

# Highlights from the 2022 Census of Agriculture

March 26, 2024

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USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Agenda

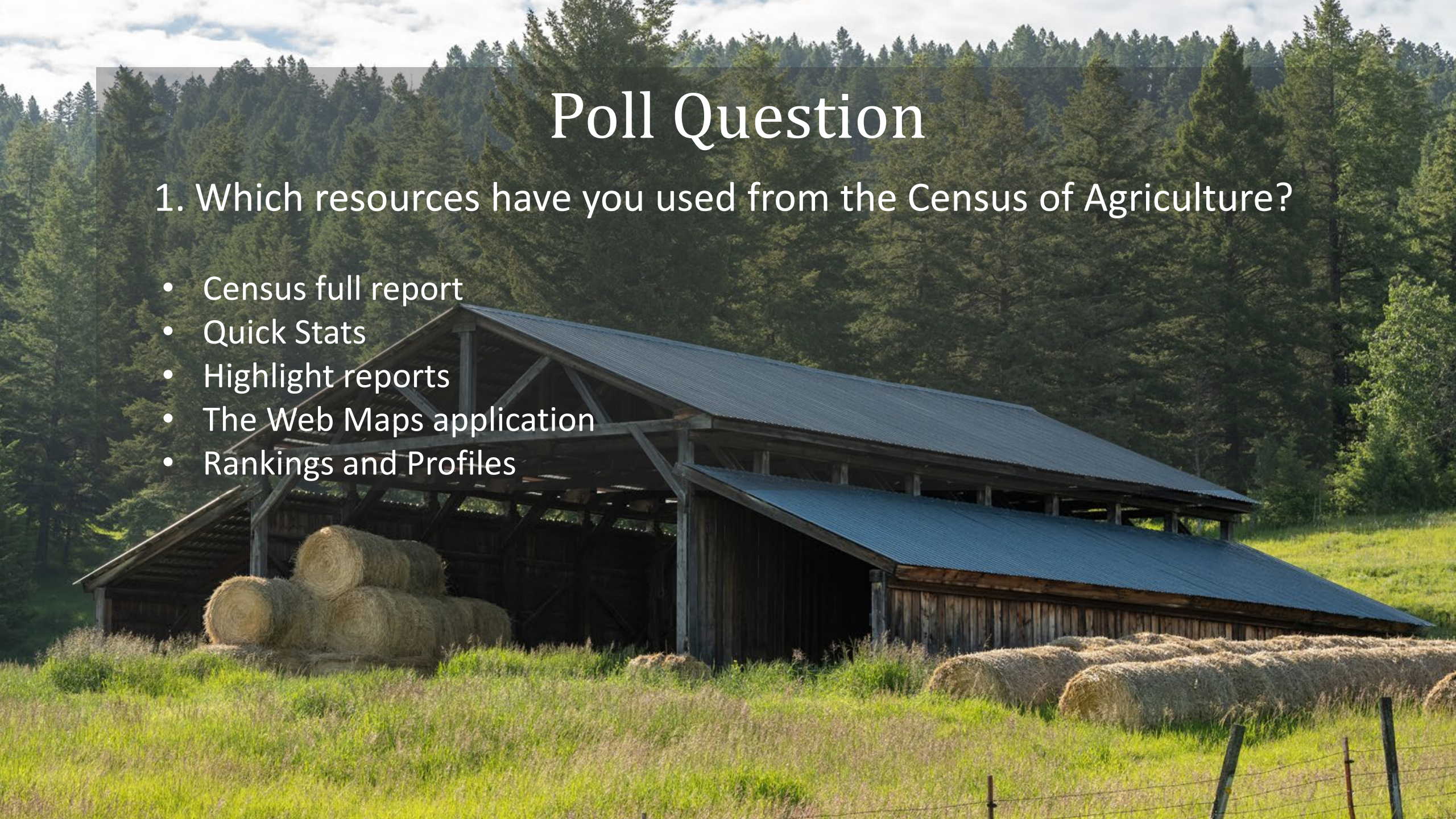
- Welcome & Introductions
- Poll questions
- Presentation
  - Census Data Collection
  - Farms and Ranches
  - Economics
  - Producer Demographics
  - Future Census Products
- Question & Answer



# Poll Question

1. Which resources have you used from the Census of Agriculture?

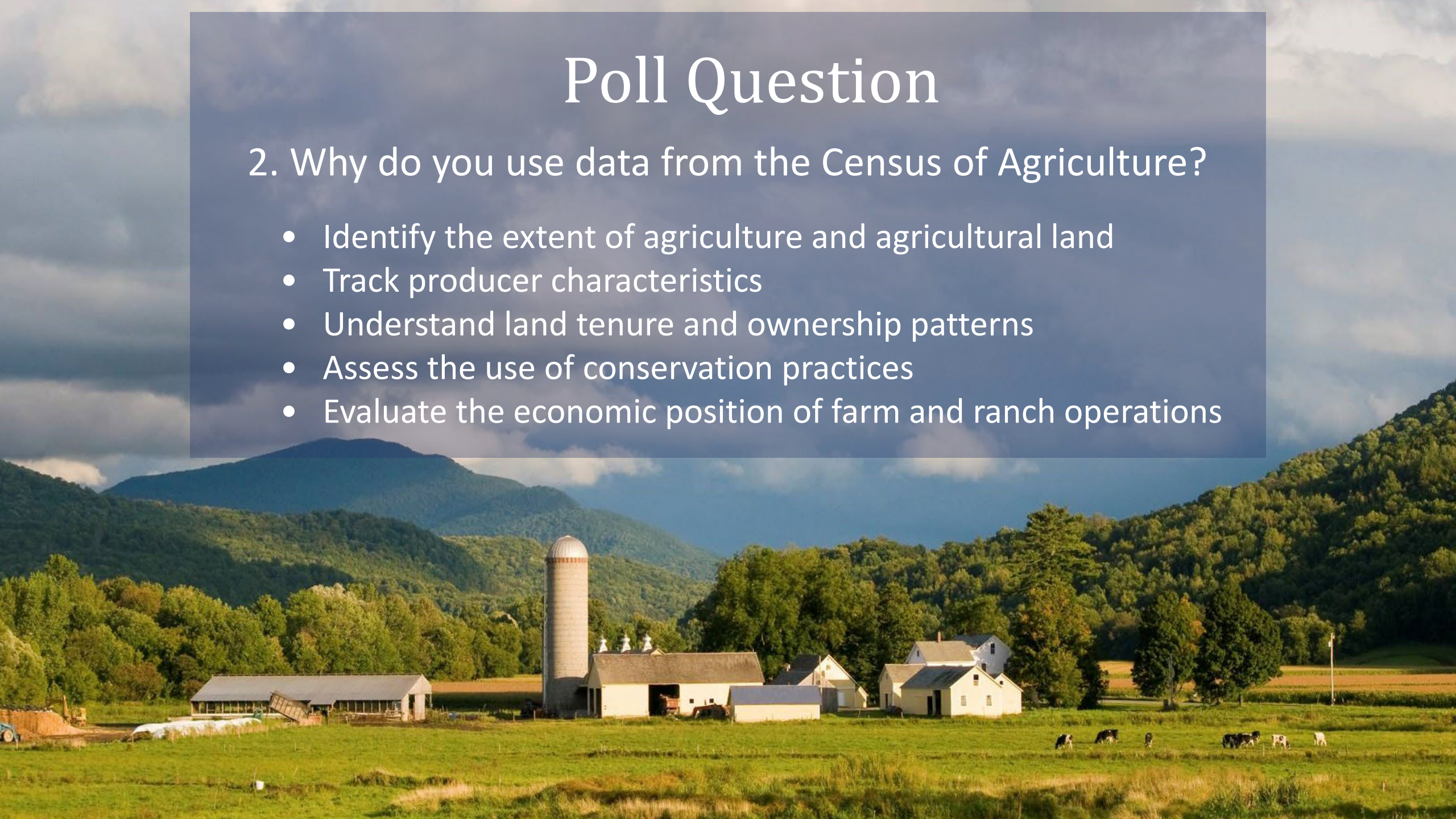
- Census full report
- Quick Stats
- Highlight reports
- The Web Maps application
- Rankings and Profiles



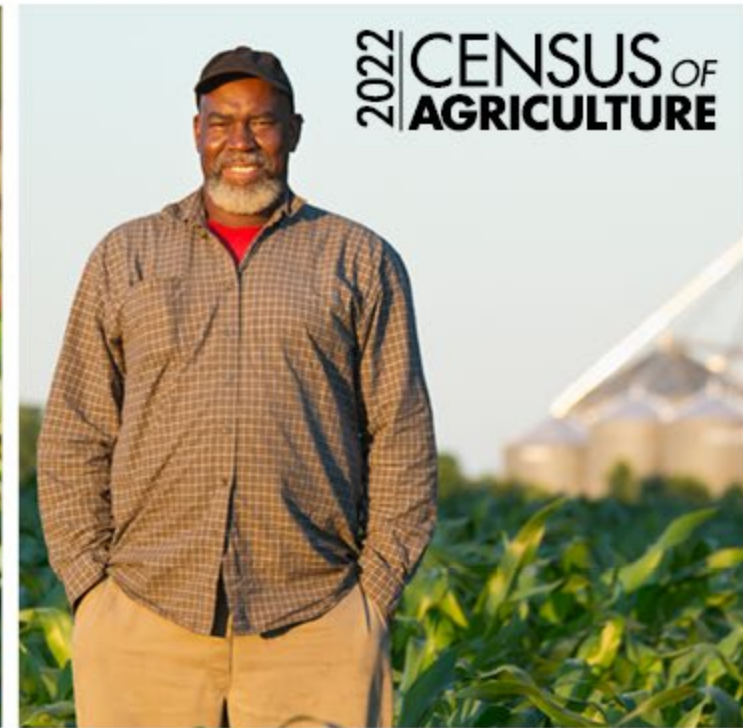
# Poll Question

## 2. Why do you use data from the Census of Agriculture?

- Identify the extent of agriculture and agricultural land
- Track producer characteristics
- Understand land tenure and ownership patterns
- Assess the use of conservation practices
- Evaluate the economic position of farm and ranch operations



2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE



# THE AG CENSUS COUNTS



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

2022 Census of Agriculture Data  
American Farmland Trust March 26, 2024  
[nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](https://nass.usda.gov/AgCensus)

# Topics

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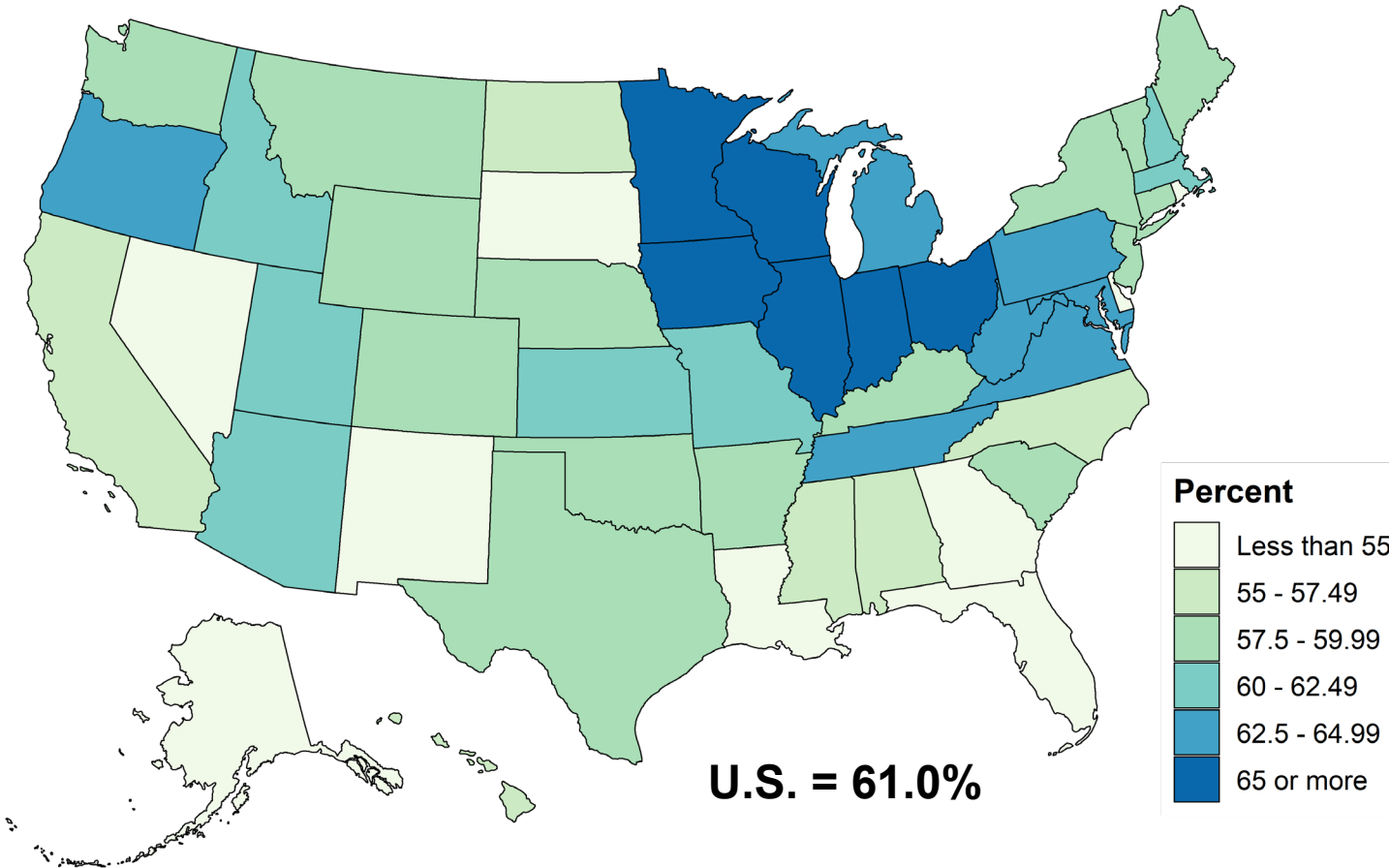
- Census Data Collection
- Farms and Ranches
- Economics
- Demographics
- Future Census Products

# History of the Census of Agriculture

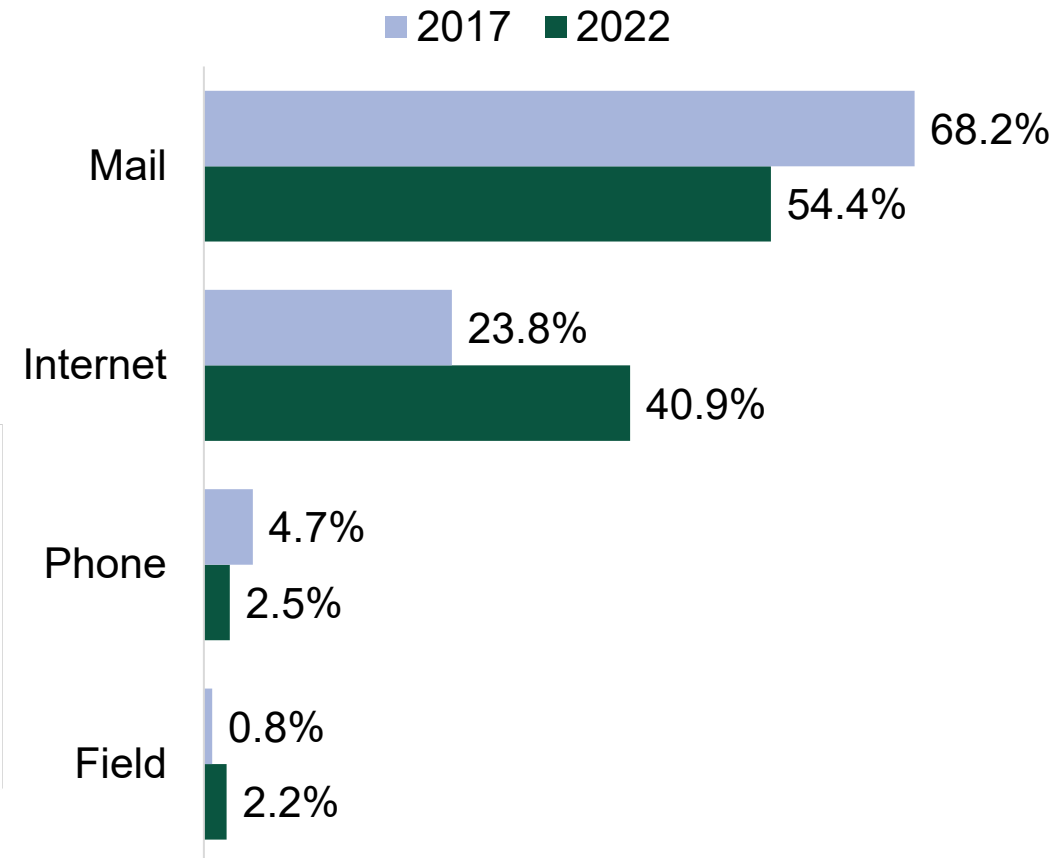
- The first Census of Agriculture was conducted in 1840 in 26 states and the District of Columbia.
- 180 years later:
  - The 2022 Census of Agriculture is the 30<sup>th</sup> in the series, and the 6<sup>th</sup> conducted by NASS.
  - In 1997, the Census of Agriculture was transferred from the Census Bureau to NASS.
  - The Census of Agriculture encompasses 50 states, Puerto Rico, and outlying areas (Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands).
- Data are available for:
  - National, state, and county levels
  - Congressional districts, watersheds, and zip codes

# Census Data Collection

## Response Rate by State, 2022



## Return Rate by Mode, 2017 and 2022 (percent of returns)





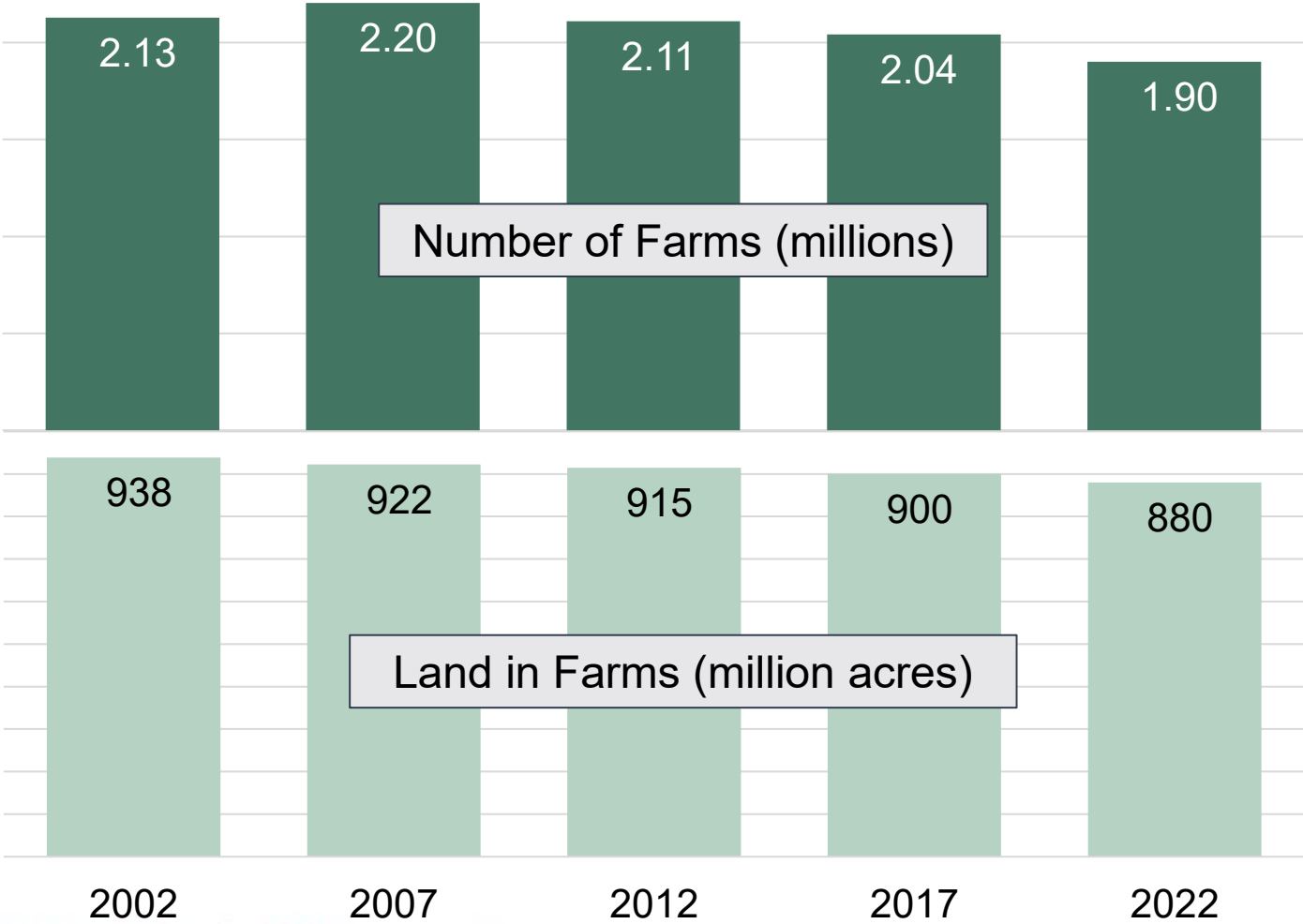
# Farms and Land in Farms

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Since 1974, the Census of Agriculture has defined a farm as

