

• 2012 •

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**CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE**

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*There's Strength in Numbers*



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United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

2012 CENSUS OF  
AGRICULTURE  
YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

# THERE'S HISTORY HERE

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The first Census of Agriculture was conducted in 1840 in 26 states and the District of Columbia.

# 170 YEARS LATER

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NASS now conducts the Census of Agriculture in:

- all 50 states
- Puerto Rico
- Guam
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
- American Samoa

*That's data for more than 3,000 U.S. counties  
and 30,000 zip codes.*

# CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

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A complete count, taken every five years,  
of America's farms and ranches and  
the people who operate them.

# CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

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- The most complete agricultural data available.
- The only source of uniform, comprehensive and objective information for every county in the nation.
- Information on land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures, and more.

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# "FARM" DEFINED

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Any place from which \$1,000 of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year.



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# FARM NUMBERS

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# MARYLAND HIGHLIGHTS

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Number of farms down 4.5 percent

Land in farms down 1.0 percent

Average size of farm up 4 percent





## US

- 2,109,303 farms
- 914,527,657 acres of land in farms
- 434 acres average farm size



## Maryland

- 12,256 farms
- 2,030,745 acres of land in farms
- 166 acres average farm size

# ECONOMICS

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- Market value of agricultural products sold represents the gross market value before taxes and production expenses of all agricultural products sold or removed from the farm or ranch in 2012 regardless of who received the payment.



## MARYLAND INCOME and EXPENSES

	2007 (\$1,000)	2012 (\$1,000)	% Change	
Total Value of Agricultural Products Sold	1,835,090	2,271,397	23.8	
Government Payments Received	33,386	36,024	7.9	
Farm Related Income	90,921	109,857	20.8	
Production Expenses	1,546,646	1,940,277	25.4	
Net Cash Farm Income	412,752	477,002	15.6	

# US INCOME and EXPENSES

	2007 (billions \$)	2012 (billions \$)	% Change	
Total Value of Agricultural Products Sold	297.2	394.6	32.8	
Government Payments Received	8.0	8.1	0.9	
Farm Related Income	10.5	18.5	76.6	
Production Expenses	241.1	328.9	36.4	
Net Cash Farm Income	74.6	92.3	23.7	

# MARYLAND TOP 5 COUNTIES

	2007 Value of Sales (\$1,000)			2012 Value of Sales (\$1,000)
Wicomico	197,828		Caroline	257,915
Somerset	192,563		Wicomico	236,321
Caroline	186,039		Somerset	218,950
Worcester	185,771		Worcester	199,265
Dorchester	166,732		Dorchester	187,057

# MARYLAND TOP 10 PRODUCTION EXPENSES

	2007 (\$1,000)	2012 (\$1,000)	% Change	
Total Production Expenses	1,546,646	1,940,277	25.5	
Feed	456,411	629,143	37.8	
Non-breeding livestock	161,095	148,758	-7.7	
Fertilizer	98,320	144,207	46.7	
Hired labor	151,232	179,692	18.8	
Livestock purchases	171,246	161,816	-5.5	
All other expenses	134,458	128,776	-4.2	
Seeds	75,021	116,385	55.1	
Supplies and repairs	110,024	116,019	5.4	
Gasoline, fuels and oils	67,511	86,919	28.7	
Chemicals	50,845	78,148	53.7	

# US TOP 10 PRODUCTION EXPENSES

	2007 (\$billions)	2012 (\$billions)	% Change	
Total Production Expenses	241.1	328.9	36.4	
Feed	49.1	75.7	54.2	
Non-breeding livestock	34.4	37.2	8.0	
Fertilizer	18.1	28.5	57.6	
Hired labor	21.9	27.0	23.4	
Cash rent	13.3	21.0	58.2	
All other expenses	17.1	20.5	19.8	
Seeds	11.7	19.5	66.0	
Supplies and repairs	15.9	18.9	18.7	
Gasoline, fuels and oils	12.9	16.6	28.4	
Chemicals	10.1	16.5	63.4	

# MARYLAND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

	Farms
Certified Organic or Exempt from Certification	101
USDA Certified Organic Production	81
USDA Organic Production Exempt from Certification	20
Had acreage transitioning into Organic Production	19
Total organic product sales	\$11,798,000



# US ORGANIC AGRICULTURE 2012

	Farms
Certified Organic or Exempt from Certification	16,525
USDA Certified Organic Production	12,771
USDA Organic Production Exempt from Certification	3,754
Had acreage transitioning into Organic Production	3,240
Total organic product sales	\$3.1 billion

# MARYLAND PRINCIPAL OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMS WITH ORGANIC SALES

	Organic farms	All farms
Average age	51.7	59.0
Average years on farm	17.0	23.4
Sex is female	28%	19%
Occupation is farming	65%	49%

# US PRINCIPAL OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMS WITH ORGANIC SALES

	Organic farms	All farms
Average age	53.4	58.3
Average years on farm	18.0	22.8
Sex is female	18%	14%
Occupation is farming	69%	48%

