



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW JERSEY FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2022 Census New Jersey Highlights *New Jersey farms and farmers*

TRENTON, NJ -- February 13, 2024 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Northeastern Field Office announced the results of the 2022 Census of Agriculture, sharing a wide-range of information about the 9,998 New Jersey farms and ranches, who operates them and what they grow down to the county level. The number of farms is up for New Jersey by 1 percent from 2017, according to Bruce Eklund, New Jersey State Statistician.

“We are pleased to provide updated Census of Agriculture data to all those who serve U.S. agriculture, especially the producers who gave their time to complete the questionnaire. Census of Agriculture data tell a story. This comprehensive snapshot every five years helps data users to see trends and shifts in the industry over time and helps producers do business,” said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. “Overall, though there are always changes across U.S. agriculture, the data remain largely consistent with the previous ag census. Data users will also notice some new data on the topics of hemp, precision agriculture, and internet access.”

The 2022 Census of Agriculture data show many key trends and facts for New Jersey including:

- Land in farms of just under 712,000 acres, down from just over 734,000 acres in 2017.
- Many examples of the innovation and productivity of New Jersey agricultural producers such as ranking fifth nationally in value of nursery stock sales at over \$296 million.
- Among all States in total acres harvested, New Jersey was third in eggplant, fourth in asparagus, fourth in cranberries, and fifth in tame blueberries.

“While American agriculture is the world’s most productive, New Jersey’s farmers are among the most productive among America’s farmers. They face challenges yet they continually provide” said Eklund.

The response rate for the 2022 Census of Agriculture was 61%; more than 40% of responses were submitted online. To address questions about the 2022 Census of Agriculture data, NASS will host a live X Stat Chat [@usda_nass](https://twitter.com/usda_nass) for the public on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 1 p.m. EST. Ag census data highlight publications are available at nass.usda.gov/Publications/Highlights.

First conducted in 1840 in conjunction with the decennial Census and conducted since 1997 by USDA NASS – the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture – the Census of Agriculture remains the most comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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