



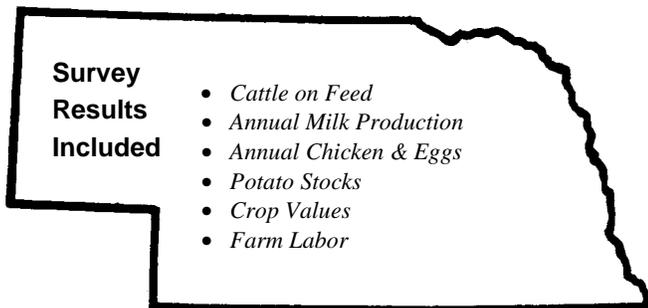
Nebraska Agri-Facts

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Dear Nebraska Farmers, Ranchers and Agribusinesses:

The following narrative and tables are from recently published reports by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board. These data are direct results of information provided by Nebraska producers and agribusinesses to the surveys conducted each month by this office. Thank you for your response to these surveys.

Joseph L. Parsons
Director

Nebraska Cattle on Feed Down 4 Percent

Nebraska feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.4 million cattle on feed on February 1, down 4 percent from last year. Placements of cattle into feedlots during January totaled 400,000 head, up 5 percent from 2008. Fed cattle marketings for the month of January totaled 360,000 head, down 8 percent from last year. Other disappearance during January totaled 10,000 head the same as last year.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Down 6 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on February 1, 2009. The inventory was 6 percent below February 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.86 million, 4 percent above 2008. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.74 million, 6 percent below 2008. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for month of January since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 67,000 during January, 12 percent below 2008.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2008-2009

State	February 1 Number on Feed ¹			January Placements			January Marketings			January Other Disappearance ²		
	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> <u>2008</u>	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> <u>2008</u>	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> <u>2008</u>	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> <u>2008</u>
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
Arizona	373	349	94	35	27	77	29	35	121	1	1	100
California	555	480	86	76	51	67	72	59	82	9	2	22
Colorado	1,090	1,020	94	180	200	111	185	170	92	5	10	200
Idaho	235	215	91	43	37	86	42	41	98	1	1	100
Iowa	570	520	91	72	81	113	69	59	86	3	2	67
Kansas	2,430	2,260	93	405	435	107	445	430	97	10	15	150
Nebraska	2,510	2,400	96	380	400	105	390	360	92	10	10	100
New Mexico	160	158	99	16	9	56	15	13	87	1	2	200
Oklahoma	355	330	93	54	54	100	47	57	121	2	2	100
South Dakota	230	225	98	45	43	96	43	35	81	2	3	150
Texas	2,930	2,810	96	400	440	110	420	405	96	10	15	150
Washington	153	151	99	27	30	111	*31	35	113	2	1	50
Other States	375	370	99	54	51	94	65	38	58	4	3	75
United States	11,966	11,288	94	1,787	1,858	104	*1,853	1,737	94	60	67	112

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

² Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed, February 20, 2009

**Milk Cows: Licensed Dairy Herds, Number, and Milk Produced by Quarter,
Nebraska and United States, 2007-2008**

State and Month	Licensed Dairy Herds ¹		Milk Cows		Production per Cow		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>Number</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Nebraska								
January – March			60	57			279	265
April – June			59	57			275	265
July - September			58	59			260	272
October - December			57	59			261	278
Annual	350	320	59	58	18,220	18,621	1,075	1,080
United States - Annual	59,130	57,127	9,189	9,315	20,204	20,396	185,654	189,992

¹ Average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk, based on counts collected from State and other regulatory agencies.
Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, February 19, 2009

Chickens: Inventory By Type, Nebraska and United States, December 1, 2007-2008

Item	Nebraska			United States		
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2008/2007
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
All Chickens	12,257	11,505	94	458,593	446,072	97
Total Layers	10,113	9,752	96	346,613	339,642	98
Total pullets	2,144	1,753	82	103,816	98,843	95
Other chickens	0	0		8,164	7,587	93

Source: USDA NASS Chickens and Eggs 2008 Summary, February 2009

Eggs: Production, Average Number and Eggs per Layer, Nebraska and United States 2007-2008

Item	Nebraska		United States	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
Eggs Produced (<i>million</i>)	2,984	2,777	91,101	90,151
Average Number of Layers (<i>thousand</i>)	10,945	9,731	346,498	339,572
Eggs per Layer (<i>number</i>)	273	285	263	266

Source: USDA NASS Chickens and Eggs 2008 Summary, February 2009

**Fall Potatoes: 2008 Production and
February 1, 2009 Stocks¹**

State	Crop of 2008	
	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 2009
	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
California	3,939	1,300
Colorado	21,338	12,500
Idaho	114,805	64,000
Maine	14,769	8,500
Michigan	14,875	5,000
Minnesota	20,400	10,600
Montana	3,465	3,200
Nebraska	8,342	4,000
New York	5,696	1,200
North Dakota	22,680	10,300
Oregon	18,676	12,000
Washington	93,000	38,600
Wisconsin	25,730	12,000
Total 13 States	367,715	183,200

¹Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crops.