*“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.”*

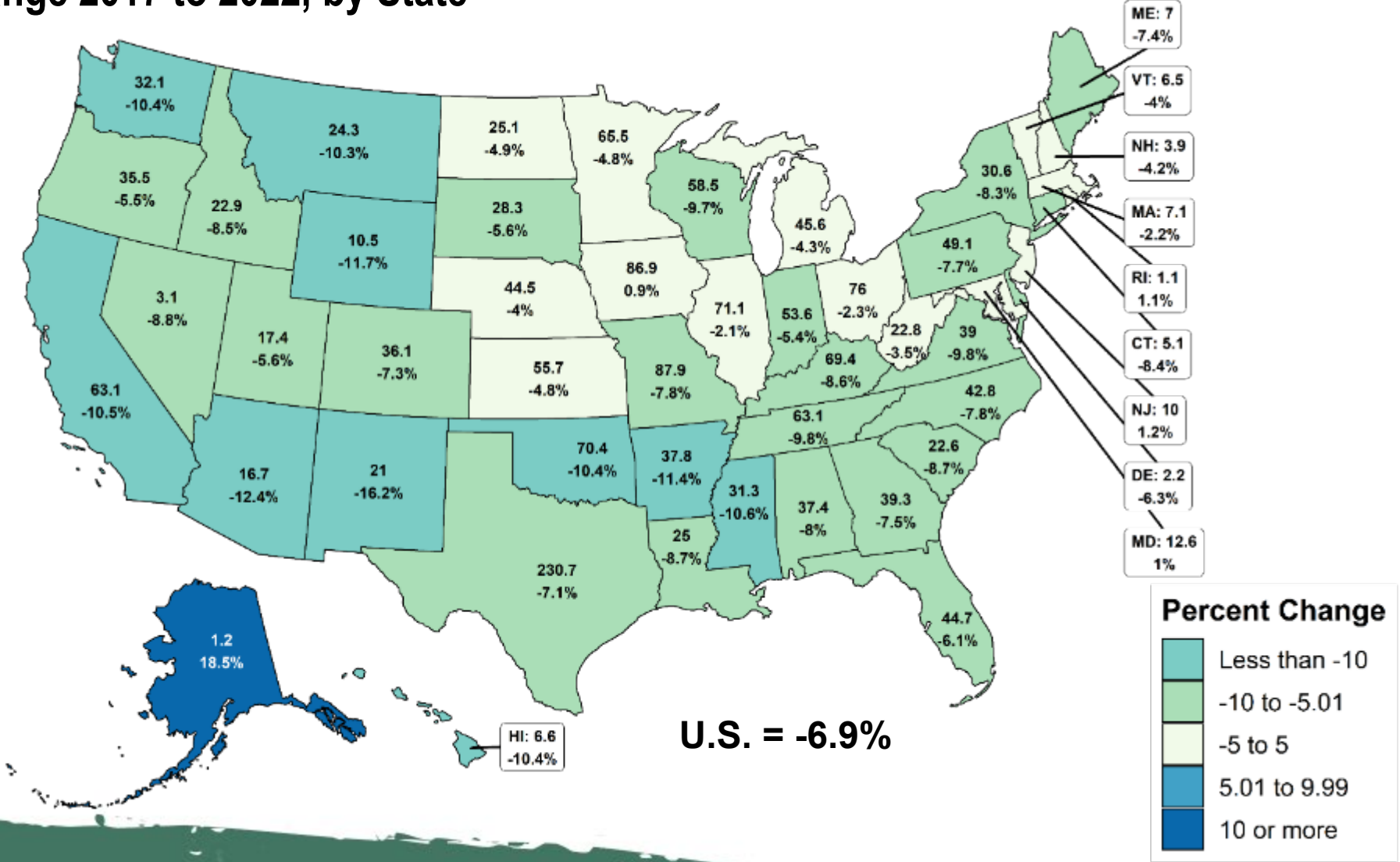
# Number of Farms and Land in Farms, 2002 - 2022



	2017	2022	% change
Number of farms			
	2,042,220	1,900,487	-6.9
Land in farms (acres)			
	900,217,576	880,100,848	-2.2
Average farm size (acres)			
	441	463	+5.0

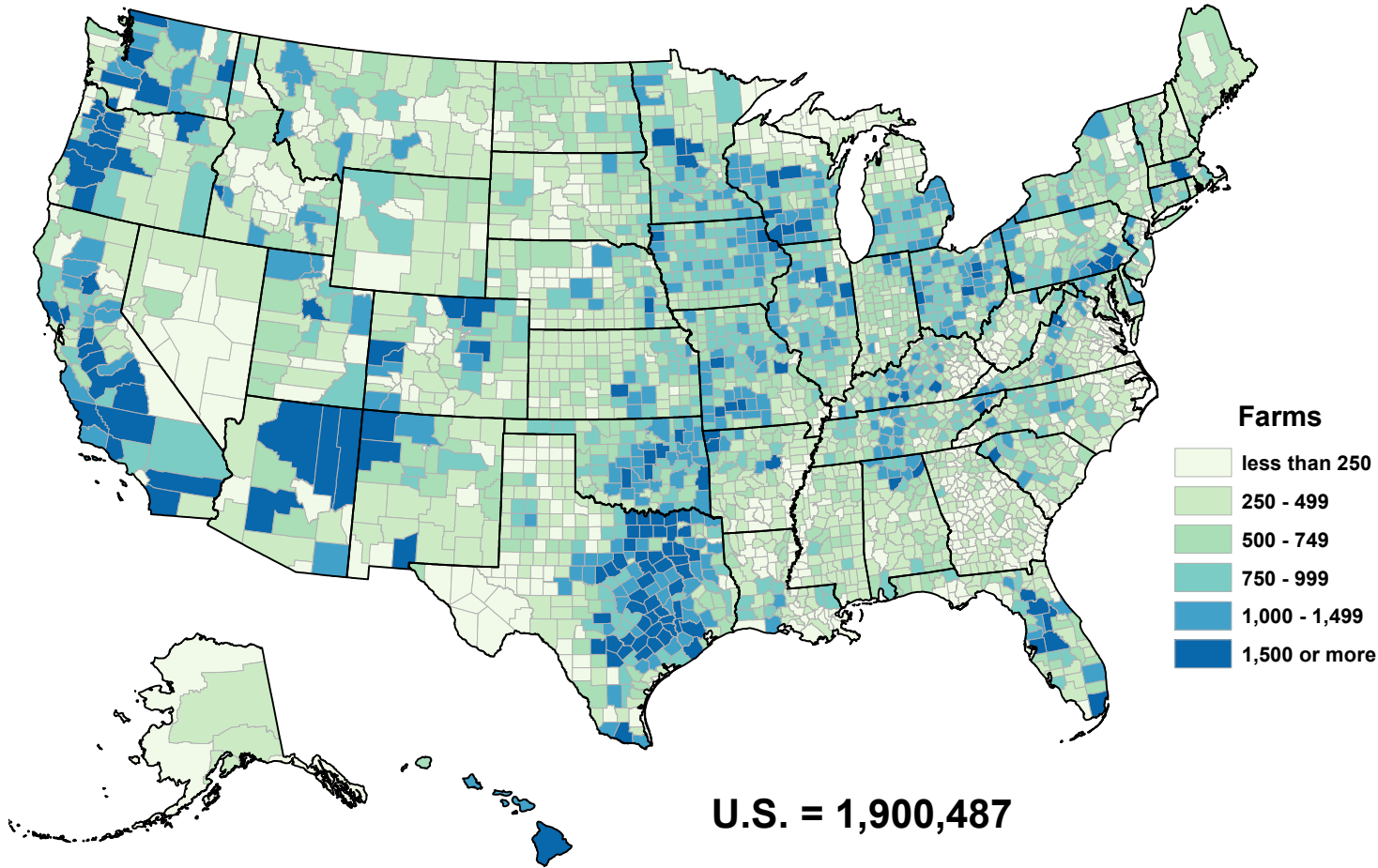
# Number of Farms (thousands)

## As a Percent Change 2017 to 2022, by State



# Number of Farms, 2022

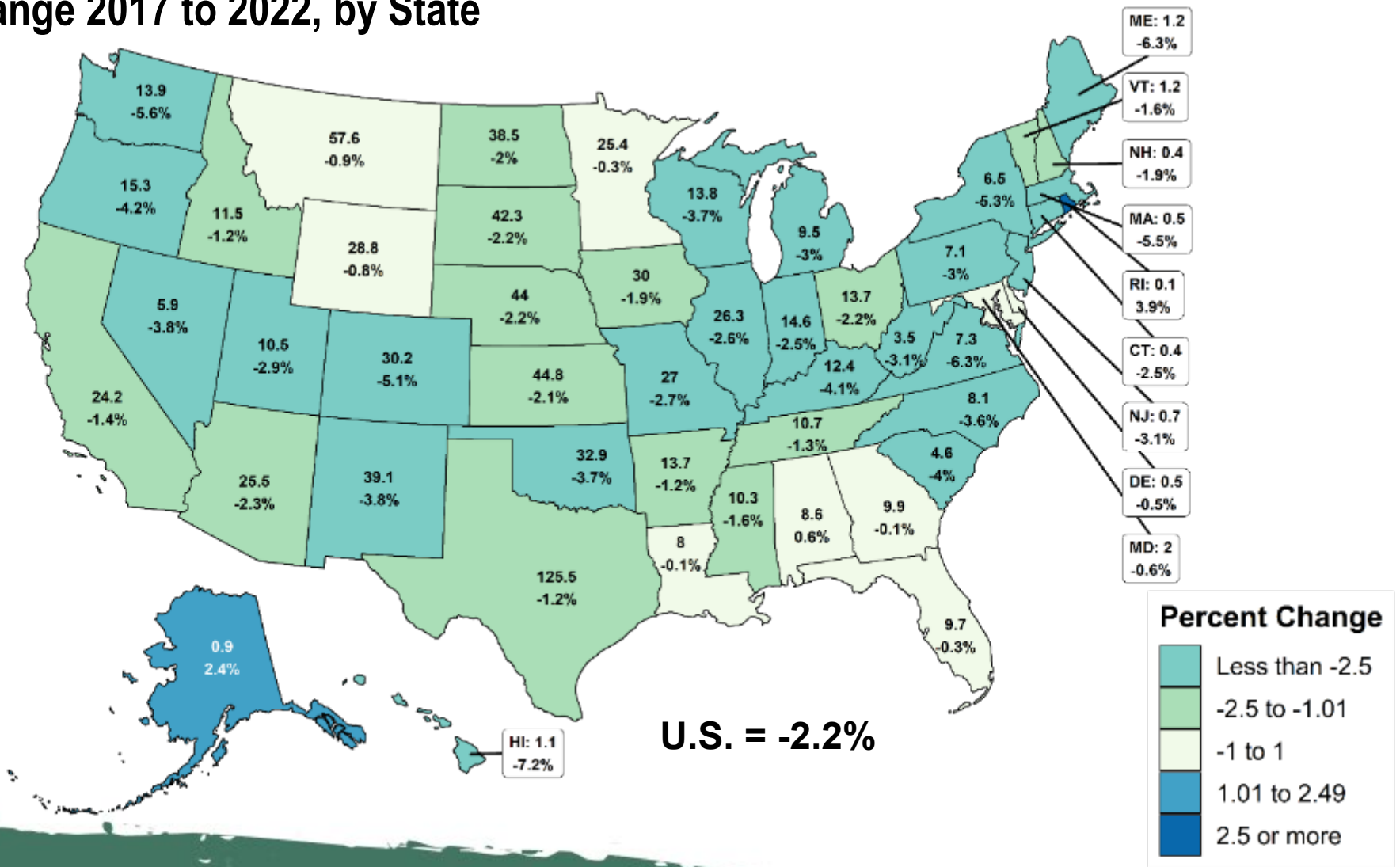
## By County



Top 10 States	2022
Texas	230,662
Missouri	87,887
Iowa	86,911
Ohio	76,009
Illinois	71,123
Oklahoma	70,378
Kentucky	69,425
Minnesota	65,531
California	63,134
Tennessee	63,105

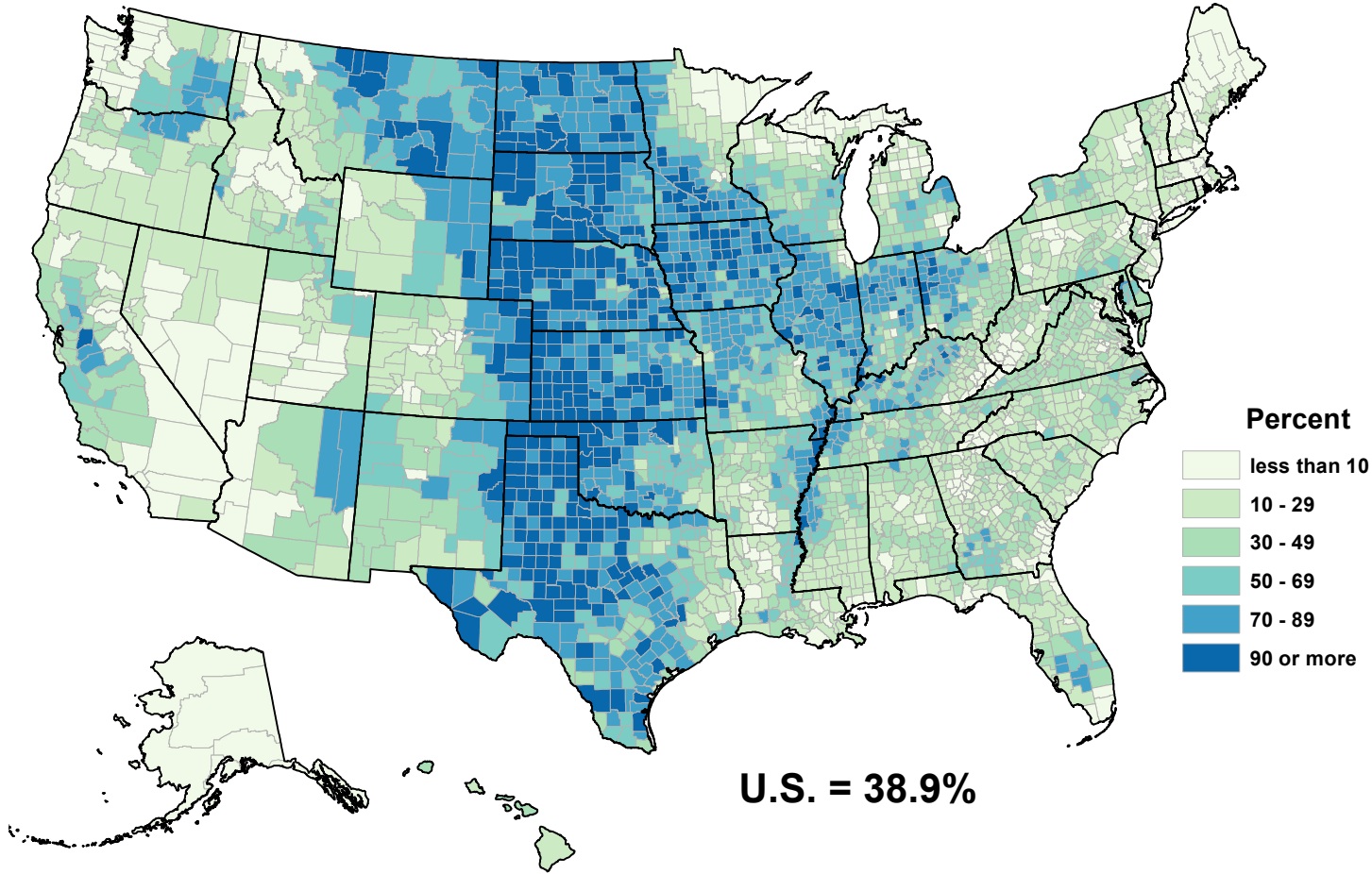
# Land in Farms (million acres)

## As a Percent Change 2017 to 2022, by State



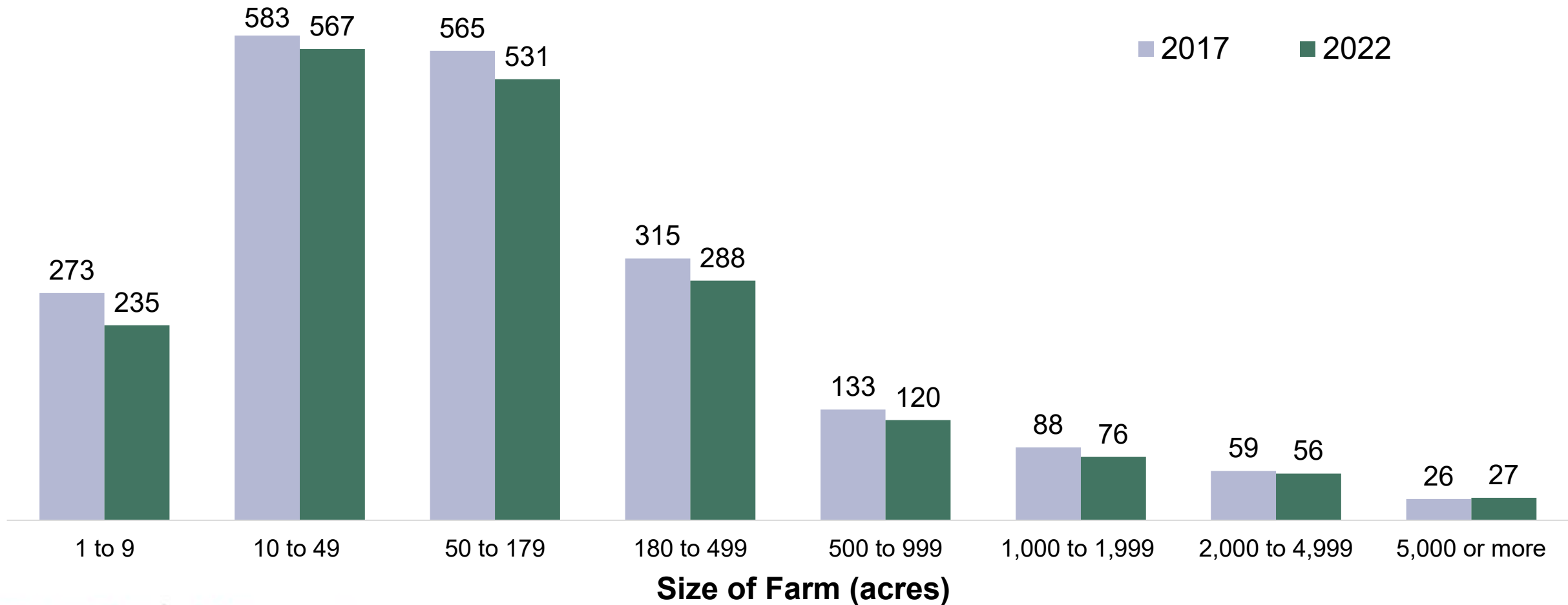
# Land in Farms, 2022

As a Percent of Total, by County



Type of Use	Acres (millions)
Total	880
Permanent Pasture	393
Cropland	382
<i>Harvested Cropland</i>	301
Woodland	72
Other	33

