

# BARONS

MONEY, POWER, AND THE CORRUPTION  
OF AMERICA'S FOOD INDUSTRY



AUSTIN FRERICK  
FOREWORD BY ERIC SCHLOSSER

# Minnesota House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee

March 2026

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# BARONS

MONEY, POWER, AND THE CORRUPTION  
OF AMERICA'S FOOD INDUSTRY



Now  
WITH A NEW  
CHAPTER

AUSTIN FRERICK  
FOREWORD BY ERIC SCHLOSSER

"Frerick is a staunch Democrat, but if there is one issue where the left and the populist right can make common cause, it's farm policy. **Conservatives should read Frerick's book"**

— [The American Conservative](#)



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sysco

Walmart 

<b>Expenditures on Food: 2023</b>		
<b>Country</b>	<b>Percent of Income (%)</b>	<b>Per Person (\$)</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>2,499</b>
<b>Spain</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>2,512</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>2,550</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>2,775</b>
<b>Greece</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>2,824</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>2,865</b>
<b>France</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>3,086</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>3,113</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>3,143</b>
<b>Australia</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>3,374</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>3,388</b>
<b>USA</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>3,694</b>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>3,712</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>3,727</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>4,450</b>
<b>Source: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations based on annual household</b>		

Bloomberg Law Search Mergers & Antitrust News

Mergers & Antitrust Law News

The nation's top food producers face federal price-fixing investigations and civil suits  
Photo illustration: Jonathan Hurtado/Bloomberg Law; Photos: Getty Images

### Turkey Remains Rare Meat Not Embroiled in Antitrust Probes

Nov. 26, 2019, 6:01 AM

- Nation's largest meat producers subject to federal price-fixing investigations
- Industry consolidation and data aggregation raise antitrust concerns

This Thanksgiving, consumers can get a turkey, a pig, or a chicken. But the focus of a federal antitrust probe is on the turkey.

### Top US Food Producers Facing Antitrust Suits, Investigations

The nation's main food makers find themselves subject to lawsuits and several federal probes

	Companies	Status
SALMON		DOJ probe, civil suit
PORK		Civil suits, no federal probe
BEEF		USDA probe into Tyson, civil suit
TUNA		Civil suits, DOJ criminal trial, guilty pleas
CHICKEN		DOJ probe, civil suits

Note: List of food producers doesn't include all companies sued in private price-fixing cases.

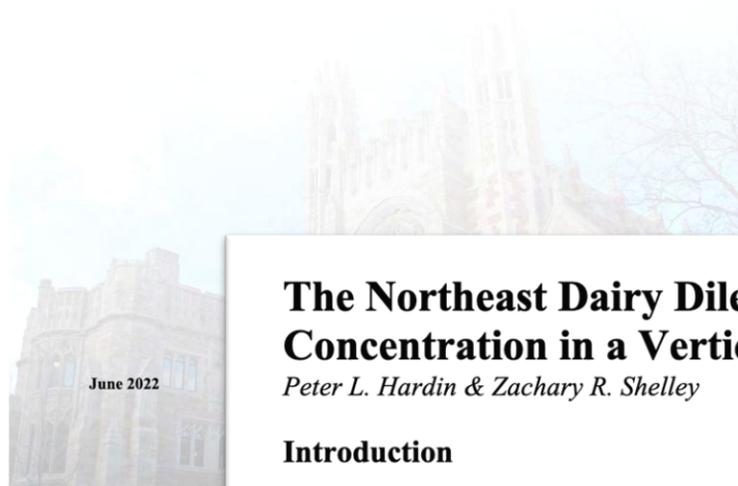
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CONFERENCE COMPENDIUM

## Reforming America's Food Retail Markets

Sponsored by:

Thurman Arnold Project at the Yale School of Management  
Information Society Project at Yale Law School  
Yale Sustainable Food Program



June 2022

## The Northeast Dairy Dilemma: Solutions for Concentration in a Vertically Integrated Market

Peter L. Hardin & Zachary R. Shelley

### Introduction

Public alarm concerning agriculture and food antitrust issues has focused on concentration in the beef processing industry, where four firms control 85% of United States' slaughter capacity. These beef processors operate to the detriment of both cattle producers and consumers.<sup>126</sup> That fact is substantiated by nearly a decade's data that shows both ranchers' down-trending market prices for cattle and consumers' ever-increasing retail beef costs.<sup>127</sup> These concerns are long overdue. However, another staple – milk – faces even more alarming concentration in New England and other major parts of the Northeast.<sup>128</sup> An estimated 85% of the market for conventional fluid milk processing is likely controlled by just one firm.<sup>129</sup>

## U.S. Bacon Prices (1980-2025)

Markets Metals Energy Commodities Interest Rates Exchange Rates **Economy**

Inflation Rate Unemployment National Debt Debt/GDP Housing Starts Initial Claims Retail Sales Industrial Prod Durable Goods

**U.S. Bacon Prices:** \$7.21 as of August 2025.

Units: U.S. Dollars

Frequency: Monthly

Release: [Average Price Data](#)

Source: [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

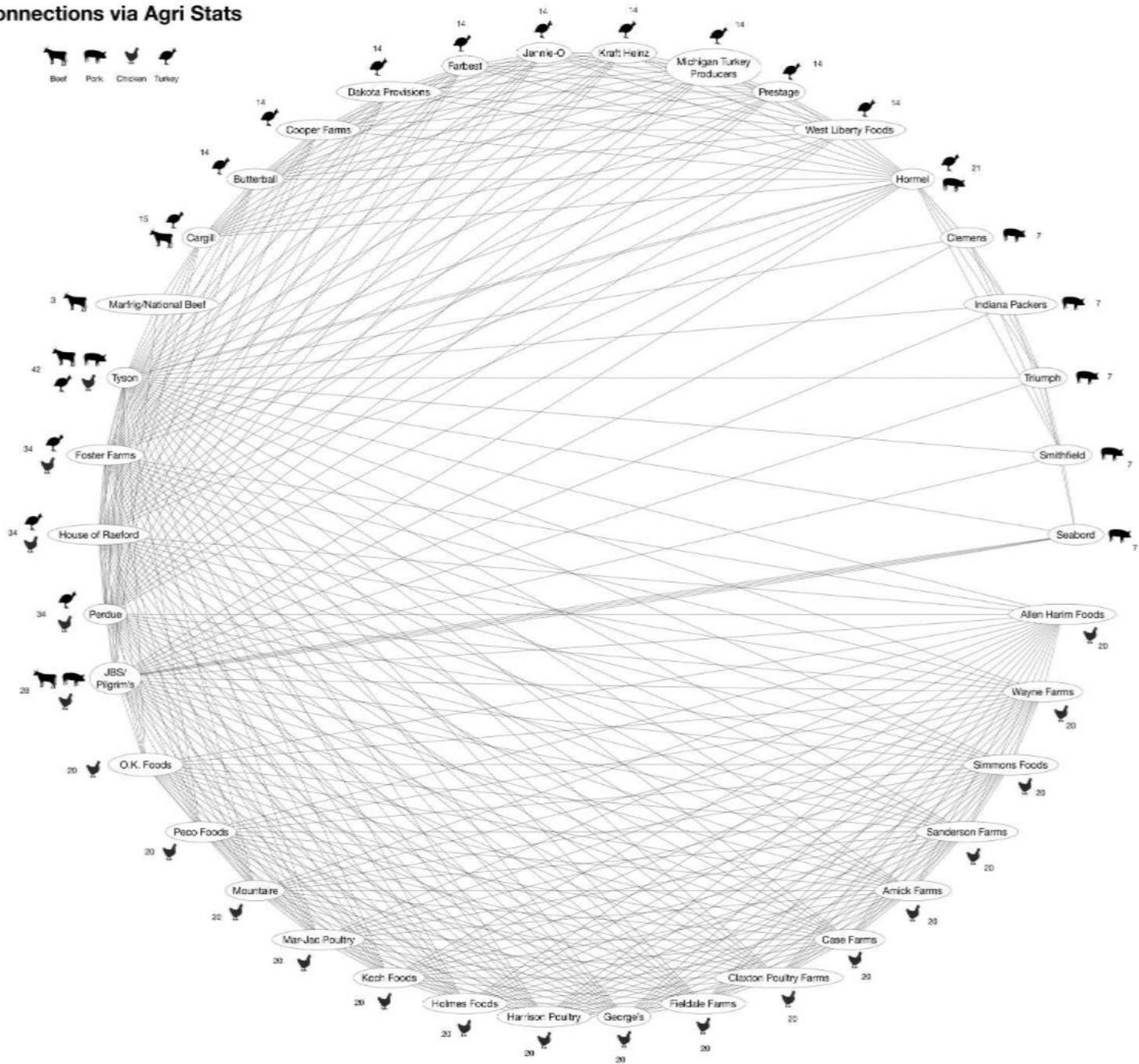
### Adjusted for Inflation (CPI)



