

A Look at *Iowa* Agriculture

Capital: Des Moines

Population: 3,134,693

Founded: December 28, 1846 (29th)

State Bird: Eastern Goldfinch

State Tree: Oak

State Flower: Wild Rose

Number of Counties: 99

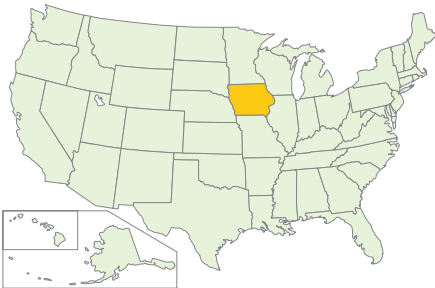
Largest City: Des Moines - 210,884

Nickname: The Hawkeye State

Number of Farms: 87,500

Average Farm Size: 351 acres

Total Farmland: 30.5 million acres



www.agclassroom.org/ia

Climate & Soil

- Iowa temperature averages 21°F in January and 76.5°F in July. The annual average temperature ranges from a low of 11°F to a high of 86°F.
- Iowa's average precipitation is 35.7".
- Iowa is the 2nd windiest state generating more than one-third of net electricity from wind.
- The Iowa state soil is a series called "Tama."
- Iowa has at least 11,000 different soils.
- Iowa has some of the richest and most productive soil in the world.

Crops & Livestock

- Iowa ranks 1st in the U.S. in corn and 1st soybean production.
- Iowa farmers harvested 13.5 million acres of corn (2.7 billion bushels) in 2016. Iowa corn crop values \$8.8 billion.
- Iowa harvested 9.45 million acres of soybeans (571.7 million bushels), in 2016, which valued \$5.3 billion.
- Livestock in Iowa consumes 461 million bushels of Iowa Grown corn annually.
- Iowa leads the nation in hog and egg production.
- Over 240 million pounds of cheese are made in Iowa per year.
- There are 22.4 million hogs (almost 32% of the nation's hogs), 3.9 million cattle, 175,000 sheep and 60 million chickens in Iowa. Iowa chickens laid 16 billion eggs in 2016.
- Iowa's dairy industry produced an estimated 5 billion pounds of milk in 2016. The average milk produced per cow was 23,634 pounds.
- Iowa ranks second nationally in red meat production. In 2016, 7 billion pounds of red meat were produced.
- The 165 thousand sheep shorn in 2016 produced 900 thousand pounds of wool. Iowa ranks tenth in wool production.
- Nearly one-third of the nation's hogs are raised in Iowa. Exports of pork from Iowa totaled more than \$1 billion in 2016.
- In 2016, a little more than 11.7 million turkeys were produced in Iowa, many of which supplied the turkey for Subway restaurants.

General

- Iowa has 55,875 square miles of land. Over 85% of Iowa's land is used for agriculture.
- Iowa ranked 2nd in 2015 in the nation in farm cash receipts at \$35 billion.
- Iowa's 43 ethanol plants have a combined annual capacity of 4 billion gallons of ethanol annually. Iowa produces more than 30% of the nation's ethanol.
- Iowa ranks second in total agricultural exports. Iowa farmers exported more than \$11 billion worth of agricultural products in 2015.