



Blue Earth County Minnesota

Total and Per Farm Overview, 2017 and change since 2012

| | 2017 | % change since 2012 |
|---|-------------|---------------------|
| Number of farms | 983 | -8 |
| Land in farms (acres) | 382,730 | +2 |
| Average size of farm (acres) | 389 | +11 |
| Total | (\$) | |
| Market value of products sold | 483,499,000 | -4 |
| Government payments | 12,899,000 | +67 |
| Farm-related income | 15,638,000 | +14 |
| Total farm production expenses | 382,030,000 | +3 |
| Net cash farm income | 130,006,000 | -17 |
| Per farm average | (\$) | |
| Market value of products sold | 491,860 | +4 |
| Government payments (average per farm receiving) | 17,176 | +91 |
| Farm-related income | 23,586 | +19 |
| Total farm production expenses | 388,637 | +12 |
| Net cash farm income | 132,254 | -10 |

3 Percent of state agriculture sales

Share of Sales by Type (%)

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Crops | 42 |
| Livestock, poultry, and products | 58 |

Land in Farms by Use (%) ^a

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Cropland | 93 |
| Pastureland | (Z) |
| Woodland | 2 |
| Other | 4 |

Acres irrigated: 4,282

1% of land in farms

Land Use Practices (% of farms)

| | |
|----------------|----|
| No till | 6 |
| Reduced till | 30 |
| Intensive till | 37 |
| Cover crop | 4 |

Farms by Value of Sales

| | Number | Percent of Total ^a |
|----------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Less than \$2,500 | 266 | 27 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999 | 35 | 4 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 | 25 | 3 |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 | 54 | 5 |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 | 66 | 7 |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 | 90 | 9 |
| \$100,000 or more | 447 | 45 |

Farms by Size

| | Number | Percent of Total ^a |
|------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| 1 to 9 acres | 95 | 10 |
| 10 to 49 acres | 209 | 21 |
| 50 to 179 acres | 249 | 25 |
| 180 to 499 acres | 200 | 20 |
| 500 to 999 acres | 123 | 13 |
| 1,000 + acres | 107 | 11 |

Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold

| | Sales (\$1,000) | Rank in State ^b | Counties Producing Item | Rank in U.S. ^b | Counties Producing Item |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total | 483,499 | 5 | 87 | 101 | 3,077 |
| Crops | 202,637 | 12 | 87 | 124 | 3,073 |
| Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, dry peas | 198,435 | 9 | 85 | 49 | 2,916 |
| Tobacco | - | - | - | - | 323 |
| Cotton and cottonseed | - | - | - | - | 647 |
| Vegetables, melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes | 1,631 | 44 | 86 | 611 | 2,821 |
| Fruits, tree nuts, berries | (D) | 23 | 84 | 907 | 2,748 |
| Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod | 1,936 | 20 | 82 | 654 | 2,601 |
| Cultivated Christmas trees, short rotation woody crops | (D) | 42 | 54 | (D) | 1,384 |
| Other crops and hay | 376 | 81 | 87 | 2,447 | 3,040 |
| Livestock, poultry, and products | 280,861 | 5 | 87 | 119 | 3,073 |
| Poultry and eggs | 13,119 | 23 | 87 | 507 | 3,007 |
| Cattle and calves | 9,686 | 51 | 87 | 1,279 | 3,055 |
| Milk from cows | 435 | 72 | 80 | 1,028 | 1,892 |
| Hogs and pigs | 256,983 | 2 | 85 | 12 | 2,856 |
| Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, milk | 474 | 16 | 85 | 355 | 2,984 |
| Horses, ponies, mules, burros, donkeys | (D) | 44 | 84 | 1,853 | 2,970 |
| Aquaculture | - | - | 28 | - | 1,251 |
| Other animals and animal products | (D) | (D) | 85 | (D) | 2,878 |

Total Producers ^c

1,564

Sex

| | |
|--------|-------|
| Male | 1,124 |
| Female | 440 |

Age

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| <35 | 129 |
| 35 – 64 | 959 |
| 65 and older | 476 |

Race

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| American Indian/Alaska Native | - |
| Asian | 3 |
| Black or African American | - |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | - |
| White | 1,561 |
| More than one race | - |

Other characteristics

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Hispanic, Latino, Spanish origin | 2 |
| With military service | 149 |
| New and beginning farmers | 336 |

Percent of farms that:

Have internet access **82**

Farm organically **(Z)**

Sell directly to consumers **3**

Hire farm labor **31**

Are family farms **96**

Top Crops in Acres ^d

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Corn for grain | 168,936 |
| Soybeans for beans | 161,950 |
| Forage (hay/haylage), all | 3,659 |
| Dry edible peas | (D) |
| Wheat for grain, all | (D) |

Livestock Inventory (Dec 31, 2017)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens | 553 |
| Cattle and calves | 12,160 |
| Goats | 222 |
| Hogs and pigs | 599,573 |
| Horses and ponies | 276 |
| Layers | 541,472 |
| Pullets | 56 |
| Sheep and lambs | 3,322 |
| Turkeys | 131,772 |

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

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

^d Crop commodity names may be shortened; see full names at www.nass.usda.gov/go/cropnames.pdf. ^e 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.