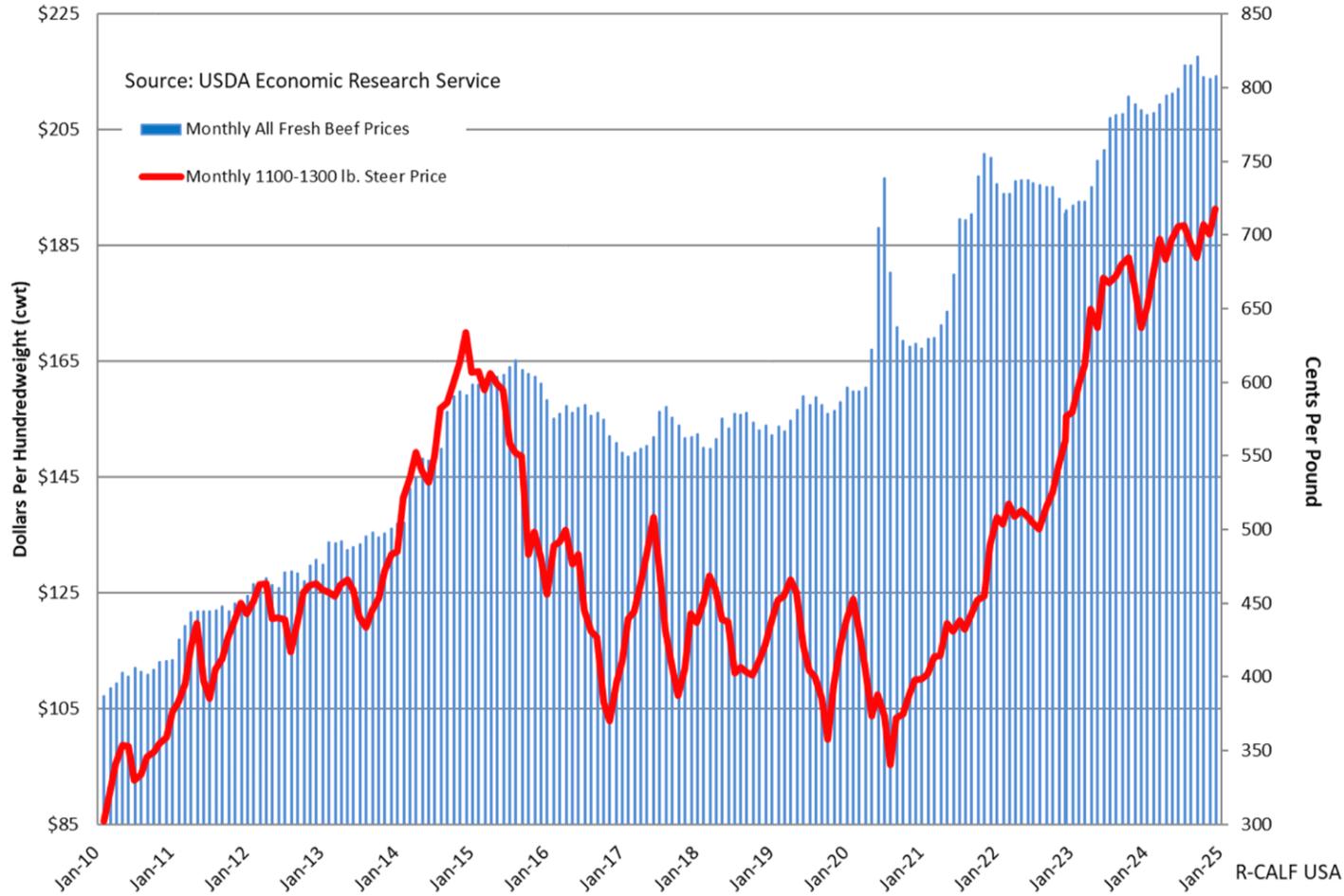
Zoom 5Y 10Y 20Y 30Y **All**



# Connections via Agri Stats



## Disconnect Between Cattle Prices and Consumer Beef Prices



## McDonald's sues major beef producers in US price-fixing lawsuit

By Mike Scarcella

October 7, 2024 11:54 AM EDT - Updated 4 months ago

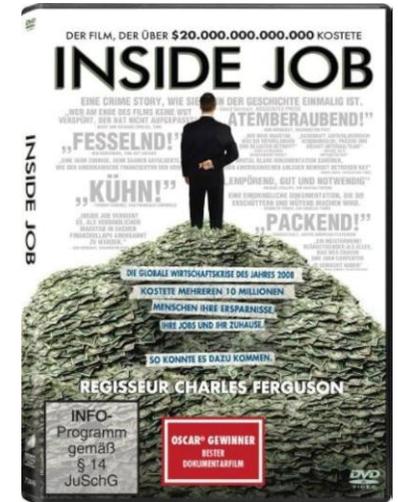


The logo for McDonald's restaurant is seen in Arlington, Virginia, U.S., January 27, 2022. REUTERS/Joshua Roberts/File Photo Purchase Licensing Rights

## Financial Conflicts of Interest and Academic Economists in Law and Policymaking

Kate M. Conlow\*

Even though the AAEA has conflict-of-interest disclosure policies, the association does not seem to enforce them in any way. The work of Timothy Richards, who writes for and edits an AAEA journal, highlights the organization's lack of disclosure enforcement. Richards's own faculty webpage at Arizona State University states that he "does extensive consulting work in the food retailing and manufacturing industries for clients that include Walmart, Kroger, SuperValu, Hormel, Sara Lee, JBS Swift, Foster Farms, and a number of others";<sup>424</sup> yet, despite relevant, apparent, and potential conflicts of interest, nowhere in the articles that he recently published in the AAEA's *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* were they disclosed.<sup>425</sup>





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KITCHEN > BAKING

# The Best Butter

Published November 1, 2024



Michael Murtaugh/NYT Wirecutter; food styling by Maggie Ruggiero



By [Lesley Stockton](#) and [Ciara Murray Jordan](#)

### Top pick



#### Kerrygold Salted Butter

The butteriest butter

Golden, grassy, and velvety: Kerrygold is the closest thing to the platonic ideal of butter in most supermarkets.

\$5 from Amazon

\$5 from Walmart

\$16 from Costco (pack of four)

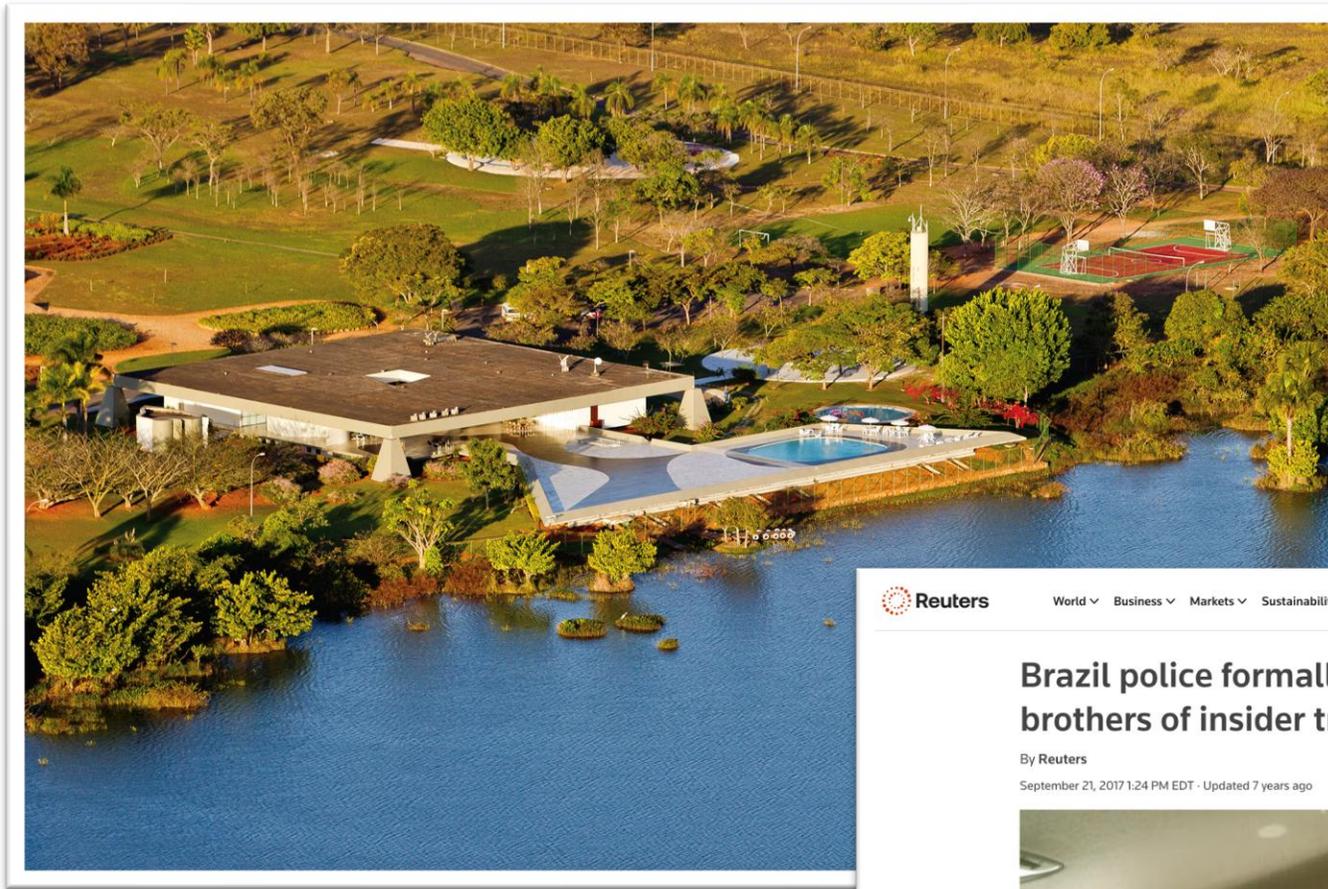
**JBS** FOODS®



**Gold'n  
Plump®**



Joesley Batista



Michel Temer

Reuters World Business Markets Sustainability Legal Breakingviews Technology Investigations

## Brazil police formally accuse JBS Batista brothers of insider trading

By Reuters  
September 21, 2017 1:24 PM EDT · Updated 7 years ago

A photograph showing Wesley Batista, the chief executive of JBS S.A., sitting in the back of a car. He is wearing a dark suit and is looking out the window. Another person is visible in the driver's seat.

Wesley Batista (R), chief executive of JBS S.A., the world's largest beef producer, leaves the Federal Police headquarters to give a testimony in the Federal Court in Sao Paulo, Brazil September 13, 2017. REUTERS/Leonardo Benassatto [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

WEBSITE JBS JBS360 NETZERO RELATIONSHIP WITH INVESTORS



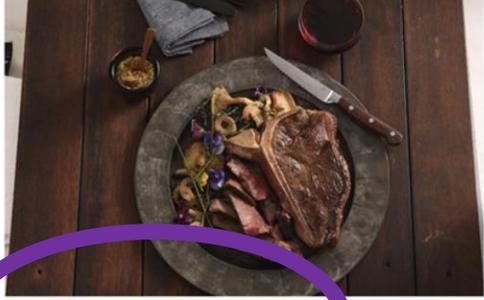
JBS

With over 250,000 team members driven by the purpose of feeding the world with the best there is, JBS is the global leader in protein-based food production.



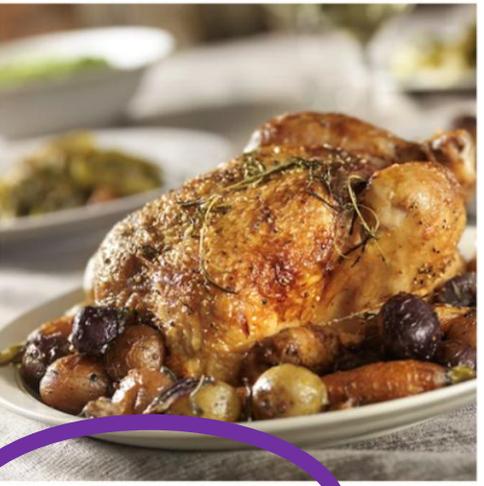
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#1 global beef producer

with operations in the United States, Australia and Canada



#1 global poultry producer

with operations in the United States, United Kingdom, Mexico and Puerto Rico



#2 global pork producer

with operations in the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia



A leading lamb producer

with operations in Australia



A significant global producer

of value-added and branded protein products





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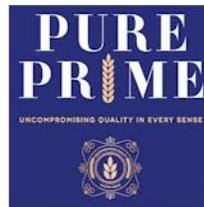
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THE HONEST BUTCHER







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Natural Beef®




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NEWS

## With a second beef plant, Walmart raises concerns about vertical integration in cattle markets

Last month Walmart announced plans to open a plant in Olathe, Kansas, that will turn large cuts of beef into meatcase-ready steaks, filets, and more for its Midwest stores. This \$257 million investment is the latest in Walmart's efforts to build its own Angus beef supply chain.

