* (billions \$)	\$153.6	\$182.2	18.7	3.0
Average Sales per Farm* (dollars)	\$134,807	\$187,097	38.8	2.0

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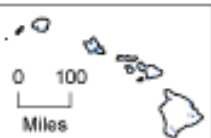
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 2012



1 Dot = \$30,000,000

United States Total
\$394,644,481,000

2012 Census of Agriculture



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U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

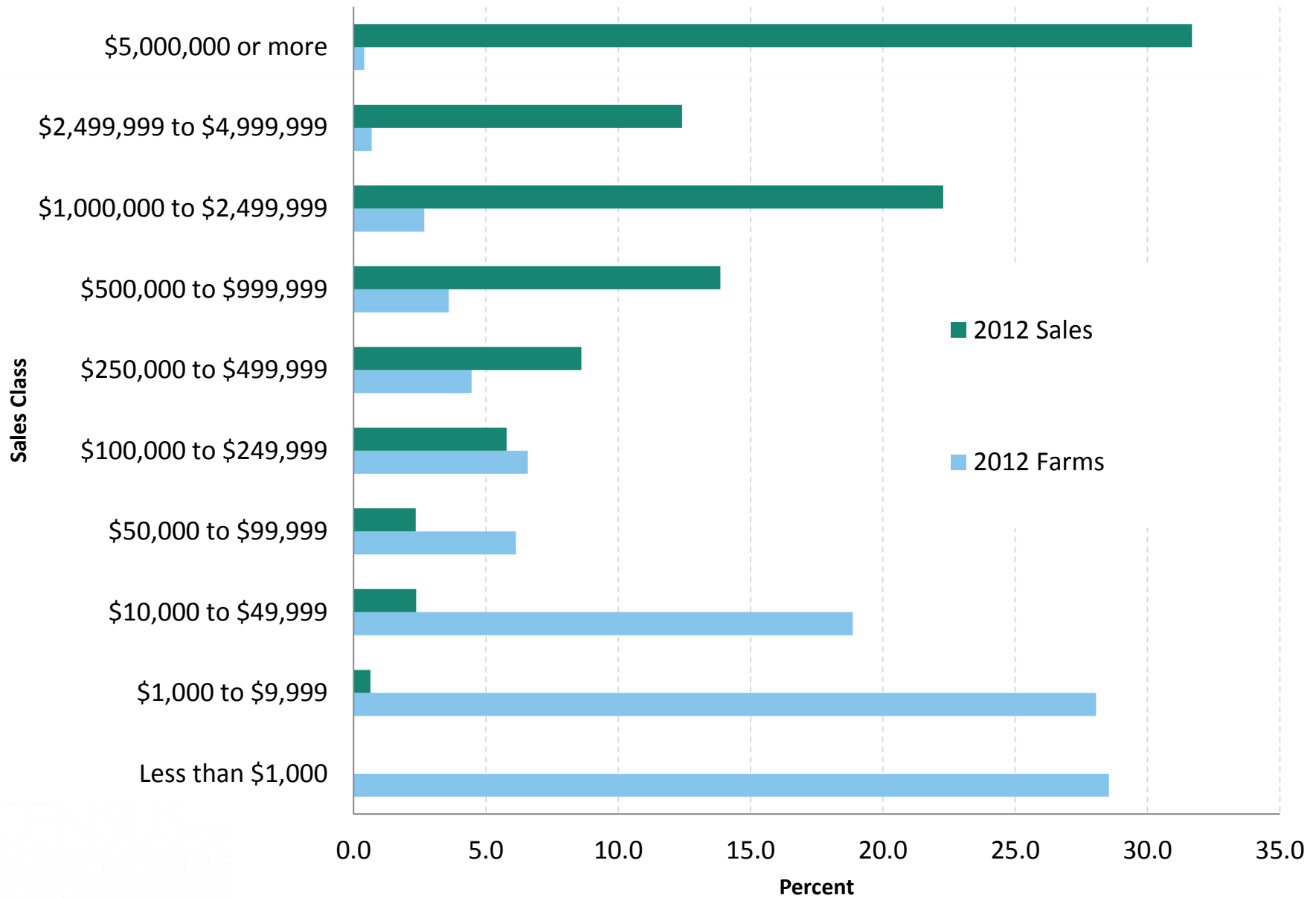
TOP 10 STATES VALUE OF PRODUCTION

2007 Rank	2007 Value of Production (billions \$)		2012 Rank	2012 Value of Production (billions \$)
California	33.9		California	42.6
Texas	21.0		Iowa	30.8
Iowa	20.4		Texas	25.4
Nebraska	15.5		Nebraska	23.1
Kansas	14.4		Minnesota	21.3
Illinois	13.3		Kansas	18.5
Minnesota	13.2		Illinois	17.2
North Carolina	10.3		North Carolina	12.6
Wisconsin	9.0		Wisconsin	11.7
Indiana	8.3		Indiana	11.2

