

What is ERS?

Find what you need from the USDA
Economic Research Service

Steve Crutchfield
Assistant Administrator

The Mission of ERS

The Economic Research Service:

- Anticipates economic and policy issues related to agriculture, food, the environment, and rural development, and
- Conducts economic research that broadly and specifically informs public program and policy decisions.



Research and Statistics at ERS

- ERS research is objective, peer-reviewed, anticipatory, policy relevant, timely, informative to decisionmakers and the public, and well-respected
- ERS employs social scientists and professional support (~300)
- ERS is a principal Federal statistical agency (one of 14)
- All ERS research reports, market analysis, and data are available online and are in the public domain.

Did you know that...

- About 4.5 percent of the U.S. GDP is related to agriculture?
- We export more ag products than we import, and every \$1 billion in exports support 6,800 American jobs?
- 98 percent of farms are family farms?
- American households spend less than 10 percent of their income on food?
- 14 percent of U.S. household face difficulty buying food for an active, healthy life?

How can we help you?

- Find a fact...
- Find data.....
- Research a topic....
- Understand the “why” as well as the “what”

Visit our website: www.ers.usda.gov

The ERS Website

USDA Economic Research Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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Household Food Security in the United States in 2012

The prevalence of food insecurity was essentially unchanged from 2008 to 2012. 5/6

Popular Topics

- Sugar & Sweeteners
- Farm Economy
- Bioenergy
- Food Security in the U.S.
- Consumer Price Index (CPI)

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Data | Reports | Charts | Maps

State Fact Sheets
Information on population, income, poverty, food security, education, employment, and more.

Feed Grains Database
Statistics on corn, grain sorghum, barley, and oats, rye, millet, hay, and related items.

County-Level Unemployment and Median Household Income
A compilation of data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau. [More](#)

Amber Waves

- U.S. Exports Surge as China Supports Agricultural Prices
- Eating Better at School: Can New Policies Improve Children's Food Choices?
- Cropland Consolidation and the Future of Family Farms
- Solving the Commodity Markets' Non-Convergence Puzzle
- Developing Countries Dominate World Demand for Agricultural Products [More](#)

FY14 Federal Budget and Related ERS Actions
Information on ERS products affected by FY14 budget reductions.

Food Environment Atlas
Assembles statistics on three broad categories of food environment factors.

International Year of Statistics
We invite you to explore the Statistics2013 website.

Research Spotlight

- Farm Bill Resources
- The Potential Impact of Changes in Immigration Policy on U.S. Agriculture and the Market for Hired Farm Labor: A Simulation Analysis
- Farm Sector Income & Finances

New Releases and Events

October							November 2013							December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ERS Around the Web

- Link Disclaimer
- Organic acreage rebounds after recession
- Milk Consumption Has Declined a Surprising 40 Percent Since 1970

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- Our website is critical to the dissemination of our research and analysis.
- Find data, analysis, market outlook, mapping tools, background, and products to help you tell the story.

Our Newsroom

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Newsroom

Spotlight



Rural Veterans at a Glance

November 07, 2013

Veterans possess education and skill levels that position them to contribute economically to rural

communities. ERS presents a social and demographic profile of veterans residing in rural areas.

Data You Can Use

- ▶ [2013 Farm Sector Income Forecast](#)
- ▶ [Agricultural Baseline Database](#)
- ▶ [ARMS Farm Financial and Crop Production Practices](#)
- ▶ [Consumer Price Index \(CPI\)](#)
- ▶ [Food Consumption and Nutrient Intakes](#)
- ▶ [Food Access Research Atlas](#)
- ▶ [State Fact Sheets](#)

New from ERS



Assessing the Growth of U.S. Broiler and Poultry Meat Exports

The United States is the world's second largest broiler meat exporter, and exports are a valuable source of income for the industry. ERS examines factors affecting the growth in broiler meat exports, focusing on several major markets.

- Find what's new from us.
- Access to frequently used data
- Highlights of recently released products.
- Access media shortcuts to help you find what you need
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Charting the Essentials

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Ag and Food Statistics: Charting the Essentials

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[Agricultural Production and Prices](#)

[Agricultural Trade](#)

[Food Availability and Consumption](#)

[Food Prices and Spending](#)

[Food Security and Nutrition Assistance](#)

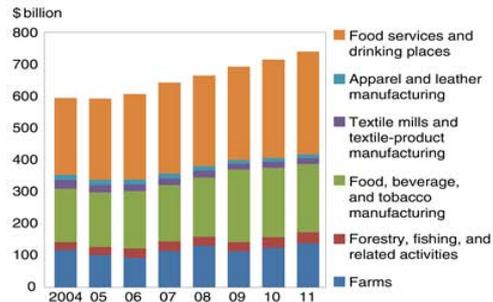
Ag and Food Statistics: Charting the Essentials

How much do you know about food and agriculture? What about rural America or conservation? ERS has assembled more than 75 charts and maps covering key information about the farm and food sectors, including agricultural markets and trade, farm income, food prices and consumption, food security, rural economies, and the interaction of agriculture and natural resources.

