

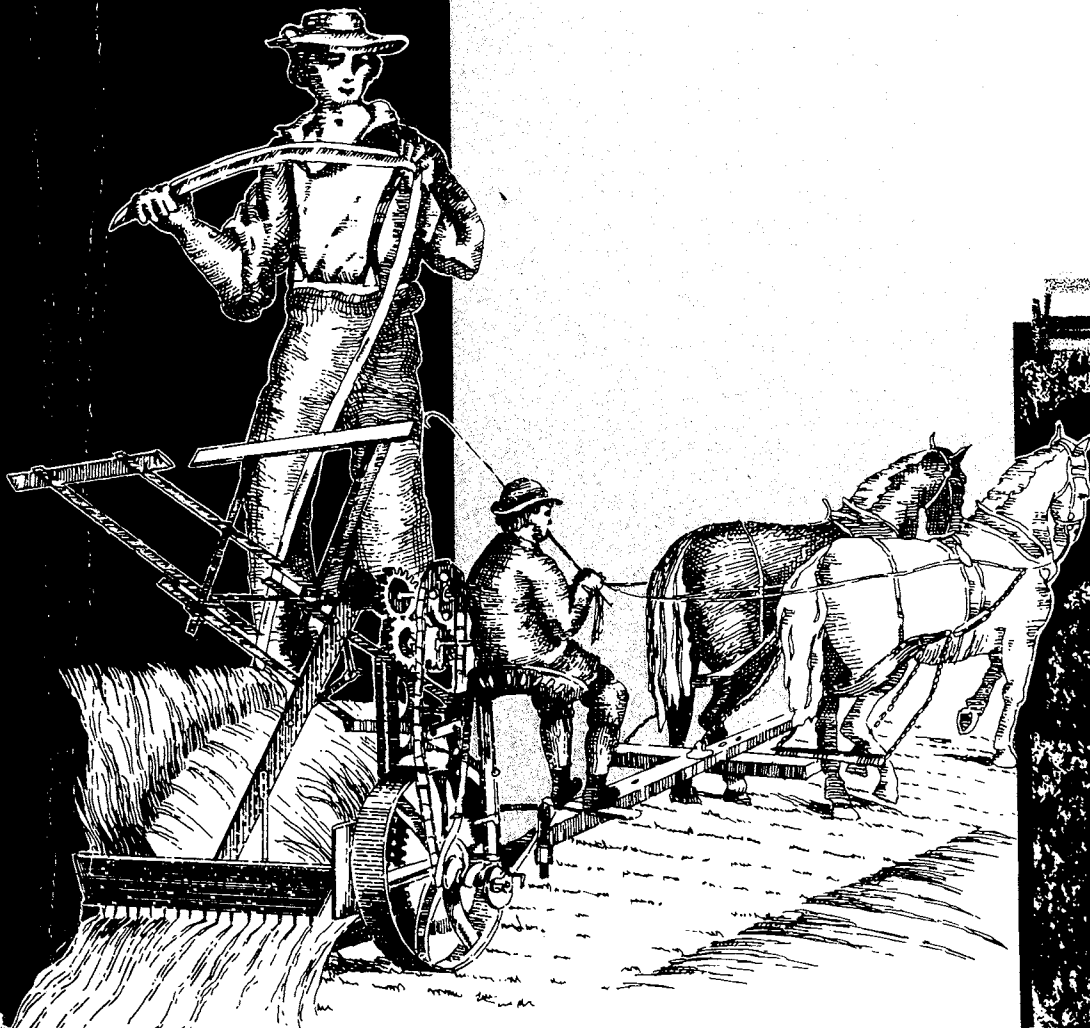
1974 Census of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Volume I Part 26

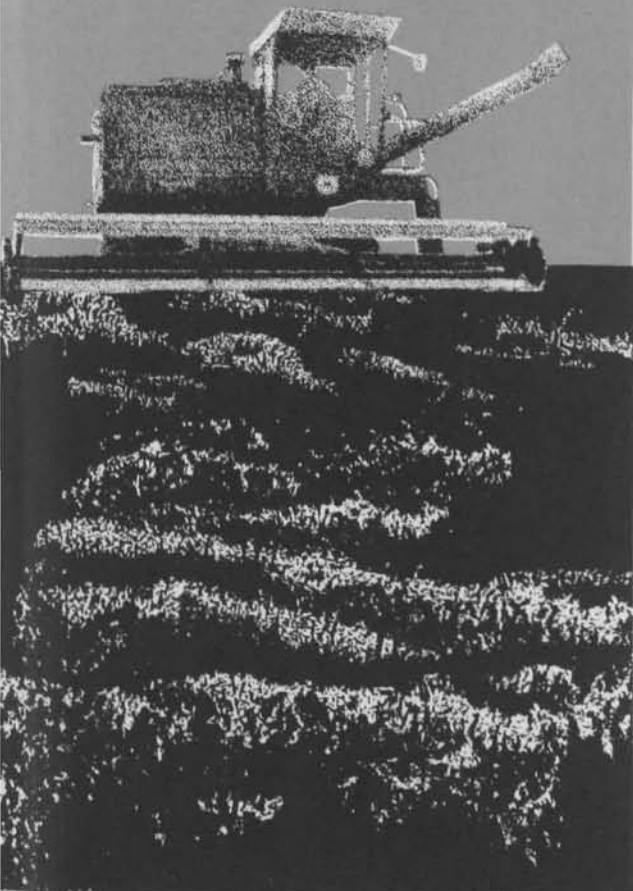
Montana

State and
County Data



1974
Census
of
Agriculture

Volume I Part 26
Montana
State and
County Data



Issued May 1977



U.S. Department of Commerce
Juanita M. Kreps, Secretary

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
Robert L. Hagan, Acting Director

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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REPORTS OF 1974 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Preliminary Reports. Four pages of data published separately for each county having 10 farms or more, and for each State, the four geographic regions, and the United States. *The statistics printed in these reports are superseded by those in the final reports, Volumes I through IV.*

Volume I. State and County Data. One for each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands, covering the area and its subdivisions. The reports for the States contain data for all farms and farms with sales of \$2,500 and over. *Chapter I* contains detailed data at the State level classified by size of farm, tenure and age of farm operator, type of organization, value of products sold, and major type of farm; *Chapter II*, county data summarized by subject; *Chapter III*, county data by subject for miscellaneous crop and livestock items found in relatively few counties; *Chapter IV*, county data by county.

Volume II. Statistics by Subject. Chapters containing total data for the United States, geographic regions and divisions, and States, for all farms and farms with sales of \$2,500 and over.

Volume III. Agricultural Services. Data by county for each State covering establishments whose primary activities are providing agricultural services. Data at the U.S., State, and county levels for all establishments are presented for selected four-digit standard industrial classification codes by size and type of organization. Data shown include dollar volume of business, gross receipts from products provided, gross receipts, labor and payroll by type of service performed, capital expenditures, and expenditures for electricity, gasoline, petroleum, and other fuels.

