

Crossroads Resource Center

7415 Humboldt Ave. S. / Minneapolis, Minnesota 55423 / 612.869.8664
kmeter@crcworks.org www.crcworks.org

Tools for Community Self-determination

East Michigan Local Farm & Food Economy

by Ken Meter, Crossroads Resource Center (Minneapolis)¹
for
East Michigan Council of Governments²
for the
Regional Food Systems Assessment and Plan Project funded by USDA

September 12, 2012

*Covers Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Iosco, Isabella, Midland,
Ogemaw, Roscommon, Saginaw, Sanilac, & Tuscola Counties in Michigan*

East Michigan Region (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2010)

780,297 residents receive \$24 billion of income annually. Personal income rose 69% from 1969 to 2010, after dollars were adjusted for inflation, in part due to an increase in population. The largest source of personal income is transfer payments (from government programs such as pensions), at \$7.3 billion. Capital income (from interest, rent or dividends), ranks second at \$3.8 billion [see below]. Government jobs rank third, with \$2.7 billion. Manufacturing jobs produce \$2.4 billion of personal income, but this has fallen from \$3.3 billion in 2001. Retail workers earn \$1.1 billion. Note that income from public sources makes up 42% of all personal income in the region.

Income received from transfer payments includes \$2.6 billion of retirement and disability insurance benefits; \$2.9 billion of medical benefits; \$854 million of income maintenance benefits; \$439 million of unemployment insurance; \$130 million of veterans' benefits, and \$167 million of education and training assistance.

Government income includes \$2.4 billion of income earned by state and local government workers, and \$267 million earned by federal workers. Military personnel earn \$77 million of personal income.

Although population has increased more than 16% since 1969, there has been only limited public planning to assure a secure and stable food supply.

Public schools in the East Michigan purchased \$21 million of food in 2011. Of this, \$2.8 million was USDA commodities. See further detail on pages 24-27.

¹ Considerable research assistance provided by Nick Wojciak.

² Any use of the data contained in this study for further reporting or calculations should reference the original data source, and cite this report with credit to both Crossroads Resource Center and EMCOG.

Issues affecting low-income residents of the East Michigan region:

91,191 East Michigan residents live in what the USDA calls “food deserts” A list of these Census tracts may be found on page 28, and the USDA web site shows a map of each location.

262,842 residents (34%) earn less than 185% of federal poverty guidelines. At this level of income, children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch at school. These lower-income residents spend \$532 million each year buying food, including \$110 million of SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps) and additional WIC coupons. The region’s 6,989 farmers receive an annual combined total of \$79 million in subsidies (22-year average, 1989-2010), mostly to raise crops such as corn, soybeans, or wheat that are sold as commodities, not to feed local residents. *Data from Federal Census of 2006-2010, Bureau of Labor Statistics, & Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

9% percent of the region’s households (over 74,000 residents) earn less than \$10,000 per year. *Source: Federal Census of 2006-2010.*

17% of all Michigan adults aged 18-64 carried no health insurance in 2010. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

Food-related health conditions:

23% of Michigan residents reported in 2009 that they eat five or more servings of fruit or vegetables each day. 77% do not. This level of adequate consumption is about the same as the 1996 rate. It serves as a key indicator of health, since proper fruit and vegetable consumption has been connected to better health outcomes. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

52% of Michigan adults report they have at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week, or vigorous physical activity for 20 or more minutes three or more days per week. This is an improvement over 46% in 2001. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

10% of Michigan residents have been diagnosed with diabetes as of 2010, up from 7.7% in 2004. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.* Medical costs for treating diabetes and related conditions in the metro region are estimated at \$451 million per year. Costs for the state of Michigan as a whole total \$5.7 billion. *Source: American Diabetes Association cost calculator.*

67% of Michigan residents are overweight (35%) or obese (32%), up from 55% in 1995. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

The region's farms (Agricultural Census, 2007)

Agricultural Census data for 2007 were released February 4, 2009

The Census of Agriculture defines a "farm" as "an operation that produces, or would normally produce and sell, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products per year."

Land:

- 11,496 farms. This is 21% of Michigan's farms.
- The East Michigan region had 8% more farms in 2007 than in 2002. Some of this may be due to census takers making better contact with small farms.
- 594 (5%) of these are 1,000 acres or more in size.
- 4,393 (38%) farms are less than 50 acres.
- Average farm size is 229 acres, more than the state average of 179 acres.
- The region has 2.6 million acres of land in farms.
- This amounts to 26% of the state's farmland.
- The East Michigan region holds 2 million acres of harvested cropland.
- At least 28,000 of these acres are irrigated. *Note that data for irrigated acreage in Roscommon County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- Average value of land and buildings per farm was \$672,000. This was more than the 2007 state average of \$611,000.

Sales:

With the exception of foods sold directly to consumers (see below), farmers typically sell commodities to wholesalers, brokers or manufacturers that require further processing or handling to become consumer items. The word "commodities" is used in this report to mean the crops and livestock sold by farmers through these wholesale channels. The term "products" encompasses commodity sales, direct sales, and any other sales.

- The region's farmers sold \$1.37 billion of crops and livestock in 2007.
- \$777 million of crops were sold.
- \$600 million of livestock and products were sold.
- 6,451 (56%) of the region's farms sold less than \$10,000 of products in 2007.
- Total sales from these small farms were at least \$358,000, over 1% of the region's farm product sales. *Note that data for sales of less than \$10,000 in Roscommon County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 2,160 (19%) of the region's farms sold more than \$100,000 of products.
- Total sales from these larger farms were \$1.3 billion, 93% of the region's farm product sales.
- 45% of the region's farms (5,216 of 11,496) reported net losses in 2007. This is less than the Michigan average of 55%.
- 7,067 (30%) of East Michigan farmers collected a combined total of \$36 million of federal subsidies in 2007.

Top farm products of East Michigan (2007)

Note: ** denotes sales data has been suppressed by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.

