



Nebraska Agri-Facts Special Edition

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Issued May 2012

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Nebraska Agriculture

This report highlights the importance of agriculture to Nebraska. In 2011, the state's 46,800 farms and ranches utilized 45.5 million acres or about 92 percent of the state's total land area. Agriculture is Nebraska's primary source of wealth and its dominant industry.

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office, compiled this report as a service to the public, foreign interests looking to buy Nebraska products, and the many farmers, ranchers, and agricultural service firms who voluntarily provide survey data to make these reliable agricultural estimates possible. Crop and livestock reports date back to the beginning of this country. The National agency issued the first official monthly crop report in 1863. These statistical reports continue to inform both buyers and sellers, helping to keep agricultural markets updated, stable, and efficient, and help to maintain a "level playing field" for all.

We hope this report will be useful and answer many questions about Nebraska agriculture. More data are available at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/index.asp

Water Resources

Nebraska is a water-rich state. Underneath over half of its 49-million-acre land surface, in porous rock beds called aquifers, is stored about 2 billion acre-feet of good quality groundwater, most of which is readily accessible. Add to that an average of 80 to 100 million acre-feet of annual precipitation and an annual surface-water inflow of roughly 2 million acre-feet to obtain a measure of available water. In terms of surface water, approximately 7 to 8 million acre-feet flows on to other states, making Nebraska a donor of approximately 5 to 6 million acre-feet more than flows into its borders. Groundwater irrigation began in the 1920's. At the beginning of 1975, nearly 46,000 registered irrigation wells and about 5,000 surface water rights supplied 4 million acres. Currently, 92,467 registered wells and some 6,302 surface water rights supply water to 8.6 million acres of harvested cropland, pastureland, and other land.

Soil Resources

Nebraska soils are a product of interaction of climate and biological organisms on parent materials as modified by local topography, drainage, and exposure to weathering. Two types of geologic deposits are parent materials for the vast majority of soils in the state. Wind-blown sand is the parent material in the Sandhills grazing region that occupies much of the north-central part of the state. Elsewhere, most soils have formed in wind-blown silt and clay or loess. Topography and subsequent soil drainage have greatly influenced development of soil properties in local areas.



Photo courtesy of USDA ARS.

Land Uses

Nebraska's 45.5 million acres in farms and ranches is divided between cropland and other land used primarily for pastures and rangeland to support the state's livestock industry. In 2011, the area planted to crops and used for hay totaled 19.3 million acres. Farmer participation in government programs has impacted total acres planted from year to year.

Corn, soybeans, winter wheat and alfalfa are the state's leading crops, utilizing 17.1 million acres of cropland in 2011. Corn and alfalfa are grown statewide, while most soybeans are produced in the eastern one-half of Nebraska. Primary wheat producing counties lie in the southern and western portions of the state. The specialty crops of dry edible beans and sugarbeets are produced in western irrigated fields. Sandhill pastures of north central Nebraska produce much of the state's wild hay production and maintain many cow/calf operations.

Nebraska Farms and Ranches and Land in Farms

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size of Farms
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1980	65,000	47,700	734
1985	60,000	47,200	787
1990	57,000	47,100	826
1995	56,000	46,400	829
2000	52,000	46,100	887
2005	48,000	45,700	952
2010	47,200	45,600	966
2011	46,800	45,500	972

Agro Climatic Resources

Nebraska is located in the mid-section of the United States (latitude 40°N-43°N; longitude 96°W-104°W). Hot summers and cold winters, variability in rainfall distribution, fluctuating length of growing season, and frequent winds typify Nebraska's climate and each has affected agricultural production decisions and resource distribution over the years. Average "precipitation" during the last decade ranged from 31.0 inches in the southeast to 16.6 inches in the west. About 75 percent of the precipitation falls as rain during April - September, the crop growing season. Average growing season ranges from 170 days in the southeast to 120 days in the extreme northwest. The southeast is about 1,000 feet above sea level, while the Panhandle has elevations of 4,000 - 5,400 feet. "Irrigation" is used by 36 percent of farms, covering 8.6 million acres of harvested cropland, pastureland, and other land, providing a buffer against drought, a serious recurrent problem for the Great Plains. A careful selection of adaptable crops, improved varieties, use of no till, minimum till, strip and contour cropping, stubble mulching, deferred grazing, and other proven practices enable Nebraska farmers to cope with climatic uncertainty and supply domestic and international markets with top quality products.