How much, for example, do agriculture and related industries contribute to U.S. gross domestic product? Which commodities are the leading agricultural exports? How much of the food dollar goes to farmers? How do job earnings in rural areas compare with metro areas? How much of the Nation's water is used by agriculture? These are among the statistics covered in this collection of charts and maps—with accompanying text—divided into the nine section titles listed at left.

The charts below are a sampling from the Essentials collection.

Value added to GDP by agriculture and related industries, 2004-11



What is agriculture's share of the overall U.S. economy?

Agriculture and agriculture-related industries contributed \$742.6 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2011, a 4.8-percent share. The output of America's farms contributed \$138.7 billion of this sum—just under 1 percent of GDP. The overall contribution of the agriculture sector to GDP is larger than this because sectors ...

Topics

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[Crops](#)

[Farm Economy](#)

[Farm Practices & Management](#)

[Food & Nutrition Assistance](#)

[Food Choices & Health](#)

[Food Markets & Prices](#)

- A collection of 75 charts and maps covering key information about the about the farm and food sectors,
- Topics include agricultural markets and trade, farm income, food prices and consumption, food security, rural economies, and the interaction of agriculture and natural resources.
- Each topic includes both charts or maps and text that tells the story.

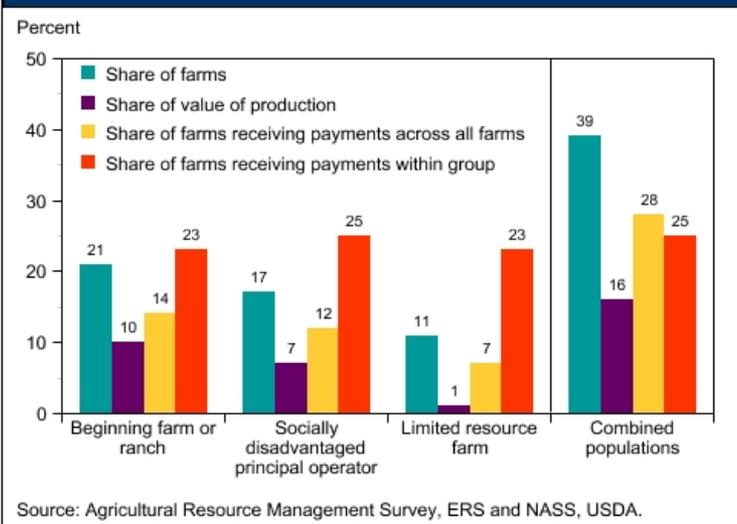
Charts of Note

Farm populations targeted by USDA programs

Thursday, May 17, 2012

The 2008 Farm Act established or modified several USDA farm programs to increase the participation of beginning farmers or ranchers, women and minority principal operators (so-called socially disadvantaged farmers), and limited-resource farmers (based on their low farm sales and household income). In 2010, 39 percent of all family farms were classified as one or more of these targeted farm groups. They are less likely to participate in government farm payment programs than other farm households (25 compared to 42 percent) and they receive a small share (28 percent) of the total payments relative to their numbers (39 percent of all family farms). However, the share of payments they receive is on par with their share of the total value of agricultural products they produce (17 compared to 16 percent). This chart appears in *Beginning Farmers, Demographics, and Labor Allocations*, part of the Farm Household Economics and Well-Being briefing room on the ERS website, updated November 2011.

Farm populations targeted by USDA farm programs, 2010



- *Charts of Note* is distributed daily by ERS to highlight charts of interest from our current and past research.
- Subscribers may receive daily charts by email or a collection of all charts can be viewed on the website.
- Each chart is accompanied by a short summary and a link to the underlying publication or data product.

Data

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Data Products

Commodity Outlook

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-  **Agricultural Baseline Database**
The agricultural baseline database provides longrun, 10-year projections from USDA's annual long-term projections report. The database covers projections for major field crops (corn, sorghum, barley, oats, wheat, rice, soybeans, and upland cotton), and livestock (beef, pork, poultry and eggs, an...
-  **Agricultural Exchange Rate Data Set**
Contains annual and monthly data for exchange rates important to U.S. agriculture. It includes both nominal and real exchange rates for 80 countries (plus the European Union) as well as real trade-weighted exchange rate indexes for many commodities and aggregations.
-  **Aquaculture Data**
Statistics on domestically grown catfish and trout and U.S. imports and exports of fish and shellfish that may be products of aquaculture, such as salmon, shrimp, and oysters.
-  **China Agricultural and Economic Data**
The China agricultural and economic database is a collection of agricultural-related data from official statistical publications of the People's Republic of China. Analysts and policy professionals around the world need information about the rapidly changing Chinese economy, but statistics are o...

- Facts and figures on over 80 topics
- Searchable by keyword
- Download the data or use an online App to explore the facts and figures.

