

# Crop Net Return Prospects

## January 14, 2026

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# Outline

- Ag Economy Barometer
- Expected Crop Prices
- Net Return Projections
- Cash Rent and Land Value Projections

# Ag Economy Barometer

# Ag Economy Barometer

Index

200

175

150

125

100

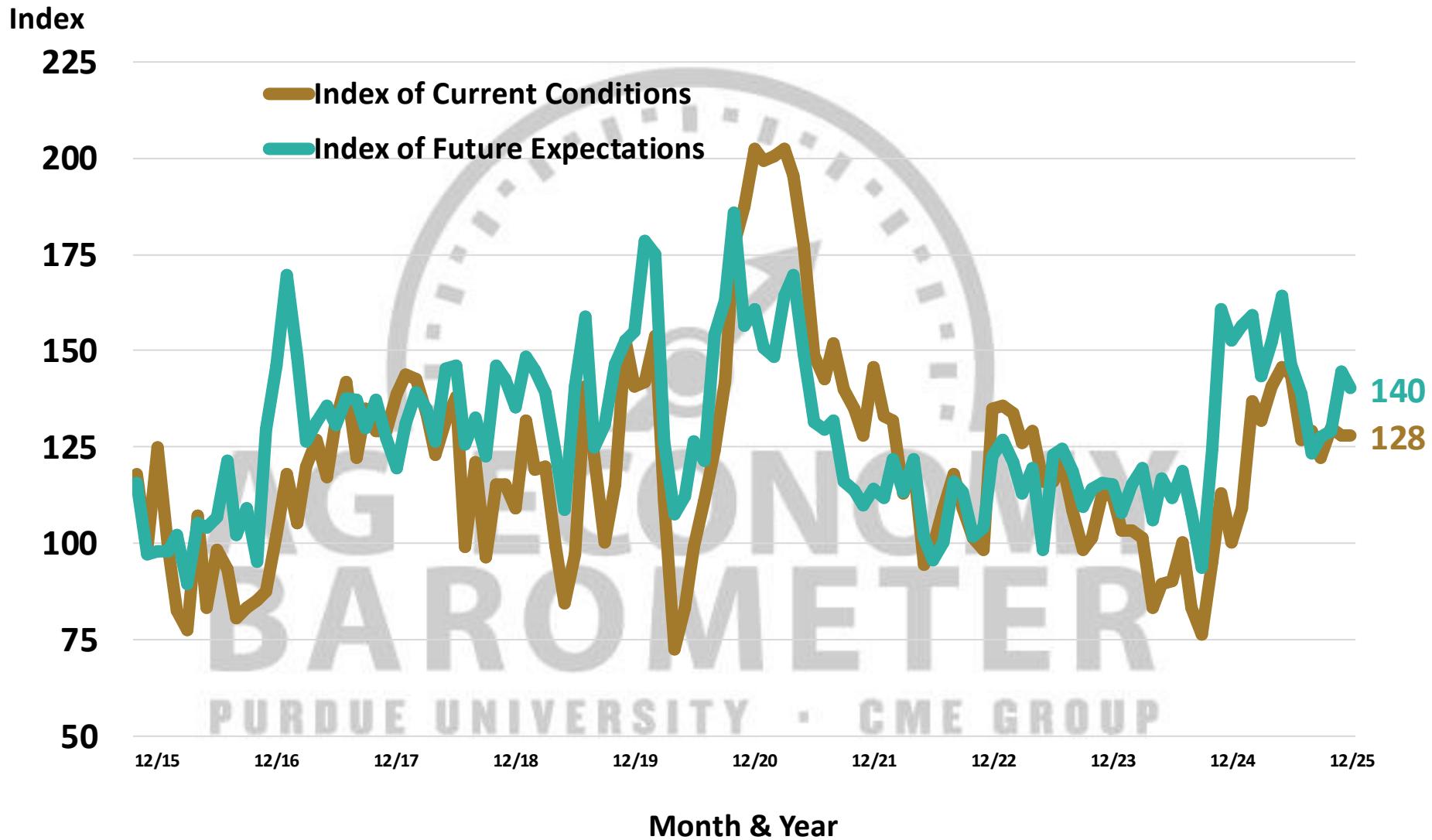
75

12/15 12/16 12/17 12/18 12/19 12/20 12/21 12/22 12/23 12/24 12/25

Month & Year

Source: Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, October 2015 - December 2025

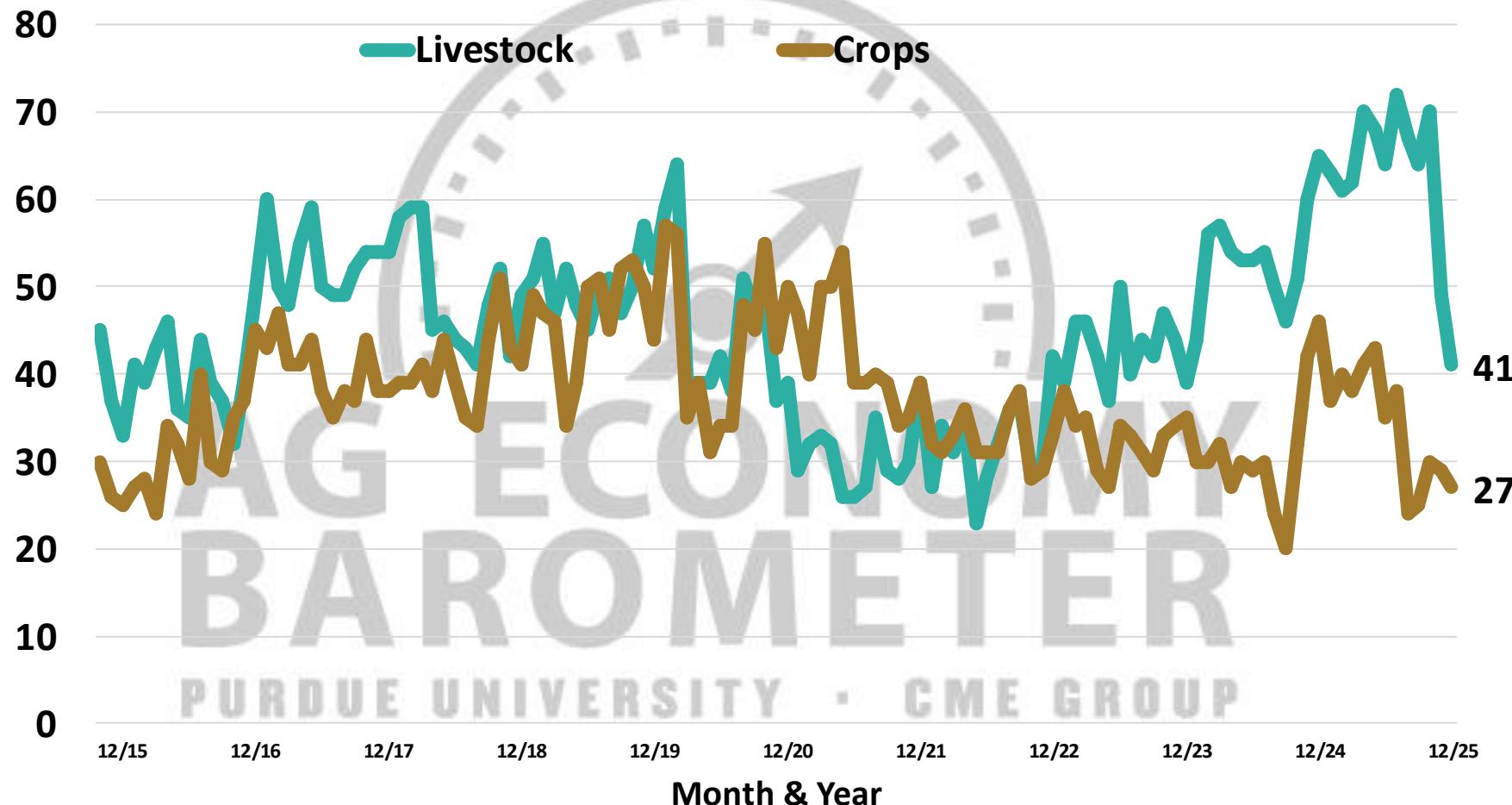
# Indices of Current Conditions and Future Expectations



Source: Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, October 2015 - December 2025

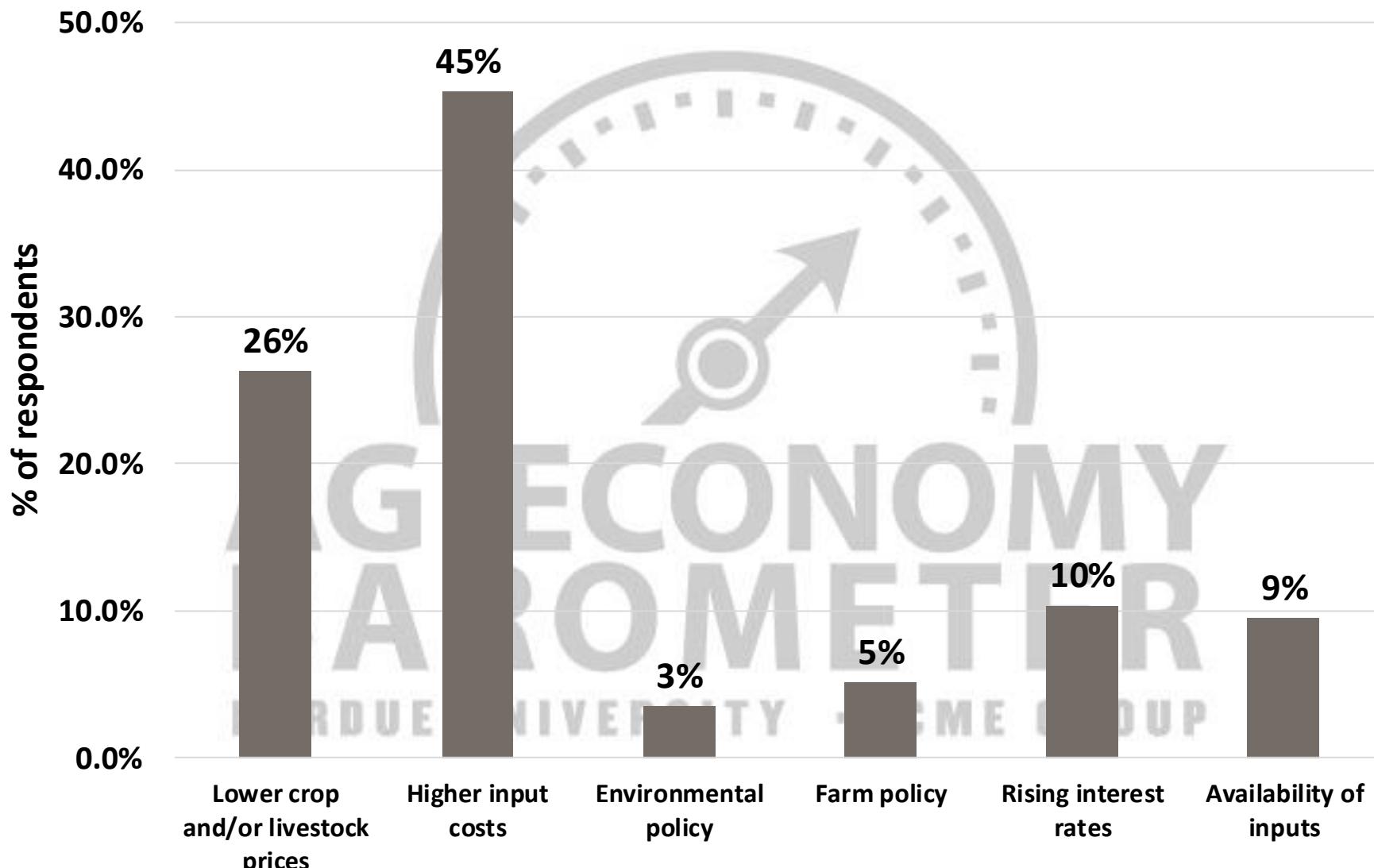
# Over the next five years, are widespread good times or bad times more likely? (% Good Times)

% of respondents



Source: Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, October 2015 - December 2025

## Looking ahead to next year what are your biggest concerns for your farming operation?



Source: Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, December 2025

# Do you expect the increased use of tariffs by the United States to strengthen or weaken the U.S. agricultural economy in the long-run?