Volume IV. Special Reports.

Part 1. Graphic Summary. Profiles the Nation's agricultural system in a series of U.S. maps, a number of which are printed in color. The characteristics of America's farms in 1974 are illustrated for crops, livestock, and many other characteristics.

Part 2. Ranking Counties and States. Reports on the top ranking 100 counties and 10 States in descending order of importance for 88 selected items for 1974 with comparative data for 1969.

Part 3. Coverage Evaluation. Shows the completeness of the agriculture census for States, geographic divisions, and the United States. Data also show the characteristics of farms missed by value of sales and by selected standard industrial (type-of-farm) classifications. Sampling reliability of the estimate of coverage is shown by value of sales classifications.

Part 4. Procedural History. A comprehensive summary of the procedures used in conducting the 1974 Census of Agriculture in the 50 States, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The history explains the procedures used from early planning and testing through tabulation and publication of the final reports.

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INTRODUCTION

Authority, Area Covered, and History

The 1974 Census of Agriculture was taken in accordance with the provisions of Title 13, United States Code, reaffirmed by section 818 of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-86). Sections 142(a) and 191 of Title 13 provide for a census of agriculture every 5 years in each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

The 1974 census is the 20th nationwide census of agriculture and the second conducted primarily by mail. The first agricultural census data were collected in 1840 as part of the sixth decennial census. Since that time, a census of agriculture has been a part of each decennial census program, and since 1920 a national census of agriculture has been taken every 5 years.

Farm Definition

For each of the 20 censuses of agriculture except the first, taken in 1840, the agency responsible for conducting the census has established minimum criteria which define a farm for the purpose of the census. As the Nation has developed and grown, agriculture also has changed and grown, and from time to time the minimum criteria for the definition of a farm have been changed.

Prior to 1974, the eighth and most recent change in minimum criteria was for the 1959 Census of Agriculture, when the definition of a farm was based primarily on a combination of acres in the place and value of agricultural products sold.

The word "place" was defined to include all land on which agricultural operations were conducted at any time in the census year under the day-to-day control or supervision of one person or partnership. Control may have been exercised through ownership or management or through a lease, rental, or cropping arrangement.

Places of less than 10 acres in the census year were counted as farms if the estimated sales of agricultural products for the year amounted to at least \$250. Places of 10 or more acres in the census year were counted as farms if the estimated sales of agricultural products for the year amounted to at least \$50. Places having less than the \$50 or \$250 minimum estimated sales in the census year were also counted as farms if they could normally be expected to produce agricultural products in sufficient quantity to meet the requirements of the definition.

Using the 1959 definition, the 1969 census reported about 571,000 farms in the United States having sales of less than \$1,000; these farms comprised 20.9 percent of all farms but contributed less than 1 percent of total sales. In 1974 there were only about 152,000 such farms, accounting for less than 6 hundredths of 1 percent of total sales. Between censuses many of these small farms had ceased operations, while many others had sales of \$1,000 or more in the census year, either because of increased agricultural activity or because of increases in the per unit value of agricultural products sold.

In view of increases in price levels and other changes in the structure of agricultural operations, various individuals

and organizations, including members of the Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, the Office of Management and Budget, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, agreed that a change in the definition of a farm was justified. The Department of Commerce announced on August 12, 1975, that the census definition of a farm, for purposes of publishing the 1974 census data, was any establishment which during the census year had or normally would have had sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more.

In the next 10 months, Congress held four hearings on the appropriateness of changing the definition. During this time, Public Law 94-229, enacted March 15, 1976, included a provision requiring the statistical classification of farms in effect on January 1, 1975, to be continued in effect through June 30, 1976, and that any statistical report issued on or before June 30, 1976, should reflect such classification, but could also include additional classifications as deemed appropriate by the Secretary of Commerce.

Definition for preliminary reports. Publication of the preliminary county reports began in April 1976, and these reports for all counties and States, the four regions, and the United States were tabulated and published in accordance with the same farm definition used for the 1959, 1964, and 1969 censuses.

Definition for final reports. For all final reports, the 1974 statistics are in accordance with the 1974 definition, which differs from the earlier definition in only two respects:

INTRODUCTION Continued

1. The criterion for number of "acres in place" has been deleted.
2. The criterion for minimum value of agricultural products sold has been changed to \$1,000.

Thus for 1974, a farm was defined to include all land on which agricultural operations were conducted at any time in the census year under the day-to-day control of an individual management, and from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold during the census year. Control may have been exercised through ownership or management, or through a lease, rental, or cropping arrangement. Places having less than the minimum \$1,000 sales in the census year were also counted as farms if they could normally be expected to produce agricultural products in sufficient quantity to meet the requirements of the definition.

Three tables in this report provide users with measures of the effect of the change in definition: The table following this introduction shows farms and sales, by county, for 1974 and 1969, for both the old and the new definitions, and also for those places excluded by the 1974 but not by the 1959 definition. In chapter II, table 33 presents data by county for 1974 showing comparisons between farms (1974 definition) and agricultural operations that would have been farms under the 1959 definition. The table that comprises appendix B presents data by State for 1974 and 1969 showing characteristics of 1974 agricultural operations excluded by the new definition and of 1969 farms having less than \$1,000 total value of sales.

The 1974 "all farms" data shown in State tables 1 through 9 and county tables 1 through 10 are for those agricultural operations with at least \$1,000 in total (or potential) sales of farm products. All other tables in this report are limited to farms with sales of \$2,500 or more (see the paragraphs in appendix A that describe the report forms and the enumeration method).

Comparability of Data

In general, data for 1974 and earlier

censuses are comparable with data from earlier censuses only for farms with \$2,500 or more total value of sales, because the data for farms with \$2,500 or more value of sales are not affected by the change in farm definition. Data for all farms for 1974 are based on the new definition so they are not directly comparable to earlier censuses. It is also important to note that in addition to the difference in farm definition used in this report from that in the preliminary version, this final report contains 1974 figures which will not agree with figures in the preliminary reports because of corrections, additions, and deletions.

Even for farms with \$2,500 or more value of sales, the difference in timing and the change from personal interview to mail enumeration affect the comparability between the data for 1974 and 1969 and that for earlier censuses. Both 1974 and 1969 censuses were taken by mail; all earlier censuses were taken by direct interview.

Dramatic changes in rates of farm expenditure and unit prices of products sold between the 1969 and 1974 censuses affect the comparability of some census data. During the period between the two censuses, prices paid by farmers greatly increased. Prices received by farmers also increased but with wide fluctuations among commodities at different times during the census year of 1974.

