



Wisconsin Ag News – Farms and Land in Farms

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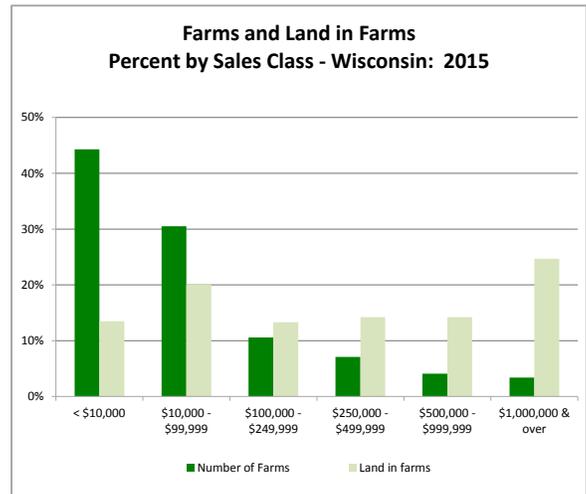
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The total number of farms in Wisconsin in 2015 was 68,900, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This is down 100 farms from 2014. The largest decrease in number of farms came in the \$100,000-\$249,999 range with a decrease of 100 farms from 7,400 in 2014 to 7,300 in 2015.

Total land in farms in Wisconsin in 2015 was 14.4 million acres, a decrease by 100,000 from a year ago. Farms in both the \$1,000-\$9,999 and the \$100,000-\$249,000 sales classes showed a decrease of 50,000 acres from 2014.

Wisconsin's average farm size in 2015 was 209 acres, down one acre from 2014. The average farm size for those in the \$1,000,000 and over economic sales class was 1,511 acres, a decrease of 32 acres since 2014.



Farms and Land in Farms, by Sales Class - Wisconsin: 2011-2015

[Farms and ranches are classified in "sales classes" by summing sales of agricultural products and government program payments.]

	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000-\$999,999 ¹	\$1,000,000 & over ¹	Total
Number of Farms							
2011	32,700	21,000	7,700	5,000	4,800	(NA)	71,200
2012	31,000	21,300	7,500	5,000	5,000	(NA)	69,800
2013	31,000	21,200	7,500	5,000	2,800	2,300	69,800
2014	30,500	21,000	7,400	4,900	2,900	2,300	69,000
2015	30,500	21,000	7,300	4,900	2,850	2,350	68,900
Land in Farms, 1,000 acres							
2011	2,200	3,000	2,180	2,120	5,100	(NA)	14,600
2012	2,100	2,900	2,000	2,100	5,500	(NA)	14,600
2013	2,100	2,900	2,000	2,100	2,000	3,500	14,600
2014	2,000	2,900	1,950	2,050	2,050	3,550	14,500
2015	1,950	2,900	1,900	2,050	2,050	3,550	14,400
Average Farm Size, acres							
2011	67	143	283	424	1,063	(NA)	205
2012	68	136	267	420	1,100	(NA)	209
2013	68	137	267	420	714	1,522	209
2014	66	138	264	418	707	1,543	210
2015	64	138	260	418	719	1,511	209

(NA) Not available.

¹Beginning in 2013, the \$500,000-\$999,999 and \$1,000,000 and over categories are published separately. Prior to that, the information was combined in the \$500,000 and over category.

United States Farms and Land in Farms

The number of farms in the United States for 2015 is estimated at 2.07 million, down 18 thousand farms from 2014. Total land in farms, at 912 million acres, decreased 1 million acres from 2014. The average farm size for 2015 is 441 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 2015 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2014 calendar year. Production or commodity price changes in 2014 resulted in the total value for most livestock and livestock products to increase while the value of most crops declined.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in 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 2015. The number of farms in Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999 declined while all other sales classes increased slightly. Fifty percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales. Eighty percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. Eight percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

