

# 2017 Census of Agriculture

## Highlights

# Farm Producers: Oregon

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This factsheet presents Oregon Census of Agriculture data to complement national data compiled by the USDA in their [Farm Producers Highlights](#). New census questions shed new light on how multiple producers on one farm contribute to that farm's operations. The 2017 Census also collected data on young producers, new and beginning producers, and (for the first time) those with military service.

67,595 producers 

57.9 average age 

37,616 farms 

### Total Producers

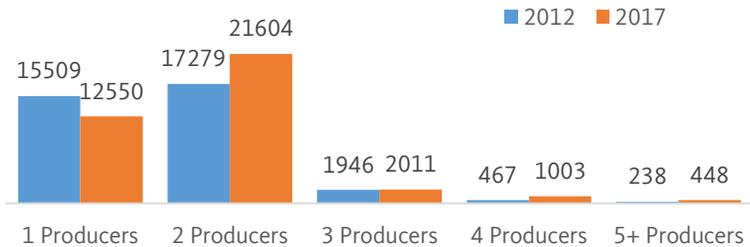
In 2017, the total number of Oregon producers was 67,595, a 16.5 percent increase over 2012. In 2017, 66.6 percent of farms reported more than one person as producer. In 2012, 56.2 percent of farms reported more than one person as producer.

Male producers increased 7.0 percent, while female producers increased 31.2 percent, underscoring the effectiveness of the attempt to better represent all people involved in farm decision making.

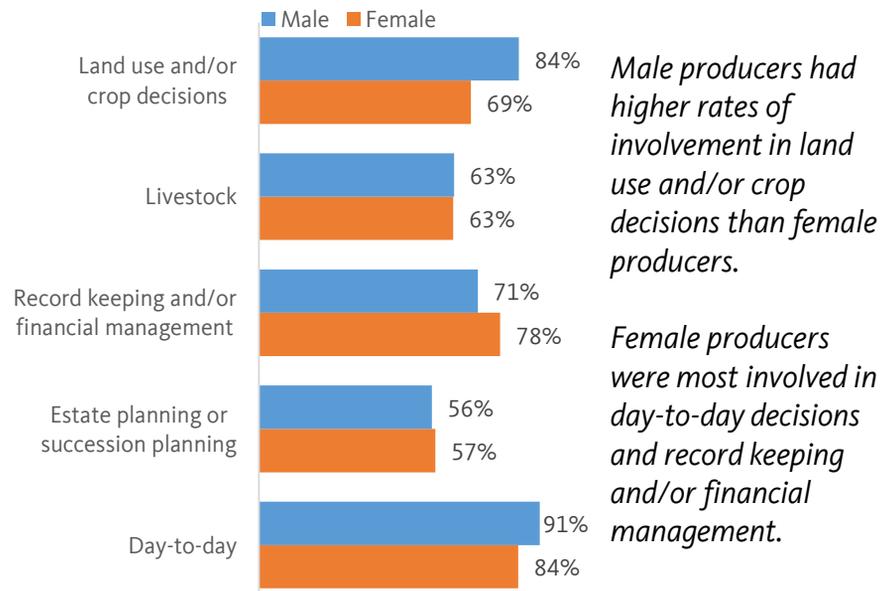
	2012	2017	% change
All (thousands)	58.0	67.6	+16.5
Male	35.2	37.7	+7.0
Female	22.8	29.9	+31.2

The total number of producers in Oregon increased 16.5 percent between 2012 and 2017. The number of farms with only one producer declined; all categories of farms with two or more producers increased.

### Farms by Number of Producers



### Farm Decision Making by Type of Decision and Sex of Producer (percent of category)



**Oregon State University**

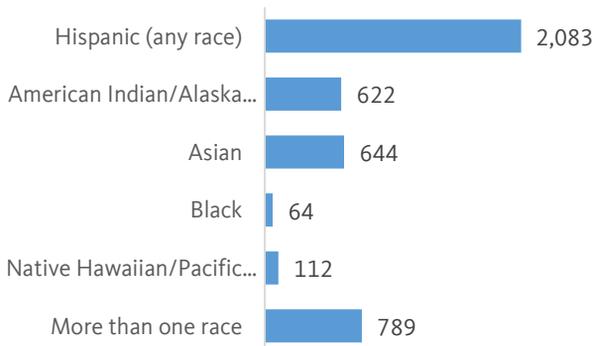
## Snapshot of OR Producers, 2017

OR Total = 67,595

	% of total
Male	56
Female	44
Age < 35	7
Age 35-64	57
Age 65+	36
10 years or less farming	28
11 years or more farming	72
Lived on their farm	86
Did not work off farm	38
Worked off farm 1 to 199 days	24
Worked off farm 200+ days	38
Primary occupation farming	41
Primary occupation other than farming	59
With military service	12
Hispanic (any race)	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.9
Asian	1.0
Black	0.1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.2
White	96.7
More than one race	1.2

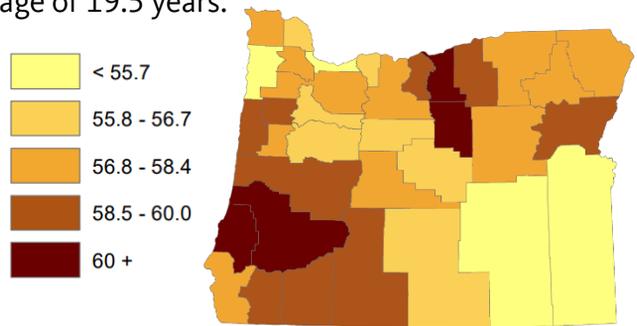
## Producers by Ethnicity and Race

The Census of Agriculture asked separate questions for ethnicity and race. In Oregon, 65,364 producers (96.7%) are white.



## Average Age Continues to Rise

The average age of Oregon farm producers in 2017 was 57.9 years, up 0.5 from 2012. Producers also tend to be experienced; they had been on their current farm an average of 19.5 years.



## Military Service

In Oregon, 8,227 (12 percent) of producers had served or were serving in the U.S. military in 2017. They are largely male (93 percent) and almost a decade older than producers as a whole.

Eighty percent have farmed eleven years or more, and farming is the primary occupation for 51 percent of them.

**67.3** Average age of producers with military service

## Beginning Producers

Beginning farmers have ten or fewer years of farming experience. They were 28 percent of Oregon producers in 2017. Their average age was 46.6, and their farms were smaller than average in both acres and sales.

Top Counties	%
Multnomah	40
Deschutes	37
Josephine	36
Hood River	34
Columbia	32
Jackson	32
Grant	31
Wasco	31
Clatsop	31
Washington	31

OSU Extension's [Small Farms Program](#), [Department of Applied Economics](#), and the [Rural Communities Explorer](#) are collaborating with the [Oregon Community Food System Network](#) to analyze food systems data, including the 2017 Census of Agriculture.

Check [here](#) for more highlights.