



United States Department of Agriculture

## Economic Research Service (ERS)

**ERS anticipates trends and emerging issues in agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America and conducts high-quality, objective economic research to inform and enhance public and private decision making. ERS's suite of data products encompasses estimates, forecasts, economic and statistical indicators.**

Our research program and statistics serve those who routinely make or influence these decisions – White House and USDA policy officials, the U.S. Congress, program administrators/managers, Federal agencies, State and local governments, private agribusinesses, and farm and industry groups. ERS research provides context for and informs the decisions that affect the agricultural sector, which in turn benefits everyone with efficient stewardship of our agricultural resources and the economic prosperity of the sector.

### Trusted, objective, and timely research and statistics:

<b>Agricultural Economy</b>	<i>farm sector performance and farm households' well-being; farm size and concentration; market analysis, data, and projections on commodity supply, demand, and prices; and Federal farm policies</i>
<b>Global Markets &amp; Trade</b>	<i>major markets and competitors; economic impacts of exports and imports, trade barriers, and potential trade agreements</i>
<b>Resources &amp; Environment</b>	<i>economic impacts of conservation programs; efficacy of policies designed to protect the environment, and enhancing agricultural competitiveness through technology</i>
<b>Rural Economy</b>	<i>investments in rural communities and drivers of rural economic performance; and demographic change and its impact on rural communities</i>
<b>Food and Nutrition</b>	<i>U.S. food security, food and nutrition assistance programs, food choices and health outcomes, food access, food retailing and marketing, and food prices</i>
<b>Food Safety</b>	<i>societal benefits associated with reducing food safety risks, economic impacts of food hazards, and potential results of regulation versus industry decisions</i>

### Clearly communicated research and innovative data products:

All ERS information can be found at [www.ers.usda.gov](http://www.ers.usda.gov), including ERS research and outlook reports, *Amber Waves* magazine, [data visualizations](#) and [data products](#). In addition, ERS's daily *Charts of Note* provides nontechnical information to a wide audience. Stakeholders can stay connected to ERS through our weekly e-mail service at [www.ers.usda.gov/updates](http://www.ers.usda.gov/updates) or on [Twitter](#) at [USDA\\_ERS](#).

Closely watched products include forecasts of farm business and household income, commodity cost of production, outlook reports covering major crops and livestock products, annual 10-year projections for the farm sector, forecasts of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for food, estimates of U.S. and international agricultural productivity, rural county typologies, state fact sheets, annual report on food security of U.S. households, Food Access Research Atlas, Food Environment Atlas, and cost of foodborne illness estimates.