



ACH17-17/August 2020

Since the last Census of Agriculture in 2007 in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the amount of land in farms and value of agricultural products sold decreased while the number of farms remained virtually unchanged. The number of small farms increased while the number of larger farms decreased.

What is a "farm"? The Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands Census of Agriculture defines 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.

253 farms



1,515 acres



6.0 acres average farm size



Farms and Land

In 2018, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands had 253 farms, virtually unchanged from 2007. These farms accounted for 1,515 acres of farmland, or 1% of all land in the Northern Mariana Islands. This was a decline of 2,498 acres (62%) from the 2007 level.

During the same time, the average farm size decreased 62%, from 15.7 acres in 2007 to 6.0 acres in 2018.

Farm Counts by Size

	2007	2018
< 2 acres	74	102
2-4 acres	58	61
5-9 acres	49	50
10-19 acres	38	18
20-40 acres	13	15
> 40 acres	24	7

The smallest farm category (less than 1 acre) experienced the largest change in number of farms by size, more than doubling. Farms with less than 2 acres increased 38%. Farms with more than 40 acres decreased by 71%.

For more information about the Census of Agriculture, visit www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus.

Farms and Farmland, 2007 and 2018

	2007	2018	% change
Number of farms	256	253	-1
Land in farms (acres)	4,013	1,515	-62
Average farm size (acres)	15.7	6.0	-62

Commodity Group by Value of Sales (dollars)

	2007	2018
Vegetables and melons	631,470	638,609
Poultry and poultry products	214,360	214,201
Nursery crops	178,311	186,390
Livestock and livestock products	279,485	134,175
Fruit and nuts	401,664	(D)
Root crops	638,498	(D)
Fish and other aquaculture	65,725	(D)
Total	2,409,513	1,580,081

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Top Commodities by Number of Farms, 2018

	No. of Farms
Bananas	118
Chickens, layers > 4 mos.	115
Coconuts	84
Mangoes	81
Lemons and limes	77
Papayas	74

SNAPSHOT

Northern Mariana Islands Farmers, 2018

(percent)

Sex

Male	80
Female	20

Age

<45	18
45 - 64	60
65+	22

Lived on their farm

62

Years on farm

<10	44
10+	56

Primary occupation

Farming	68
Other	32

Race

Chamarro	60
Chinese	6
Filipino	14
White	2
Other	18

58%

The percentage of farms with internet access. Mobile broadband was the most common mode (76%).