% of respondents

90%

75%

60%

45%

30%

15%

0%

■ Strengthen

■ Weaken

■ Uncertain

70%

70%

63%

51%

58%

59%

54%

22%

22%

28%

30%

26%

24%

27%

8%

8%

9%

19%

16%

17%

19%

04/25

05/25

06/25

09/25

10/25

11/25

12/25

Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, December 2025

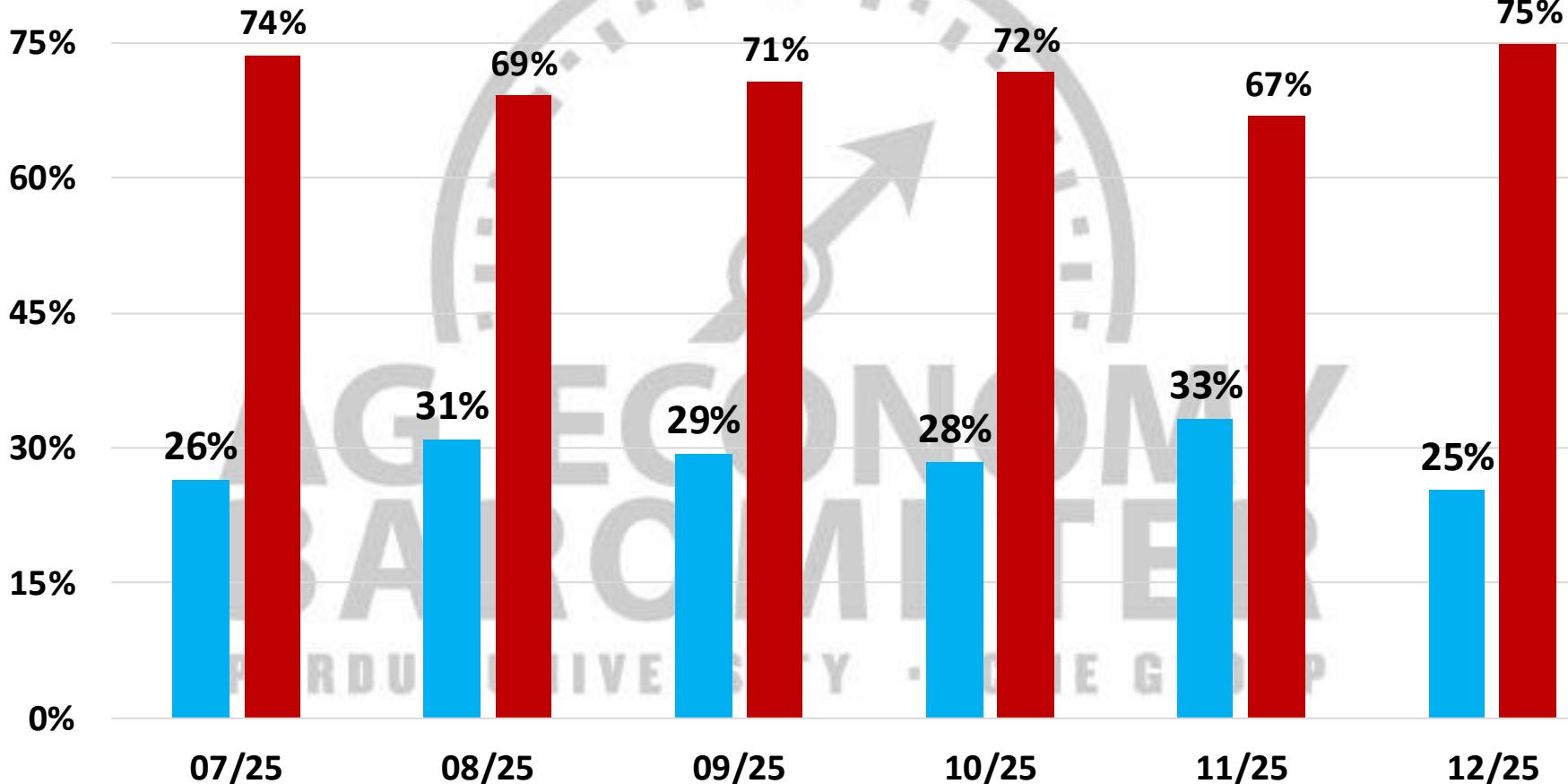
# Would you say that things in the U.S. today are generally headed in the right direction or on the wrong track?

% of respondents

90%

Wrong Track

Right Direction



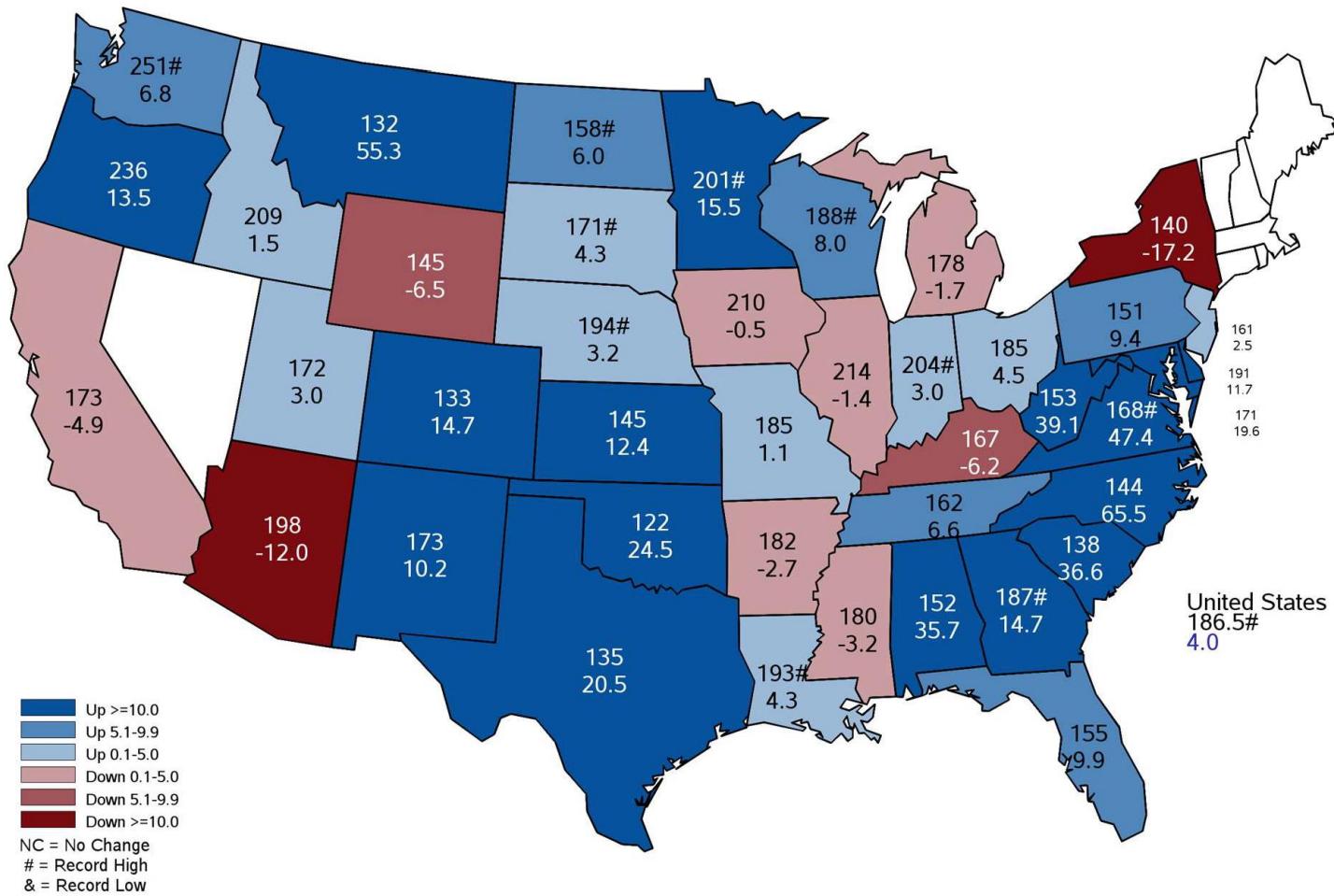
Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, July-December 2025