Product	\$ millions
Milk**	342
Corn	271
Cattle and calves**	170
Soybeans	151
Forage crops (hay, etc.)**	128
Wheat**	79

Production Expenses:

- Production expenses in 2007 totaled \$1.1 billion.
- Feed purchases were the largest single expense for East Michigan farmers in 2007, totaling \$154 million (14% of production expenses).
- Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ranked second, costing farmers \$146 million (13%).
- Farmers charged \$135 million to depreciation (12%).
- Livestock and poultry purchases ranked as the fourth most important expense, at \$104 million (10%).
- Supplies, repairs, and maintenance cost farmers \$90 million (8%).
- Land and building rental costs totaled at least \$88 million (8%). *Note that data for land and building expenses in Roscommon County were suppressed by the USDA so this total and percentage are incomplete.*
- Seeds and plants cost farmers \$80 million (7%).
- Hired farm labor costs were at least \$80 million (7%). *Note that data for hired farm labor expenses in Roscommon County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total and percentage are incomplete.*

Cattle & Dairy:

- 3,012 farms hold an inventory of 321,000 cattle.
- 217,000 cattle were sold by farmers in 2007 for total sales of at least \$170 million. *Note that data for sales of cattle and calves in Midland County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 1,374 farms raise beef cows.
- 667 farms raise milk cows.
- 884 farms produced corn for silage.
- 3,879 farms produced 689,000 tons of forage crops (hay, etc.) on 218,000 acres.
- 2,953 farms sold at least \$128 million of forage crops. *Note that data for sales of forage crops in Gratiot and Midland counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*

Other Livestock & Animal Products:

- 445 farms hold an inventory of 138,000 hogs and pigs.
- 431 farms sold at least 351,000 hogs and pigs in 2007, worth at least \$8 million. *Note that data for sales of hogs and pigs in Gratiot, Huron, and Roscommon counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 294 farms hold an inventory of at least 10,000 sheep and lambs. *Note that data for inventory of sheep and lambs in Roscommon County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 334 farms sold at least \$833,000 worth of sheep, goats, and lambs in 2007. *Note that data for sales of sheep, goats, and lambs in Sanilac County were suppressed by the UDSA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 803 farms hold an inventory of at least 19,000 laying hens. *Note that data for inventory of laying hens in Huron and Tuscola counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 106 farms raise broiler chickens.
- 9 farms engage in aquaculture.
- 413 farms raise horses and ponies.

Grains, Oil Seeds, & Edible Beans:

- 4,860 million farms produced at least \$580 million of grains, oil seeds, and edible beans. *Note that data for sales of grains, oil seeds, and edible beans in Roscommon County were suppressed by the UDSA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 3,878 farms produced 87 million bushels of corn on 654,000 acres, worth \$271 million.
- This amounts to an average price per bushel of corn of \$3.10. *Note that this price is an average, and does not necessarily represent an actual price at which corn was sold.*
- 3,103 farms produced 19 million bushels of soybeans on 470,000 acres, worth \$151 million.
- This amounts to an average price per bushel of soybeans of \$7.95. *Note that this price is an average, and does not necessarily represent an actual price at which soybeans were sold.*
- The total value of corn and soybeans amounted to 30% of all farm product sales in 2007.
- 2,347 farms produced 17 million bushels of wheat on 232,000 acres, worth at least \$79 million. *Note that data for sales of wheat in Roscommon County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*

Vegetables & Melons (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent vegetable production):

- 443 farms worked 29,000 acres to produce vegetables, worth at least \$28 million. *Note that data for sales of vegetables in Gratiot and Ogemaw counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- This represents a 13% increase in the number of farms (from 393) over 2002 levels.
- 85 farms raised potatoes.

Fruits (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent fruit production):

- 184 farms in the region hold at least 1,000 acres of orchards. *Note that data for acreage of orchards in Clare County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*

- 241 farms sold at least \$2.2 million of fruits, nuts, and berries. *Note that data for sales of fruits, nuts, and berries, in Bay, Roscommon, and Sanilac counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*

Nursery & Greenhouse Plants:

- 202 farms sold at least \$17 million worth of ornamentals in 2007. *Note that data for sales of ornamentals in Clare and Midland counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- This represents an increase of 6% in the number of farms (from 190) since 2002.
- 93 farms sold Christmas trees.

Direct & Organic Sales:

- 942 farms sell \$5.7 million of food products directly to consumers. This is a 24% increase of number of farms (758 in 2002) selling direct, and an 8% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$5.3 million.
- This amounts to 0.4% of farm product sales, the same as the national average of 0.4%.
- Tuscola County leads the region in direct sales, with \$1.2 million.
- 97 farms in the region sold at least \$12 million of organic products, accounting for at least 37% of Michigan's organic sales. *Note that data for sales of organic products in Bay, Gladwin, Iosco, Isabella, Ogemaw, and Roscommon counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- For comparison, 582 farms in Michigan sold \$32 million of organic food products.
- 95 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 396 farms produce and sell value-added products.

Conservation Practices:

- 3,529 farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 1,021 farms practice rotational or management intensive grazing.
- 85 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.

Other Crops:

- 884 farms produced 1.2 million tons of corn for silage on 75,000 acres.
- 482 farms produced 701,000 bushels of oats on 12,000 acres.
- 701 farms produced at least 3.4 million tons of sugarbeets (for sugar) on over 142,000 acres. *Note that data for tonnage and acreage of sugarbeets in Isabella and Ogemaw Counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*

**Limited-resource farms and others in East Michigan
(Census of Agriculture, 2007)**

Small family farms:	Farms	Percent	Acres	Percent
Limited-resource	1,657	15%	118,498	5%
Retirement	2,508	22%	245,284	9%
Residential/lifestyle	3,653	33%	299,874	11%
Farming occupation/lower sales	1,361	12%	167,021	6%
Farming occupation/higher sales	614	5%	279,044	11%
Large family farms	489	4%	411,097	16%
Very large family farms	519	5%	830,493	32%
Nonfamily farms	337	3%	120,261	5%
Total	11,138		2,471,572	

Definition of terms (Agricultural Census 2007):

Limited-resource farms have market value of agricultural products sold gross sales of less than \$100,000, and total principal operator household income of less than \$20,000.

