







The USDA Census of Agriculture for 2022 was released on February 13, 2024 and provides some interesting observations regarding a changing agriculture in Tennessee. While the number of farms and the land in farms across the state declined from 2017 to 2022. the value of agriculture production as a whole as well as the overall impact of agriculture in communities across the state showed growth. Tennessee showed continued growth in the value-added agriculture, direct marketing and agritourism space as well as in some specialty crops. The complete results of the 2022 Census of Agriculture for Tennessee by county is published in a document containing more than 725 pages. This fact sheet provides a summary of selected data primarily focused on the valueadded agriculture and specialty crop data.

## INTRODUCTION

To many of us, analyzing the results of the USDA Census of Agriculture is intriguing and provides valuable insight to the ever-changing industry of agriculture. With a particular focus on value-added activities and a select number of specialty crops, the data and summary assembled here provide brief insight to changes in Tennessee agriculture from 2017 to 2022. It also provides some highlights of the top individual counties in selected categories.



## **EXPLANATION OF TABLES**

The tables provided here are intended to summarize various data, categories and information found in the 2022 Census of Agriculture, and in some cases, include comparisons to the 2017 Census of Agriculture. All of the information here is derived from the 2022 Census of Agriculture – State Data for Tennessee, USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. These tables simply summarize key and selected data. The tables are intended to stand alone and convey the data they contain.

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Census Item	2022	2017	Change
Number of Farms	63,105 69,983		-9.8%
Land in Farms (acres)	10,732,951	10,874,238	-1.3%
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$5,161,034,000	\$3,798,934,000	+35.8%
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$4,421,208,000	\$3,360,912,000	+31.5%
Value of Hired Labor (payroll)	\$390,331,000	\$310,544,000	+25.7%

Table 2. To	op Ten Tennessee	
Counties,	Number of Farms (	2022)

County	Number of Farms		
Greene	2,344		
Giles	1,457		
Lincoln	1,450		
Wilson	1,443		
Maury	1,442		
Bedford	1,357		
Washington	1,288		
Hawkins	1,283		
Rutherford	1,270		
Sumner	1,248		

Table 3. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Land in Farms (2022)

County	Land in Farms (acres)		
Weakley	291,965		
Gibson	287,725		
Lincoln	270,934		
Dyer	249,678		
Obion	245,012		
Giles	241,228		
Haywood	240,650		
Lawrence	238,241		
Bedford	236,001		
Fayette	224,887		

Table 4. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Land in Farms (2022)

County	Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold
Weakley	\$246,900,000
Warren	\$213,348,000
Obion	\$207,070,000
Lincoln	\$196,033,000
Robertson	\$186,899,000
Gibson	\$186,243,000
Dyer	\$161,827,000
Haywood	\$153,156,000
Bedford	\$149,791,000
Bradley	\$149,369,000

Table 5. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Number of Farms with Sales Direct to Consumers and Value of Food Sold Direct to Consumers (2022)

County	Number of Farms with Sales Direct to Consumers	County	Value of Food Sold Direct to Consumers
Greene	96	Hickman	\$2,054,000
Blount	92	Rutherford	\$1,465,000
Wilson	87	Coffee	\$1,377,000
Rutherford	79	Lincoln	\$1,119,000
Maury	78	Washington	\$882,000
Knox	77	Shelby	\$875,000
Cumberland	74	Blount	\$721,000
Lincoln	68	Wilson	\$659,000
Sullivan	65	Bradley	\$645,000
Marshall	62	Sumner	\$575,000

Table 6. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Number of Farms with Sales to Retail, Institutions and Food Hubs and the Value of Food Sold Directly to Retail, Institutions and Food Hubs (2022)

County	Number of Farms with Sales to Retail, Institutions, Food Hubs	County	Value of Food Sold Directly to Retail, Institutions, Food Hubs
Greene	47	Williamson	\$4,933,000
Wilson	45	Grainger	\$4,320,000
Bedford	35	Henry	\$2,924,000
Blount	33	Rutherford	\$2,775,000
Giles	30	McMinn	\$1,435,000
Rutherford	30	Cumberland	\$1,432,000
Williamson	29	Davidson	\$1,304,000
Sumner	28	Madison	\$1,245,000
Lawrence	26	Montgomery	\$1,224,000
Van Buren	26	Maury	\$1,173,000

Table 7. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Number of Farms with Processed or Value-Added Products and Value of Processed and Value-Added Products (2022)

