



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

---

4301 West 57<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 103, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57108  
Media Contact: Erik Gerlach 800-582-6443

## USDA Releases Results of First Farmland Landlord Survey Since 1999

SIOUX FALLS, SD, August 31, 2015 – There are 17.3 million acres of farmland rented out by landlords in South Dakota, according to the results of the 2014 Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

NASS conducted the survey in cooperation with the USDA’s Economic Research Service to get a better insight into who owns U.S. farmland. TOTAL was the first time NASS surveyed farmland landlords since 1999. The survey results provide analysis of rented farmlands by acreage, as well as by landlords, which include individuals, as well as ownership arrangements such as partnerships, corporations, trusts, and other types of ownership.

According to TOTAL findings, there are 40,260 farmland landlords in South Dakota. Of these, 11,853 were farmers, while 28,407 are non-farming landlords. Cropland made up 65 percent of all South Dakota farmland rented, while 34 percent were pasture acres rented. The rest of the rented farmland in South Dakota were acres used for forests and other land uses.

In the next five years, South Dakota farmland landlords expect to transfer 4.97 million acres to different owners. Of these, 358,952 acres are expected to be sold to non-relatives, 777,191 acres are expected to be sold to relatives, 3.60 million acres are expected to be put in a trust, and 228,781 acres landlords expect to gift away.

For complete TOTAL results, visit [agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/TOTAL](http://agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/TOTAL).

- # -

NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. The Agency invites you to express your thoughts and provide occasional feedback on our products and services by joining a data user community. To join, sign in at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for “NASS Data User Community.”

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.