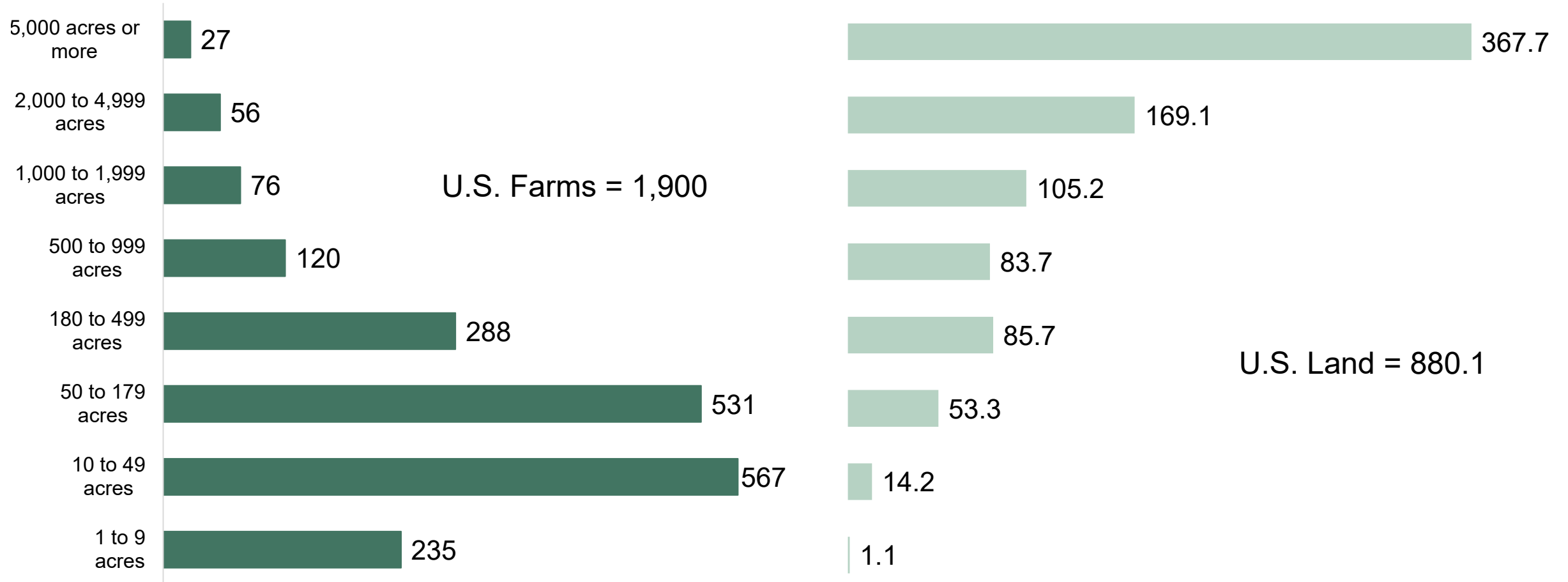
# Number of Farms, by Size Class, 2017 and 2022 (thousands)



# Farms and Land in Farms, by Size Class, 2022

Number of Farms (*thousands*)

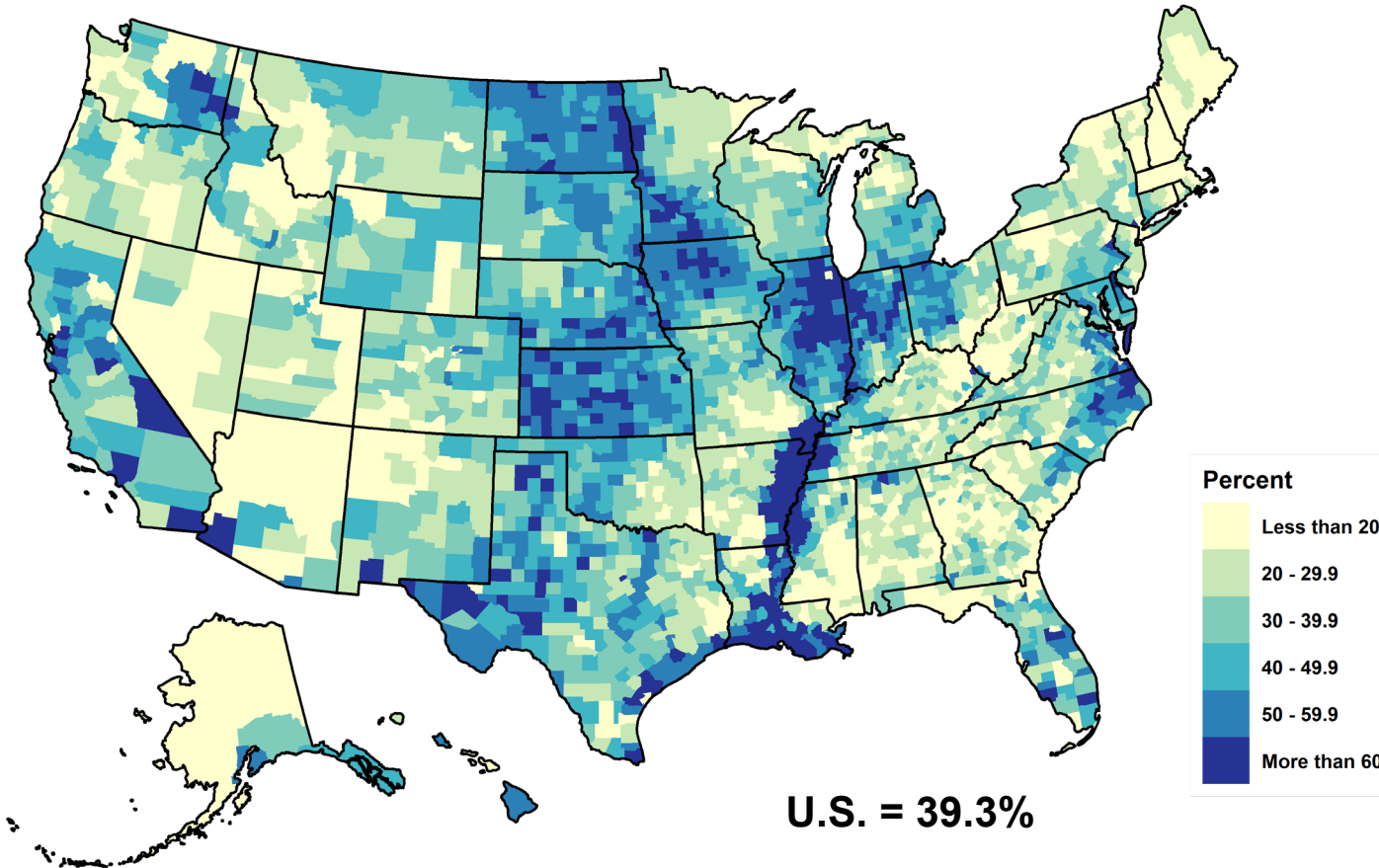
Land in Farms (*million acres*)





# Rented Land in Farms, 2022

As a Percent of Total, by County



Land in Farms by Tenure	Acres ( <i>millions</i> )
Full Owners	312
Part Owners	490
Owned land	219
Rented land	271
Tenants	78

# Economics

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- Total Value of Agricultural Production
- Crop and Livestock Sales
- Farm Income

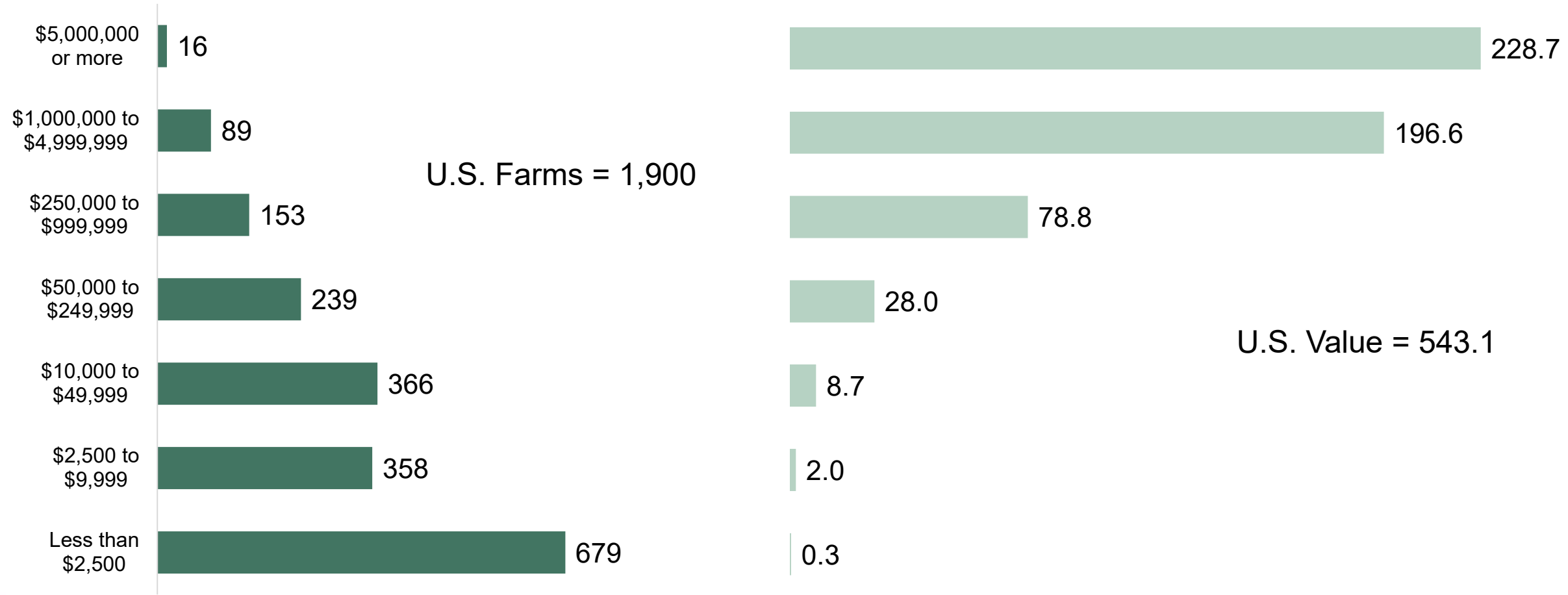
# Number of Farms, by Sales Class, 2017 and 2022 (thousands)



# Farms and Value of Production, by Sales Class, 2022

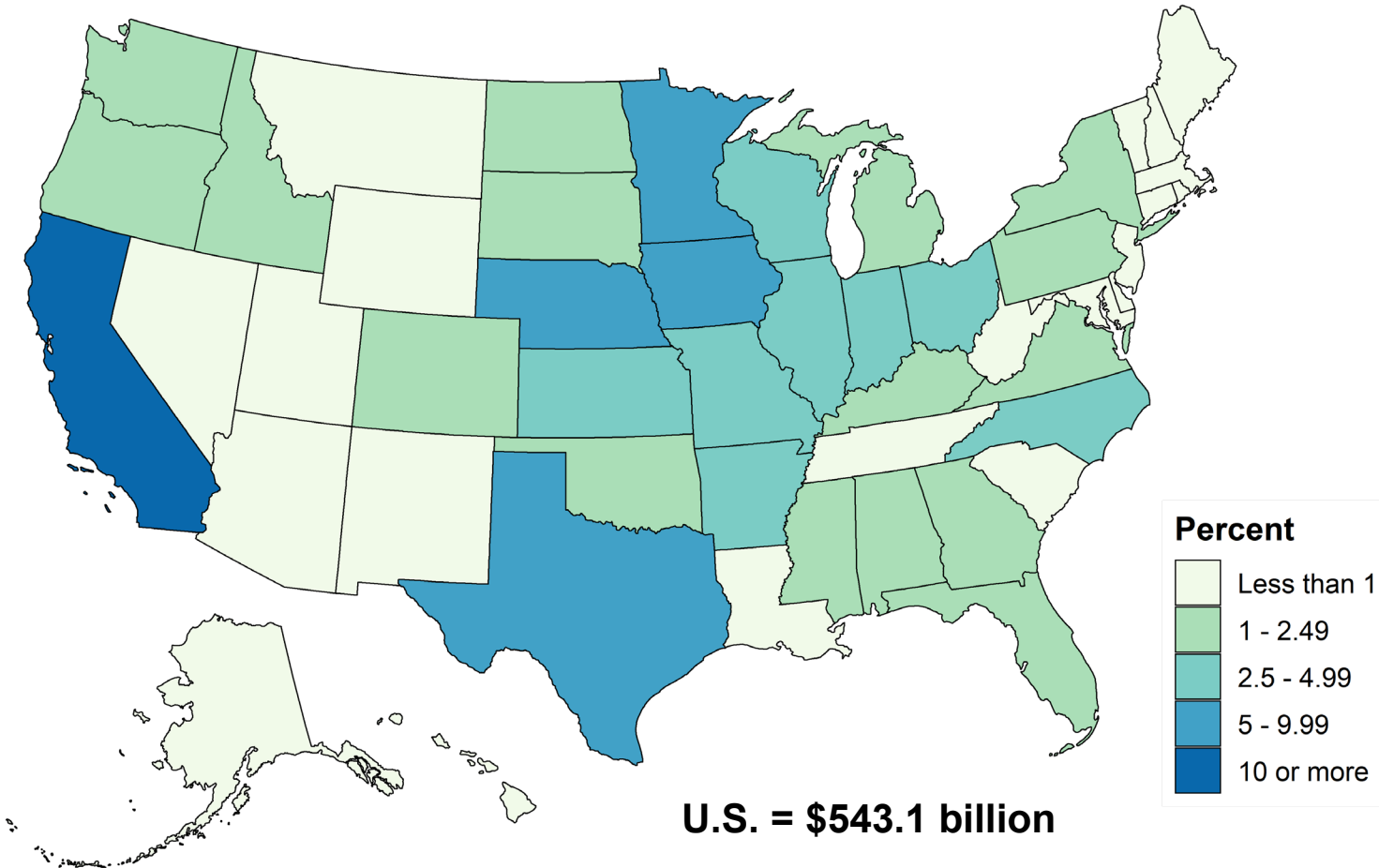
Number of Farms (*thousands*)

Value of Production (*\$ billions*)



# Total Value of Agricultural Production, 2022

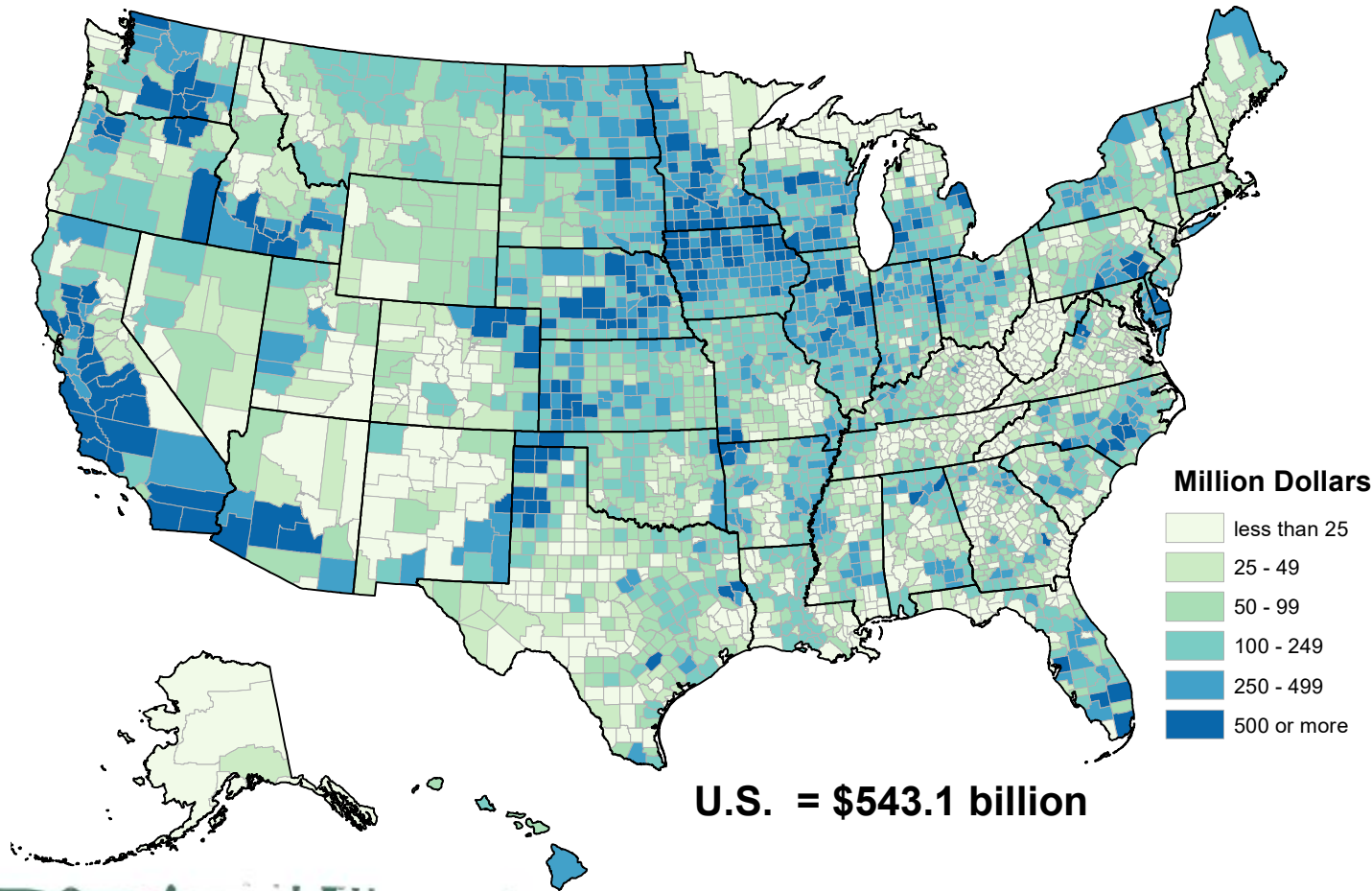
As a Percent of U.S. Total



Top 10 States	TVP (\$ billions)
California	59.0
Iowa	43.9
Texas	32.2
Nebraska	29.4
Minnesota	28.5
Illinois	26.4
Kansas	24.0
North Carolina	18.7
Indiana	18.0
Wisconsin	16.7

