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Fact sheet on Farm Credit System young, beginning, and small (YBS) farmer lending results for 2019

The following information summarizes 2019 Farm Credit System lending activity to young, beginning, and small (YBS) farmers, ranchers, and producers or harvesters of aquatic products.

Note: FCA defines young farmers as those who are 35 years old or younger, beginning farmers as those who have been farming for 10 years or less, and small farmers as those with gross annual sales of less than \$250,000.

Outstanding loans

From Dec. 31, 2018, to Dec. 31, 2019, dollar volume outstanding for total System loans grew by 6.3%. Loan dollar volume outstanding to young farmers grew by 3.3%, to beginning farmers by 3.9%, and to small farmers by 4.6%.

However, the *number* of total System loans outstanding remained relatively flat, increasing by 0.5%. The number of loans outstanding to young farmers increased by 1.0%, to beginning farmers by 1.8%, and to small farmers by 0.6%.

New loans

The System's overall *new* loan dollar volume increased by 5.4% in 2019. New loan dollar volume to young farmers increased by 7.3%, to beginning farmers by 8.0%, and to small farmers by 15.9%.

For total System loans, the number of new loans made in 2019 grew by 4.8%. The number of loans to young farmers increased by 5.9%, to beginning farmers by 8.1%, and to small farmers by 7.8%.

Young — In 2019, the System reported making 49,104 loans to young farmers. The volume of total new loans to farmers in this category amounted to \$10.1 billion. The loans to young farmers in 2019 represented 18.2% of all loans the System made during the year and 11.1% of the dollar volume of loans made. At the end of 2019, the System reported 177,590 loans outstanding to young farmers, totaling \$31.0 billion.

Beginning — In 2019, the System reported making 67,088 loans to beginning farmers. The volume of total new loans to beginning farmers amounted to \$14.3 billion in 2019. The

loans made to beginning farmers in 2019 represented 24.9% of all System loans made during the year and 15.7% of the dollar volume of loans made. At the end of 2019, the System reported 272,654 loans outstanding to beginning farmers, totaling \$48.6 billion.

Small — In 2019, System institutions reported making 123,494 loans, totaling \$14.4 billion, to small farmers. The loans in 2019 to farmers in this category represented 45.7% of all loans made during the year and 15.9% of the dollar volume of loans made. At the end of 2019, the System reported 459,894 loans outstanding to small farmers, totaling \$51.9 billion.

Total — In 2019, the System reported making a total of 269,939 new loans, totaling \$90.9 billion. The total number of outstanding loans at year-end 2019 was 914,386, amounting to \$280.0 billion.

YBS loans made during 2019

YBS category	Number of loans	Percentage of total number of System loans	Dollar volume of loans in millions	Percentage of total volume of System loans	Average loan size
Young	49,104	18.2%	\$10,085	11.1%	\$205,380
Beginning	67,088	24.9%	\$14,283	15.7%	\$212,906
Small	123,494	45.7%	\$14,421	15.9%	\$116,772

YBS loans outstanding as of Dec. 31, 2019

YBS category	Number of loans	Percentage of total number of System loans	Dollar volume of loans in millions	Percentage of total volume of System loans	Average loan size
Young	177,590	19.4%	\$31,043	11.1%	\$174,802
Beginning	272,654	29.8%	\$48,645	17.4%	\$178,414
Small	459,894	50.3%	\$51,869	18.5%	\$112,785

Sources: Annual YBS Farmer Report submitted by each System lender through the Farm Credit banks.

Note: Because the YBS mission is focused on each borrower group separately, data are reported separately for each of the three YBS borrower categories. Since some loans fit more than one category, adding the loans across categories does not produce an accurate measure of the System's YBS lending.

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