# Expected Crop Prices



# 2025 Corn Yield

## Bushels and Percent Change from Previous Year



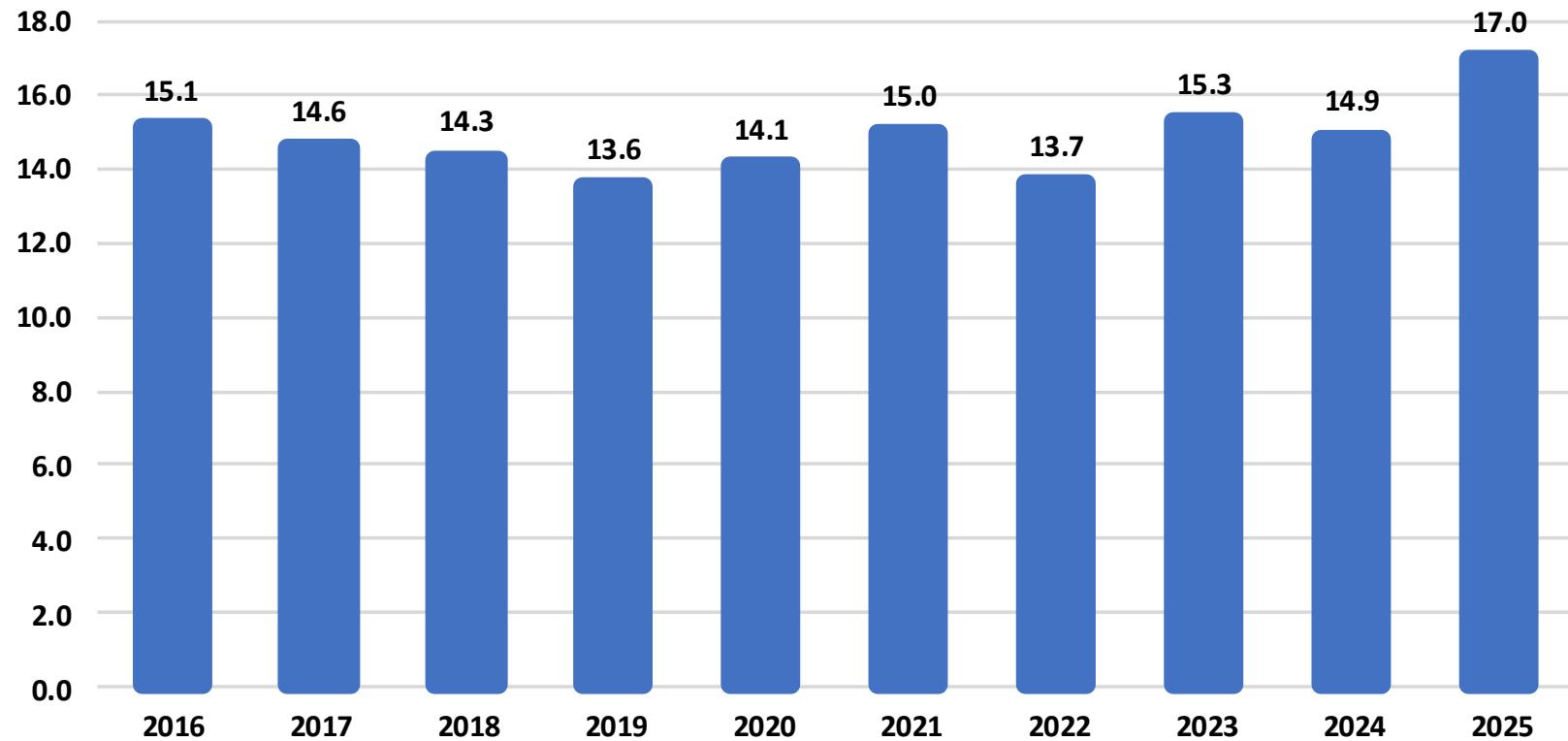


# Corn Production

## United States



Billion Bushels



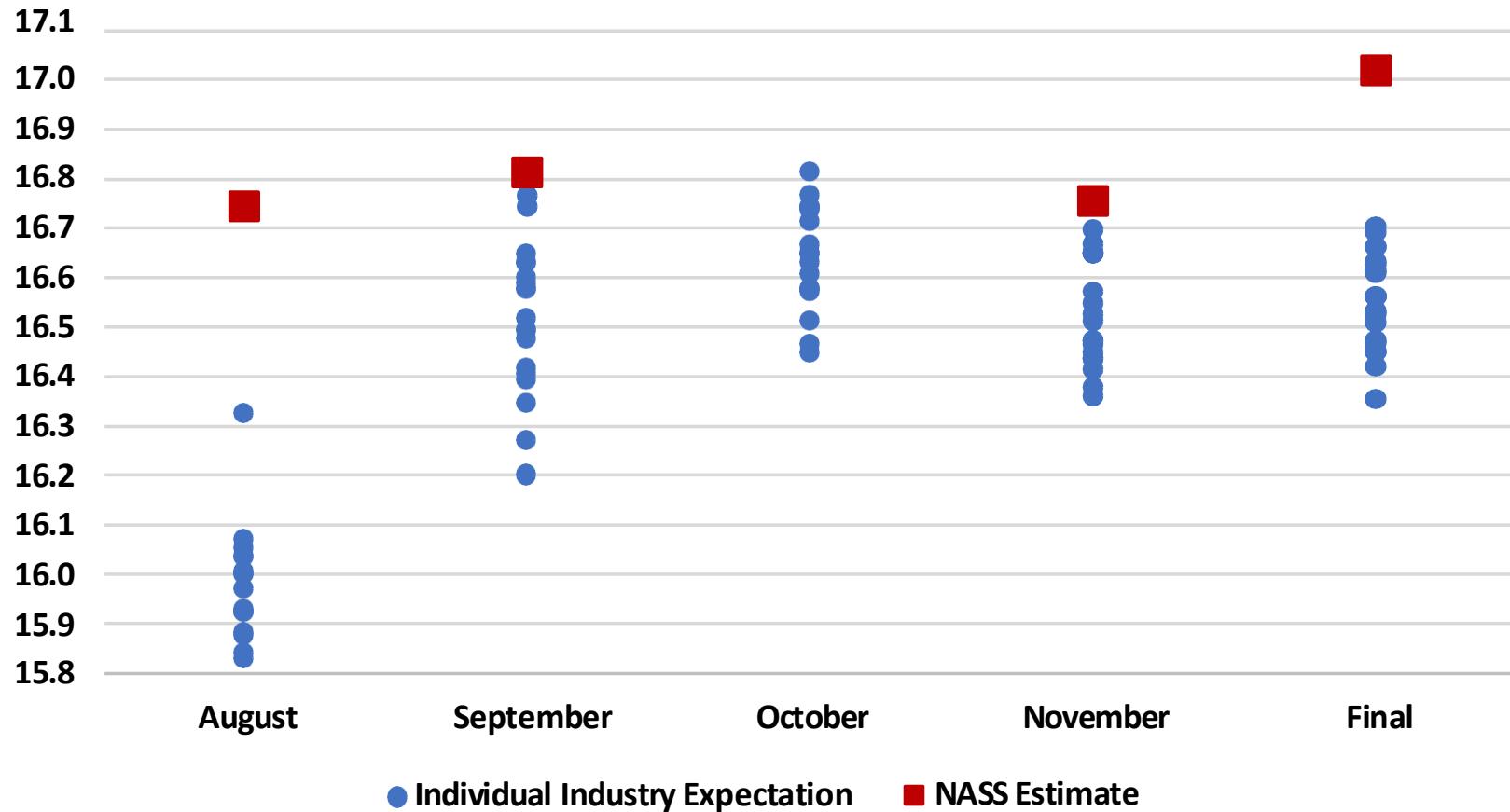


# 2025 U.S. Corn Production

## Industry Expectations vs NASS



Billion Bushels



Note: October NASS Estimate not available

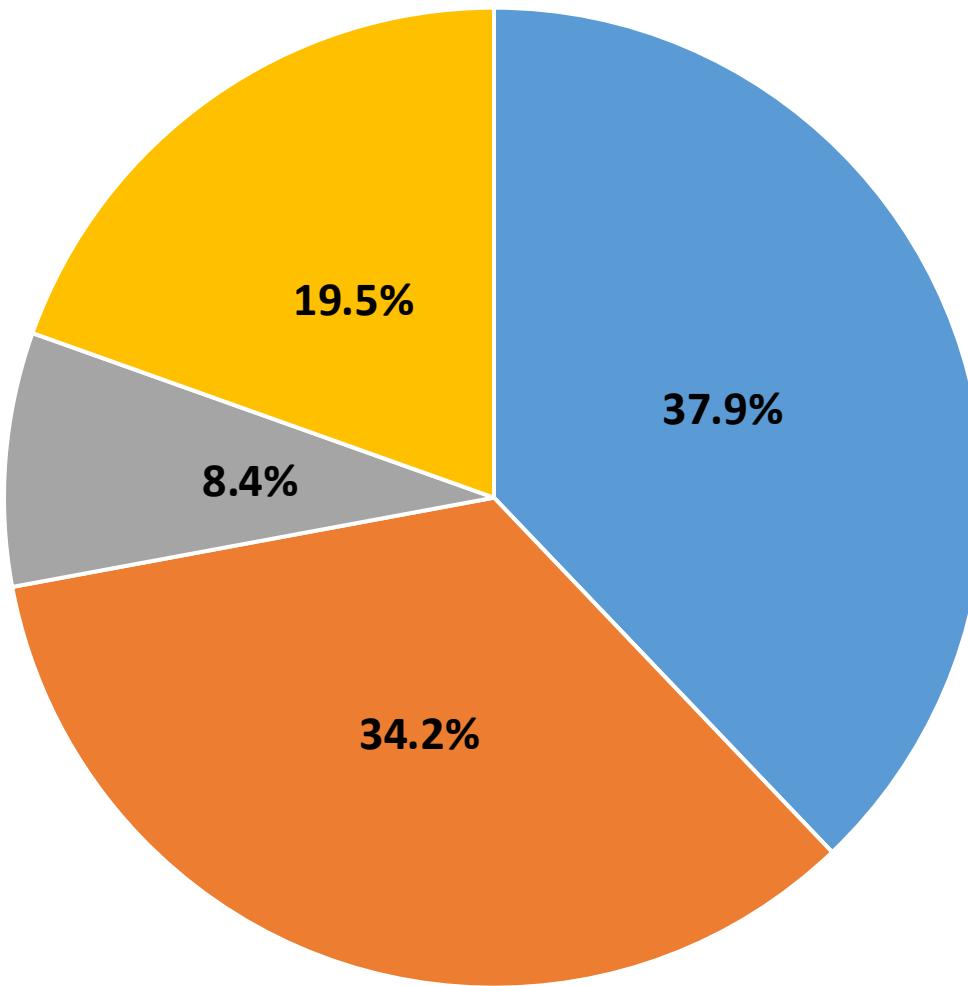
# January WASDE Report: Corn % Changes from 2024/25

- **Supply (25/26):**
  - Acreage: 8.7% increase (90.9 to 98.8)
  - Yield: 4.0% increase (179.3 to 186.5)
  - Production: 14.3% increase
- **Demand (25/26):**
  - Feed: 13.7% increase
  - Ethanol: 3.0% increase
  - Exports: 12.0% increase
- **Stocks to Use: 13.6% (10.1% in 24/25)**
- **Corn Price: \$4.10 (\$4.24 in 24/25)**

