

FARM NUMBERS

The New England farm count for 2007 totaled 27,850 farms, a loss of 100 farms from a year earlier. Of the total farm count, 66 percent, or 18,440 farms had less than \$10,000 in sales in 2007. Land in farms in the six-state region, at 3.97 million acres, decreased 20,000 acres from 2006. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses. In New England, these reductions occurred in the state of Vermont; farm and farmland totals remained unchanged in the other five states. Maine accounted for the most land in farms in New England in 2007 with 1.36 million acres, followed by Vermont with 1.22 million acres.

The average size of a farm in New England was 143 acres in 2007, ranging from 71 acres per farm in the highly populated state of Rhode Island to 197 acres per farm in the dairy state of Vermont.

The definition of a farm has remained the same since 1974: any place which produced and sold, or normally would have produced and sold, \$1,000 worth of agricultural products during the year. Activities included as agriculture, however, have undergone modifications in recent years. In the years since 1997, commodities are defined as agriculture based on the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as jointly developed by the United States Office of Management and Budget, Statistics Canada, and the Mexican Institute of National Statistics. Land in farms includes crop and livestock acreage, wasteland, woodland, pasture, land in summer fallow, idle cropland, land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program and other set aside or commodity acreage programs. It excludes public, industrial, and grazing association land and nonagricultural land. For further details concerning the farm definition history, please access the NASS website www.nass.usda.gov.

**FARMS: Number, Size and Land in Farms, 1998 - 2007
and Value per Acre January 1, 1998 - 2007**

State and Year	Farms ¹	Average Size of Farm	Land In Farms	Farm Real Estate Value per Acre January 1 ²	Cropland Value per Acre January 1 ³	Pasture Value per Acre January 1 ⁴
	Number	Acres	1,000 Acres		Dollars	
Connecticut						
1998	4,300	88	380	5,950	—	—
1999	4,250	87	370	6,500	—	—
2000	4,200	86	360	7,050	—	—
2001	4,200	86	360	7,700	—	—
2002	4,200	86	360	8,500	—	—
2003	4,200	86	360	9,500	—	—
2004	4,200	86	360	10,200	—	—
2005	4,200	86	360	10,800	—	—
2006	4,200	86	360	11,400	—	—
2007	4,200	86	360	11,700	—	—
Maine						
1998	7,100	182	1,290	1,190	—	—
1999	7,100	186	1,320	1,300	—	—
2000	7,100	190	1,350	1,400	—	—
2001	7,150	189	1,350	1,500	—	—
2002	7,200	190	1,370	1,600	—	—
2003	7,200	190	1,370	1,750	—	—
2004	7,200	190	1,370	1,850	—	—
2005	7,100	193	1,370	1,950	—	—
2006	7,100	192	1,360	2,050	—	—
2007	7,100	192	1,360	2,150	—	—
Massachusetts						
1998	6,000	90	540	5,210	—	—
1999	6,100	89	540	5,800	—	—
2000	6,100	89	540	6,500	—	—
2001	6,100	85	520	7,300	—	—
2002	6,100	85	520	8,100	—	—
2003	6,100	85	520	9,300	—	—
2004	6,100	85	520	9,900	—	—
2005	6,100	85	520	10,500	—	—
2006	6,100	85	520	11,600	—	—
2007	6,100	85	520	11,800	—	—

¹ Any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year. Commodities are defined as agriculture based on the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

² Average farm real estate value of land and buildings.

³ Average cropland value is only available for the six New England states, combined.

⁴ Average pasture value is only available for the six New England states and Delaware, combined.

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	Number	Acres	1,000 Acres	Dollars		
New Hampshire						
1998	3,200	134	430	2,250	—	—
1999	3,300	133	440	2,300	—	—
2000	3,300	133	440	2,400	—	—
2001	3,300	133	440	2,550	—	—
2002	3,400	132	450	2,800	—	—
2003	3,400	132	450	3,100	—	—
2004	3,400	132	450	3,250	—	—
2005	3,400	132	450	3,450	—	—
2006	3,400	132	450	3,700	—	—
2007	3,400	132	450	4,000	—	—
Rhode Island						
1998	800	75	60	6,500	—	—
1999	800	75	60	6,900	—	—
2000	800	75	60	7,300	—	—
2001	830	72	60	7,700	—	—
2002	850	71	60	8,300	—	—
2003	850	71	60	9,300	—	—
2004	850	71	60	10,200	—	—
2005	850	71	60	11,200	—	—
2006	850	71	60	12,500	—	—
2007	850	71	60	12,500	—	—
Vermont						
1998	6,700	197	1,320	1,520	—	—
1999	6,700	194	1,300	1,600	—	—
2000	6,600	192	1,270	1,700	—	—
2001	6,600	192	1,270	1,800	—	—
2002	6,600	191	1,260	1,900	—	—
2003	6,500	192	1,250	2,050	—	—
2004	6,400	195	1,250	2,150	—	—
2005	6,300	198	1,250	2,300	—	—
2006	6,300	197	1,240	2,450	—	—
2007	6,200	197	1,220	2,700	—	—
New England						
1998	28,100	143	4,020	2,481	4,290	3,900
1999	28,250	143	4,030	2,670	2,840	2,630
2000	28,100	143	4,020	2,883	3,240	3,000
2001	28,180	142	4,000	3,116	3,510	3,230
2002	28,350	142	4,020	3,387	5,240	3,590
2003	28,250	142	4,010	3,783	5,920	3,880
2004	28,150	142	4,010	4,019	6,230	4,140
2005	27,950	143	4,010	4,269	6,610	4,480
2006	27,950	143	3,990	4,606	7,090	4,960
2007	27,850	143	3,970	4,815	7,260	6,380

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