

AUGUST 2025 / IMMIGRATION RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Top Counties in NYS Farming

There are over 30,000 farms in New York, across almost every county of the state. Farms are an important part of the landscape and way of life for large parts of New York State.

Nearly a quarter of the state's total land, 22 percent, is farmland, and the market value of the resulting annual agricultural produce was \$8 billion in 2022.

Immigrants are a critical part of the labor force that keeps farms running. Many come on temporary visas, while many others are here without legal status. With more than 40 percent of hired crop workers being undocumented,¹ they are stuck in a broken immigration system that makes it impossible for them to get work permits or green cards.

The right answer would be to create a pathway to citizenship for all immigrants, stability of the labor force for farm owners, and opportunities for better wages and working conditions for farm workers.

ICE raids by masked agents and mass deportation are a threat to our sense of who we are as Americans, and as New Yorkers. Immigrants are working to put food on our tables. Sweeping them indiscriminately into detention centers and foreign prisons is an affront to our values, and a threat to the farms that matter to our communities.

To see how important farming is where you live, take a look at the lists below that show the ranking of all counties in New York State (except New York City) for the value and type of agricultural produce, the number of farms, the acreage of farms, and the percent of the county that is farmland.

Data source: Immigration Research Initiative analysis of 2022 Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service.

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¹ National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS). 2022. "Findings from the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) 2019-202: A Demographic and Employment Profile of United States Farmworkers." Research Report No. 16. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

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NY COUNTIES RANKED BY VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT (AND TOP PRODUCTS)

Rank for Value of Agricultural Products Sold	County	Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	Top County in NY for Sales of These Products
1	Cayuga	\$462 million	Milk
2	Wyoming	\$421 million	Cattle and Calves
3	Wayne	\$381 million	Fruits, Nuts and Berries
4	Suffolk	\$364 million	Nursery, Greenhouse, Floriculture, and Sod; Aquaculture
5	Genesee	\$360 million	Vegetables, Melons, Potatoes, and Sweet Potatoes
6	Clinton	\$326 million	Poultry and Eggs
7	Ontario	\$294 million	
8	Livingston	\$288 million	Grains, Oilseeds, Dry Beans, and Dry Peas; Sheep, Goats, Wool, Mohair, and M
9	Onondaga	\$271 million	
10	St. Lawrence	\$270 million	
11	Washington	\$263 million	
12	Steuben	\$252 million	
13	Chautauqua	\$242 million	
14	Jefferson	\$239 million	Other Crops and Hay
15	Orleans	\$234 million	
16	Erie	\$192 million	
17	Madison	\$191 million	
18	Oneida	\$190 million	
19	Lewis	\$179 million	
20	Niagara	\$157 million	
21	Yates	\$152 million	
22	Franklin	\$149 million	
23	Cattaraugus	\$145 million	
24	Montgomery	\$126 million	
25	Chenango	\$123 million	
26	Saratoga	\$115 million	Horses, Ponies, Mules, Burros, and Donkeys
27	Columbia	\$111 million	
28	Seneca	\$110 million	Hogs and Pigs
29	Cortland	\$108 million	
30	Ulster	\$106 million	
31	Monroe	\$101 million	
32	Orange	\$96 million	Cultivated Christmas Trees and Short Rotation Woody Crops
33	Herkimer	\$93 million	
34	Tompkins	\$90 million	
35	Allegany	\$70 million	
36	Oswego	\$69 million	
37	Schuyler	\$68 million	
38	Tioga	\$67 million	
39	Delaware	\$67 million	
40	Schoharie	\$63 million	
41	Otsego	\$63 million	
42	Rensselaer	\$62 million	
43	Broome	\$54 million	
44	Albany	\$48 million	
45	Dutchess	\$45 million	Other Animals and Other Animal Products
46	Sullivan	\$38 million	
47	Chemung	\$34 million	
48	Greene	\$25 million	
49	Essex	\$12 million	
50	Westchester	\$12 million	
51	Fulton	\$9 million	
52	Nassau	\$9 million	
53	Schenectady	\$6 million	
54	Rockland	\$4 million	
55	Warren	\$2 million	
56	Putnam	\$2 million	
57	Hamilton	n/a	
	New York City	n/a	
	New York State	\$8 billion	

Immigration Research Initiative analysis of 2022 Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service.