Crop and livestock production data are for the calendar year 1974, except for a few crops (such as citrus) for which the production year overlaps the calendar year. Expenditures, crops irrigated, usage of agricultural chemicals and fertilizers, and sale of farm products were all asked for the calendar year. Respondents were instructed to report inventory numbers of livestock, poultry, and other specified items as of December 31, 1974. The reporting period and inventory data are the same as for the 1969 census.

Censuses prior to 1969 were taken by enumerators, each assigned to a specific geographic area. Field work for the 1964 and 1959 censuses was completed largely in October, November, and December of the reference year. Livestock and poultry inventories for those two censuses were as

of the time of enumeration. Other variations in time of enumeration occurred in censuses prior to 1959.

Graphics

On the following pages, there is a graphic presentation of selected agricultural statistics for this State. The first four dot maps are being published for all States. The second four dot maps have been selected to present data of particular importance to this State.

Tabular Presentation

State data—In chapter I, State tables 1 through 27 show detailed State level data generally accompanied by historical data for one or more censuses. Tables 28 through 33 provide 1974 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County summary data—A summary of selected data items for each county of the State is presented in chapter II of this publication. In these tables the counties are listed in alphabetical order with the State total at the beginning of each table.

County miscellaneous data—In chapter III, data for additional crop and livestock items not common to a large number of counties are reported in a separate set of tables by county for each State. Some of these items, even though reported in only a few counties of the State, are sufficiently important to account for a significant proportion of the agricultural production.

Counties not having the subject item of a given table, or with only a very limited number of farms reporting the item, are not listed separately; their data are combined with other counties and presented as "All other."

Final county data—Six pages of data are presented in chapter IV for each county with 10 farms or more in 1974. The tables include final data for each county and are more comprehensive than those in the preliminary reports. Data are for the year 1974 with inventory (on place)

INTRODUCTION Continued

figures as of December 31, 1974. Information covering all farms and farms with sales of \$2,500 and over are presented for both the 1974 and 1969 censuses. A State level six-page report like the county report is published at the beginning of the chapter.

Preliminary county data—Preliminary reports have been published separately for all counties in the United States with 10 farms or more in 1974. This four-page series provided, at the earliest possible date, usable information on a limited number of major data items, with comparative final figures from the 1969 census.

The reports were issued on a flow basis, with a State report following the release of the last county report for each State. Tables showing regional and U.S. totals were also prepared as a part of this series.

For all States, the same table format was used to present the data except data for six selected crops shown in table 7. These crops were varied by State depending upon their relative importance.

For major items at the county level differences between the preliminary and final figures are in general less than 5 percent. At the State level, differences are significantly less.

"See Text" Reference

The remark "See text" in the tables refers to explanations, definitions, and classifications in sections 5 and 6 of appendix A.

Abbreviations and Symbols

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- Represents zero.
- D Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.
- X Not applicable.
- Z Less than half of the unit reported.
- NA Not available.

INTRODUCTION Continued

FARMS AND VALUE OF PRODUCTS SOLD BY 1974 AND 1959 DEFINITIONS, WITH COMPARABLE DATA FOR AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS EXCLUDED BY 1974 DEFINITION: 1974 AND 1969

COUNTY	BY 1974 DEFINITION				BY 1959 DEFINITION				AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS EXCLUDED BY 1974 DEFINITION BUT NOT BY 1959 DEFINITION			
	NUMBER		VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)		NUMBER		VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)		NUMBER		VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)	
	1974	1969	1974	1969	1974	1969	1974	1969	1974	1969	1974	1969
MONTANA, TOTAL	23 324	22 744	1 033 239	574 924	24 392	24 951	1 033 548	575 802	1 068	2 207	309	878
BEAVERHEAD	293	298	19 755	17 692	302	308	19 758	17 695	9	10	3	3
BIG HORN	508	505	34 630	17 788	523	540	34 633	17 809	15	35	3	21
BLAINE	487	541	23 291	14 241	498	561	23 294	14 246	11	20	3	5
BROADWATER	186	187	10 013	5 924	188	207	10 014	5 935	2	20	(Z)	11
CARBON	662	622	24 538	13 484	685	674	24 545	13 505	23	52	7	21
CARTER	329	344	11 138	7 796	339	374	11 142	7 809	10	30	4	13
CASCADE	772	782	43 701	26 475	824	878	43 718	26 515	52	96	17	41
CHOUTEAU	854	876	60 437	23 019	866	901	60 444	23 029	12	25	7	10
CUSTER	387	341	22 363	13 349	410	386	22 367	13 370	23	45	5	21
DANIELS	470	446	20 312	8 506	477	466	20 313	8 512	7	20	1	6
DAWSON	557	532	26 894	10 917	574	552	26 903	10 925	17	20	8	7
DEER LODGE	63	53	1 447	1 852	64	67	1 448	1 857	1	14	(Z)	5
FALLON	309	300	12 985	6 212	322	321	12 989	6 218	13	21	4	6
FERGUS	802	865	32 352	19 448	829	914	32 362	19 470	27	49	10	22
FLATHEAD	770	637	13 700	8 662	870	825	13 734	8 734	100	188	34	71
GALLATIN	733	722	31 692	20 594	773	831	31 704	20 636	40	109	12	42
GARFIELD	279	279	14 100	9 303	286	294	14 103	9 308	7	15	3	5
GLACIER	344	296	16 989	9 183	352	333	16 994	9 200	8	37	4	17
GOLDEN VALLEY	128	149	8 815	4 251	130	154	8 816	4 253	2	5	(Z)	1
GRANITE	133	133	4 361	3 349	143	140	4 366	3 352	10	7	5	3
HILL	747	736	40 058	15 526	758	770	40 062	15 540	11	34	4	13
JEFFERSON	160	162	3 104	3 044	171	188	3 106	3 055	11	26	2	11
JUDITH BASIN	389	365	18 442	9 243	400	381	18 442	9 249	11	16	1	6
LAKE	1 004	840	16 292	11 204	1 047	1 012	16 304	11 260	43	172	12	56
LEWIS AND CLARK	280	294	10 171	8 421	304	357	10 176	8 449	24	63	5	27
LIBERTY	299	299	15 126	7 904	300	306	15 126	7 908	1	7	-	4
LINCOLN	156	137	1 151	1 107	188	190	1 157	1 123	32	53	5	16
MADISON	384	370	13 573	10 788	402	387	13 575	10 795	18	17	2	7
MCCONE	475	485	22 695	10 135	481	510	22 697	10 141	6	25	3	6
MEAGHER	112	116	6 278	6 599	118	122	6 279	6 601	6	6	(Z)	2
MINERAL	47	37	344	218	50	46	344	223	3	9	-	5
MISSOULA	310	218	4 826	3 106	369	327	4 838	3 146	59	109	13	40
MUSSELSHELL	215	210	7 855	4 672	234	228	7 859	4 679	19	18	4	7
PARK	354	360	10 747	8 260	369	397	10 750	8 273	15	37	4	13
PETROLEUM	96	90	4 459	3 571	99	95	4 460	3 572	3	5	2	1
PHILLIPS	540	496	24 054	12 763	558	513	24 059	12 772	18	17	4	9
PONDERA	518	510	23 004	15 411	532	528	23 006	15 419	14	18	2	8
POWDER RIVER	369	350	12 922	8 530	378	364	12 926	8 535	9	14	4	5
POWELL	175	161	7 762	5 179	179	169	7 764	5 180	4	8	2	2
PRAIRIE	221	213	12 464	6 017	227	229	12 466	6 025	6	16	2	8
RAVALLI	749	667	13 178	9 655	855	860	13 210	9 729	106	193	33	74
RICHLAND	633	665	43 209	15 603	649	720	43 222	15 629	16	55	13	26
ROOSEVELT	677	690	32 206	12 704	686	715	32 208	12 713	9	25	2	10
ROSEBUD	342	359	18 132	12 632	356	390	18 135	12 649	14	31	3	17
SANDERS	293	318	3 480	3 445	310	376	3 483	3 467	17	58	3	21
SHERIDAN	675	709	29 236	12 541	696	734	29 244	12 548	21	25	8	7
SILVER BOW	82	87	3 205	791	87	108	3 206	803	5	21	1	12
STILLWATER	416	424	21 306	10 848	433	453	21 310	10 865	17	29	4	17
SWEET GRASS	258	277	6 856	6 480	268	292	6 859	6 485	10	15	3	5
TETON	687	667	33 768	15 570	694	695	33 770	15 577	7	28	2	8
TOOLE	365	393	15 140	11 242	368	407	15 140	11 248	3	14	1	5
TREASURE	111	119	8 779	4 812	116	121	8 781	4 814	5	2	2	2
VALLEY	746	686	33 744	15 695	781	720	33 750	15 711	35	34	7	16
WHEATLAND	138	155	6 269	5 478	145	165	6 269	5 481	7	10	(Z)	3
WIBAUX	200	192	8 642	3 226	203	211	8 642	3 236	3	19	(Z)	10
YELLOWSTONE	1 035	979	67 249	40 457	1 126	1 139	67 274	40 524	91	160	25	68