# U.S. Corn Use: Forecasts 2025/26

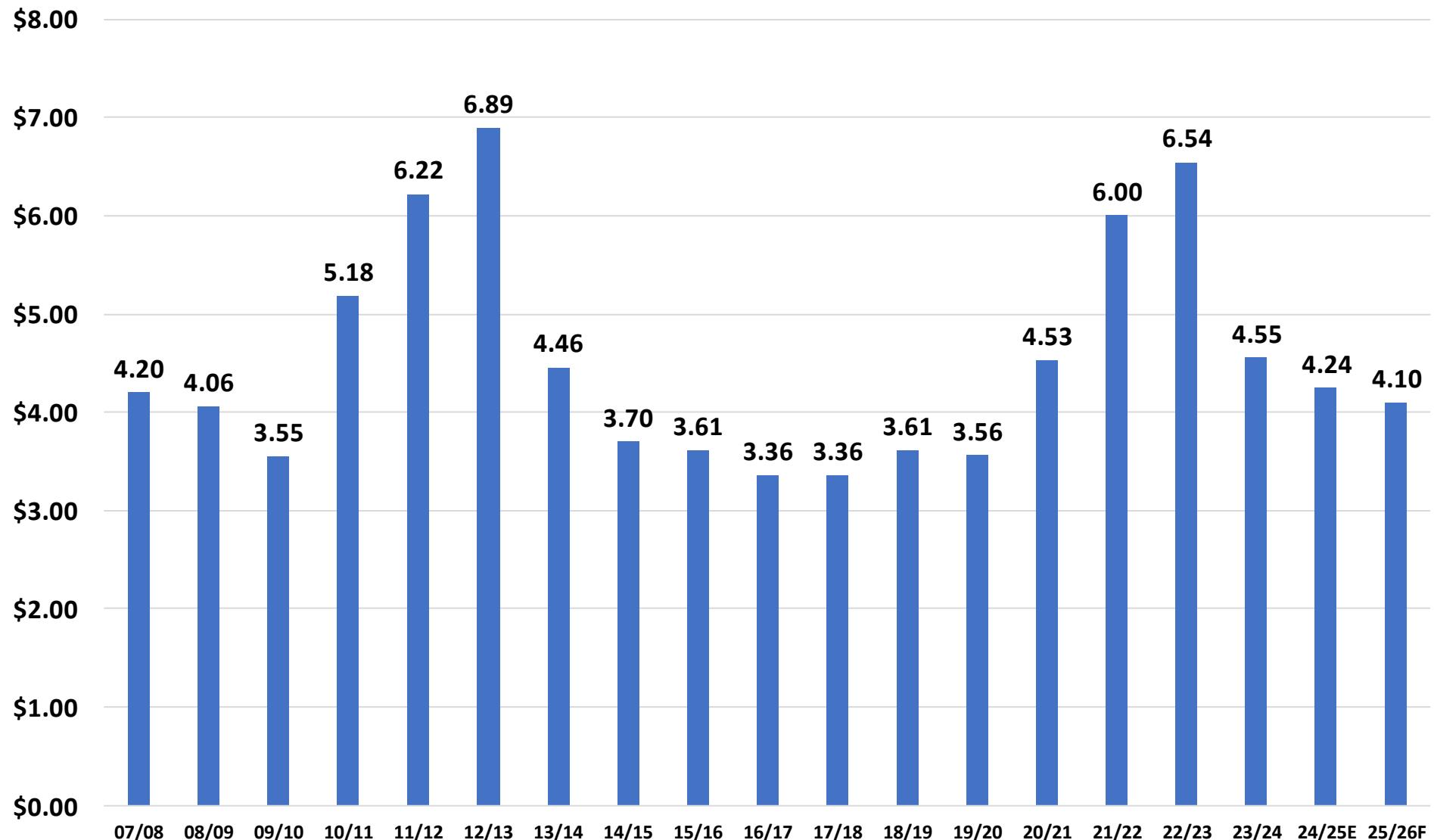
## Source: WASDE, January 2026

■ Feed ■ Ethanol ■ Other Industrial ■ Exports

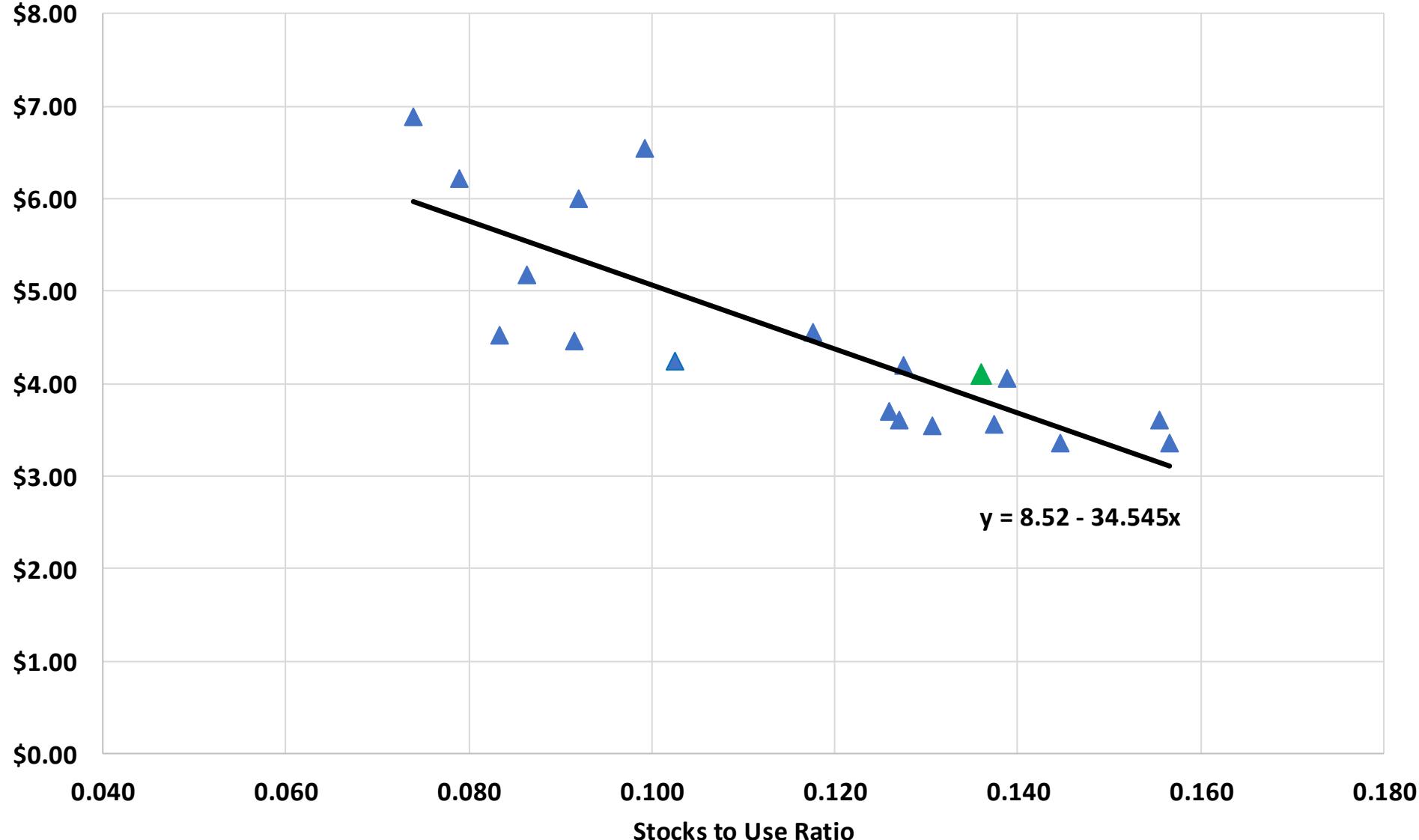


# U.S. Marketing Year Price for Corn

## USDA - WASDE Reports



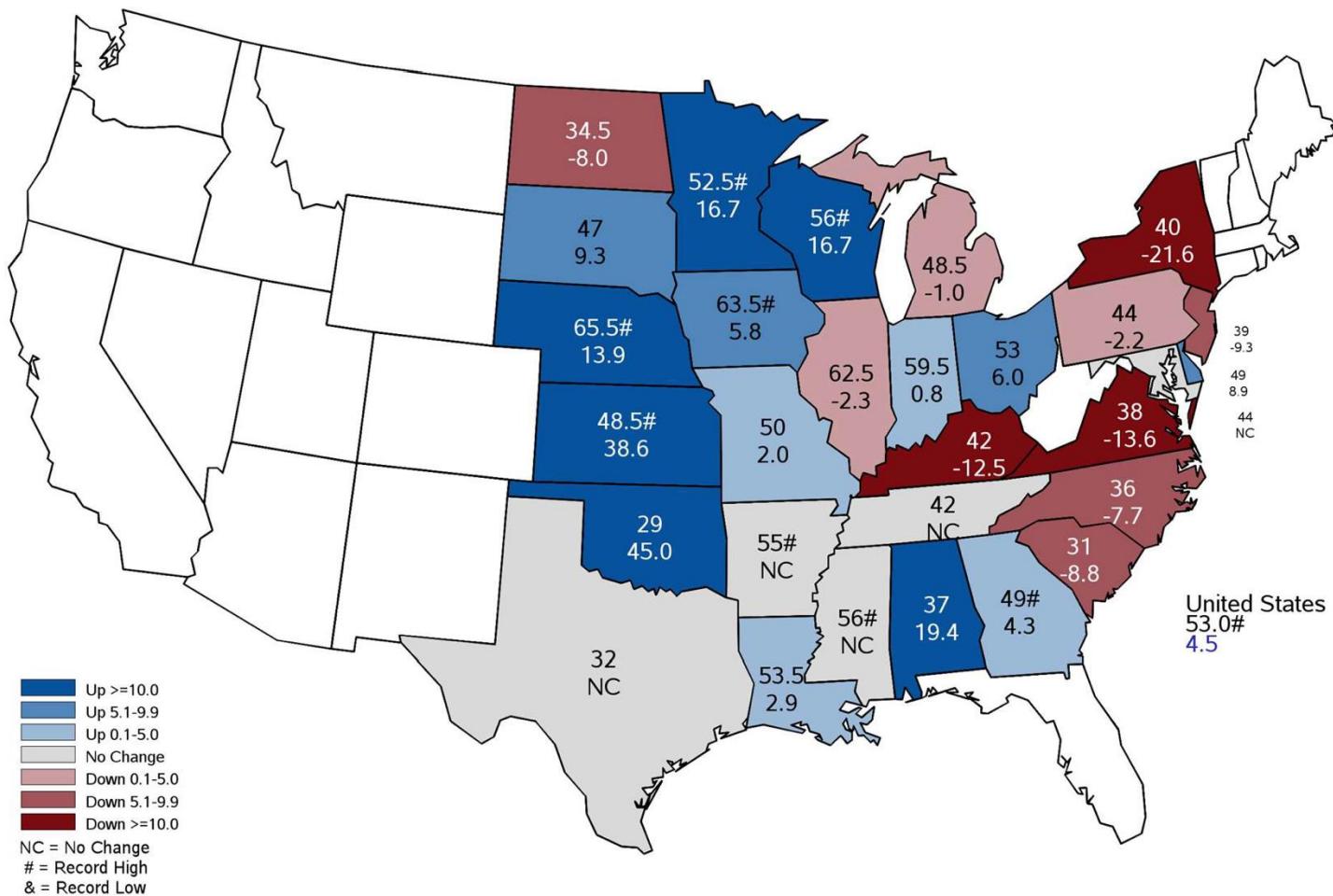
U.S. Marketing Year Average Corn Price and Ending Stocks to Use Ratio  
USDA - WASDE Reports