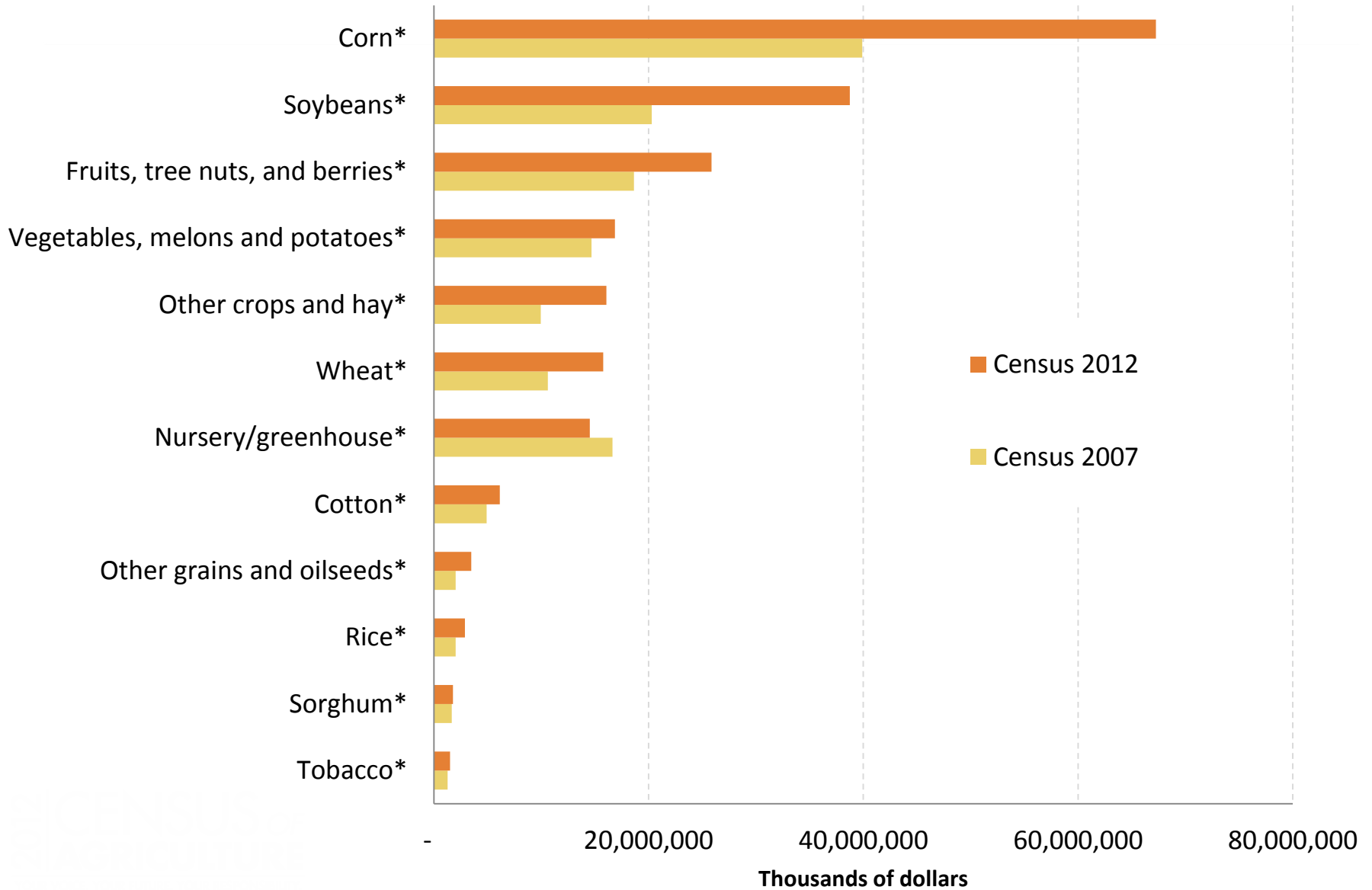
2012 TOP 10 COUNTIES

	2007 Value of Sales (in \$000s)		2012 Value of Sales (in \$000s)
Fresno County, CA	3,730,546	Fresno County, CA	4,973,041
Tulare County, CA	3,335,014	Tulare County, CA	4,017,073
Kern County, CA	3,204,147	Kern County, CA	3,998,990
Merced County, CA	2,330,408	Monterey County, CA	2,979,735
Monterey County, CA	2,178,470	Merced County, CA	2,967,523
Stanislaus, CA	1,820,564	San Joaquin, CA	2,250,158
San Joaquin, CA	1,564,354	Stanislaus, CA	2,228,135
Weld, CO	1,539,072	Imperial, CA	1,888,639
Kings, CA	1,358,410	Weld, CO	1,860,718
Ventura, CA	1,316,315	Kings, CA	1,829,236

Percent of Total Farms and Sales 2012



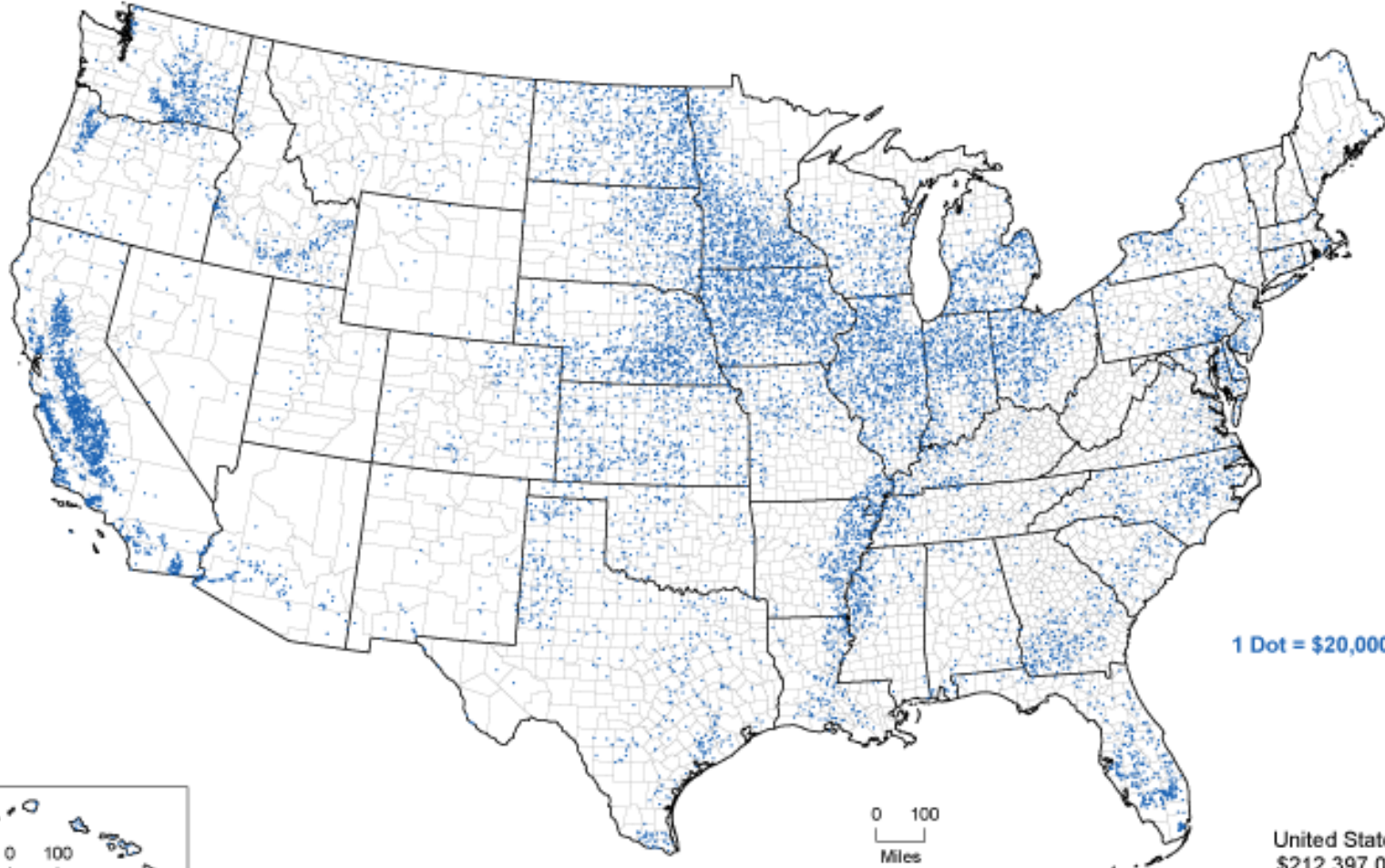
Value of Sales by Crop Commodity



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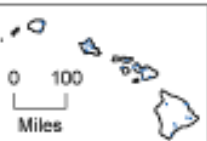
Value of Crops Sold: 2012