Nebraska Crop Summary, Selected Years and 2011, Domestic Units

Year	Planted ¹	Harvested	Yield	Production
Corn for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	7,800	7,100	85.0	603,500
1985	7,800	7,450	128.0	953,600
1990	7,700	7,300	128.0	934,400
1995	8,000	7,700	111.0	854,700
2000	8,500	8,050	126.0	1,014,300
2005	8,500	8,250	154.0	1,270,500
2010	9,150	8,850	166.0	1,469,100
2011	9,850	9,600	160.0	1,536,000

Soybeans				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	1,830	1,770	30.0	53,100
1985	2,400	2,360	36.0	84,960
1990	2,400	2,360	34.5	81,420
1995	3,100	3,060	33.0	100,980
2000	4,650	4,575	38.0	173,850
2005	4,700	4,660	50.5	235,330
2010	5,150	*5,100	52.5	*267,750
2011	4,900	4,830	53.5	258,405

All Wheat				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	3,000	2,850	38.0	108,300
1985	2,600	2,300	39.0	89,700
1990	2,450	2,250	38.0	85,500
1995	2,150	2,100	41.0	86,100
2000	1,750	1,650	36.0	59,400
2005	1,850	1,760	39.0	68,640
2010	1,600	1,490	43.0	64,070
2011	1,520	1,450	45.0	65,250

Sorghum for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	2,200	2,030	60.0	121,800
1985	2,100	1,930	80.0	154,400
1990	1,600	1,410	77.0	108,570
1995	1,250	980	58.0	56,840
2000	600	500	70.0	35,000
2005	340	250	87.0	21,750
2010	155	75	90.0	6,750
2011	150	70	94.0	6,580

Oats				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	525	380	41.0	15,580
1985	550	420	61.0	25,620
1990	450	280	48.0	13,440
1995	155	90	50.0	4,500
2000	130	45	42.0	1,890
2005	150	60	*73.0	4,380
2010	90	25	68.0	1,700
2011	60	20	65.0	1,300

All Hay				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980		3,700	1.91	7,083
1985		3,300	2.05	6,755
1990		3,650	1.97	7,205
1995		3,150	2.29	7,200
2000		2,950	2.02	5,945
2005		2,850	*2.44	6,945
2010		2,690	2.36	6,349
2011		2,480	2.27	5,624

Alfalfa Hay				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980		1,650	3.05	5,033
1985		1,400	3.40	4,760
1990		1,450	3.30	4,785
1995		1,350	3.60	4,860
2000		1,350	3.10	4,185
2005		1,250	3.70	4,625
2010		890	*4.10	3,649
2011		780	4.05	3,159

Year	Planted ¹	Harvested	Yield	Production
Irrigated Corn for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980		4,950	101.0	499,950
1985		5,050	141.5	714,800
1990		5,050	145.5	734,775
1995	5,283	5,125	130.1	666,725
2000	4,975	4,800	154.4	741,300
2005	5,040	4,925	184.7	909,750
2010	5,420	5,240	185.6	972,550
2011	5,765	5,600	180.0	1,008,000

Dry Edible Beans				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>
1980	160	150	1,820	2,730
1985	165	151	1,850	2,794
1990	*260	*254	1,970	*5,004
1995	225	205	1,750	3,588
2000	165	156	2,070	3,230
2005	175	172	2,250	3,870
2010	170	155	2,060	3,193
2011	110	105	2,000	2,100

Sugarbeets				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980	87.0	85.0	20.9	1,777
1985	59.1	53.2	23.1	1,229
1990	75.1	71.0	21.0	1,491
1995	75.9	72.3	16.4	1,186
2000	78.2	54.8	20.3	1,112
2005	48.4	45.3	20.4	924
2010	50.0	47.5	23.8	1,131
2011	52.2	51.5	*25.0	1,288

¹ Planted for all purposes.

* Record high.

Crops Record Highs Through 2011

Crops	Year	Record High	
Corn	Harvested	1932	10,005,000 Acres
	Yield	2009	178.0 Bushels
Grain	Production	2009	1,575,300,000 Bushels
Soybeans	Harvested	2010	5,100,000 Acres
	Yield	2009	54.5 Bushels
	Production	2010	267,750,000 Bushels
All Wheat	Harvested	1938	4,691,000 Acres
	Yield	2009 & 1999	48.0 Bushels
	Production	1958	113,488,000 Bushels
Sorghum	Harvested	1965	2,271,000 Acres
For	Yield	1994	98.0 Bushels
Grain	Production	1981	164,800,000 Bushels
All Hay	Harvested	1954	5,595,000 Acres
	Yield	2005	2.44 Tons
	Production	1982	7,855,000 Tons

Nebraska's Rank Among States in 2011

Rank	Commodity	Number	Unit
1	Great northern bean production	1,044,000	Cwt.
2	Pinto beans production	793,000	Cwt.
3	Corn for grain production	1,536,000,000	Bushels
4	On-farm grain storage capacity	1,110,000,000	Bushels
4	Off-farm grain storage capacity	859,800,000	Bushels
4	Soybean production	258,405,000	Bushels
4	All hay production	5,624,000	Tons
5	Cash receipts from crops, 2010	8,829,460,000	Dollars
5	Sorghum for grain production	6,580,000	Bushels
5	Sugarbeet production	1,288,000	Tons
7	Winter wheat production	65,250,000	Bushels
8	Alfalfa hay production	3,159,000	Tons