HIGHLIGHTS of the State's Agriculture: 1974 and 1969

	All Farms		Farms with sales of \$2,500 and over	
	1974	1969 ¹	1974	1969
Number of farms total..	23 324	24 951	20 177	20 603
Acres in farms total..	62 158 351	62 918 247	56 731 193	57 733 713
per farm.	2 665	2 522	2 812	2 802
Acres of harvested cropland total..	8 426 881	7 937 203	8 375 116	7 833 008
per farm.	361	318	415	380
Number of farms by size:				
1 to 49 acres	2 727	2 768	1 125	809
50 to 499 acres	6 143	6 548	4 860	4 637
500 acres and over	14 454	15 635	14 192	15 157
1,000 acres and over	11 464	12 296	11 313	12 087
Value of land and buildings total..	6 952 194 000	3 748 207 000	6 422 438 000	3 440 525 000
per farm.	298 070	150 223	318 305	166 991
Value of machinery and equipment on farms total..	752 934 000	421 206 000	721 833 000	402 239 000
per farm.	32 282	16 881	35 775	19 523
Machinery and equipment on farms—specified items (number):				
Automobiles	28 205	29 605	25 285	25 734
Motortrucks, including pickups	61 904	58 325	57 853	53 407
Tractors, excluding garden tractors and motor tillers	58 457	58 729	54 633	54 361
Value of all agricultural products sold total..	1 033 239 000	575 802 000	1 027 135 000	568 703 000
per farm.	44 299	23 077	50 906	27 603
Crops total..	549 876 000	189 423 000	548 526 000	187 676 000
per farm.	23 576	7 592	27 186	9 109
Livestock, poultry, and their products total..	480 277 000	384 878 000	475 551 000	379 668 000
per farm.	20 592	15 425	23 569	18 428
Number of farms, excluding abnormal farms, by value of agricultural product sold:				
Under \$2,500	3 340	4 525	295	270
\$2,500 and over	19 882	20 333	19 882	20 333
\$2,500 to \$9,999	4 175	6 175	4 175	6 175
\$10,000 to \$39,999	8 207	11 064	8 207	11 064
\$40,000 to \$99,999	5 358	2 448	5 358	2 448
\$100,000 to \$199,999	1 540	452	1 540	452
\$200,000 and over	602	194	602	194
Value of agricultural products sold by farms, excluding abnormal farms, having sales of—				
Under \$2,500	3 971 000	4 708 000	368 000	352 000
\$2,500 and over	1 026 766 000	568 351 000	1 026 766 000	568 351 000
\$2,500 to \$9,999	24 455 000	36 795 000	24 455 000	36 795 000
\$10,000 to \$39,999	186 232 000	231 723 000	186 232 000	231 723 000
\$40,000 to \$99,999	331 851 000	143 214 000	331 851 000	143 214 000
\$100,000 to \$199,999	206 780 000	156 618 000	206 780 000	156 618 000
\$200,000 and over	277 448 000		277 448 000	
Farm production expenses—specified items:				
Commercially mixed formula feeds	47 185 000	22 063 000	46 270 000	21 606 000
Commercial fertilizer	39 053 000	14 132 000	38 685 000	13 945 000
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business	53 253 000	32 484 000	52 478 000	31 453 000
Farm labor, contract labor, machine hire and customwork	69 296 000	52 053 000	68 412 000	50 809 000

¹ Not fully comparable because of change in farm definition; see introduction.

