

Illinois Agriculture

Information from the 2007 Census of Agriculture and 2011 Illinois Annual Bulletin

Farmer

- Average Illinois age of a farmer is 56.2
- 48% of principal farm operators considered farming to be their principal occupation.

State Ranking

- 1st in the nation in pumpkin and horseradish production. 2nd in the nation in corn and soybean production and 4th in hog production.
- Illinois has less than 4% of farms yet produces 14% of the nation's soybeans, 16% of the corn, 7% of the pigs, and nearly 6% of all agriculture exports.

Illinois Farms

- 76,000 farms with 26.7 million acres
- 351 acres is an average size of an Illinois farm
- 75% of total land area in Illinois is utilized by farms
- 1500 different soil types in Illinois
- \$5,700 per acre value is an 18% increase from 2009 to 2010
- \$11.44 average wage for a hired farm worker in 2010

Crops

Corn

2010: 12.6 million acres planted; 1.9 billion bushels; 157 bushels per acre

1960: 10.4 million acres planted; 679,000 bushels; 68 bushels per acre

Soybeans

2010: 9.1 million acres planted; 466 million bushels; 51.5 bushels per acre

1960: 5 million acres planted; 129 million bushels; 26 bushels per acre

Wheat

2010: 330 thousand acres planted; 16.5 million bushels; 56 bushels/acre

1960: 1.6 million acres planted; 45 million bushels; 29 bushels/acre

Specialty Crops

Sweet Corn 608,000 pounds

Apples 43 million pounds

Pumpkins 5 million pounds

Summer Potatoes 1.9 million pounds

Peaches 7580 tons

Snap Beans 41,000 tons

Livestock

Number of Illinois Farms with Livestock and Dairy

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Milk Cows</i>	<i>Hogs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
1960	115,000	52,000	92,000	26,000
2000	25,000	2,100	5,100	2,400
2007	18,500	1,200	2,900	1,900

Illinois Livestock Inventory Numbers

<i>Year</i>	<i>Hogs & Pigs</i>	<i>Cattle & Calves</i>	<i>Beef Cows</i>	<i>Milk Cows</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
1960	7.4 million	3.9 million	668,000	648,000	722,000
2000	4 million	1.5 million	480,000	120,000	74,000
2011	4.3 million	1.1 million	352,000	98,000	56,000

Illinois Livestock Production Numbers for 2010

Pig Crop	9.5 million	Calf Crop	410,000
Lamb Crop	51,000	Milk Production	1.9 billion pounds
Egg Production	1.4 billion	Wool	320,000 pounds

Economics

Prices Received by Illinois Farmers

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>1960</i>	<i>1980</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2010</i>
Corn, bu	1.00	3.14	1.91	5.50
Soybeans, bu	2.23	7.62	4.62	12.40
Wheat, bu	1.74	3.93	2.09	5.60
Beef Cattle, cwt	22.10	62.30	67.70	94.00
Calves, cwt	23.90	72.20	115.00	112.00
Hogs, cwt	15.40	38.50	40.40	53.60
Lambs, cwt	18.10	58.80	72.00	123.00
Milk Cows, head	207	1,200	1,290	1,370
Milk, cwt	3.76	12.90	12.30	16.30
Wool, lb	.44	.69	.08	.39

Illinois Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>1970</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2009</i>
All Commodities	2.8 billion	7 billion	14.5 billion
Crops	1.5 billion	5.3 billion	12.7 billion
Livestock, Dairy, Poultry	1.3 billion	1.7 billion	1.8 billion