1 Dot = \$20,000,000

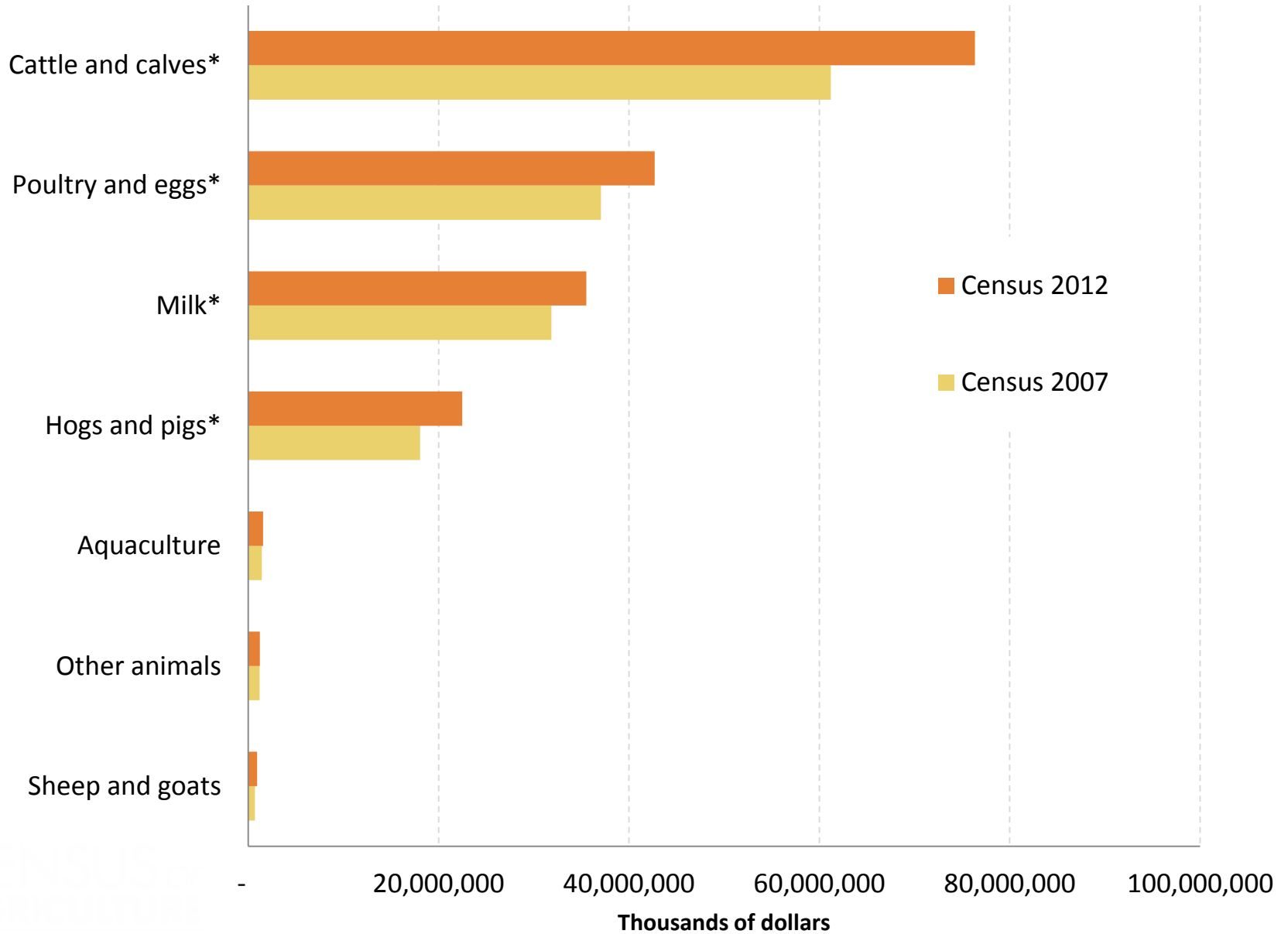
United States Total
\$212,397,074,000

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U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

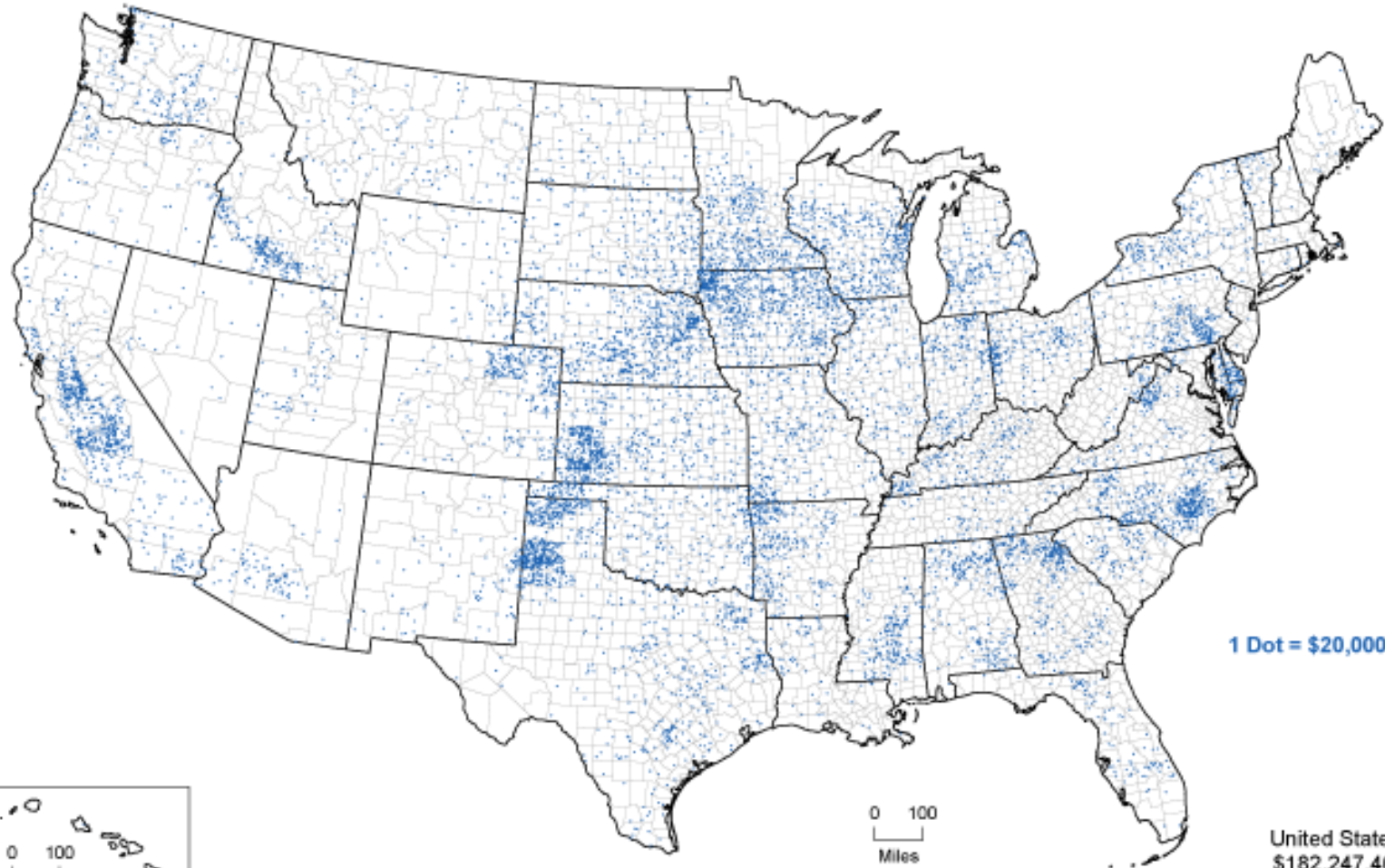
Value of Sales by Livestock Commodity



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Miles



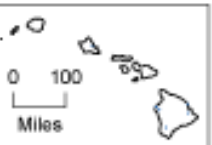
Value of Livestock, Poultry, and Their Products Sold: 2012



