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Tools for Community Self-determination

Central Illinois Local Farm & Food Economy

Highlights of a data compilation

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for

Edible Economy Project (Illinois)

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Covers Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Ford, Fulton, Iroquois, Knox, Livingston, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Marshall, Mason, McLean, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Moultrie, Peoria, Piatt, Sangamon, Shelby, Stark, Tazewell, Vermillion, & Woodford Counties in Illinois.

Central Illinois (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2009)

1,695,767 residents receive \$62 billion of income annually. Personal income increased 75% from 1969 – 2009, after dollars were adjusted for inflation. The largest source of personal income is transfer payments (from government programs such as pensions), which account for \$12 billion of personal income [see below]. Capital income (from interest, rent or dividends) brings in \$10 billion of personal income. Government jobs rank third, with \$9 billion [see below]. Manufacturing jobs produce \$6 billion of personal income.

Income earned from transfer payments includes \$4.4 billion of retirement and disability insurance benefits; \$4.3 billion of medical benefits; \$1.0 billion of income maintenance benefits; \$864 million of unemployment insurance; and \$213 million of veteran's benefits.

Government income includes \$871 million of income earned by federal workers and \$8 billion by state and local government workers. Military personnel earned \$180 million of personal income.

Although population has increased 4% since 1969, there has been only limited public planning to assure a secure and stable food supply.

¹ Nick Wojciak compiled Census of Agriculture data for this report.

Issues affecting low-income residents of Central Illinois:

Over 449,000 residents (28%) earn less than 185% of federal poverty guidelines. At this level of income, children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch at school. These lower-income residents spend \$908 million each year buying food, including \$170 million (23-year average, 1987-2009), of SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps) and additional millions of WIC coupons. The region's 26,537 farmers receive an annual combined total of \$538 million in subsidies (23-year average, 1987-2008), mostly to raise crops such as corn or soybeans that are sold as commodities, not to feed Central Illinois residents. *Data from Federal Census of 2000, Bureau of Labor Statistics, & Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

8% percent of the region's households (over 141,000 residents) earn less than \$10,000 per year. *Source: Federal Census of 2000.*

16% of all adults aged 18-64 in Illinois carry no health insurance. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

Food-related health conditions:

22% of state residents reported in 2009 that they eat five or more servings of fruit or vegetables each day. 78% do not. This is a key indicator of health, since proper fruit and vegetable consumption has been connected to better health outcomes. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

52% of Illinois adults report they have at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week, or vigorous physical activity for 20 or more minutes three or more days per week. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

8% of Illinois residents have been diagnosed with diabetes. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

Medical costs for treating diabetes and related conditions in Central Illinois are estimated at \$980 million per year. Costs for the state of Illinois as a whole total \$7.4 billion. *Source: American Diabetes Association cost calculator.*

64% of Illinois residents are overweight (37%) or obese (27%). *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

The region's farms (Agricultural Census, 2007)

Agriculture Census data for 2007 were released February 4, 2009

The Census of Agriculture defines a “farm” as “an operation that produces, or would normally produce and sell, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products per year.”

Land:

- Central Illinois has 26,537 farms. This is 35% of Illinois farms.
- The Central Illinois region had 5% more farms in 2007 than in 2002. Some of this increase may be due to better reporting of small farms.
- 3,399 (13%) of these are 1,000 acres or more in size.
- 9,451 (36%) farms are less than 50 acres.
- Average farm size is 407 acres, larger than the state average of 348 acres.
- The region has 10,790,605 acres of land in farms.
- This amounts to 40% of the state’s farmland.
- Central Illinois region holds 9,600,950 acres of harvested cropland.
- 190,713 of these acres are irrigated. *Note that data for irrigated land in DeWitt, Douglas, and Knox counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- Average value of land and buildings per farm was \$1.6 million. This was larger than the state average of \$1.3 million.

Sales:

With the exception of foods sold directly to consumers (see below), farmers typically sell commodities to wholesalers, brokers or manufacturers that require further processing or handling to become consumer items. The word “commodities” is used in this report to mean the crops and livestock sold by farmers through these wholesale channels. The term “products” encompasses commodity sales, direct sales, and any other sales.

- The region’s farmers sold \$5.6 billion of crops and livestock in 2007.
- Farm product sales increased by 76% from 2002 to 2007.
- \$4.9 billion of crops were sold (88% of sales).
- \$687 million of livestock and products were sold (12% of sales).
- 10,506 (40%) of the region’s farms sold less than \$10,000 of products in 2007.
- Total sales from these smaller farms were \$18.4 million, 0.3% of the region’s farm product sales.
- 9,790 (37%) of the region’s farms sold more than \$100,000 of products.
- Total sales from these larger farms were \$5.3 billion, 95% of the region’s farm product sales.
- 27% of the region’s farms (7,218 of 26,527) reported net losses in 2007. This is less than the Illinois average of 32%.
- 20,655 (78%) of Central Illinois region farmers collected a combined total of \$193 million of federal subsidies in 2007.

Top farm products of Central Illinois (2007) *Note: **denotes sales data has been suppressed.*

Product	\$ millions
Corn	3,404
Soybeans	1,413
Hogs & pigs**	322
Cattle**	180

Production Expenses:

- Fertilizers and lime were the largest single expense for Central Illinois region farmers in 2007, totaling \$629 million (18% of production expenses).
- Land and building rental and grazing fees ranked as the second most important expense, at 495 million (14%).
- Purchases of seeds totaled \$418 million (12%).
- Farmers charged \$362 million to depreciation (11%).
- Pesticide purchases totaled \$310 million (9%).
- Supplies, repairs, and maintenance cost farmers \$217 million (6%).
- Gasoline, fuels, and oil costs totaled \$214 million (6%).
- Feed purchases totaled \$212 million (6%).