Retirement farms have market value of agricultural products sold of less than \$250,000, and a principal operator who reports being retired.

Residential/lifestyle farms have market value of agricultural products sold of less than \$250,000, and a principal operator who reports his/her primary occupation as other than farming.

Farming occupation/lower-sales farms have market value of agricultural products sold of less than \$100,000, and a principal operator who reports farming as his/her primary occupation.

Farming occupation/higher-sales farms have market value of agricultural products sold of between \$100,000 and \$249,999, and a principal operator who reports farming as his/her primary occupation.

Large family farms have market value of agricultural products sold between \$250,000 and \$499,999.

Very large family farms have market value of agricultural products sold of \$500,000 or more.

Nonfamily farms are farms organized as nonfamily corporations, as well as farms operated by hired manager.

County and State Highlights

Arenac County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 488 farms, 28% more than in 2002.
- Arenac County has 95,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$30 million of products in 2007.
- \$18 million (60%) of these sales were crops.
- \$12 million (40%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 179 farms (37%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 171 (35%) farms.
- 22 farms (5%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 193 farms (40%) are less than 50 acres.
- 351 farms (72%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 63 farms (13%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Arenac County ranks 8th in Michigan for acreage of dry edible beans, with 5,351.
- 20 farms sold \$75,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a one-farm decrease in the number of farms selling direct (21 in 2002), and a 121% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$34,000.
- Direct sales were 0.3% of farm product sales, less than the national average of 0.4%.

Bay County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 851 farms, 8% more than in 2002.
- Bay County has 186,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$77 million of products in 2007.
- \$69 million (90%) of these sales were crops.
- \$8 million (10%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 297 farms (35%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 271 (32%) farms.
- 43 farms (5%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 342 farms (40%) are less than 50 acres.
- 426 farms (50%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 176 farms (21%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Bay County ranks 2nd in Michigan for inventory of quail, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 3rd in the state for acreage of dry edible beans, with 20,000.
- Bay County ranks 5th in the state for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), with \$11 million.
- The county ranks fifth in the state for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 14,000.
- Bay County ranks 6th in Michigan for inventory of farm-raised deer, with 772.
- The county ranks 10th in the state for inventory of bee colonies, with 2,524.
- 93 farms sold \$809,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 33% increase in the number of farms selling direct (70 in 2002), and a 28% decrease in direct sales since 2002 sales of \$1.1 million.
- Direct sales were 1% of farm product sales, more than twice the national average of 0.4%.

Clare County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 450 farms, 9% more than in 2002.
- Clare County has 68,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$18.3 million of products in 2007.
- \$2.7 million (15%) of these sales were crops.
- \$15.6 million (85%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 206 farms (46%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 133 (30%) farms.
- 7 farms (2%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 157 farms (35%) are less than 50 acres.
- 307 farms (68%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 40 farms (9%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Clare County ranks 1st in Michigan for acreage of short-rotation woody crops, with 958.
- 36 farms sold \$80,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 10% decrease in the number of farms selling direct (40 in 2002), and a 36% decrease in direct sales since 2002 sales of \$125,000.
- Direct sales were 0.4% of farm product sales, the same as the national average of 0.4%.

Gladwin County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 557 farms, 4% more than in 2002.
- Gladwin County has 68,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$12.1 million of products in 2007.
- \$6.6 million (55%) of these sales were crops.
- \$5.5 million (45%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 270 farms (48%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 175 (31%) farms.
- 7 farms (1%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 198 farms (36%) are less than 50 acres.
- 389 farms (70%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 18 farms (3%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- 59 farms sold \$256,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 20% increase in the number of farms selling direct (49 in 2002), and an 11% decrease in direct sales since 2002 sales of \$289,000.
- Direct sales were 2.1% of farm product sales, more than 5 times the national average of 0.4%.

Gratiot County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,036 farms, 2% more than in 2002.
- Gratiot County has 287,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$190 million of products in 2007.
- \$86 million (45%) of these sales were crops.
- \$104 million (55%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 354 farms (34%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 333 (32%) farms.
- 73 farms (7%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 400 farms (39%) are less than 50 acres.

- 522 farms (50%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 218 farms (21%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Gratiot County ranks 3rd in Michigan for sales of cattle and calves, with \$21 million.
- The county ranks 4th in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 77,000.
- Gratiot County ranks 4th in the state for inventory of pullets for laying flock replacement, but inventory figures were not released by the USDA in order to protect confidentiality.
- The county ranks fourth in the state for inventory of hogs and pigs, with 61,000.
- Gratiot County ranks 5th in Michigan for livestock sales.
- The county ranks 5th the state for inventory of turkeys, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Gratiot County ranks 6th in the state for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks sixth in the state for sales of poultry and eggs, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Gratiot County ranks 6th in state for sales of milk, with \$61 million.
- The county ranks 6th in Michigan for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 10,000.
- Gratiot County ranks 6th in the state for inventory of cattle and calves, with 39,000.
- The county ranks seventh in the state for sales of agricultural products.
- Gratiot County ranks 7th in the state for sales of grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas, with \$69 million.
- The county ranks 7th in the state for sales of hogs and pigs, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Gratiot County ranks 7th in Michigan for acreage of corn for grain, with 92,000.
- The county ranks tenth in the state for acreage of wheat, with 17,000.
- 77 farms sold \$615,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 15% increase in the number of farms selling direct (77 in 2002), and a 124% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$274,000.
- Direct sales were 0.3% of farm product sales, less than the national average of 0.4%.