1 Dot = \$20,000,000

United States Total
\$182,247,407,000

2012 Census of Agriculture



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U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

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INCOME AND EXPENSES

	2007 (billions \$)	2012 (billions \$)	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
Total Value of Agricultural Products Sold *	\$297.2	\$394.6	32.8	2.1
Government Payments Received	8.0	8.1	0.9	1.0
Farm Related Income*	10.5	18.5	76.6	1.1
Production Expenses*	241.1	328.9	36.4	1.9
Net Cash Farm Income*	74.6	92.3	23.7	2.8

* Indicates significant change

TOP 10 PRODUCTION EXPENSES

	2007 (\$billions)	2012 (\$billions)	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
Total Production Expenses*	241.1	328.9	36.4	1.9
Feed*	49.1	75.7	54.2	2.5
Non-breeding livestock	34.4	37.2	8.0	6.3
Fertilizer*	18.1	28.5	57.6	0.9
Hired labor*	21.9	27.0	23.4	1.5
Cash rent*	13.3	21.0	58.2	1.6
All other expenses*	17.1	20.5	19.8	1.6
Seeds*	11.7	19.5	66.0	0.7
Supplies and repairs*	15.9	18.9	18.7	0.8
Gasoline, fuels and oils*	12.9	16.6	28.4	0.8
Chemicals*	10.1	16.5	63.4	0.9

* Indicates significant change

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE 2012

	Farms
Certified Organic or Exempt from Certification	16,525
USDA Certified Organic Production	12,771
USDA Organic Production Exempt from Certification	3,754
Had acreage transitioning into Organic Production	3,240
Total organic product sales	\$3.1 billion

DIRECT SALES TO CONSUMERS

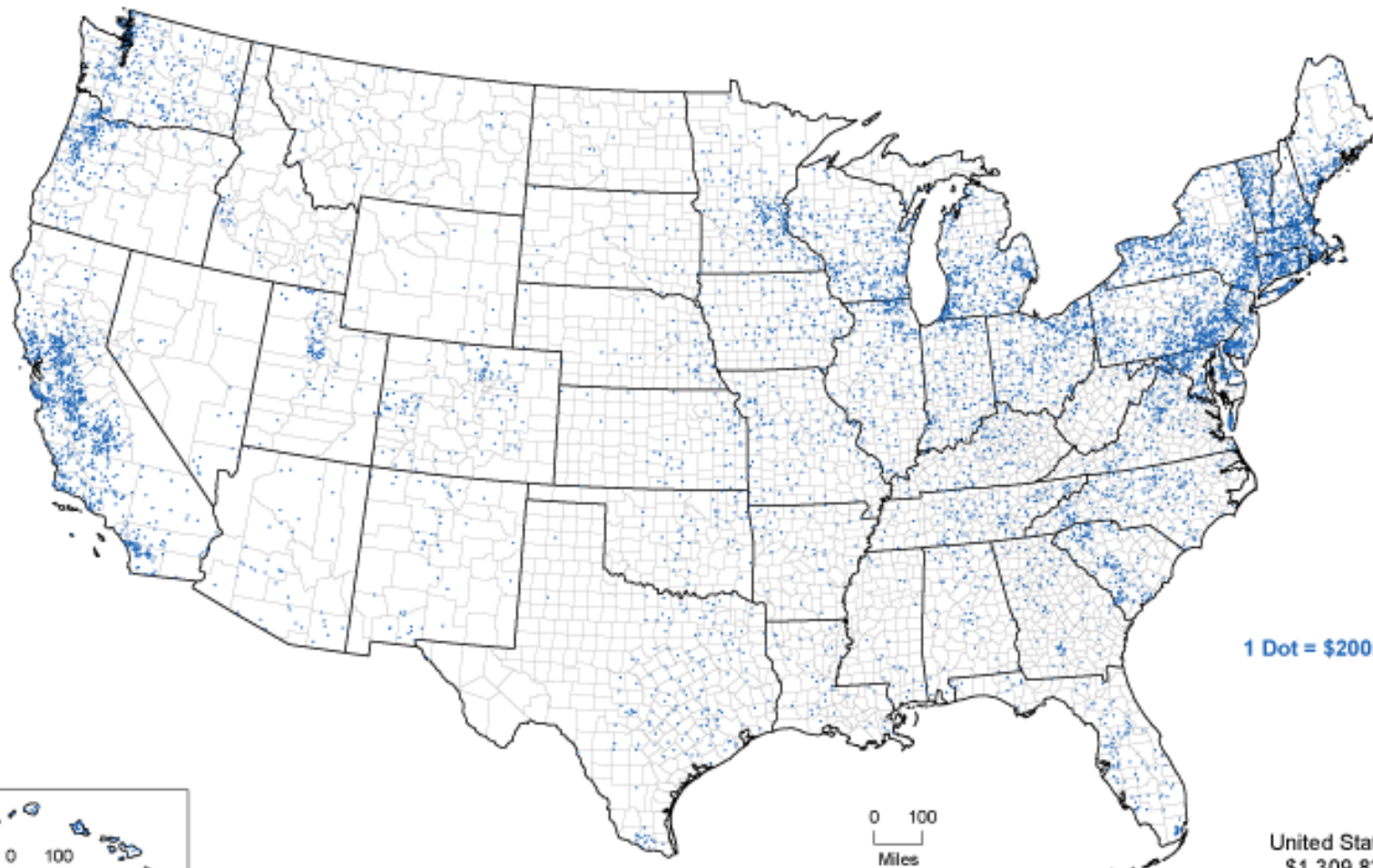
	2007	2012	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
Direct Sales to Consumers – farms	136,817	144,530	5.6	3.3
Direct Sales to Consumers – dollars*	1.2 billion	1.3 billion	8.1	2.0
Market products through community supported agriculture (CSAs)	12,549	12,617	0.5	5.2
Market products directly to retailers	N/A	49,043	N/A	3.4

* Indicates significant change

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Miles

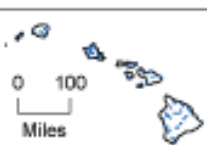


Value of Agricultural Products Sold Directly to Individuals for Human Consumption: 2012