By [Claire Kelloway](#) | Published on July 18, 2023


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BUSINESS

## JBS buys 'certain assets' of major Iowa hog producer TriOak Foods


**Tyler Jett**  
Des Moines Register

Published 7:13 a.m. CT Dec. 5, 2022


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DIVE BRIEF

## Tyson to acquire Williams Sausage Company

Published Feb. 22, 2023


**Chris Casey**  
Staff Reporter

[in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [p](#) [e](#) [c](#)

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BUSINESS

## Cargill, Continental Grain Close Deal for Chicken Producer Sanderson Farms

Companies had been discussing farmer, worker pay with Justice Department to secure deal approval

By [Patrick Thomas](#) [Follow](#)

July 22, 2022 1:49 pm ET

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[🔗](#) Gift unlocked article | [🎧](#) Listen (4 min) | [⋮](#)



AGRICULTURE

## Federal government won't stop buying food from meatpacker tied to bribery case

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said barring JBS from government contracts could hurt taxpayers because the company has so few competitors.



Tom Vilsack's letter illustrates how the government's options have become painfully limited in an agriculture sector heavily concentrated on everything from poultry to cereal. | Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images

By **MARCIA BROWN**  
01/10/2023 04:30 AM EST



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by Goldman Sachs

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CRIME & JUSTICE ↗

## 31 Kids Found Working Graveyard Shifts on Meat Plant 'Kill Floors,' Feds Say

| 'HARM'S WAY' |

Josh Fiallo  
Breaking News Reporter



BUSINESS

## A Million Culled Chickens Show Pitfalls of Biden's Meatpacking Revamp

A bankrupt poultry supplier, construction delays on processing plants reflect hurdles to boosting agriculture startups

By **Patrick Thomas** [Follow](#)

Nov. 10, 2024 5:30 am ET



91



Gift unlocked article



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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

## From Ken Griffin to Robinhood: The Donors Who Funded Trump's Inauguration Revealed

Trump's inaugural committee raised nearly \$250 million, more than doubling the previous record

By [Josh Dawsey](#) [Follow](#) and [Alex Leary](#) [Follow](#)

Updated April 18, 2025 6:04 pm ET

The largest contributor in the filing was Pilgrim's Pride, a sprawling poultry company that gave \$5 million.



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## USDA Allows Faster Processing Speeds

FSIS to Allow Faster Pork and Poultry Line Speeds, Drawing Industry Praise and Union Criticism

3/18/2025 | 7:28 AM CDT



By [Chris Clayton](#), DTN Ag Policy Editor

Connect with Chris:

[@ChrisClaytonDTN](#)

Meat and livestock monthly U.S. trade			
Import/export, geography code and name 1/ 2/		Mar-24	Mar-25
<b>Beef and veal imports</b>	6021 Australia	61,919	97,699
(carcass wt. 1,000	1220 Canada	99,760	94,634
pounds)	3510 <b>Brazil</b>	37,059	106,773
	2010 Mexico	47,953	54,392
	6141 New Zealand	51,615	67,975
	3550 Uruguay	19,582	35,831
	2190 Nicaragua	13,809	17,901
	3570 Argentina	5,464	13,586
	3530 Paraguay	613	7,768
	2230 Costa Rica	1,865	3,540
	4210 Netherlands	583	765
	5880 Japan	344	328
	4279 France	118	170
	2470 Dominican Republic		65
	4190 Ireland	68	
	4120 United Kingdom		0
	3370 Chile		93
	4280 Germany, Fed. Republic		77
	4231 Belgium		76
	2150 Honduras		
	Other geographies	6	22
	<b>Total</b>	<b>340,759</b>	<b>501,696</b>

Meat and livestock monthly U.S. trade			
Import/export, geography code and name 1/ 2/		Mar-24	Mar-25
<b>Beef and veal exports</b>	5880 Japan	57,327	57,593
(carcass wt. 1,000	5800 South Korea	60,232	56,714
pounds)	5700 China	42,580	41,753
	2010 Mexico	25,341	26,783
	1220 Canada	19,438	18,671
	5830 Taiwan	11,827	15,415
	5820 Hong Kong	6,305	6,437
	5650 Philippines	4,137	3,358
	5600 Indonesia	1,999	166
	2470 Dominican Republic	3,026	3,366
	2050 Guatemala	2,255	2,658
	4210 Netherlands	2,505	2,431
	5590 Singapore	1,052	625
	5200 United Arab Emirates	1,552	2,058
	5520 Vietnam	928	897
	2230 Costa Rica	1,125	1,229
	3370 Chile	572	780
	2250 Panama	820	1,094
	4759 Italy	1,311	961
	2360 Bahamas	904	1,004
	Other geographies	10,872	11,771
	<b>Total</b>	<b>256,108</b>	<b>255,762</b>

**AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE**

**Table MRP-2. AMS Budget Authority (millions of dollars)**

Item	2024 Actual	2025 Enacted	2026 Budget
<b>Discretionary:</b>			
Marketing Services:			
Market News.....	\$35	\$35	\$35
Shell Egg Surveillance .....	3	3	3
Standardization .....	5	5	5
Federal Seed Act .....	2	2	2
Country of Origin Labeling .....	5	5	5
Pesticide Data Program.....	15	15	15
National Organic Standards .....	23	23	23
National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard .....	2	2	2
Transportation and Market Development.....	10	10	6
Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program.....	7	7	-
Acer Access and Development .....	6	6	-
Packers and Stockyards .....	33	33	24
Hemp Production .....	15	15	15
Grain Regulatory .....	19	19	19
US Warehouse Activities .....	11	11	11
Appropriated GSA Rent and DHS Security .....	4	4	4
International Food Procurement Program .....	9	9	-
Micro-Grants for Food Security .....	5	5	-
Cattle Contract Library.....	1	1	1
Dairy Business Innovation .....	12	12	-
<b>Total, Marketing Services.....</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>171</b>

**BREAKING: Congress Introduces Appropriations Rider to Block New Packers and Stockyards Rules**

After a long fight, the Biden administration enacted [several rules](#) designed to protect contract chicken farmers from abusive meatpacking corporations. The rules require poultry processors to more [clearly disclose](#) the range of prices they pay contract farmers for their chickens while also [prohibiting](#) retaliation against farmers and [regulating](#) the controversial tournament system. But now the House Appropriations Committee has [introduced a rider](#) on the Big Beautiful Bill that effectively repeals these rules by preventing the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) from spending any money to enforce them.

We've seen Republican lawmakers use this tactic before: the Obama administration introduced similar rules which a Republican-controlled Congress [blocked for several years](#) with an appropriations rider. Congress faces more bipartisan opposition this time around. Notably, the Republican-leaning Farm Bureau has [urged](#) lawmakers to protect the Biden administration's contract poultry rules. But it remains to be seen if farm advocates can get their way.

DIVE BRIEF

# JBS venture to buy US egg producer amid efforts to diversify protein business

Mantiqueira, a Brazil-based supplier co-owned by the meat giant, is acquiring Hickman's Egg Ranch after the farm lost the majority of its flock to bird flu.

Published Nov. 18, 2025



Sarah Zimmerman  
Editor





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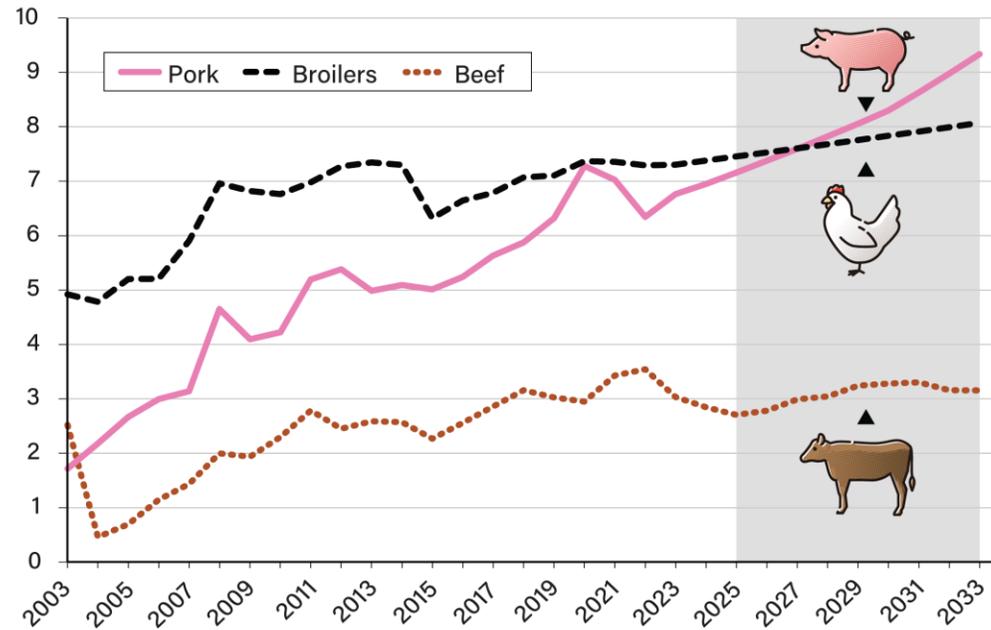
## **JBS's global tax avoidance hub: Luxembourg**

Multinational JBS avoided **an estimated USD 221 to 442 million in taxes** in 2019–2022

## Projected exports of U.S. pork, broilers, and beef

USDA Economic Research Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Pounds (billion)



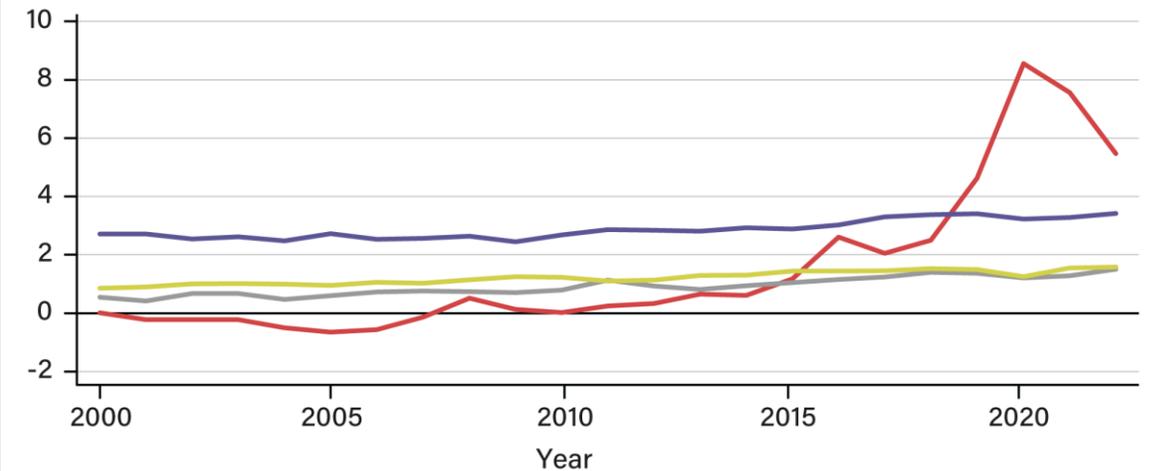
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using projections from USDA, Office of the Chief Economist, the World Agricultural Outlook Board, and the Interagency Agricultural Projections Committee. Data are as of November 7, 2023, and are subject to revision.

