



United States Department of Agriculture - National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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# WISCONSIN

# ORGANIC PRODUCTION



## Census of Agriculture, 2012

The Census of Agriculture is conducted every five years and provides a complete count of America's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Census data offers us a nationwide snapshot of the growing organic industry, including operation size and distribution, land use, sales, and operator demographics.

In 2012, Wisconsin maintained its number 2 rank for number of organic operations. There were 1,342 operations with organic production in the state, up 10 percent from 2008's Organic Production Survey. Additionally, 240 operations reported that they were transitioning land into organic production. Wisconsin farms sold 121.5 million dollars worth of organic commodities for the year, fourth in the nation for organic sales.

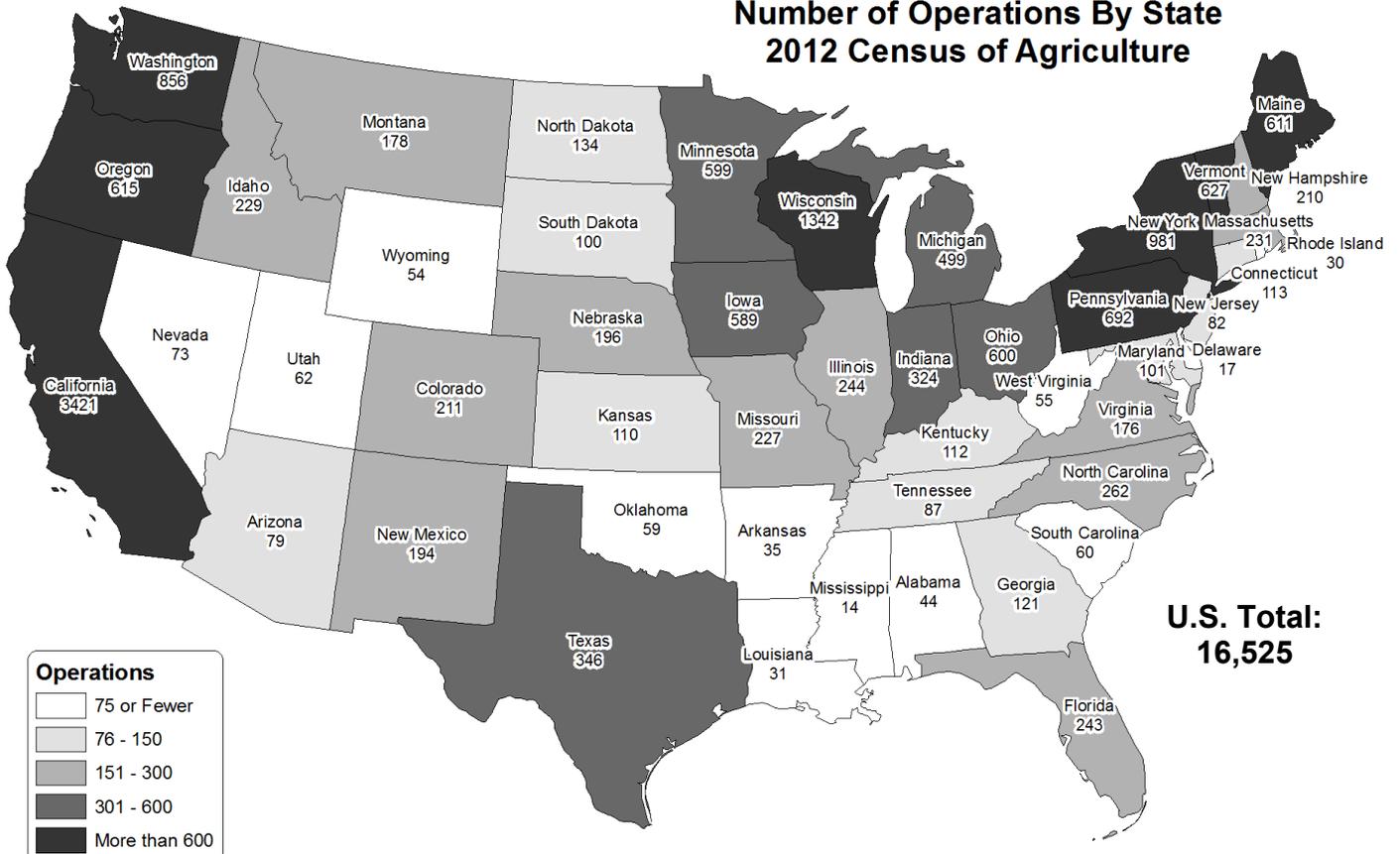
Complete results of the 2012 Census are available at:

<http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>

## Organic Operations and Sales, Top Ten States by Sales and United States Total, Census of Agriculture, 2012

State	Operations with Sales Number	Organic Product Sales Dollars
California	3,008	1,355,207,000
Washington	767	291,410,000
Oregon	554	194,356,000
<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>121,527,000</b>
New York	864	97,177,000
Florida	210	83,373,000
Pennsylvania	600	78,525,000
Texas	238	71,926,000
Colorado	176	68,188,000
Minnesota	519	67,325,000
U.S. Total	14,326	3,120,717,000

## ORGANIC FARMS: Number of Operations By State 2012 Census of Agriculture

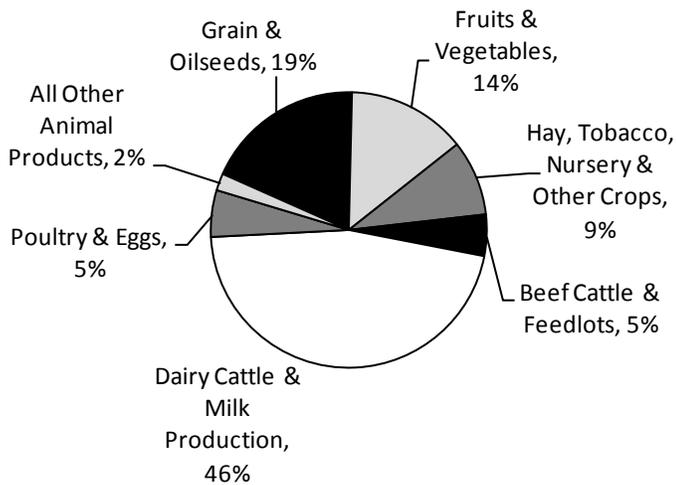


## In Wisconsin, Organic Dairy Reigns Supreme

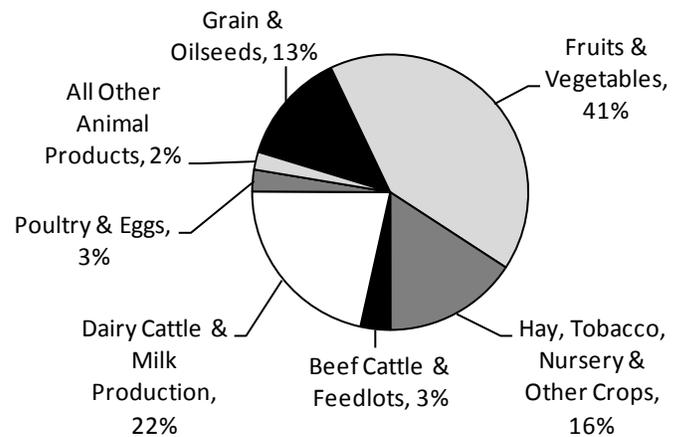
It's no secret that cows drive much of Wisconsin agriculture. But census data shows us that dairy is especially important to the state's organic sector. A full 46 percent of Wisconsin organic operations produce milk and dairy cattle as their main output, compared to 15 percent of all Wisconsin farms and 22 percent of organic operations nation wide. Grains and oilseeds are the second most common organic farm type in the state. Fourteen percent of Wisconsin organic operations grow fruit and vegetables as their main product, compared to 41 percent of U.S. organic operations, and only 4 percent of all Wisconsin farms.

The North American Industry Classification System or NAICS categorizes farms by their principal product. If no one product makes up more than 50 percent of a farm's output it is placed in the 'other crops' classification.