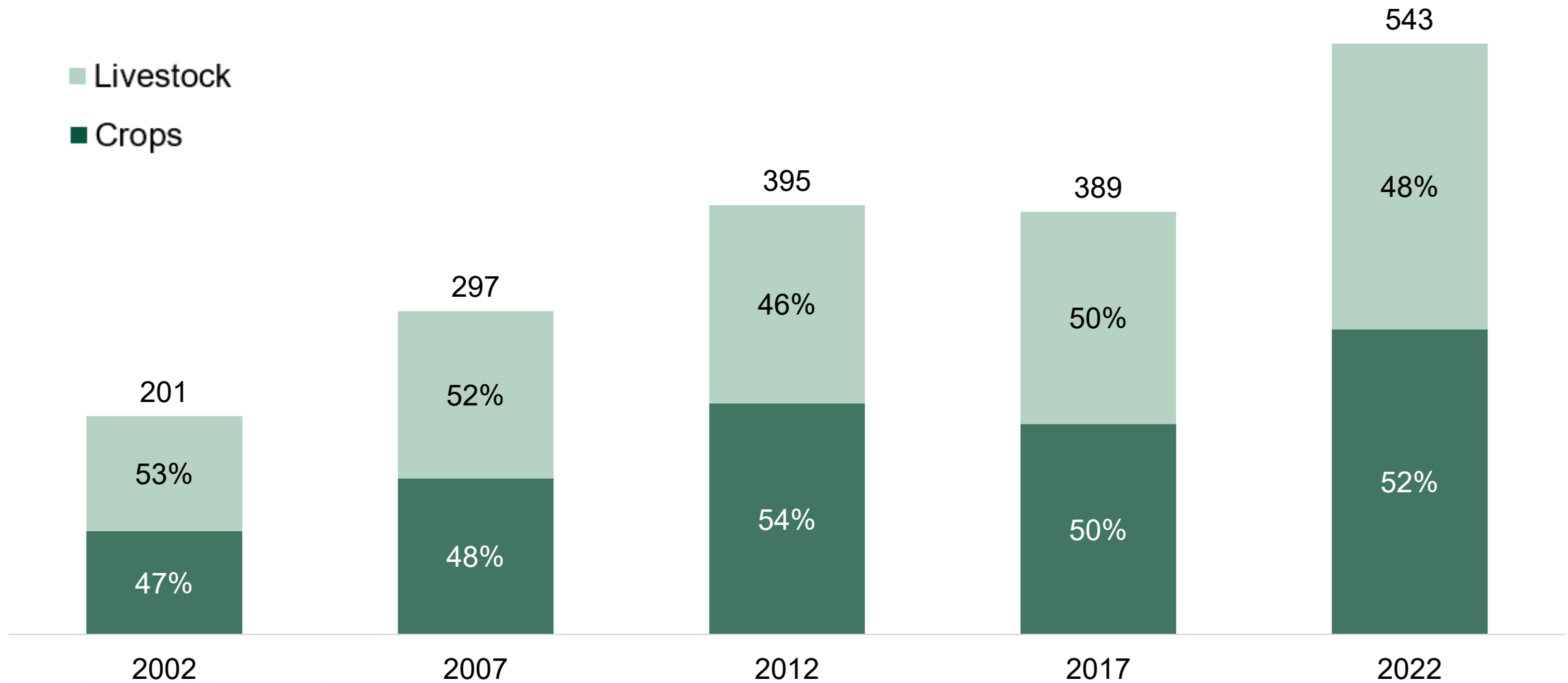
# Total Value of Agricultural Production, 2022

## By County



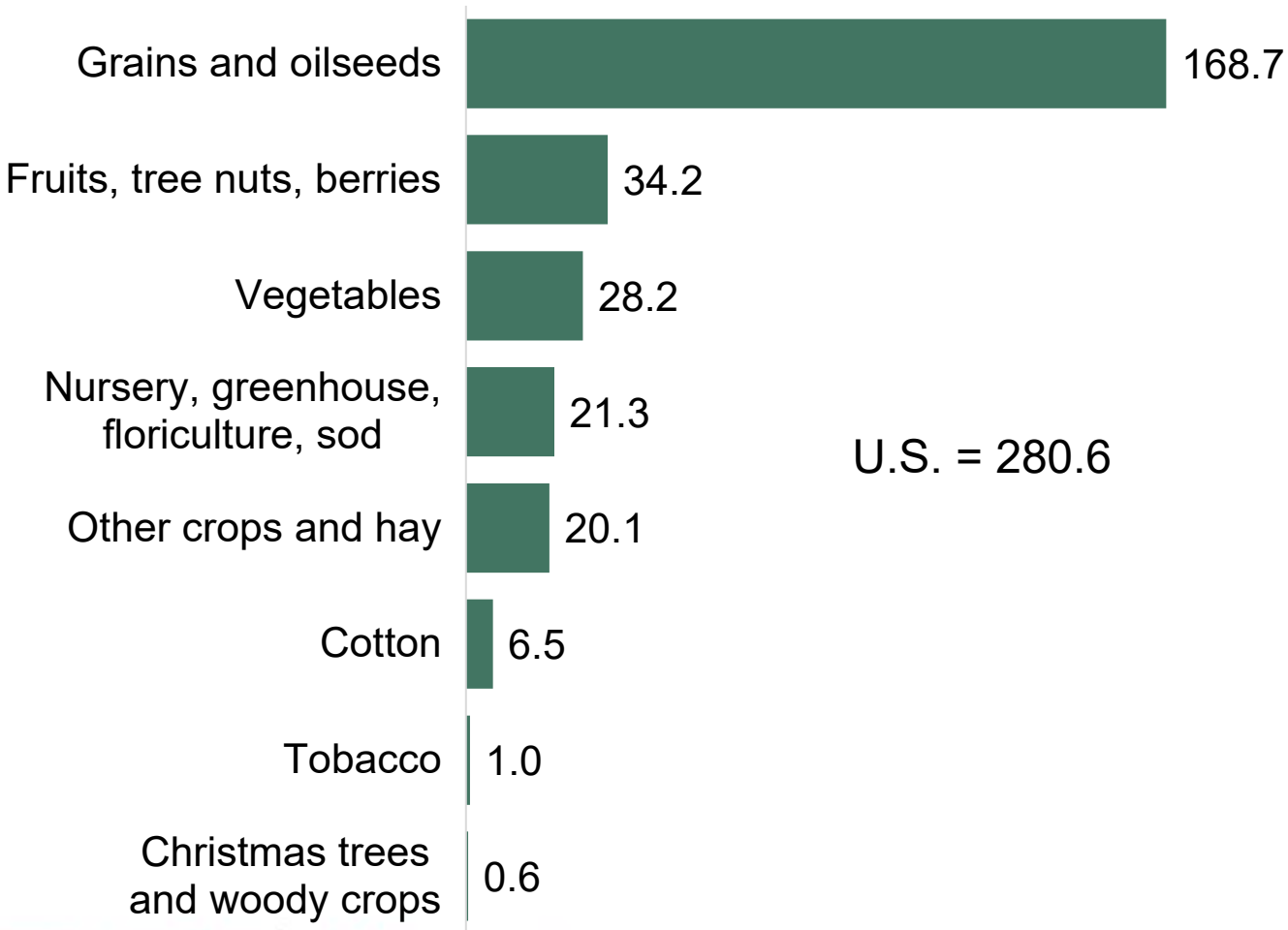
Top 10 Counties	TVP (\$ billions)
Fresno, CA	7.0
Tulare, CA	6.4
Monterey, CA	5.5
Kern, CA	5.0
Merced, CA	4.0
Imperial, CA	3.0
San Joaquin, CA	3.0
Stanislaus, CA	2.9
Santa Barbara, CA	2.6
Grant, WA	2.6

# Value of Production, Crops and Livestock, 2002 - 2022 (\$ billions)



# Value of Crop Production by Category, 2022

Value (\$ billions)

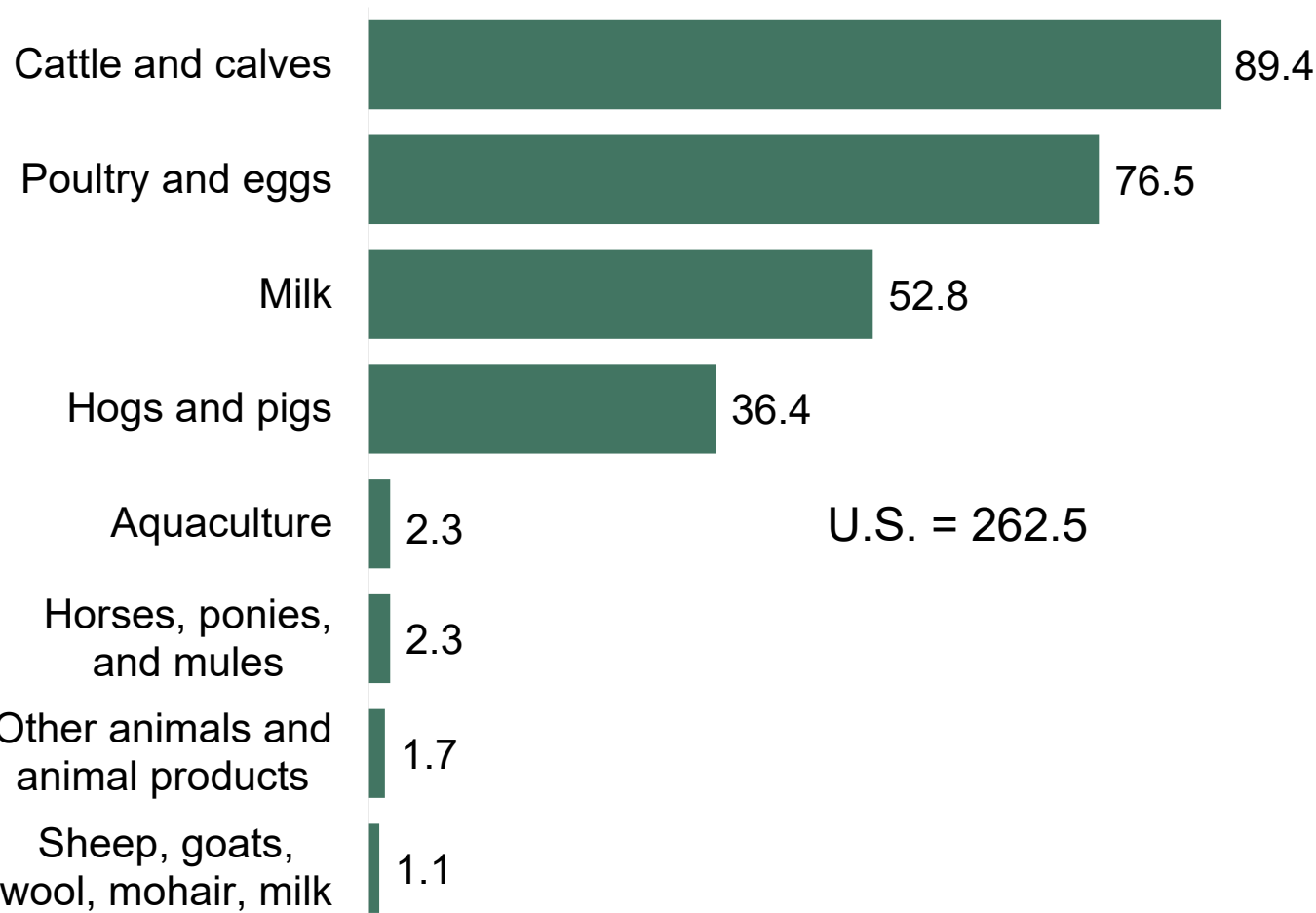


	Top State	% of U.S.
Grains and oilseeds	Iowa	14
Fruits, tree nuts, berries	California	68
Vegetables	California	41
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod	California	18
Other crops and hay	California	12
Cotton	Texas	22
Tobacco	North Carolina	51
Christmas trees and woody crops	Oregon	30



# Value of Livestock Production by Category, 2022

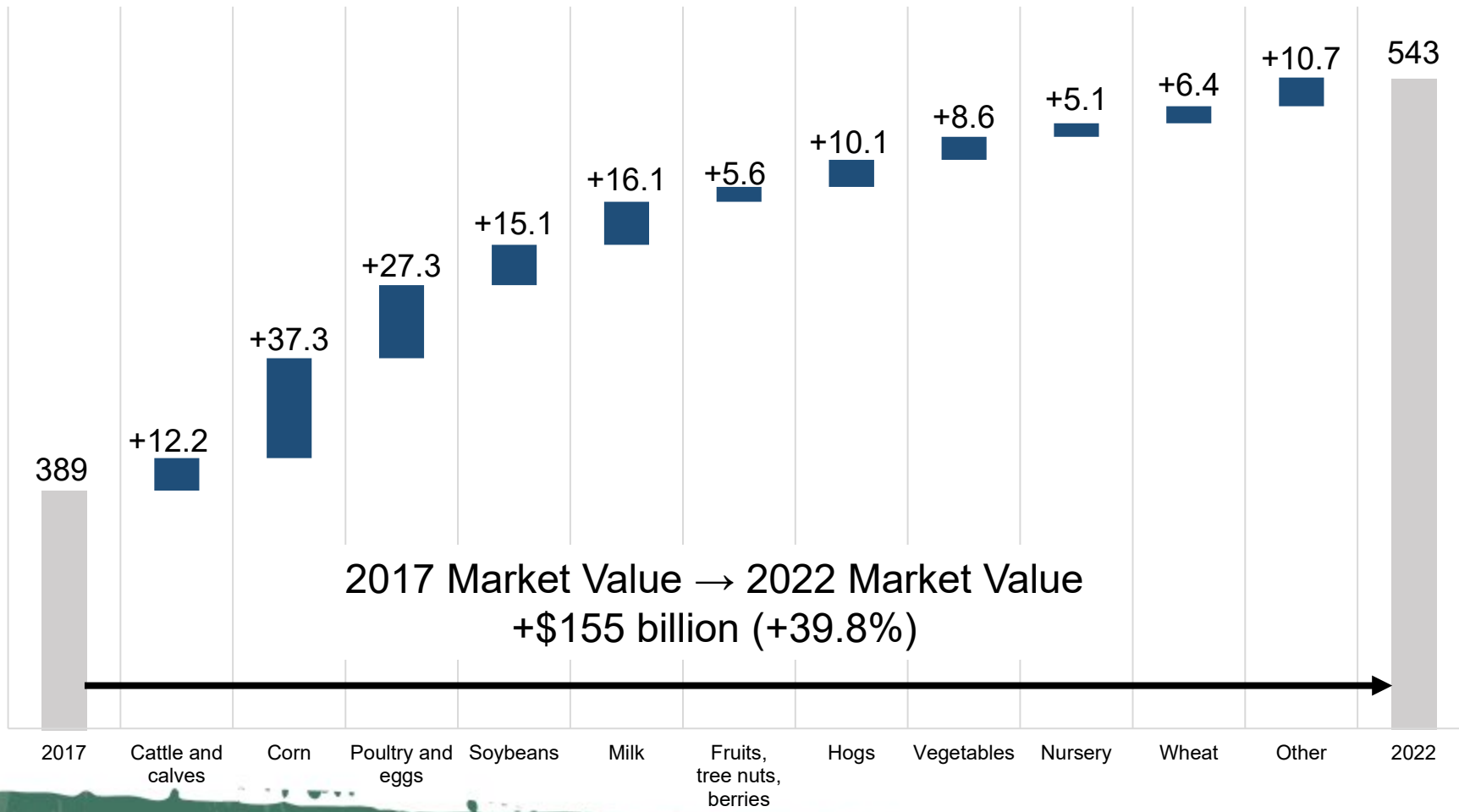
Value (\$ billions)



	Top State	% of U.S.
Cattle and calves	Texas	17
Poultry and eggs	North Carolina	12
Milk	California	18
Hogs and pigs	Iowa	32
Aquaculture	Washington	13
Horses, ponies, mules	Kentucky	33
Other animals and animal products	Texas	10
Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, milk	Texas	15

# Value of Production, Top 10 Commodities, 2022 (\$ billions)

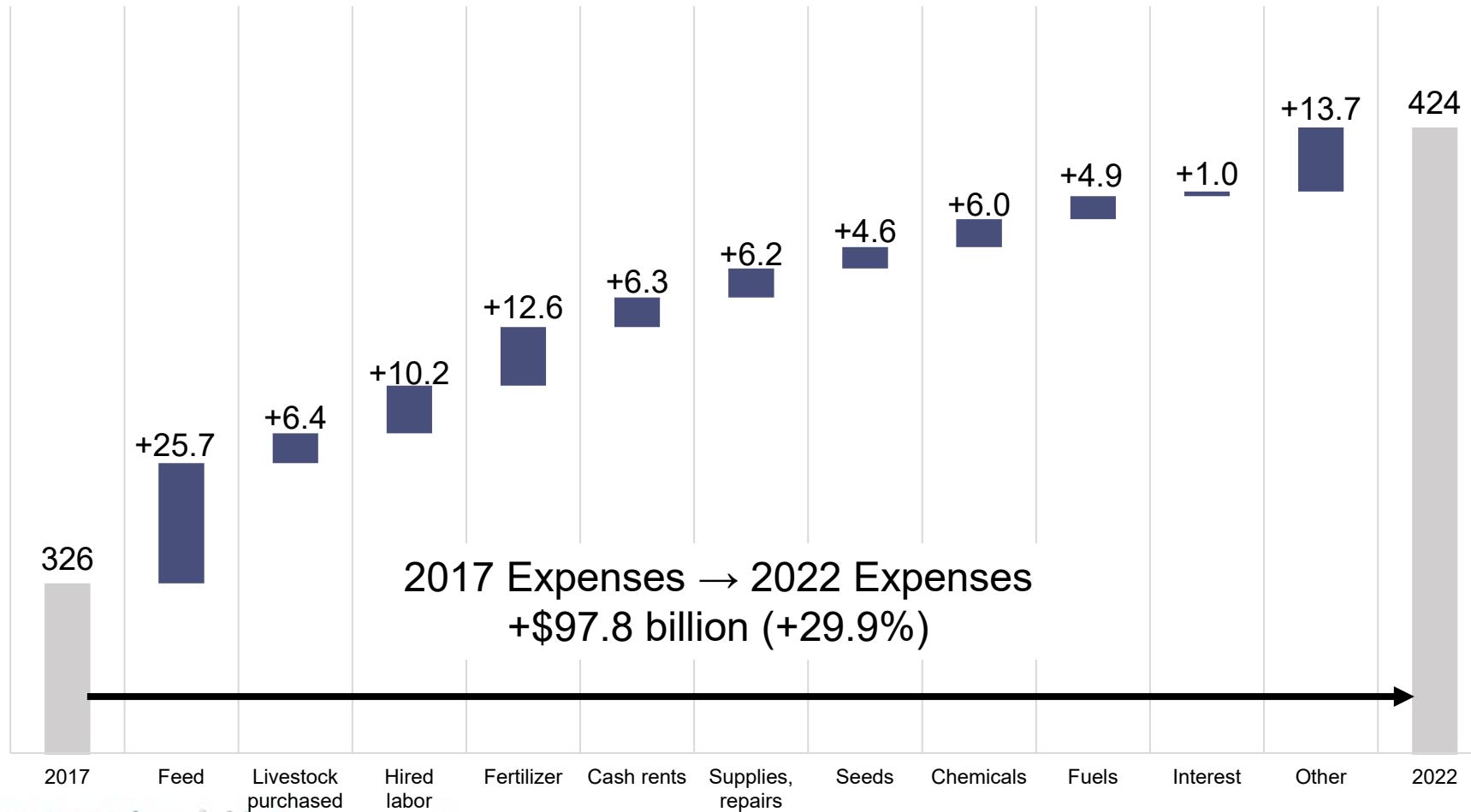
Change in Value, 2017 to 2022



Commodity	TVP
Cattle and calves	89.4
Corn	88.5
Poultry and eggs	76.5
Soybeans	55.4
Milk	52.8
Hogs and pigs	36.4
Fruits, tree nuts, berries	34.2
Vegetables	28.2
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod	21.3
Wheat	14.3
Other	46.1