NY COUNTIES RANKED BY NUMBER OF FARMS

Rank of County for # of Farms	County	Number of Farms	Acres of Farm Land	Proportion of County that is Farm Land
1	Steuben	1,373	362,171	41%
2	Chautauqua	1,291	229,885	34%
3	St. Lawrence	1,008	290,391	17%
4	Erie	918	141,829	21%
5	Wayne	863	167,220	43%
6	Yates	838	117,491	54%
7	Oneida	834	187,672	24%
8	Cattaraugus	833	162,947	20%
9	Ontario	815	174,577	42%
10	Otsego	803	140,587	22%
11	Washington	750	194,060	37%
12	Jefferson	749	249,497	31%
13	Cayuga	747	222,764	50%
14	Allegany	690	116,686	18%
15	Madison	657	170,530	41%
16	Chenango	656	151,105	26%
17	Wyoming	638	203,915	54%
18	Niagara	628	121,516	36%
19	Dutchess	620	99,652	20%
20	Orange	613	65,706	13%
21	Livingston	612	196,542	49%
22	Saratoga	604	73,771	14%
23	Oswego	592	85,696	14%
24	Delaware	579	128,232	14%
25	Suffolk	578	33,821	6%
26	Franklin	575	139,642	13%
27	Onondaga	572	164,239	33%
28	Clinton	536	150,155	23%
29	Montgomery	522	113,287	44%
30	Herkimer	514	106,572	12%
31	Monroe	511	93,901	22%
32	Schoharie	503	108,630	27%
33	Tioga	502	118,841	36%
34	Tompkins	487	92,950	31%
35	Ulster	486	73,026	10%
36	Rensselaer	483	72,542	17%
37	Lewis	476	151,420	19%
38	Orleans	444	130,055	52%
39	Columbia	444	79,391	20%
40	Broome	440	70,489	16%
41	Genesee	435	176,887	56%
42	Seneca	422	103,156	50%
43	Cortland	397	91,594	29%
44	Sullivan	367	58,719	10%
45	Schuyler	358	70,731	34%
46	Chemung	352	60,337	23%
47	Albany	349	50,151	15%
48	Essex	244	48,510	4%
49	Fulton	205	23,234	7%
50	Greene	201	30,213	7%
51	Schenectady	144	13,967	11%
52	Westchester	108	6,311	2%
53	Warren	93	8,159	2%
54	Putnam	68	3,992	3%
55	Nassau	29	665	0%
56	Hamilton	24	1,704	0%
57	Rockland	18	442	0%
	New York City	n/a	n/a	n/a
	New York State	30,650	6,502,286	22%

Immigration Research Initiative analysis of 2022 Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service.

NY COUNTIES RANKED BY ACRES DEVOTED TO FARMING

Rank of County for # of Acres of Farm Land	County	Number of Farms	Acres of Farm Land	Proportion of County that is Farm Land
1	Steuben	1,373	362,171	41%
2	St. Lawrence	1,008	290,391	17%
3	Jefferson	749	249,497	31%
4	Chautauqua	1,291	229,885	34%
5	Cayuga	747	222,764	50%
6	Wyoming	638	203,915	54%
7	Livingston	612	196,542	49%
8	Washington	750	194,060	37%
9	Oneida	834	187,672	24%
10	Genesee	435	176,887	56%
11	Ontario	815	174,577	42%
12	Madison	657	170,530	41%
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18	Clinton	536	150,155	23%
19	Erie	918	141,829	21%
20	Otsego	803	140,587	22%
21	Franklin	575	139,642	13%
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43	Orange	613	65,706	13%
44	Chemung	352	60,337	23%
45	Sullivan	367	58,719	10%
46	Albany	349	50,151	15%
47	Essex	244	48,510	4%
48	Suffolk	578	33,821	6%
49	Greene	201	30,213	7%
50	Fulton	205	23,234	7%
51	Schenectady	144	13,967	11%
52	Warren	93	8,159	2%
53	Westchester	108	6,311	2%
54	Putnam	68	3,992	3%
55	Hamilton	24	1,704	0%
56	Nassau	29	665	0%
57	Rockland	18	442	0%
	New York City	n/a	n/a	n/a
	New York State	30,650	6,502,286	22%

Immigration Research Initiative analysis of 2022 Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service.

NY COUNTIES RANKED BY PERCENT OF LAND THAT IS DEVOTED TO FARMING

Rank for Percent of County Land Devoted to Farming	County	Number of Farms	Acres of Farm Land	Proportion of County that is Farm Land
1	Genesee	435	176,887	56%
2	Yates	838	117,491	54%
3	Wyoming	638	203,915	54%
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