1 Dot = \$200,000

0 100
Miles



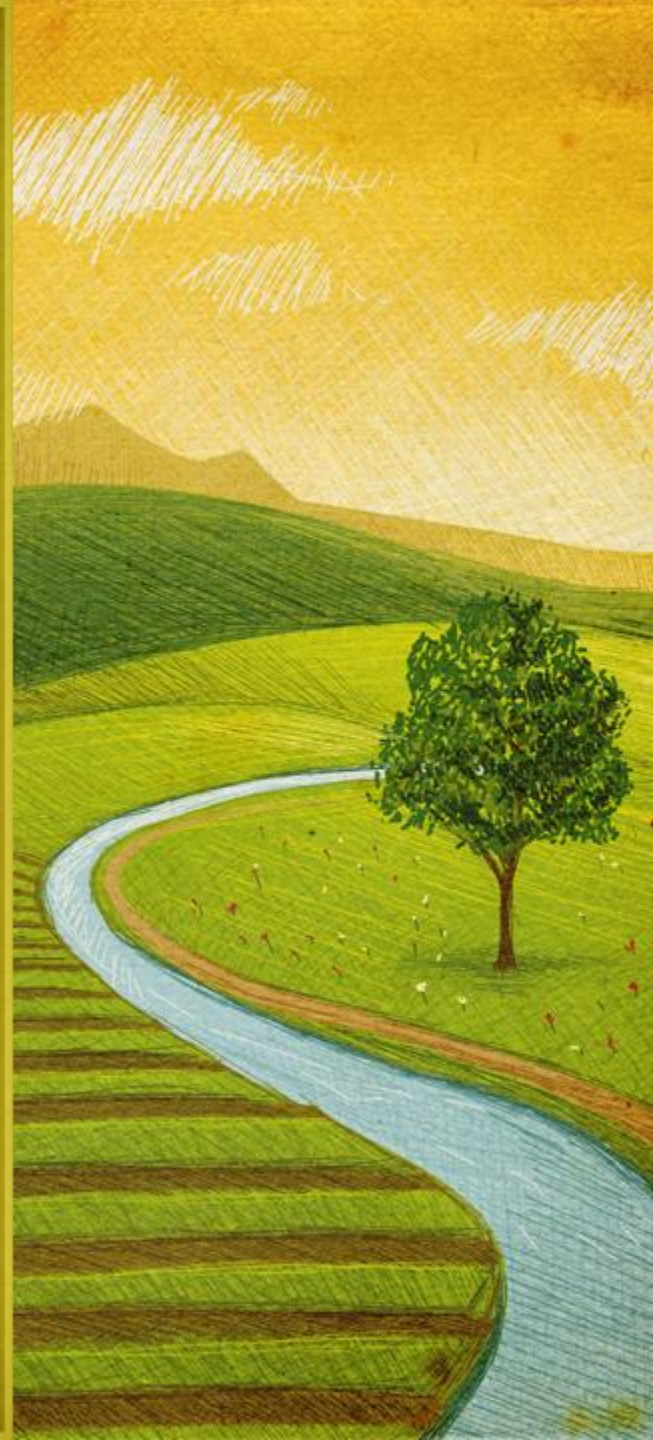
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U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

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United States Total
\$1,309,827,000

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Age
- Primary occupation
- Years on present farm
- Sex
- Ethnicity
- Race



ALL OPERATORS, 2012 AND 2007

	2007	2012	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
All operators	3,281,534	3,180,074	-3.1	1.7
All female operators	985,192	969,672	-1.6	2.3
Principal Operators*	2,204,792	2,109,303	-4.3	1.6
Second Operators	931,670	928,151	-0.4	1.9
Third Operators	145,072	142,620	-1.7	1.5

* Indicates significant change

Average Age of Principal Operator, 1982 to 2012

Age

60.0

58.0

56.0

54.0

52.0

50.0

48.0

46.0

44.0

42.0

40.0

1982

1987

1992

1997

2002

2007

2012

50.5

52.0

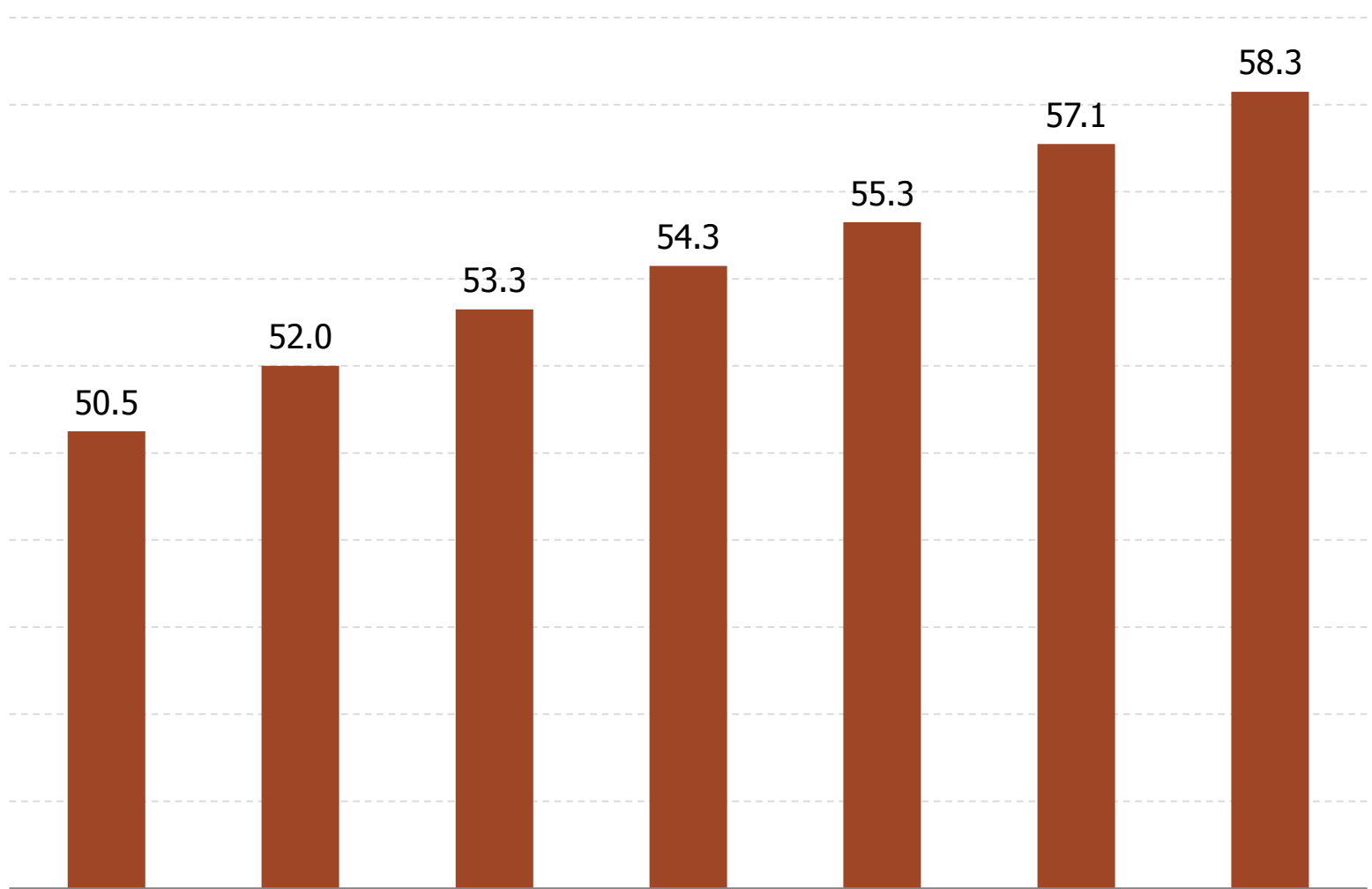
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54.3

