

- By 2000, about 96 percent of total farm production is projected to come from farms with sales of at least \$100,000. About 54 percent came from such large farms in 1974.
- About 57 percent of the farmland will be operated by farms containing at least 2,000 acres. The corresponding percentage in 1974 was 42 percent.
- Half of the farmland will be farmed by the largest 50,000 farms, and almost all of the land will be operated by the largest 1 million farms.
- Capital requirements will rise to about \$2 million of capital assets per farm for farms with sales of more than \$100,000--nearly double what was required in 1978.
- The accelerating capital requirements imply that the low-equity, young, potential farmers will have even more difficulty getting started in farming.
- Large capital requirements and large farms will tend to concentrate farm wealth in the hands of a few. By 2000, two-thirds of the wealth in the farm sector will be in the hands of those who have an interest in farms with more than \$100,000 in sales.
- The number of new farmers under 35 years of age will shrink from 475,000 in 1964-74 to 284,000 in 1994-2004, a 40-percent decrease.
- The number of corporations in farming will continue to increase, while the number of partnerships will decline. Multiownership farms (corporations and partnerships) may account for half of all farm sales by the end of the century. The number of corporations might nearly triple by that time; even if they did so, however, farm corporations would still constitute less than 4 percent of the total farms.
- Part owners will account for a third of all farms by 2000 and more than two-thirds of large farms (sales of more than \$100,000). In 1974, part owners accounted for 27 percent of all farms and 57 percent of large farms. (Part ownership means that a farmer owns some farmland but rents the remainder from others.)