Grains, oil seeds, and edible beans:

- 17,178 farms sold \$4.9 billion of grains, oil seeds, and edible beans.
- This includes 15,935 farms selling 1 billion bushels of corn worth \$3.4 billion from 5 million acres.
- The average price per bushel of corn was \$3.40.
- 14,098 farms sold 172 million bushels of soybeans worth \$1.4 billion from 3.4 million acres.
- The average price per bushel of soybeans was \$8.10.
- The total value of corn and soybeans amounted to 85% of all farm product sales in 2007.

Cattle & Dairy:

- 5,491 farms hold an inventory of 318,154 cattle.
- 214,670 cattle were sold in 2007 for total sales of at least \$180 million. *Note that data for cattle sales in Edgar, Mason, and Woodford counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 4,452 farms raise beef cows.
- 296 farms raise milk cows.
- 541 farms produced at least 285,256 tons of corn for silage on at least 16,005 acres. *Note that data for tons of corn for silage in Cass and Mason counties and acres for corn for silage in Mason County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 5,529 farms produced 390,577 tons of forage crops (hay, etc.) on 125,052 acres.
- 2,686 farms sold forage crops in 2007.

Other livestock & animal products:

- 996 farms hold an inventory of 1,433,414 hogs and pigs.
- 1,076 farms sold at least 3.9 million hogs and pigs in 2007, worth \$322 million. *Note that data for number of hogs and pigs raised in DeWitt and Edgar counties, and data for sales of hogs and pigs in Edgar, Iroquois, and Peoria counties, were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 637 farms hold an inventory of at least 15,435 sheep and lambs. *Note that data for number of sheep and lambs in Mason and Stark counties, and data for sheep and lambs sold in Mason and Stark counties, were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*

- 894 farms sold at least \$1.8 million worth of sheep, goats, and lambs in 2007. *Note that data for sales of sheep, goats, and their products in Livingston and Tazewell counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 875 farms hold an inventory of at least 33,262 laying hens. *Note that data for laying hen inventory in Iroquois and Woodford counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 115 farms raise broiler chickens.
- 1,076 farms raise horses and ponies.
- 17 farms engage in aquaculture.

Vegetables & Melons (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent vegetable production):

- 408 farms worked at least 19,636 acres to produce vegetables. *Note that data for acres producing vegetables in DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Logan, and Shelby counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- This represents a 27% increase in the number of farms (from 322) over 2002 levels.
- Statewide sales in vegetables totaled \$104 million.
- 82 farms raised least 21 acres of potatoes. *Note that data for acres of potatoes grown in DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Logan, and Shelby were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*

Fruits (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent fruit production):

- The region has 214 farms in the region with more than 834 acres of orchards. *Note that data for acres of orchards in Cass, Coles, Cumberland, Knox, Livingston, Mason, Piatt, Shelby counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*

Nursery and Greenhouse plants:

- 241 farms sold ornamentals in 2007.
- 65 farms raise Christmas trees.

Direct and organic sales:

- 972 farms sell at least \$5.9 million directly to consumers. This is a 28% increase in the number of farms (761 in 2002) selling direct over 2002 and a 74% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$3.4 million. *Note that data for direct sales to consumers in 2007 for Ford County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete. Data for direct product sales in Marshall County for 2002 were also suppressed, so this total is also incomplete.*
- This amounts to 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.
- Woodford County appears leads the region in direct sales, with \$650,000.
- 99 farms in the region sold organic foods. *Sales totals are incomplete due to data suppression by USDA.*
- For comparison, 271 farms in Illinois sold \$8.3 million of organic food products.
- 121 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 600 farms produce and sell value-added products.

Conservation practices:

- 11,948 farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 2,020 farms practice rotational or management intensive grazing.
- 153 farms generated energy or electricity on the farm.

County and State Highlights

Cass County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 433 farms, 1% more than in 2002.
- Cass County has 173,543 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$92 million of products in 2007.
- \$66 million (71%) of these sales were crops.
- \$26 million (29%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 124 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50-179 acres, with 114 farms (26%) in this category.
- 50 farms (12%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 144 farms (33%) are less than 50 acres.
- 211 farms (49%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 137 farms (32%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 15 farms sold \$26,000 of food directly to consumers. There was no change in the number of farms selling directly to consumers over 2002, and a 74% decrease from 2002 direct sales of \$101,000.
- Direct sales were 0.03% of farm product sales, far less than the national average of 0.4%.

Champaign County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,389 farms, 8% more than in 2002.
- Champaign County has 550,481 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$311 million of products in 2007.
- \$299 million (96%) of these sales were crops.
- \$12 million (4%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 291 farms (21%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 276 (20%) farms.
- 172 farms (12%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 446 farms (32%) are less than 50 acres.
- 378 farms (27%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 602 farms (43%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 38 farms sold \$454,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 12% increase in the number of farms (34 in 2002) selling direct and a 66% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$274,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Champaign County ranks 4th in Illinois for crop sales.
- The county ranks 4th in Illinois and 10th in the United States for acreage of soybeans, with 208,374.
- Champaign County ranks 5th in the state for sales of farm products.