Nebraska Crop Summary, Selected Years and 2011, Metric Units¹

Year	Planted ²	Harvested	Yield	Production
Corn for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	3,157	2,873	5.34	15,330
1985	3,157	3,015	8.03	24,222
1990	3,116	2,954	8.03	23,735
1995	3,238	3,116	6.97	21,710
2000	3,440	3,258	7.91	25,764
2005	3,440	3,339	9.67	32,272
2010	3,703	3,582	10.42	37,317
2011	3,986	3,885	10.04	39,016

Soybeans				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	741	716	2.02	1,445
1985	971	955	2.42	2,312
1990	971	955	2.32	2,216
1995	1,255	1,238	2.22	2,748
2000	1,882	1,851	2.56	4,732
2005	1,902	1,886	3.40	6,405
2010	2,084	*2,064	3.53	*7,287
2011	1,983	1,955	3.60	7,033

All Wheat				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	1,214	1,153	2.56	2,947
1985	1,052	931	2.62	2,441
1990	992	911	2.56	2,327
1995	870	850	2.76	2,343
2000	708	668	2.42	1,617
2005	749	712	2.62	1,868
2010	648	603	2.89	1,744
2011	615	587	3.03	1,776

Sorghum for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	890	822	3.77	3,094
1985	850	781	5.02	3,922
1990	648	571	4.83	2,758
1995	506	397	3.64	1,444
2000	243	202	4.39	889
2005	138	101	5.46	552
2010	63	30	5.65	171
2011	61	28	5.90	167

Oats				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	212	154	1.47	226
1985	223	170	2.19	372
1990	182	113	1.72	195
1995	63	36	1.79	65
2000	53	18	1.51	27
2005	61	24	*2.62	64
2010	36	10	2.44	25
2011	24	8	2.33	19

All Hay				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	1,497	1,497	4.29	6,426
1985	1,335	1,335	4.59	6,128
1990	1,477	1,477	4.42	6,536
1995	1,275	1,275	5.12	6,532
2000	1,194	1,194	4.52	5,393
2005	1,153	*5.46	6,300	
2010	1,089	5.29	5,760	
2011	1,004	5.08	5,102	

Alfalfa Hay				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	668	668	6.84	4,566
1985	567	567	7.62	4,318
1990	587	587	7.40	4,341
1995	546	546	8.07	4,409
2000	546	546	6.95	3,797
2005	506	506	8.29	4,196
2010	360	*9.19	3,310	
2011	316	9.08	2,866	

Year	Planted ²	Harvested	Yield	Production
Irrigated Corn for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980		2,003	6.34	12,699
1985		2,044	8.88	18,157
1990		2,044	9.13	18,664
1995	2,138	2,074	8.17	16,935
2000	2,013	1,943	9.69	18,830
2005	2,040	1,993	11.59	23,109
2010	2,193	2,121	11.65	24,704
2011	2,333	2,266	11.30	25,604

Dry Edible Beans				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	65	61	2.04	124
1985	67	61	2.08	127
1990	*105	*103	2.21	*227
1995	91	83	1.96	163
2000	67	63	2.32	147
2005	71	70	2.52	176
2010	69	63	2.31	145
2011	45	42	2.24	95

Sugarbeets				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	35.2	34.4	46.86	1,612
1985	23.9	21.5	51.79	1,115
1990	30.4	28.7	47.07	1,353
1995	30.7	29.3	36.77	1,076
2000	31.6	22.2	45.49	1,009
2005	19.6	18.3	45.72	838
2010	20.2	19.2	53.37	1,026
2011	21.1	20.8	*56.06	1,168

¹ Metric ton = 2,204.6 lbs. Hectare = 2.47 acres. ² Planted for all purposes.
* Record high.

