



# Merced County California

## Total and Per Farm Overview, 2017 and change since 2012

|   | 2017          | % change since 2012 |
|---|---------------|---------------------|
| Number of farms                                     | 2,337         | -6                  |
| Land in farms (acres)                               | 946,385       | -3                  |
| Average size of farm (acres)                        | 405           | +3                  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>(\$)</b>   |                     |
| Market value of products sold                       | 2,938,396,000 | -1                  |
| Government payments                                 | 8,726,000     | -8                  |
| Farm-related income                                 | 80,652,000    | -2                  |
| Total farm production expenses                      | 2,472,837,000 | +1                  |
| Net cash farm income                                | 554,937,000   | -9                  |
| <b>Per farm average</b>                             | <b>(\$)</b>   |                     |
| Market value of products sold                       | 1,257,337     | +5                  |
| Government payments<br>(average per farm receiving) | 29,884        | +57                 |
| Farm-related income                                 | 79,071        | +7                  |
| Total farm production expenses                      | 1,058,125     | +7                  |
| Net cash farm income                                | 237,457       | -3                  |

**7** Percent of state agriculture sales

### Share of Sales by Type (%)

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Crops                            | 44 |
| Livestock, poultry, and products | 56 |

### Land in Farms by Use (%) <sup>a</sup>

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Cropland    | 58  |
| Pastureland | 38  |
| Woodland    | (Z) |
| Other       | 4   |

**Acres irrigated: 493,726**

52% of land in farms

### Land Use Practices (% of farms)

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| No till        | 6  |
| Reduced till   | 9  |
| Intensive till | 18 |
| Cover crop     | 6  |

## Farms by Value of Sales

|                      | Number | Percent of Total <sup>a</sup> |
|----------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Less than \$2,500    | 409    | 18                            |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999   | 94     | 4                             |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999   | 132    | 6                             |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 | 225    | 10                            |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 | 172    | 7                             |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 | 205    | 9                             |
| \$100,000 or more    | 1,100  | 47                            |

## Farms by Size

|                  | Number | Percent of Total <sup>a</sup> |
|------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| 1 to 9 acres     | 384    | 16                            |
| 10 to 49 acres   | 867    | 37                            |
| 50 to 179 acres  | 465    | 20                            |
| 180 to 499 acres | 284    | 12                            |
| 500 to 999 acres | 165    | 7                             |
| 1,000 + acres    | 172    | 7                             |

**Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold**

|  | Sales (\$1,000)  | Rank in State <sup>b</sup> | Counties Producing Item | Rank in U.S. <sup>b</sup> | Counties Producing Item |
|--|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>2,938,396</b> | <b>5</b>                   | <b>58</b>               | <b>5</b>                  | <b>3,077</b>            |
| <b>Crops</b>   | <b>1,290,175</b> | <b>9</b>                   | <b>58</b>               | <b>11</b>                 | <b>3,073</b>            |
| Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, dry peas                  | 50,315           | 8                          | 48                      | 764                       | 2,916                   |
| Tobacco  | -                | -                          | -                       | -                         | 323                     |
| Cotton and cottonseed                                  | 74,711           | 3                          | 11                      | 16                        | 647                     |
| Vegetables, melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes           | 373,449          | 7                          | 56                      | 8                         | 2,821                   |
| Fruits, tree nuts, berries                             | 719,379          | 9                          | 57                      | 11                        | 2,748                   |
| Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod                 | 12,800           | 27                         | 54                      | 208                       | 2,601                   |
| Cultivated Christmas trees, short rotation woody crops | 44               | 12                         | 33                      | 391                       | 1,384                   |
| Other crops and hay                                    | 59,477           | 2                          | 55                      | 22                        | 3,040                   |
| <b>Livestock, poultry, and products</b>                | <b>1,648,221</b> | <b>3</b>                   | <b>58</b>               | <b>4</b>                  | <b>3,073</b>            |
| Poultry and eggs                                       | 421,978          | 2                          | 56                      | 12                        | 3,007                   |
| Cattle and calves                                      | 183,611          | 5                          | 57                      | 68                        | 3,055                   |
| Milk from cows   | 1,033,003        | 2                          | 41                      | 2                         | 1,892                   |
| Hogs and pigs  | 131              | 15                         | 55                      | 834                       | 2,856                   |
| Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, milk                       | 4,685            | 5                          | 56                      | 26                        | 2,984                   |
| Horses, ponies, mules, burros, donkeys                 | 230              | 27                         | 55                      | 863                       | 2,970                   |
| Aquaculture  | 2,314            | 14                         | 40                      | 104                       | 1,251                   |
| Other animals and animal products                      | 2,269            | 10                         | 57                      | 80                        | 2,878                   |

|                                     |              |                               |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Total Producers <sup>c</sup></b> | <b>4,170</b> | <b>Percent of farms that:</b> | <b>Top Crops in Acres <sup>d</sup></b>    |
| <b>Sex</b>                          |              | Have internet access          | Almonds 139,565                           |
| Male                                | 2,895        | <b>79</b>                     | Forage (hay/haylage), all 137,631         |
| Female                              | 1,275        |                               | Corn for silage or greenchop 83,030       |
| <b>Age</b>                          |              | Farm organically              | Vegetables harvested, all 56,936          |
| <35                                 | 343          | <b>3</b>                      | Cotton, all 47,766                        |
| 35 – 64                             | 2,496        |                               |   |
| 65 and older                        | 1,331        |                               |   |
| <b>Race</b>                         |              | Sell directly to consumers    | <b>Livestock Inventory (Dec 31, 2017)</b> |
| American Indian/Alaska Native       | 58           | <b>4</b>                      | Broilers and other meat-type chickens (D) |
| Asian                               | 292          |                               | Cattle and calves 574,871                 |
| Black or African American           | 2            |                               | Goats 9,830                               |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander    | 21           |                               | Hogs and pigs 1,007                       |
| White                               | 3,759        | Hire farm labor               | Horses and ponies 1,269                   |
| More than one race                  | 38           | <b>50</b>                     | Layers 3,516,959                          |
| <b>Other characteristics</b>        |              | Are family farms              | Pullets 1,132,909                         |
| Hispanic, Latino, Spanish origin    | 641          | <b>91</b>                     | Sheep and lambs 25,235                    |
| With military service               | 313          |                               | Turkeys 817,473                           |
| New and beginning farmers           | 913          |                               |   |

See 2017 Census of Agriculture, U.S. Summary and State Data, for complete footnotes, explanations, definitions, commodity descriptions, and methodology.

<sup>a</sup> May not add to 100% due to rounding. <sup>b</sup> Among counties whose rank can be displayed. <sup>c</sup> Data collected for a maximum of four producers per farm.

<sup>d</sup> Crop commodity names may be shortened; see full names at [www.nass.usda.gov/go/cropnames.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/go/cropnames.pdf). <sup>e</sup> Position below the line does not indicate rank.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (NA) Not available. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. (-) Represents zero.