Source: USDA NASS Potato Stocks, February 13, 2009

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Crop Summary: Marketing Year Average Price and Value of Production, Nebraska and United States, 2006-2008

Crop	Prod. Unit	Price			Value of Production		
		2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Nebraska		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
Corn for Grain	Bushels	3.00	4.14	3.90	3,534,000	6,094,080	5,435,235
Soybeans	Bushels	6.05	9.92	9.40	1,515,525	1,947,792	2,124,306
All Hay (baled)	Ton	90.50	88.50	90.50	495,484	532,455	544,292
Alfalfa Hay (baled)	Ton	91.00	91.00	93.50	360,360	365,365	358,292
All Other Hay (baled)	Ton	83.00	77.00	77.50	135,124	167,090	186,000
Winter Wheat	Bushels	4.57	5.82	6.70	279,684	490,510	492,316
All Potatoes	Cwt.	7.35	7.85	9.65	64,166	64,503	80,500
Sorghum for Grain	Cwt.	5.54	7.10	5.70	58,077	89,699	60,999
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	21.30	29.90	38.60	58,106	72,298	111,361
Sugar Beets ²	Ton	44.50	40.40		59,942	42,056	
Proso Millet	Bushels	4.25	4.90	3.60	10,285	21,021	15,444
Sunflower (all)	Cwt.	13.10	20.80	23.90	8,186	12,174	19,814
Sunflower (oil)	Cwt.	13.20	20.10	19.70	4,910	8,225	11,012
Sunflower (non-oil)	Cwt.	13.00	22.50	32.60	3,276	3,949	8,802
Oats	Bushels	1.99	3.14	3.40	4,030	6,704	8,330
Barley ¹	Bushels						
United States							
Corn for Grain	Bushels	3.04	4.20	3.90	32,083,011	54,666,959	47,377,576
Soybeans	Bushels	6.43	10.10	9.25	20,468,267	26,974,406	27,398,638
All Hay (baled)	Ton	110.00	128.00	157.00	13,633,837	16,842,233	18,777,138
Alfalfa Hay (baled)	Ton	113.00	138.00	172.00	7,519,232	8,855,044	10,805,989
All Other Hay (baled)	Ton	102.00	110.00	121.00	6,114,605	7,987,189	7,971,149
All Wheat	Bushels	4.26	6.48	6.80	7,694,734	13,289,326	16,568,211
Winter Wheat	Bushels	4.17	6.13	6.60	5,367,806	9,077,574	11,950,726
All Potatoes	Cwt.	7.31	7.51	9.46	3,208,632	3,339,710	3,899,136
Sugar Beets ²	Ton	44.20	41.90		1,506,985	1,334,701	
Sorghum for Grain	Cwt.	5.88	7.28	5.70	883,204	1,925,312	1,681,558
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	22.10	28.80	37.70	554,154	748,680	975,469
Barley	Bushels	2.85	4.02	5.15	498,691	834,954	1,208,173
Sunflower (all)	Cwt.	14.50	21.70	20.40	308,832	614,736	669,338
Sunflower (oil)	Cwt.	14.10	21.40	18.60	249,848	527,925	544,926
Sunflower (non-oil)	Cwt.	16.80	22.90	28.00	58,984	86,811	124,412
Oats	Bushels	1.87	2.63	3.10	180,899	247,644	262,240
Proso Millet	Bushels	4.09	4.67	3.48	41,748	78,975	51,812

¹ Estimates discontinued in 2005. ² State prices and values for 2008 will be published in Agricultural Prices, July 31, 2009. State prices and values for 2008 will be published in Crop Values, February 2010.

Note: All prices in this report are marketing year average prices which do not include allowances or adjustments for commodities under government loan at the end of the marketing year, commodities forfeited to the Commodity Credit Corporation, loan deficiency payments, direct and counter cyclical payments or disaster payments.

Source: USDA NASS Crop Values 2008 Summary, February 2009

2008 county data for wheat and oats is now available at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp

2008 county data for corn, soybeans, sorghum, and sunflowers will be available March 2.

U.S. Hired Farm Workers Total 785 Thousand, U.S. Wage at \$10.93

There were 785,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of January 11-17, 2009 up 2 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 595,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees working on farms and ranches made up the remaining 190,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.93 per hour during the January 2009 reference week, up 12 cents from a year earlier.

Field workers received an average of \$9.96 per hour, up 29 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared with \$10.18 a year earlier. The field and livestock workers combined wage rate, at \$10.08 per hour, was up 20 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 38.3 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down fractionally from a year ago.

**Farm Labor: Number and Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers,
Selected Regions and United States, January 11-17, 2009¹**

Region ²	Hired Workers	Wage Rates			
		All Hired Workers	Type of work		
			Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock
<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Dollars Per Hour</i>			
Lake	43	11.02	10.83	9.96	10.20
Cornbelt I	26	11.90	11.85	10.85	11.30
Cornbelt II	20	11.40	11.06	11.27	11.20
Northern Plains	20	10.90	10.29	10.53	10.42
Southern Plains	65	10.70	10.06	10.24	10.15
Mountain I	15	11.50	11.49	10.65	10.85
Mountain II	15	10.32	9.37	8.90	9.05
United States	595	10.93	9.96	10.27	10.08

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers.

² Regions consist of the following: Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; Cornbelt I: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio; Cornbelt II: Iowa, Missouri; Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota; Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas; Mountain I: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming; Mountain II: Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, February 20, 2009

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