



# 2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

## Grain and Oilseed Farming

***The top 5 states account for 49 percent of the total value of U.S. sales of grains, oilseeds and pulse crops:***

1. Illinois
2. Iowa
3. Nebraska
4. Minnesota
5. Indiana

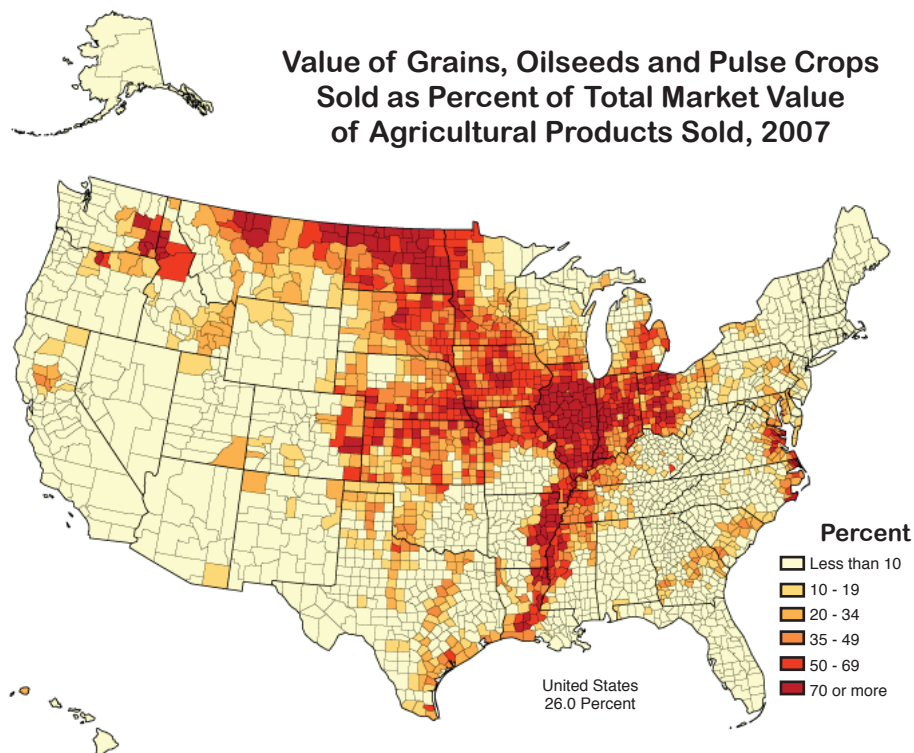
### Sales of Grains, Oilseeds and Pulse Crops

The 2007 Census of Agriculture shows that the value of sales in the grains, oilseeds and pulse crops category nearly doubled between 2002 and 2007. In 2007, U.S. sales of grains, oilseeds and pulse crops totaled \$77.2 billion, an increase of \$37.3 billion, or 93 percent, from 2002. Grains, oilseeds and pulse crops accounted for 26 percent of all agricultural products sold in the United States during 2007.

Between 2002 and 2007, the largest increases in sales occurred in Illinois (+\$4.9 billion), Iowa (+\$4.3 billion) and Nebraska (+\$3.4 billion). The six largest counties in terms of sales from grains, oilseeds and pulse crops were all in Illinois, with McLean County being the largest single county with \$327 million in sales.

Corn sales, at \$39.9 billion dollars, accounted for 52 percent of sales in this category, while soybeans accounted for 26 percent, wheat for 14 percent and rice for 3 percent.

**Value of Grains, Oilseeds and Pulse Crops Sold as Percent of Total Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold, 2007**



U.S. Department  
of Agriculture

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service



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***Corn continued to lead all crops in value sold, accounting for nearly 28 percent of all U.S. crop sales and more than 13 percent of all agricultural products sold.***

## Grain and Oilseed Production Expenses

Operations classified as primarily grain and oilseed farms\* spent \$53.1 billion to produce grains and oilseeds in 2007, an increase of \$20.5 billion, or 63 percent, from 2002. The five largest expense items for grain and oilseed farms were fertilizer, cash rent, seed, chemicals and gasoline/fuels. The expenses with the largest net increase compared with 2002 were gasoline/fuels, up 124 percent, and fertilizer, up 122 percent. The average cost for all production expenses per grain and oilseed farm increased \$63,488, or 68 percent, to \$157,036.