**WISCONSIN: Operations with Organic Production by NAICS Class, 2012 Census of Agriculture**



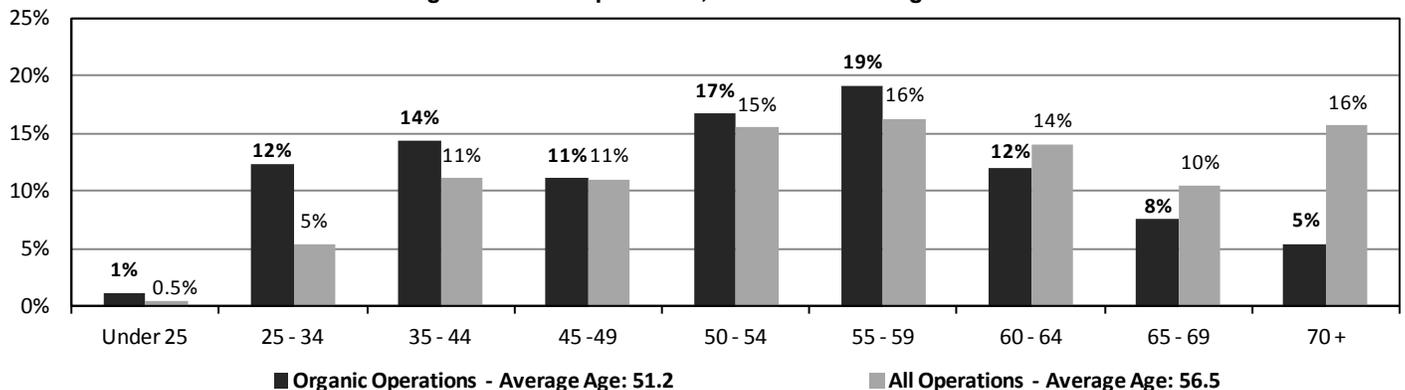
**UNITED STATES: Operations with Organic Production by NAICS Class, 2012 Census of Agriculture**



## Who are Wisconsin's Organic Producers?

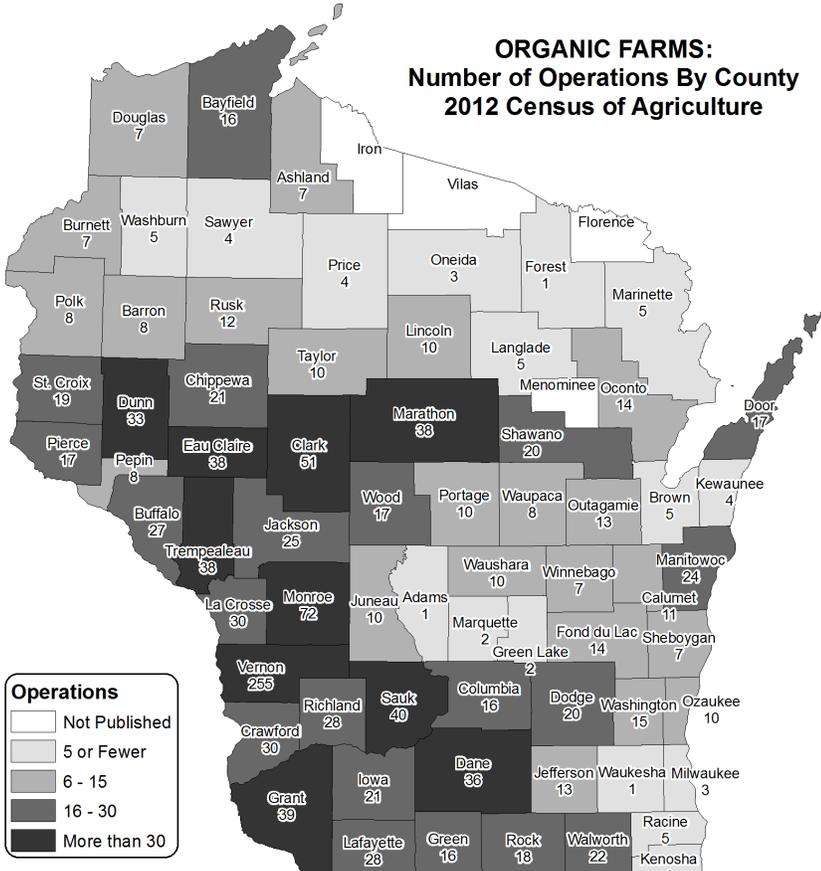
Census data shows that the principal operators of Wisconsin's organic operations are younger on average than the principal operators of all farms in the state. In 2012, the average age of principal operators on organic operations was 51.2 years, compared to 56.5 years for all operations. Organic farmers are also more likely to be new to farming, with 23 percent reporting under 10 years of farm experience, compared to 15 percent for all farms. The ratio of men to women running organic operations is the same as for all Wisconsin farms, with 11 percent of principal operators female and 89 percent male across both categories. Seventy-seven percent of organic farmers reported farming as their primary occupation, compared to 50 percent of all farmers.