CHART 1. Changes in the State's Agriculture: 1974 From 1969

FARMS WITH SALES OF \$2,500 AND OVER

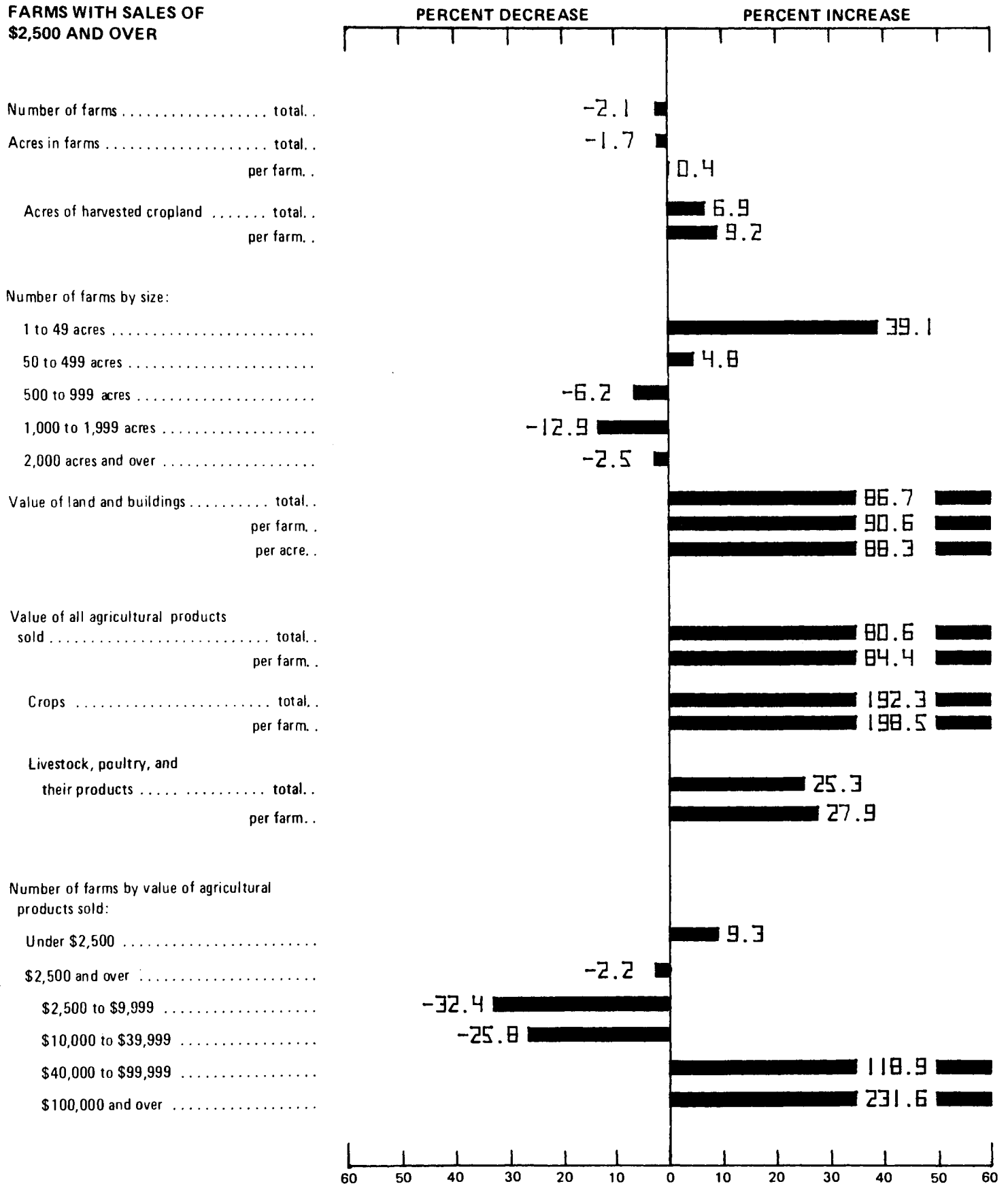


CHART 1. Changes in the State's Agriculture: 1974 From 1969—Continued

FARMS WITH SALES OF \$2,500 AND OVER

Value of agricultural products sold by farms having sales of—

- Under \$2,500
- \$2,500 and over
- \$2,500 to \$9,999
- \$10,000 to \$39,999
- \$40,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 and over

Farm production expenses—specified items:

- Commercially mixed formula feeds.....
- Commercial fertilizer
- Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business
- Farm labor, contract labor, machine hire and customwork

Value of machinery and equipment on farmsdollars..

Machinery and equipment on farms—specified items:

- Automobiles..... number..
- Motortrucks, including pickups... number..
- Tractors, excluding garden tractors and motor tillers..... number..

