

**Table 4. Farm Numbers and Average Acres Per Farm**

Measured in (Thousands)

	Number of Farms <sup>a/</sup>		Acres per Farm	
	U.S.	Iowa	U.S.	Iowa
1950	5,648	206	216	169
1955	4,654	195	258	179
1960	3,963	183	297	190
1965	3,356	158	340	219
1970	2,954	145	373	237
1971	2,909	143	377	241
1972	2,870	141	381	243
1973	2,844	139	383	247
1974	2,830	138	384	249
1975	2,521	130	420	262
1976	2,497	127	422	267
1977	2,456	125	427	273
1978	2,436	123	429	275
1979	2,432	121	428	279
1980	2,433	119	426	284
1981	2,434	118	424	286
1982	2,401	117	427	288
1983	2,370	115	430	293
1984	2,334	113	436	297
1985	2,293	111	441	303
1986	2,250	109	447	308
1987	2,213	107	451	313
1988	2,201	107	452	313
1989	2,175	105	456	319
1990	2,146	104	460	322
1991	2,117	102	464	328
1992	2,108	102	464	327
1993	2,202	102	440	333
1994	2,198	101	440	332
1995	2,196	100	438	332
1996	2,191	98	438	333
1997	2,191	98	436	337
1998	2,192	97	435	340
1999	2,187	95	434	345
2000	2,167	94	436	346
2001	2,149	92	438	348
2002	2,135	90.6	440	351
2003	2,127	90	441	352
2004	2,113	89.7	443	353
2005	2,099	89	445	355
2006	2,089	88.6	446	356
2007	2,205	92.8	418	332
2008	2,200	92.6	418	333

<sup>a/</sup> The data from 1975 reflect changes in the definition of a farm. The new definition classifies a farm as a place that has annual sales of agricultural products of \$1000 or more. The old definition classifies a farm as a place of 10 or more acres that had annual sales of agricultural products of \$50 or more and places of less than 10 acres that had sales of \$250 or more.

Source: Fast Facts A to Z , NASS [Farms and Land in Farms](#)