

FARM NUMBERS AND LAND IN FARMS

The number of farms in SOUTH CAROLINA in 2007 is estimated at 24,700, up 100 from the 24,600 in 2006 and up 200 from the 24,500 in 2005. Total land in farms for 2007 is 4.85 million acres, unchanged from 2006 and 2005. The average size of farms in 2007 was 196 acres, down one acre from 2006 and two acres from 2005. Farms with \$100,000 or more in sales totaled 1,800 in 2007, accounting for 7.3 percent of all farms and no change from 2006 or 2005.

A **farm** is defined as "any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would be sold during the year." Government payments are included in sales. Institutional farms experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with their entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, set aside, or other government programs are considered operating farms if they receive \$1,000 or more in payments. Operations with 5 or more horses or ponies and no other agricultural sales are also counted as farms. Operations with fewer than 5 equine and at least \$1,000 in agricultural sales qualified as farms.

The number of farms in the UNITED STATES in 2007 is estimated at 2.1 million, less than one percent fewer than in 2006. Total land in farms, at 930.9 million acres, decreased 1.51 million acres, from 2006. The average farm size was 449 acres in 2007, an increase of three acres from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Land in farms is all land operated by farms during the year. It includes crop and livestock acreage, wasteland, woodland, pasture, land in summer fallow, idle cropland, and land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program and other set aside or commodity acreage programs. It excludes all public, industrial, and grazing association land. It excludes all land operated by establishments not qualifying as farms.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class, SOUTH CAROLINA, 2005 - 2007 1/

Year	\$1,000 - \$9,999		\$10,000 - \$99,999		\$100,000 & Over		Total	
	Number	Thou. Acres	Number	Thou. Acres	Number	Thou. Acres	Number	Thou. Acres
2005	18,400	1,920	4,300	1,380	1,800	1,550	24,500	4,850
2006	18,400	1,920	4,400	1,380	1,800	1,550	24,600	4,850
2007 2/	18,600	1,920	4,300	1,380	1,800	1,550	24,700	4,850

1/ Based on the gross value of sales, which includes sales of agricultural products such as crops, livestock, horses, honey, furs, fish, nursery and greenhouse products, rabbits, etc. Government program payments from the previous year are also included. 2/ Preliminary.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size, SOUTH CAROLINA and NATION, 2005 - 2007 1/

Year	South Carolina			United States		
	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size of Farm	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size of Farm
	- Thousand -	- Thou. Acres -	- Acres -	- Thousand -	- Thou. Acres -	- Acres -
2005	24.5	4,850	198	2,099	933,210	445
2006	24.6	4,850	197	2,089	932,430	446
2007 2/	24.7	4,850	196	2,076	930,920	449

1/ A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year. 2/ Preliminary.

CENSUS FARM NUMBERS

Number of Farms, Land in Farms and Average Size, by Counties, South Carolina, 1997 and 2002

County	1997 ^{1/}			2002		
	Number of Farms	Land In Farms	Average Size of Farms	Number of Farms	Land In Farms	Average Size of Farms
		---- Acres ----			---- Acres ----	
Abbeville	610	92,079	151	538	95,170	177
Aiken	958	148,747	155	929	143,942	155
Allendale	165	96,308	584	156	107,703	690
Anderson	1,640	184,421	112	1,644	176,947	108
Bamberg	297	105,971	357	340	105,277	310
Barnwell	415	104,246	251	370	85,114	230
Beaufort	129	39,972	310	116	44,373	383
Berkeley	379	55,482	146	398	56,798	143
Calhoun	372	111,052	299	281	94,665	337
Charleston	354	50,532	143	417	47,515	114
Cherokee	529	72,957	138	430	64,020	149
Chester	436	90,477	208	430	97,237	226
Chesterfield	679	135,384	199	595	128,762	216
Clarendon	365	148,611	407	390	147,890	379
Colleton	525	161,192	307	495	137,460	278
Darlington	433	165,535	382	361	161,443	447
Dillon	229	95,066	415	197	112,262	570
Dorchester	396	70,657	178	365	57,773	158
Edgefield	345	78,152	227	325	74,494	229
Fairfield	222	51,095	230	237	56,375	238
Florence	762	179,029	235	612	171,388	280
Georgetown	253	54,924	217	226	54,691	242
Greenville	1,038	84,836	82	909	86,852	96
Greenwood	502	74,543	148	501	80,671	161
Hampton	249	121,067	486	248	127,913	516
Horry	1,101	197,053	179	988	188,311	191
Jasper	156	68,918	442	163	79,023	485
Kershaw	426	80,972	190	479	69,703	146
Lancaster	656	81,683	125	637	81,468	128
Laurens	880	140,190	159	931	142,732	153
Lee	267	124,202	465	324	122,518	378
Lexington	1,040	107,834	104	1,086	103,318	95
McCormick	121	22,328	185	97	23,283	240
Marion	240	83,190	347	213	93,262	438
Marlboro	212	119,546	564	222	114,963	518
Newberry	614	103,201	168	633	103,570	164
Oconee	789	77,027	98	878	78,349	89
Orangeburg	1,193	292,997	246	968	274,332	283
Pickens	727	58,446	80	622	46,509	75
Richland	463	65,162	141	429	63,294	148
Saluda	686	119,965	175	574	106,541	186
Spartanburg	1,429	125,192	88	1,412	126,377	90
Sumter	501	148,075	296	537	135,805	253
Union	327	58,478	179	299	50,929	170
Williamsburg	740	201,170	272	681	205,904	302
York	957	126,174	132	858	118,997	139
STATE	25,807	4,974,138	193	24,541	4,845,923	197

^{1/} 1997 census numbers revised.