Crops Record Highs Through 2011

Crops		Year	Record High	
Corn for Grain	Harvested	1932	4,049,000	Hectares
	Yield	2009	11.17	Metric Tons
	Production	2009	40,014,000	Metric Tons
Soybeans	Harvested	2010	2,064,000	Hectares
	Yield	2009	3.67	Metric Tons
	Production	2010	7,287,000	Metric Tons
All Wheat	Harvested	1938	1,898,000	Hectares
	Yield	2009 & 1999	3.23	Metric Tons
	Production	1958	3,087,000	Metric Tons
Sorghum for Grain	Harvested	1965	919,000	Hectares
	Yield	1994	6.15	Metric Tons
Grain	Production	1981	4,186,000	Metric Tons
All Hay	Harvested	1954	2,264,000	Hectares
	Yield	2005	5.46	Metric Tons
	Production	1982	7,126,000	Metric Tons

Nebraska's Rank Among States in 2011

Rank	Commodity	Number	Unit
1	Great northern bean production	47,000	Metric Tons
2	Pinto beans production	36,000	Metric Tons
3	Corn for grain production	39,016,000	Metric Tons
4	On-farm grain storage capacity	28,195,000	Metric Tons
4	Off-farm grain storage capacity	21,840,000	Metric Tons
4	Soybean production	7,033,000	Metric Tons
4	All hay production	5,102,000	Metric Tons
5	Cash receipts from crops, 2010	8,829,460,000	Dollars
5	Sugarbeet production	1,168,000	Metric Tons
5	Sorghum for grain production	167,000	Metric Tons
7	Winter wheat production	1,776,000	Metric Tons
8	Alfalfa hay production	2,866,000	Metric Tons

Nebraska Livestock and Poultry Summary

Highlights

- ❖ Half of Nebraska farms have sales of livestock, dairy, poultry, and products.
- ❖ Cash receipts from livestock, dairy, poultry, and products accounted for about 49% of total cash receipts in 2010.
- ❖ National rank among States (Number and Date):
 - 1st - Commercial red meat production (7.2 billion lbs. 2011)
 - 1st - Commercial cattle slaughter (6.9 million - 2011)
 - 2nd - Cattle on feed (2.65 million - 1/2012)
 - 2nd - Cattle & calves (6.45 million - 1/2012)
 - 2nd - Beef cows (1.88 million - 1/2012)
 - 4th - Livestock cash receipts (\$8.5 billion - 2010)
 - 5th - Calves born (1.69 million - 2011)
 - 5th - Table eggs production (2.70 million - 2011)
 - 6th - Hogs & pigs (3.15 million - 12/2011)
 - 7th - Commercial Hog slaughter (7.7 million - 2011)
 - 14th - All Chickens (11.3 million - 12/2011)
 - 15th - Honey production (2.42 million lbs. - 2011)
 - 20th - Sheep & lambs (77,000 - 1/2012)

Livestock Record Highs to Date

Commodity	Number	Mo./Yr.
All Cattle & Calves	7.41 million head	1/1974
All Cattle on Feed	2.70 million head	1/2007 & 1/2008
Milk Cows	755 thousand head	1/1934
Hogs & Pigs	5.98 million head	1/1923
Sheep & Lambs	1.26 million head	1/1943
Chickens	19.9 million head	1/1944

Livestock Inventories, Selected Years

Year	All Cattle	Beef Cows	Milk Cows	Hogs & Pigs	All Sheep	All Chickens
	Jan. 1	Jan. 1	Jan. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 1	Dec. 1
	<i>1,000 Head</i>					
1980	6,400	1,950	120	3,900	210	4,000
1985	6,300	1,868	102	3,900	165	3,970
1990	5,700	1,760	100	4,300	177	6,200
1995	6,100	1,895	75	4,050	105	11,005
2000	6,650	1,974	76	3,050	102	13,895
2005	6,300	1,909	61	2,900	92	13,813
2011	6,200	1,772	58	3,150	74	11,290
2012	6,450	1,884	56		77	

Number of Operations with Livestock, Selected Years

Year	Cattle	Beef Cow	Milk Cows	Hog	Sheep	Sales of Cattle on Feed
<i>Number of Operations</i>						
1982	39,555	30,068	4,686	15,998	2,929	12,138
1987	34,701	26,452	3,339	13,363	2,846	9,828
1992	30,421	24,270	2,122	10,826	2,185	6,892
1997	30,214	24,513	1,385	6,312	1,717	5,865
2002	25,083	20,991	866	3,075	1,435	4,623
2007	21,424	18,233	493	2,213	1,287	3,406

Source: Census of Agriculture, 1982-1992 not adjusted for coverage.

Commercial Cattle & Hog Slaughter, Selected Years

Year	Coml. Cattle Slaughter		Coml. Hog Slaughter	
	1,000 Head	NE % of U.S.	1,000 Head	NE % of U.S.
1980	5,612	16.6	4,581	4.8
1985	5,606	15.4	5,052	6.0
1990	5,882	17.7	5,401	6.3
1995	6,769	19.0	5,837	6.1
2000	7,617	21.0	6,270	6.4
2005	7,029	21.7	7,186	6.9
2010	6,938	20.3	7,599	6.9
2011	6,866	20.1	7,712	7.0

Number of Livestock Slaughter Plants, F.I. Cattle & Hog Slaughter, Selected Years

Year	Slaughtering Plants			Cattle		Hogs	
	F.I. ¹	Other	Total	Plants	Head	Plants	Head
	<i>Number</i>			<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000</i>
1980	72	159	231	67	5,607	46	4,532
1985	59	155	214	54	5,537	38	4,996
1990	49	140	189	47	5,834	36	5,348
1995	42	89	131	39	6,742	28	5,813
2000	33	81	114	32	7,592	22	6,252
2005	35	66	101	33	7,004	23	7,170
2010	32	90	122	26	6,913	(D)	(D)
2011	32	85	117	28	6,837	(D)	(D)
2012	33	84	117				

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ F.I. - Federally Inspected.

