



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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## 2014 FARM NUMBERS AND LAND IN FARMS

**Charleston, West Virginia** – The number of farms in West Virginia totaled 21,300 in 2014, down 100 farms from 2013. The total land in farms was 3.60 million acres, unchanged from 2013. The average farm size was 169 acres, up one acre from 2013.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$1,000 - \$9,999** economic sales class totaled 15,100, down 100 farms from 2013. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 1.60 million acres, unchanged from 2013. The average farm size for this sales class was 106 acres, up one acre from 2013.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$10,000 - \$99,999** economic sales class totaled 5,300, comparison data not available. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 1.40 million acres, comparison data not available. The average farm size for this sales class was 264 acres, comparison data not available.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$100,000 - \$249,999** economic sales class totaled 400, comparison data not available. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 240,000 acres, comparison data not available. The average farm size for this sales class was 600 acres, comparison data not available.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$250,000 - \$499,999** economic sales class totaled 150, comparison data not available. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 110,000 acres, comparison data not available. The average farm size for this sales class was 733 acres, comparison data not available.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$500,000 - \$999,999** economic sales class totaled 170, unchanged from 2013. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 110,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from 2013. The average farm size for this sales class was 647 acres, up 59 acres from 2013.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$1,000,000 or more** economic sales class totaled 180, unchanged from 2013. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 140,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from 2013. The average farm size for this sales class was 778 acres, down 55 acres from 2013.

**United States** – The number of farms in the United States for 2014 is estimated at 2.08 million, down 18 thousand farms from 2013. Total land in farms, at 913 million acres, decreased 1.03 million acres from 2013. The average farm size for 2014 is 438 acres, up 3 acres from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2014 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2013 calendar year. Production or commodity price changes in 2013 resulted in the total value for virtually all livestock and livestock products to increase while the value of most crops declined. The value of vegetable, fruit, and tobacco crops increased.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms

are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced, but not sold. The 2012 Census of Agriculture showed that 428,810 farms or 20.3 percent of the 2.11 million farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 63.0 million acres or 6.9 percent of the 914.5 million acres of farmland.

**Farm numbers** decreased by 18 thousand farms during 2014. The number of farms in Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999 declined while all other sales classes increased slightly. Fifty-one percent of all farms have sales less than \$10,000. Eighty percent of all farms had sales less than \$100,000. Eight percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

**Land in farms**, at 913 million acres, is down one million acres from 2013. The biggest changes for 2014 are that producers with sales below \$10,000 operated 4.3 million fewer acres while those in Sales Class \$500,000-\$999,999 operated 3.71 million more acres. The percentage of all farmland operated by farms in Sales Class \$500,000-\$999,999 is 17 percent, and for one million dollars or more is 24 percent.

The **average farm size** increased in 2014 by 3 acres to 438 acres per farm as the number of farms declined more than the land in farms. The average farm sizes declined in all but the largest sales class.