

How To

Using State and Local Data Tools at bea.gov

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, or BEA, is the federal statistical agency that estimates the nation's gross domestic product. BEA also produces economic data about states and counties.

[Bea.gov](https://www.bea.gov) has shortcuts to help you find state and local data quickly:

BEARFacts, BEA's regional data tool:

To see some of BEA's most recent data about a state or county:

- Use the **Tools** drop-down menu at the top of [bea.gov](https://www.bea.gov).
- Click **BEARFacts**.
- Select a type of area: **state or county**.
- You'll be taken to a U.S. map. Choose the state or county you want by clicking on the map or using the drop-down list above the map.
- You'll get a fact sheet with economic data from BEA about that place.
- To print or save the fact sheet, use the PDF button in the top right corner.
- If you want to research additional data, clicking the More Detail tab will take you to BEA's Interactive Data Tables.

GDP and Personal Income Mapping

Showing your data on a map helps you do quick analysis, look for geographic trends, and present data to others. Here's how:

- Use the **Tools** drop-down menu at the top of [bea.gov](https://www.bea.gov).
- Click **GDP & Personal Income Mapping**.
- On the **Regional Data/GDP and Personal Income Mapping** page, you'll see a list of BEA data, beginning with Quarterly Gross Domestic Product by State, that you can display as a map.

For example, to see which states have the fastest growth in production by farms, follow these steps:

1. Choose **Annual Gross Domestic Product by State**.
2. Select **GDP by industry in current dollars** (third on the list).

3. Select **GDP by state: Farms**.
4. For unit of measure, drop down to choose **Percent change from preceding period**.
5. Choose the colors and number of ranges you prefer (monochromatic colors and five ranges work well).
6. Hit Next Step.
7. For time period, choose the most recent year available.
8. Hit Next Step.
9. View your map to easily see which states had the fastest and slowest growing farms.
10. If you want to save your map, use the download arrow located *within the map box*, to the right of the map's headline.