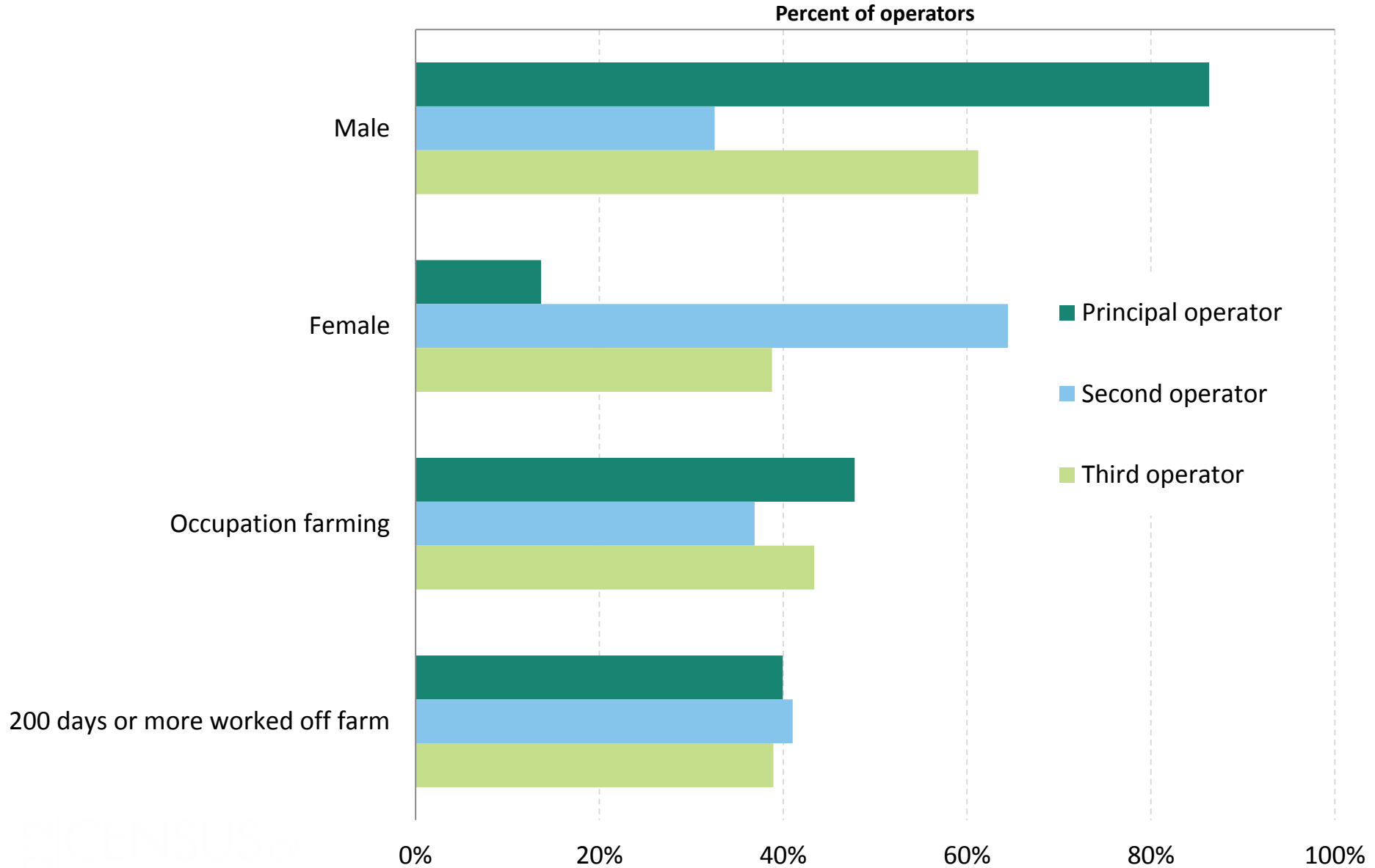
55.3

57.1

58.3

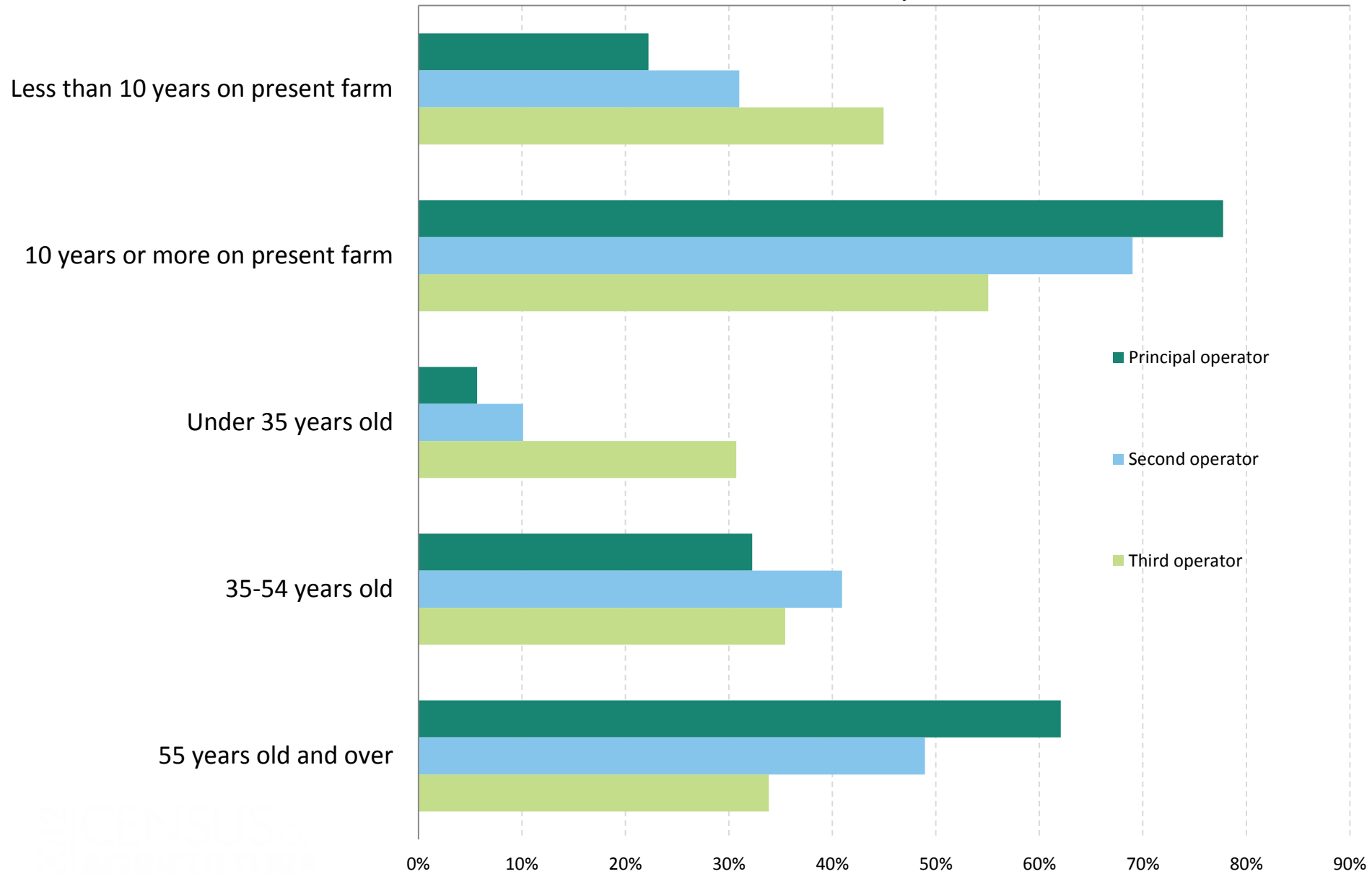


Characteristics of Principal, Second and Third Operators, 2012

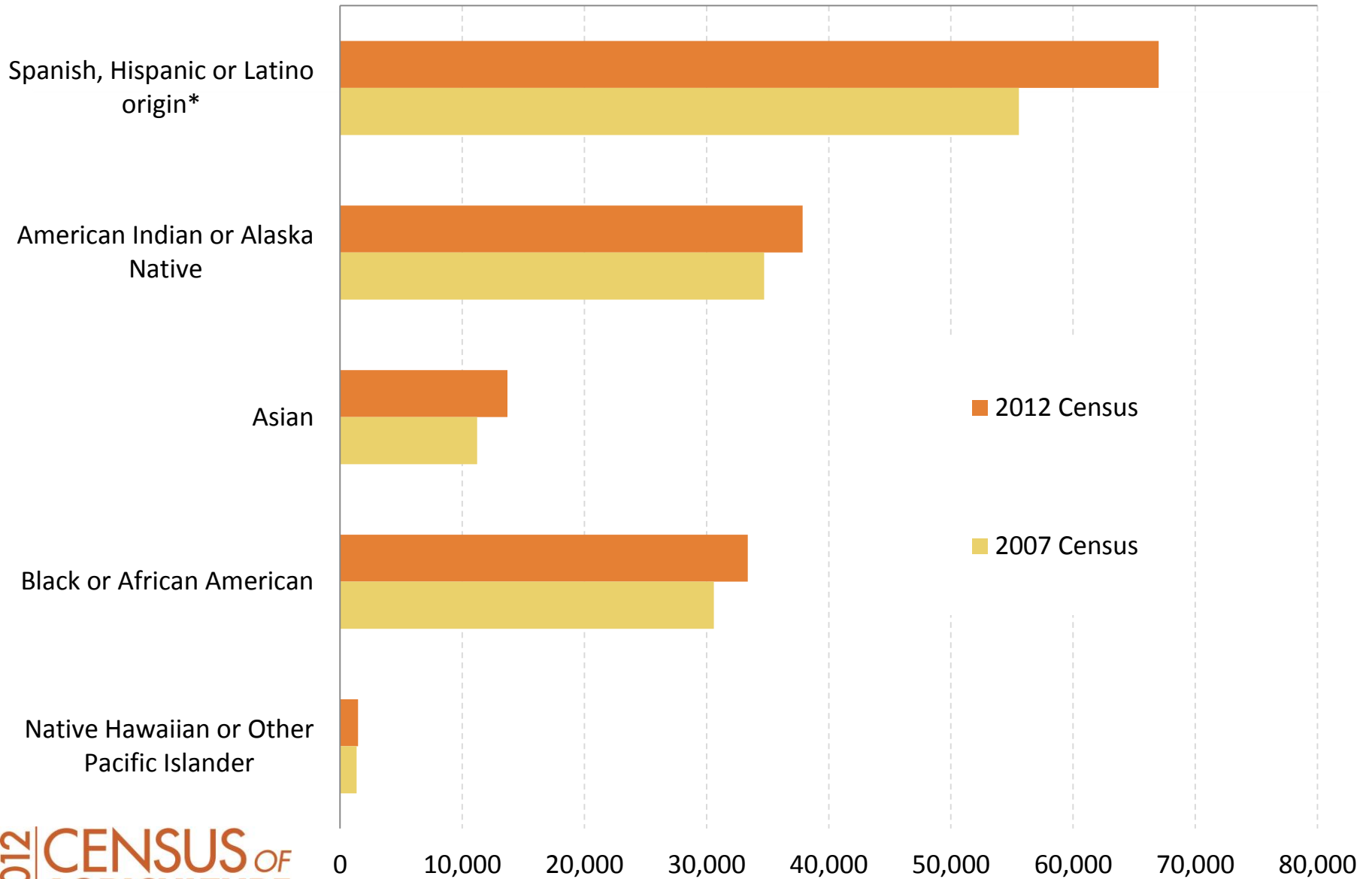


Characteristics of Principal, Second and Third Operators, 2012

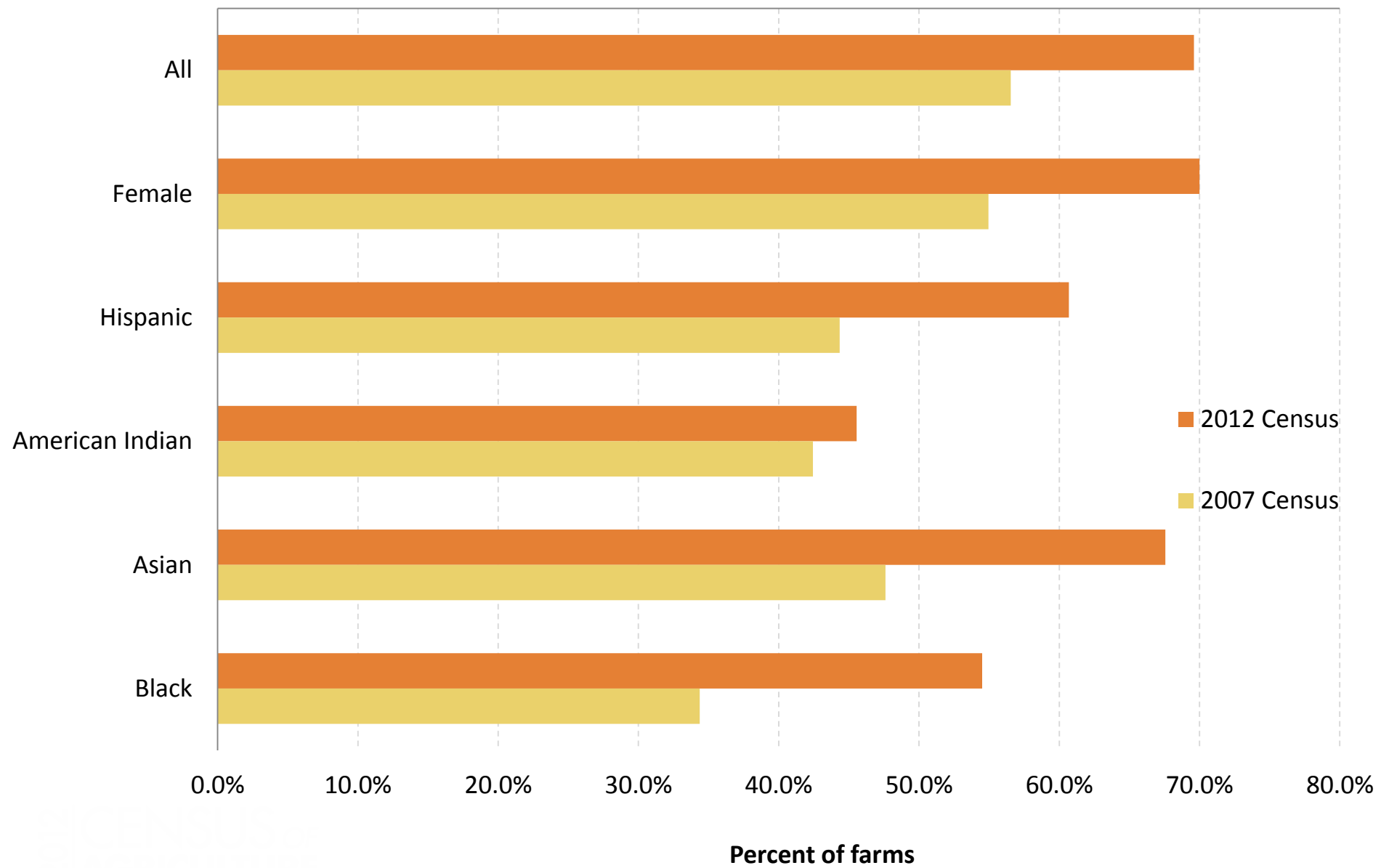
Percent of operators



Farms by Race and Ethnic Origin of Principal Operator, 2007 and 2012



Internet Access by Group, 2012 and 2007



BEGINNING FARMERS

	2007	2012	% Change	2012 Coefficient of Variation (%)
All beginning farmers* (less than 10 years on present operation)	583,286	469,098	-19.6	2.3
On the present operation less than 5 years*	223,741	171,550	-23.3	3.9

* Indicates significant change

PERCENT OF TOTAL YEARS ON FARM BY AGE OF PRINCIPAL OPERATOR

	2007 Less than 10 years on farm (%)	2012 Less than 10 years on farm (%)
Less than 25 years old	2.0%	2.3%
25 to 34	13.5%	17.1%
35 to 44	21.6%	19.7%
45 to 54	29.0%	25.1%
55 to 64	22.0%	22.2%
65 and older	11.9%	13.5%

CENSUS DATA

- Census data are available:
 - Online at www.agcensus.usda.gov
 - Through your local NASS field office
 - Toll-free hotline 800.727.9540

FUTURE CENSUS PRODUCTS

Other census products that will be released in 2014 include:

- State and County Profiles - May
- Puerto Rico Census of Agriculture - June
- Congressional Districts Profiles - July
- Congressional Districts Rankings - July
- Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Profiles - August
- American Indians - August
- Organic Production - September
- Watersheds - November
- Farm Typology - December
- Specialty Crops - December
- Specialty Crops for Puerto Rico - December

SUPPLEMENTAL SURVEYS

Other census products that will be released in 2014 include:

- Census of Aquaculture
 - Released September
- Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey
 - Released October

TOP LAND IN ORCHARDS COUNTIES

	2012 acres
Fresno County, CA	529,516
Kern County, CA	450,716
Tulare County, CA	294,735
San Joaquin County, CA	238,036
Madera County, CA	222,444

TOP LAND IN VEGETABLES COUNTIES

	2012 acres
Monterey County, CA	261,546
Fresno County, CA	176,589
Imperial County, CA	126,153
Yuma County, AZ	100,294
Grant County, WA	97,142

TOP PEANUT COUNTIES

	2012 pounds
Decatur County, GA	181,981,174
Worth County, GA	176,867,725
Gaines County, TX	163,255,105
Mitchell County, GA	149,442,759
Baldwin County, AL	147,517,122

TOP RICE COUNTIES

	2012 cwt
Colusa County, CA	12,787,320
Sutter County, CA	9,666,540
Arkansas County, AR	8,507,197
Butte County, CA	8,282,242
Glenn County, CA	8,155,826

TOP WHEAT COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Whitman County, WA	32,943,471
Lincoln County, WA	19,744,297
Chouteau County, MT	19,486,328
Ward County, ND	17,041,630
Cavalier County, ND	17,032,116

TOP COTTON COUNTIES

	2012 bales
Fresno County, CA	372,116
Mississippi County, AR	324,918
Kings County, CA	317,609
Gaines County, TX	252,417
Lubbock County, TX	242,039

TOP SOYBEAN COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Cass County, ND	16,085,426
McLean County, IL	14,239,599
Stutsman County, ND	13,692,268
Champaign County, IL	12,202,955
Richland County, ND	11,933,594

TOP CORN COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Kossuth County, IA	52,626,166
Brown County, SD	47,899,190
Renville County, MN	47,029,840
La Salle County, IL	45,464,941
Richland County, ND	45,168,872

TOP LAYER COUNTIES

	2012 inventory
Lancaster County, PA	10,651,369
Darke County, OH	8,800,904
Mercer County, OH	7,498,740
Wright County, IA	6,589,779
Sioux County, IA	6,223,301

TOP HOG COUNTIES

	2012 number sold
Duplin County, NC	6,691,317
