



# News Release

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## NORTH DAKOTA 2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

FARGO, ND, May 2, 2014 – The USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service released the final 2012 Census of Agriculture results sharing a wide-range of information about what agricultural products were raised in the United States and North Dakota in 2012, and where, how and by whom they were grown. The data, which is reported at the national, state and county level, will help farmers, ranchers, local officials, agribusiness and others make decisions for the future.

The number of farms in North Dakota during 2012 was 30,961, down 3 percent from the 2007 Census of Agriculture. Land in farms, at 39.3 million acres, was down 1 percent from what was reported five years prior. The average size of farm was 1,268 acres, up 2 percent or 27 acres from 2007.

Market value of production was \$11.0 billion, up 80 percent from 2007. The average value per farm was \$354,000, compared to \$190,000 in 2007. The number of farms with sales of \$500,000 or more was 6,096, up from 3,625 in 2007.

During 2012, the average age of the principal operator was 57.0 years compared to 56.5 years in 2007. The number of operators under the age of 34 was 2,762, up 14 percent from 2007, while the number of operators over the age of 65 totaled 9,398, up 2 percent from 2007.

To provide easier access to the data, NASS created a number of online tools for people to find and use Census data, including:

- [Quick Stats 2.0](#) – an online database to retrieve customized tables. For those new to this tool, a new [tutorial video](#) provides easy-to-follow instructions.
- [API](#) – a tool for developers.
- [Agricultural Atlas Maps](#) - profiles of the nation’s agriculture at the county-level in a series of multicolor pattern and dot maps
- [Desktop Data Query Tool](#)- a downloadable desktop tool to analyze data without Internet access once you have downloaded and installed this tool.

For more information about the Census of Agriculture including all the final 2012 Census of Agriculture results, and tools to access and share the data, visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov).

***Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)***

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