Huron County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,394 farms, 17% more than in 2002.
- Huron County has 441,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$375 million of products in 2007.
- \$167 million (44%) of these sales were crops.
- \$208 million (56%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 404 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 397 (28%) farms.
- 118 farms (8%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 500 farms (36%) are less than 50 acres.
- 618 farms (44%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 479 farms (34%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Huron County ranks 1st in Michigan, and 4th in the United States for acreage of dry edible beans, with 73,000.
- The County ranks 1st in the state and 4th in the country for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 53,000.
- Huron County ranks 1st in the state for sales of grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas, with \$115 million.

- The county ranks first in the state for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), with \$49 million.
- Huron County ranks 1st in the state for sales of cattle and calves, with \$78 million.
- The county ranks 1st in Michigan for sales of milk, with \$108 million.
- Huron County ranks 1st in the state for acreage of wheat for grain, with 59,000.
- The county ranks first in the state for inventory of cattle and calves, with 106,000.
- Huron County ranks 2nd in the state for crop sales.
- The county ranks 2nd in the state for livestock sales.
- Huron County ranks 3rd in Michigan for sales of agricultural products.
- The county ranks third in the state for acreage of corn, with 100,000.
- Huron County ranks 3rd in the state for inventory of bee colonies, with 4,860.
- The county ranks 4th in the state for inventory of laying hens, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Huron County ranks 5th in the state for sales of poultry and eggs, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks fifth in Michigan for inventory of pullets for laying flock replacement, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Huron County ranks 10th in the state for sales of hogs and pigs, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 10th in the state for inventory of hogs and pigs, with 37,000.
- 52 farms sold \$368,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 33% increase in the number of farms selling direct (39 in 2002), and a 55% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$238,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

Iosco County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 316 farms, 11% more than in 2002.
- Iosco County has 48,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$15 million of products in 2007.
- \$4.7 million (31%) of these sales were crops.
- \$10.3 million (69%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 127 farms (40%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 121 (38%) farms.
- 6 farms (2%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 136 farms (43%) are less than 50 acres.
- 241 farms (76%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 27 farms (9%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- 52 farms sold \$140,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 108% increase in the number of farms selling direct (25 in 2002), and a 79% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$78,000.
- Direct sales were 0.9% of farm product sales, more than twice the national average of 0.4%.

Isabella County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,018 farms, 7% more than in 2002.
- Isabella County has 196,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$71.4 million of products in 2007.
- \$36 million (50%) of these sales were crops.
- \$35.4 million (50%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 397 farms (39%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 317 (31%) farms.
- 32 farms (3%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 366 farms (36%) are less than 50 acres.
- 621 farms (61%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 139 farms (14%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Isabella County ranks 6th in Michigan for inventory of pheasants, with 12,000.
- The county ranks 8th in the state for inventory of cattle and calves, with 29,000.
- Isabella County ranks 9th in the state for sales of cattle and calves, with \$11 million.
- The county ranks ninth in the state for inventory of broiler chickens, with 2,467.
- Isabella County ranks 10th in the state for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), with \$3 million.
- The county ranks 10th in Michigan for acreage of forage crops (hay, etc.), with 28,000.
- 94 farms sold \$527,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 31% increase in the number of farms selling direct (72 in 2002), and a 48% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$355,000.
- Direct sales were 0.7% of farm product sales, nearly double the national average of 0.4%.

Midland County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 571 farms, 12% more than in 2002.
- Midland County has 91,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$48.8 million of products in 2007.
- \$22.4 million (46%) of these sales were crops.
- \$26.4 million (54%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 217 farms (38%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 201 (35%) farms.
- 17 farms (3%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 267 farms (47%) are less than 50 acres.
- 392 farms (69%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 58 farms (10%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Midland County ranks 8th in the Michigan for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 8th in the state for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 3,427.
- 67 farms sold \$212,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 76% increase in the number of farms selling direct (38 in 2002), and a 168% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$79,000.
- Direct sales were 0.4% of farm product sales, the same as the national average of 0.4%.

Ogemaw County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 321 farms, 25% more than in 2002.
- Ogemaw County has 61,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$30.5 million of products in 2007.
- \$4.1 million (13%) of these sales were crops.
- \$26.4 million (87%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 122 farms (38%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 96 (30%) farms.
- 12 farms (4%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 108 farms (34%) are less than 50 acres.
- 213 farms (4%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 44 farms (14%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- 25 farms sold \$65,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a two-farm decrease in the number of farms selling direct (27 in 2002), and a 70% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$216,000.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half the national average of 0.4%.

Roscommon County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 54 farms, 8 farms more than in 2002.
- Roscommon County has 4,749 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$379,000 of products in 2007.
- \$170,000 (45%) of these sales were crops.
- \$209,000 (55%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 23 farms (43%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 20 (37%) farms.
- No farms are 1,000 acres or more.
- 25 farms (46%) are less than 50 acres.
- 42 farms (78%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- No farms sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Roscommon County ranks 6th in Michigan for acreage of fresh cut herbs, with 4.
- 7 farms sold \$20,000 of food directly to consumers. There was no change in the number of farms selling direct since 2002, and a 17% decrease in direct sales since 2002 sales of \$24,000.
- Direct sales were 5.3% of farm product sales, more than thirteen times the national average of 0.4%.

Saginaw County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,533 farms, 13% more than in 2002.
- Saginaw County has 324,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$142.5 million of products in 2007.
- \$126.5 million (89%) of these sales were crops.
- \$16 million (11%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 568 farms (37%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 493 (32%) farms.
- 63 farms (4%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 666 farms (43%) are less than 50 acres.