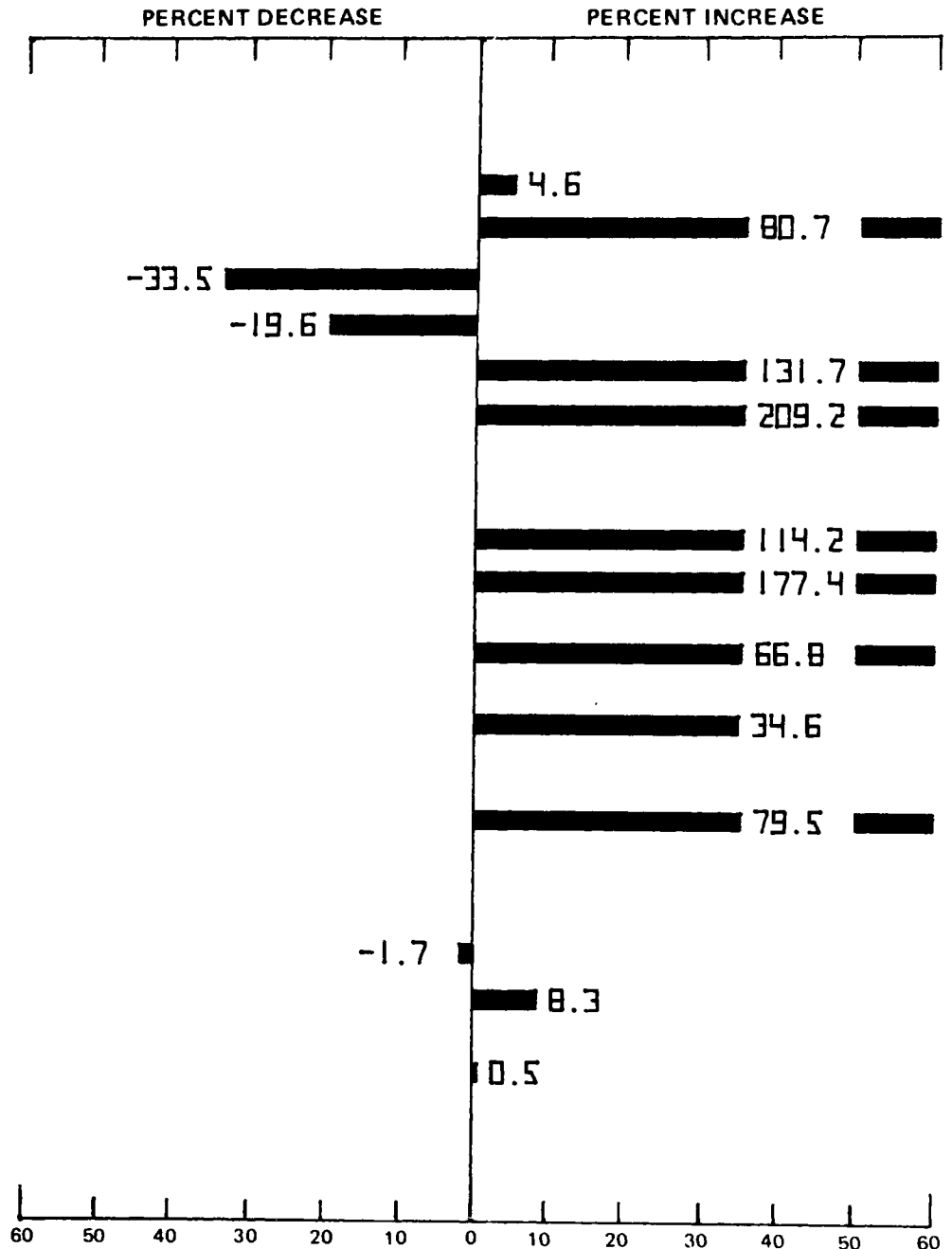
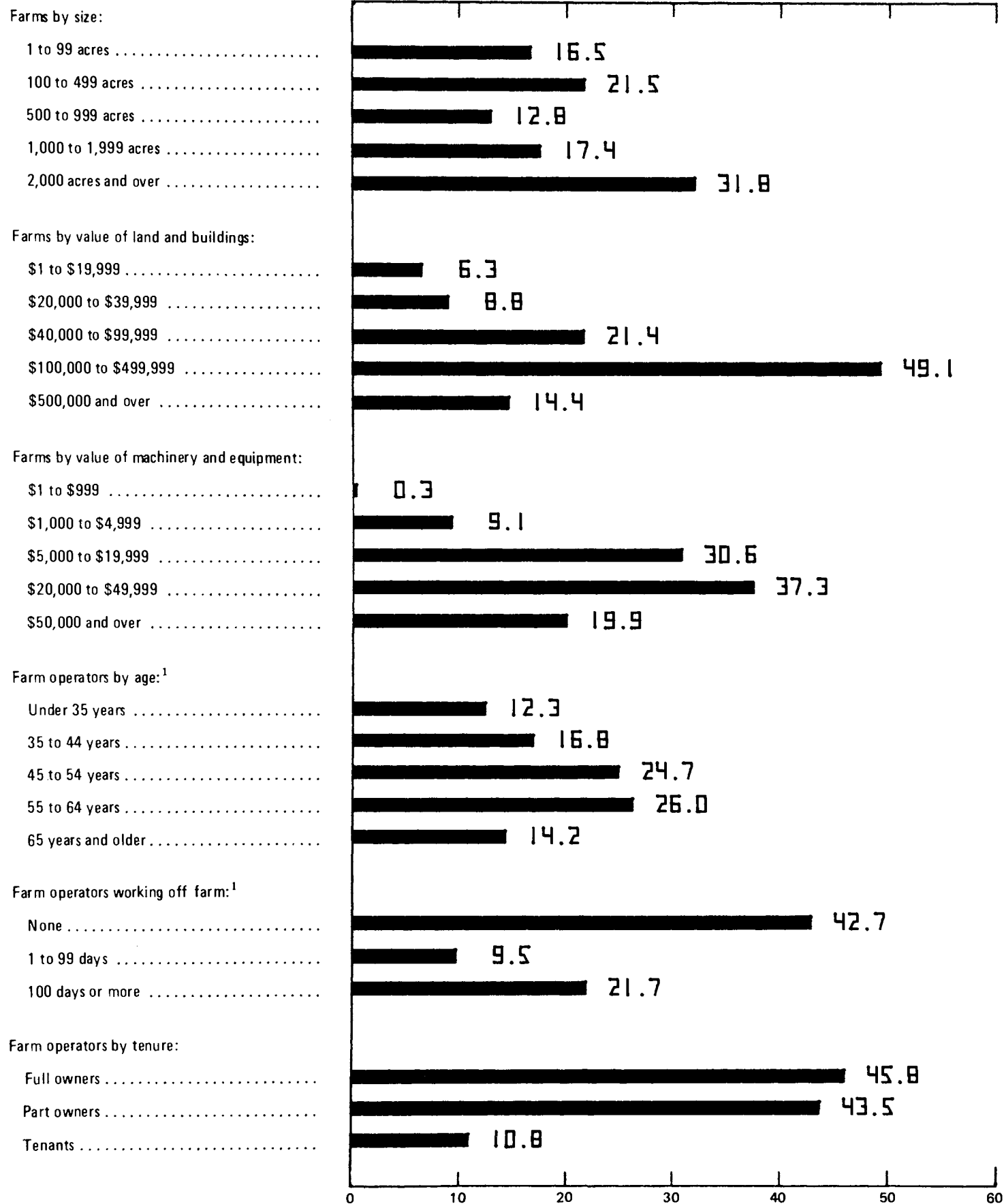