# MARYLAND DIRECT SALES TO CONSUMERS

	2007	2012	% Change	
Direct Sales to Consumers – farms	1,407	1,276	-9.3	
Direct Sales to Consumers – dollars	21,220,000	28,038,000	32.1	
Market products through a CSA	161	119	-26.1	
Market products directly to retailers	N/A	539	N/A	

# US DIRECT SALES TO CONSUMERS

	2007	2012	% Change	
Direct Sales to Consumers – farms	136,817	144,530	5.6	
Direct Sales to Consumers – dollars	1.2 billion	1.3 billion	8.1	
Market products through a CSA	12,549	12,617	0.5	
Market products directly to retailers	N/A	49,043	N/A	

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# DEMOGRAPHICS

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- Age
- Primary occupation
- Years on present farm
- Sex
- Ethnicity
- Race



# MARYLAND ALL OPERATORS

	2007	2012	% Change	
All operators	19,773	19,055	-3.6	
Average age	54.6	56.4	3.3	
All female operators	6,256	6,137	-1.9	
Average age	52.6	54.9	4.4	
Principal Operators	12,834	12,256	-4.5	
Average age	57.3	59.0	3.0	
Second Operators	5,824	5,693	-2.2	
Average age	51.2	53.1	3.7	
Third Operators	1,115	1,106	-0.8	
Average age	41.7	43.9	5.3	

# US ALL OPERATORS

	2007	2012	% Change	
All operators	3,281,534	3,180,074	-3.1	
Average age	54.9	56.3	2.6	
All female operators	985,192	969,672	-1.6	
Average age	54.0	55.6	2.9	
Principal Operators	2,204,792	2,109,303	-4.3	
Average age	57.1	58.3	2.1	
Second Operators	931,670	928,151	-0.4	
Average age	51.4	53.4	3.9	
Third Operators	145,072	142,620	-1.7	
Average age	44.6	46.0	3.1	



# MARYLAND HIGHLIGHTS

- Women operators increased to 18.7 percent in 2012 compared to 17.3 percent in 2007
- Only 48.9 percent of farm operators state that farming primary occupation
- Average age of farmers in Maryland increased to 59 years of age in 2012 compared to 57.3 in 2007
- Operators with Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin up 27 percent and Asian operators up 18 percent in Maryland



## US

- 13.7% women operators
- 47.8 % farming primary job
- Average age 58.3 years



## Maryland

- 18.7% women operators
- 48.9% farming primary job
- Average age 59.0 years

# MARYLAND HIGHLIGHTS

- Average age of women operators in 2012, 58.0 years compared to 56.1 years in 2007
- Average age for Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin operators in 2012, 55.9 years compared to 53.5 years in 2007
- Average age for American Indian or Alaska Native operators in 2012, 59.3 years compared to 56.0 years in 2007
- Average age for Asian operators in 2012, 55.2 years compared to 53.1 years in 2007
- Average age for Black or African American operators in 2012, 63.1 years compared to 62.3 years in 2007

# MARYLAND FARM OWNERSHIP

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	2007 Percent of all farms	2012 Percent of all farms	2007 Percent of all land in farms	2012 Percent of all land in farms	2007 Average size (acres)	2012 Average size (acres)	2007 Average sales (dollars)	2012 Average sales (dollars)
Full Owners	70.4	70.0	37.1	36.5	84	86	103,296	120,712
Part Owners	21.5	21.8	51.3	52.8	381	402	265,092	375,334
Tenants	8.1	8.2	11.6	10.7	229	215	163,476	231,575

# US FARM OWNERSHIP

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	2007 Percent of all farms	2012 Percent of all farms	2007 Percent of all land in farms	2012 Percent of all land in farms	2007 Average size (acres)	2012 Average size (acres)	2007 Average sales (dollars)	2012 Average sales (dollars)
Full Owners	69.0	67.7	37.3	36.8	226	235	76,630	98,984
Part Owners	24.6	25.3	53.8	53.7	915	922	273,130	393,577
Tenants	6.4	7.0	8.9	9.5	582	588	231,187	293,858

# MARYLAND LAND USE PRACTICES 2012

	Farms	Acres
Conventional Tillage	2,095	145,531
No-Till	3,340	767,813
Conservation Tillage	1,249	194,668
Tiling	736	43,840
Drainage Ditches	1,705	252,992
Cover Crop	2,366	327,689
Conservation Easement	1,628	147,413

# US LAND USE PRACTICES 2012

	Farms	Acres (millions)
Conventional Tillage	405,692	105.7
No-Till	278,290	96.5
Conservation Tillage	195,738	76.6
Tiling	217,931	48.6
Drainage Ditches	216,314	42.2
Cover Crop	133,124	10.3
Conservation Easement	76,441	13.2

# MARYLAND RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION

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	Farms
Solar Panels	284
Geoexchange Systems	83
Wind Turbines	29
Biodiesel	45
Ethanol	21
Small Hydro Systems	3
Methane Digesters	2



