



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
PACIFIC REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
650 Capitol Mall Suite 6-100, Sacramento, CA 95814



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gary R. Keough
(916) 738-6601

Family-owned farms account for 93% of Nevada farms, according to the Census of Agriculture Typology Report

Small family farms make up 84% of all Nevada farms

SACRAMENTO, CA, Feb. 5, 2021 – Family farms comprise 93% of all Nevada farms, and 82% of the value of all agricultural products sold. This compares to 96% of all U.S. farms and 82% of the value of all agricultural products sold, according to the [2017 Census of Agriculture Farm Typology report](#) released on January 22, 2021 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The farm typology report primarily focuses on the “family farm,” defined as any farm where the majority of the business is owned by the producer and individuals related to the producer. The report classifies all farms into unique categories based on two criteria: who owns the operation and gross cash farm income (GCFI). GCFI includes the producer’s sales of crops and livestock, fees for delivering commodities under production contracts, government payments, and farm-related income.

“Classifying Nevada’s 3,400 farms to better reflect their diversity is critical to evaluating and reporting on state’s agriculture,” said NASS Pacific Regional Director Gary Keough. “Typology allows us to more meaningfully explore the demographics of who is farming and ranching today as well as their impact on the economy and communities around the country.”

The data show that small family farms, those farms with a GCFI of less than \$350,000 per year, account for 84% of all Nevada farms, 30% of total land in farms, and 15% of the value of all agricultural products sold. Large-scale family farms (GCFI of \$1 million or more) make up 3% of all Nevada farms but produce 50% of the value of all agricultural products. Mid-size farms (GCFI between \$350,000 and \$999,999) are 6% of Nevada farms and produce 17% of the value of all agricultural products.

The data also show that the number of family farms decreased by 17% (700 farms) since 2012. The number of large-scale family farms increased by 8% while mid-size family farms experienced a decrease of 40%. Small family farms experienced a decline of 17%.

Other key findings from the 2017 Census of Agriculture Farm Typology report include:

- Farm specialization varies by farm size. The majority (50%) of small family farms specialize in beef cattle (36%) or other animal production such as equine (24%). Nearly half (49%) of mid-size farms specialize beef cattle. Large-scale family farms are more likely to specialize in “other crops” such as alfalfa or forage production (43%).

- Compared to producers on mid-size and large-scale family farms, small family farm producers are more likely to be women, have a primary occupation other than farming, age 65 or older, and report being of Hispanic origin or a race other than white. They are also more likely to be new and beginning farmers (farmed 10 years or less) and to report having military service.

Access the full farm typology report and additional information such as maps and data *Highlights* on the [NASS website](#). Typology data are also available in the NASS [Quick Stats database](#).

###

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. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).