# Farm Production Expenses, 2022 (\$ billions)

Change in Value, 2017 to 2022



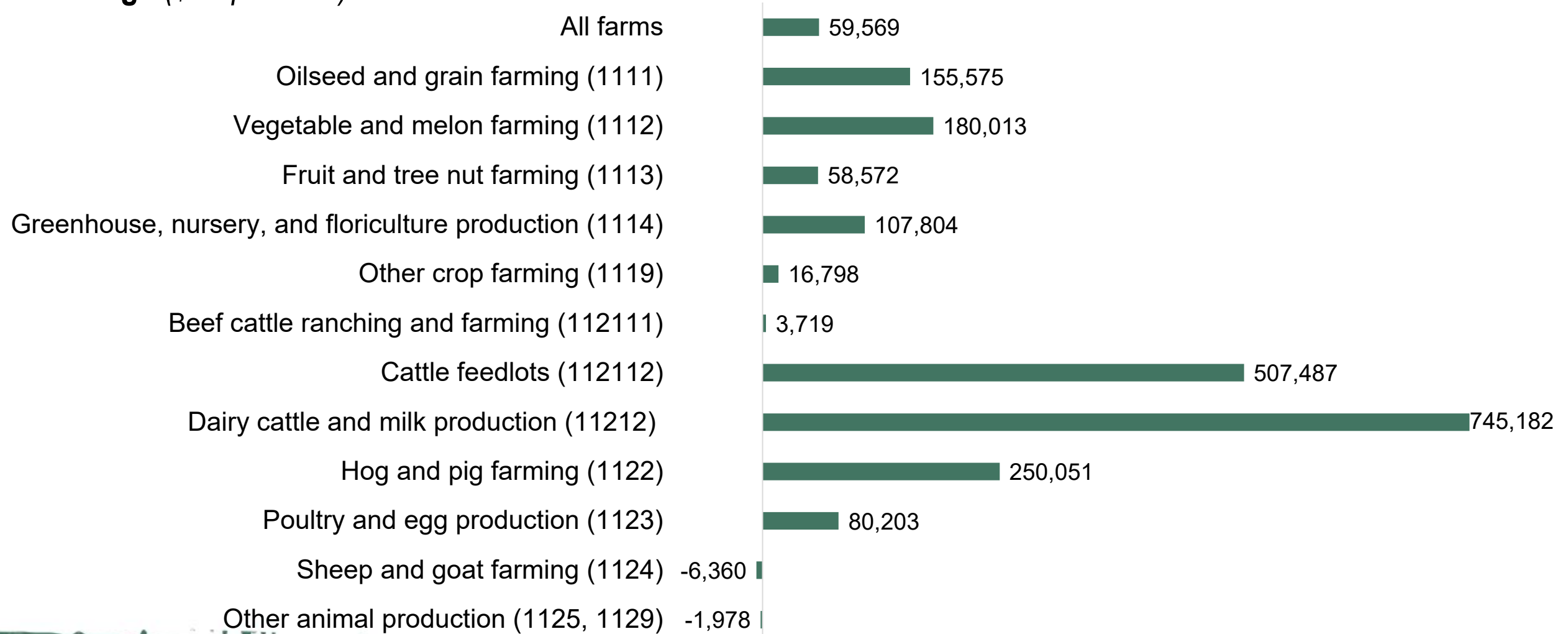
Farm Expenses	
Feed	88.4
Livestock purchased	51.4
Hired labor	41.8
Fertilizer	36.1
Cash rents	27.3
Supplies and repairs	25.9
Seeds	25.6
Chemicals	23.6
Fuels	18.4
Interest	13.4
Other	72.2

# Farm Income and Expenses, 2017 and 2022 (\$ billions)

	2017	2022	% change
Value of ag products sold	388.5	543.1	+40
Government payments	8.9	10.4	+17
Farm-related income	16.8	22.3	+32
Production expenses	326.4	424.1	+30
Net income	87.9	151.6	+72
Per farm average net income (dollars)	\$43,053	\$79,790	+85

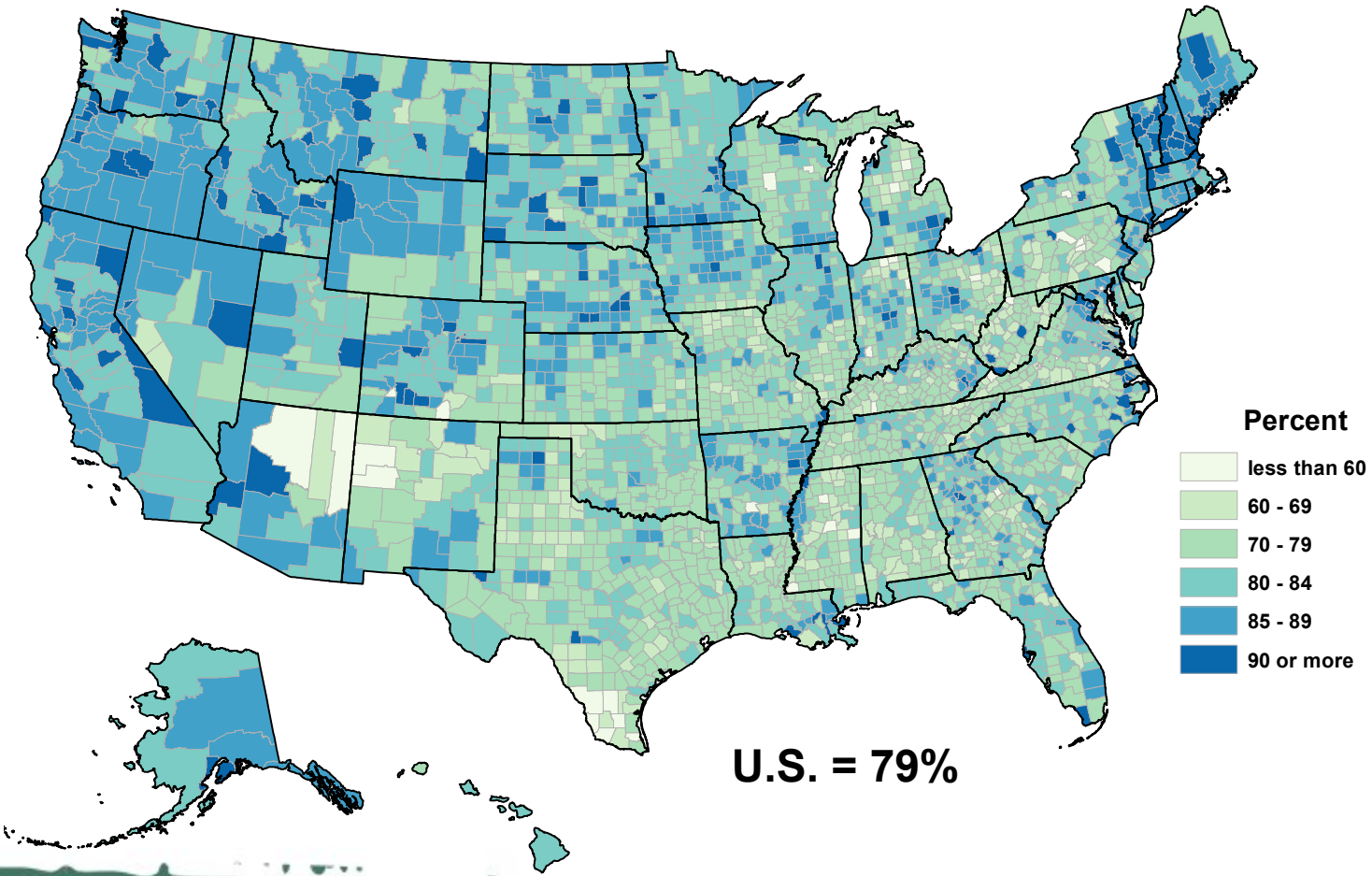
# Net Farm Income of Producers by Farm Specialization, 2022

Average (\$ / operation)

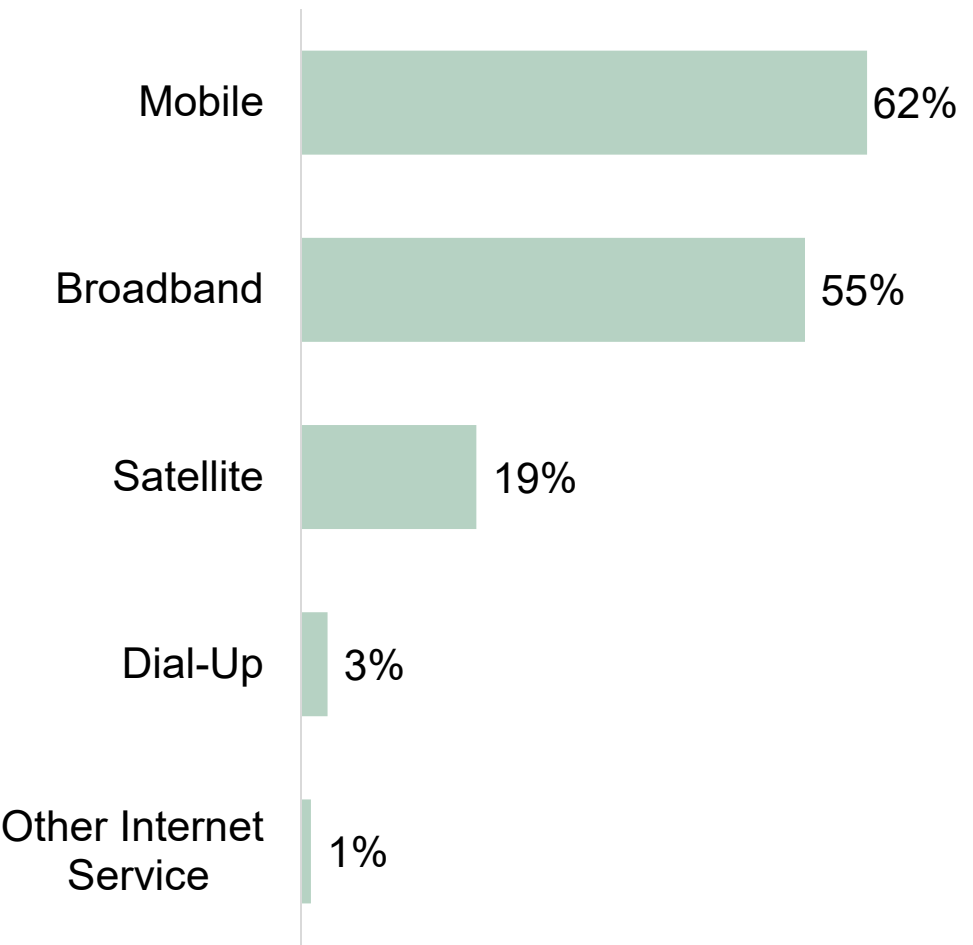


# Farms with Internet Access

As a Percent of Total, by County, 2022



## By Type, 2022 (percent)



# Other Data Available

- Direct marketing to consumers and retailers
  - 116,617 farms sold directly to consumers, with sales of \$3.3 billion up 16% from 2017
  - 60,332 farms sold directly to retail outlets and institutions, with sales of \$14 billion up 57% from 2017
- Land Use Practices
  - 38% of acres used no-till practices, up 1.1 percentage points from 2017
  - 35% used conservation tillage practices, up 0.6 percentage points from 2017
  - 27% used conventional tillage practices, down 1.7 percentage points from 2017
  - 18 million acres were planted to a cover crop, up 2.6 million acres from 2017
- Farms with renewable energy increased 15%
  - Farms with solar panels account for 76% of all farms with renewable energy producing systems

# Key Summary Points

- Farm numbers and land in farms both have ongoing declines.
- The largest farms both in terms of dollars and acres increased in number while mid and small-sized farms decreased in number.
- Fewer farms account for the majority of ag products sold.
- There is an increased share of farms with internet access, especially via mobile.



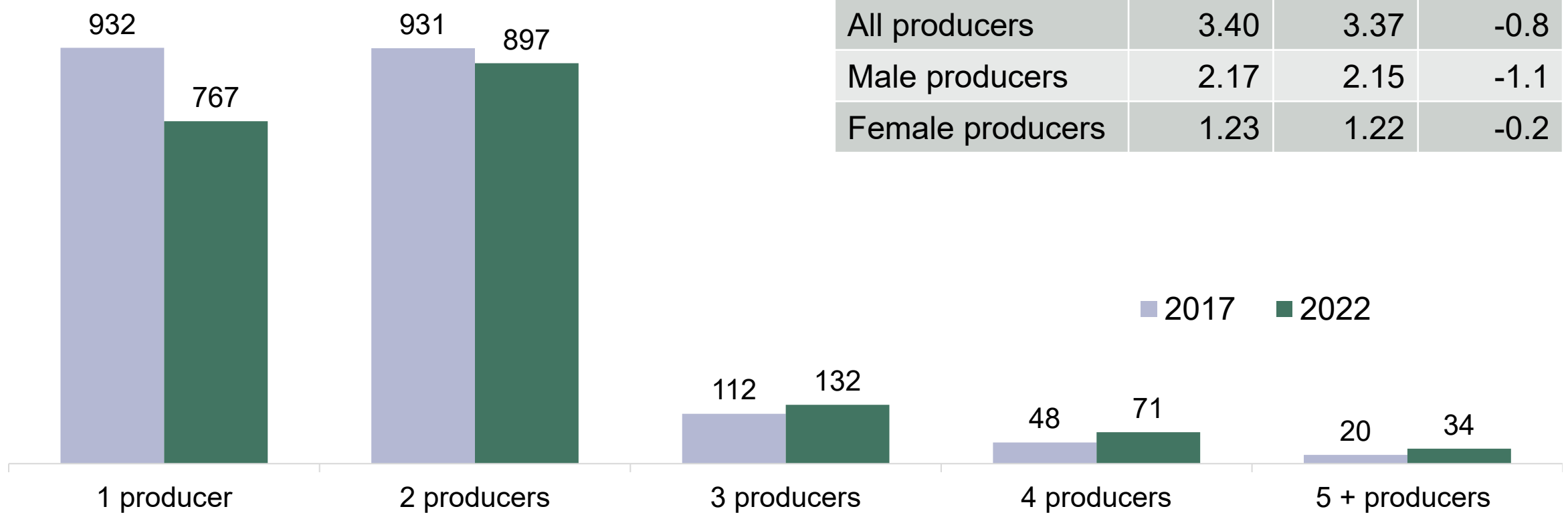
# Demographics of Farm Producers

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- Farm Producer Characteristics by Sex
- Average Age of Producers
- Young Producers
- New and Beginning Producers
- Farm and Producer Characteristics by Race and Ethnicity
- Producers with Military Service

# Farm Structure, 2017 and 2022

## Farms by Number of Producers (*thousands*)

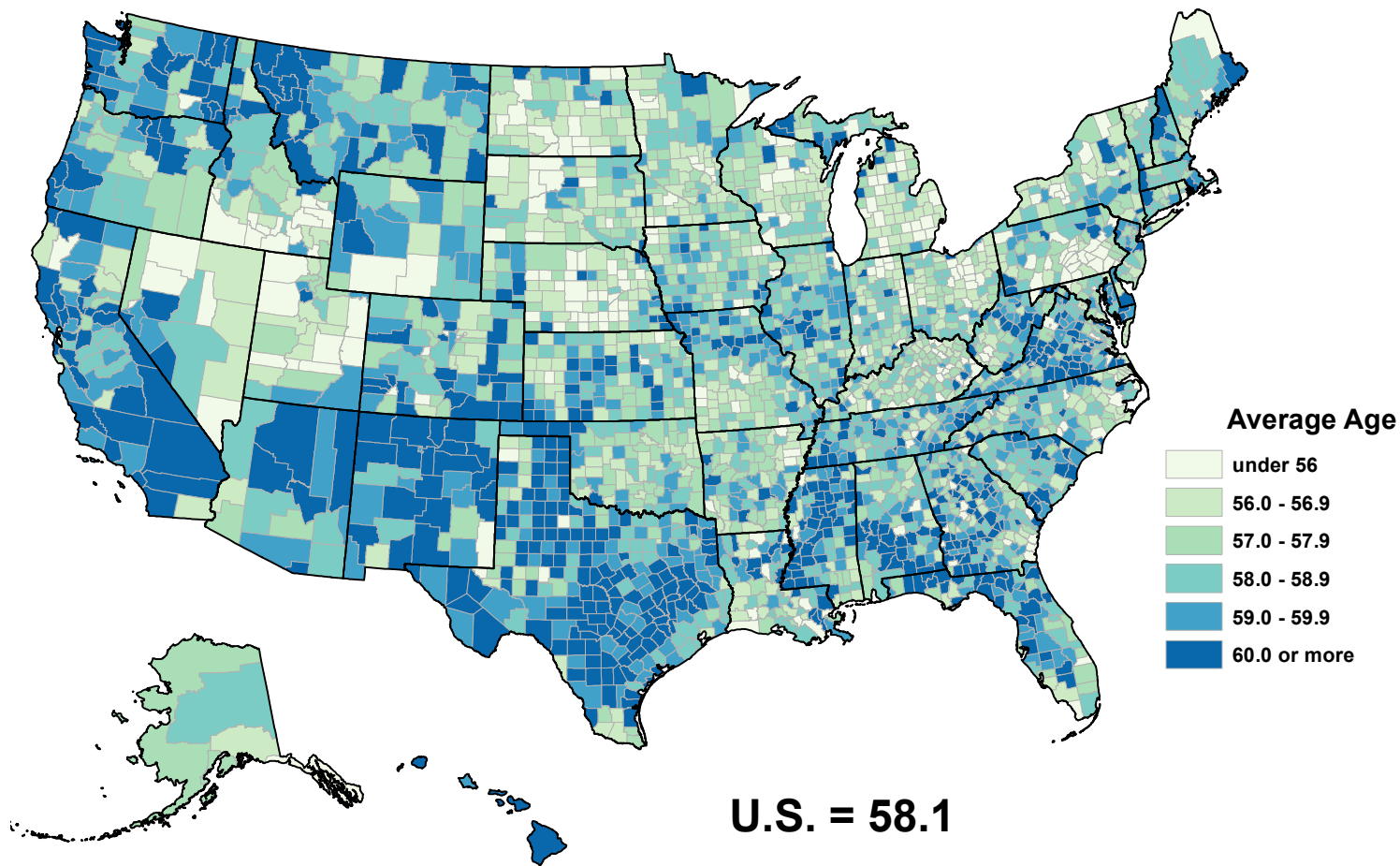


## Producers by Sex (*millions*)

	2017	2022	% change
All producers	3.40	3.37	-0.8
Male producers	2.17	2.15	-1.1
Female producers	1.23	1.22	-0.2