- The county ranks 5th in both Illinois, and the United States, in sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$291 million.
- Champaign County ranks 6th in Illinois, and 8th in the United States, in acreage of corn for grain, with 310,133.
- The county ranks 7th in Illinois for sales of sheep, goats, and their products, with \$183,000.

Christian County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 910 farms, 14% more than in 2002.
- Christian County has 449,512 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$229 million of products in 2007.
- \$216 million (94%) of these sales were crops.
- \$13 million (6%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 207 farms (23%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179, with 180 (20%) farms.
- 149 farms (16%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 311 farms (34%) are less than 50 acres.
- 331 farms (36%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 371 farms (41%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 38 farms sold \$146,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 65% increase in the number of farms (23 in 2002) selling direct and a 156% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$57,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- The county ranks 8th in Illinois for sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$215 million.
- The county ranks 8th in Illinois for acreage of oats for grain, with 846.
- Christian County ranks 9th in Illinois for crop sales.
- Christian County ranks 9th in Illinois for acreage of soybeans, with 144,773.

Clark County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 588 farms, 1% more than in 2002.
- Clark County has 238,706 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$103 million of products in 2007.
- \$87 million (84%) of these sales were crops.
- \$16 million (16%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 183 farms (31%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 134 (23%) farms.
- 78 farms (13%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 228 farms (39%) are less than 50 acres.
- 303 farms (52%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 163 farms (28%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 13 farms sold \$30,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 7% decrease in the number of farms (14 in 2002) selling direct and a 23% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$39,000.
- Direct sales were 0.03% of farm product sales, far less than the national average of 0.4%.

Coles County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 729 farms, 7% more than in 2002.
- Coles County has 254,869 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$124 million of products in 2007.
- \$119 million (96%) of these sales were crops.
- \$5 million (4%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 - 49 acres with 214 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres with 169 (23%) farms.
- 73 farms (10%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 299 farms (41%) are less than 50 acres.
- 328 farms (45%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 229 farms (31%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 29 farms sold \$94,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 4% increase in the number of farms (17 in 2002) selling direct and a 77% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$53,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Coles County ranks 5th in the state for inventory of broilers, with 2,918.

Cumberland County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 654 farms, 12% more than in 2002.
- Cumberland County has 144,981 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$72 million of products in 2007.
- \$51 million (70%) of these sales were crops.
- \$21 million (30%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 251 farms (38%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 168 (26%) farms.
- 29 farms (4%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 303 farms (46%) are less than 50 acres.
- 367 farms (56%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 148 farms (23%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 18 farms sold \$98,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 6% increase in the number of farms (17 in 2002) selling direct and a 44% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$174,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.

DeWitt County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 508 farms, 11% more than in 2002.
- DeWitt County has 198,680 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$96 million of products in 2007.
- \$89 million (93%) of these sales were crops.
- \$7 million (7%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 144 farms (28%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 180-499 acres, with 86 (17%) farms.
- 58 farms (11%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 205 farms (40%) are less than 50 acres.

- 208 farms (41%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 191 farms (38%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 24 farms sold \$168,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 100% increase in the number of farms (12 in 2002) selling direct and a 394% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$34,000.
- Direct sales were 0.01% of farm product sales, far less than the national average of 0.4%.
- DeWitt County has the 8th largest inventory of broilers in Illinois, with 745.

Douglas County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 657 farms, 14% more than in 2002.
- Douglas County has 261,513 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$134 million of products in 2007.
- \$127 million (95%) of these sales were crops.
- \$7 million (5%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 172 farms (26%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 160 (24%) farms.
- 88 farms (13%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 272 farms (41%) are less than 50 acres.
- 267 farms (41%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 224 farms (34%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 30 farms sold \$161,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 30% increase in the number of farms (23 in 2002) selling direct and a 42% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$279,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Douglas County ranks second in Illinois for inventory of broilers, with 27,745.
- The county ranks 8th in Illinois for inventory of horses, with 1,770.
- Douglas County has the 9th largest acreage of oats for grain in Illinois, with 782.

Edgar County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 670 farms, three more than in 2002.
- Edgar County has 352,535 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$190 million of products in 2007.
- \$168 million (88%) of these sales were crops.
- \$22 million (12%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 171 farms (26%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 146 (22%) farms.
- 126 farms (19%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 193 farms (29%) are less than 50 acres.
- 219 farms (33%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 269 farms (40%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 24 farms sold \$129,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 100% increase in the number of farms (12 in 2002) selling direct and a 545% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$20,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.

- Edgar County has the 5th largest inventory of turkeys in Illinois, but *inventory figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*

Ford County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 524 farms, 1% less than in 2002.
- Ford County has 270,720 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$146 million of products in 2007.
- \$129 million (88%) of these sales were crops.
- \$17 million (12%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 180-499 acres, with 110 farms (21%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 500-999 acres, with 99 (19%) farms.
- 79 farms (15%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 138 farms (26%) are less than 50 acres.
- 136 farms (26%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 258 farms (49%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 15 farms sold food directly to consumers. This is a 114% increase in the number of farms (7 in 2002) selling direct. 2002 direct sales were \$12,000. *Note that direct sales figures for 2007 for Ford County were not released by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*

Fulton County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,005 farms, 5% less than in 2002.
- Fulton County has 385,302 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$146 million of products in 2007.
- \$124 million (85%) of these sales were crops.
- \$22 million (15%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 289 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 180-499 acres, with 197 (20%) farms.
- 122 farms (12%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 302 farms (30%) are less than 50 acres.
- 468 farms (47%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 262 farms (26%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 40 farms sold \$136,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 48% increase in the number of farms (27 in 2002) selling direct and a 28% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$106,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.

