



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## USDA announces 2022 Census of Agriculture data release details, preliminary return rate, and upcoming special studies

Springfield, IL – December 2023 – The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will release the 2022 Census of Agriculture data on February 13, 2024. NASS concluded the data collection this summer with a preliminary national return rate of 61%. The preliminary return rate in Illinois is 68.5%. The ag census, conducted once every five years, was mailed to more than 105,320 producers across Illinois late last year.



"Special thanks to more than 25,000 IL farmers and ranchers that completed their census on our secure website and helped to reduce costs" said Mark Schleusener, IL state Statistician. "At the national level, internet responses increased from 25% in the previous Ag Census to 40% for the current one. That saves taxpayer dollars," continued Schleusener.

The ag census data will be available at [nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](https://nass.usda.gov/AgCensus) and in NASS's searchable database, [Quick Stats](#). Like all NASS reports, ag census data will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified, as required by federal law.

"The Census of Agriculture helps NASS to improve our list of farmers and target specific types of agriculture with in-depth studies to measure growth and changes in those industries," said Schleusener. Later this winter, NASS will mail the 2023 [Census of Aquaculture](#) and the

2023 [Irrigation and Water Management Survey](#) to producers who reported these activities in the 2022 Census of Agriculture. For more information about these upcoming special studies, visit [nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](https://nass.usda.gov/AgCensus).

The Census of Agriculture provides the only source of impartial and comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation. Watch for additional news about the ag census at [@usda\\_nass](#) on X (formerly known as Twitter).

For assistance with the survey, or for more information, contact the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at (800) 551-1014 or [nassrfohlr@usda.gov](mailto:nassrfohlr@usda.gov).

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*NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.*

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