



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
2015 Certified Organic Survey – Massachusetts**



Northeastern Region – Massachusetts Field Office
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Certified Organic Highlights

The 2015 Certified Organic Survey is a survey of all operations identified as having certified organic production. Certified organic farms must meet the standards set out by USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service’s (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP) and be certified compliant by an approved agent of NOP. Results from the survey provide acreage, production, and sales data for a variety of certified organic crops and certified organic livestock.

In 2015, the United States had 12,818 certified organic farms that produced \$6.2 billion in certified organic products. Massachusetts had 130 certified organic farms with 5,867 acres of certified land that produced \$30.5 million in certified organic products. Of those farms in Massachusetts, 52 percent were certified organic for 10 years or more.

In Massachusetts, 58 certified organic farms sold to wholesale markets, 97 farms sold directly to consumers, and 65 farms sold directly to retail markets and institutions. The first point of sales for 93 percent of certified organic farms in Massachusetts was within 100 miles of the farm and 21 percent was within 100-499 miles of the farm. Over the next five years, 47 percent of certified organic operations in Massachusetts plan to increase certified organic agricultural production.

For more information on the 2015 Certified Organic Survey and related reports, please visit the NASS Organic Agriculture page at: www.nass.usda.gov/organics.

Farms, Land, and Value of Sales on Certified Organic Farms: 2015 and 2014

Geographic area	2015			2014		
	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)
United States	12,818	4,361,849	6,163,472	12,634	3,642,933	5,451,377
Massachusetts	130	5,867	30,485	131	6,922	24,595

Certified Organic Crops Value of Sales: 2015

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown in the open		
United States	2,999	1,361,747,498
Massachusetts	73	8,608,121
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown under protection		
United States	1,059	73,201,940
Massachusetts	39	8,735,917
All other fruits (excludes apples, grapes, all tree nuts, and all berries)		
United States	1,456	262,792,206
Massachusetts	14	5,186
All tree nuts		
United States	379	83,982,965
Massachusetts	(NDP)	(NDP)
All berries		
United States	1,436	344,634,693
Massachusetts	52	1,995,043
All field crops		
United States	4,545	660,044,049
Massachusetts	17	48,937

(NDP) No data present.

Certified Organic Floriculture Crops, Nursery Crops, Propagative Materials, and Mushrooms Value of Sales: 2015

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
Floriculture and bedding crops		
United States	336	22,231,062
Massachusetts.....	7	134,094
Nursery crops, including aquatic plants		
United States	108	26,516,551
Massachusetts.....	(NDP)	(NDP)
Propagative materials sold		
United States	120	19,912,081
Massachusetts.....	(NDP)	(NDP)
Mushrooms		
United States	130	95,543,620
Massachusetts.....	3	10,100

(NDP) No data present.

Top Certified Organic Livestock and Poultry Inventory and Sales: 2015

Commodity	Peak inventory		Value of sales	
	Farms	Number	Number	Dollars
Milk cows				
United States	2,282	241,112	47,033	65,361,338
Massachusetts.....	12	676	149	249,499
Beef cows				
United States	455	40,600	5,901	8,982,291
Massachusetts.....	2	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other cattle				
United States	2,753	228,630	169,884	158,251,289
Massachusetts.....	15	662	469	418,305
Hogs and pigs				
United States	135	12,358	13,353	5,112,388
Massachusetts.....	7	493	418	174,207
Chickens - layers				
United States	730	14,214,364	3,241,756	1,461,403
Massachusetts.....	10	(D)	(D)	(D)
Chickens - broilers				
United States	187	9,077,227	47,423,922	420,312,003
Massachusetts.....	2	(D)	(D)	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Top Certified Organic Livestock Products and Poultry Products Sales: 2015

Commodity	Farms	Quantity	Dollars
Milk from cows (pounds)			
United States	2,258	3,406,420,618	1,173,503,904
Massachusetts.....	12	8,026,082	(D)
Chicken eggs (dozens)			
United States	684	292,481,855	732,037,052
Massachusetts.....	8	(D)	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Operators on Certified Organic Farms by Years Operating Any Farm: 2015

Geographic area	Operators	Percent of operators by years operating any farm					
		Less than 10 years	10 to 19 years	20 to 29 years	30 to 39 years	40 to 49 years	50 or more years
United States	12,818	32	23	17	16	8	4
Massachusetts.....	130	43	25	12	15	3	2