	2007	2002	% Change
Total Farms	479,467	485,124	-1
Total Production Expenses	\$53.1 billion	\$32.6 billion	+63
Average per Farm	\$157,036	\$93,548	+68
Fertilizer, Lime and Soil Conditioners	\$10.4 billion	\$4.68 billion	+122
Cash Rent for Land, Buildings and Grazing Fees	\$7.61 billion	\$4.59 billion	+66
Seeds, Plants, Vines and Trees	\$6.19 billion	\$3.46 billion	+79
Chemicals Purchased	\$5.00 billion	\$3.18 billion	+57
Gasoline, Fuels and Oils	\$4.41 billion	\$1.96 billion	+124

*\* The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) categorizes farms by the commodities which constitute a majority of the sales of the operation. Production expenses and producer characteristics are from operations classified primarily as grain and oilseed farms. These operations accounted for 70.4 percent of farms that had grain, oilseed and pulse crop sales in 2007.*

# Grain and Oilseed Farming

## Grain and Oilseed Farmer Characteristics

The 2007 Census shows significant changes in the characteristics of grain and oilseed farmers. The number of female principal operators increased by 6 percent from 2002. Women now account for 4.8 percent of grain and oilseed principal operators. The percent of grain and oilseed principal operators under 45 years of age decreased by 5.5 percent in 2007, while the percent of principal operators 65 years and older increased by 2.6 percent.

Grain and oilseed farmers were more likely in 2007 than in 2002 to have a primary occupation other than farming. Only 66 percent reported farming as their primary occupation during 2007, compared with 74 percent in 2002. This trend is supported by the number of days principal operators worked off the farm. In 2007, 56 percent worked off the farm at least one day, compared with only 50 percent in 2002.

Principal Operator Characteristics	2007	2002
<b>Sex of Operator</b>		
Male	95.2%	95.6%
Female	4.8%	4.4%
<b>Age of Operator</b>		
Under 45 Years	19.1%	24.6%
45 to 64 Years	53.1%	50.2%
65 Years and Older	27.8%	25.2%
Average Age	56.1 years	54.6 years
<b>Primary Occupation</b>		
Farming	65.9%	73.9%
Other	34.1%	26.1%
<b>Days Worked Off Farm</b>		
None	43.8%	50.4%
1 to 49 Days	11.3%	7.7%
50 to 99 Days	4.9%	3.7%
100 to 199 Days	8.3%	6.9%
200 Days or More	31.7%	31.3%



**For more information:**

[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

[www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)