CHARTS of NOTE

## Net imports of meat by top importing countries, 2000-22

USDA Economic Research Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Million metric tons



Note: Net imports = imports - exports.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution database.

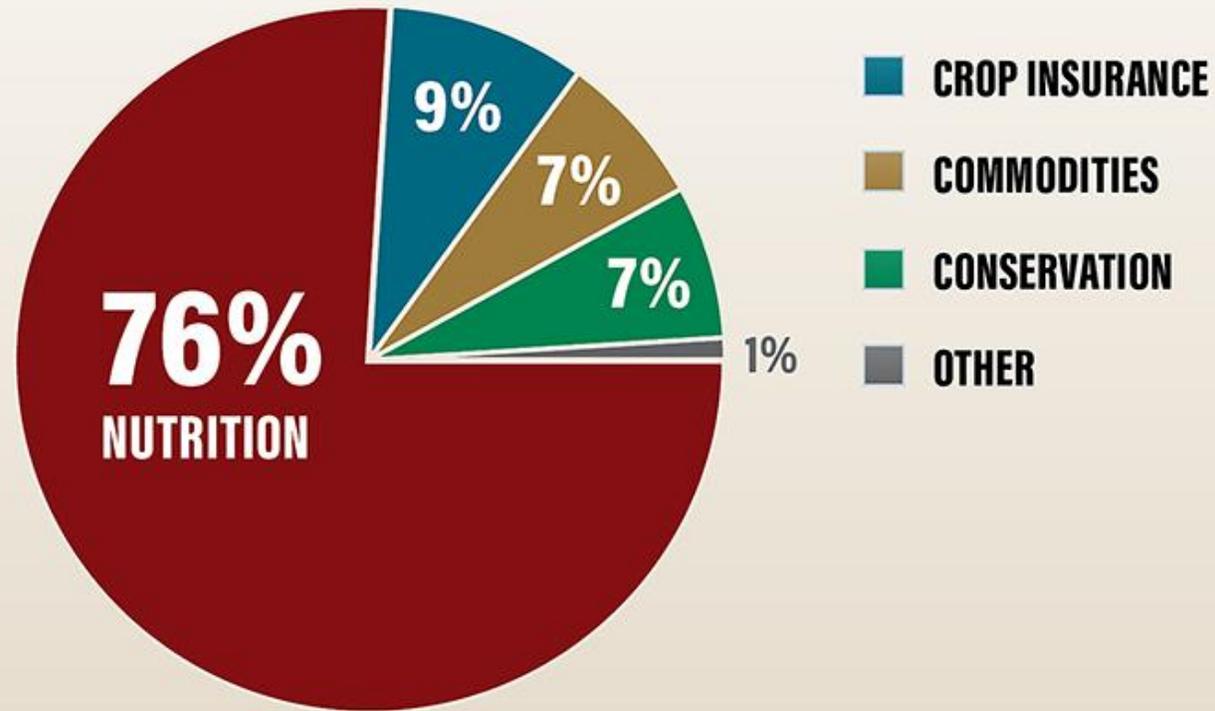
The logo features a green, curved shape resembling a leaf or a stylized arch above the word "Cargill". The word "Cargill" is written in a bold, black, italicized serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the right of the word.

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We are the flour in your bread, the wheat in your noodles, the salt on your fries. We are the corn in your tortillas, the chocolate in your dessert, the sweetener in your soft drink. We are the oil in your salad dressing and the beef, pork or chicken you eat for dinner. We are the cotton in your clothing, the backing on your carpet and the fertilizer in your field.<sup>7</sup>



