



Iowa Ag News – Farms and Land in Farms



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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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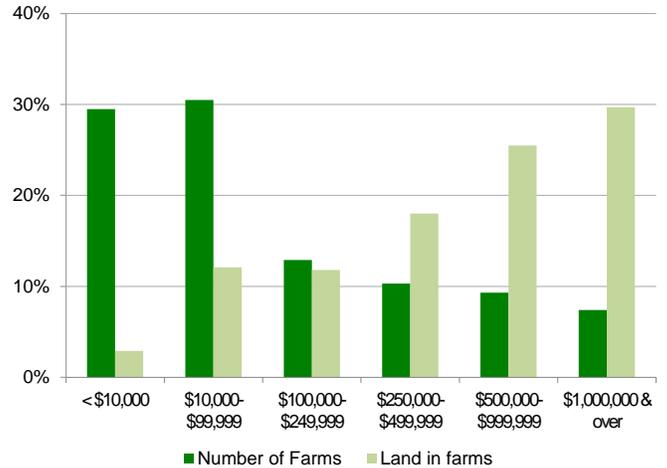
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The total number of farms in Iowa in 2018 was 86,000, down 100 farms compared with a year ago, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Farms and Land in Farms 2018 Summary* report. This decrease in number of farms came in the \$10,000-\$99,999 range with a decrease from 26,300 in 2017 to 26,200 in 2018.

Total land in farms in Iowa in 2018 was 30.6 million acres, unchanged since 2010.

The average farm size in Iowa in 2018 was 356 acres, up 1 acre from last year.

**Farms and Land in Farms
Percent by Sales Class - Iowa: 2018**



Farms and Land in Farms, by Sales Class – Iowa: 2014-2018

[Farms and ranches are classified in "sales classes" by summing sales of agricultural products and government program payments.]

	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000-\$999,999	\$1,000,000 & over	Total
Number of Farms							
2014	26,800	24,600	10,700	9,300	9,300	7,000	87,700
2015	26,200	25,200	10,700	9,200	8,800	6,900	87,000
2016	25,400	25,900	10,700	9,100	8,600	6,700	86,400
2017	25,400	26,300	11,100	8,900	8,000	6,400	86,100
2018	25,400	26,200	11,100	8,900	8,000	6,400	86,000
Land in Farms, 1,000 acres							
2014	1,200	3,200	3,300	5,200	8,300	9,400	30,600
2015	1,100	3,300	3,400	5,500	8,000	9,300	30,600
2016	900	3,600	3,400	5,400	8,000	9,300	30,600
2017	900	3,700	3,600	5,500	7,800	9,100	30,600
2018	900	3,700	3,600	5,500	7,800	9,100	30,600
Average Farm Size, acres							
2014	45	130	308	559	892	1,343	349
2015	42	131	318	598	909	1,348	352
2016	35	139	318	593	930	1,388	354
2017	35	141	324	618	975	1,422	355
2018	35	141	324	618	975	1,422	356

United States Farms and Land in Farms

The number of farms in the United States for 2018 is estimated at 2,029,200, down 12,800 farms from 2017. Total land in farms, at 899,500,000 acres, decreased 870,000 acres from 2017. The average farm size for 2018 is 443 acres, up 2 acres from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2018 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2017 calendar year.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced but not sold. The 2017 Census of Agriculture showed that 471,593 farms or 23.1 percent of the 2.04 million farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 59.2 million acres or 6.6 percent of the 900.2 million acres of farmland.

Number of farms declined by 12,800 from 2017. The number of farms in Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999 increased while all other sales classes declined. Fifty-one percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales. Eighty-two percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. Seven percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

Number of Farms and Average Farm Size – United States: 2011-2018

