



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with Kentucky Department of Agriculture
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Flowers Important to Kentucky Agricultural Economy

Louisville, Ky. - Mothers' Day, weddings, getting out of trouble with your significant other, a pristine lawn. None of these things would be complete without flowers and plants. Based on the recent results from the 2017 Census of Agriculture, Kentucky grew and sold \$51,053,273 worth of floriculture crops.

Floriculture includes the production of bedding and garden plants, foliage plants, potted flowering plants, cut flowers, cut cultivated greens and floriculture materials. Every 5 years the USDA conducts a comprehensive agricultural census. The most recent data from this census was collected in 2018 and released in April of 2019.

The census indicates that total floriculture sales, which is a subset of horticulture, in Kentucky accounted for 61.5% of all horticulture sales excluding cut trees, seeds, and transplants. Floriculture sales also accounted for 2.0% of all crop sales in Kentucky.

Jefferson County had the highest floriculture sales in the state with \$1,833,000 followed by Christian County with \$1,816,000. Fayette County ranked 3rd with just over \$1.6 million in sales. Laurel, Barren, Warren, Campbell and Kenton County all had sales over \$500,000. Jefferson and Christian County ranked 247 and 248 in floriculture sales among all counties in the US.

Kentucky Floriculture Trends:

- Kentucky had 512 floriculture operations with sales in 2017, a 16.9% decrease since 2007.
- Though total operations have decreased across the state, total floriculture sales have shown steady growth peaking at \$51,053,273 in 2017, a 13.2% increase since 2007.
- Kentucky has seen an increase of 32.6% in floriculture acres in production in the open since 2007, and a 3.1% increase since 2012.

How Kentucky Measures Up:

- Kentucky made up 18.8% of floriculture operations with sales in the Eastern Mountain Region (Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia) and 2.0% of operations with sales nationwide.

- Kentucky made up 9.7% of floriculture sales in the Eastern Mountain Region and accounts for .8% of sales nationwide.
- Kentucky ranked 19th in number of floriculture operations with sales, 28th in floriculture sales, and 26th in acres in production (in the open) among other US states during 2017.

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