

# Fruit, Tree Nut, and Berry Production

Fruit acres down, tree nut and berry acres up, since 2017



ACH22-15/August 2024

U.S. fruit, tree nut, and berry sales amounted to \$34.2 billion in 2022, accounting for 6.3% of total U.S. agriculture sales. This was an increase of \$5.6 billion, or 20%, since 2017, the last time the Census of Agriculture was conducted. The number of acres producing these commodities was up 10%. Farms that specialized in fruit, tree nut, and berry production on average had fewer acres and higher sales than farms overall. Fruit, tree nut, and berry growers were slightly older than U.S. producers overall.

110,821 farms



6.6 million acres



\$34.2 billion sales



## Number and Location

Ten states accounted for 93% of sales and 92% of acres producing fruit, tree nuts, and berries in 2022. Just three states – California, Washington, and Florida – accounted for 83% of sales and 76% of acres.

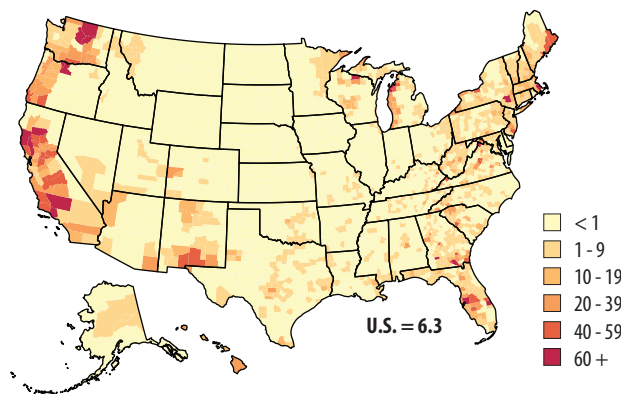
The number of acres producing fruit, tree nuts, and berries in 2022 was 10% higher than in 2017 (6.6 million acres in 2022 versus 6.0 million in 2017). The increase was driven by a 23% increase in tree nut acres and an 18% increase in berry acres.

	2022 acres	% change since 2017
Fruit		
Citrus	770,882	-7
Non-citrus	2,143,317	-1
Tree nuts	3,288,886	+23
Berries	356,896	+18
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,559,981</b>	<b>+10</b>

# 143,496

The number of blueberry (tame) acres in 2022, accounting for 40% of berry acres.

## Fruit, Tree Nut, and Berry Sales as Percent of Agriculture Sales, by County, 2022



Top States	(\$ mil)
California	23,136.2
Washington	3,789.1
Florida	1,444.6
Oregon	889.8
New York	721.4
Michigan	703.4
Georgia	486.9
Pennsylvania	267.1
Arizona	233.2
New Mexico	229.1

## Top U.S. Fruit, Tree Nut, and Berry Crops in Acres, 2022

Almonds	1,632,710	Almonds were 50% of tree nut acres, almost all in California.
Grapes	1,108,161	Grapes were 52% of non-citrus acres; 884,844 acres in California.
Pecans	604,081	Pecans were 18% of tree nut acres; acreage was up 9% from 2017.
Pistachios	527,313	Pistachio acreage increased 53% since 2017.
Apples	411,262	Apples were 19% of non-citrus acres; 72% were in Washington, New York, and Michigan.
English walnuts	402,369	English walnut acres were 402,369; 99% were in California.
Mid/navel oranges*	266,964	Oranges (mid/navel and Valencia combined) were 71% of citrus bearing acres. Bearing acres were down 12% since 2017.
Valencia oranges*	231,997	

\*Indicates bearing acres only.

## SNAPSHOT

# Fruit, Tree Nut, and Berry Producers, 2022

Number = 185,504\*

	Fruit, Tree Nut, Berry	All U.S.
	(percent)	
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	62	64
Female	38	36
<b>Age</b>		
<35	6	9
35 - 64	52	53
65+	42	38
<b>Years farming</b>		
10 or less	36	30
11 or more	64	70
<b>Lived on their farm</b>	65	70
<b>Worked off farm</b>		
No days	36	38
1 to 199 days	28	22
200+ days	36	40
<b>Primary occupation</b>		
Farming	43	42
Other	57	58
<b>With military service</b>	10	9
<b>Race</b>		
American Ind/Alaska Native	0.9	1.7
Asian	3.7	0.7
Black/African American	0.9	1.2
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Isl	0.3	0.1
White	92.8	95.4
More than one race	1.4	0.9
<b>Hispanic</b>	8.8	3.3
<b>Average age (years)</b>	59.6	58.1

\* Producers on 97,343 specialized fruit, tree nut, and berry farms as defined by the North American Industry Classification System. More than half of a farm's sales came from growing fruits, tree nuts, and berries. Data collected for up to four producers per farm.

## About the Census

The Census of Agriculture, conducted once every five years, is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Results from the 2022 and earlier censuses are available at national, state, and county levels.

See the searchable database Quick Stats, downloadable PDF reports, maps, and a variety of topic-specific products.

[www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](http://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus)

## Producer Characteristics

The producers on farms specializing in fruit, tree nut, and berry production resembled U.S. producers overall in many characteristics but they were slightly older on average (59.6 years versus 58.1 years) and more likely to be Hispanic (8.8% compared with 3.3% for U.S. producers overall). Thirty-six percent had 10 or fewer years of farming experience (compared with 30% of all U.S. producers). Thirty-eight percent were women.

**10** The percent of fruit, tree nut, and berry producers with military service.

## Farm Characteristics

Over three-fourths (78%) of farms specializing in fruit, tree nut, and berry production had sales and government payments of less than \$100,000 in 2022.

### Economic Class

(sales and government payments)

	Fruit Tree Nut Berry Farms	All Farms
	(percent of total)	
< \$10,000	43	52
\$10,000 - \$99,999	35	27
\$100,000 - \$499,999	13	11
\$500,000 - \$999,999	3	4
\$1,000,000 +	6	6

**\$2.2 billion**

The value of organic sales by fruit tree nut, and berry farms, 23% of total U.S. organic sales.

## Average Farm

Farms specializing in fruit, tree nut, and berry production on average had fewer acres but higher sales, greater production expenses, and lower net income than U.S. farms overall.

	Fruit Tree Nut Berry Farms	All Farms
Avg. acres	149	463
Avg. sales	\$345,019	\$285,762
Avg. government payments	\$60,223	\$21,599
Avg. expenses	\$307,303	\$223,175
Avg. net cash farm income	\$59,810	\$79,790

## Production Expenses

The production costs of farms specializing in fruit, tree nut, and berry production totaled \$29.9 billion, up 28% from 2017. At \$7.6 billion, hired labor was the largest expense item, accounting for 26% of production expenses.

	(\$ bil)
Hired labor	7.6
Contract labor	4.5
Chemicals	2.5
Fertilizer	2.1
Supplies and repairs	1.8
Utilities	1.5
Custom work and hauling	1.3
Other expenses	8.6

## Among Fruit, Tree Nut, and Berry Farms

 **85%** Had internet access

 **36%** Hired farm labor

 **93%** Were family farms

 **47%** Had net positive income