**Agricultural Statistics Hotline**

**(800) 727-9540**

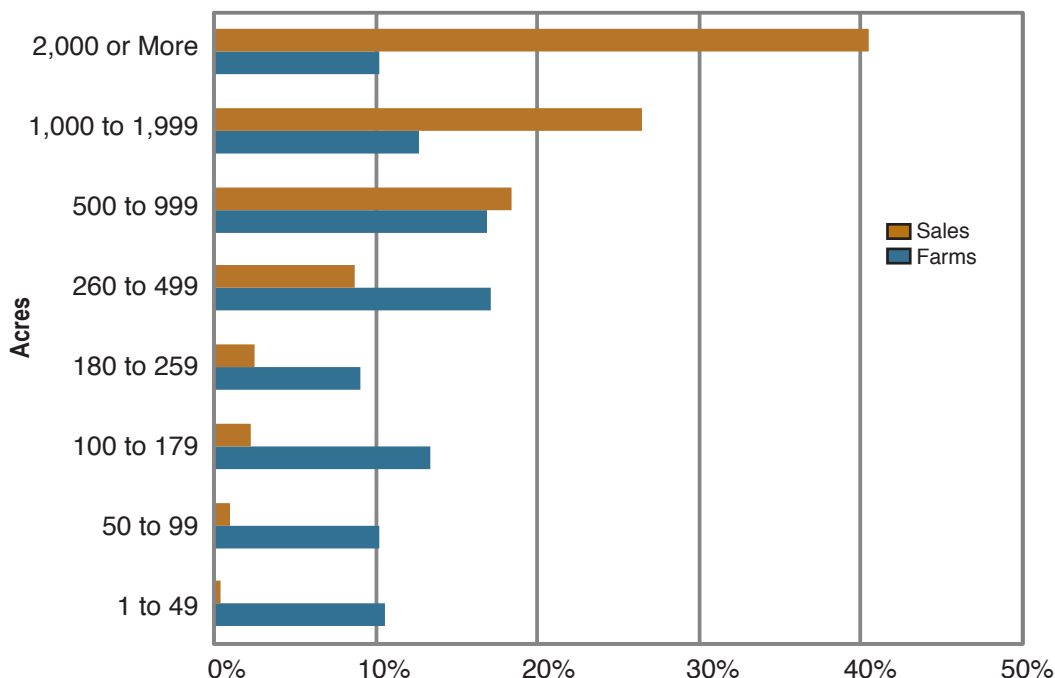
# 2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

## Sales of Grains, Oilseeds and Pulse Crops, by Size of Farm

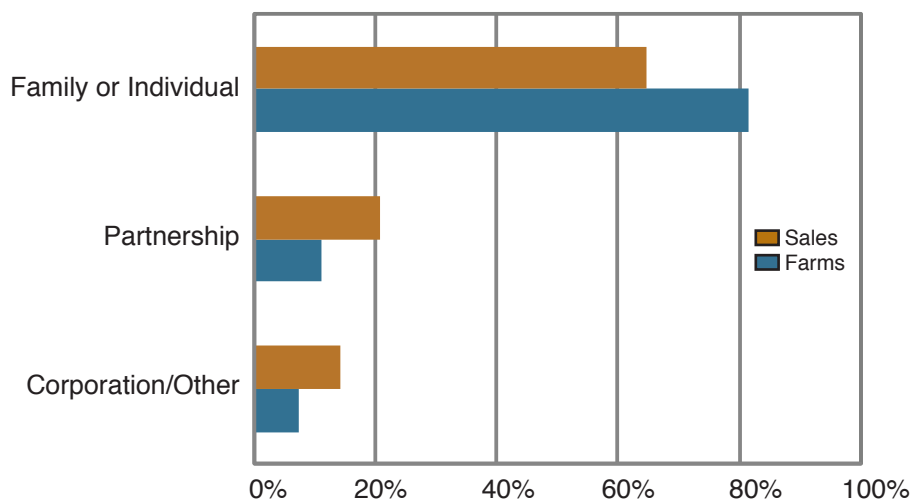
Results of the 2007 Census show that the total number of farms in the United States that sold grains, oilseeds and pulse crops decreased by 1 percent from 2002. Operations with less than 50 acres accounted for nearly 11 percent of all farms in this category, but less than one percent of all sales. In contrast, farms with more than 2,000 acres accounted for 10 percent of the farms and more than 40 percent of all sales in this category.

Looking at grain, oilseed and pulse crop farms by type of organization, 81 percent of the farms were family or individual operations in 2007, compared with 84 percent in 2002. Although partnerships and corporations combined account for 19 percent of farms in this category in 2007, together they account for nearly 35 percent of all sales.

Number of Grain, Oilseed and Pulse Crop Farms and Sales, by Size of Farm



Grain, Oilseed and Pulse Crop Farms and Sales by Type of Organization



## Grain and Oilseed Farming