

Table 825. Farm Operators—Tenure and Characteristics: 2002 and 2007

[In thousands, except as indicated (3,054 represents 3,054,000). An "operator" is a person who operates a farm, either doing the work or making day-to-day decisions. A family operation may have more than one operator. A principal operator is the person primarily responsible for the on-site, day-to-day operation of the farm or ranch business. Data on operator characteristics were collected up to a maximum of three operators per farm, though operators were asked to report the total number of operators. Data have been adjusted for coverage; see text, this section and Appendix III]

Tenure and characteristic	Total operators, 2002	2007		
		Total operators	Principal operators	Other operators
Total operators	3,054	3,282	2,205	1,077
White alone	2,966	3,141	2,114	1,026
Black or African American alone	36	40	31	9
American Indian or Alaska Native alone	24	56	35	21
Asian alone	13	18	11	7
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander alone	2	2	1	1
More than one race reported	12	25	13	12
Operators of Hispanic origin ¹	72	82	56	27
Female	822	985	306	679
Under 25 years old	60	54	12	42
25 to 34 years old	201	209	107	103
35 to 44 years old	590	469	269	200
45 to 54 years old	838	878	565	312
55 to 64 years old	690	848	596	252
65 to 74 years old	439	533	412	121
75 years old and over	236	290	243	47
Average age (years)	53.2	54.9	57.1	(NA)
Full owner	(NA)	(NA)	1,522	(NA)
Part owner	(NA)	(NA)	542	(NA)
Tenant	(NA)	(NA)	141	(NA)
Principal occupation:				
Farming	1,658	1,400	994	406
Other	1,396	1,882	1,211	671
Place of residence:				
On farm operated	2,391	2,492	1,693	799
Not on farm operated	662	789	511	278
Years on present farm:				
2 years or less	143	163	85	78
3 to 4 years	251	240	139	101
5 to 9 years	587	593	360	233
10 years or more	2,073	2,286	1,622	664
Average years on present farm	(NA)	(NA)	22	(NA)
Days worked off farm:				
None	1,354	1,118	778	340
1 to 49 days	183	364	238	125
50 to 99 days	102	181	116	65
100 to 199 days	224	305	197	108
200 days or more	1,190	1,314	876	438

NA Not available. ¹ Operators of Hispanic origin may be any race.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *2007 Census of Agriculture*, Vol. 1. See also <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Full_Report/index.asp>.

Table 826. Farm Type, Acreage, and Production: 2000 to 2008

[[2,166 represents 2,166,000]. Based on Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) Phase III]

Type of farm	Unit	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total farms										
Number of farms	1,000	2,166	2,149	2,152	2,121	2,108	2,095	2,083	2,197	2,192
Total value of production	Mil dol.	177,286	193,390	182,461	186,644	225,698	215,295	226,045	289,530	310,407
Total acres operated	Mil.	995	979	955	912	990	916	893	878	894
Acres operated per farm	Acres	459	455	444	430	470	437	429	400	408
Commercial farms ¹										
Number of farms	1,000	178	202	188	188	205	216	219	257	272
Total value of production	Mil dol.	121,202	138,799	126,242	134,627	170,130	166,566	178,104	241,728	258,972
Total acres operated	Mil.	392	417	347	341	429	418	382	424	429
Acres operated per farm	Acres	2,205	2,068	1,843	1,815	2,096	1,939	1,747	1,650	1,580
Intermediate farms ²										
Number of farms	1,000	668	710	649	607	624	550	566	546	583
Total value of production	Mil dol.	41,813	42,843	41,981	37,894	38,438	33,872	32,533	30,933	34,158
Total acres operated	Mil.	392	376	384	349	342	307	318	237	253
Acres operated per farm	Acres	587	529	591	576	547	558	561	434	434
Rural residence farms ³										
Number of farms	1,000	1,320	1,238	1,315	1,326	1,279	1,329	1,298	1,394	1,338
Total value of production	Mil dol.	14,272	11,747	14,238	14,124	17,130	14,856	15,408	16,869	17,277
Total acres operated	Mil.	211	186	224	221	219	191	193	217	212
Acres operated per farm	Acres	160	150	170	167	172	144	149	156	158

¹ Includes farms with sales of \$250,000 or more. ² Small family farms whose operators report farming as their major occupation. ³ Includes retirement and residential farms.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, ARMS Phase III—"Structural Characteristics Report," <<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/ARMS/beta.htm>>.