# Average Age of Producers

By County, 2022

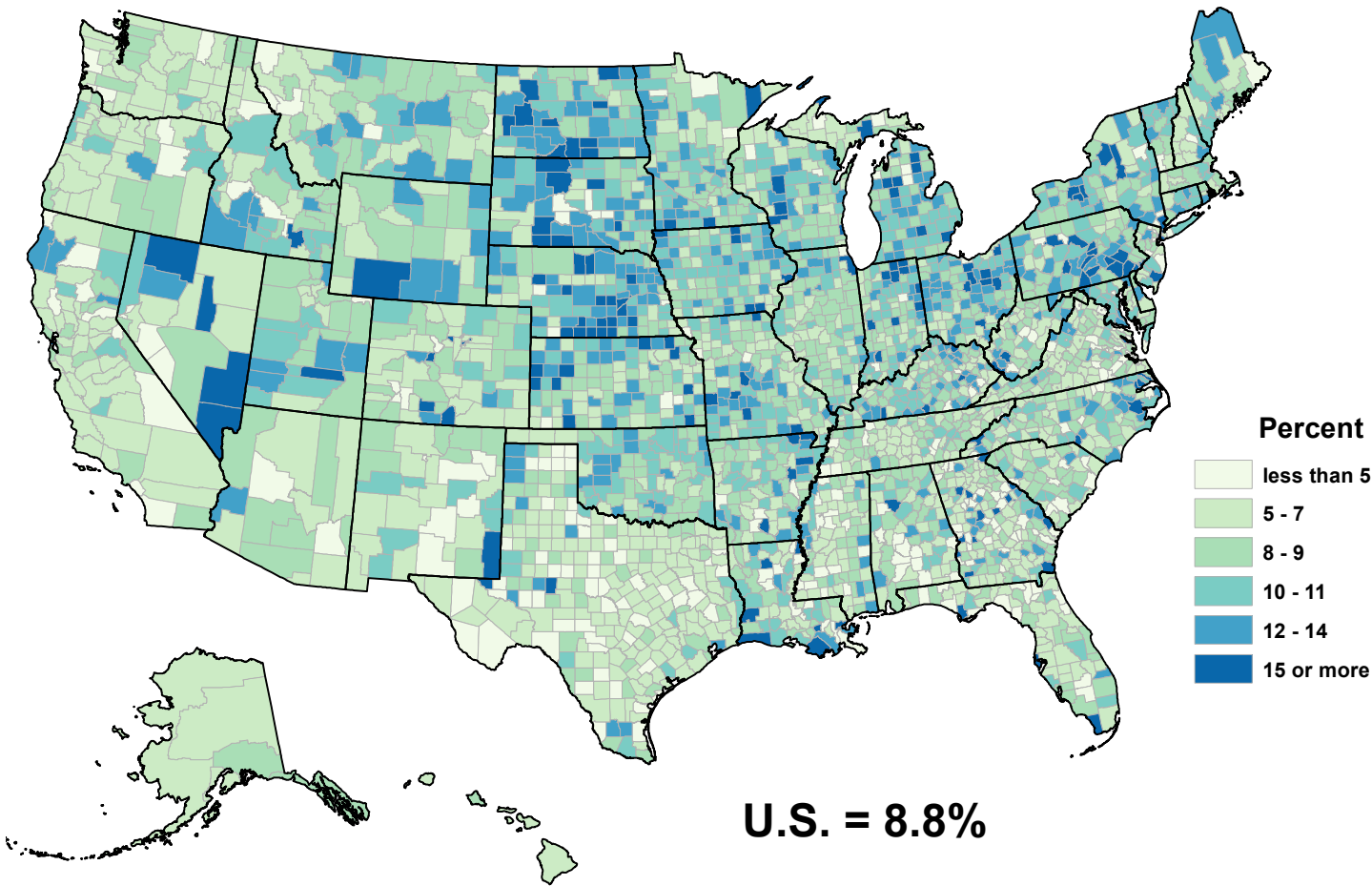


## All Producers, 2002 - 2022

2002	53.2
2007	54.9
2012	56.3
2017	57.5
2022	58.1

# Young Producers (Under 35 years), 2022

As a Percent of All Producers, by County



## Producers

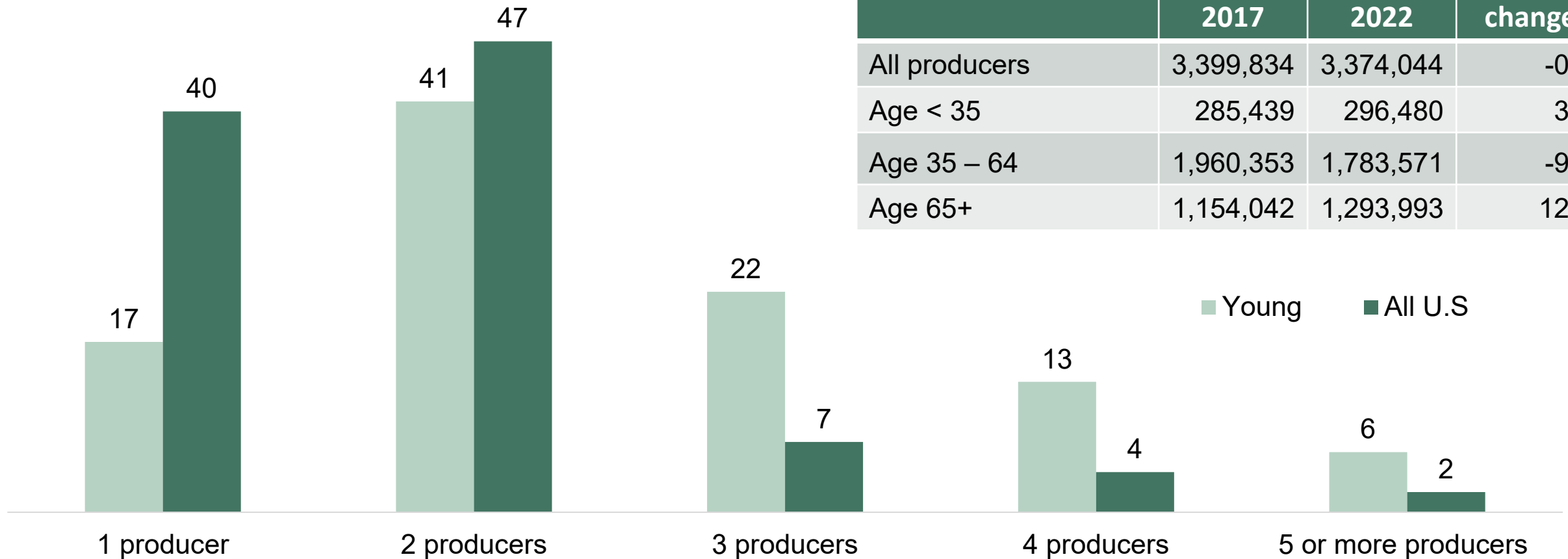
	Young	All
Number	296,480	3,374,044
Average age	28.6	58.1

## Farms

Number	221,233	1,900,487
Average farm size (acres)	475	463
Average Total Value of Production	\$363,592	\$285,762

# Farm Structure for Farms with Young Producers, 2022

Farms by Number of Producers (*percent of total*)

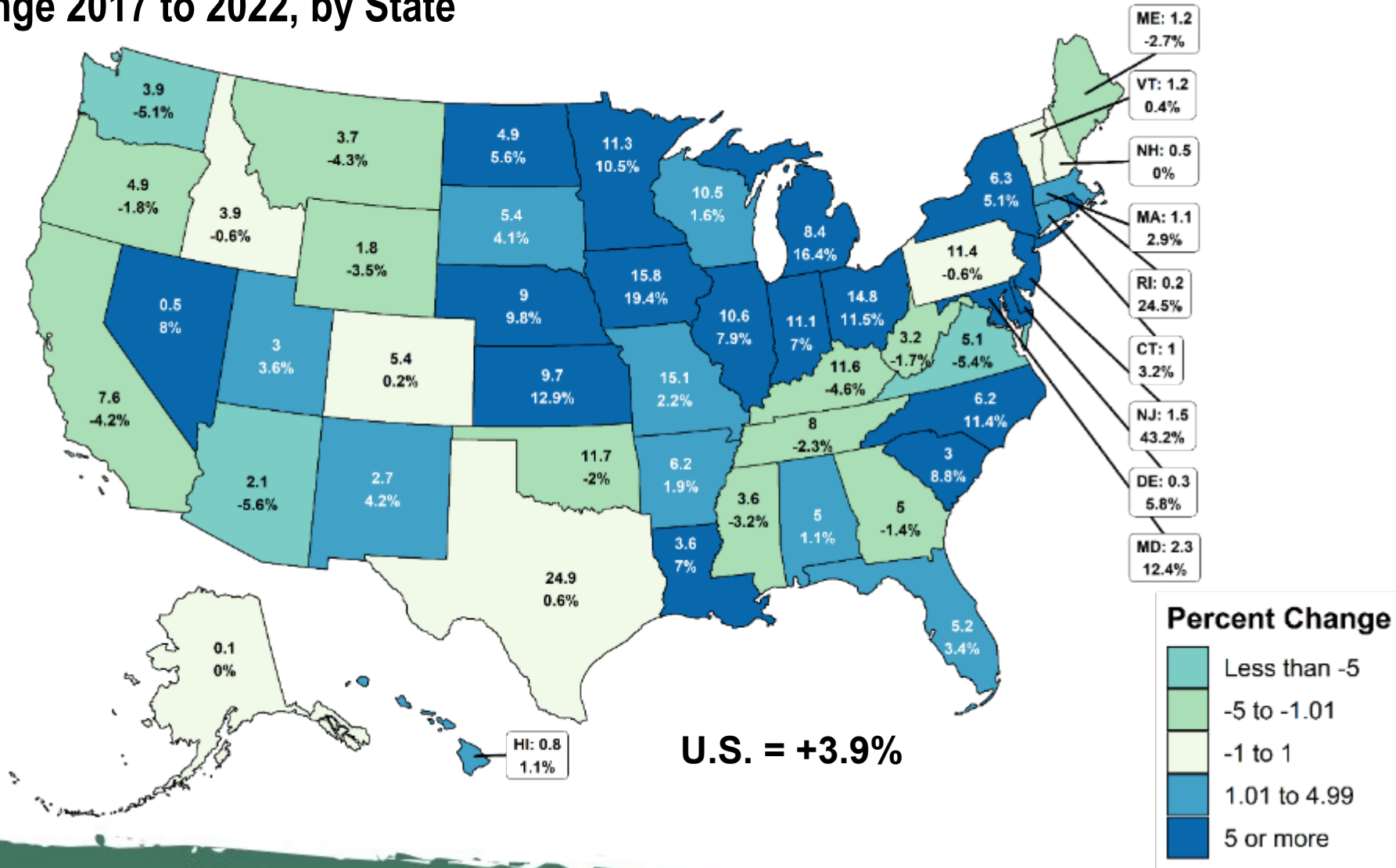


Producers by Age

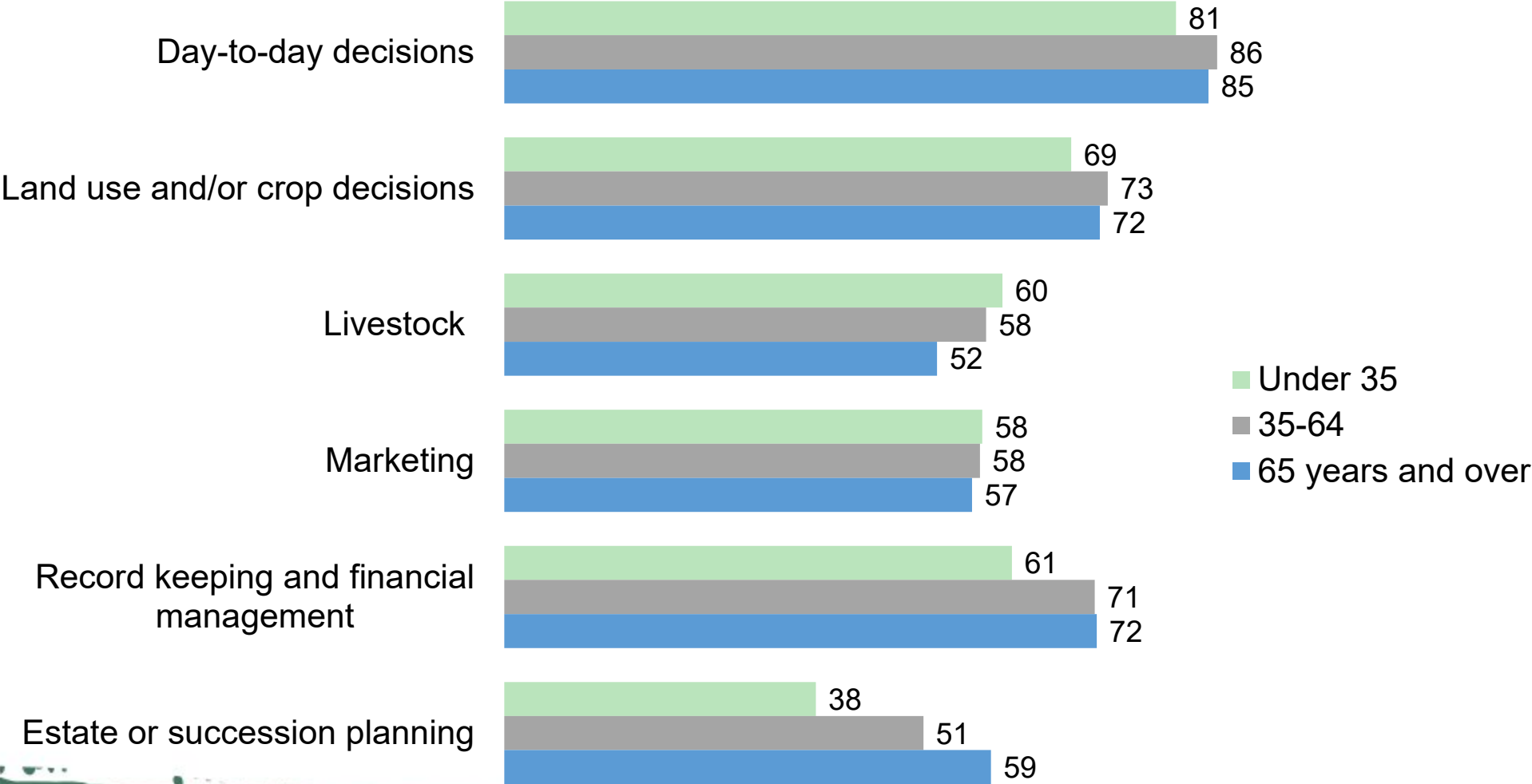
	2017	2022	% change
All producers	3,399,834	3,374,044	-0.8
Age < 35	285,439	296,480	3.9
Age 35 – 64	1,960,353	1,783,571	-9.0
Age 65+	1,154,042	1,293,993	12.1

# Young Producers, 2022 *(thousands)*

## As a Percent Change 2017 to 2022, by State

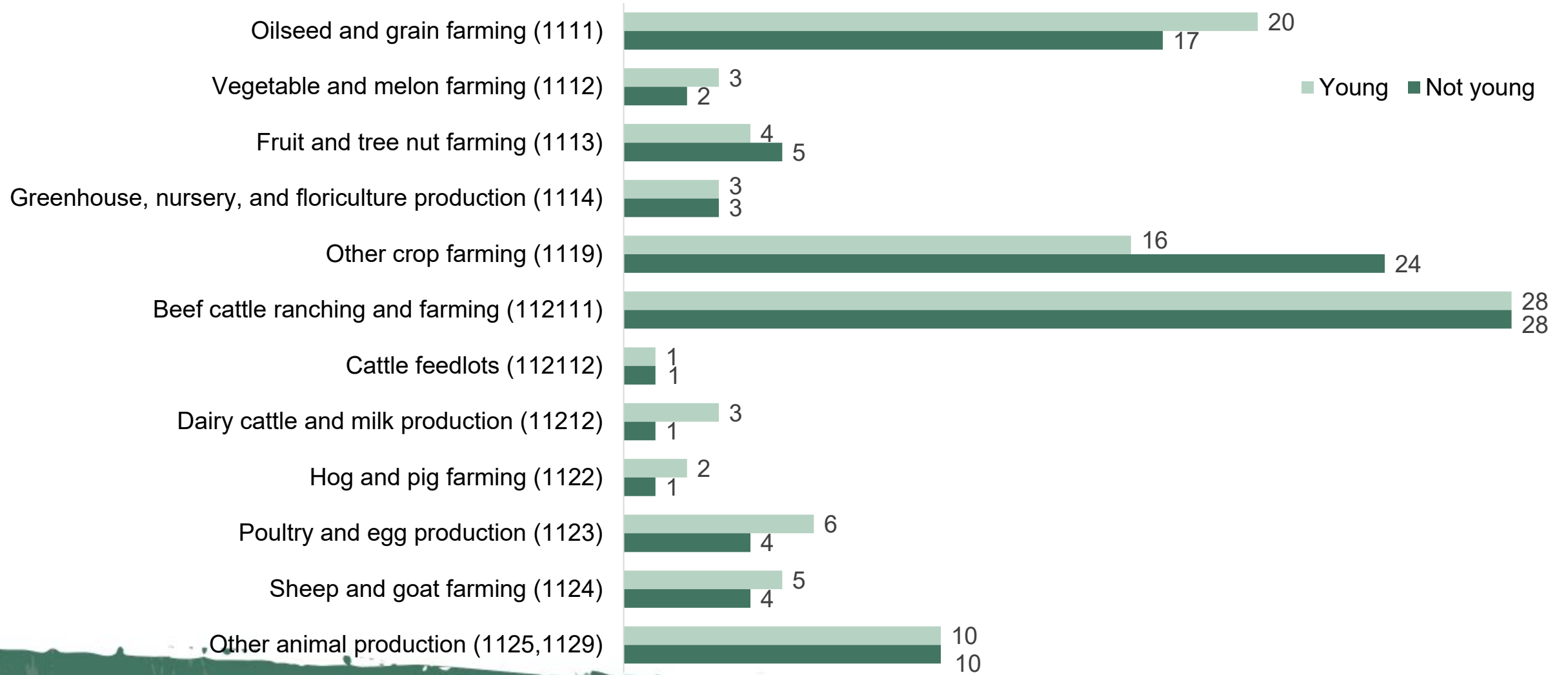


# Producer Decision Making by Age, 2022 (percent)



# Farms with a Young Producer by Farm Specialization, 2022

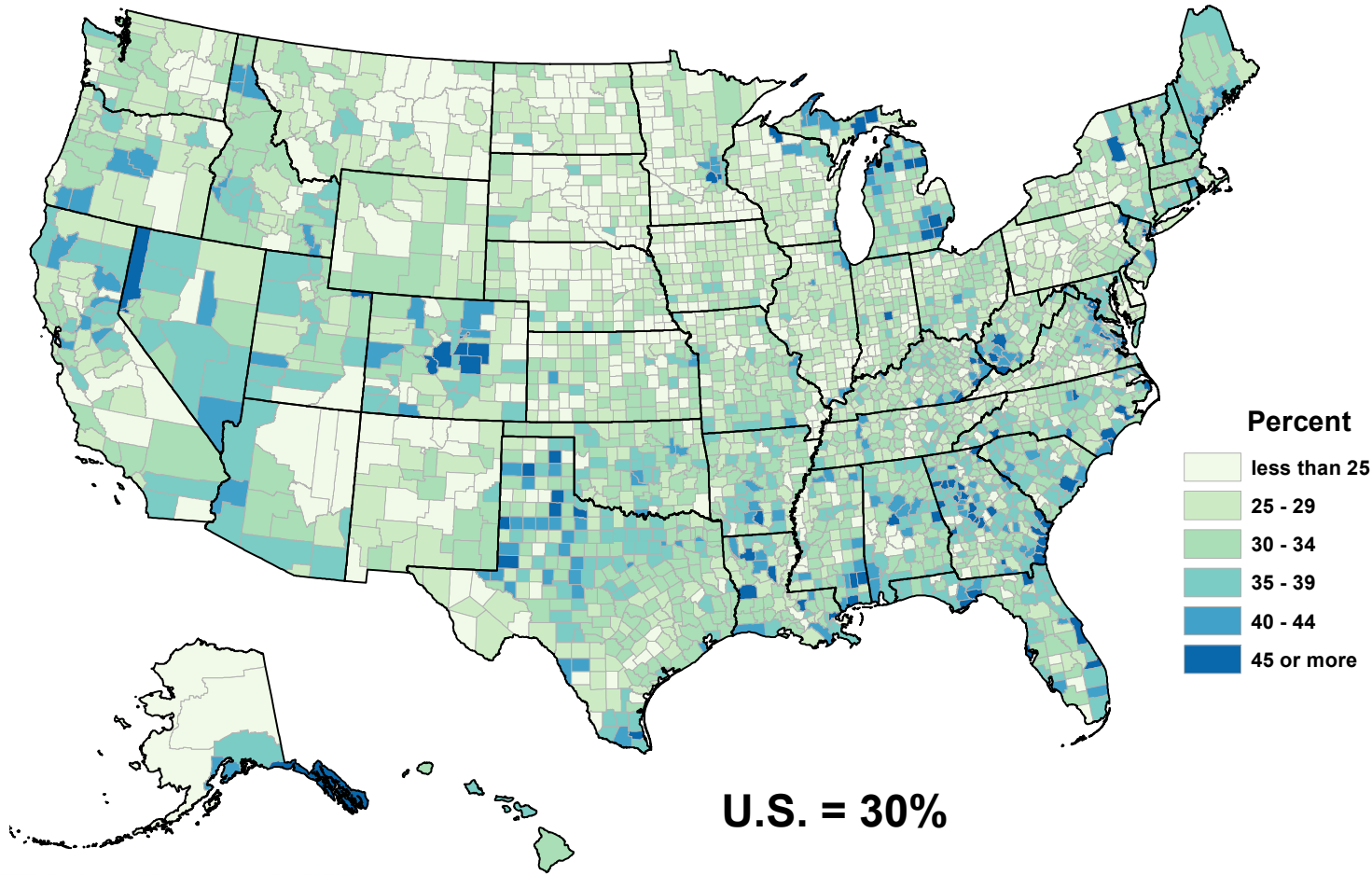
Number of Farms (percent of total)