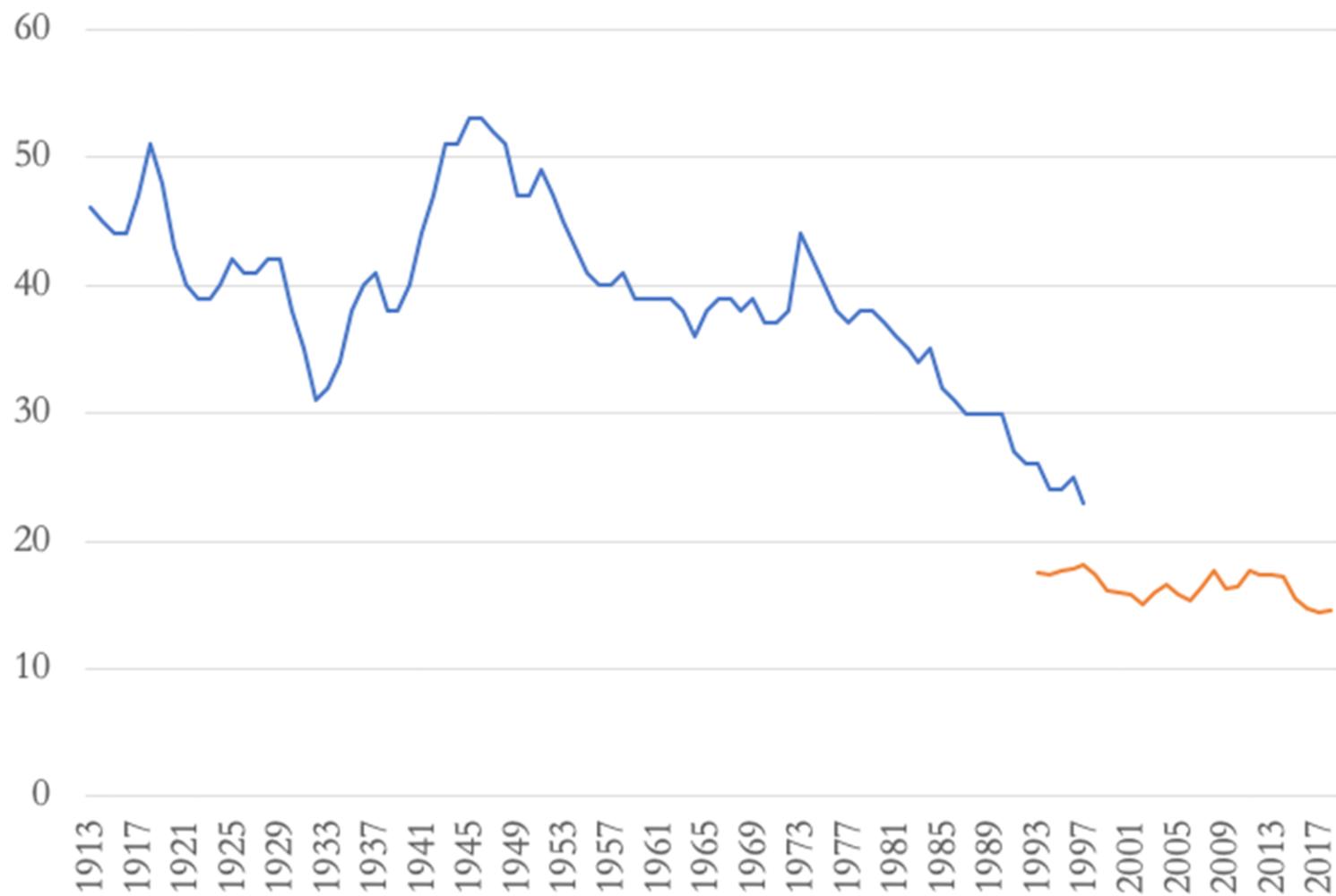
# THE FARM BILL BUDGET



2018 Farm Act, 2019 to 2023

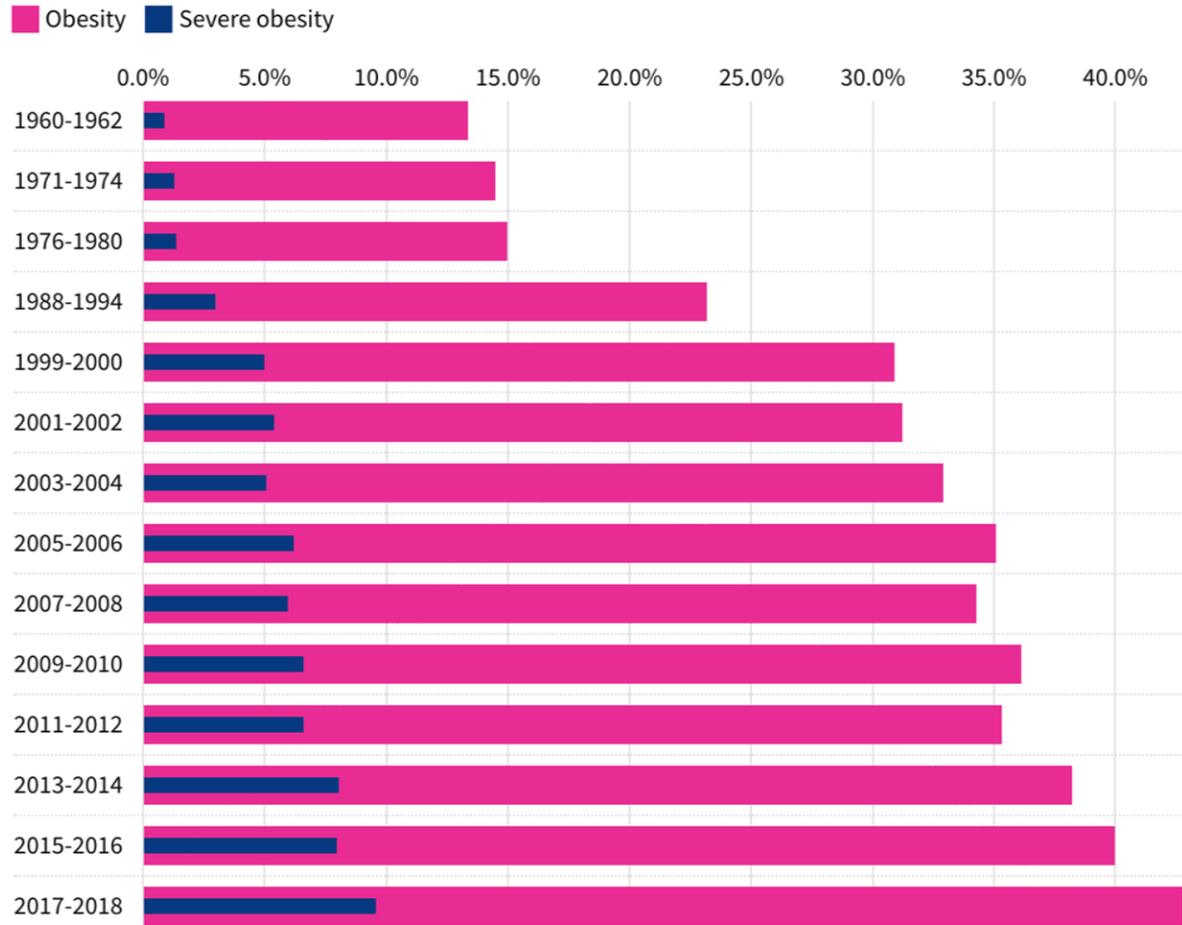
SOURCE: USDA; ILLUSTRATION: FARM JOURNAL

### Percent of Consumer Food Dollar to Farmers



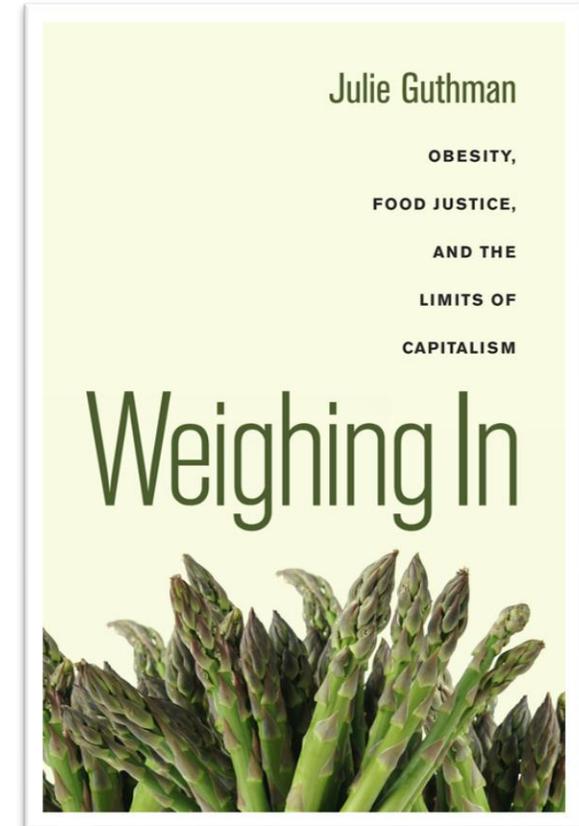
## Nationwide obesity rates have more than tripled since the 1960s.

Age-adjusted nationwide obesity and severe obesity rates according to National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys



This accounts for the population between the ages of 20-74. The obesity category already includes severe obesity.

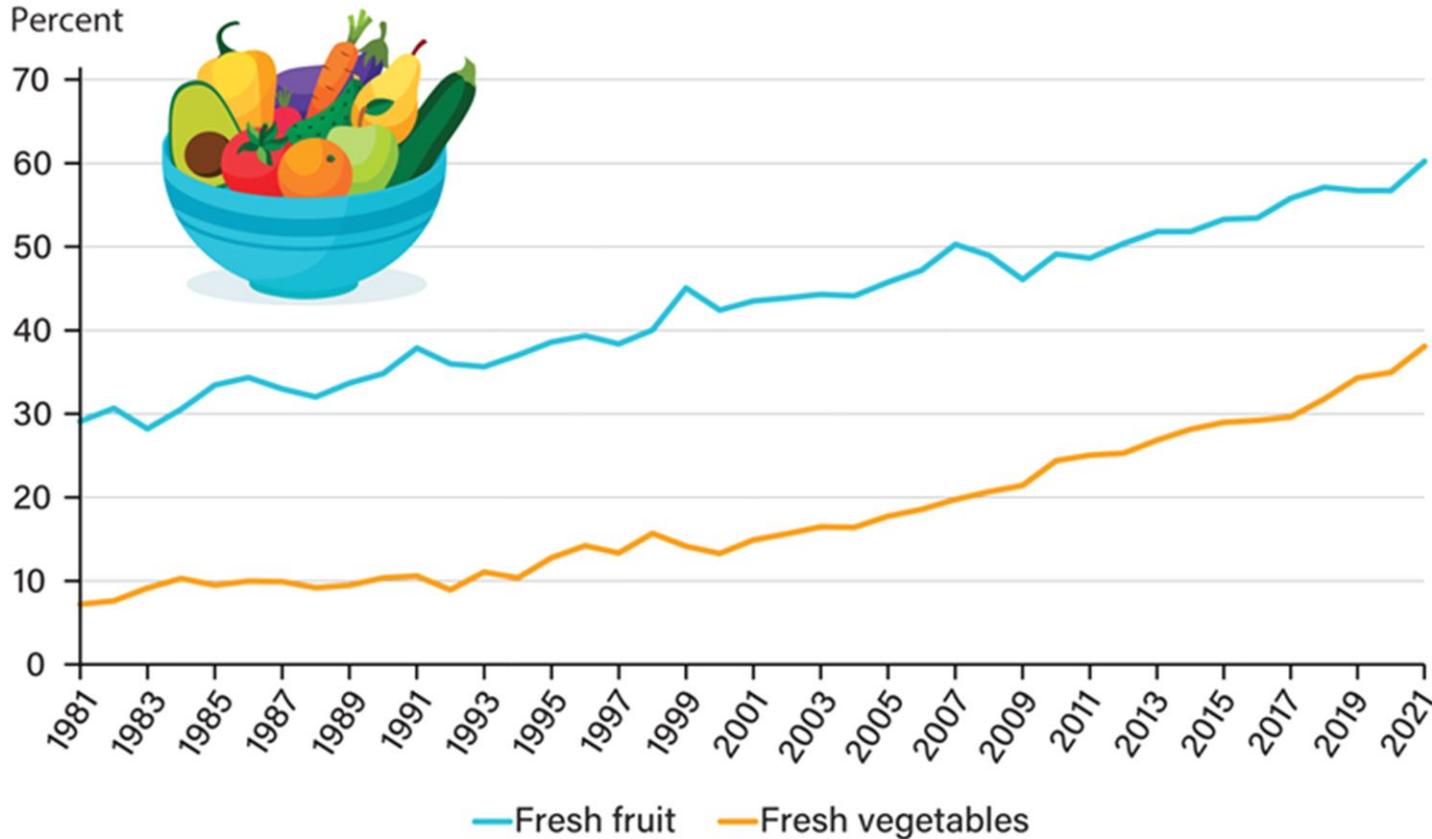
Source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics](#)





# Imports as a share of U.S. fresh fruit and vegetable availability, 2007-21

USDA Economic Research Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

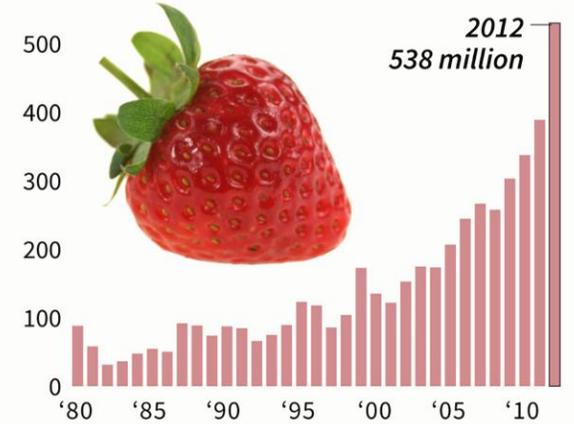


Note: Availability is calculated as production minus exports plus imports and is measured in terms of volume. The calculation for fresh vegetables excludes potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS) Fruit and Tree Nuts Yearbook Data and Vegetables and Pulses Yearbook Data.