# 2025 Soybean Yield

## Bushels and Percent Change from Previous Year



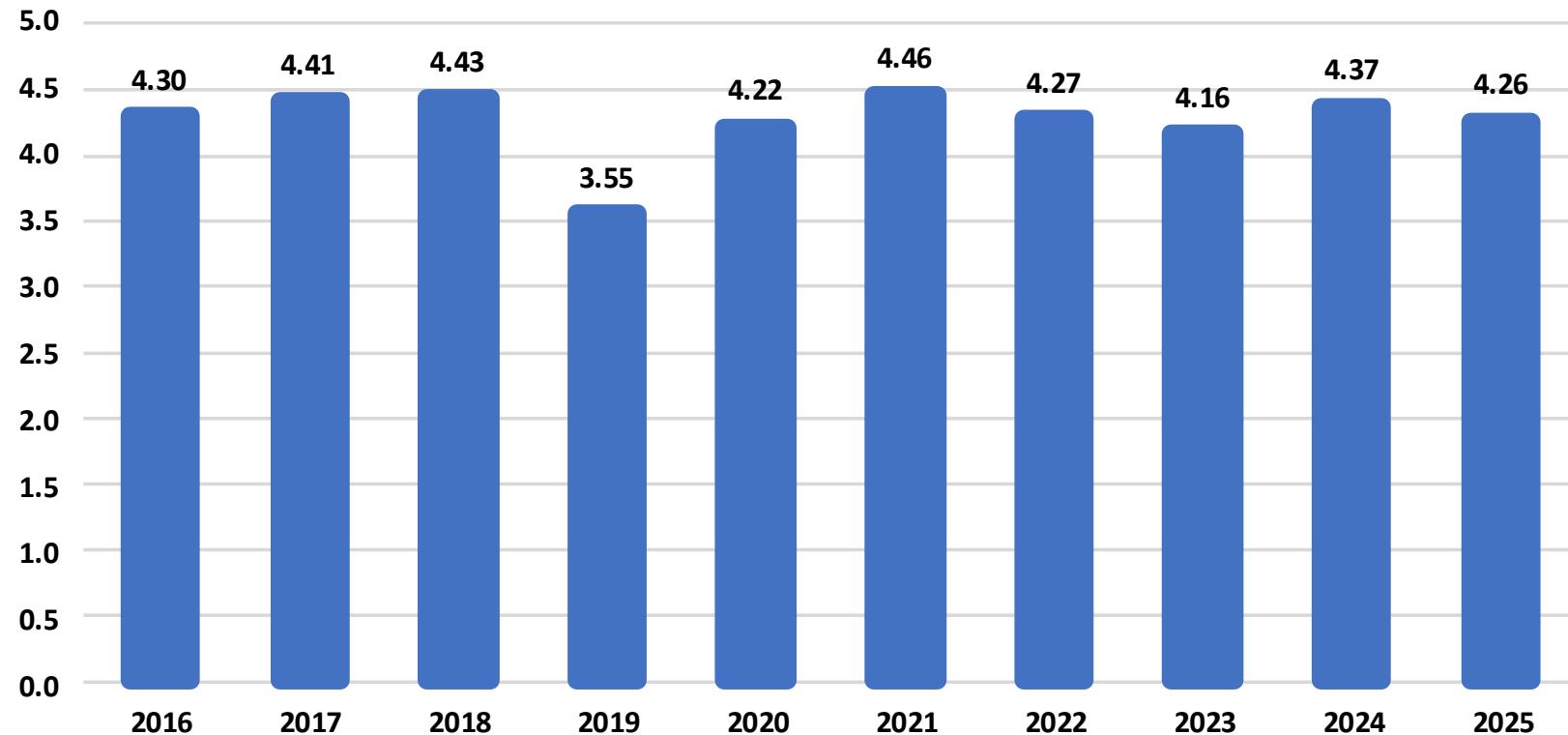


# Soybean Production

## United States



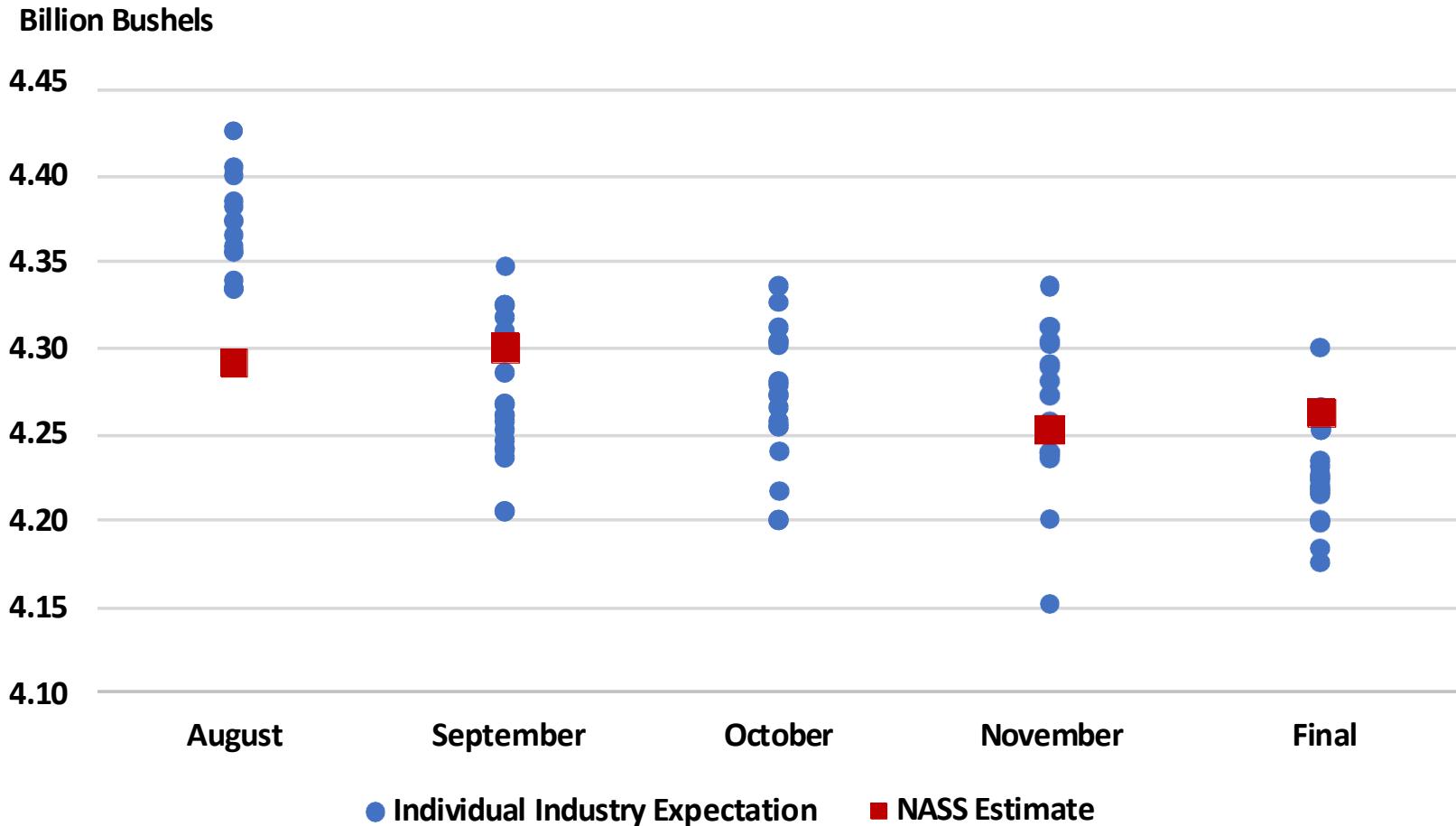
Billion Bushels





# 2025 U.S. Soybean Production

## Industry Expectations vs NASS



Note: October NASS Estimate not available

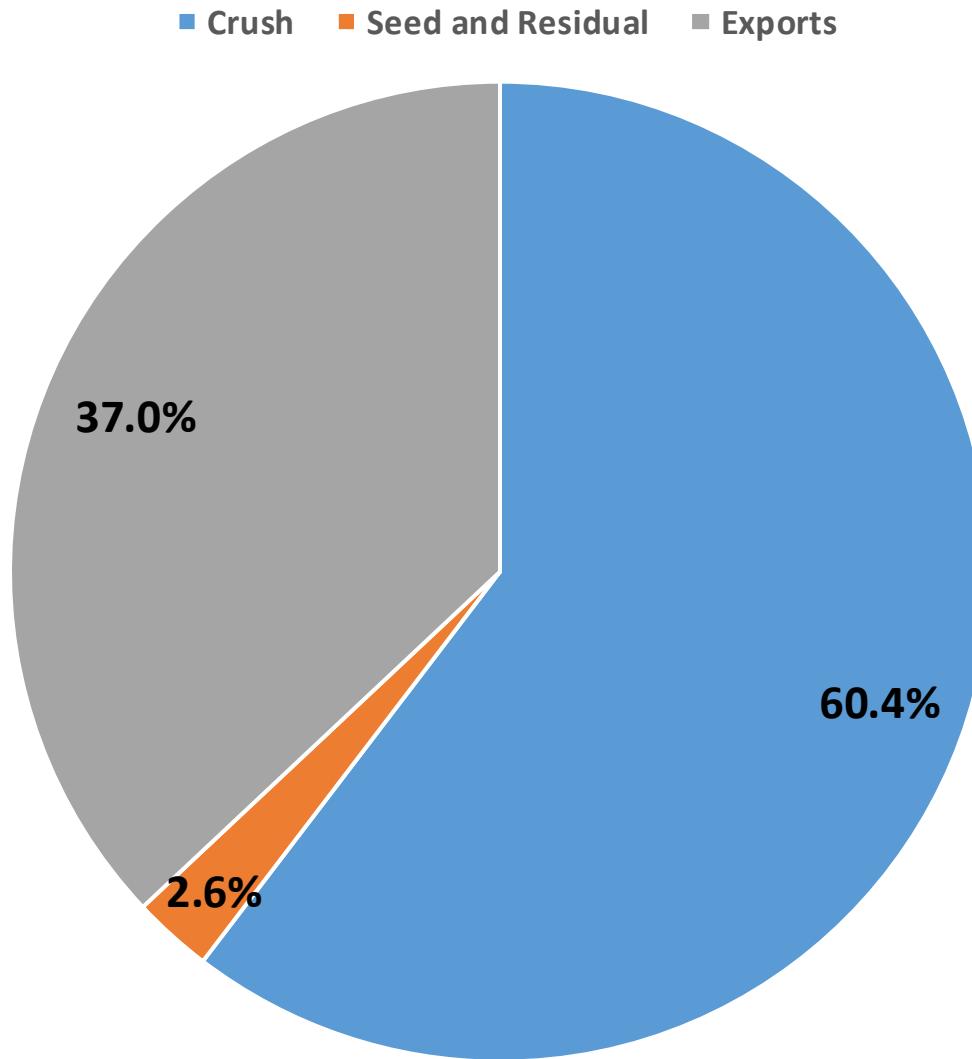
# January WASDE Report: Soybeans

## % Changes from 2024/25

- Supply (25/26):
  - Acreage: 7.0% decrease (87.3 to 81.2)
  - Yield: 4.5% increase (50.7 to 53.0)
  - Production: -2.6% decrease
- Demand (25/26):
  - Crush: 5.1% increase
  - Exports: 16.3% decrease
- Stocks to Use: 8.2% (7.4% in 24/25)
- Soybean Price: \$10.20 (\$10.00 in 24/25)

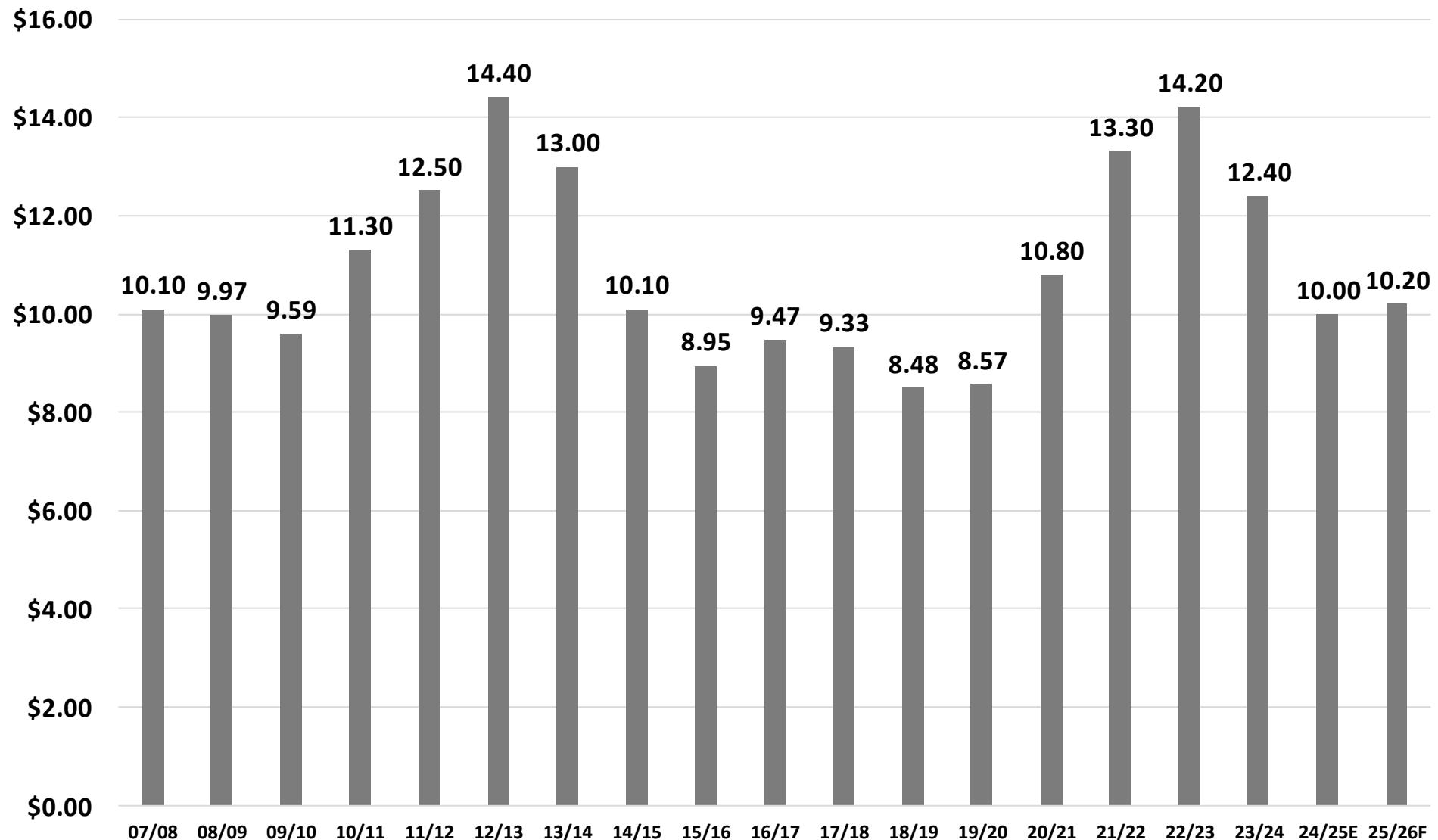
# U.S. Soybean Use: Forecasts 2025/26

Source: WASDE, January 2026

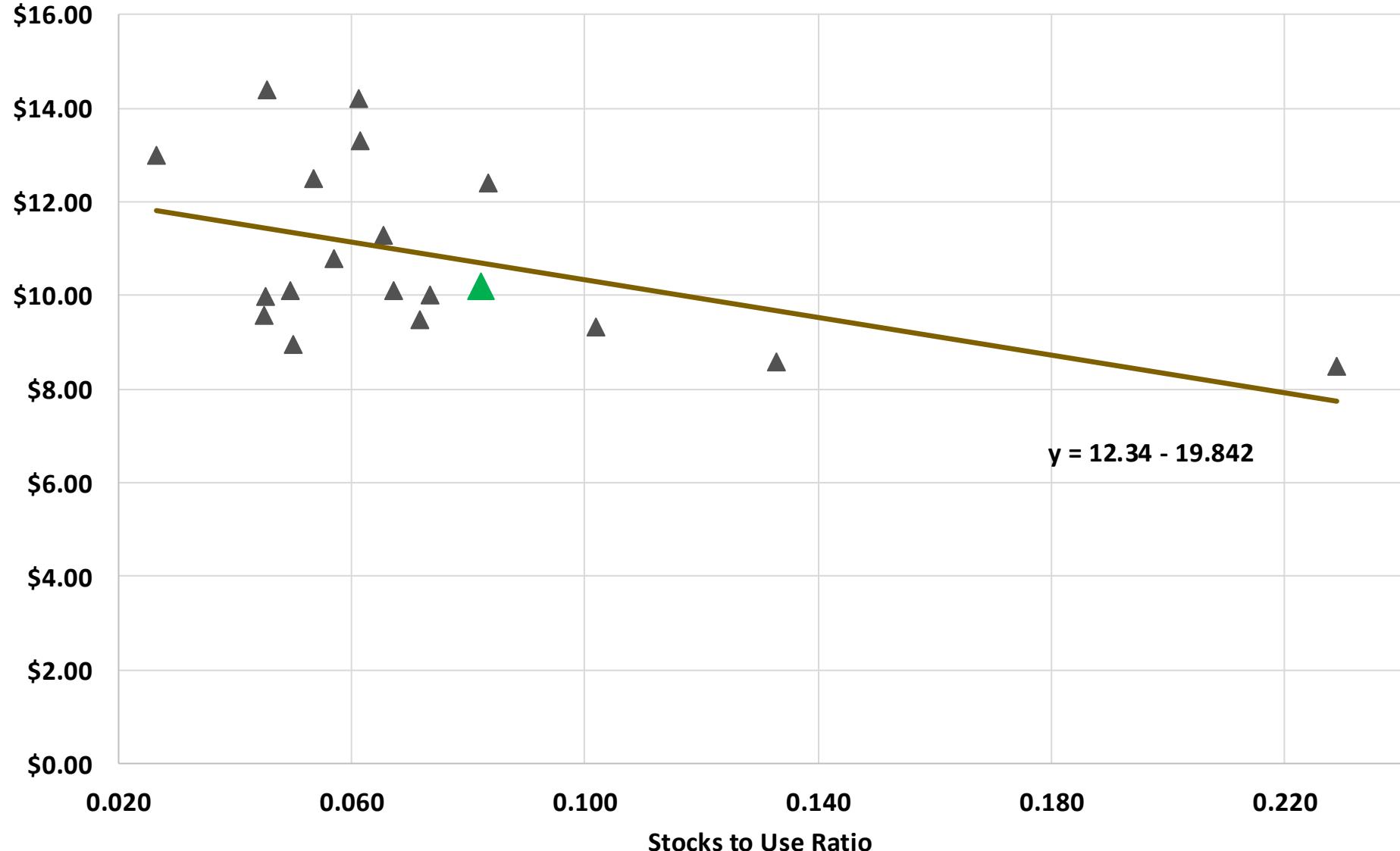


# U.S. Marketing Year Price for Soybeans

## USDA - WASE Reports



U.S. Marketing Year Average Soybean Price and Ending Stocks to Use Ratio  
USDA - WASDE Reports