Cattle in Nebraska

- ❖ In 2010, cash receipts totaled \$7.2 billion, or 42% of the state's total agricultural receipts.
- ❖ Account for about 7.1% of the Nation's cattle herd and 6.3% of the Nation's beef cow herd on January 1, 2012.
- ❖ Account for 18.8% of the Nation's cattle on feed January 1, 2012.
- ❖ Commercial cattle slaughter, at 6.9 million head in 2011 was 20.1% of U.S. total cattle slaughter.

Cattle Statistics, Selected Years

Year	All Cattle & Calves	All Cows	Calf Crop	All Cattle on Feed
<i>1,000 Head</i>				
1980	6,400	2,070	1,970	1,680
1985	6,300	1,970	1,800	1,880
1990	5,700	1,860	1,730	2,060
1995	5,700	1,860	1,730	2,060
2000	6,650	2,050	1,840	2,450
2005	6,300	1,970	1,800	2,470
2011	6,200	1,830	1,690	2,550
2012	6,450	1,940		2,650

Hogs and Pigs in Nebraska

- ❖ December 1, 2011 hog numbers totaled 3.15 million head, same as the previous year.
- ❖ Cash receipts in 2010 totaled \$816 million or about 4.7% of the state's total agricultural receipts.
- ❖ Account for about 4.8% of the Nation's hog herd on December 1, 2011.
- ❖ Commercial hog slaughter totaled about 7.7 million head in 2011 and 7% of U.S. total hog slaughter.

Hogs and Pigs Statistics, Selected Years

Year	December 1 Inventory	Annual Sows Farrowed ¹	Litter Rate ¹	Annual Pig Crop ¹
		<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1980	3,900	853	7.36	6,290
1985	3,900	750	7.81	5,859
1990	4,300	865	7.98	6,900
1995	4,050	810	8.33	6,751
2000	3,050	625	8.84	5,525
2005	2,900	700	9.05	6,336
2010	3,150	705	10.14	7,148
2011	3,150	715	10.33	7,384

¹ December previous year - November current year.

Poultry in Nebraska

- ❖ Chicken inventory totaled 11.3 million head on December 1, 2011, down 3% from December 1, 2010.
- ❖ In 2010, cash receipts for chicken eggs were \$152.9 million, 1.0% of the state's total agricultural receipts.
- ❖ Nebraska ranked 9th in 2011 for table egg production.

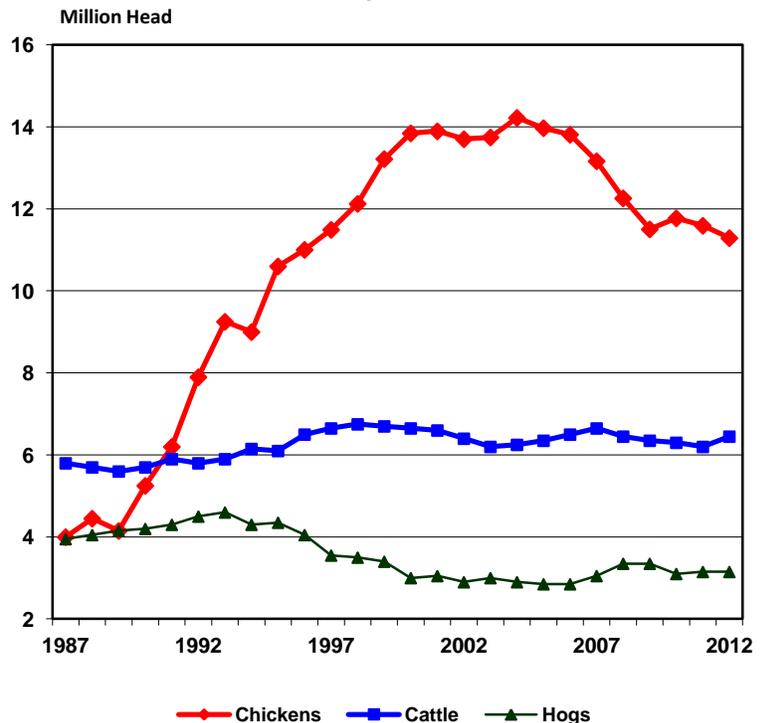
Poultry Statistics, Selected Years

Year	Eggs Prod.	Chickens Dec. 1 ¹	Chickens Sold ²
	<i>Million</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
1980	847	4,000	1,600
1985	844	3,970	1,200
1990	1,202	6,200	1,345
1995	2,364	11,005	4,230
2000	2,999	13,895	6,193
2005	3,217	13,813	4,604
2010	2,751	11,592	5,648
2011	2,697	11,290	6,332

¹ Excludes commercial broilers.