## A Growing Business

MEXICAN STRAWBERRY EXPORTS TO U.S.  
600 MILLION POUNDS

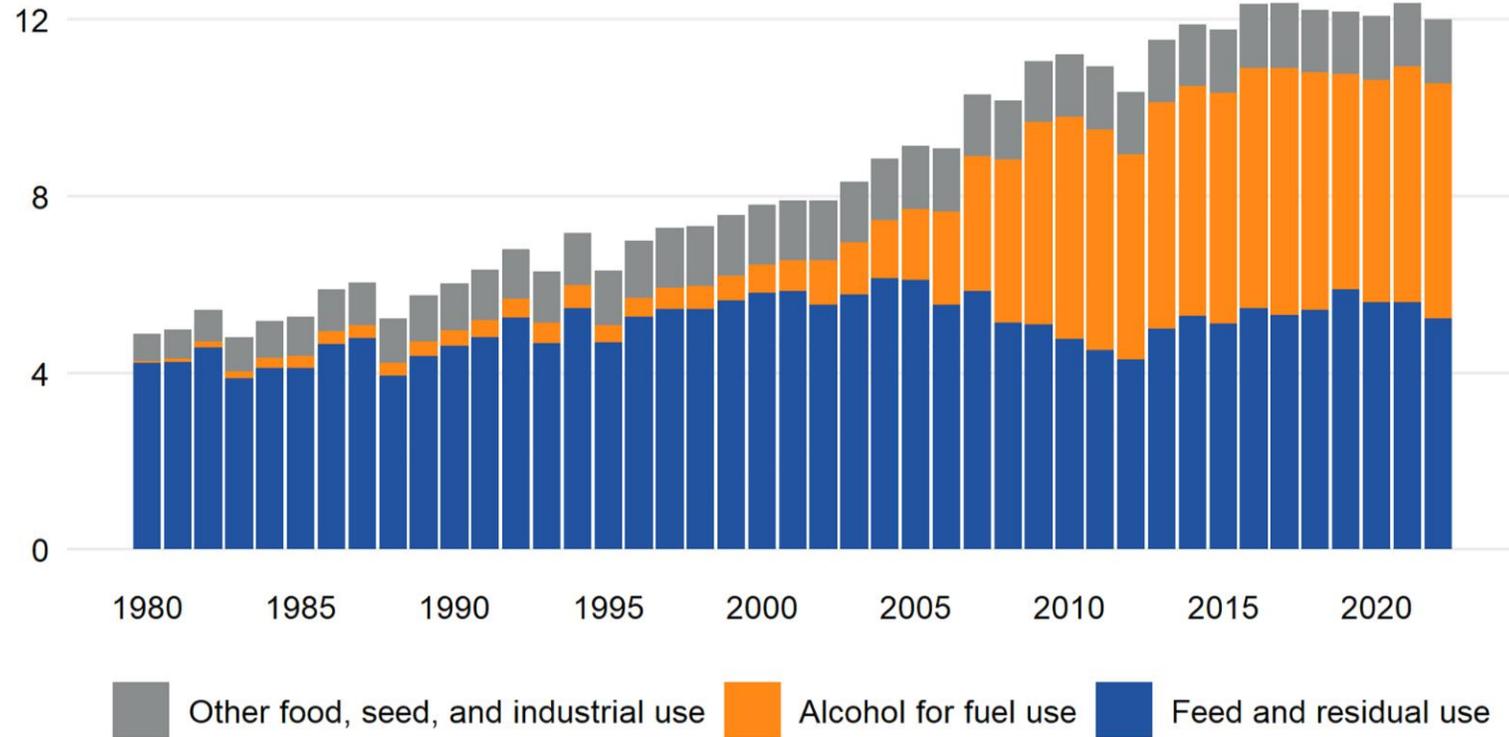


Source: Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

BILL LANE CENTER FOR THE AMERICAN WEST  
NICK YOUNGSON/ALPHA STOCK (CC 3.0)

## U.S. domestic corn use

Billion bushels



Updated: September 2022.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**AP** WORLD U.S. POLITICS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS SCIENCE FACT CHECK ODDITIES MORE

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U.S. NEWS

### The vast majority of US adults are stressed about grocery costs, an AP-NORC poll finds

FRESH ALL NATURAL EXTRA LARGE SHRIMP  
26-30 ct. per lb. - steamed free of charge  
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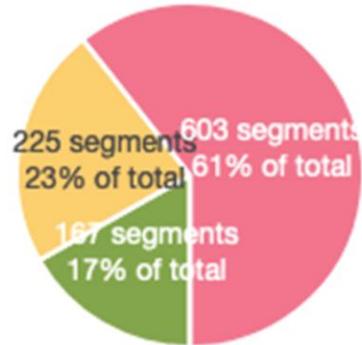
The vast majority of U.S. adults are at least somewhat stressed about the cost of groceries, a new poll finds, as prices continue to rise and concerns about the impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs remain widespread.

BY CORA LEWIS AND LINLEY SANDERS  
Updated 2:46 PM EDT, August 4, 2025

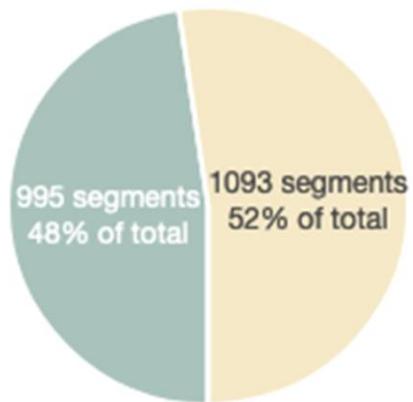
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## Rivers and Streams

Fully meet WQ Standards Potentially Impaired Impaired

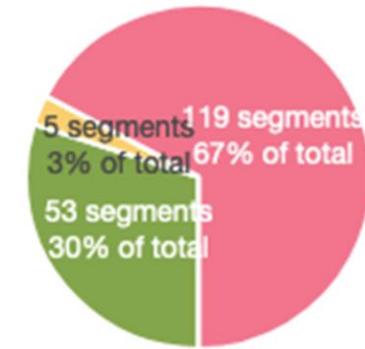


Assessed Not Assessed

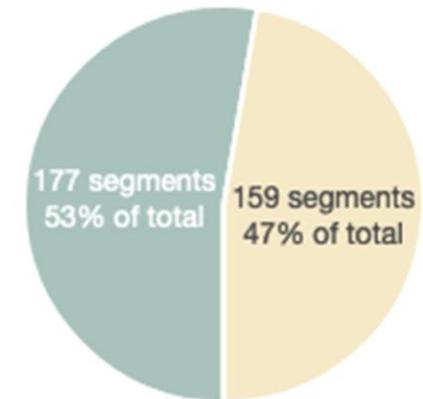


## Lakes and Reservoirs

Fully meet WQ Standards Potentially Impaired Impaired

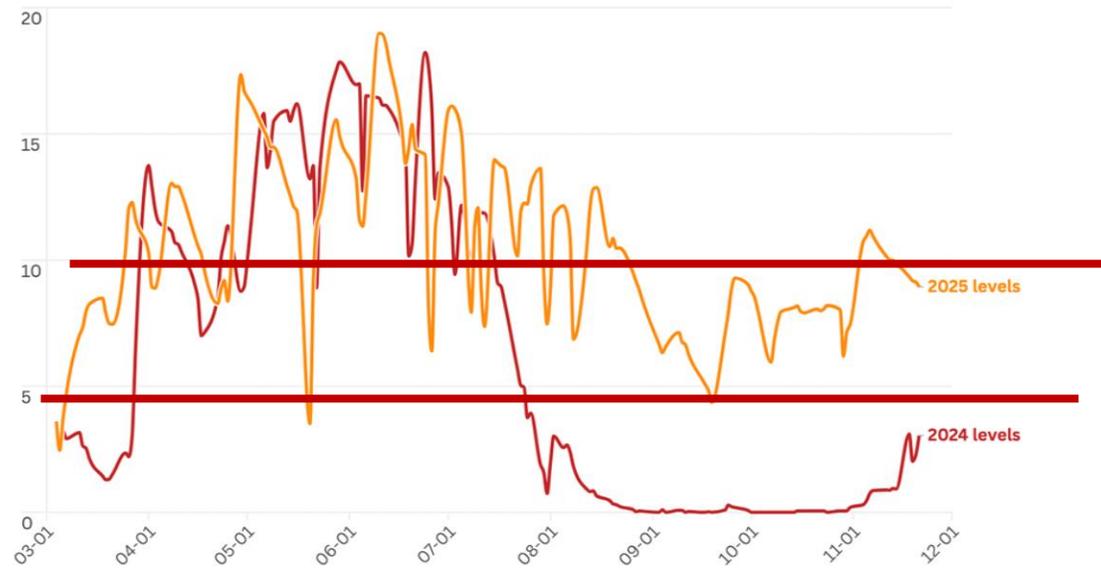


Assessed Not Assessed



### Raccoon River nitrate concentrations in 2024 and 2025

Nitrate concentrations in mg/L



Source: [Des Moines Water Works advanced water quality data](#) • To account for uneven testing days year-to-year, this graph shows days where samples were recorded both years.

Graphic by Cami Koons/Iowa Capital Dispatch

MORE STORIES

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Study: Rural Linn County needs 661 more units by 2040

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# Iowa has second-highest cancer rate; only state with cancer cases rising

'I think it's just a lot of things collectively that we need to do as a population'



Vanessa Miller

Feb. 28, 2023 4:39 pm, Updated: Mar. 1, 2023 9:16 am

MORE STORIES

University of Iowa dropping DEI-associated 'living learning communities,' councils

84-unit apartment complex proposed for Iowa City

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HOME / NEWS / EDUCATION / HIGHER ED

# Iowa maintains fastest-growing cancer rate as survivor numbers grow

'Iowa needs more services throughout the state to provide survivorship care to the growing number of cancer survivors,' new report says



Vanessa Miller

Feb. 25, 2025 10:32 am, Updated: Feb. 26, 2025 10:04 am

Why you can trust The Gazette

# The mysterious rise of cancer among young adults in the Corn Belt

Carpets of corn cover the mid-America landscape. (Video: The Washington Post)

In Iowa, young cancer patients are making the small state a bellwether of a generational reckoning.

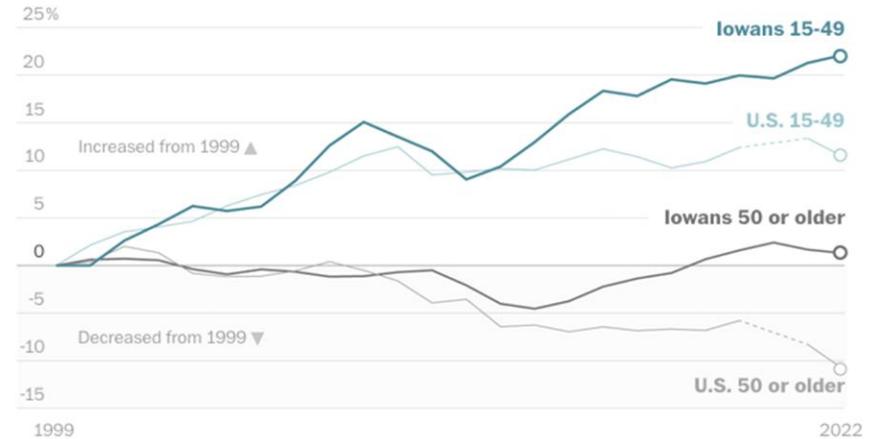
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19 min Summary 1,455

By [Ariana Eunjung Cha](#), [Dan Keating](#), [Jahi Chikwendiu](#) and [Luis Melgar](#)

