

Arizona Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size

Year	Number of Farms ^{1/}	Land in Farms	Average Farm Size
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
2007	15,600	26,100	1,673
2008	15,600	26,100	1,673
2009	15,500	26,100	1,684
2010	15,500	26,100	1,684
2011	15,500	26,100	1,684

United States Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size

Year	Number of Farms ^{1/}	Land in Farms	Average Farm Size
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
2007	2,204,950	921,460	418
2008	2,200,100	919,910	418
2009	2,200,210	919,890	418
2010	2,192,000	918,840	419
2011	2,181,000	916,990	420

2011 Number of Farms and Land in Farms Highlights

The number of farms in the United States in 2011 is estimated at 2.2 million, down slightly from 2010. Total land in farms, at 917 million acres, decreased 1.85 million acres from 2010. The average farm size is 420 acres, up 1 acre from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these "sales classes" by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, and \$500,000.

Farm numbers increased slightly in the \$10,000-\$99,999, \$250,000-\$499,999, and \$500,000 and over sales classes. Higher commodity prices and larger value of sales contributed to changes in the number of farms within these sales classes. Farm numbers increased 1.3 percent, to slightly over 600,000 farms in the \$10,000 - \$99,999 sales class and 1.9 percent in the \$250,000 - \$499,999 sales class to over 100,000 farms. Meanwhile, the number of farms in the \$500,000 and over sales class increased by 5.9 percent, to 133,570 farms.

Land in farms increased in the largest sales class while decreasing in all other sales classes. Land operated by farms in the \$500,000 & over in sales class increased 2.5 percent, to 305.7 million acres. Land operated by farms in both \$1,000-\$9,999 and \$100,000-\$249,999 sales classes decreased by 3.5 percent, to 100.7 million acres and 138.7 million acres respectively.

The average farm size increased 1 acre in 2011 to 420 acres per farm. However, average farm sizes declined in some of the sales classes partially due to smaller farms moving up to higher sales classes.

The number of operations with cattle totaled 922,000 for 2011, down 1 percent from 2010. Beef cow operations in 2011, at 734,000, were also down 1 percent from last year. The number of milk cow operations for 2011 totaled 60,000, down 4 percent from 2010.

The three operation classes: cattle, beef cows, and milk cows, are classified into size groups independently. Therefore, it is possible to have more beef cow operations in a particular size group than cattle operations. As an example, an operator with 75 cattle and 40 beef cows would be classified in the 50-99 size group for cattle and 1-49 size group for beef cows.

The number of operations with hogs totaled 69,100 for 2011, unchanged from 2010. Places with 2,000 or more head accounted for 87 percent of the inventory.

The number of operations with sheep totaled 80,000 for 2011, down 1 percent from 2010. Of all sheep operations that include breeding sheep, 93.5 percent were comprised of 1-99 head, 5.4 percent had 100-499 head, and the remaining 1.1 percent were operations with 500 head or more. Operations with 1-99 head account for 35.9 percent of the inventory, 100-499 head account for 21.1 percent of the inventory, and 500+ head account for 43.0 percent of the inventory.

The number of operations with goats totaled 151,000 for 2011, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Angora goat operations totaled 5,500, down 8 percent from 2010. Milk goat operations totaled 31,000, unchanged from 2010. Meat goat operations totaled 124,000, down 3 percent from a year earlier. Total goat operations will be equal to or less than the sum of angora, milk and meat goat operations since places which own more than one goat type count as only one operation.