² December previous year - November current year.

Trends in Livestock and Poultry Inventories



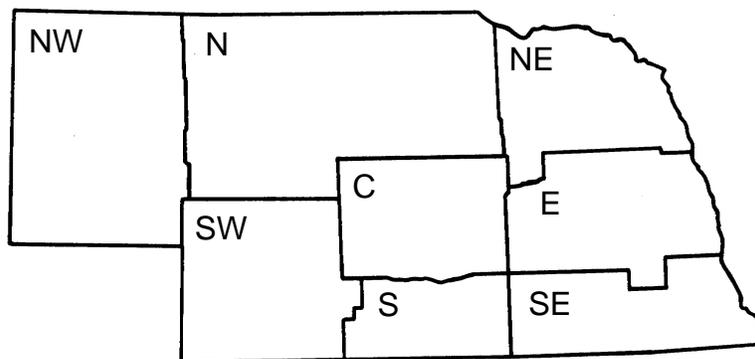
Nebraska's Top Ten Producing Counties, Selected Commodities, 2011

Rank	Corn for Grain		Soybeans		Winter Wheat	
	District	County	District	County	District	County
1	C	Custer	E	Saunders	NW	Cheyenne
2	E	Hamilton	SE	Gage	NW	Box Butte
3	E	York	SE	Fillmore	SW	Perkins
4	NE	Antelope	E	Platte	NW	Deuel
5	C	Dawson	E	Cass	NW	Kimball
6	SE	Fillmore	E	York	SW	Red Willow
7	C	Buffalo	NE	Antelope	SW	Hitchcock
8	S	Adams	E	Seward	S	Furnas
9	E	Platte	E	Butler	NW	Garden
10	C	Hall	S	Phelps	SW	Frontier

Rank	Alfalfa Hay		All Cattle and Calves January 1, 2011		Beef Cows January 1, 2011	
	District	County	District	County	District	County
1	C	Custer	NE	Cuming ¹	N	Cherry
2	NE	Knox	C	Custer ¹	N	Holt
3	C	Dawson	N	Cherry	C	Custer
4	NW	Scotts Bluff	SW	Lincoln	NW	Sheridan
5	SW	Lincoln	C	Dawson	NW	Sioux
6	NE	Cedar	N	Holt	NE	Knox
7	C	Buffalo	S	Phelps	NW	Morrill
8	NW	Morrill	NW	Morrill	C	Buffalo
9	NW	Sheridan	NE	Antelope	NW	Dawes
10	N	Boyd	E	Platte	C	Valley ²
					NE	Cedar ²

¹ Tied for 1st.
² Tied for 10th.

Nebraska's Agricultural Statistics Districts



Nebraska's Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates, Selected Crops ¹

Crop	Usual Planting Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
	Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
Beans, dry edible	May 21	May 27 - Jun 16	Jun 21	Sep 13	Sep 13 - Oct 9	Oct 19
Corn for grain	Apr 19	Apr 27 - May 15	May 21	Sep 18	Oct 4 - Nov 10	Nov 20
Hay, alfalfa				May 19		Oct 15
Hay, other				Jun 5		Sep 20
Oats, spring	Mar 26	Apr 1 - Apr 24	May 3	Jul 4	Jul 10 - Jul 30	Aug 7
Sorghum for grain	May 9	May 16 - Jun 9	Jun 16	Sep 26	Oct 8 - Nov 8	Nov 17
Soybeans	May 5	May 11 - May 31	Jun 8	Sep 23	Sep 29 - Oct 24	Nov 2
Sugarbeets	Apr 1	Apr 10 - Apr 30	May 5	Oct 5	Oct 10 - Oct 30	Nov 5
Sunflower, all	Jun 1	Jun 5 - Jun 30	Jul 5	Oct 1	Oct 5 - Oct 25	Nov 5
Wheat, winter	Sep 3	Sep 9 - Oct 2	Oct 12	Jun 28	Jul 3 - Jul 21	Jul 27

¹ Source: USDA Field Crops Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates, October 2010.