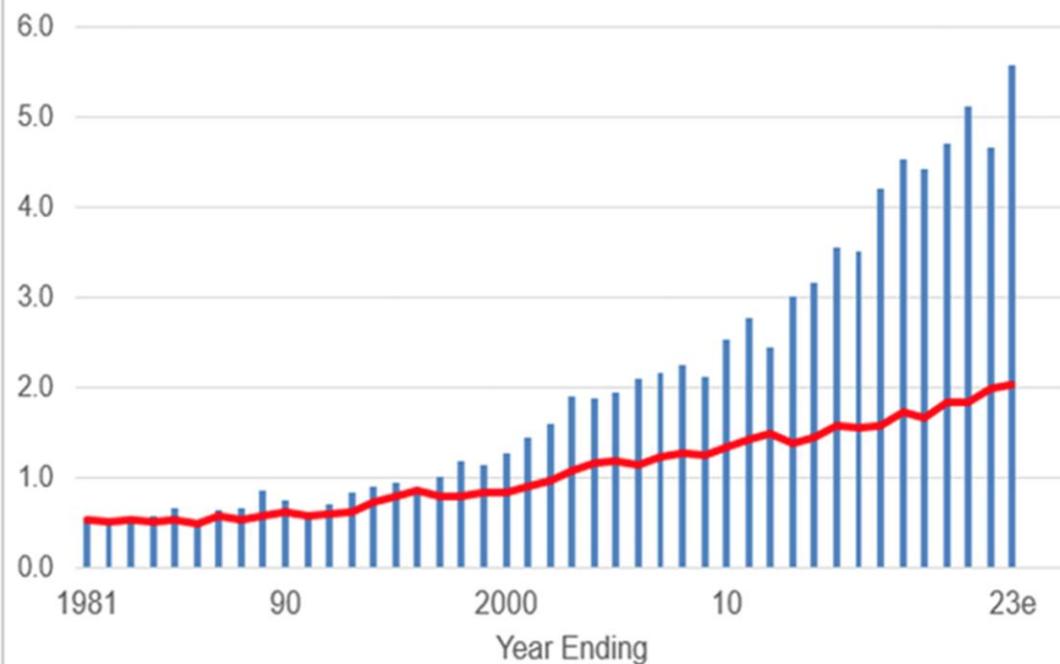
## Cancer rates rising for young adults

Nationally, cancer prevalence for adults 50 or older has declined since 1999, while rates for adults under 50 have risen. In Iowa, rates for younger adults have risen more than the nation as a whole.



U.S. data for 2020 was omitted because of changes in diagnoses during the covid-19 pandemic. Iowa data shows three-year averages.

### Brazil Soybean Production vs. Use (bb) 1981 to Present



If USDA is correct and the weather cooperates, Brazil will harvest 5.58 billion bushels of soybeans in 2023, the 10th time the country has produced a record soybean crop since 2010. (DTN ProphetX chart by Todd Hultman).

Opinion **beyondbrics**

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## Colombia: Cargill accused of overbuying land



Andres Schipani OCTOBER 2 2013

“

Between 2010 and 2012, Cargill – the largest agricultural commodities trader in the world – acquired 52,576 hectares of such land in Colombia’s Altillanura region through 36 shell companies created for that purpose. As a result, Cargill may have managed to evade the legal restriction through a method of fragmented purchases, exceeding the maximum size of land permitted by law for a single owner by 30 times.

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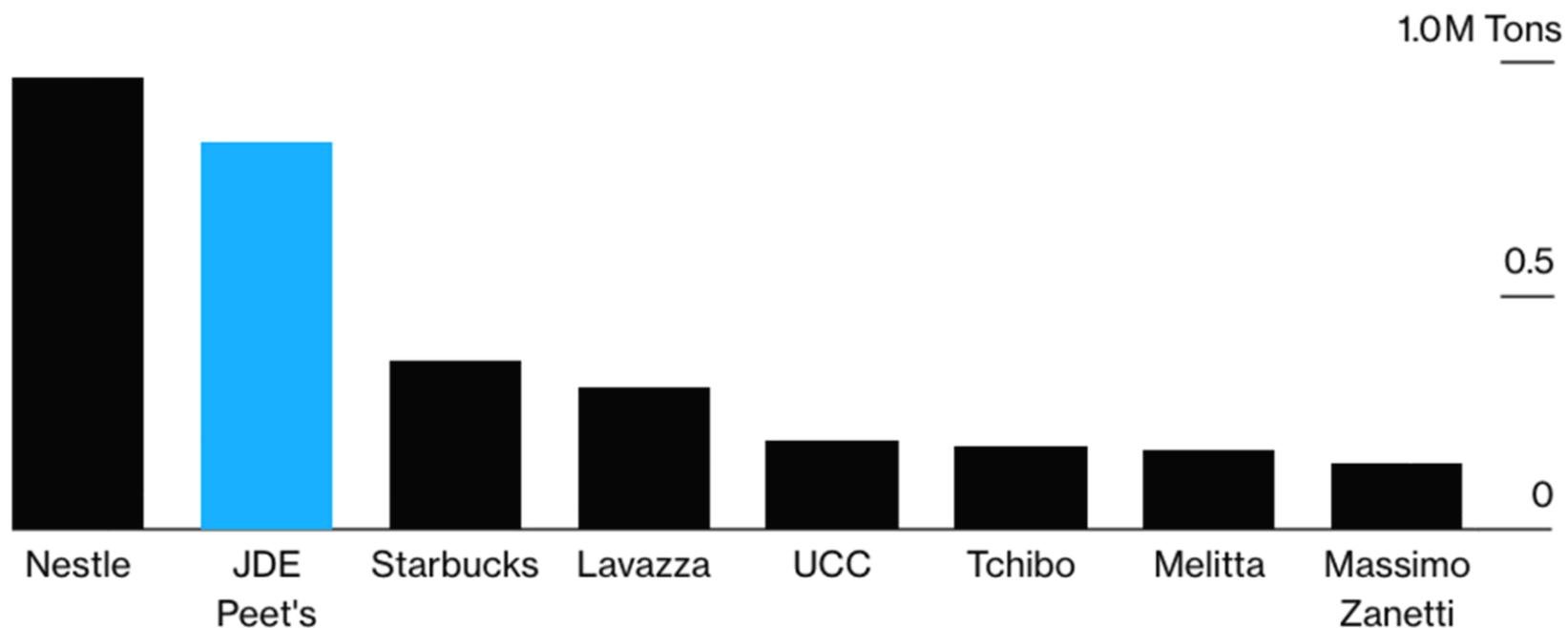


STUMPTOWN  
COFFEE ROASTERS



## JDE Peet's Is One of the World's Biggest Coffee Suppliers

Coffee volume processed by roasters



Source: Solidaridad, 2023 Coffee Barometer, <https://coffeebarometer.org/>







## Kroger's mountain town pricing strategy under scrutiny in Colorado merger trial

A Kroger executive testified on a City Market "mountain no-comp zone" where a grocer raised prices to cover its rising costs.

Bernadette Berdychowski bernadette.berdychowski@denvergazette.com Oct 1, 2024 Updated 18 hrs ago



# FASCISM IN ACTION

A DOCUMENTED STUDY AND ANALYSIS  
OF FASCISM IN EUROPE

PREPARED AT THE INSTANCE AND  
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT PATMAN  
OF TEXAS

BY

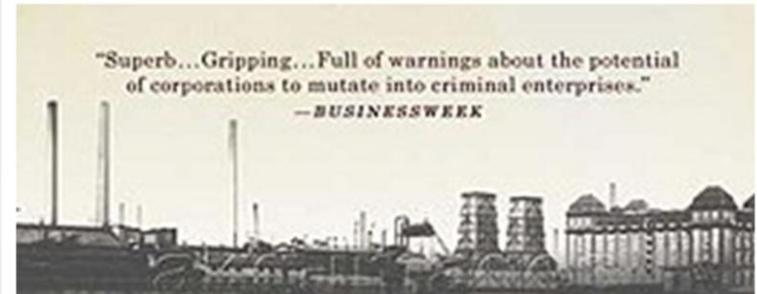
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## Why This Coffee Giant Is Staying Put in Russia

Owner of Peet's Coffee is renaming a major brand, rejiggering supply chains and hitting back at those who say it should exit country

By [Saabira Chaudhuri](#) [Follow](#)

Updated Aug. 18, 2023 4:30 pm ET

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

DIVE BRIEF

## Keurig Dr Pepper inks sales and distribution deal for Black Rifle Energy Drinks

The new beverage line is expected to launch in the fourth quarter and be available nationwide in early 2025. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Published Sept. 6, 2024

Christopher Doering  
Senior Reporter

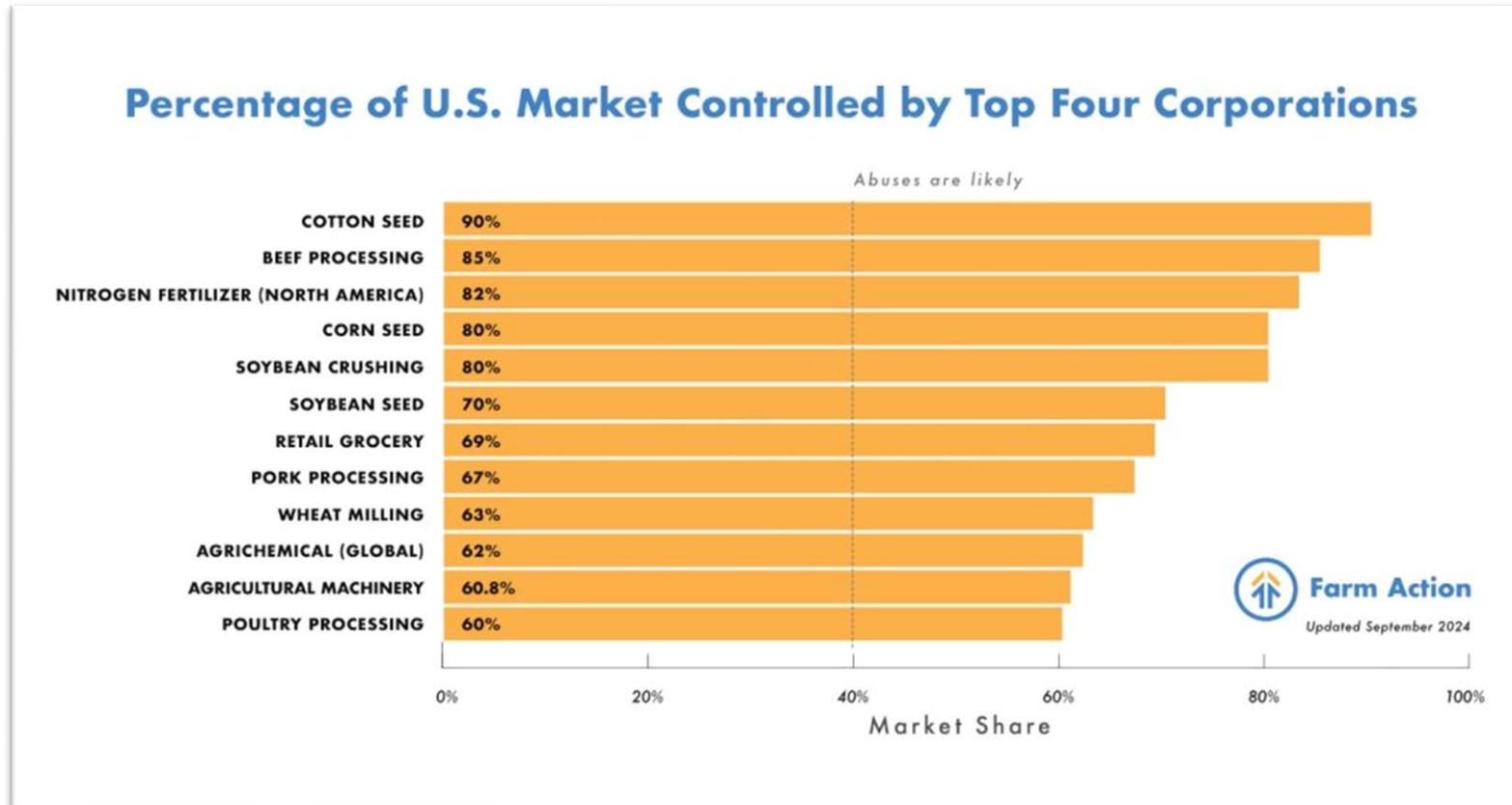
[in](#) [f](#) [X](#) [p](#) [e](#) [t](#)



Retrieved from [Black Rifle Coffee](#).