- 774 farms (50%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 270 farms (18%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Saginaw County ranks 1st in Michigan for acreage of corn, with 113,000.
- The county ranks 3rd in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 84,000.
- Saginaw County ranks 4th in the state for sales of grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas, with \$93 million.
- The county ranks fourth in the state for sales of forage crops (hay etc.), with \$17 million.
- Saginaw County ranks 4th in Michigan for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 18,000.
- The county ranks 6th in the state for acreage of wheat, with 27,000.
- Saginaw County ranks 6th in the state for acreage of dry edible beans, with 9,461.
- The county ranks seventh in the state for crop sales.
- 109 farms sold \$770,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 27% increase in the number of farms selling direct (86 in 2002), and a 13% decrease in direct sales since 2002 sales of \$888,000.
- Direct sales were 0.5% of farm product sales, more than the national average of 0.4%.

Sanilac County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,535 farms, 4% less than in 2002.
- Sanilac County has 417,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$216.7 million of products in 2007.
- \$118.2 million (55%) of these sales were crops.
- \$98.5 million (45%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 523 farms (34%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 431 (28%) farms.
- 100 farms (7%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 504 farms (33%) are less than 50 acres.
- 750 farms (49%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 377 farms (25%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Sanilac County ranks 1st in Michigan and 2nd in the United States for inventory of pheasants, but *inventory figures were not released in an effort to protect confidentiality*.
- The county ranks 1st in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 109,000.
- Sanilac County ranks 2nd in the state for sales of cattle and calves, with \$26 million.
- The county ranks second in the state for acreage of wheat, with 48,000.
- Sanilac County ranks 2nd in the state for inventory of cattle and calves with 56,000.
- The county ranks 3rd in Michigan for sales of grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas, with \$94 million.
- Sanilac County ranks 3rd in the state for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), with \$20 million.
- The county ranks third in the state for sales of milk, with \$71 million.
- Sanilac County ranks 3rd in the state for acreage of forage crops (hay, etc.), with 35,000.
- The county ranks 3rd in the state for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 19,000.
- Sanilac County ranks 4th in Michigan for sales of agricultural products.
- The county ranks seventh in the state for sales of livestock.
- Sanilac County ranks 7th in the state for inventory of bee colonies, with 3,371.
- The county ranks 9th in the state for acreage of corn, with 91,000.
- Sanilac County ranks 10th in the state for crop sales.

- 106 farms sold \$566,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a five-farm increase in the number of farms selling direct (101 in 2002), and a 2% decrease in direct sales since 2002 sales of \$580,000.
- Direct sales were 0.3% of farm product sales, less than the national average of 0.4%.

Tuscola County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 1,372 farms, 6% more than in 2002.
- Tuscola County has 343,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$150 million of products in 2007.
- \$117 million (78%) of these sales were crops.
- \$33 million (22%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres, with 492 farms (36%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres, with 458 (33%) farms.
- 94 farms (7%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 531 farms (39%) are less than 50 acres.
- 805 farms (59%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 251 farms (18%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Tuscola County ranks 2nd in Michigan and 9th in the United States for acreage of dry edible beans, with 37,000.
- The county ranks 2nd in the state for acreage of sugarbeets (for sugar), with 20,000.
- Tuscola County ranks 2nd in the state for sales of forage crops (hay, etc.), with \$20 million.
- The county ranks third in the state for acreage of wheat, with 32,000.
- Tuscola County ranks 4th in the state for acreage of corn, with 96,000.
- The county ranks 5th in Michigan for sales of grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas, with \$91 million.
- Tuscola County ranks 5th in the state for inventory of laying hens, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks sixth in the state for inventory of pullets for laying flock replacement, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Tuscola County ranks 7th in the state for sales of poultry and eggs, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 8th in the state for inventory of broiler chickens, with 2,790.
- 145 farms sold \$1.2 million of food directly to consumers. This is a 25% increase in the number of farms selling direct (116 in 2002), and a 24% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$977,000.
- Direct sales were 0.8% of farm product sales, double the national average of 0.4%.

State of Michigan highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):

- 56,000 farms, 5% more than in 2002.
- Michigan has 10 million acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$5.8 billion of products in 2007.
- \$3.33 billion (58%) of these sales were crops.
- \$2.42 billion (42%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres, with 21,000 farms (37%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres, with 19,000 (34%) farms.
- 1,969 farms (4%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 24,945 farms (45%) are less than 50 acres.
- 35,000 farms (62%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 7,966 farms (14%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Michigan ranks 3rd in the United States for sales of Christmas trees, with \$29 million.
- The state ranks 5th in the country for sales of fruit, tree nuts, and berries, with \$392 million.
- Michigan ranks 6th in the country for sales of ornamentals, with \$623 million.
- The state ranks seventh in the country for sales of milk with \$1.3 billion.
- Michigan ranks 7th in the country for acreage of corn for silage, with 297,000.
- The state ranks 9th in the country for vegetable sales, with \$347 million.
- 6,373 farms sold \$59 million of food directly to consumers. This is a 29% increase in the number of farms selling direct (4,925 in 2002), and a 58% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$37 million.
- Direct sales were 1% of farm product sales, more than twice the national average of 0.4%.
- If direct food sales made up a single commodity, the value of these sales would outrank the state's 16th-most important product, cherries.
- 632 farms farm organically, with a total of 41,000 acres of harvested cropland, and 4,709 acres of pastureland.
- 14,000 acres on 477 farms are undergoing organic conversion.
- 582 farms in Michigan sold \$32 million of organic food products, including \$18 million of crops (this may include ornamental and greenhouse crops), \$3.6 million of livestock and poultry, and \$10.5 million of products from livestock and poultry (such as milk or eggs).
- 463 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 2,194 farms produce value-added products.
- 15,220 farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 7,151 farms practice rotational or management intensive grazing.
- 417 farms generate energy or electricity on the farms.

Michigan's top farm products in 2010 (Economic Research Service)

The data in the table below and pie chart on the next page are for Michigan as a whole. See chart on next page.

