



Resources for accessing data in real time  
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl>

~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Mason County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014



In Kentucky, farming and agriculture ranges from the large scale irrigated cash grains operations of the western region, to the horse and general farm enterprises of central Kentucky, to small scale farming in eastern counties. The Census of Agriculture counts “any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.” The USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts the Census of Agriculture every 5 years (in years that end with a “2” or a “7”).

For data on top crops and livestock, see the county profiles at:

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*The Kentucky: By the Numbers Data Series provides access to county data to support local decision making. The entire series is available at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl>.*

	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	634	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	126,722	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	103	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	200	169
Proportion of land area in farms	82.5%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	634	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	277	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	411	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	58.3	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	26	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	571	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	63	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	21.5	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	48	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	155	17,257

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**2012 Agriculture**

**Mason County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	492	58,664
Part owner	110	15,250
Tenant	32	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	888	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$1,873,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	283	10,820
Unpaid labor*	646	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$26,394,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$41,631	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$30,929,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$48,784	\$65,755

\* Hired farm labor is distinguished from migrant farm labor and unpaid labor. Hired farm labor does not include "contract laborers." Migrant workers refers to "workers whose employment requires travel that prevents the worker from returning to his or her permanent place of residence the same day." Unpaid workers "includes agricultural workers not on the payroll who performed activities or work on a farm or ranch." Total migrant workers and unpaid labor are new for the 2012 Agriculture Census. N/a = data not disclosed to retain confidentiality.

These data are from the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Meade County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014

COOPERATIVE  
 EXTENSION  
 SERVICE



In Kentucky, farming and agriculture ranges from the large scale irrigated cash grains operations of the western region, to the horse and general farm enterprises of central Kentucky, to small scale farming in eastern counties. The Census of Agriculture counts “any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.” The USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts the Census of Agriculture every 5 years (in years that end with a “2” or a “7”).

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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	754	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	119,495	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	60	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	158	169
Proportion of land area in farms	61.1%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	754	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	372	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	519	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	57.0	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	43	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	688	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	66	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	22.6	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	63	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	167	17,257

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Meade County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	548	58,664
Part owner	185	15,250
Tenant	21	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	491	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$1,409,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	30	10,820
Unpaid labor*	838	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$36,073,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$47,842	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$36,571,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$48,503	\$65,755

\* Hired farm labor is distinguished from migrant farm labor and unpaid labor. Hired farm labor does not include "contract laborers." Migrant workers refers to "workers whose employment requires travel that prevents the worker from returning to his or her permanent place of residence the same day." Unpaid workers "includes agricultural workers not on the payroll who performed activities or work on a farm or ranch." Total migrant workers and unpaid labor are new for the 2012 Agriculture Census. N/a = data not disclosed to retain confidentiality.

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Menifee County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014



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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	294	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	40,962	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	78	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	139	169
Proportion of land area in farms	31.4%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	294	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	114	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	205	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	55.7	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	14	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	258	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	36	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	22.1	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	40	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	64	17,257

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Menifee County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	219	58,664
Part owner	60	15,250
Tenant	15	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	178	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$161,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	0	10,820
Unpaid labor*	315	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$5,151,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$17,522	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$3,846,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$13,082	\$65,755

\* Hired farm labor is distinguished from migrant farm labor and unpaid labor. Hired farm labor does not include "contract laborers." Migrant workers refers to "workers whose employment requires travel that prevents the worker from returning to his or her permanent place of residence the same day." Unpaid workers "includes agricultural workers not on the payroll who performed activities or work on a farm or ranch." Total migrant workers and unpaid labor are new for the 2012 Agriculture Census. N/a = data not disclosed to retain confidentiality.

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Mercer County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014



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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	1,067	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	144,250	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	69	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	135	169
Proportion of land area in farms	90.6%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	1,067	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	436	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	777	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	56.2	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	93	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	961	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	106	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	19.8	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	103	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	270	17,257

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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	804	58,664
Part owner	212	15,250
Tenant	51	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	650	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$2,869,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	49	10,820
Unpaid labor*	1,190	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$53,827,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$50,447	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$50,677,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$47,495	\$65,755

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Metcalfe County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	924	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	125,293	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	78	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	136	169
Proportion of land area in farms	67.6%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	924	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	447	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	612	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	56.0	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	80	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	865	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	59	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	22.1	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	73	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	219	17,257

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**Metcalfe County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	690	58,664
Part owner	209	15,250
Tenant	25	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	854	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$1,496,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	195	10,820
Unpaid labor*	823	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$33,428,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$36,178	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$35,019,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$37,899	\$65,755

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**Monroe County**

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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	858	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	172,276	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	91	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	201	169
Proportion of land area in farms	81.7%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	858	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	423	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	580	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	55.5	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	88	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	817	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	41	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	23.4	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	58	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	162	17,257

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**2012 Agriculture**

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Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	595	58,664
Part owner	220	15,250
Tenant	43	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	782	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$2,458,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	159	10,820
Unpaid labor*	781	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$69,804,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$81,357	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$77,238,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$90,021	\$65,755

