

NEW YORK FARM CHARACTERISTICS**	1997	2002	2007
Approximate total land area (acres)	30,196,361	30,216,824	30,162,489
Total farmland (acres)	7,788,241	7,660,969	7,174,743
Percent of total land area	25.8	25.4	23.8
Cropland (acres)	4,961,538	4,841,367	4,314,954
Woodland (acres)	1,655,185	1,649,585	1,559,522
Pastureland (acres)	520,150	550,225	714,615
Land in house lots, ponds, roads, etc.	651,368	619,792	585,652
Average farm size (acres)	204	206	197
Farms by size (percent)			
1 to 99 acres	45.9	47.9	51.2
100 to 499 acres	45.1	42.8	40.4
500 to 999 acres	6.7	6.6	5.5
1000 to 1,999 acres	1.9	2.2	2.1
2,000 or more acres	0.4	0.6	0.8
Farms by sales (percent)**			
Less than \$9,999	51.6	55.9	54.6
\$10,000 to \$49,999	20.7	18.5	20.4
\$50,000 to \$99,999	9.1	8.2	6.2
\$100,000 to \$499,999	15.9	14.4	14.0
More than \$500,000	2.6	2.9	4.8
Farm organization			
Individuals/family, sole proprietorship	32,813	32,654	30,621
Percent of total	85.8	87.6	84.2
Family-held corporations (farms)	1,593	1,388	1,885
Percent of total	4.2	3.7	5.2
Partnerships (farms)	3,465	2,846	3,347
Percent of total	9.1	7.6	9.2
Non-family corporations farms	178	193	225
Percent of total	0.5	0.5	0.6
Other farms - cooperative, estate or trust, etc.	215	174	274
Percent of total	0.6	0.5	0.8
Characteristics of principal farm operators			
Average operator age (years)	52.9	54.1	56.2
% with farming as the primary occupation	53.9	60.8	54.0
Men	33,795	31,583	29,664
Women	4,469	5,672	6,688

Agriculture is important to New York State. Agricultural production returned over \$3.6 billion to the farm economy in 2005. About 25 percent of the state's land area, or 7.55 million acres, are used by the 35,600 farms to produce a very diverse array of food products.

**NOTE: For this compilation a farm is any place that produces &/or sells \$1,000 or more of ag products during the previous year. This enlarges the number of enterprises included and may skew some of the results. I.e.: an individual may raise and sell one heifer for \$1,200 and be included, plus the many part-time farmers who meet this minimum criterion are also included. Information gleaned from NASS.

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