	\$ millions
1 Dairy products	1,411
2 Corn	1,082
3 Soybeans	867
4 Greenhouse/nursery	621
5 Cattle and calves	381
6 Hogs	318
7 Sugar beets	213
8 Wheat	199
9 Chicken eggs	163
10 Potatoes	140
11 Blueberries	134
12 Dry beans	122
13 Apples	116
14 Hay	71
15 Cucumbers	70
16 Cherries	37
17 Corn, sweet	23
18 Beans, snap	21
19 Celery	18
20 Grapes	15
21 Asparagus	14
22 Onions	13

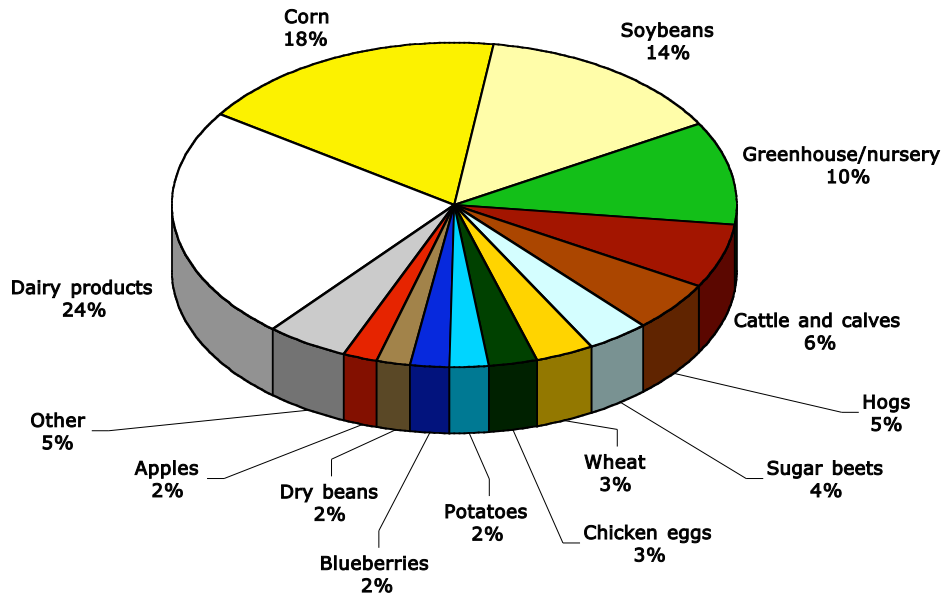
Note: turkeys, tomatoes, and carrots were also listed among Michigan's top 25 products, but sales figures for these products were not released by ERS, in an effort to protect confidentiality.

Note also that at \$59 million, direct sales from farmers to consumers amount to more than the value of the 16th-ranking product, cherries.

Michigan's top farm products in 2010 (Economic Research Service)

See table on previous page

Top farm products in Michigan, 2010



Source: USDA Economic Research Service

Balance of Cash Receipts and Production Costs (BEA):

East Michigan farmers sell \$1.31 billion of food commodities per year (1989-2010 average), spending \$1.26 billion to raise them, for an average gain of \$55 million each year. This is an average net cash income of \$4,770 per farm. *Note that these sales figures compiled by the BEA may differ from cash receipts recorded by the USDA Agriculture Census (above).*

Overall, farm producers earned a surplus of \$1.3 billion by selling crops and livestock over the years 1989 to 2010. Yet farm production costs exceeded cash receipts for seven years of that 22-year period. Moreover, 45% of the region's farms reported that they lost money in 2007 (Ag Census). East Michigan region farmers and ranchers earned \$116 million more by selling commodities in 2010 than they earned in 1969 (in 2010 dollars), primarily because of strong markets in 2008 and 2010 — the only two years since 1980 in which farmers' net cash income was higher than in 1969.

Farmers and ranchers earn another \$47 million per year of farm-related income — primarily custom work, and rental income (22-year average for 1989-2010). Federal farm support payments are a more important source of net income than commodity production, averaging \$82 million per year for the region for the same years.

The region's consumers:

See also information covering low-income food consumption and food-related health conditions, page 1-2 above.

East Michigan region consumers spend \$2.0 billion buying food each year, including \$1.2 billion for home use. Most of this food is produced outside the region, so East Michigan consumers spend about \$1.8 billion per year buying food sourced far away. Only \$5.7 million of food products (0.4% of farm cash receipts and 0.3% of the region's consumer market) are sold by farmers directly to consumers.

Estimated change in net assets (that is, assets minus liabilities) for all region households combined was a loss of \$1.76 billion in 2009 alone (BLS). This places additional pressure on East Michigan consumers trying to buy food.

Farm and food economy summary:

Farmers earn \$55 million each year producing food commodities, and spend \$660 million buying inputs sourced outside of the region. Even when farmers make money, these input purchases result in substantial losses to the region as a whole. Overall, farm production creates a loss of \$715 million to the region. **OPPORTUNITY**

Meanwhile, consumers spend \$1.8 billion buying food from outside. Thus, total loss to the region is \$2.5 billion of potential wealth *each year*. This loss amounts to nearly twice the value of all food commodities raised in the region.

East Michigan region: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

East Michigan region residents purchase \$2.0 billion of food each year, including \$1.2 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 248
Fruits & vegetables	200
Cereals and bakery products	166
Dairy products	136
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	447

If East Michigan region residents purchased \$5.00 of food each week directly from farmers in the region, this would generate \$203 million of new farm income for East Michigan farmers.