County	Number of Farms with Processed or Value-Added Products	County	Value of Processed or Value- Added Products
Rutherford	38	Chester	\$4,771,000
Blount	34	Rutherford	\$3,970,000
Wilson	33	Hickman	\$2,233,000
Greene	31	Coffee	\$1,792,000
Coffee	23	Marion	\$1,710,000
Lincoln	23	Cumberland	\$1,294,000
Marshall	23	Shelby	\$1,214,000
Williamson	22	Wilson	\$730,000
Giles	20	Campbell	\$520,000
Hickman	19	Bradley	\$455,000
Maury	19	Blount	\$447,000



Table 9. Sales Direct to Consumers; Sales to Retail, Institutions and Food Hubs; Processed and Value-Added Products; Agritourism and Recreational Sales; and Organic Agriculture, 2017 and 2022

Category Census Question		2022	2017	Change
	Value of Food Sold Directly to Consumers	\$28,022,000	\$34,844,000	-19.6%
Sales Direct to Consumers	Number of Farms with Food Sold Directly to Consumers	3,090	3,773	-18.1%
Foods Sold to Retail,	Value of Food Sold Directly to Retail Markets and Food Hubs for Local/Regionally Branded Products	\$60,204,000	\$30,163,000	+99.6%
Institutions and Food Hubs	Number of Farms with Food Sold Directly to Retail Markets and Food Hubs for Local/Regionally Branded Products	1,211	458	+164.4%
Processes and Value-	Value of Processed or Value-Added Agricultural Products Sold	\$30,159,000	\$16,024,000	+88.2%
Added Products	Number of Farms with Processed or Value-Added Products Sold	901	757	+19.0%
Agritourism and	Value of Agritourism and Recreational Services	\$24,457,000	\$14,519,000	+68.4%
Recreational Sales	Number of Farms with Agritourism and Recreational Sales	715	644	+11.0%
	Number of USDA Certified Organic Farms	39	51	-23.5%
	Number of Farms Exempt from USDA Organic Certification	39	71	-45.1%
Organic	Number of Farms with Acres Transitioning to USDA Organic Program	26	30	-13.3%
	Number of Farms with Certified or Exempt Organic Sales	56	106	-47.2 %
	Value of Sales of Certified or Exempt Organic Products	\$8,360,000	\$4,212,000	+98.5%



Table 11. Hops Production in Tennessee, 2017 and 2022			
2017 2022			
<b>Farms</b> 8 7			
<b>Acres</b> 59 14			
<b>Pounds</b> 106,200 1,440			
(*) Counties reporting production: Cumberland			

Macon, Robertson, Sullivan and Wilson.

Dyer

\$112,451,000

Williamson

in Tennessee, 2017 and 2022		
2017 2022		
Farms	31	23
Acres	245	101
<b>Gallons</b> 18,681 9,623		
(*) 20 counties reported production Van Buren		

**Table 12. Sorghum Syrup Production** 

\$9,640,000

(\*) 20 counties reported production. Van Buren, Claiborne and Overton with largest number of producers.

Table 13. Number of Farms and Acres Used for Vegetables and Vegetables for Sale, 2017 and 2022				
2017 2022				
<b>Farms</b> 1,961 1,770				
<b>Acres</b> 24,419 19,571				

Table 14. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Farms with Vegetables for Sale, Acres of Vegetables for Sa	le
and Acres of Vegetables Melons and Potatoes (2022)	