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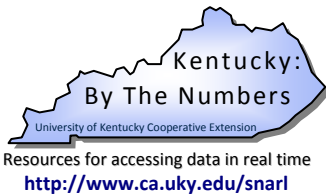
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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**



**Montgomery County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014

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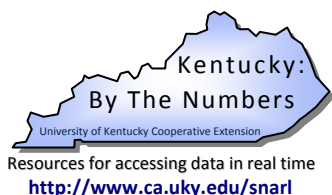
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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	609	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	99,436	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	84	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	163	169
Proportion of land area in farms	78.7%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	609	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	256	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	390	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	59.1	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	30	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	534	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	75	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	22.4	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	48	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	134	17,257

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Montgomery County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	437	58,664
Part owner	136	15,250
Tenant	36	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	580	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$1,201,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	194	10,820
Unpaid labor*	595	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$21,142,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$34,716	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$19,006,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$31,209	\$65,755

\* Hired farm labor is distinguished from migrant farm labor and unpaid labor. Hired farm labor does not include "contract laborers." Migrant workers refers to "workers whose employment requires travel that prevents the worker from returning to his or her permanent place of residence the same day." Unpaid workers "includes agricultural workers not on the payroll who performed activities or work on a farm or ranch." Total migrant workers and unpaid labor are new for the 2012 Agriculture Census. N/a = data not disclosed to retain confidentiality.

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Morgan County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014

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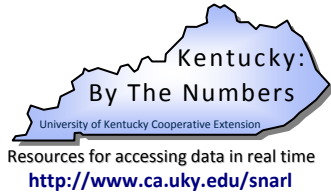
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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	694	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	118,797	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	100	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	171	169
Proportion of land area in farms	48.7%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	694	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	243	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	495	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	55.5	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	53	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	630	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	64	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	20.3	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	62	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	182	17,257

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Morgan County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	511	58,664
Part owner	157	15,250
Tenant	26	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	798	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$624,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	9	10,820
Unpaid labor*	712	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$9,778,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$14,089	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$6,897,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$9,939	\$65,755

\* Hired farm labor is distinguished from migrant farm labor and unpaid labor. Hired farm labor does not include "contract laborers." Migrant workers refers to "workers whose employment requires travel that prevents the worker from returning to his or her permanent place of residence the same day." Unpaid workers "includes agricultural workers not on the payroll who performed activities or work on a farm or ranch." Total migrant workers and unpaid labor are new for the 2012 Agriculture Census. N/a = data not disclosed to retain confidentiality.

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Muhlenberg County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014

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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	630	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	128,761	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	80	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	204	169
Proportion of land area in farms	43.1%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	630	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	251	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	378	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	59.1	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	34	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	568	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	62	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	21.3	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	47	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	130	17,257

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Muhlenberg County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	496	58,664
Part owner	121	15,250
Tenant	13	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	522	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$2,006,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	68	10,820
Unpaid labor*	602	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$52,901,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$83,970	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$68,905,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$109,373	\$65,755

\* Hired farm labor is distinguished from migrant farm labor and unpaid labor. Hired farm labor does not include "contract laborers." Migrant workers refers to "workers whose employment requires travel that prevents the worker from returning to his or her permanent place of residence the same day." Unpaid workers "includes agricultural workers not on the payroll who performed activities or work on a farm or ranch." Total migrant workers and unpaid labor are new for the 2012 Agriculture Census. N/a = data not disclosed to retain confidentiality.

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Nelson County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
 October, 2014

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	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b><u>Farms</u></b>		
Total number of farms	1,326	77,064
Land in farms (in acres)	187,755	13,049,347
Median size of farm (in acres)	54	75
Average size of farm (in acres)	142	169
Proportion of land area in farms	70.3%	51.6%
<b><u>Principal Operators</u></b>		
Total Number of Principal Operators	1,326	77,064
<b><u>Work</u></b>		
Number of principal operators for whom primary occupation is farming	571	32,137
Number of principal operators working any days off the farm	884	49,548
<b><u>Age and Sex</u></b>		
Average age of principal operators	57.6	57.6
Number of principal operators who are under 35 years old	49	4,479
Number of principal operators who are male	1,198	68,864
Number of principal operators who are female	128	8,200
<b><u>Length of Time Farming</u></b>		
Average number of years principal operator on present farm	23.1	22.4
Number of principal operators on present farm for 4 years or less	106	6,618
Number of principal operators on present farm for 9 years or less	253	17,257

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~ Census of Agriculture ~  
**2012 Agriculture**

**Nelson County**

Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor, Rural Sociology  
October, 2014



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**County**                      **State**

**Principal Operators** (continued)

Tenure

Number of farms where principal operator is...

Full owner	1,052	58,664
Part owner	245	15,250
Tenant	29	3,150

**Farm Workers**

Hired farm labor	951	68,586
Hired farm labor payroll	\$3,433,000	\$377,169,000
Total migrant workers*	78	10,820
Unpaid labor*	1,098	76,822

**Farm Production**

Expenses

Total production expenses	\$65,118,000	\$4,778,105,000
Production expenses (average per farm)	\$49,108	\$62,002

Total Products Sold

Market value of products sold	\$64,439,000	\$5,067,334,000
Market value of agricultural products sold (average per farm)	\$48,597	\$65,755

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