Iroquois County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,471 farms, 6% more than in 2002.
- Iroquois County has 677,803 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$418 million of products in 2007.
- \$332 million (79%) of these sales were crops.
- \$86 million (21%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 180-499 acres, with 317 farms (22%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 310 (21%) farms.

- 211 farms (14%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 411 farms (28%) are less than 50 acres.
- 439 farms (30%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 674 farms (46%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 31 farms sold \$92,000 of food directly to consumers. This is an 18% decrease in the number of farms (38 in 2002) selling direct and an 8% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$85,000.
- Direct sales were 0.02% of farm product sales, far less than the national average of 0.4%.
- Iroquois County ranks 1st in Illinois for sales of agricultural products.
- The county ranks 1st in the Illinois for crop sales.
- Iroquois county ranks 1st in the state for sales of poultry and eggs, but *sales figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality*.
- The county ranks 1st in the state for laying hen inventory, but *inventory figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality*.
- Iroquois County ranks 2nd in the state and 2nd in the United States for sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$322 million.
- The county ranks 3rd in Illinois and 3rd in the United States for acreage of corn for grain, with 392,462.
- Iroquois County ranks 3rd in Illinois and 8th in the United States for acreage of soybeans, with 220,956.
- The county ranks 4th in Illinois for inventory of pullets for laying flock replacement, but *inventory figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality*.
- Iroquois County ranks 5th in the state for livestock sales.
- The county ranks 8th in Illinois for acreage of vegetables, but *acreage figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality*.
- Iroquois County ranks 9th in the state for sales of horses, with \$495,000.
- The county ranks 9th in the state for inventory of pheasants, with 3,010.

Knox County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 904 farms, 2% less than in 2002.
- Knox County has 362,951 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$199 million of products in 2007.
- \$147 million (74%) of these sales were crops.
- \$52 million (26%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 241 farms (27%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 219 (24%) farms.
- 115 farms (13%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 332 farms (37%) are less than 50 acres.
- 434 farms (48%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 276 farms (31%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 25 farms sold \$35,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a slight decrease in the number of farms (26 in 2002) selling direct and a 35% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$54,000.
- Direct sales were 0.02% of farm product sales, far less than the national average of 0.4%.
- The county ranks 6th in the state for inventory of hogs and pigs, with 134,624.
- Knox County ranks 7th in the Illinois for sales of hogs and pigs, with \$33 million.

Livingston County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,319 farms, 1% less than in 2002.
- Livingston County has 628,502 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$351 million of products in 2007.
- \$298 million (85%) of these sales were crops.
- \$53 million (15%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 180-499 acres, with 290 farms (22%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 500-999 acres, with 255 (19%) farms.
- 179 farms (14%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 361 farms (27%) are less than 50 acres.
- 299 farms (23%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 687 farms (52%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 48 farms sold \$146,000 of food directly to consumers. This is an 85% increase in the number of farms (26 in 2002) selling direct and an 8% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$135,000.
- Direct sales were 0.04% of farm product sales, one tenth the national average of 0.4%.
- The county ranks 1st in the state and 5th in the United States for acreage of soybeans, with 237,063.
- Livingston County ranks 3rd in Illinois for sales of farm products.
- Livingston county ranks 3rd in Illinois for hog and pig inventory, with 170,000.
- The county ranks 3rd in Illinois for inventory of pullets for laying flock replacement but *inventory figures were suppressed by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*
- Livingston County ranks 4th in Illinois and 4th in the United States for sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$296 million.
- Livingston County is ranked 4th in Illinois, and 6th in the United States for acreage of corn for grain, with 330,438.
- The county ranks 5th in the state for sales of crops.
- The county ranks 5th in the state for sales of hogs and pigs, with \$40 million.

Logan County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 710 farms, 3% more than in 2002.
- Logan County has 320,356 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$180 million of products in 2007.
- \$161 million (89%) of these sales were crops.
- \$19 million (11%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 143 farms (20%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 135 (19%) farms.
- 121 farms (17%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 226 farms (32%) are less than 50 acres.
- 256 farms (36%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 315 farms (44%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 15 farms sold \$58,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 17% decrease in the number of farms (18 in 2002) selling direct and a 9% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$53,000.
- Direct sales were 0.03% of farm product sales, far less than the national average of 0.4%.

- Logan County ranks 7th in Illinois for inventory of pheasants, but *inventory figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality*.

McLean County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,513 farms, 5% more than in 2002.
- McLean County has 675,984 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$357 million of products in 2007.
- \$328 million (90%) of these sales were crops.
- \$38 million (10%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 342 farms (23%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 271 (18%) farms.
- 236 farms (16%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 531 farms (35%) are less than 50 acres.
- 528 farms (35%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 676 farms (45%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 53 farms sold \$306,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 20% increase in the number of farms (44 in 2002) selling direct and a 149% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$123,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- McLean County is the first-ranked county in Illinois and the United States for sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$327 million.
- The county ranks 2nd in Illinois in sales of farm products.
- McLean County ranks 2nd in the state for crop sales.
- The county ranks 2nd in Illinois and 2nd in the United States for acreage of corn for grain, with 393,718 acres.
- McLean County ranks 2nd in Illinois and 6th in the United States for acreage of soybeans, with 232,002 acres.
- The county ranks 5th in Illinois for milk production, selling \$19 million.
- McLean County is the seventh-ranked county in Illinois for sheep and lamb inventory, with 1,374.
- The county ranks 8th in the state for acreage of corn for silage, with 1,611 acres.
- McLean County ranks 9th in Illinois for turkey inventory, but *inventory figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality*.