# New and Beginning Producers (10 years or less on any farm), 2022

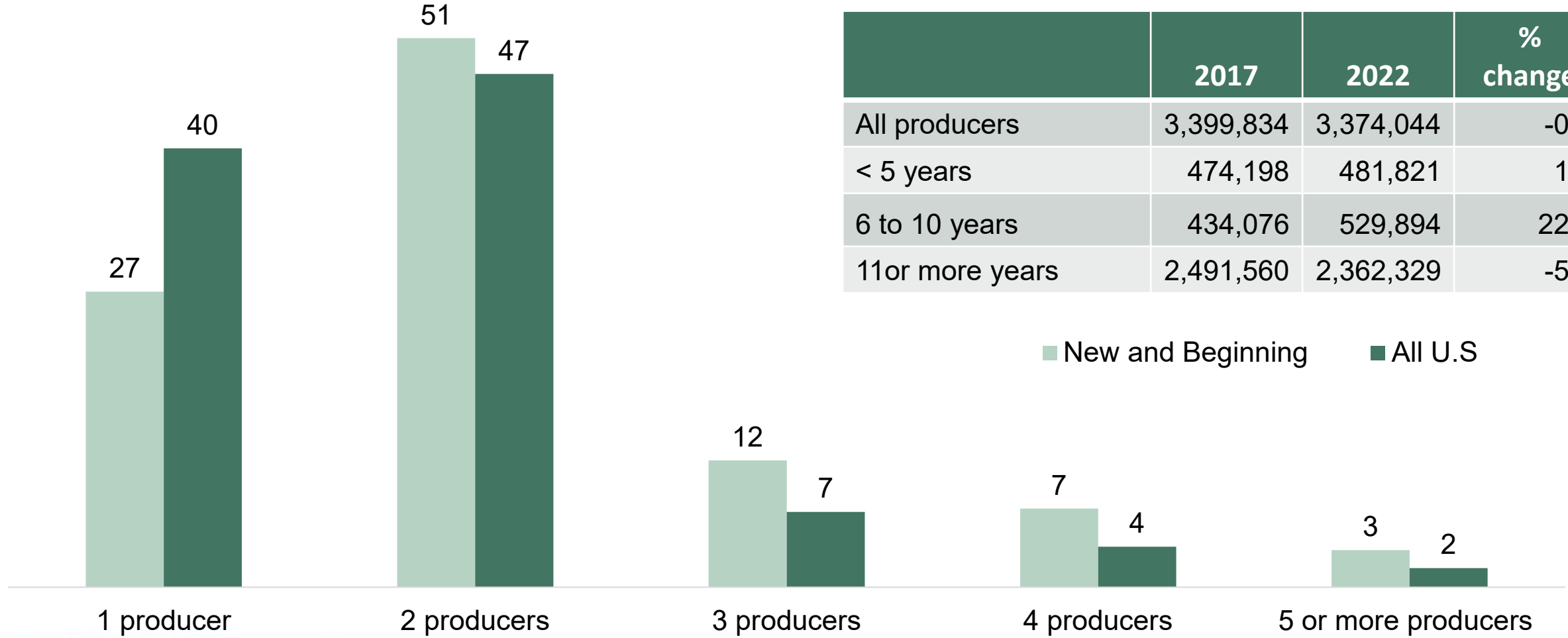
As a Percent of All Producers, by County



Producers		
	New and Beginning	All
Number	1,011,715	3,374,044
Average age	47.1	58.1
Farms		
Number	630,116	1,900,487
Average farm size (acres)	312	463
Average Total Value of Production	\$194,342	\$285,762

# New and Beginning Producer Farm Structure, 2022

Farms by Number of Producers (percent of total)

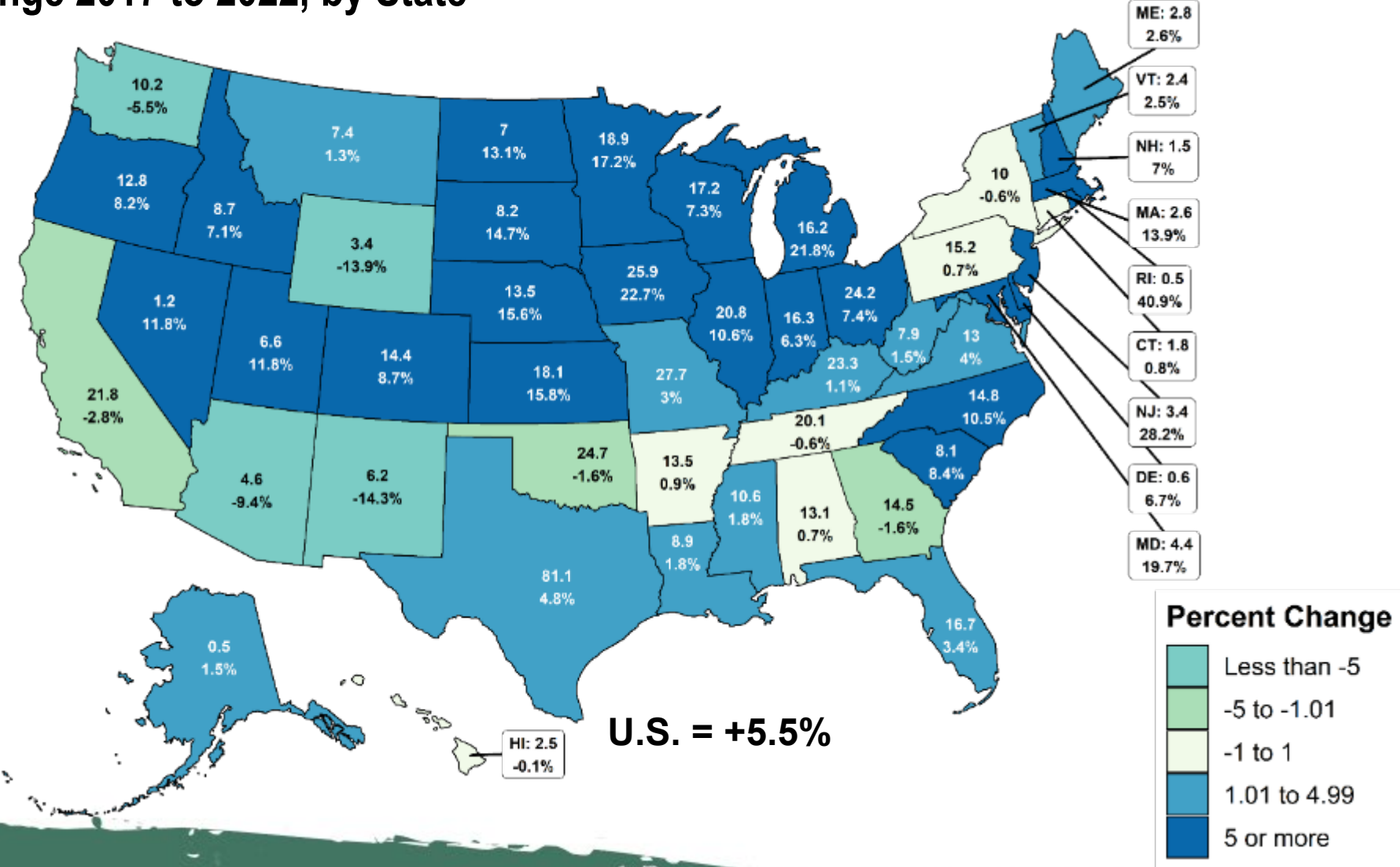


Producers by Years on any Farm

	2017	2022	% change
All producers	3,399,834	3,374,044	-0.8
< 5 years	474,198	481,821	1.6
6 to 10 years	434,076	529,894	22.1
11 or more years	2,491,560	2,362,329	-5.2

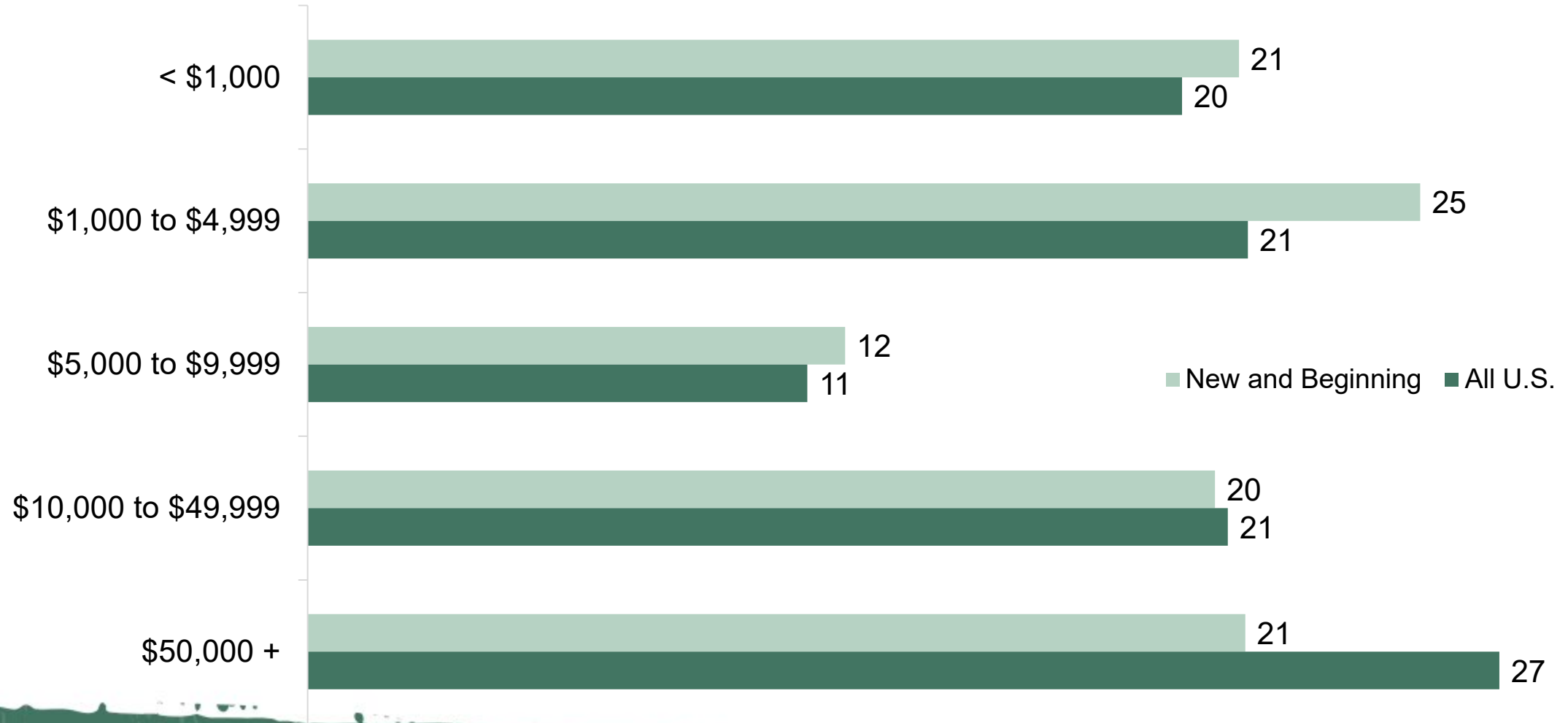
# Farms with a New and Beginning Producer, 2022 (thousands)

As a Percent Change 2017 to 2022, by State



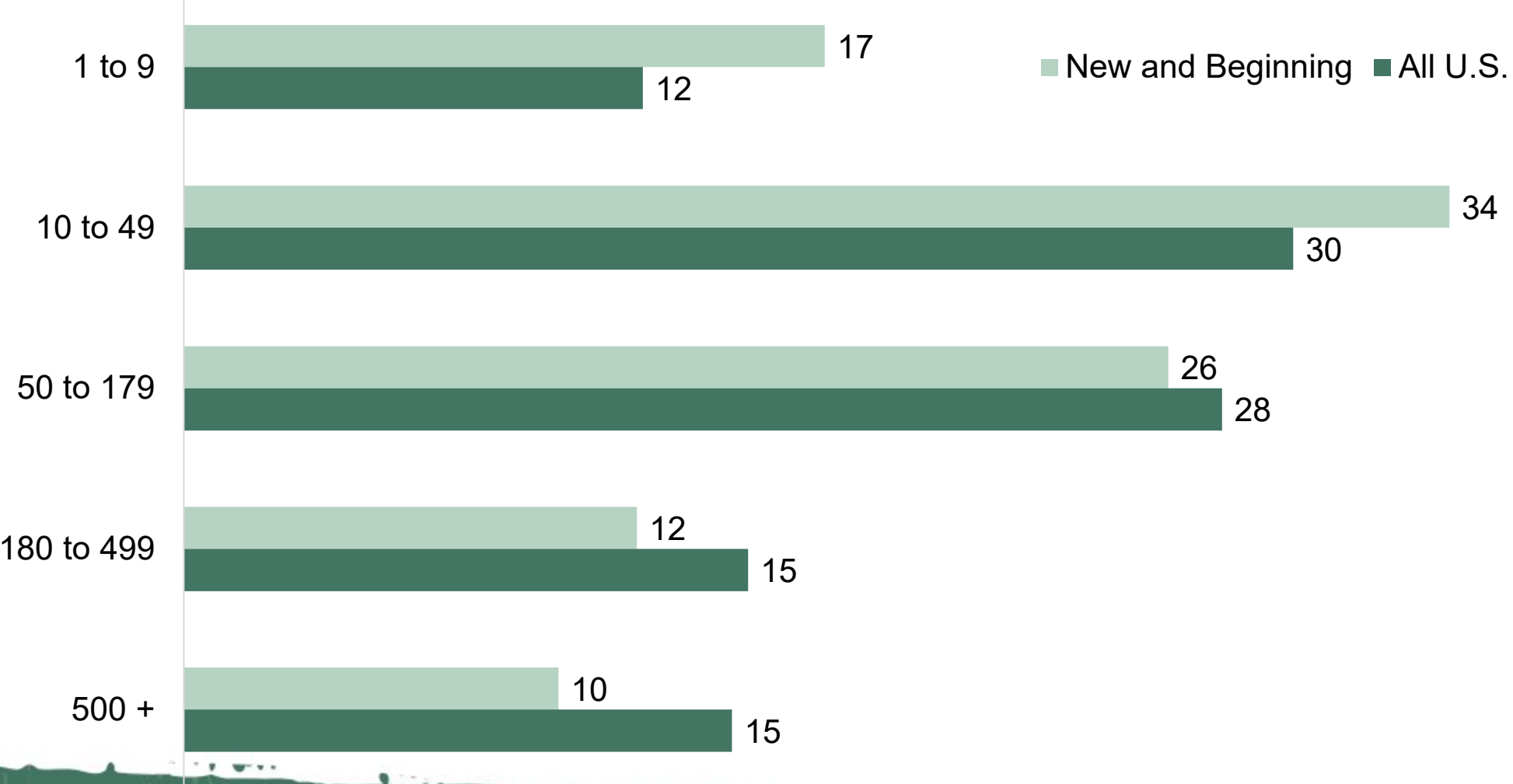
# Farms with a Beginning Producer by Economic Class, 2022 *(percent)*

Number of Farms *(percent of total)*



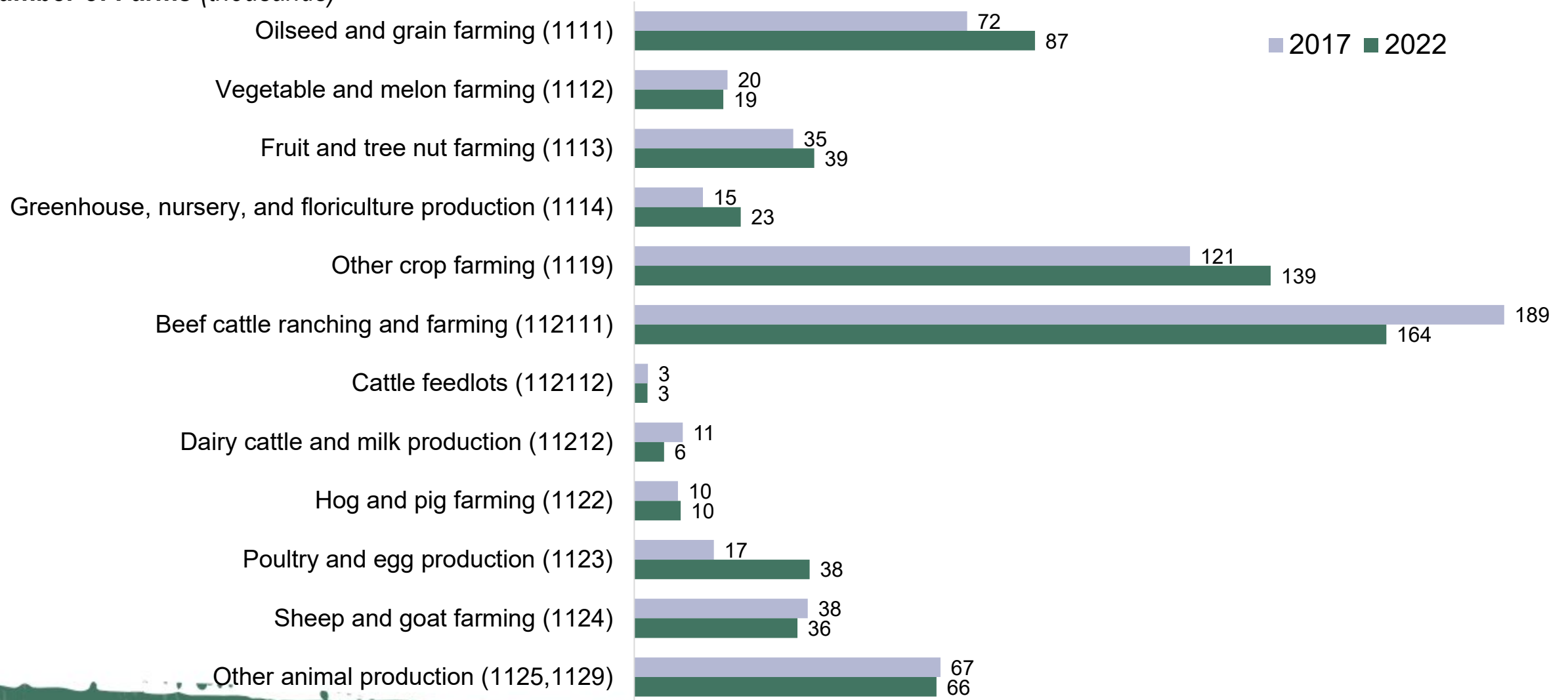
# Farms with a Beginning Producer by Farm Size, 2022 *(percent)*

Number of Farms *(percent of total)*



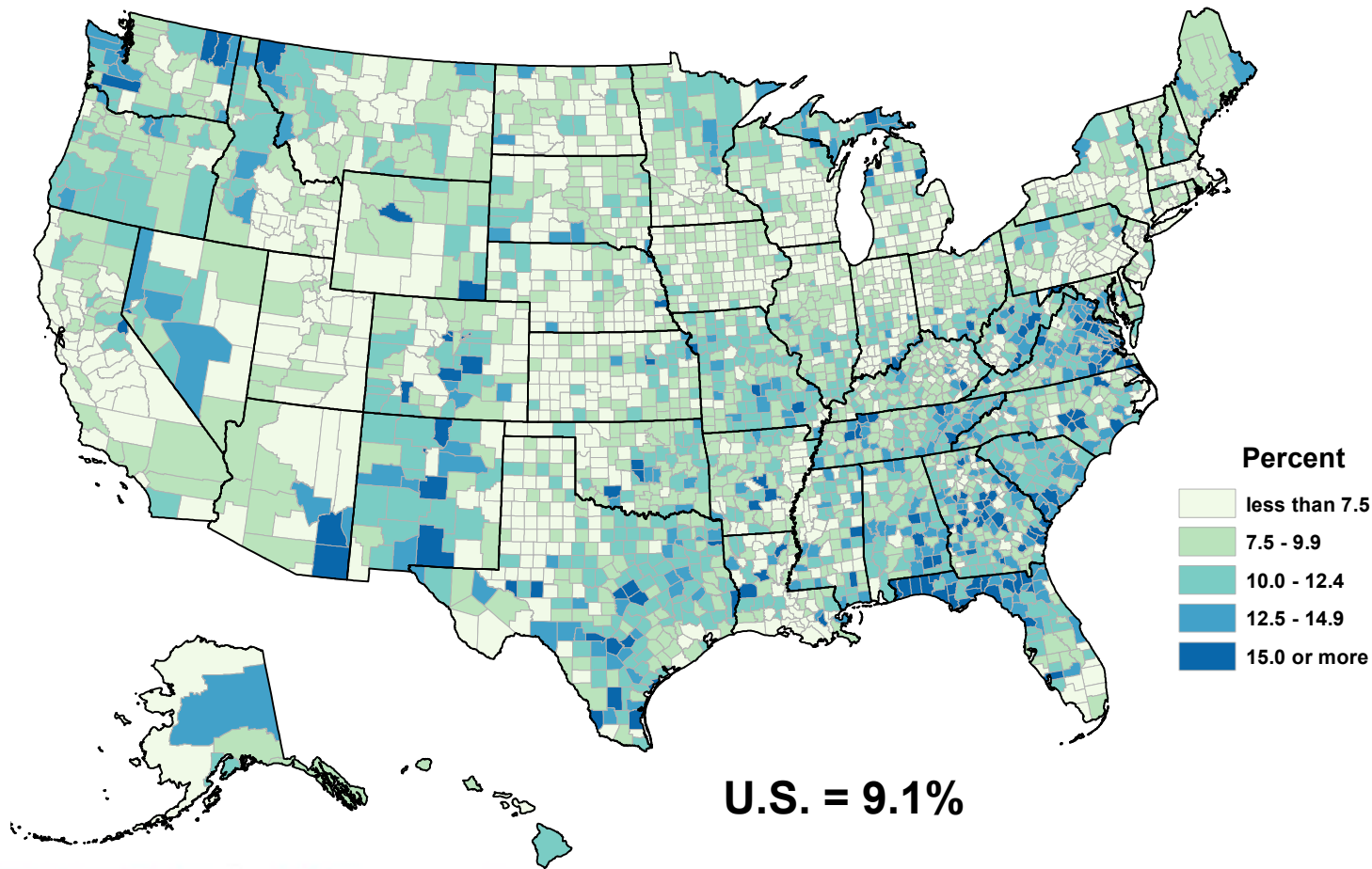
# New and Beginning Farms by Farm Specialization, 2017 and 2022