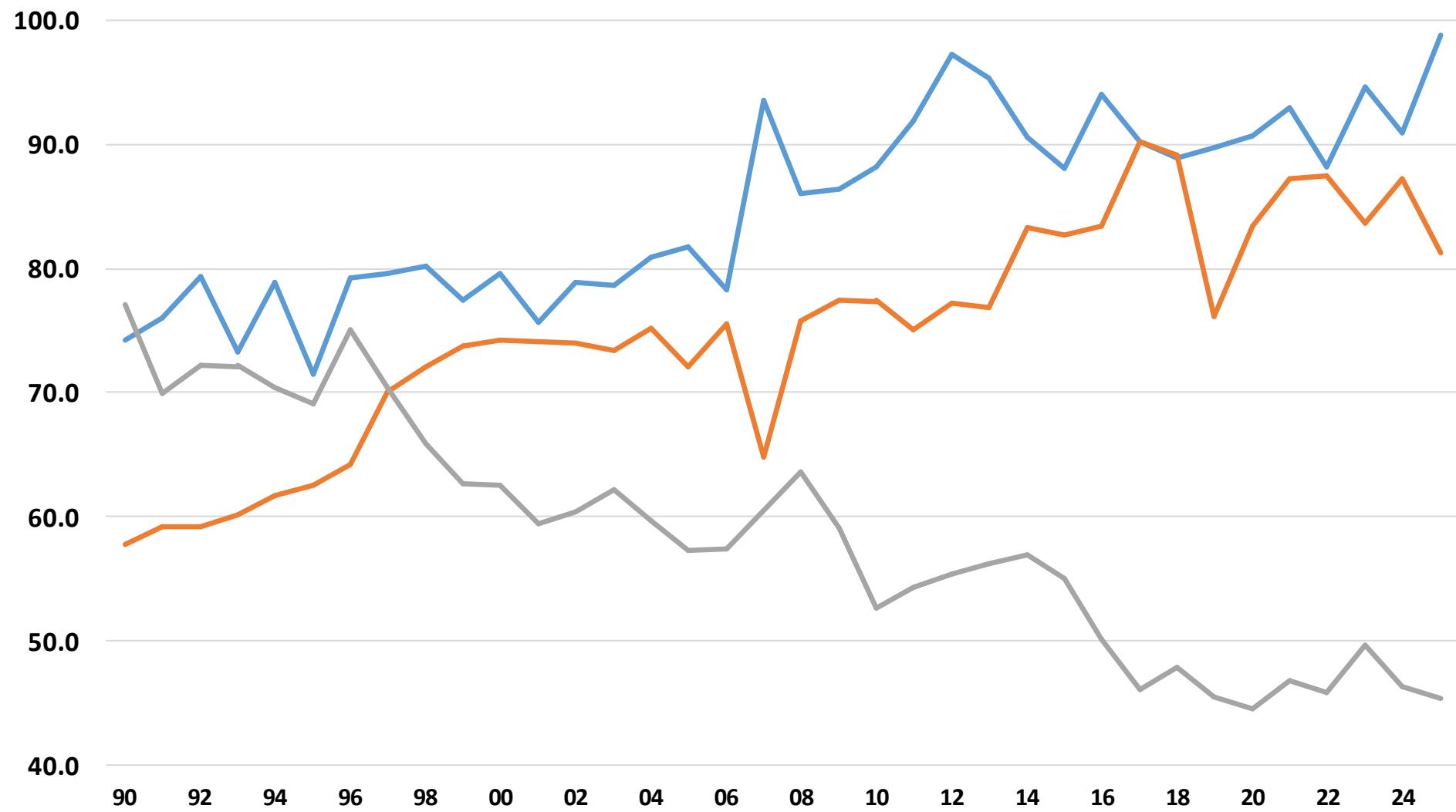
# What about Prices in Fall 2026?



# U.S. Corn, Soybean, and Wheat Acres (millions)

Source: USDA-NASS, Quick Stats

Corn    Soybeans    Wheat



# Fall 2026 Futures Prices (1/14)

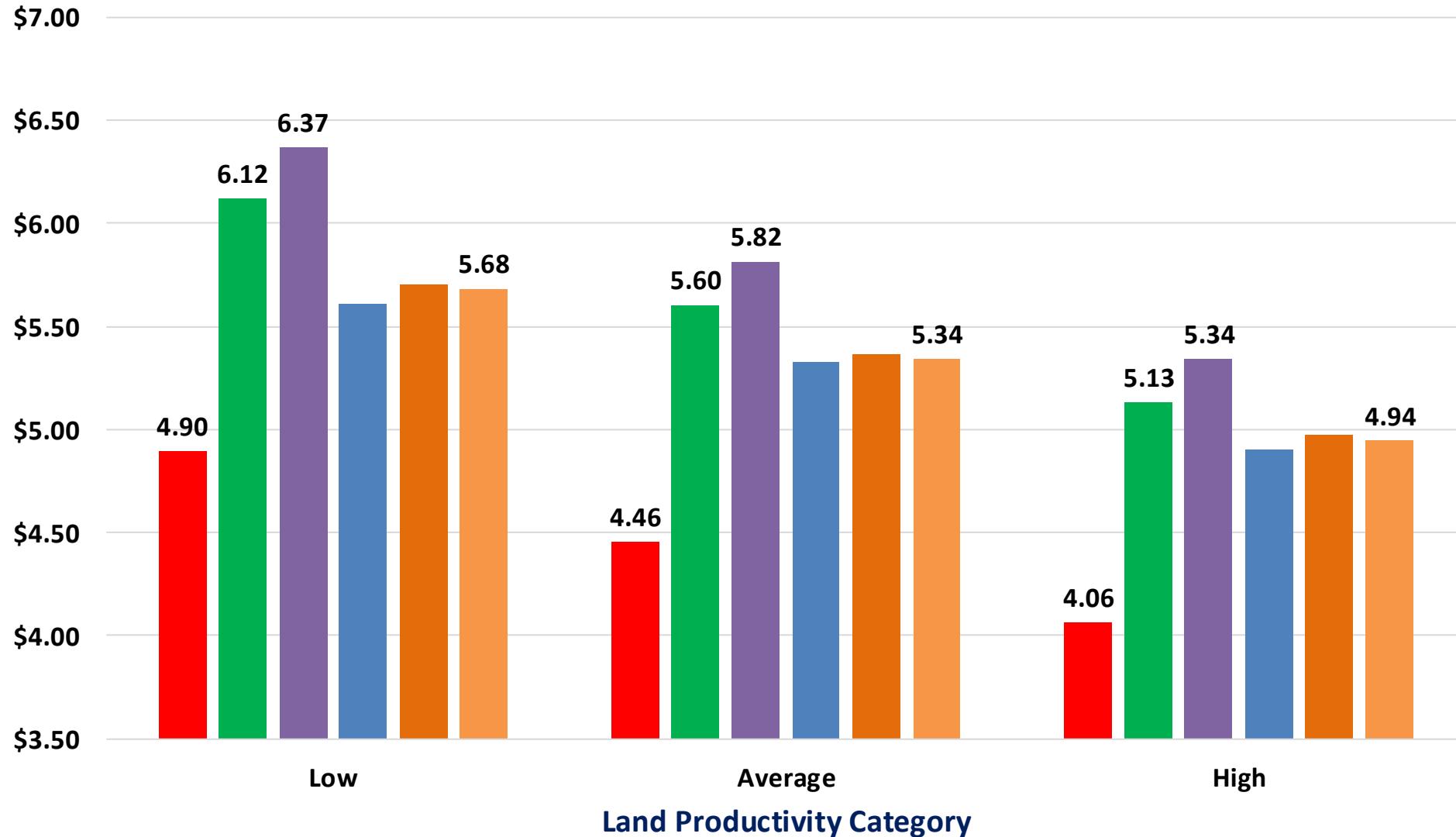
## Source: iFarm Price Distribution Tool

At Expiration Probability Below	Corn (Dec)	Soybeans (Nov)
25%	4.14	9.64
50%	4.41	10.49
75%	4.92	11.42

# Net Return Projections

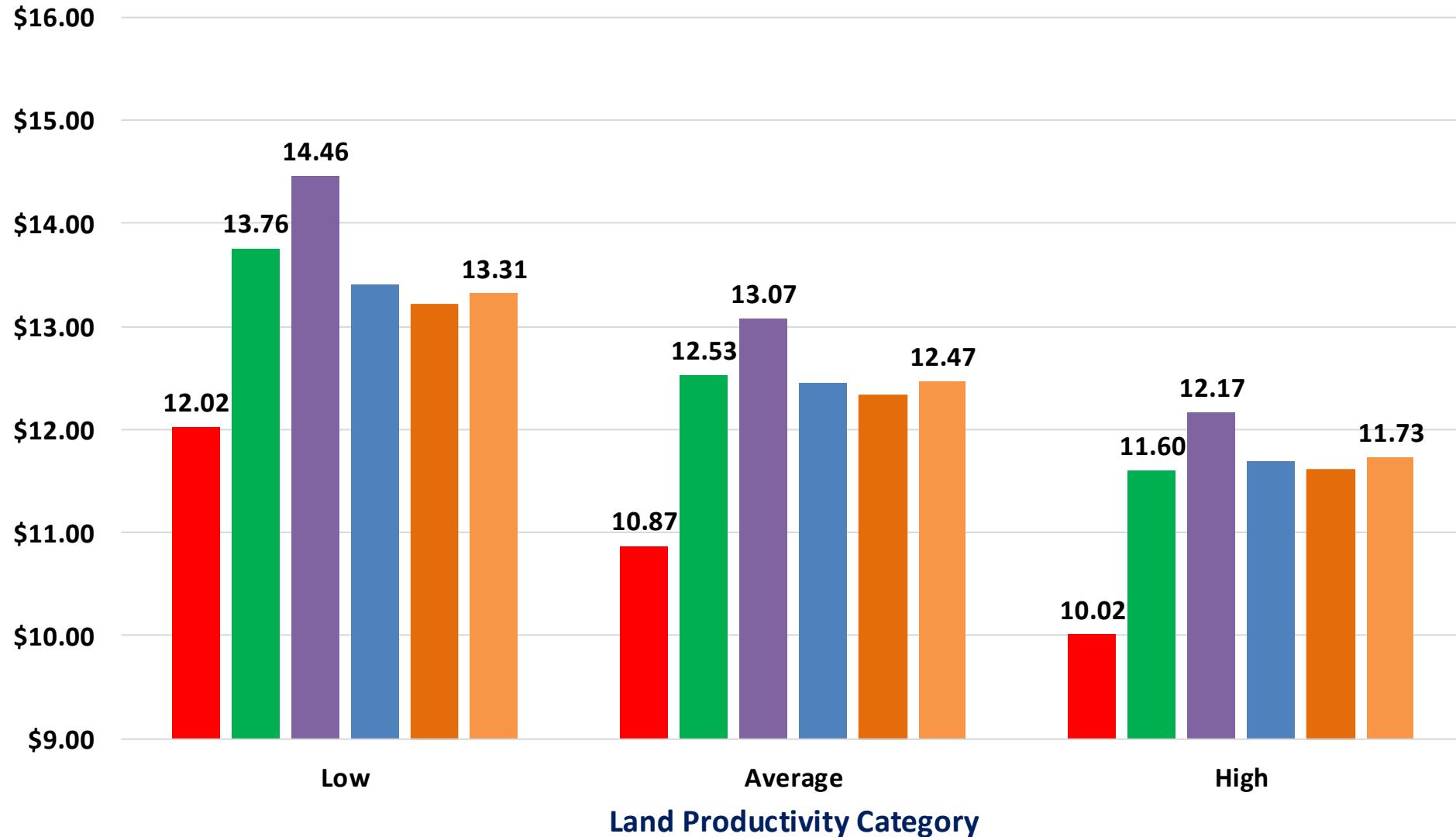
# Breakeven Prices for Rotation Corn in Indiana