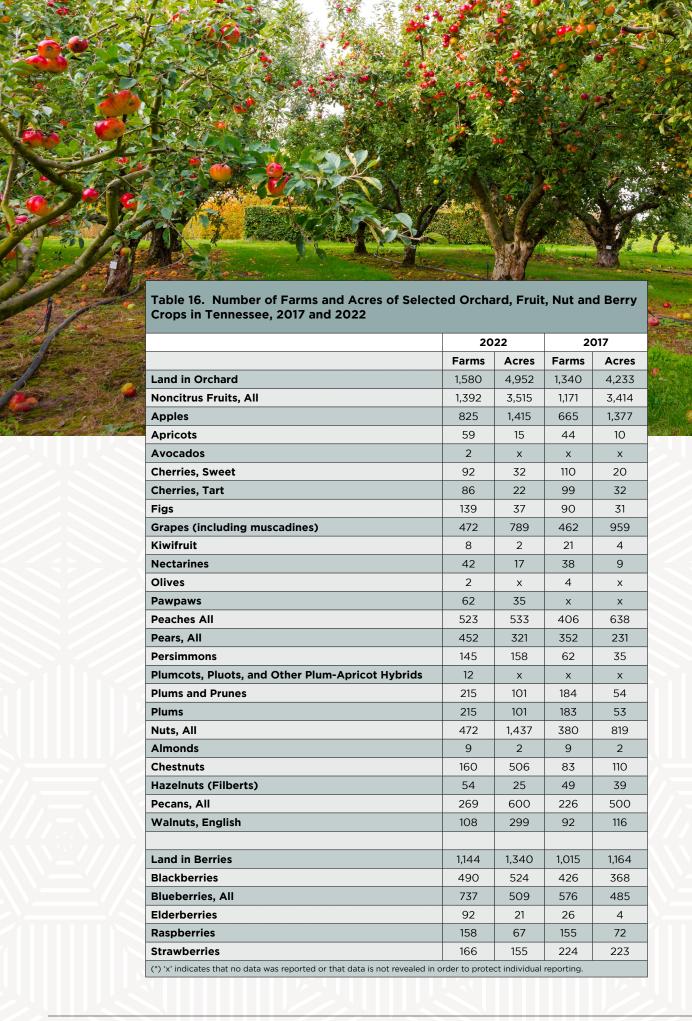
County	Farms with Vegetables for Sale	County	Acres of Vegetables for Sale	County	Acres of Vegetables, Melons and Potatoes
Hawkins	54	Cumberland	2,092	Cumberland	3,095
Blount	50	Washington	1,088	Washington	1,115
Washington	49	Lincoln	633	Lincoln	686
Knox	47	Rhea	617	Rhea	617
Greene	44	Grainger	471	Grainger	505
Lawrence	40	Bledsoe	380	Bledsoe	394
Wilson	38	Greene	261	Greene	274
Grainger	36	Haywood	241	Haywood	246
Overton	36	Williamson	233	Williamson	241
Van Buren	36	Fentress	221	Fentress	224



	2022		2017	
	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres
Asparagus	79	17	50	12
Lima Beans	51	x	70	х
Snap Beans	610	3,436	703	6,132
Beets	127	30	145	44
Broccoli	147	45	142	33
Brussels Sprouts	35	8	42	6
Cabbage, Chinese (Napa, Bok Choy, etc.)	77	20	67	15
Cabbage, Head	210	112	261	143
Cabbage, Mustard	22	11	11	1
Cantaloupes and Muskmelons	202	167	288	266
Carrots	153	34	141	34
Cauliflower	49	×	61	15
Celery	34	8	21	4
Collards	97	х	93	х
<b>Cucumber and Pickles</b>	481	227	547	253
Eggplant	106	21	147	40
Garlic	160	х	100	х
Ginseng (cultivated)	x	×	17	4
Gourds	53	19	×	X
Herbs	151	30	141	22
Honeydew Melons	25	12	23	10
Horseradish	4	x	6	1
Kale	170	155	155	165
Lettuce (all)	240	76	278	73
Lettuce (head)	81	23	79	18
Lettuce (leaf)	181	44	216	41
Lettuce (Romain)	75	9	101	14
Mustard Greens	124	361	100	343

	20	2022		2017	
Okra	427	224	453	148	
Onions (dry)	154	43	119	44	
Onions (green)	207	69	217	46	
Parsley	59	х	39	5	
Peas, Chinese (Sugar and Snow)	69	8	66	7	
Peas, Green	102	х	107	1,639	
Peas, Southern (Cowpeas, blackeye, Crowder)	173	x	185	х	
Peppers, Bell (excluding Pimentos)	497	250	434	235	
Peppers, Other Than Bell (including Chile)	339	82	332	120	
Potatoes	505	354	431	276	
Pumpkins	301	1,032	322	1,393	
Radishes	132	29	104	26	
Rhubarb	9	1	12	1	
Spinach	116	×	96	х	
Squash (including Zucchini)	454	493	597	1,692	
Sweet Corn	605	1,491	700	1,724	
<b>Sweet Potatoes</b>	214	247	194	224	
Tomatoes (open ground)	895	3,699	982	3,281	
Turnip Greens	169	887	178	858	
Turnips	106	114	103	103	
Watermelons	376	400	401	542	
(*) 'x' indicates that no data was reported or that data is not revealed in order to					

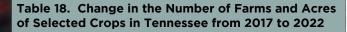
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## Table 17. Number of Farms and Acres of Selected Floriculture and Other Specialty Crops in Tennessee, 2017 and 2022

