

Farm Characteristics <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Statefacts/CA.htm>

1997, 2002 and 2007 Census of Agriculture			
	1997	2002	2007
Approximate total land area (acres)	99,822,871	99,813,971	99,689,515
Total farmland (acres)	28,795,834	27,589,027	25,364,695
Percent of total land area	28.8	27.6	25.4
Cropland (acres)	11,062,811	10,994,161	9,464,647
Percent of total farmland	38.4	39.8	37.3
Percent in pasture	12.1	12.2	8.5
Percent irrigated	73.2	72.3	76.9
Harvested Cropland (acres)	8,676,242	8,466,321	7,633,173
Woodland (acres)	1,213,093	1,191,484	1,270,720
Percent of total farmland	4.2	4.3	5.0
Percent in pasture	58.3	57.0	61.6
Pastureland (acres)	15,021,823	13,987,763	13,275,042
Percent of total farmland	52.2	50.7	52.3
Land in house lots, ponds, roads, wasteland, etc. (acres)	1,498,107	1,415,619	1,354,286
Percent of total farmland	5.2	5.1	5.3
Conservation practices			
Farmland in conservation or wetlands reserve programs (acres)	254,229	220,240	254,013
Average farm size (acres)	327	346	313
Farms by size (percent)			
1 to 99 acres	72.9	72.0	75.0
100 to 499 acres	16.5	17.5	15.4
500 to 999 acres	4.4	4.5	4.0
1000 to 1,999 acres	3.0	3.0	2.7
2,000 or more acres	3.1	3.0	2.8
Farms by sales (percent)			
Less than \$9,999	49.9	46.0	46.6
\$10,000 to \$49,999	19.4	20.8	22.3
\$50,000 to \$99,999	7.9	8.5	7.7
\$100,000 to \$499,999	13.8	14.3	12.9
More than \$500,000	9.1	10.2	10.6
Tenure of farmers			
Full owner (farms)	64,794	60,894	63,777
Percent of total	73.6	76.5	78.7

Part owner (farms)	12,218	10,636	9,843
Percent of total	13.9	13.4	12.1
Tenant owner (farms)	10,979	8,101	7,413
Percent of total	12.5	10.2	9.1
Farm organization			
Individuals/family, sole proprietorship (farms)	69,154	64,442	64,001
Percent of total	78.6	80.9	79.0
Family-held corporations (farms)	4,675	4,269	4,603
Percent of total	5.3	5.4	5.7
Partnerships (farms)	11,836	8,953	9,552
Percent of total	13.5	11.2	11.8
Non-family corporations (farms)	829	801	1,147
Percent of total	0.9	1.0	1.4
Others - cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. (farms)	1,497	1,166	1,730
Percent of total	1.7	1.5	2.1
Characteristics of principal farm operators			
Average operator age (years)	55.7	56.8	58.4
Percent with farming as their primary occupation	49.8	61.7	50.5
Men	74,973	67,016	66,068
Women	13,018	12,615	14,965
More information on farm characteristics			
• Census of Agriculture • Contact NASS Customer Service, 1-800-727-9540.			

Farm Financial Indicators

Farm income and value added data		
	2006	2007
Number of farms	76,000	75,000
	Thousands \$	
Final crop output	24,258,224	25,818,190
+ Final animal output	7,626,757	10,699,450
+ Services and forestry	2,730,590	2,576,440
= Final agricultural sector output	34,615,571	39,094,080
- Intermediate consumption outlays	17,607,143	17,622,930
+ Net government transactions	-295,815	-426,302
= Gross value added	16,712,612	21,044,848

- Capital consumption	1,376,507	1,423,586
= Net value added	15,336,105	19,621,262
- Factor payments	7,324,603	6,874,495
Employee compensation (total hired labor)	5,461,927	4,978,740
Net rent received by nonoperator landlords	448,731	386,380
Real estate and nonreal estate interest	1,413,945	1,509,375
= Net farm income	8,011,502	12,746,767
More information on farm income • Farm Income Data • Farm Income and Costs Briefing Room • Contact Roger Strickland, 202-694-5592.		

Farm balance sheet

• Estimation of State-level Balance Sheets has been suspended. See the Farm Balance Sheet data page for more information.

Top Commodities, Exports, and Counties

Top 5 agriculture commodities, 2007

	Value of receipts thousand \$	Percent of state total farm receipts	Percent of US value
1. Dairy products	7,328,474	20.0	20.7
2. Greenhouse/nursery	4,077,266	11.1	23.7
3. Grapes	3,082,014	8.4	89.3
4. Lettuce	2,178,041	6.0	79.0
5. Almonds	2,127,375	5.8	100.0
All commodities	36,574,849		12.8

More information on California's top agriculture commodities

- [Leading commodities for cash receipts in Excel](#)
- Contact [Roger Strickland](#), 202-694-5592.

Top 5 agriculture exports, estimates, FY 2008

	Rank among states	Value million \$
1. Tree nuts	1	3,141.7
2. Fruits and preparations	1	3,044.2
3. Other	1	2,307.4
4. Vegetables and preparations	1	2,021.3
5. Dairy products	2	837.5
Overall rank	1	13,691.0

More information on agricultural exports

- [State Export Data](#)
- [Agricultural Trade Briefing Room](#)
- Contact [Nora Brooks](#), 202-694-5211.

Top 5 counties in agricultural sales 2007

	Percent of state total receipts	Thousands \$
1. Fresno County	11.0	3,730,546
2. Tulare County	9.8	3,335,014
3. Kern County	9.5	3,204,147
4. Merced County	6.9	2,330,408
5. Monterey County	6.4	2,178,470
State total		33,885,064

More information on agricultural sales

- [Census of Agriculture](#)
- Contact [NASS Customer Service](#), 1-800-727-9540.

Data Sources

- Local Area Unemployment Statistics, county data, [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).
- Regional Economic Information System, April 2006, [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#), U.S. Department of Commerce.
- 1980, 1990, and 2000 Census of Population, [Bureau of the Census](#), U.S. Department of Commerce.
- [Farm Income and Costs Briefing Room](#), Economic Research Service, USDA.
- [Foreign Agricultural Trade of the United States \(FATUS\)](#), Economic Research Service, USDA.
- Census of Agriculture, [National Agricultural Statistics Service](#), USDA.

Prepared by Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, DC.

For more information, contact: [Tim Parker](#)

Web administration: webadmin@ers.usda.gov