Arenac County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Arenac County residents purchase \$40 million of food each year, including \$24 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 5.0
Fruits & vegetables	4.1
Cereals and bakery products	3.4
Dairy products	2.8
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	9.1

Bay County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Bay County residents purchase \$271 million of food each year, including \$165 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 34.2
Fruits & vegetables	27.6
Cereals and bakery products	22.9
Dairy products	18.8
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	61.7

Clare County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Clare County residents purchase \$78 million of food each year, including \$48 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 9.8
Fruits & vegetables	8.0
Cereals and bakery products	6.6
Dairy products	5.4
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	17.8

Gladwin County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Gladwin County residents purchase \$65 million of food each year, including \$39 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 8.2
Fruits & vegetables	6.6
Cereals and bakery products	5.5
Dairy products	4.5
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	14.7

Gratiot County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Gratiot County residents purchase \$107 million of food each year, including \$65 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$13.5
Fruits & vegetables	10.9
Cereals and bakery products	9.0
Dairy products	7.4
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	24.3

Huron County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Huron County residents purchase \$83 million of food each year, including \$51 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 10.5
Fruits & vegetables	8.5
Cereals and bakery products	7.0
Dairy products	5.8
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	18.9

Iosco County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Iosco County residents purchase \$65 million of food each year, including \$40 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 8.2
Fruits & vegetables	6.6
Cereals and bakery products	5.5
Dairy products	4.5
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	14.8

Isabella County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Isabella County residents purchase \$177 million of food each year, including \$108 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 22.3
Fruits & vegetables	18.0
Cereals and bakery products	14.9
Dairy products	12.3
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	40.3

Midland County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Midland County residents purchase \$210 million of food each year, including \$128 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 26.6
Fruits & vegetables	21.5
Cereals and bakery products	17.8
Dairy products	14.6
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	47.9

Ogemaw County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Ogemaw County residents purchase \$54 million of food each year, including \$33 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 6.9
Fruits & vegetables	5.6
Cereals and bakery products	4.6
Dairy products	3.8
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	12.4

Roscommon County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Roscommon County residents purchase \$62 million of food each year, including \$38 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 7.8
Fruits & vegetables	6.3
Cereals and bakery products	5.2
Dairy products	4.3
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	14.0

Saginaw County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Saginaw County residents purchase \$502 million of food each year, including \$307 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 63.5
Fruits & vegetables	51.3
Cereals and bakery products	42.5
Dairy products	34.9
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	114.6

Sanilac County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Sanilac County residents purchase \$108 million of food each year, including \$66 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 13.7
Fruits & vegetables	11.0
Cereals and bakery products	9.1
Dairy products	7.5
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	24.7

Tuscola County: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Tuscola County residents purchase \$140 million of food each year, including \$85 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 17.7
Fruits & vegetables	14.3
Cereals and bakery products	11.8
Dairy products	9.7
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	31.9

Michigan: markets for food eaten at home (2009):

Michigan residents purchase \$24.8 billion of food each year, including \$15.1 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 3,136
Fruits & vegetables	2,535
Cereals and bakery products	2,099
Dairy products	1,724
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	5,659

			Food purchases	
			by East Michigan Schools, 2011	
ISD No.	ISD Name	Dist. Code	District Name	Purchases
09	Bay-Arenac ISD			\$ 3,100,549.77
		06010	Arenac Eastern School District	76,520.57
		06020	Au Gres-Sims School District	100,376.52
		06050	Standish-Sterling Community Schools	429,458.53
		09010	Bay City School District	1,401,001.68
		09030	Bangor Township Schools	500,796.01
		09050	Essexville-Hampton Public Schools	253,343.30
		09090	Pinconning Area Schools	226,163.96
		09902	Bay County PSA	112,889.20
18	Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District			\$ 1,570,571.88
		18000	Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Svc. Dist.	2,670.55
		18010	Clare Public Schools	34,808.93
		18020	Farwell Area Schools	348,568.17
		18060	Harrison Community Schools	435,328.58
		26010	Beaverton Rural Schools	328,521.70
		26040	Gladwin Community Schools	394,427.95
		26901	Creative Learning Academy	26,246.00
29	Gratiot-Isabella RESD			\$ 1,216,817.70
		29010	Alma Public Schools	527,486.32
		29020	Ashley Community Schools	70,164.21
		29040	Breckenridge Community Schools	140,554.85
		29050	Fulton Schools	145,459.98
		29060	Ithaca Public Schools	302,968.21
		29100	St. Louis Public Schools	30,184.13

			Food purchases by East Michigan Schools, 2011		
ISD No.	ISD Name	Dist. Code	District Name		Purchases
32	Huron ISD				\$ 1,011,984.76
		32010	Bad Axe Public Schools		233,863.95
		32030	Caseville Public Schools		52,834.69
		32050	Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker Schools		230,983.15
		32060	Harbor Beach Community Schools		154,862.89
		32080	North Huron School District		91,982.59
		32090	Owendale-Gagetown Area School District		60,067.37
		32130	Port Hope Community Schools		22,988.89
		32170	Uby Community Schools		164,401.23
35	Iosco RESA				\$ 991,888.87
		35010	Oscoda Area Schools		300,199.25
		35020	Hale Area Schools		133,890.33
		35030	Tawas Area Schools		235,626.95
		35040	Whittemore-Prescott Area Schools		306,214.34
		35901	Sunrise Education Center		15,958.00
29	Gratiot-Isabella RESD				\$ 1,204,886.79
		37010	Mt. Pleasant City School District		582,955.82
		37040	Beal City Public Schools		142,225.72
		37060	Shepherd Public Schools		360,044.79
		37901	Renaissance Public School Academy		87,968.30
		37902	Morey Public School Academy		31,692.16
56	Midland County Educational Service Agency				\$ 1,478,246.59
		56010	Midland Public Schools		832,028.42
		56020	Bullock Creek School District		379,191.25
		56030	Coleman Community Schools		21,688.82
		56050	Meridian Public Schools		201,724.90
		56901	Windover High School		29,182.00
		56903	Academic and Career Education Academy		14,431.20
72	C.O.O.R. ISD				\$ 1,230,628.31
		65045	West Branch-Rose City Area Schools		541,999.57
		72010	Roscommon Area Public Schools		356,081.30
		72020	Houghton Lake Community Schools		332,547.44