	2022		2017	
	Farms	Open Acres (unless otherwise noted)	Farms	Open Acres (unless otherwise noted)
Bedding/Garden Plants, Cut Flowers, Cut Florist Greens, Potted Flowering Plants and Other Floriculture (All)	646	1,407	473	436
Bedding/Garden Plants	384	819	361	266
Cut Flowers and Cut Florist Greens	182	187	78	85
Foliage Plants	71	16	61	×
Potted Flower Plants	182	202	100	75
Hemp	12	x	Х	x
Tobacco Transplants	10	×	22	x
Vegetable Transplants	85	x	18	×
Total Greenhouse Vegetables and Herbs	227	x	212	×
Greenhouse Tomatoes	172	621,662 sq ft	160	827,928
Mushrooms	36	х	48	х
Cultivated Christmas Trees	214	1,585	137	1,969
Christmas Trees Cut	73	12,129 trees	74	54,005 trees

<sup>(\*) &#</sup>x27;x' indicates that no data was reported or that data is not revealed in order to protect individual reporting. Open Acres refers to acres of production that are in the open and not under protection, roof or cover.



Crop/Enterprise	Farms	Acres
Orchards, All	+17.9%	+17.0%
Apples	+24.1%	+2.7%
Figs	+54.4%	+20.3%
Persimmons	+133.9%	+351.4%
Plums	+17.5%	+90.6%
Nuts, All	+24.2%	+75.5%
Chestnuts	+92.8%	+360%
Pecans	+19%	+20%
Walnuts	+17.4%	+157.8%
Berries, All	+12.7%	+15.1%
Blackberries	+15.0%	+42.4%
Blueberries	+28.0%	+5.0%
Elderberries	+253.8%	+425%
Bedding/Garden Plants	+6.4%	+207.9%
Cut Flowers	+133.3%	+120.0%
Potted Flower Plants	+82.0%	+169.3%

**Table 19. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Number** of Farms with Persimmons and Chestnuts (2022)

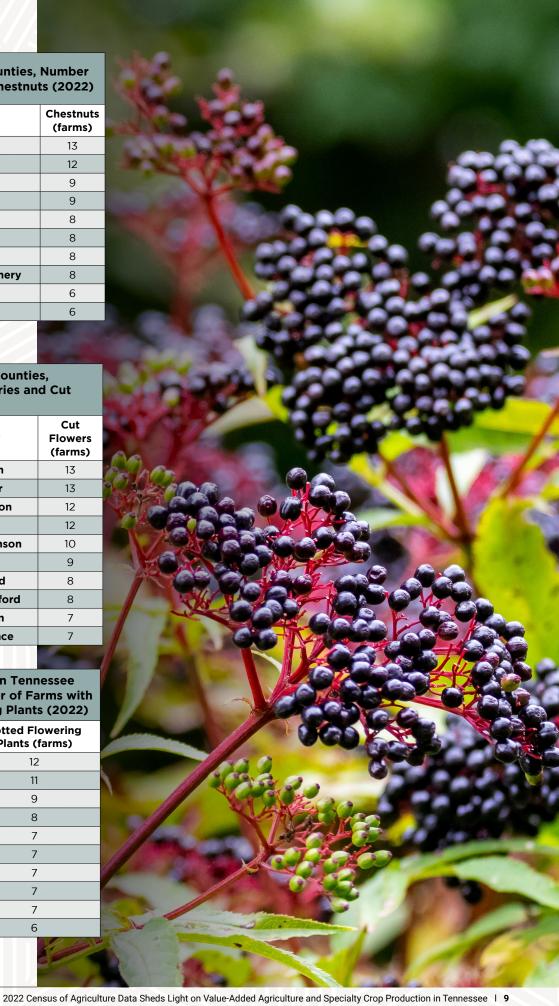
County	Persimmons (farms)	County	Chestnuts (farms)
Perry	14	Maury	13
Williamson	10	Smith	12
Benton	9	Fayette	9
Greene	9	Knox	9
Lincoln	8	DeKalb	8
Chester	7	Greene	8
Warren	7	Jackson	8
Grainger	6	Montgomery	8
Hawkins	6	Benton	6
Shelby	6	Grainger	6

Table 20. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, **Number of Farms with Elderberries and Cut** Flowers (2022)

County	Elderberries (farms)	County	Cut Flowers (farms)
Washington	7	Sullivan	13
Lawrence	6	Sumner	13
Meigs	6	Davidson	12
Sevier	6	White	12
Hardeman	5	Williamson	10
Bedford	4	Greene	9
Giles	4	Bedford	8
Roane	4	Rutherford	8
Johnson	3	Dickson	7
Lincoln	3	Lawrence	7

**Table 21. Top Ten Tennessee Counties, Number of Farms with** Potted Flowering Plants (2022)

County	Potted Flowering Plants (farms)
Warren	12
Grainger	11
Coffee	9
Knox	8
Franklin	7
Obion	7
Perry	7
Stewart	7
Williamson	7
Maury	6





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