Number of Farms (thousands)



# Producers with Military Service, 2022

As a Percent of All Producers, by County



## Producers

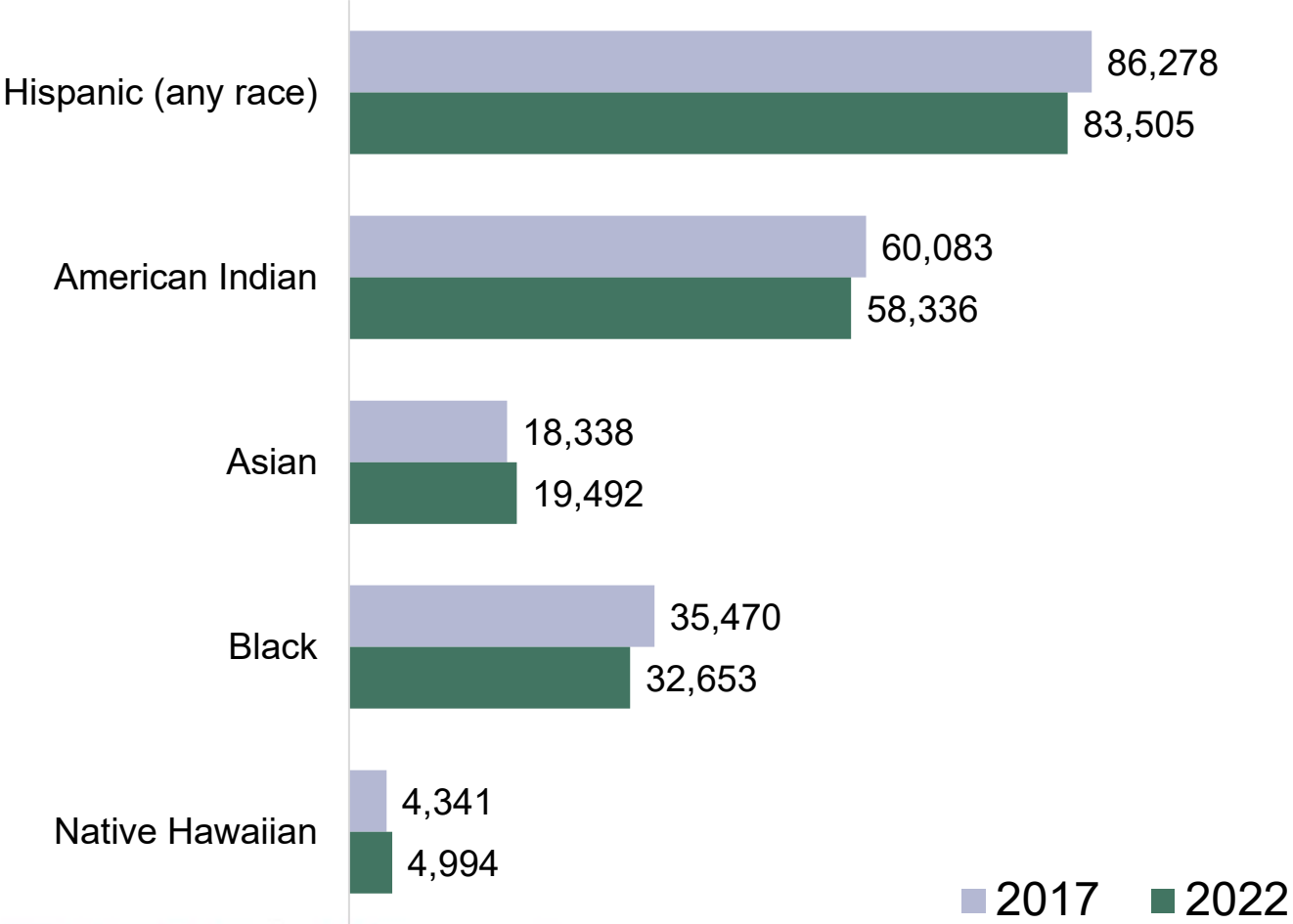
	With Military Service	All
Number	305,753	3,374,044
Average age	68.2	58.1

## Farms

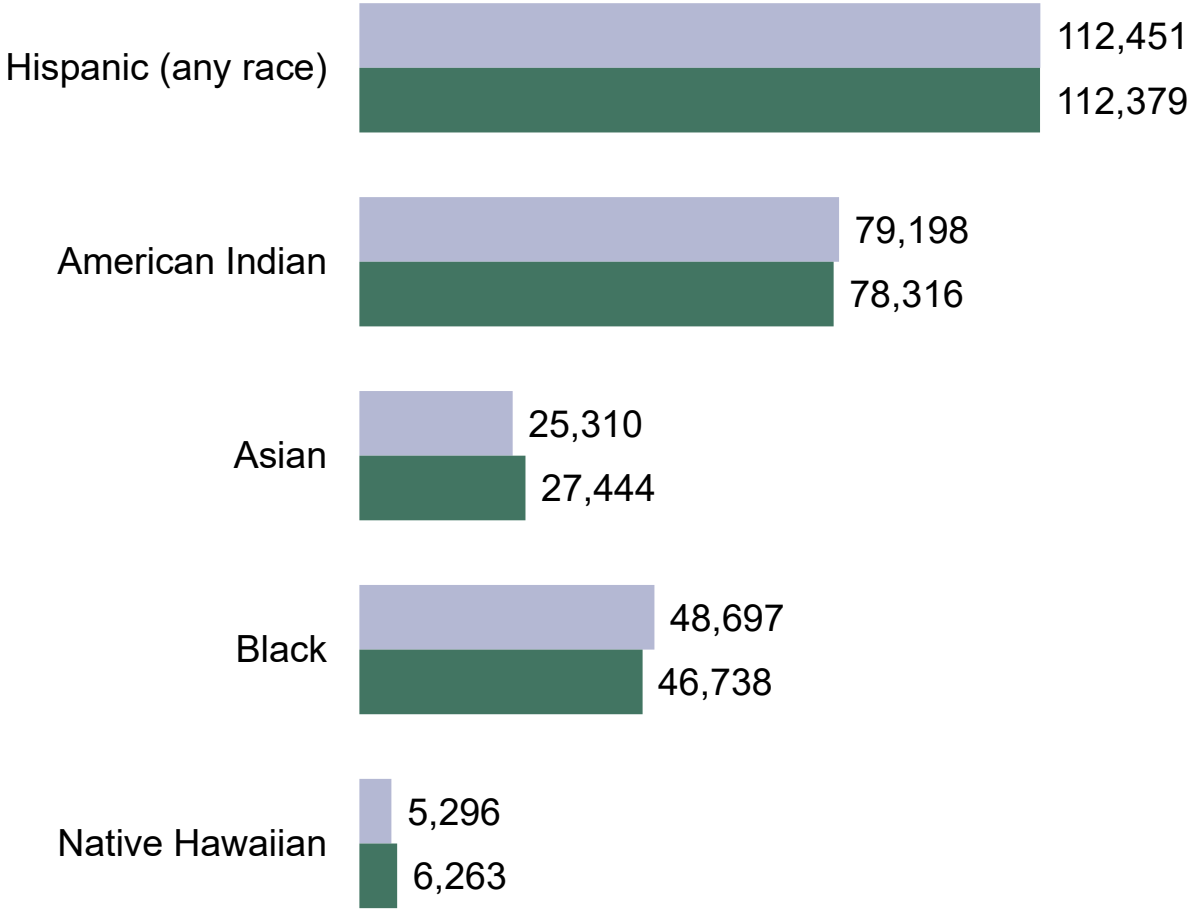
Number	289,372	1,900,487
Average farm size (acres)	373	463
Average Total Value of Production	\$169,548	\$285,762

# Race and Ethnicity, 2017 and 2022

## Number of Farms



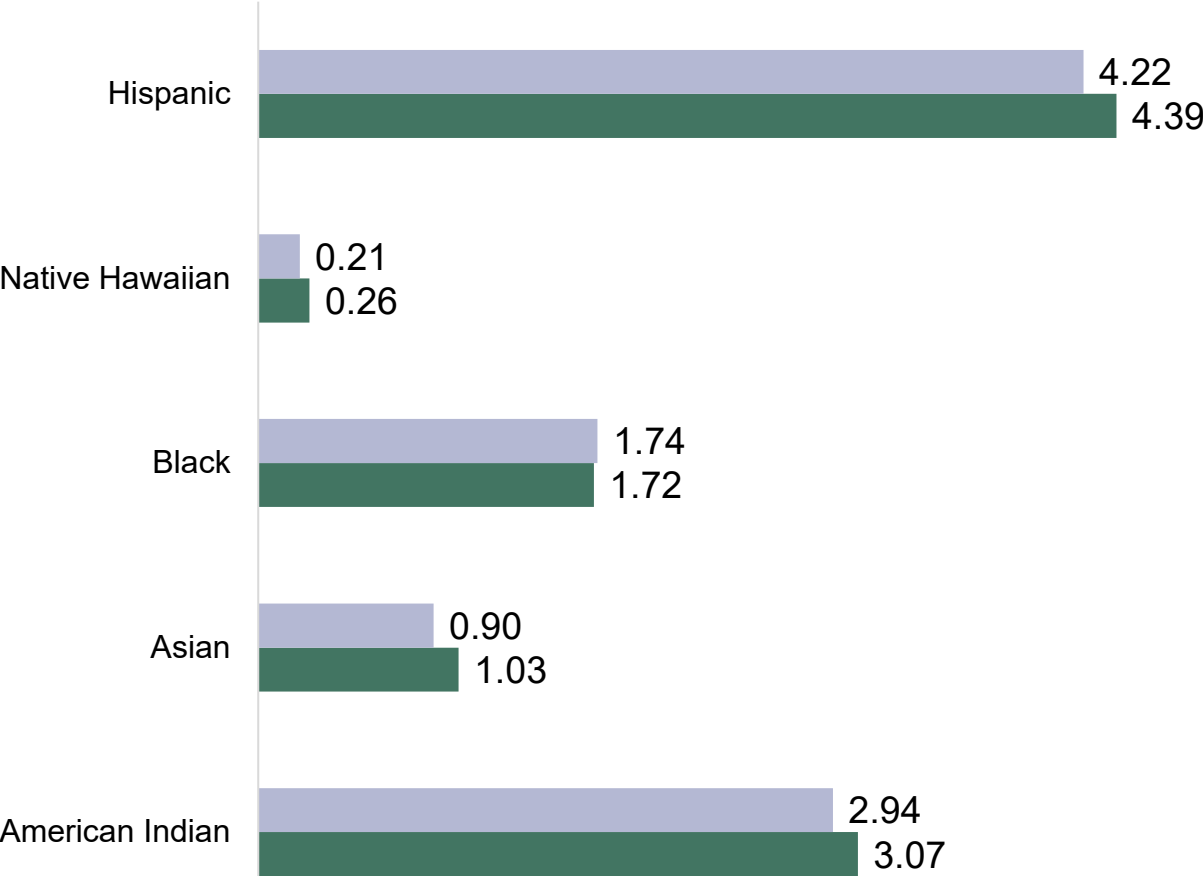
## Number of Producers



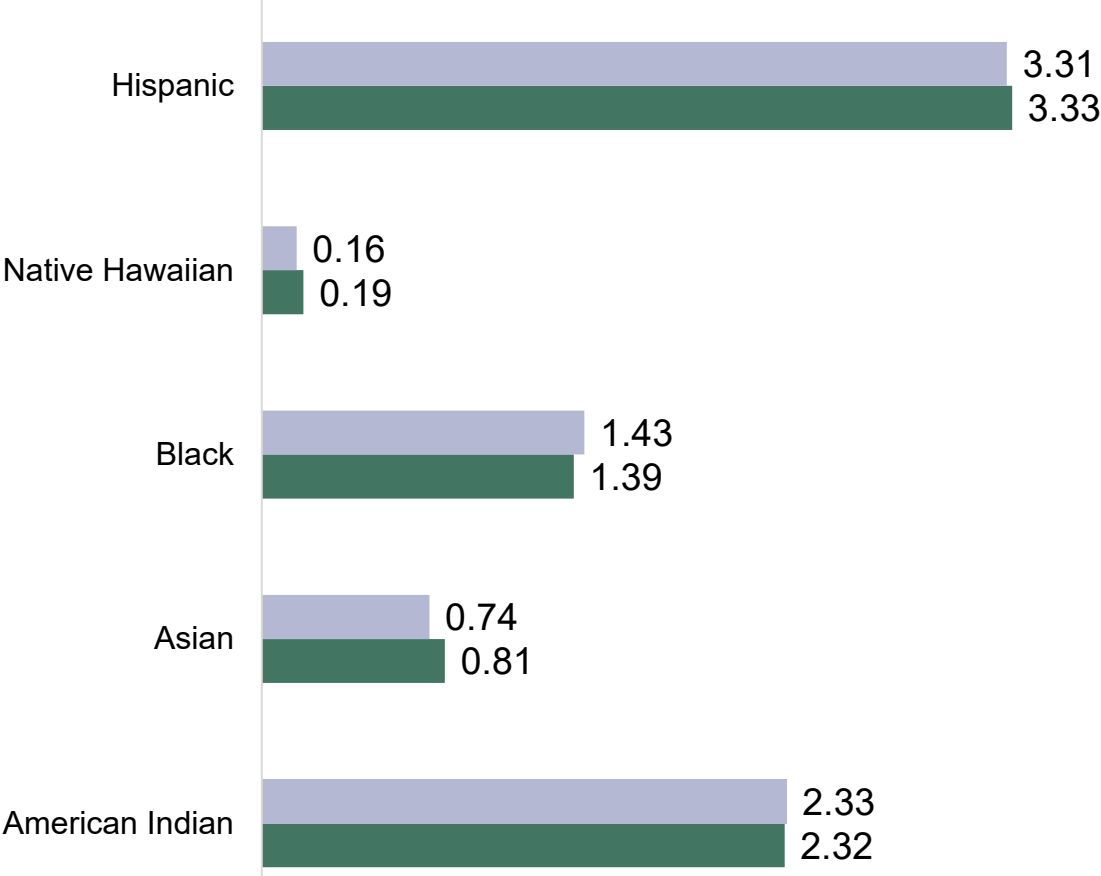


# Race and Ethnicity, 2022 and 2017

Farms with a Producer (percent of total)



Producers (percent of total)



■ 2017 ■ 2022

# Characteristics by Race and Ethnicity, 2022

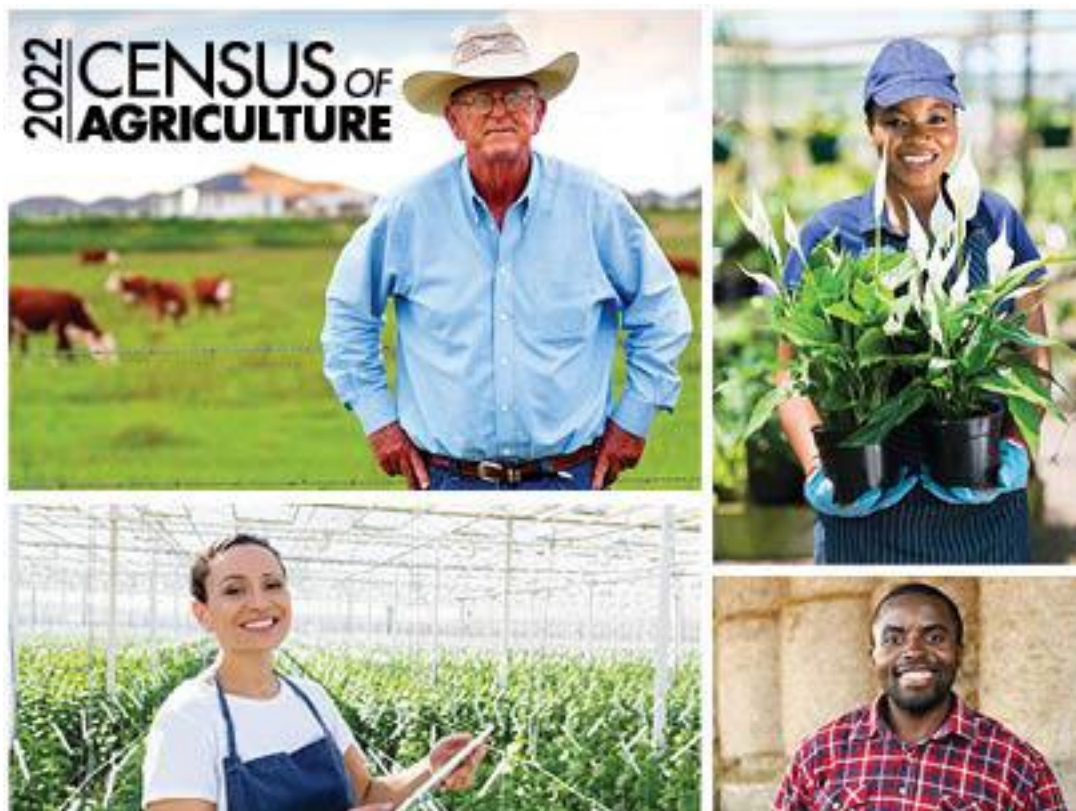
Producers						
	Hispanic	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White
Number	112,379	78,316	27,444	46,738	6,263	3,248,371
Average age	54.9	56.6	54.6	60.8	53.9	58.1
Farms						
Number	83,505	58,336	19,492	32,653	4,994	1,839,643
Average farm size (acres)	441	1,085	172	163	276	450
Average Total Value of Production	\$396,821	\$106,188	\$615,297	\$84,704	\$330,060	\$288,531

# Key Summary Points

- The average age of producers continues to rise.
- The number of new and beginning producers increased and young farmers increased.
- New and beginning producers increased primarily on grain and oilseeds and other crops farms.

# Upcoming Census Releases in 2024

Release Date	Release Title
March 27	Market Value of Ag Products Sold Rankings
March 27	State & County Profiles
May 15	Congressional District Profiles and Rankings
June 28	Race, Ethnicity & Gender Profiles
July 18	Puerto Rico
July 24	Watersheds
August 29	American Indian Reservations
October 17	Specialty Crops
November 7	Zip Code Tabulations
November 14	2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey
December 16	2023 Census of Aquaculture



All Reports Available at  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

For Questions

202-720-2127

800-727-9540

[nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

[Bryan.Combs@usda.gov](mailto:Bryan.Combs@usda.gov)

[Virginia.Harris@usda.gov](mailto:Virginia.Harris@usda.gov)

Questions?



An aerial photograph of a farm. The scene is dominated by vibrant green fields, likely corn, in the foreground and background. In the center, there is a cluster of buildings including a large barn with a white roof, a smaller red-roofed structure, and a house partially obscured by trees. A white truck is parked near the barn. A road or driveway runs through the farm. The lighting suggests a bright, sunny day, casting soft shadows.

Visit the Farmland Information Center

[www.farmlandinfo.org](http://www.farmlandinfo.org)

Join the National Agricultural Land Network

[www.farmland.org/NALN](http://www.farmland.org/NALN)