



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
DELAWARE FIELD OFFICE
2320 S. DuPont Hwy, Dover DE 19901



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 13, 2024

Contact: Shareefah Williams
301-347-8179

2022 Census of Agriculture data now available

DOVER, DE --- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Delaware office today announced the results of the 2022 Census of Agriculture with new information about 2,158 Delaware farms and ranches and those who operate them, including data about on-farm decision making, down to the county level according to Shareefah Williams, Maryland/Delaware State Statistician.

“We are pleased to provide updated Census of Agriculture data to all those who serve U.S. agriculture, especially the producers who gave their time to complete the questionnaire. Census of Agriculture data tell a story. This comprehensive snapshot every five years helps data users to see trends and shifts in the industry over time and helps producers do business,” said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. “Overall, though there are always changes across U.S. agriculture, the data remain largely consistent with the previous ag census. Data users will also notice some new data on the topics of hemp, precision agriculture, and internet access.”

Census data provide valuable insights into demographics, economics, land and activities on U.S. farms and ranches. Some key state highlights include:

- The average age of all producers was 58.8 years of age.
- The number of female producers decreased by 3 percent from 2017.
- The per farm average net income increased from \$277,316 in 2017 to \$414,476 in 2022.

In the Census of Agriculture, particular focus is brought to producer demographics since 2017, including the roles of all persons involved in on-farm decision making. As a result, in 2022 the number of all producers in Delaware was down to 3,812 from 3,907 producers in 2017.

Other demographic highlights include:

- New and beginning producers with 10 years or less of farming comprised of 950 producers.
- Producers with military service was published with 310 producers represented.

The response rate for the 2022 Census of Agriculture was 61%; more than 40% of responses were submitted online. To address questions about the 2022 Census of Agriculture data, NASS will host a live X Stat Chat [@usda_nass](#) for the public on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 1 p.m. EST. Ag census data highlight publications are available at nass.usda.gov/Publications/Highlights.

First conducted in 1840 in conjunction with the decennial Census and conducted since 1997 by USDA NASS – the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture – the Census of Agriculture remains the most comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation.

###

NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.