2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026



# Breakeven Prices for Rotation Soybeans in Indiana

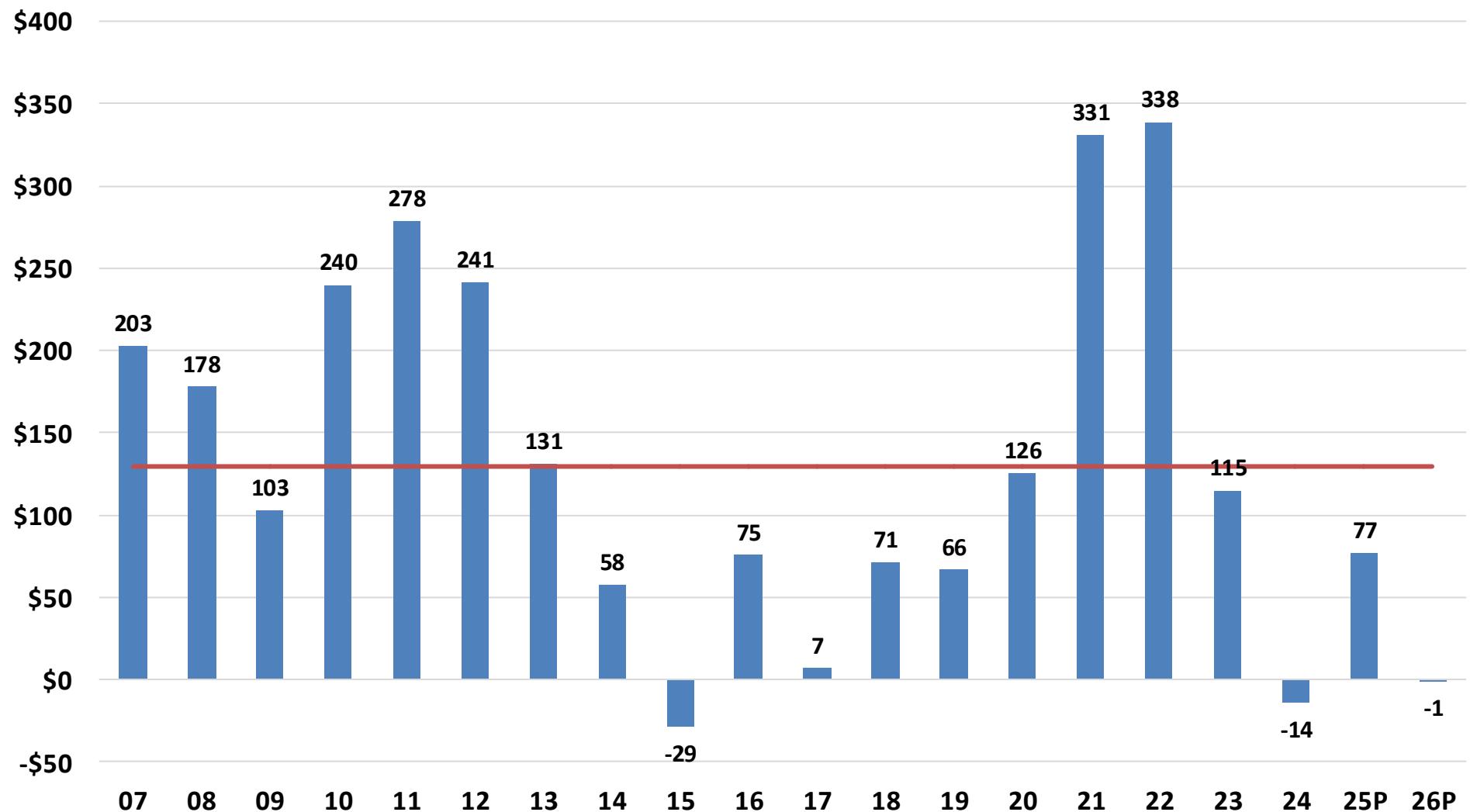
2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026



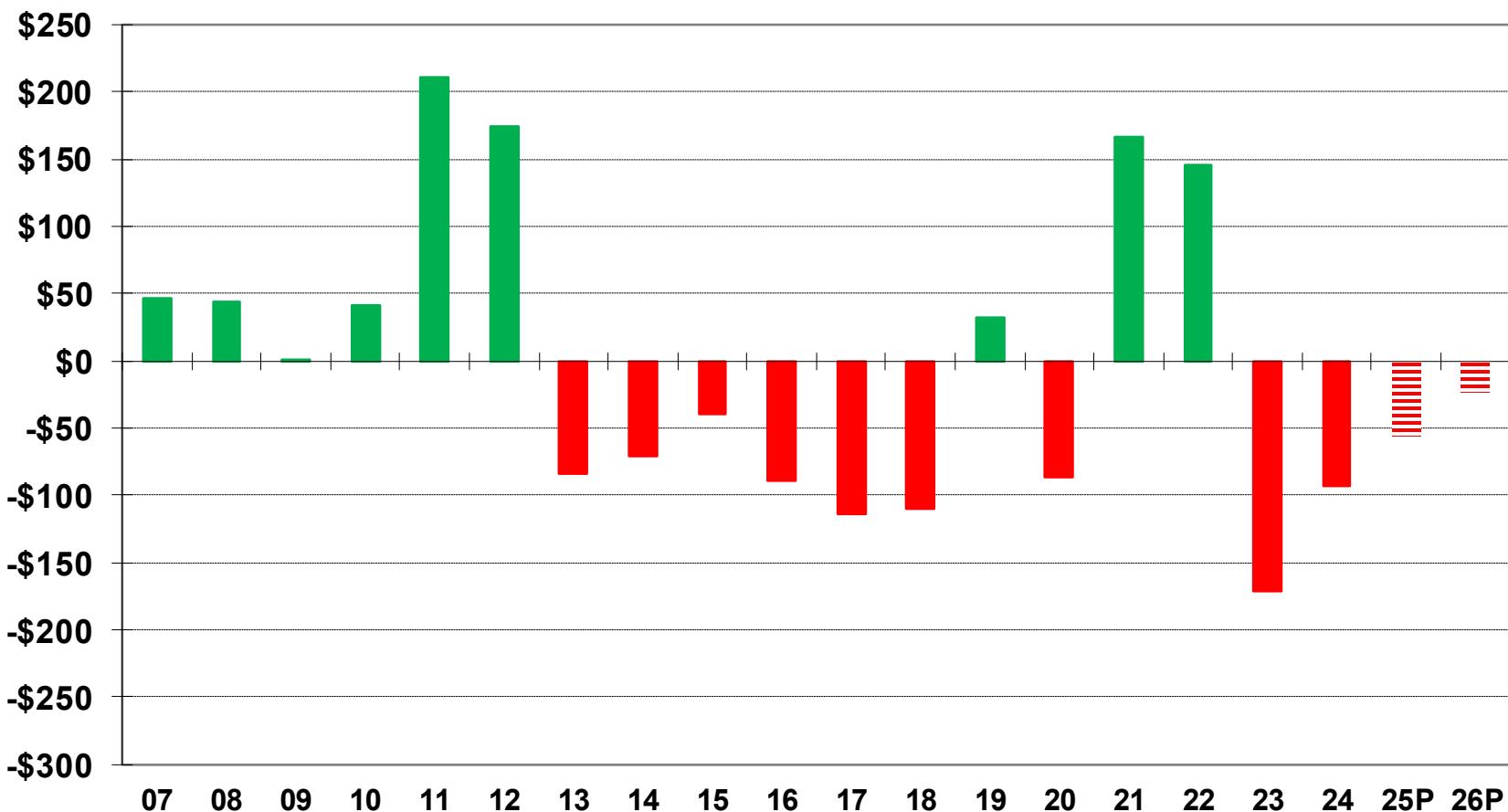
# Net Farm Income, Corn/Soybean Rotation (\$ per Acre)

## West Central Indiana Case Farm

■ Annual ■ Average, 2007 to 2026



# Difference in Earnings per Acre West Central Indiana (Corn Minus Soybeans)



If USDA provides an MFP payment to compensate for weak commodity prices, what will be the principal use of this payment on your farm?

% of respondents

90%

■ Cover family living expenses ■ Improve working capital ■ Invest in farm machinery ■ Pay down debt

75%

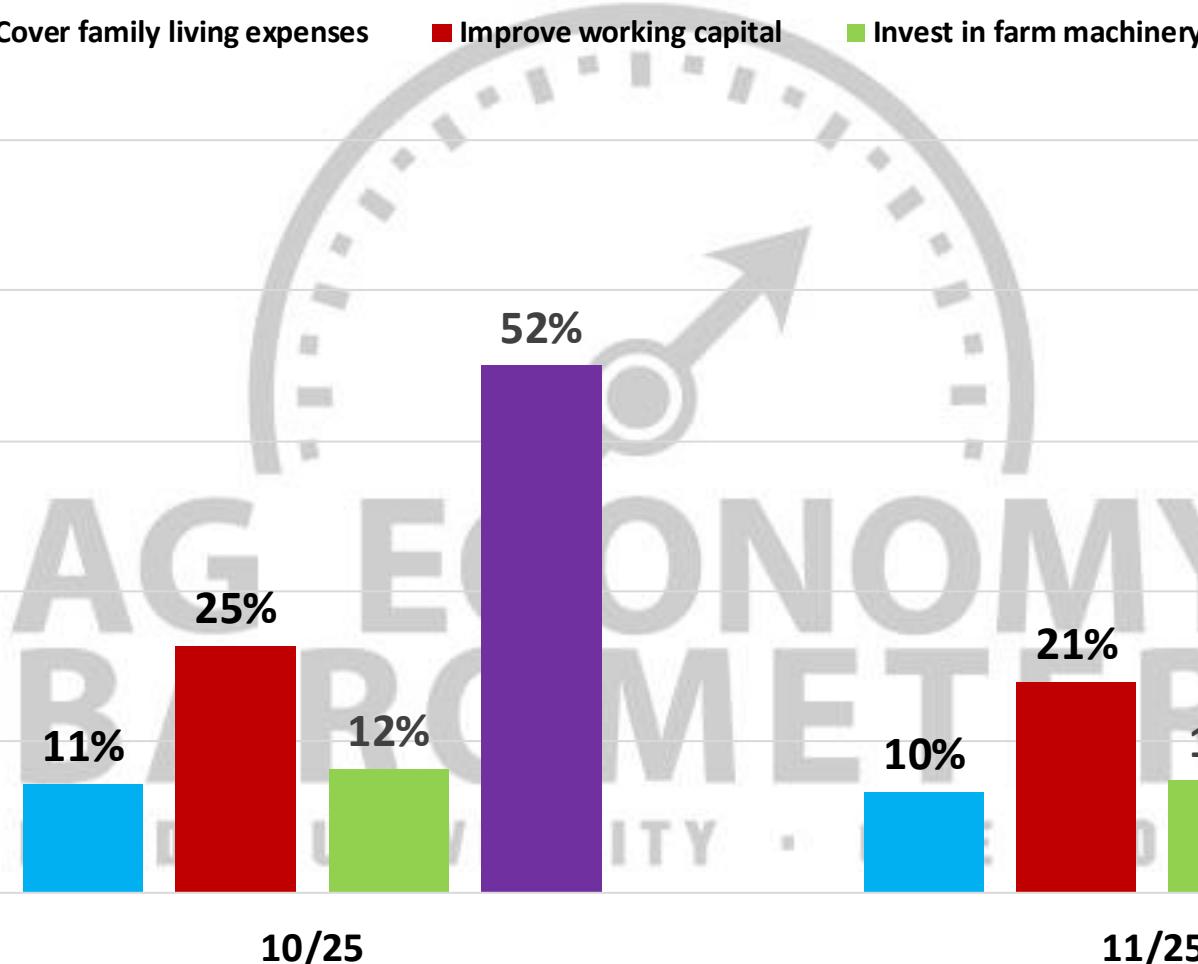
60%

45%

30%

15%

0%



Category	10/25 (%)	11/25 (%)
Cover family living expenses	11%	10%
Improve working capital	25%	21%
Invest in farm machinery	12%	11%
Pay down debt	52%	58%

10/25

11/25

Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, October - November 2025

# Cash Rent and Land Value Projections

# Indiana Cash Rents

## 2025 Survey Results, State Averages by Land Quality

Land Quality	Yield (Bu/Ac)	2024 Value (\$/A)	2025 Value (\$/A)	Percent Change
Top	230	\$313	\$318	1.7%
Average	199	\$260	\$264	1.6%
Poor	170	\$204	\$207	1.5%

Compared to this year, what are your expectations for cash rent in your area in 2026?