Macon County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 708 farms, 10% more than in 2002.
- Macon County has 290,603 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$157 million of products in 2007.
- \$152 million (97%) of these sales were crops.
- \$5 million (3%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 190 farms (27%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 1-9 acres, with 122 (17%) farms.
- 110 farms (16%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 312 farms (44%) are less than 50 acres.
- 291 farms (41%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.

- 264 farms (37%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 24 farms sold \$59,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 26% increase in the number of farms (19 in 2002) selling direct and a 2% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$58,000.
- Direct sales were 0.04% of farm product sales, one tenth the national average of 0.4%.
- Macon County ranks 8th in the state for sales of Christmas trees, with \$197,000.

Macoupin County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,187 farms, 2% less than in 2002.
- Macoupin County has 394,228 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$184 million of products in 2007.
- \$145 million (79%) of these sales were crops.
- \$39 million (21%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 339 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 306 (26%) farms.
- 110 farms (9%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 458 farms (39%) are less than 50 acres.
- 590 farms (50%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 318 farms (27%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 44 farms sold \$372,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 22% increase in the number of farms (36 in 2002) selling direct and a 65% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$225,000.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half the national average of 0.4%.

Marshall County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 500 farms, 10% more than in 2002.
- Marshall County has 204,584 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$100 million of products in 2007.
- \$95 million (95%) of these sales were crops.
- \$5.6 million (6%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 119 farms (24%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 180-499 acres, with 115 (23%) farms.
- 55 farms (11%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 146 farms (29%) are less than 50 acres.
- 174 farms (35%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 197 farms (39%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 7 farms sold \$276,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 34% decrease in the number of farms (11 in 2002) selling direct. *Note that 2002 direct sales figures for Marshall County were not released by the USDA to protect confidentiality.*
- Direct sales were 0.3% of farm product sales, less than the national average of 0.4%.
- Marshall County ranks 9th in Illinois for sales of fruits, tree nuts, and berries, but *sales figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*

Mason County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 447 farms, 1% more than in 2002.
- Mason County has 273,362 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$122 million of products in 2007.
- \$118 million (97%) of these sales were crops.
- \$3.8 million (3%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more, with 107 farms (24%) in this category
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 100 (22%) farms.
- 107 farms (24%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 124 farms (28%) are less than 50 acres.
- 165 farms (37%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 152 farms (34%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 17 farms sold \$126,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 21% increase in the number of farms (14 in 2002) selling direct and a 62% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$78,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Mason County ranks 1st for acreage of popcorn in Illinois and the United States, with 16,785.
- The county ranks 1st for acreage of vegetables, with 8,067.
- Mason County is the 2nd-ranked seller of vegetables in Illinois, but *sales figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*
- The county is the 6th-ranked county in Illinois for aquaculture sales, but *sales figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*

Menard County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 411 farms, 25% more than in 2002.
- Menard County has 168,594 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$81 million of products in 2007.
- \$74 million (92%) of these sales were crops.
- \$6.4 million (8%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 141 farms (34%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179, with 74 (18%) farms.
- 59 farms (14%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 188 farms (46%) are less than 50 acres.
- 224 farms (55%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 125 farms (30%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 10 farms sold \$43,000 of food directly to consumers. There was no change in the number of farms selling direct, and a 438% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$8,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.

Montgomery County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,029 farms, 3% more than in 2002.
- Montgomery County has 347,765 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$150 million of products in 2007.
- \$125 million (83%) of these sales were crops.
- \$25 million (17%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 278 farms (27%) in this category.

- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 230 (22%) farms.
- 93 farms (9%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 392 farms (38%) are less than 50 acres.
- 471 farms (46%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 320 farms (31%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 20 farms sold \$128,000 of food directly to consumers. There was no change in the number of farms selling direct in 2002 and a 31% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$98,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Montgomery County ranks 1st in Illinois for inventory of goats, with 1,013.

Morgan County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 740 farms, 9% more than in 2002.
- Morgan County has 320,512 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$149 million of products in 2007.
- \$131 million (88%) of these sales were crops.
- \$18 million (12%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 181 farms (24%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 161 (22%) farms.
- 108 farms (15%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 229 farms (31%) are less than 50 acres.
- 290 farms (39%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 269 farms (36%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 21 farms sold \$531,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 22% decrease in the number of farms (27 in 2002) selling direct and a 548% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$82,000.
- Direct sales were 0.4% of farm product sales, same as the national average of 0.4%.

Moultrie County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 520 farms, 18% more than in 2002.
- Moultrie County has 167,791 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$91 million of products in 2007.
- \$87 million (96%) of these sales were crops.
- \$4 million (4%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 153 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179, with 102 (20%) farms.
- 56 farms (11%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 268 farms (52%) are less than 50 acres.
- 241 farms (46%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 143 farms (28%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 24 farms sold \$149,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 14% increase in the number of farms (21 in 2002) selling direct and a 69% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$88,000.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half the national average of 0.4%.
- Moultrie County ranks 1st in Illinois for production of broilers, with 36,815.
- The county ranks 9th in Illinois for inventory of horses, with 1,690.