# US RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION

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	Farms
Solar Panels	36,331
Geoexchange Systems	9,403
Wind Turbines	9,054
Biodiesel	4,099
Ethanol	2,364
Small Hydro Systems	1,323
Methane Digesters	537

# MARYLAND INTERNET ACCESS

	2007 Percent of all farms	2012 Percent of all farms
Farms with Internet access	61.3	71.9
	2012 Number of farms	2012 Percent of farms
Cable modem service	2,362	26.8
Mobile broadband plan	2,127	24.1
DSL service	1,801	20.4
Satellite service	1,425	16.2
Dial-up service	936	10.6
Fiber-optic service	687	7.8
Broadband over power lines	272	3.1

# US INTERNET ACCESS

	2007 Percent of all farms	2012 Percent of all farms
Farms with Internet access	56.5	69.6
	2012 Number of farms	2012 Percent of farms
DSL service	584,384	39.8
Satellite service	282,776	19.3
Mobile broadband plan	267,804	18.2
Cable modem service	225,917	15.4
Dial-up service	139,677	9.5
Fiber-optic service	75,982	5.2
Broadband over power lines	37,580	2.6

# MARYLAND PERCENT OF TOTAL YEARS ON FARM BY AGE OF PRINCIPAL OPERATOR

	2007 Less than 10 years on farm (%)	2012 Less than 10 years on farm (%)
Less than 25 years old	3.3	6.5
25 to 34	17.5	20.2
35 to 44	17.1	17.5
45 to 54	23.7	21.8
55 to 64	20.6	22.1
65 and older	18.1	11.9

# US PERCENT OF TOTAL YEARS ON FARM BY AGE OF PRINCIPAL OPERATOR

	2007 Less than 10 years on farm (%)	2012 Less than 10 years on farm (%)
Less than 25 years old	2.0	2.3
25 to 34	13.5	17.1
35 to 44	21.6	19.7
45 to 54	29.0	25.1
55 to 64	22.0	22.2
65 and older	11.9	13.5

# MARYLAND AVERAGE FARM

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	2007	2012
Land in farms	160 acres	166 acres
Sales	\$142,987	\$185,329
Government Payments	\$7,277	\$7,784
Age	57.3	59.0
Years on Operation	22.1	23.4
Years Farming	N/A	25.7

# US AVERAGE FARM

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	2007	2012
Land in farms	418 acres	434 acres
Sales	\$134,807	\$187,097
Government Payments	\$9,523	\$9,925
Age	57.1	58.3
Years on Operation	21.6	22.8
Years Farming	N/A	25.0

# MARYLAND AVERAGE FARM BY PRIMARY OCCUPATION

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	Farming	Other
Land in farms	252 acres	83 acres
Sales	\$318,301	\$57,966
Government Payments	\$10,778	\$4,045
Age	60.6	57.5
Years on Operation	26.8	20.2
Years Farming	29.3	22.2



# US AVERAGE FARM BY PRIMARY OCCUPATION

	Farming	Other
Land in farms	674 acres	214 acres
Sales	\$340,421	\$46,789
Government Payments	\$13,546	\$5,213
Age	60.2	56.6
Years on Operation	26.1	19.7
Years Farming	28.6	21.6

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# COUNTY RESULTS

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- The Census of Agriculture provides the only comprehensive ,consistent set of agricultural data at the county level.



# TOP WHEAT COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Queen Anne's	1,878,061
Caroline	1,818,149
Talbot	1,569,314
Kent	1,421,583
Dorchester	1,127,332

# TOP BARLEY COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Caroline	549,230
Kent	483,913
Frederick	339,709
Carroll	306,709
Washington	293,032

# TOP CORN COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Queen Anne's	4,891,585
Kent	4,497,782
Carroll	4,111,535
Frederick	3,982,802
Caroline	3,864,817

# TOP SOYBEAN COUNTIES

	2012 bushels
Queen Anne's	2,595,124
Caroline	2,144,245
Talbot	2,126,333
Dorchester	1,816,344
Kent	1,797,559

# TOP BROILER COUNTIES

	2012 Number Sold
Somerset	63,651,156
Caroline	62,703,500
Wicomico	57,122,282
Worcester	55,509,628
Dorchester	29,388,301

# FUTURE CENSUS PRODUCTS

Other census products that will be released in 2014 include:

- State and County Profiles – May 29, 2014
- Puerto Rico Census of Agriculture – June 27, 2014
- Congressional Districts Profiles - July
- Congressional Districts Rankings - July
- Race, Ethnicity and Gender Profiles - August
- American Indians - August
- Organic Production - September
- Watersheds - November
- Farm Typology - December
- Specialty Crops - December
- Specialty Crops for Puerto Rico - December



# SUPPLEMENTAL SURVEYS

Other census products that will be released in 2014 include:

- Census of Aquaculture
  - Released September
- Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey
  - Released October 30, 2014

# CENSUS DATA

- Census data are available:
  - Online at [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)
  - Through your local NASS field office
  - Final data released at noon on May 2, 2014.
    - Call 800.727.9540