



# NASS Programs

## Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey

### About the Survey

The 2024 Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) Survey is a comprehensive study of all landlords of agricultural land. This survey is a part of the Census of Agriculture program. NASS will conduct the TOTAL survey in place of the 2024 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). The survey covers land ownership income, expense, debt, asset, demographic and other landlord characteristics to provide detailed information from all agricultural land owners.

For more information about TOTAL visit:  
[www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov).

To learn more about ARMS, visit:  
[www.nass.usda.gov/go/arms](http://www.nass.usda.gov/go/arms).

### Response Confidentiality

All information NASS collects in this survey will be kept strictly confidential, as required by federal law. The results of this survey will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

### How NASS Collects Data

NASS will collect data by mail and online. The agency will mail the survey forms in December 2024 to more than 40,000 landowners and 40,000 producers. The survey will cover all states, including Alaska and Hawaii

Respondents may respond in either of the following ways:

- **Online** – Producers can respond online at [agcounts.usda.gov](http://agcounts.usda.gov). Responding online is fast and secure. To get started, use the unique survey code which is included on the survey form.
- **By mail or fax** – Producers fill out the survey questionnaire and return it in the envelope provided or via fax to 812-218-2232.
- **By telephone interview** – Interviewers may contact producers who do not respond by January 16, 2025, to set up a telephone appointment to complete the questionnaire. This interview can take over an hour. It can be done all at once or in multiple appointments.

### Who Uses the Information?

As the only source of detailed information on agricultural land ownership characteristics and economic data, TOTAL provides important statistics to government, academia, the farming industry, and others regarding agricultural land ownership for planning, policymaking, research, and market analysis. Uses of these data include:

- The U.S. Congress will use data collected in this year's TOTAL survey to evaluate annual cost-of-production estimates for more than 15 commodities covered under farm-support legislation.
- The Bureau of Economic Analysis will use income data from this survey to calculate the farm sector portion of the U.S. gross domestic product.
- Policymakers will use these data on lease arrangements and lease structure to better understand how government programs affect farm production and returns.