Peoria County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 877 farms, 2% less than in 2002.
- Peoria County has 259,204 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$126 million of products in 2007.
- \$108 million (86%) of these sales were crops.
- \$18 million (14%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 258 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 205 (23%) farms.
- 78 farms (9%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 295 farms (34%) are less than 50 acres.
- 366 farms (42%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 253 farms (29%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 50 farms sold \$287,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 25% increase in the number of farms (40 in 2002) selling direct and a 52% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$189,000.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half the national average of 0.4%.
- Peoria County ranks 10th in Illinois for acreage of vegetables, with 2,013.

Piatt County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 480 farms, 9% more than in 2002.
- Piatt County has 267,265 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$147 million of products in 2007.
- \$135 million (92%) of these sales were crops.
- \$12 million (8%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 93 farms (19%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm sizes are 50-179 acres, and 1,000 acres or more, with 89 (19%) farms each.
- 89 farms (19%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 152 farms (32%) are less than 50 acres.
- 147 farms (31%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 225 farms (47%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 20 farms sold \$68,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 18% increase in the number of farms (17 in 2002) selling direct and a 22% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$87,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Piatt County is ranked 2nd in Illinois for acreage of sunflower seed, but *acreage figures were not released by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*

Sangamon County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,153 farms, 19% more than in 2002.
- Sangamon County has 518,153 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$294 million of products in 2007.
- \$278 million (95%) of these sales were crops.
- \$16 million (5%) of these sales were livestock.

- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 359 farms (31%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 215 (19%) farms.
- 143 farms (12%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 520 farms (45%) are less than 50 acres.
- 561 farms (49%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 391 farms (34%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 54 farms sold \$261,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 64 % increase in the number of farms (33 in 2002) selling direct and a 49% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$175,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- The county ranks 1st in Illinois for sales of horses, with \$2.5 million.
- Sangamon County is ranked 5th in Illinois and 7th in the United States for acreage of corn for grain, with 323,000.
- The county ranks 5th in Illinois for inventory of horses, with 2,214.
- The county ranks 6th in Illinois for crop sales.
- Sangamon County is ranked 6th in Illinois and 6th in the United States for sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$272 million.
- Sangamon County is ranked 9th in Illinois for sales of farm products.

Shelby County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,185 farms, 4% less than in 2002.
- Shelby County has 387,288 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$203 million of products in 2007.
- \$164 million (81%) of these sales were crops.
- \$39 million (19%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 367 farms (31%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 295 (25%) farms.
- 120 farms (10%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 468 farms (39%) are less than 50 acres.
- 559 farms (47%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 345 farms (29%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 29 farms sold \$138,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 32% increase in the number of farms (22 in 2002) selling direct and a 214% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$44,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Shelby County is ranked 9th in Illinois for sales of cattle and calves, with \$19 million.
- The county is ranked 9th in Illinois for milk production, selling \$8 million.

Stark County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 372 farms, 11% more than in 2002.
- Stark County has 174,311 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$87 million of products in 2007.
- \$83 million (95%) of these sales were crops.
- \$4 million (5%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 77 farms (21%) in this category.

- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 68 (18%) farms.
- 55 farms (15%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 109 farms (29%) are less than 50 acres.
- 112 farms (30%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 168 farms (45%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 27 farms sold \$109,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 286% increase in the number of farms (7 in 2002) selling direct and a 445% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$20,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.

Tazewell County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 998 farms, 9% more than in 2002.
- Tazewell County has 329,268 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$185 million of products in 2007.
- \$158 million (85%) of these sales were crops.
- \$27 million (15%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 236 farms (24%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 233 (23%) farms.
- 97 farms (10%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 374 farms (37%) are less than 50 acres.
- 397 farms (40%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 342 farms (34%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 63 farms sold \$397,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 19% increase in the number of farms (53 in 2002) selling direct and a 30% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$305,000.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half the national average of 0.4%.
- Tazewell County is ranked 1st in Illinois for sales of vegetables, with \$8.5 million.
- The county ranks 4th in Illinois for acreage of vegetables, with 6,854 acres.
- Tazewell County ranks 10th in Illinois for sales of horses, with \$439,000.
- The county ranks 10th for inventory of turkeys in Illinois, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*

Vermillion County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,014 farms, 12% more than in 2002.
- Vermillion County has 457,375 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$224 million of products in 2007.
- \$214 million (95%) of these sales were crops.
- \$10 (5%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 288 farms (28%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 177 (17%) farms.
- 164 farms (16%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 392 farms (39%) are less than 50 acres.
- 392 farms (39%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 382 farms (38%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.

- 42 farms sold \$216,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 180% increase in the number of farms (15 in 2002) selling direct and a 839% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$23,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter of the national average of 0.4%.
- Vermillion County ranks 6th in acreage of soybeans in Illinois, with 171,170.
- The county ranks 9th in Illinois for sales of grain, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas, with \$212 million.
- The county ranks 9th in Illinois for quail inventory, with 2,500.

