

Wisconsin Farmers Union works to enhance the quality of life for family farmers and rural communities through...

Since 1930...the reasoned voice for Wisconsin family farms.

Impaired Waters in Wisconsin

FARM INCOME AND THE NEW FARM BILL

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Agricultural Outlook Forum

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\$93 B -8%

\$66 B -12%

Source:

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-sector-income-finances/highlights-from-the-farm-income-forecast/>

Wisconsin Net Farm Income N in 2010-2018F

4.03.5

)n_{3.0}

oillib\$_{2.5}

(e m_{2.0}

oc **\$1.7 B** ^{nl}_{1.5}

-6%

m raFt 1.0

°Good production year, but income
depends on prices 0.5
0.0

2010 2012 2014 2016 2018

Total Beef Down 1.4%
down 0.2%
Dairy Down 7.1%

Expenses up 4.2% (interest, fuel, feed &
labor)

**Government Payments
up 18%**

- Price/Revenue-based payments ARC/PLC
-\$4.6 B
- Market Facilitation Program (MFP): +\$4.7
B

- Disaster Payments +1.6 B

MFP & Disaster

ARC & PLC

Wisconsin Led the Nation in Chapter 12 Bankruptcy Filings for 10/1/17 to 9/30/18

0⁵¹⁰¹⁵²⁰²⁵³⁰³⁵⁴⁰⁴⁵⁵⁰

A^Z U^T I^D M^E W^A C^O F^L M^S N^D V^A M^A M^I

O^H M^O N^C P^R T^N I^L K^Y S^D A^R P^A L^A I^I C^A T^X M^N G^A N^Y K^S N^E W^I

Chapter 12 Bankruptcies Filed

<http://www.uscourts.gov/statistics-reports/caseload-statistics-data-tables>

Current ⁵⁰ WI Farm Bankruptcy Rate

Unusually High

40302010⁰ 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

2018

C^S

gniliF2 1r etpah WI MI NY MN IL IA IN

Wisconsin 5.82 6.57

6.86 2.98 Michigan 4.09 3.14 1.77 2.98

Dinterman et al. (2018)

https://aede.osu.edu/sites/aede/files/publication_files/FarmBankruptciesPaper.pdf

The Voices of Wisconsin

Dairy Farmers

“We are just treading water and getting very tired.

Not sure how long we will be able to hold on.”

“2009 reduced savings to near-zero.

Playing catch
up ever since.”

“Don't know what to do. What's here
today is gone
tomorrow.”

“Farming used to be fun. It's not fun
anymore.”

**Median farm income, median off-farm income, and
median total income of farm operator households,
2014-2017F Dollars (nominal) 100,000**

1 2014 2015 2016 2017F

81,637

76,735 76,250 76,831 75,000

70,000 67,500 66,468 67,969

50,000

25,000

-118
-765
-940 -1,325

-25,000 +
Median farm income
Median off-farm income
Median total household income

Note: F = forecast. Source: USDA, Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service, | Agricultural Resource Management Survey. Forecast as of August 30, 2017.

Farms and their value of production by ERS farm type, 2015 Percent of U.S. farms or production

1007
89.7
|
Share of farms
Share of production

24.2

22.8

10.6

6.1

2.9

1.3

Small

Midsize

Large-scale

Nonfamily (GCFI less than \$350,000) (GCFI \$350,000 to (GCFI \$1,000,000
\$350,000)
\$999,999)

or more) Note: GCFI refers to gross cash farm income; ERS refers to Economic Research Service. Analysis by size is for family farms. Nonfamily farms are those where neither the principal operator, nor individuals related to the operator, own a majority of the farm business. Source: USDA, Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Resource Management Survey. Data were revised March 8, 2017.

Smaller farm size = larger economic impact

- *A 1994 study found that smaller farms make nearly 95% of their expenditures locally, while*

larger operations spend less than 20% locally.

John W. Chism and Richard A. Levins, “Farm Spending and Local Selling: How Do They Match Up?” *Minnesota Agricultural Economist* 676 (1994).

- *A study of 1,106 rural communities in Iowa found that economic growth rates in communities with conventional farming are 55% higher than in those with large animal feeding operations.* Miguel Gomez and Liying Zhang, “Impacts of Concentration in Hog Production on Economic Growth in Rural Illinois” (Illinois State U. working paper presented at annual meeting of American Agricultural Economics Association, July 30–August 2, 2000).

Opportunities to Collaborate with Farmers on Water Quality

- Wisconsin Farmer-Led

Watershed Projects

- Incentivizing Cover Crops through Crop Insurance
- Funding and support for Managed Grazing
- Groundwater Testing and Mapping

Treadmill of Production

Dairy Together Canadian Dairy Supply Management
How does it work? Could it work here?

FOND DU LAC Wednesday, March 14 - 11:30am-2:30pm

Holiday Inn Conference Center 625 Rolling Meadows Dr., Fond du Lac

EAU CLAIRE Tuesday, March 13 - 11:30am-2:30pm 29 Pines/Sleep Inn & Suites
Conference Center

5872 33rd Ave., Eau Claire

DODGEVILLE Thursday, March 15 - 11:30am-2:30pm

Dodger Bowl Banquet Center

318 King St., Dodgeville

EDGAR Tuesday, March 13 - 7:30pm-9:30pm

Korner Kitchen W4890 Cty. Rd, H, Edgar
WESTBY Thursday, March 15 - 7:30pm-9:30pm

Nordic Lanes 511 N. Main St., Westby

Wisconsin Farmers

Union UNITED TO GROW FAMILY AGRICULTURE

Free to attend and includes lunch. RSVP to

715-723-5561 or under events at www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com.

***It's time for change. Dairy Together is hitting the road
... and coming to a state near you***

Farmers, are you

***tired* of selling milk below cost of production? Come learn
how**

**farmers are organizing for dairy
pricing reform.**

March 28: New York April 3: New Hampshire/Vermont April 9: Michigan April 10:
Wisconsin April 11: Minnesota April 12: South Dakota **May (dates TBD):** New
Mexico/Colorado/California

Learn more at www.DairyTogether.com