

■ Farms by Sales Class

Farms are commonly classified in size groups based on the total value of their gross farm sales. Data from the annual Farm Costs and Returns Survey, which is conducted by ERS and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, show that the greatest number of farms is in the lowest sales class, with over 60 percent reporting gross farm sales of less than \$20,000 in 1994. According to the survey, these small farms accounted for only 16.2 percent of the acreage operated and 5 percent of the cash receipts from marketings.

A relatively small number of very large farms produce the largest share of farm sales. Only 2.3 percent of the farms in 1994 were large operations with sales of \$500,000 or more, but they generated 38 percent of cash receipts from marketings and operated 14.8 percent of the land.

Average farm size increases consistently with sales class, ranging from 128 acres per farm in the less than \$20,000 category to 3,032 acres for farms with receipts of \$500,000 or more. The average farm in the \$500,000 or more sales class reported farm sales of more than \$1.4 million in 1994, compared with sales of more than \$7,200 for the average farm in the less than \$20,000 sales class.

Table 2-2.

Number of farms and land in farms: by State and United States,
June 1, 1991-96¹

State	Farms			Land in farms		
	1991	1992	1993	1991	1992	1993
	Number of farms			1,000 Acres		
AL	46,000	46,000	46,000	9,900	9,800	10,000
AK	560	540	530	970	950	940
AZ	7,600	7,500	7,400	35,800	35,600	35,500
AR	46,000	45,000	45,000	15,500	15,300	15,300
CA	83,000	82,000	79,000	30,500	30,200	30,000
CO	26,000	25,500	25,500	32,800	32,800	32,800
CT	3,900	4,000	3,800	420	410	400
DE	2,900	2,700	2,500	600	590	570
FL	40,000	39,000	39,000	10,500	10,500	10,300
GA	46,000	46,000	46,000	12,100	12,100	12,100
HI	4,700	4,800	4,800	1,630	1,590	1,590
ID	21,400	21,000	20,500	13,500	13,500	13,500
IL	82,000	81,000	79,000	28,300	28,200	28,100
IN	65,000	65,000	63,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
IA	103,000	103,000	102,000	33,500	33,400	33,300
KS	69,000	67,000	65,000	47,900	47,800	47,800
KY	91,000	91,000	91,000	14,100	14,100	14,100
LA	30,000	29,000	29,000	8,800	8,700	8,600
ME	7,100	7,300	7,300	1,420	1,420	1,400
MD	15,400	15,600	15,000	2,250	2,200	2,200
MA	6,400	6,400	6,200	630	630	610
MI	54,000	54,000	52,000	10,800	10,800	10,700
MN	88,000	88,000	87,000	30,000	29,800	29,700
MS	40,000	39,000	39,000	12,800	12,800	12,800
MO	107,000	107,000	106,000	30,400	30,300	30,200
MT	24,700	24,300	23,800	60,300	60,000	59,800
NE	56,000	56,000	55,000	47,100	47,100	47,100
NV	2,500	2,500	2,400	8,900	8,900	8,900
NH	2,700	2,700	2,500	440	440	440
NJ	8,500	9,000	8,900	880	880	870
NM	13,500	13,500	13,500	44,300	44,200	44,200
NY	38,000	38,000	37,500	8,300	8,200	8,100
NC	60,000	60,000	59,000	9,600	9,500	9,400
ND	33,000	33,000	32,500	40,400	40,400	40,400
OH	80,000	78,000	76,000	15,500	15,300	15,200
OK	70,000	71,000	70,500	33,000	34,000	34,000
OR	37,000	37,500	37,500	17,800	17,500	17,500
PA	53,000	52,000	51,000	8,100	8,000	7,900
RI	700	700	700	66	63	63
SC	24,500	24,500	24,000	5,200	5,200	5,150
SD	35,000	35,000	34,500	44,200	44,200	44,200
TN	85,000	85,000	84,000	12,100	12,100	12,100
TX	197,000	198,000	200,000	131,000	130,000	30,000
UT	13,300	13,200	13,000	11,300	11,300	11,200
VT	6,400	6,400	6,400	1,430	1,430	1,430
VA	45,000	45,000	45,000	8,800	8,700	8,600
WA	37,000	37,000	36,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
WV	20,000	20,000	20,000	3,700	3,700	3,700
WI	79,000	79,000	79,000	17,500	17,300	17,100
WY	9,000	9,200	9,200	34,700	34,600	34,600
US	2,116,760	2,107,840	2,083,430	981,736	978,503	976,463

See footnotes at end of table.

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Table 2-2 continued.