Woodford County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 932 farms, 1% more than in 2002.
- Woodford County has 288,400 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$177 million of products in 2007.
- \$143 million (81%) of these sales were crops.
- \$34 million (19%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50-179 acres, with 235 farms (25%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres, with 203 (22%) farms.
- 69 farms (7%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 322 farms (35%) are less than 50 acres.
- 353 farms (38%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 356 farms (38%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 64 farms sold \$650,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 23% increase in the number of farms (52 in 2002) selling direct and a 78% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$366,000.
- Direct sales were 0.4% of farm product sales, same as the national average of 0.4%.
- The county ranks 5th in the state as a producer of sheep and goats, with \$188,000.
- The county ranks 5th for inventory of pullets for laying flock replacement, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*
- Woodford County is the 7th-most important producer of poultry in Illinois, but *sales figures were not released by USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*
- Woodford County ranks 8th in the state for inventory of laying hens, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality.*

State of Illinois highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 76,860 farms, 5% more than in 2002.
- Illinois has 26,775,100 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$13 billion of products in 2007.
- \$11 billion (82%) of these sales were crops.
- \$2 billion (18%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10-49 acres with 20,592 farms (27%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50-179 acres with 18,410 (24%) farms.
- 7,830 farms (10%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 29,195 farms (38%) are less than 50 acres.
- 36,034 farms (47%) sold less than \$10,000 of farm products.
- 23,290 farms (30%) sold more than \$100,000 of farm products.
- 2,818 farms sold \$26 million of food directly to consumers. This is a 21% increase in the number of farms selling direct (2,333 in 2002) and a 41% increase in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$18 million.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half the national average of 0.4%.
- If direct food sales made up a single commodity, the value of these sales would outrank the state's 10th-most important product, apples.
- 271 farms organic production practices, on a total of 15,476 acres of harvested cropland, and 2,139 acres of pastureland.
- 8,904 acres on 198 farms are undergoing organic conversion.
- 271 farms in Illinois sold \$8.3 million of organic food products, including \$6.8 million of crops (this may include ornamental and greenhouse crops), \$349,000 of livestock and poultry, and \$1.2 million of products from livestock and poultry (such as milk or eggs).
- 302 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 1,704 farms produce value-added products.
- 32,338 farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 7,165 farms practice rotational management of intensive grazing.
- 393 farms generate energy or electricity on the farms.
- Illinois ranks 1st in the United States for sales of grains, oilseeds, dry edible beans and peas in the United States, with sales of \$10 billion.
- The state ranks 2nd in the United States for crop sales.
- Illinois is ranked 2nd in the United States for acreage of corn for grain, with 13 million acres.
- The state is second-ranked in the United States for acreage of soybeans, with 8.3 million acres.
- The state ranks 4th in sales of hogs and pigs, with \$1.1 billion.
- Illinois is the 4th ranked state in the United States for inventory of hogs and pigs, with 4.3 million.
- Illinois ranks 6th in the United States for sales of farm products.

Illinois' top farm products in 2009 (Economic Research Service)

The data in the table and pie chart below are for Illinois as a whole. See chart on next page.

	\$ millions
1 Corn	7,534
2 Soybeans	4,233
3 Hogs	952
4 Cattle and calves	487
5 Ornamentals	335
6 Dairy products	255
7 Wheat	221
8 Chicken eggs	71
9 Hay	51
10 Apples	19
11 Sorghum grain	18
12 Potatoes	18
13 Peaches	9
14 Beans, snap	6
15 Aquaculture	4
16 Sheep and lambs	3
17 Oats	2
18 Honey	1
19 Farm chickens	0

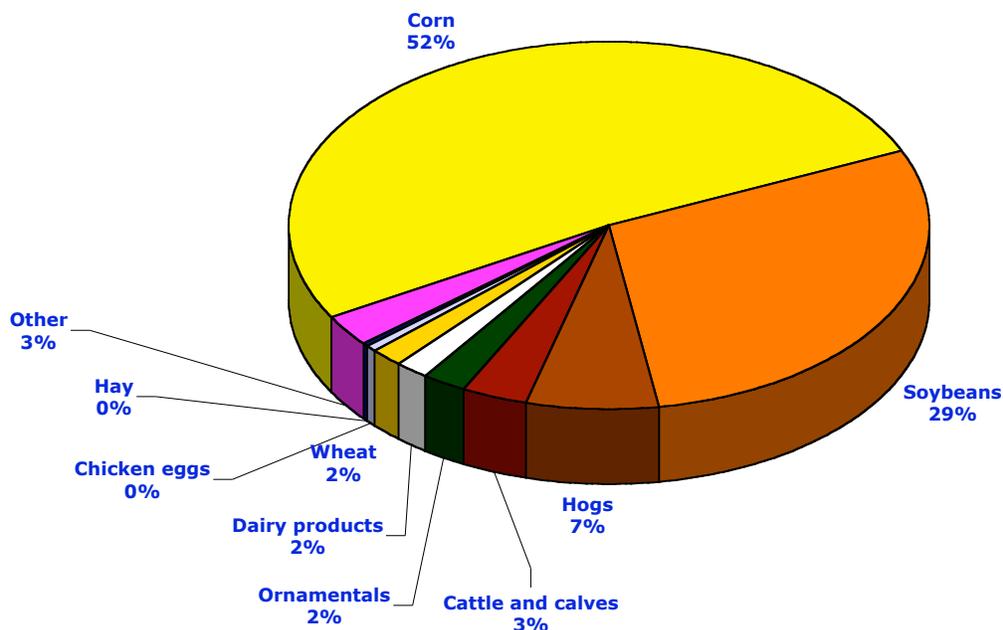
Note: turkeys, mushrooms, sweet corn, green peas, lima beans, and rye were also listed among Illinois' top 25 products, but sales figures for these products were not released by ERS, in an effort to protect confidentiality.