			Food purchases by East Michigan Schools, 2011	
ISD No.	ISD Name	Dist. Code	District Name	Purchases
73	Saginaw	ISD		\$ 5,998,923.06
		73000	Saginaw ISD	60,869.73
		73010	Saginaw, School District of the City of	1,718,538.31
		73030	Carrollton Public Schools	485,926.04
		73040	Saginaw Township Community Schools	1,210,466.60
		73080	Buena Vista School District	145,823.22
		73110	Chesaning Union Schools	271,023.19
		73170	Birch Run Area Schools	332,545.58
		73180	Bridgeport-Spaulding Community School Dist.	309,248.48
		73190	Frankenmuth School District	250,406.47
		73200	Freeland Community School District	297,514.73
		73210	Hemlock Public School District	153,315.28
		73230	Merrill Community Schools	200,883.59
		73240	St. Charles Community Schools	198,235.80
		73908	Saginaw Preparatory Academy	95,072.64
		73909	Francis Reh PSA	122,295.38
		73910	North Saginaw Charter Academy	32,281.00
		73912	International Academy of Saginaw	114,477.02
76	Sanilac	ISD		\$ 1,712,876.34
		76000	Sanilac ISD	11,086.82
		76060	Brown City Community Schools	280,097.31
		76070	Carsonville-Port Sanilac School District	146,141.53
		76080	Croswell-Lexington Community Schools	468,104.37
		76090	Deckerville Community School District	172,526.55
		76140	Marlette Community Schools	248,509.61
		76180	Peck Community School District	104,910.71
		76210	Sandusky Community School District	281,499.44

			Food purchases by East Michigan Schools, 2011	
ISD No.	ISD Name	Dist. Code	District Name	Purchases
79	Tuscola	ISD		\$ 1,818,867.81
		79000	Tuscola ISD	48,917.51
		79010	Akron-Fairgrove Schools	64,504.22
		79020	Caro Community Schools	357,050.21
		79030	Cass City Public Schools	287,267.09
		79080	Kingston Community School District	145,845.88
		79090	Mayville Community School District	153,427.85
		79100	Millington Community Schools	303,582.97
		79110	Reese Public Schools	24,964.00
		79145	Unionville-Sebewaing Area S.D.	160,167.05
		79150	Vassar Public Schools	273,141.03
Total				\$ 21,336,241.88

Summary of school food purchases by all 85 school districts in East Michigan

Type of purchase	Code	Amount
Uncoded	000	\$ 1,405,715.70
USDA Commodities	781	2,770,599.08
USDA Bonus Comm.	782	109,869.87
National School Breakfast	850	4,348,891.09
National School Lunch (NSL)	851	12,496,912.92
NSL Special Milk	852	6,987.46
Child Care Food Program	853	18,549.34
CNP Fruit/Veg Pilot	856	68,698.82
Summer Food Service	858	72,412.85
NSL After School Snack	861	35,350.94
School Lunch	310	1,505.17
School Breakfast	311	748.64

Note: The above data was provided by the Michigan Department of Education, and compiled by Ken Meter of Crossroads Resource Center for this report.

29 Census Tracts Identified as “Food Deserts” by USDA

County	Census Tract	Type	Population
Bay	26017280100	Urban	515
Bay	26017280200	Urban	1,172
Bay	26017280300	Urban	1,503
Bay	26017280400	Urban	3,191
Bay	26017280900	Urban	3,202
Bay	26017281000	Urban	4,363
Bay	26017281100	Urban	1,075
Bay	26017281200	Urban	4,339
Bay	26017281300	Urban	3,375
Gratiot	26057990300	Urban	7,487
Gratiot	26057990400	Urban	5,866
Huron	26063950100	Rural	1,564
Huron	26063950200	Rural	2,453
Huron	26063950300	Rural	2,639
Huron	26063951200	Rural	4,472
Iosco	26069990100	Urban	2,374
Iosco	26069990900	Urban	3,411
Iosco	26069991100	Rural	2,856
Isabella	26073950500	Urban	2,790
Midland	26111290100	Urban	3,997
Roscommon	26143970200	Urban	1,972
Roscommon	26143970900	Urban	2,126
Saginaw	26145000200	Urban	1,639
Saginaw	26145001100	Urban	3,855
Saginaw	26145001300	Urban	3,299
Saginaw	26145010800	Urban	2,863
Saginaw	26145011000	Urban	7,001
Saginaw	26145011500	Urban	3,107
Sanilac	26151970200	Rural	2,685
		Total	91,191

Note: Some residents of so-called “food deserts” dislike the use of this term.

*A map of these “food deserts” can be found at:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-desert-locator/go-to-the-locator.aspx>*

Acknowledgement

Thanks to the members of the Advisory Committee who guided the compilation of this report:

- Anamika Laad—East Michigan Council of Governments
- Carl Osentoski—Huron-Sanilac County
- Hal Hudson—Thumb Area Farmer/Educator
- Joseph Sancimino—Arenac County
- Julia Darnton, MSU Extension—Saginaw
- Lyn Grim—Clare County
- Rosalie Myers—Roscommon County
- Stephen Erickson—Tuscola County
- Zygmunt Dworzecki—Tuscola County

Key data sources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis data on farm production balance

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis/>

Food consumption estimates from Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm>

U.S. Census of Agriculture

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/>

USDA/Economic Research Service food consumption data:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/foodconsumption/>

USDA/ Economic Research Service farm income data:

<http://ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmIncome/finfidmu.htm>

For more information:

To see results from *Finding Food in Farm Country* studies in other regions of the U.S.:

<http://www.crcworks.org/?submit=fffc>

To read the original *Finding Food in Farm Country* study from Southeast Minnesota (written for the Experiment in Rural Cooperation): <http://www.crcworks.org/ff.pdf>

To view a PowerPoint presented in March, 2008, by Ken Meter at Rep. Collin Peterson's (D-MN) Minnesota agricultural forum, called the "Home Grown Economy":

<http://www.crcworks.org/crcppts/petersonkm08.pdf>

For further information: <http://www.crcworks.org/>

Contact Ken Meter at Crossroads Resource Center

[<kmeter@crcworks.org>](mailto:kmeter@crcworks.org)

(612) 869-8664