Number of farms and land in farms, by State and U.S.,
June 1, 1991-96¹ (continued)

	<i>Farms</i>			<i>Land in farms</i>		
	<i>1994</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>
	<i>Number of farms</i>			<i>1,000 Acres</i>		
AL	46,000	47,000	45,000	10,200	10,200	9,800
AK	520	520	510	930	920	920
AZ	7,400	7,400	7,500	35,400	35,400	35,400
AR	44,000	43,000	43,000	15,100	15,000	15,000
CA	79,000	80,000	82,000	29,900	30,000	30,000
CO	25,300	25,000	24,500	32,700	32,700	32,500
CT	3,800	3,800	3,800	390	380	380
DE	2,500	2,500	2,500	570	570	565
FL	39,000	39,000	40,000	10,300	10,300	10,300
GA	45,000	45,000	43,000	12,100	12,000	11,800
HI	4,800	4,800	4,600	1,590	1,590	1,590
ID	20,500	21,500	22,000	13,500	13,500	13,500
IL	77,000	77,000	76,000	28,100	28,100	28,100
IN	63,000	62,000	60,000	16,000	15,900	15,900
IA	101,000	100,000	98,000	33,200	33,200	33,200
KS	65,000	66,000	66,000	47,800	47,800	47,800
KY	89,000	89,000	88,000	14,100	14,000	14,000
LA	28,000	27,000	27,000	8,400	8,500	8,700
ME	7,600	7,600	7,400	1,360	1,350	1,340
MD	14,500	14,300	13,700	2,200	2,200	2,100
MA	6,000	6,000	6,200	600	570	570
MI	52,000	54,000	53,000	10,700	10,700	10,600
MN	85,000	87,000	87,000	29,700	29,800	29,800
MS	39,000	42,000	44,000	12,800	13,000	12,600
MO	105,000	105,000	104,000	30,100	30,000	30,000
MT	22,500	22,000	22,000	59,700	59,700	59,700
NE	55,000	56,000	56,000	47,100	47,000	47,000
NV	2,400	2,500	2,500	8,800	8,800	8,800
NH	2,400	2,300	2,400	440	440	430
NJ	8,900	9,000	9,200	860	850	840
NM	13,500	13,500	13,500	44,200	44,000	43,700
NY	36,000	36,000	36,000	7,900	7,700	7,700
NC	58,000	58,000	58,000	9,300	9,200	9,200
ND	32,000	32,000	31,000	40,400	40,300	40,300
OH	75,000	74,000	72,000	15,200	15,200	15,100
OK	70,000	71,000	72,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
OR	38,000	38,500	38,500	17,500	17,500	17,500
PA	51,000	50,000	50,000	7,800	7,700	7,700
RI	700	700	700	63	63	63
SC	23,000	22,000	21,500	5,100	5,050	5,000
SD	34,000	33,000	32,500	44,200	44,000	44,000
TN	83,000	81,000	80,000	12,000	12,000	11,800
TX	200,000	202,000	205,000	129,000	129,000	127,000
UT	13,000	13,400	13,400	11,100	11,100	11,000
VT	6,200	6,000	6,000	1,400	1,370	1,350
VA	46,000	47,000	48,000	8,600	8,600	8,600
WA	36,000	36,000	36,000	15,800	15,800	15,700
WV	20,000	20,000	20,000	3,700	3,700	3,700
WI	79,000	80,000	79,000	16,900	16,900	16,800
WY	9,200	9,200	9,100	34,600	34,600	34,600
US	2,064,720	2,071,520	2,063,010	973,403	972,253	968,048

¹A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would be sold during the year. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Farms and Land in Farms*.

Table 2-3.

Percent of farms and land in farms: by economic sales class,
United States, June 1, 1995-96¹

<i>Economic class (gross value of sales)</i>	<i>Percent of total</i>				<i>Average size of farms (acres)</i>	
	<i>Farms</i>		<i>Land</i>		<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>
	<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>		
\$1,000 - \$2,499	21.5	22.5	2.7	3.0	59	63
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.4	14.3	2.9	3.1	94	102
\$5,000 - \$9,999	13.0	12.6	4.1	4.5	148	168
\$10,000 - \$19,999	11.7	11.4	6.6	6.5	265	268
\$20,000 - \$39,999	10.5	10.2	9.8	9.8	438	451
\$40,000 - \$99,999	12.8	12.6	20.2	19.9	734	741
\$100,000 - \$249,999	10.3	10.2	25.7	25.2	1,170	1,159
\$250,000 - \$499,999	3.5	3.8	13.1	12.9	1,755	1,593
\$500,000 +	2.3	2.4	14.9	15.1	3,038	2,952
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	469	469

¹A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agriculture products were sold or normally would be sold during the year. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service