**Nebraska Precipitation Data
by Agricultural Statistics Districts, 1991-2010¹**

Year	Agricultural Statistics Districts							
	Northwest	North	Northeast	Central	East	Southwest	South	Southeast
	<i>Inches</i>							
1991	16.70	21.41	26.24	23.03	30.32	21.19	21.57	26.61
1992	17.11	24.34	33.76	24.94	31.87	22.10	24.70	37.17
1993	21.80	28.72	35.72	34.02	39.71	27.05	38.64	48.25
1994	14.07	22.79	27.12	23.24	26.83	19.24	23.47	26.32
1995	20.48	28.78	32.24	24.33	24.87	20.31	23.36	29.21
1996	18.61	23.13	27.61	26.31	30.79	24.86	32.02	34.91
1997	18.00	21.47	22.17	23.39	25.45	19.00	22.78	30.59
1998	19.56	26.73	33.52	25.29	34.31	18.65	23.68	34.36
1999	18.53	21.24	27.63	25.27	30.48	21.77	25.00	27.16
2000	17.37	19.47	23.31	20.36	23.83	17.43	22.76	24.76
2001	16.67	25.44	31.93	23.63	28.07	20.06	25.95	38.86
2002	9.95	14.74	20.74	15.77	23.33	11.64	15.79	23.28
2003	15.45	17.49	24.79	20.47	25.48	16.78	19.89	28.52
2004	16.69	22.46	27.86	25.19	27.09	23.17	24.58	27.24
2005	20.30	25.82	28.66	22.72	26.13	20.81	23.02	27.18
2006	13.97	19.49	27.14	24.21	29.75	18.94	25.40	29.93
2007	15.17	29.06	37.59	33.24	39.53	25.76	32.29	39.41
2008	16.45	27.54	31.00	35.13	37.21	24.07	32.87	35.61
2009	23.05	25.73	26.32	26.87	27.42	25.78	23.76	27.77
2010	18.62	28.27	33.35	30.12	33.29	23.00	29.21	32.28

¹ Source: NOAA/National Climatic Data Center.

**Number of Days Temperature 95 Degrees Fahrenheit or Above
by Agricultural Statistics Districts, Selected Reporting Stations, May-September, 1992-2011**

Year	Agricultural Statistics Districts, Reporting Station							
	Northwest (Alliance)	North (O'Neill ¹)	Northeast (Creighton ²)	Central (Broken Bow)	East (David City)	Southwest (Culbertson)	South (Red Cloud ³)	Southeast (Table Rock ⁴)
	<i>Number of Days</i>							
1992	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	30
1993	0	2	0	0	1	6	2	0
1994	18	1	1	3	2	23	12	9
1995	26	17	14	7	13	33	23	17
1996	6	0	0	0	0	9	5	19
1997	18	12	2	5	5	24	20	7
1998	10	9	1	6	2	25	22	13
1999	17	11	4	2	3	20	15	5
2000	25	22	8	15	12	51	46	25
2001	17	11	2	6	15	46	25	18
2002	18	29	13	19	13	51	39	11
2003	24	14	3	10	15	39	24	28
2004	9	7	0	5	2	23	12	22
2005	19	10	1	12	11	39	28	3
2006	24	19	10	22	15	39	34	15
2007	26	10	3	2	5	41	20	11
2008	8	4	1	2	2	22	11	4
2009	4	0	0	0	2	16	12	2
2010	5	5	0	1	4	29	19	8
2011	18	9	12	7	11	35	19	27

¹ Prior to June 2008, the reporting station was from Atkinson.

² Prior to July 2011, the reporting station was from Hartington.

³ Prior to June 2011, the reporting station was from Franklin.

⁴ Prior to June 2011, the reporting station was from Pawnee City.

Nebraska Agriculture Economics

Nebraska All Land Average Value per Acre by Statistical District, 2007-2011

District	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Dollars</i>					
Northwest	388	452	461	463	520
North	513	606	604	598	706
Northeast	2,145	2,726	2,692	2,898	3,624
Central	1,384	1,681	1,698	1,748	2,183
East	2,813	3,490	3,418	3,762	4,225
Southwest	644	780	847	870	991
South	1,377	1,763	1,977	2,029	2,535
Southeast	1,942	2,451	2,503	2,596	3,160
State	1,145	1,414	1,431	1,503	1,833

Source: Nebraska Farm Real Estate Market Developments 2010-2011
Department of Agricultural Economics, UNL

Nebraska Selected Land Average Cash Rental Rates per Acre by Statistical District, 2010-2011

District	Non-Irrigated Cropland		Irrigated Cropland		Pastureland	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
<i>Dollars</i>						
Northwest	29.00	32.00	138.00	137.00	8.00	8.20
North	34.50	49.50	158.00	183.00	13.00	13.50
Northeast	138.00	161.00	192.00	221.00	35.00	34.50
Central	68.00	76.00	161.00	178.00	24.00	25.00
East	125.00	146.00	181.00	201.00	32.50	35.50
Southwest	39.50	44.00	153.00	170.00	14.00	15.00
South	61.00	67.50	164.00	182.00	23.00	25.50
Southeast	103.00	110.00	180.00	196.00	29.00	31.00