Amber Waves - our online magazine

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Amber Waves online magazine. At the top left is the USDA Economic Research Service logo, with the text "United States Department of Agriculture". A navigation bar includes "Topics", "Data", "Publications", "Newsroom", and "Calendar". On the right, there are links for "About ERS", "Careers", "FAQs", and "Contact Us", along with a search bar and "Site Map", "A-Z Index", "Advanced Search", and "Search Tips". A "Stay Connected" section features social media icons for Twitter, RSS, Email, Facebook, and YouTube. The main content area features a large image of yellow corn cobs with the headline "U.S. Exports Surge as China Supports Agricultural Prices". Below this is a row of smaller images showing various agricultural products. The "Amber Waves" logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the tagline "The Economics of Food, Farming, Natural Resources, and Rural America". A search bar is located below the logo. On the left side, there is a section titled "Features, Findings, & Statistics" with a sub-section for "International Markets & Trade" featuring the same headline as the main image. The text below the headline discusses Chinese support for agriculture and its impact on U.S. exports. The date "October 24, 2013" and author "Fred Gale" are listed, along with a "Read More" link. On the right side, there is a "Topics" section with a list of categories: Animal Products, Crops, Farm Economy, Farm Practices & Management, Food & Nutrition Assistance, and Food Choices & Health.

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Amber Waves

The Economics of Food, Farming, Natural Resources, and Rural America

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- Crops
- Farm Economy
- Farm Practices & Management
- Food & Nutrition Assistance
- Food Choices & Health

Features, Findings, & Statistics

Feature: International Markets & Trade

U.S. Exports Surge as China Supports Agricultural Prices

As Chinese officials expanded support for agriculture, they began to rely on raising price supports to maintain net returns to farmers. China became the largest market for U.S. agricultural exports as its rising prices eroded the relative competitiveness of Chinese commodities.

October 24, 2013 | by Fred Gale

[Read More »](#)

- *Amber Waves* uses lay language and it covers the full range of our research and analysis, including articles on food, agriculture, rural America, and the environment.
- New content is published monthly: features, findings, and statistics.
- Available as a tablet app on iTunes and Google Play with app-exclusive Infographics.

Market Outlook Information



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Commodity Outlook

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- Fruit and Tree Nuts
 - [Current](#) | [All](#)
- Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry
 - [Current](#) | [All](#)
- Oil Crops
 - [Current](#) | [All](#)
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- Sugar and Sweeteners
 - [Current](#) | [All](#)
- Vegetables and Pulses
 - [Current](#) | [All](#)
- Wheat
 - [Current](#) | [All](#)

Related Data

- › [Commodity Costs and Returns](#)
- › [Milk Cost of Production Estimates](#)
- › [Agricultural Baseline Database](#)
- › [Agricultural Exchange Rate Data Set](#)
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- › [Assessing the Growth of U.S. Broiler and Poultry Meat Exports](#)
- › [Oil Crops Outlook: September 2013](#)
- › [Wheat Outlook: September 2013](#)
- › [Rice Outlook: September 2013](#)
- › [Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade: August 2013](#)

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[Bioenergy](#)

[Crops](#)

[Countries & Regions](#)

[Farm & Commodity Policy](#)

[Farm Sector Income & Finances](#)

[International Markets & Trade](#)

[Food Prices, Expenditures & Costs](#)

[Macroeconomics & Agriculture](#)

[U.S. Agricultural Trade](#)

- Timely information on 9 specific commodities
- Farm income forecasts
- Food price inflation forecasts
- “Baseline” projections

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1,215 publications, sorted by date

[Assessing the Growth of U.S. Broiler and Poultry Meat Exports](#)

LDPM-231-01, November 08, 2013

The United States is the world's second largest broiler meat exporter (after Brazil), and exports have become a valuable source of income for the U.S. broiler industry. This study examines the growth in broiler meat exports focusing on several major markets.

[Rural Veterans at a Glance](#)

EB-25, November 07, 2013

Nearly 4 million veterans reside in rural (nonmetropolitan) America. They are a rapidly aging and increasingly diverse group of men and women who still comprise over 10 percent of rural adults despite consistently declining numbers.

[Rural America at a Glance, 2013 Edition](#)

EB-24, November 07, 2013

Rural America at a Glance, 2013 Edition highlights the most recent indicators of social and economic conditions in rural areas. This year's edition focuses on the U.S. rural economy, including employment trends, poverty, and population trends.

[Participation in SNAP and Unemployment Insurance: How Tight Are the Strands of the Recessionary Safety Net?](#)

ERR-157, November 07, 2013

This report estimates households' participation in the SNAP and Unemployment Insurance programs, as well as households that participate in both programs, during a recession. It also analyzes these households by income relative to poverty, race/ethnicity, and education level.

- In-depth analysis of specific issues or topics
- Intended for informed policy officials and lay audience
- Help explain the “why” behind our research findings, data, and market analysis

In conclusion....

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 - USDA press office (202) 720-4623
 - Steve Crutchfield (scrutch@ers.usda.gov), (202) 694-5406