Note also that at \$26 million, direct sales from Illinois farmers to consumers amount to more than the value of the 10th-ranking product, apples.

Illinois' top farm products in 2009 (Economic Research Service)

See table on previous page

Top farm products in Illinois, 2009



Source: USDA Economic Research Service

Note: turkeys, mushrooms, sweet corn, green peas, lima beans, and rye were also listed among Illinois' top 25 products, but sales figures for these products were not released by ERS, in an effort to protect confidentiality.

Balance of Cash Receipts and Production Costs (BEA):

Central Illinois ranchers and farmers sell \$4.8 billion of food commodities per year (1987-2009 average), spending \$4.3 billion to raise them, for an average gain of \$464 million each year. *Note that these sales figures compiled by the BEA may differ from cash receipts recorded by the USDA Agriculture Census (above).*

Overall, farm producers earned a surplus of \$10.7 billion by producing crops and livestock from 1987 to 2009. Farm production costs exceeded cash receipts for 6 years of that 23-year period. Moreover, 27% of the region's farms and ranches reported net losses in 2007 (Ag Census). Central Illinois farmers earned \$115 million less by selling farm products in 2009 than they earned in 1969 (in 2009 dollars).

Farmers and ranchers earn another \$154 million per year of farm-related income — primarily custom work, and rental income (23-year average for 1987-2009). Federal farm support payments averaged \$538 million per year for the region over the same years.

The region's consumers:

See also information covering low-income food consumption and food-related health conditions, page 1-2 above. Central Illinois consumers spend \$4.3 billion buying food each year, including \$2.6 billion for home use. Most of this food (over \$3.9 billion) is produced outside the region. \$5.9 million of food products (0.1% of farm cash receipts and 0.1% of the region's consumer market) are sold by 972 farmers directly to consumers.

Estimated change in net assets (that is, assets minus liabilities) for all region households combined was a loss of \$3.8 billion in 2009 alone (BLS). This places additional pressure on Central Illinois consumers trying to buy food.

Farm and food economy summary:

Farmers gain \$464 million each year producing food commodities, and spend \$2.3 billion buying inputs sourced outside of the region, for a total loss of \$1.9 billion to the region.

Meanwhile, consumers spend \$3.9 billion buying food from outside. Thus, total loss to the region is \$5.8 billion of potential wealth *each year*. This loss amounts to more than the value of all food commodities raised in the region.

Central Illinois: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Central Illinois residents purchase \$4.3 billion of food each year, including \$2.6 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 538
Fruits & vegetables	435
Cereals and bakery products	360
Dairy products	296
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	972

If Central Illinois residents purchased 15% of their food for home use directly from local farmers, this would generate \$639 million of new farm income for the region.

Normal/Bloomington: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Normal/Bloomington residents purchase \$421 million of food each year, including \$257 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 53
Fruits & vegetables	43
Cereals and bakery products	36
Dairy products	29
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	96

Urbana/Champaign: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Urbana/Champaign residents purchase \$568 million of food each year, including \$347 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 72
Fruits & vegetables	58
Cereals and bakery products	48
Dairy products	40
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	130

Peoria: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Peoria residents purchase \$944 million of food each year, including \$577 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 119
Fruits & vegetables	96
Cereals and bakery products	80
Dairy products	66
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	215

Decatur: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Decatur residents purchase \$272 million of food each year, including \$166 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 34
Fruits & vegetables	28
Cereals and bakery products	23
Dairy products	19
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	62

Galesburg: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Galesburg residents purchase \$174 million of food each year, including \$106 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 22
Fruits & vegetables	18
Cereals and bakery products	15
Dairy products	12
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	40

Quad Cities: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Quad Cities residents purchase \$953 million of food each year, including \$582 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 120
Fruits & vegetables	97
Cereals and bakery products	81
Dairy products	66
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	217

State of Illinois: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Illinois residents purchase \$32 billion of food each year, including \$20 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 4,099
Fruits & vegetables	3,314
Cereals and bakery products	2,744
Dairy products	2,254
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	7,397

Key data sources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis data on farm production balance

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis/>

Food consumption estimates from Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm>

U.S. Census of Agriculture

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/>

USDA/Economic Research Service food consumption data:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/foodconsumption/>

USDA/ Economic Research Service farm income data:

<http://ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmIncome/finfidmu.htm>

For more information:

To see results from *Finding Food in Farm Country* studies in other regions of the U.S.:

<http://www.crcworks.org/locales.html>

To read the original *Finding Food in Farm Country* study from Southeast Minnesota (written for the Experiment in Rural Cooperation): <http://www.crcworks.org/ff.pdf>

To view a PowerPoint presented in March, 2008, by Ken Meter at Rep. Collin Peterson's (D-MN) Minnesota agricultural forum, called the "Home Grown Economy":

<http://www.crcworks.org/crcppts/petersonkm08.pdf>

To get a brief list of essential food facts, many of which are cited in the presentation above,

<http://www.crcworks.org/foodmarkets.pdf>

To link to further analysis of farm and food economies in the U.S.:

<http://www.crcworks.org/econ.html>

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