CHART 2. Profile of the State's Agriculture: 1974

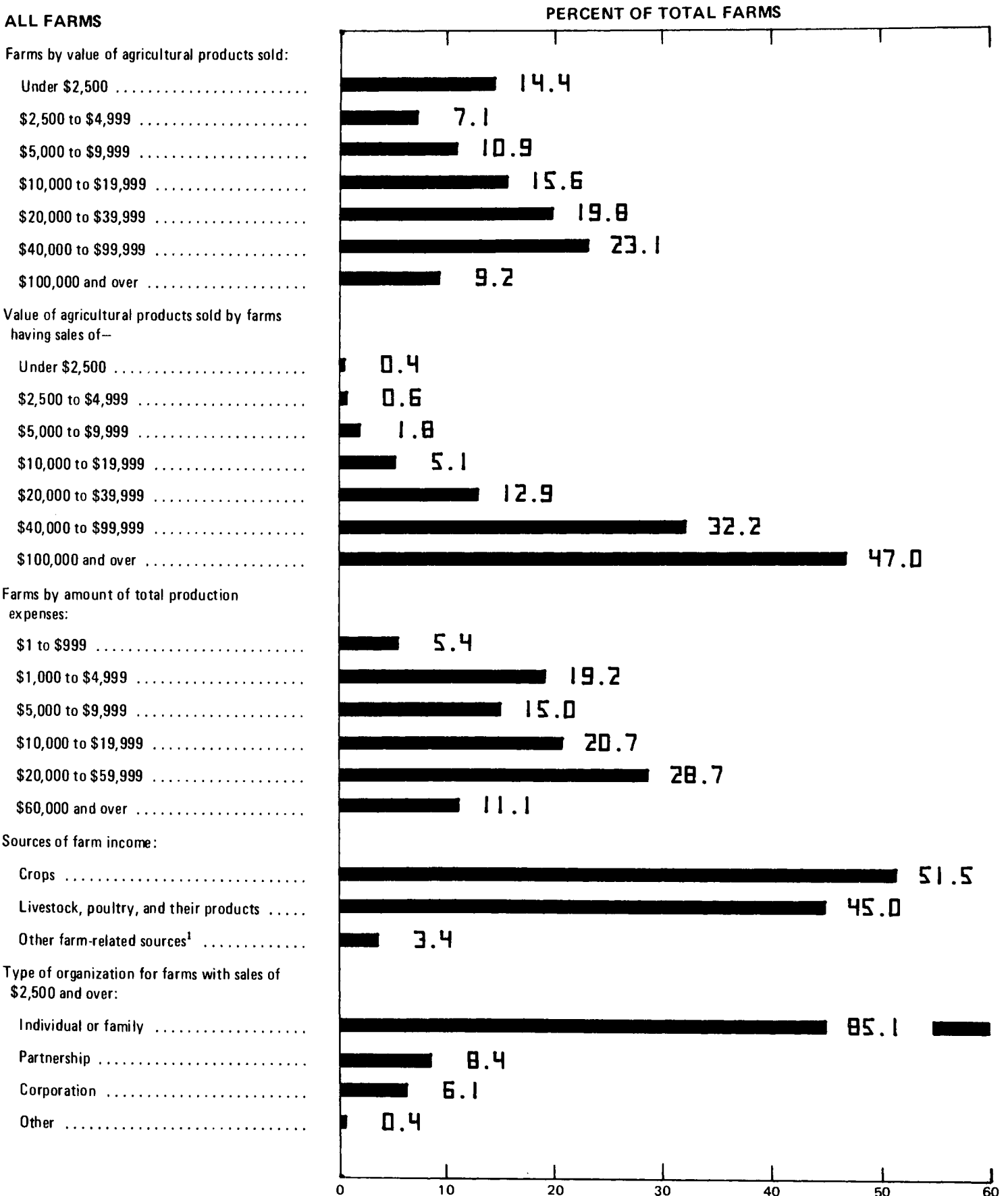
ALL FARMS

PERCENT OF TOTAL FARMS



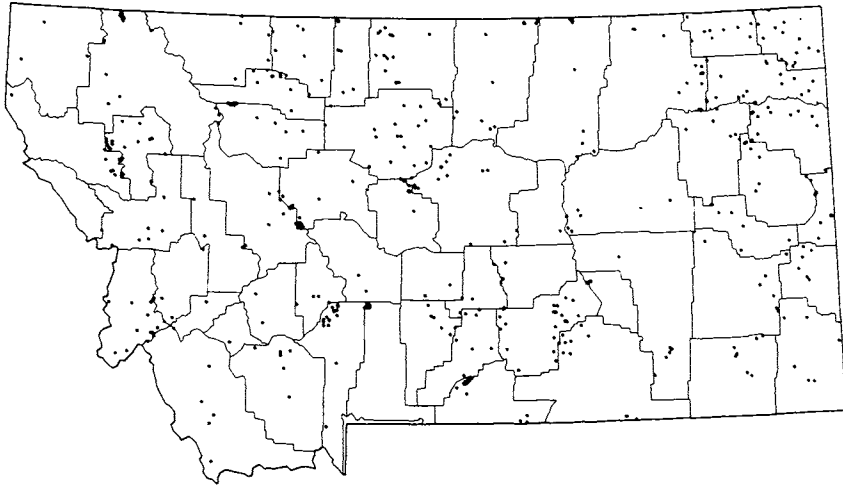
¹ Data apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorships) and partnerships.

CHART 2. Profile of the State's Agriculture: 1974—Continued



¹ Includes forest products sold, and income from customwork and other agricultural services, recreational services, participation in government farm programs, rental of farm property, and other miscellaneous sources closely related to the agricultural operation.