Sampson County, NC	6,669,960
Sioux County, IA	3,201,339
Texas County, Oklahoma	2,546,376
Washington County, Iowa	2,355,836

TOP BEEF COW COUNTIES

	2012 inventory
Cherry County, NE	135,852
Okeechobee County, FL	88,046
Holt County, NE	87,142
Custer County, NE	86,057
Beaverhead County, MT	77,087

TOP MILK COW COUNTIES

	2012 inventory
Tulare County, CA	489,436
Merced County, CA	285,235
Stanislaus County, CA	179,617
Gooding County, ID	178,661
Kings County, CA	168,494

TOP BROILER COUNTIES

	2012 number sold
Sussex County, DE	174,042,650
Shelby County, TX	124,937,005
Benton County, AR	121,900,380
Franklin County, GA	102,145,628
DeKalb County, AL	96,289,355

TOP GOAT COUNTIES

	2012 inventory
Sutton County, TX	55,139
Edwards County, TX	45,699
Tom Green County, TX	32,660
Val Verde County, TX	31,273
Gillespie County, TX	27,857

TOP SHEEP COUNTIES

	2012 inventory
Weld County, CO	204,694
Kern County, CA	114,571
Tulare County, CA	93,479
Fresno County, CA	67,212
Apache County, AZ	63,942

TOP BLUEBERRY COUNTIES

	2012 acres
Van Buren County, MI	8,497
Atlantic County, NJ	7,594
Ottawa County, MI	6,221
Bladen County, NC	3,667
Whatcom County, WA	3,611

TOP SWEET CORN COUNTIES

	2012 acres
Grant County, WA	25,856
Benton County, WA	25,392
Renville County, MN	24,186
Portage County, WI	23,829
Palm Beach County, FL	22,918

TOP APPLE COUNTIES

	2012 acres
Yakima County, WA	50,270
Grant County, WA	43,471
Okanogan County, WA	20,774
Wayne County, NY	20,387
Benton County, WA	16,380

TOP PECAN COUNTIES

	2012 acres
Doña Ana County, NM	28,729
Mitchell County, GA	13,836
Comanche County, TX	13,039
Carter County, OK	7,818
San Saba County, TX	7,571

TOP MUSHROOM COUNTIES

	2012 square feet
Chester County, PA	11,574,610
Berks County, PA	3,655,132
Santa Clara County, CA	1,846,040
San Diego County, CA	569,240
Worcester County, MA	331,056