

Grain and Oilseed Production

Grain and oilseed sales up, number of farms down, since 2017



ACH22-13/July 2024

In 2022, U.S. sales of grains and oilseeds totaled \$168.7 billion, 31% of total U.S. agriculture sales. Sales of grains and oilseeds increased 58% from 2017 to 2022. The top three states, Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota, accounted for over a third of U.S. sales. The top 10 states each sold over \$5 billion in grains and oilseeds. Of the 422,851 farms that produced and sold grains and oilseeds, 78% were farms specializing in grain and oilseed production. These farms accounted for 90% of grain and oilseed sales.

422,851 farms



\$168.7 billion sales



\$398,989 average sales per farm



Number and Location

Between 2017 and 2022, the number of farms with sales of grains and oilseeds decreased 6% from 451,716 farms to 422,851 farms. Three states accounted for 36% of U.S. grain and oilseed sales in 2022, Iowa led with 14%, Illinois with 13%, and Minnesota with 9%. Six of the top 10 counties were in Illinois.

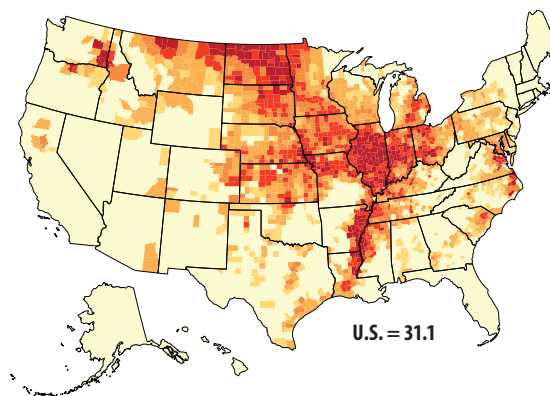
Of the 330,930 farms that specialized in grain and oilseed farming, over three-fourths (253,599 farms) specialized in growing corn or soybeans, while the remaining 77,331 specialized in wheat, sorghum, rice, dry beans, dry peas, and other grain or oilseed farming.

Seventeen percent of all U.S. farms specialized in grain and oilseed production, accounting for 32% of all agricultural land and 69% of harvested cropland. Of the farms that harvested 1,000 acres or more, 76% were grain or oilseed farms.

Farms by Area Harvested, 2022 (percent)

Cropland Harvested	Grain and Oilseed	All U.S.
1 - 49 acres	21	55
50 - 199 acres	28	22
200 - 499 acres	20	10
500 - 999 acres	13	6
1,000 - 1,999 acres	10	4
2,000+ acres	8	3

Sales of Grains and Oilseeds as Percent of Agriculture Sales, by County, 2022



Top States

State	(\$ bil)
Iowa	23.2
Illinois	21.6
Minnesota	15.3
Nebraska	13.4
Indiana	11.3
North Dakota	9.7
Kansas	7.8
Ohio	7.6
South Dakota	7.4
Missouri	7.0

Top U.S. Grain and Oilseed Harvested Acres by Crop, 2022

Corn	86,576,380
Soybeans	84,599,236
Wheat	37,211,994
Sorghum	5,120,561
Barley	2,430,308
Rice	2,279,958
Canola	2,153,195
Sunflowers	1,590,592
Dry edible beans	1,232,111
Dry edible peas	915,143

Corn was 29% of all cropland harvested; 93% for grain.

Soybeans were 28% of all cropland harvested; 10 million acres in Illinois.

Wheat Kansas had 6.6 million acres of winter wheat.

Sorghum Kansas and Texas harvested 74% of all acres.

Barley harvested acres were up 10% from 2017.

Rice acres in Arkansas comprised 49% of all rice acres.

Canola North Dakota harvested 1,702,791 acres, 79% of U.S. canola.

Sunflowers 92% of sunflower acres harvested were for oil in 2022.

Dry edible beans* North Dakota harvested 45% of all dry bean acres.

Dry edible peas Montana harvested 55% of all dry pea acres.

*excluding chickpeas and lima

SNAPSHOT Grain and Oilseed Producers, 2022

Number = 569,551*

	Grain and Oilseed (percent)	All U.S. (percent)
Sex		
Male	74	64
Female	26	36
Age		
<35	10	9
35 - 64	51	53
65+	39	38
Years farming		
10 or less	22	30
11 or more	78	70
Lived on their farm	61	70
Worked off farm		
No days	46	38
1 to 199 days	20	22
200+ days	34	40
Primary occupation		
Farming	56	42
Other	44	58
With military service	7	9
Race		
American Ind/Alaska Native	0.3	1.7
Asian	0.1	0.7
Black/African American	0.4	1.2
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Isl	< 0.1	0.1
White	98.8	95.4
More than one race	0.4	0.9
Hispanic	0.8	3.3
Average age (years)	57.9	58.1

* Producers on 330,930 specialized grain and oilseed farms as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). More than half of a farm's sales came from growing grain and oilseeds. Data collected for up to four producers per farm.

About the Census

The Census of Agriculture, conducted once every five years, is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Results from the 2022 and earlier censuses are available at national, state, and county levels.

See the searchable database Quick Stats, downloadable PDF reports, maps, and a variety of topic-specific products.

www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus

Producer Characteristics

The producers on farms that specialized in grain and oilseed production resembled U.S. producers overall in many characteristics, but they were slightly younger on average (57.9 years versus 58.1 years). Fifty-six percent considered farming their primary occupation compared with 42% of all U.S. producers. Twenty-six percent were women. Almost all grain and oilseed producers (98.8%) were white.

22 The percent of grain and oilseed producers who were beginning farmers.

Farm Characteristics

Approximately three-fourths (74%) of farms that specialized in grain and oilseed production had sales and government payments of less than \$500,000 in 2022 compared to 90% of all farms.

Economic Class

(sales and government payments)

	Grain and Oilseed Farms (percent of total)	All Farms
< \$10,000	10	52
\$10,000 - \$99,999	31	27
\$100,000 - \$499,999	33	11
\$500,000 - \$999,999	12	4
\$1,000,000 +	14	6

94

The percent of operations that specialized in oilseed and grain farming that used conservation tillage (reduced tillage and/or no-till).

Average Farm

On average, farms that specialized in grain and oilseed production had larger land area than U.S. farms overall, higher sales, greater production expenses, and higher net income.

	Grain and Oilseed Farms	All Farms
Avg. acres	845	463
Avg. sales	\$495,090	\$285,762
Avg. government payments	\$28,964	\$21,599
Avg. expenses	\$359,485	\$223,175
Avg. net cash farm income	\$171,880	\$79,790

Production Expenses

The production costs of farms that specialized in grain and oilseed production totaled \$119.0 billion, up 40% from 2017. At \$23.2 billion, fertilizer was the largest expense item, accounting for 19% of production expenses.

	(\$ bil)
Fertilizer	23.2
Rent	17.2
Seeds	16.0
Chemicals	14.1
Supplies and repairs	9.1
Fuels	7.1
Hired labor	6.1
Other expenses	26.2

Among Grain and Oilseed Farms

 **82%** Had internet access

 **35%** Hired farm labor

 **92%** Were family farms

 **76%** Had net positive income