**WISCONSIN: Principal Farm Operators by Age, Percent of Total, Organic and All Operations, 2012 Census of Agriculture**



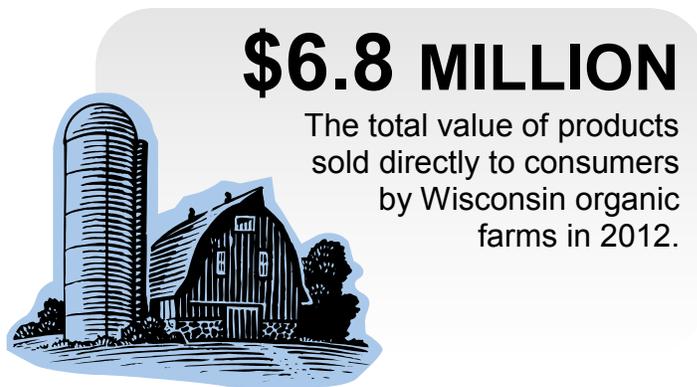
**Organic Operations and Sales, By County, Wisconsin, Census of Agriculture, 2012 1/**

County	Total Organic Operations	Operations with Sales	Organic Product Sales	County	Total Organic Operations	Operations with Sales	Organic Product Sales
	Number		Dollars		Number		Dollars
<b>Northwest</b>				<b>Southwest</b>			
Barron	8	5	482,000	Crawford	30	24	1,093,000
Bayfield	16	16	226,000	Grant	39	35	5,737,000
Burnett	7	6	41,000	Iowa	21	18	3,666,000
Chippewa	21	18	3,132,000	Lafayette	28	24	5,498,000
Douglas	7	5	375,000	Richland	28	28	1,067,000
Polk	8	7	(D)	Sauk	40	38	2,388,000
Rusk	12	6	454,000	Vernon	255	229	16,721,000
Sawyer	4	4	147,000	<b>South Central</b>			
Washburn	5	3	74,000	Columbia	16	15	1,783,000
<b>North Central</b>				Dane	36	32	2,946,000
Ashland	7	5	216,000	Dodge	20	20	2,646,000
Clark	51	49	5,654,000	Green	16	16	1,249,000
Lincoln	10	9	783,000	Jefferson	13	9	497,000
Marathon	38	38	7,748,000	Rock	18	18	1,596,000
Oneida	3	3	(D)	<b>Southeast</b>			
Price	4	4	272,000	Kenosha	1	1	(D)
Taylor	10	8	499,000	Milwaukee	3	3	5,000
<b>Northeast</b>				Ozaukee	10	9	1,252,000
Forest	1	1	(D)	Racine	5	5	(D)
Langlade	5	5	806,000	Walworth	22	16	2,059,000
Marinette	5	4	329,000	Washington	15	12	1,279,000
Oconto	14	13	963,000	Waukesha	1	1	(D)
Shawano	20	19	2,566,000	<b>Wisconsin</b>			
<b>West Central</b>					1,342	1,180	121,527,000
Buffalo	27	25	4,423,000	1/ Unlisted counties were not published. (D) Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.			
Dunn	33	31	3,758,000				
Eau Claire	38	27	1,675,000				
Jackson	25	23	5,884,000				
La Crosse	30	26	1,469,000				
Monroe	72	59	4,142,000				
Pepin	8	5	555,000				
Pierce	17	15	724,000				
St Croix	19	18	1,421,000				
Trempealeau	38	32	5,103,000				
<b>Central</b>							
Adams	1	1	(D)				
Green Lake	2	2	(D)				
Juneau	10	7	1,521,000				
Marquette	2	2	(D)				
Portage	10	10	418,000				
Waupaca	8	5	(D)				
Waushara	10	9	955,000				
Wood	17	14	649,000				
<b>East Central</b>							
Brown	5	3	(D)				
Calumet	11	10	1,606,000				
Door	17	15	886,000				
Fond Du Lac	14	13	2,384,000				
Kewaunee	4	2	(D)				
Manitowoc	24	21	2,324,000				
Outagamie	13	11	1,269,000				
Sheboygan	7	6	693,000				
Winnebago	7	7	20,000				



## USDA-NASS 2015 Certified Organic Production Survey: A Chance for Your Voice to be Heard

- Following each agricultural census, NASS conducts a special follow-on survey of all known organic producers.
- This survey provides the most detailed portrait of organic farms in Wisconsin and across the nation, with data on specific crops, commodities, and marketing practices.
- Please return your survey by April 3rd. Your response helps ensure accurate statistics about your industry!



### Certified Organic Production Survey Results

Results of the 2015 survey will be available online on Monday, August 31, 2015 at 11:00 A.M. Central Time.

Navigate to: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/index.asp>

Click on “August” under the “Reports Calendar” and find the “Census: Organics” link in the August Calendar.

### For complete results of the 2012 Agricultural Census

Navigate to: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/>

For organic industry information, see the Special Organics Tabulation under Subject Series. Organics tables are also located under State and County level data.