NUMBER OF FARMS: 1974

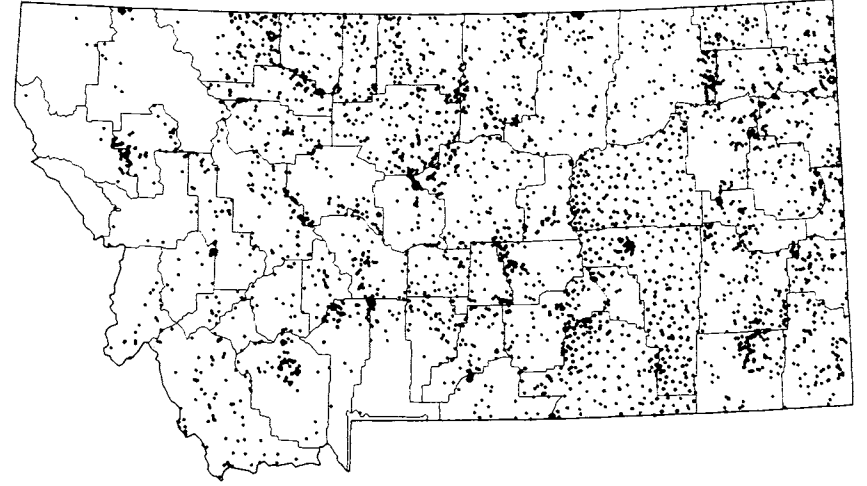


1 DOT = 50

74 - 1MT

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

LAND IN FARMS: 1974

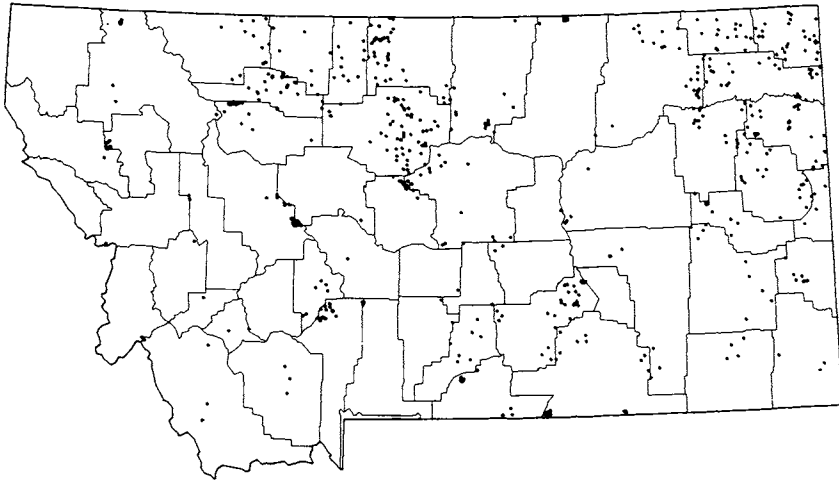


1 DOT = 20,000 ACRES

74 - 2MT

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

VALUE OF CROPS SOLD: 1974

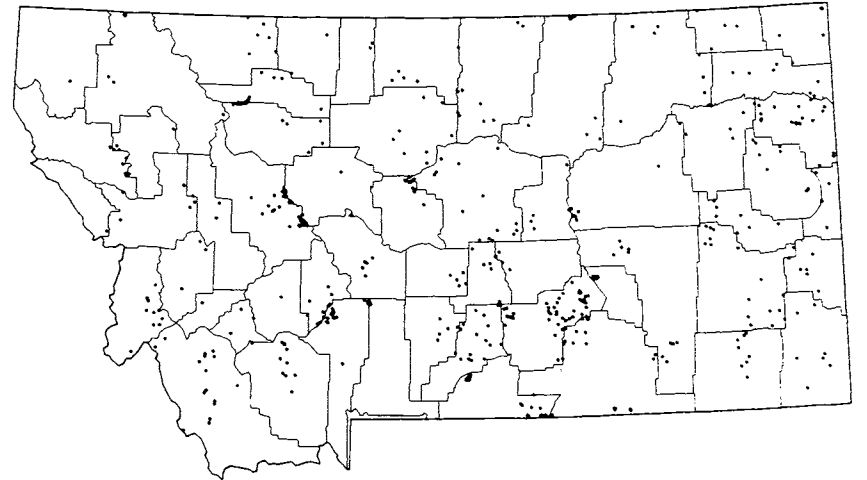


1 DOT = \$1,000,000

74 - 3MT

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

**VALUE OF LIVESTOCK, POULTRY,
AND THEIR PRODUCTS SOLD: 1974**

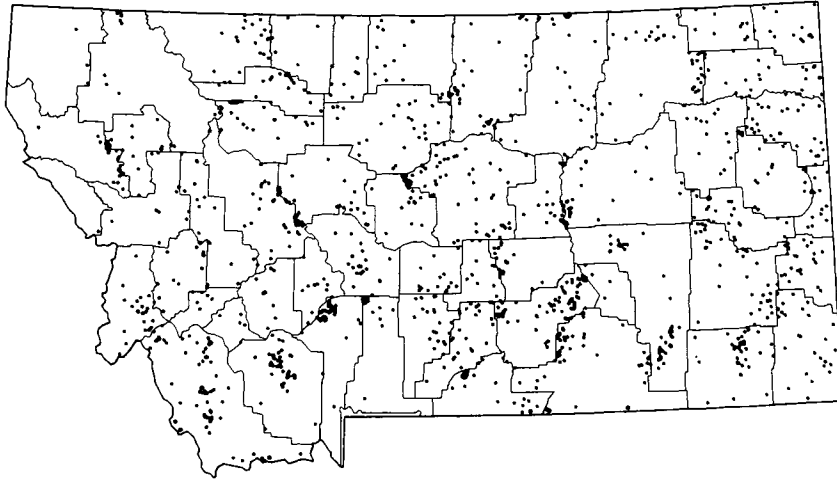


1 DOT = \$1,000,000

74 - 4MT

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

CATTLE AND CALVES: 1974

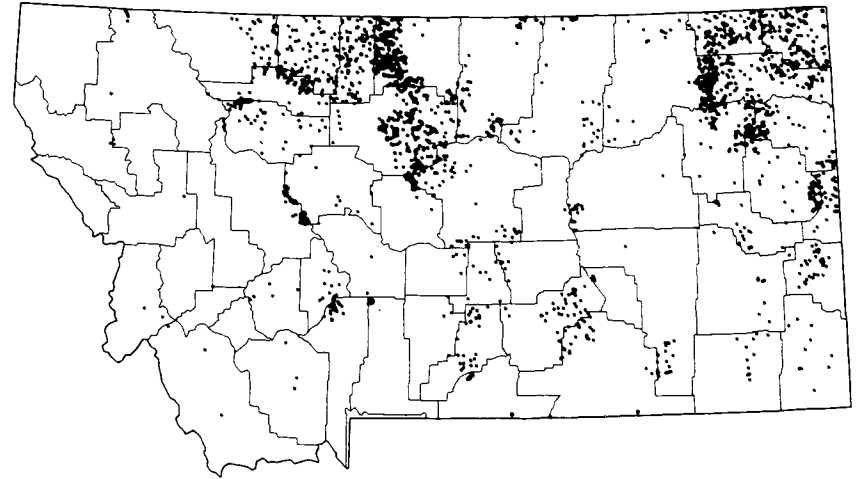


1 DOT = 2,500

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

74 - 5MT

WHEAT HARVESTED: 1974

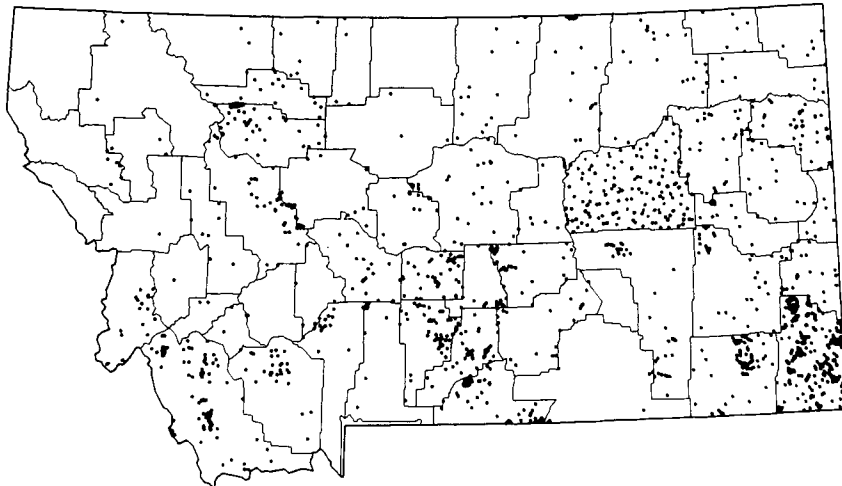


1 DOT = 2,500 ACRES

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

74 - 10MT

SHEEP AND LAMBS: 1974

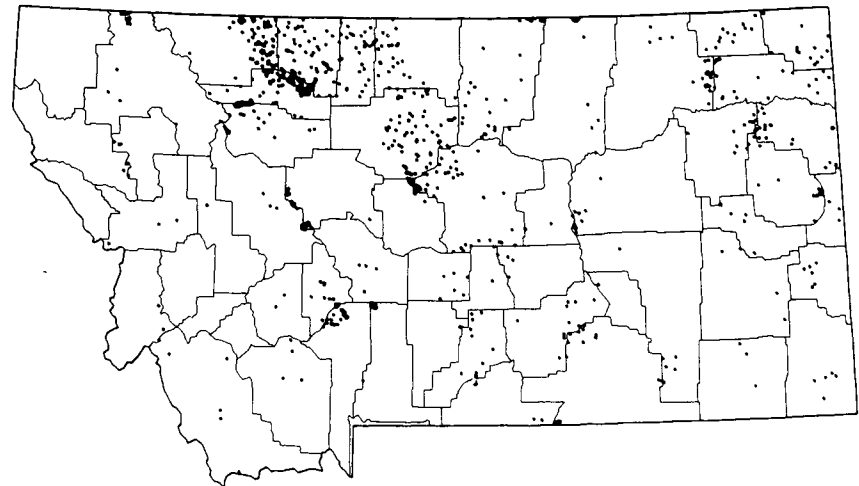


1 DOT = 500

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

74 - 19MT

**BARLEY HARVESTED: 1974
(FARMS WITH SALES OF \$2,500 AND OVER)**



1 DOT = 1,500 ACRES

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census

74 - 26MT

MONTANA

Counties, County Seats, Mountains, and Rivers