Prices Received by Nebraska Farmers, Selected Years ¹

Commodity	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2011 ²
<i>Dollars</i>						
Corn, Bu.	1.25	3.08	2.28	1.90	5.09	6.10
Soybeans, Bu.	2.78	7.25	5.59	4.44	11.00	11.50
Sorghum, Cwt.	1.93	5.09	3.66	3.28	8.74	10.50
All Wheat, Bu.	1.22	3.82	2.53	2.61	5.27	6.75
Oats, Bu.	.65	1.85	1.19	1.42	3.03	3.70
All Hay, Ton	21.00	55.00	58.00	69.50	75.00	116.00
Sugarbeets, Ton	14.80	47.00	40.10	29.20	72.60	
Dry Beans, Cwt.	8.00	26.90	16.90	15.80	27.00	42.00
Steers & Heifers, Cwt.	29.10	66.70	80.00	70.00	97.30	(NA)
Cows, Cwt.	20.50	45.80	52.00	38.40	58.90	(NA)
Calves, Cwt.	35.30	78.70	100.00	106.00	131.00	(NA)
Hogs, Cwt.	22.30	38.10	54.80	44.30	55.80	(NA)
Sheep, Cwt.	7.30	24.50	21.90	34.60	53.10	(NA)
Lambs, Cwt.	27.50	64.30	54.00	76.20	126.00	(NA)
Milk Cows ³	298	1,130	1,130	1,290	1,290	1,430

¹Crops prices for 1980 are season average prices; beginning 1985 prices are marketing year average prices received. ²Preliminary. ³Calendar year average, dollars per head. (NA) Not Available – State prices discontinued.

Nebraska Total Farm Income, 2006-2010

Year	Gross Income ¹	Farm Production Expenses	Net Farm Income
<i>Million Dollars</i>			
2006	14,083.1	12,075.5	2,007.6
2007	16,717.2	13,772.5	2,944.8
2008	19,184.6	15,122.4	4,062.3
2009	17,613.1	14,342.7	3,270.4
2010	18,693.7	14,742.3	3,951.4

¹ See table below for detailed breakdown, including inventory adjustment.

Nebraska Gross Farm Income, 2006-2010

Year	Cash Receipts	Government Payments	Non-Cash Income	Farm-Related Income	Value of Inventory Adjustment
<i>Million Dollars</i>					
2006	12,354.8	812.1	364.2	788.8	-236.8
2007	14,919.5	463.7	385.5	732.7	215.8
2008	16,522.5	518.5	400.6	929.0	814.0
2009	16,068.0	419.3	450.0	880.1	-204.3
2010	17,282.6	509.7	438.4	837.0	-373.9

Value of Nebraska Agricultural Exports, 2006-2010

Commodity	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>Million Dollars</i>					
Feed Grains & Products	931.1	1,271.3	1,940.1	1,356.4	1,322.4
Soybeans & Products	646.0	808.9	1,468.4	1,360.8	1,776.2
Wheat & Products	198.6	333.4	431.6	274.1	241.3
Feeds & Fodders	219.6	223.2	256.5	250.1	248.8
Seeds	8.6	7.7	10.9	8.9	12.3
Vegetables & Preparations	42.1	38.1	54.0	58.2	54.7
Live Animals & Meat	493.7	652.8	807.3	1,121.3	1,056.6
Hides & Skins	376.7	402.4	391.4	276.2	383.8
Fats, Oils & Greases	97.7	144.9	210.7	131.8	183.7
Other	25.8	28.0	35.0	32.8	37.4
Total ¹	3,040.0	3,910.7	5,605.9	4,870.7	5,317.2

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding. Source: ERS USDA State Exports

A Bit of Agricultural Statistics History

The Nebraska Field Office is a Federal-State cooperative effort of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. The Federal statistics program dates back to 1862 when USDA was founded. The Nebraska Field Office has been in existence since 1918. It is located in Room 298 of the Federal Building in Lincoln at 100 Centennial Mall North. The office has had four different names: State-Federal Division of Agricultural Statistics (1918-1976), Nebraska Crop and Livestock Reporting Service (1976-1986), Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (1986 to 2005) and the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office (2005 to date). While the office name has changed and survey procedures improved upon, the objective of providing the most accurate and reliable agricultural forecasts and estimates possible has remained unchanged throughout the years. "Voluntary" reporting each year by many thousands of farmers, ranchers, and agri-business firms make these estimates possible in a timely manner.