% of respondents

90%

75%

60%

45%

30%

15%

0%

73.9%

11.6%

14.5%

Lower

About the Same

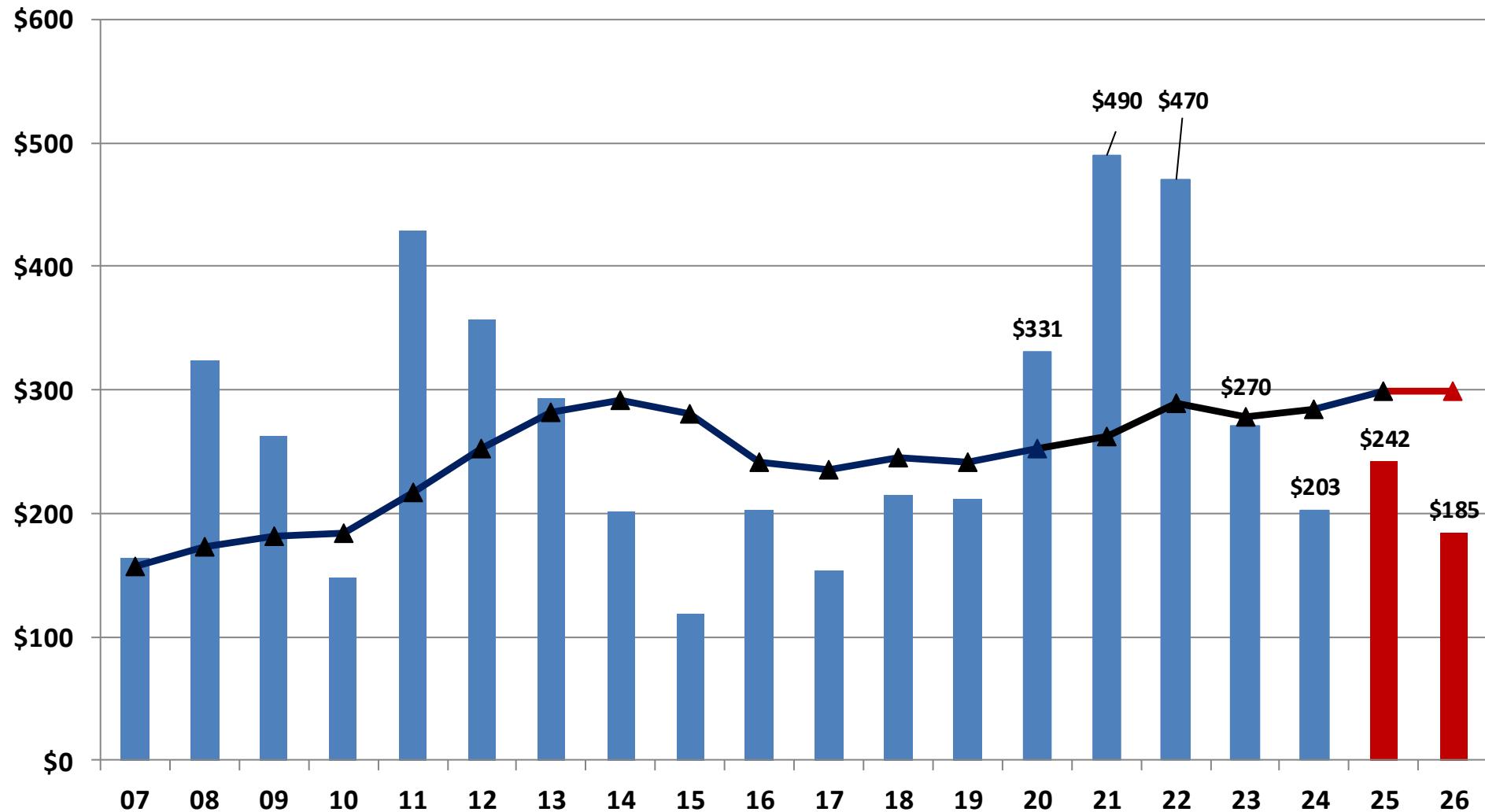
Higher

Source: Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, November 2025

# Cash Rent and Net Return to Land (\$/Acre)

## West Central Indiana

Net Return to Land    Cash Rents

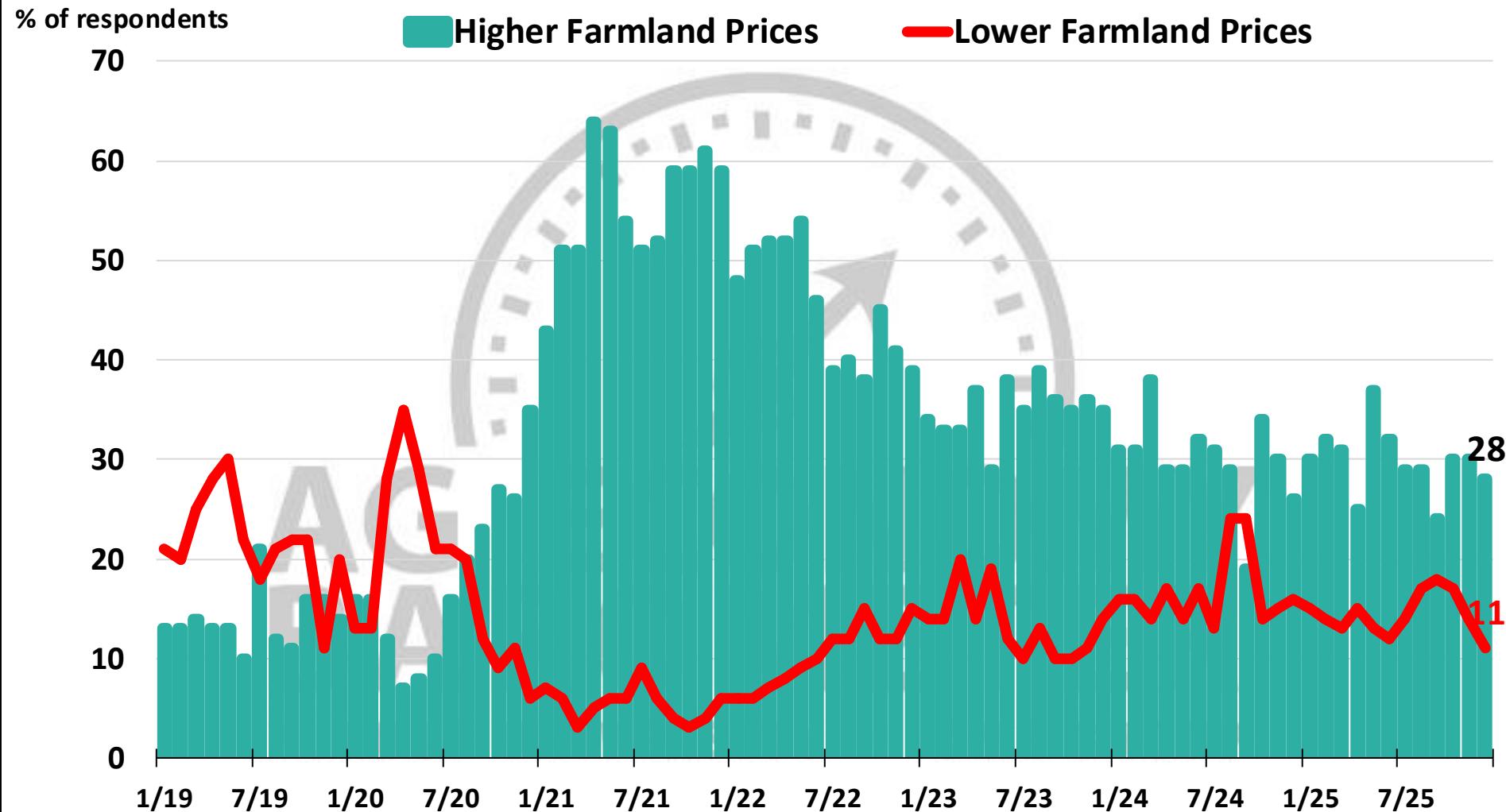


# Indiana Farmland Values

## 2025 Survey Results, State Averages by Land Quality

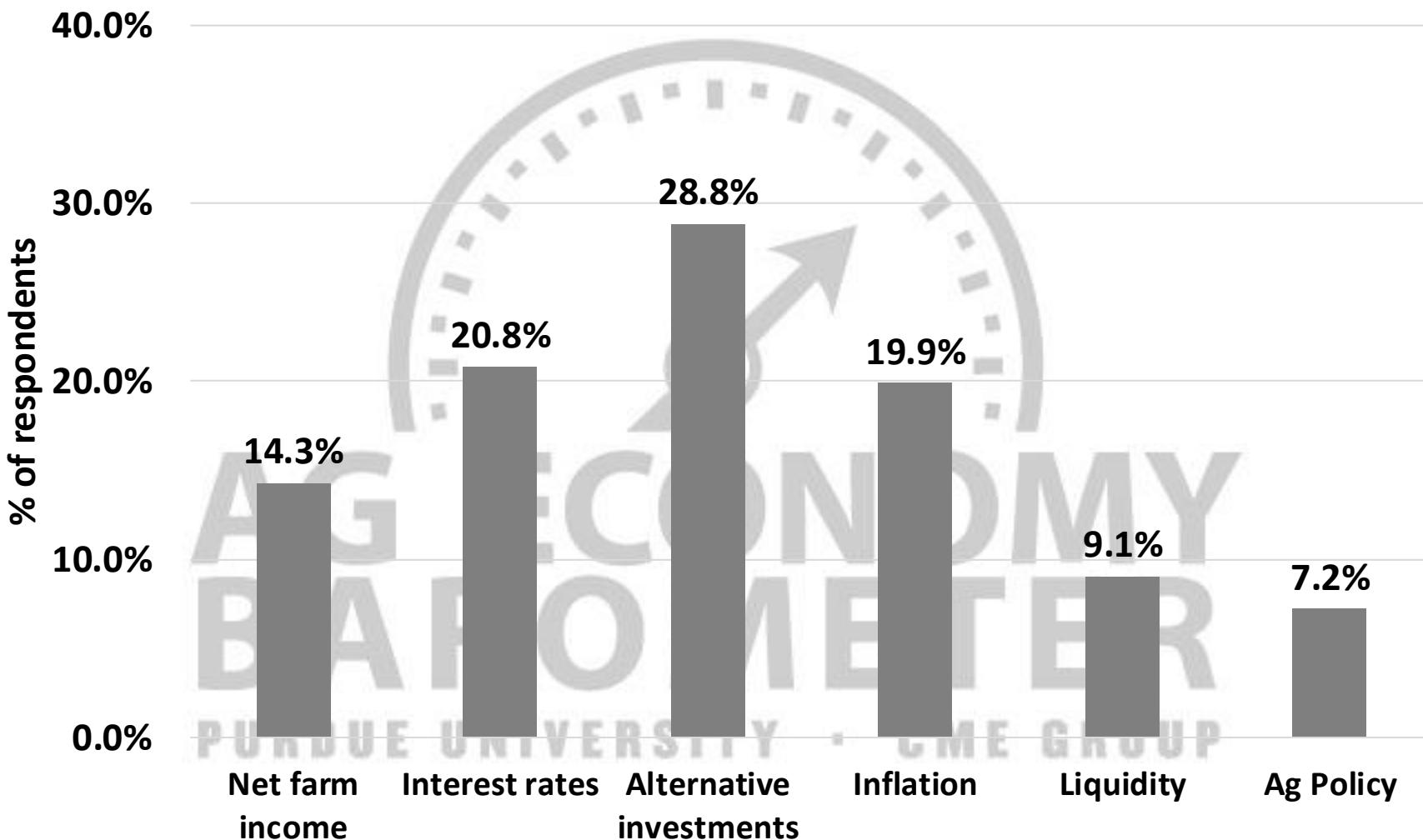
Land Quality	Yield (Bu/Ac)	2024 Value (\$/A)	2025 Value (\$/A)	Percent Change
Top	230	\$14,392	\$14,826	3.0%
Average	199	\$11,630	\$12,254	5.4%
Poor	170	\$9,071	\$9,761	7.6%

# Farmland Price Expectations, 12 Months Ahead



Source: Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, January 2019 - December 2025

## Which of the following factors is having the most influence on farmland values in your area (check up to two items)?



Source: Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture, Producer Survey, December 2025

# Final Thoughts

- Long-Run Average IN Crop Prices (2007 to 2024)
  - Corn = \$4.72
  - Soybeans = \$11.39
  - Using projections for 2025 and 2026, crop prices are expected to be below their long-run averages and breakeven prices
- Ag Economy Barometer Survey, August 2025
  - 68% agree or strongly agree that their farm has a strong balance sheet (90% in April 2023)

# Questions, Comments

[www.ag.purdue.edu/commercialag](http://www.ag.purdue.edu/commercialag)