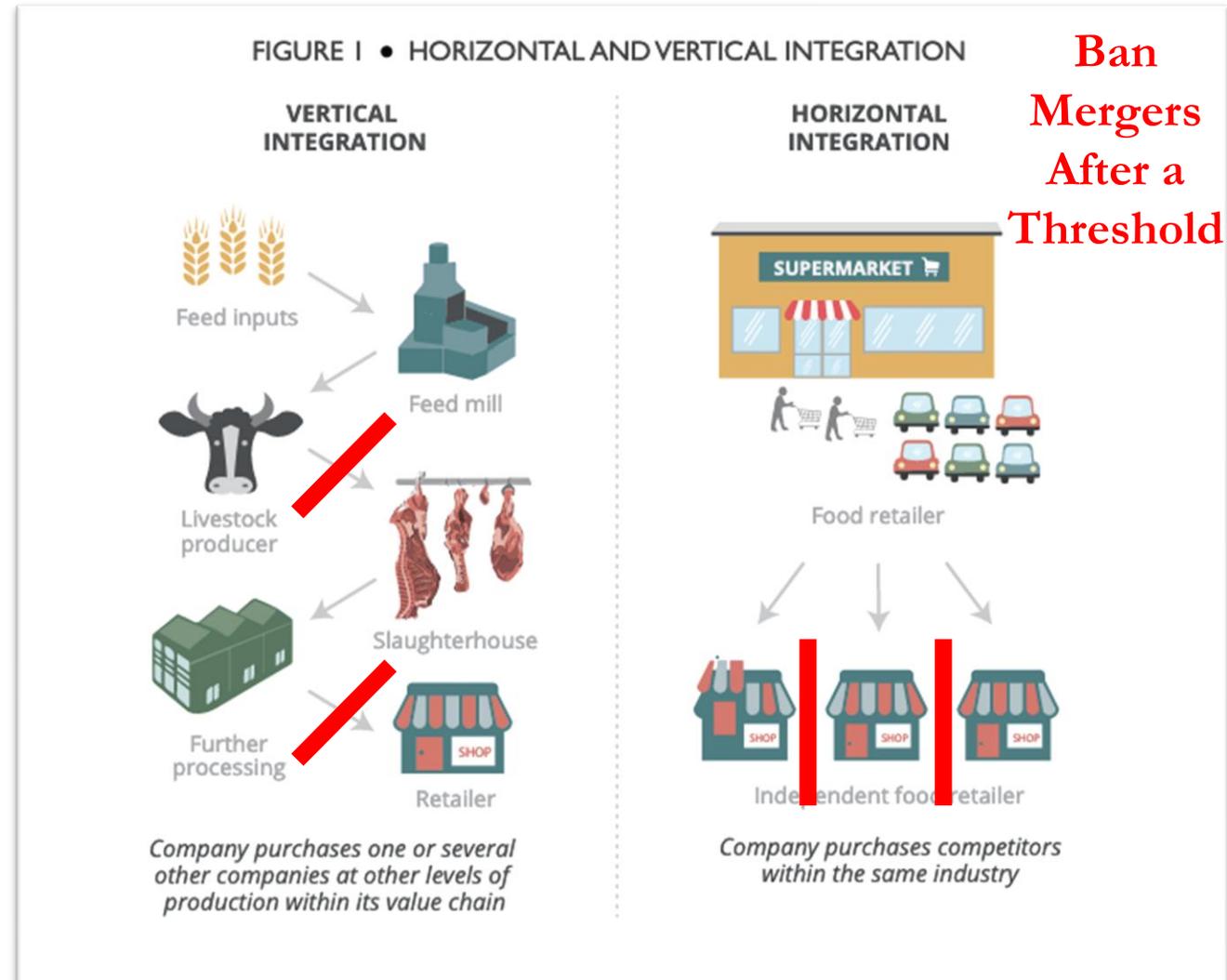
# Ideas

## 1. Concentration Study



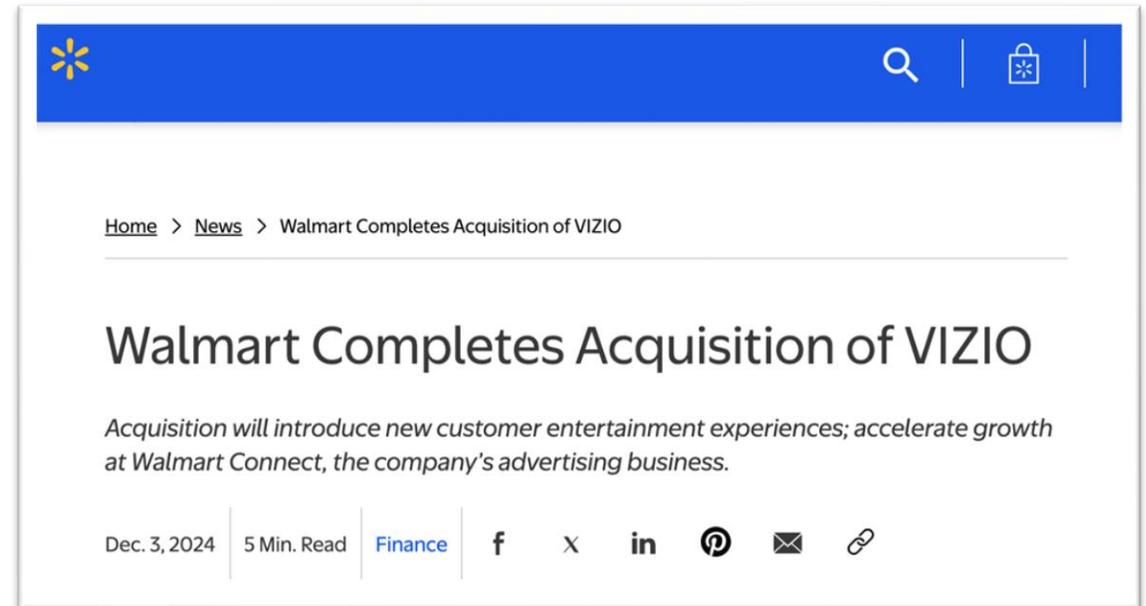
# Ideas

## 2. Brightline Rules (Packer Ban)



# Ideas

## 3. Ban Slotting Fees



Home > News > Walmart Completes Acquisition of VIZIO

### Walmart Completes Acquisition of VIZIO

Acquisition will introduce new customer entertainment experiences; accelerate growth at Walmart Connect, the company's advertising business.

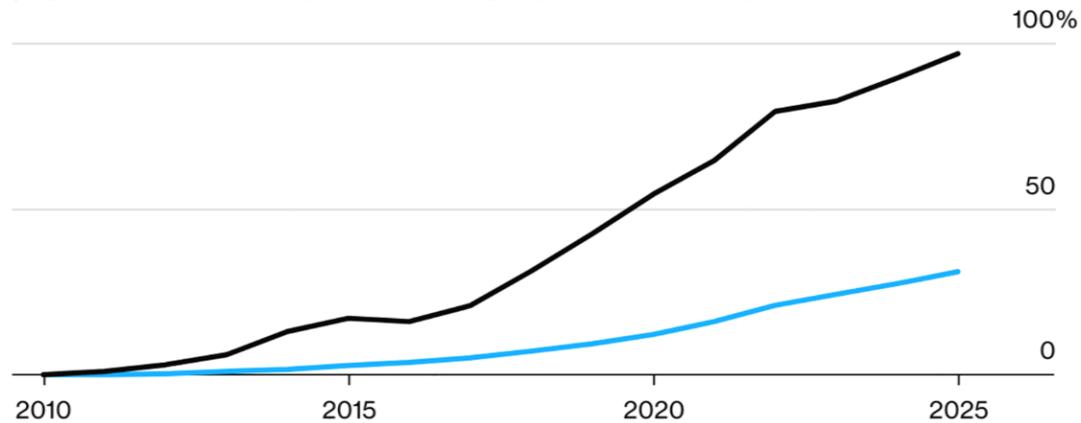
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# Ideas

## 4. Animals back on the Land

### A Norwegian EV Boom

▬ Electric vehicles as share of sales    ▬ Electric vehicles as share of fleet



Sources: Bloomberg, OFV

Note: 2024 is as of November. 2025 is projected based on the prior years' growth rate.



# Ideas

## 5. Institutional Buyers



# Ideas

## 6. Higher Out-of-State Farmland Taxes



RANK	NAME	TOTAL ACRES	ABOUT	2026 UPDATE
1.	 Stan Kroenke	2,700,000	<a href="#">View profile</a>	STAN KROENKE IS AMERICA'S LARGEST PRIVATE landowner. In December, Kroenke acquired the single-largest land parcel in the world, more than a decade's worth of ranching, from the heirs of Telesforo Angleton (1916-1999).
2.	 Emmerson Family	2,440,000	<a href="#">View profile</a>	THE LARGEST PRIVATE TIMBERLAND OWNER in the nation, the Emmersons' Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) has long been recognized as one of America's leading forest-products companies.
3.	 John Malone	2,200,000	<a href="#">View profile</a>	A joint project between the Malone Family Land Preservation Foundation and The Land Institute, the PERENNIAL AGRICULTURE PROJECT is dedicated to science-based research and developing food-production methods that sustain both land and soil.
4.	 Ted Turner	2,000,000  View Land Holdings	<a href="#">View profile</a>	SEASON OF SABBATICAL debuts in January at Vermejo, the crown jewel of Ted Turner Reserves. Voted the World's Best Resort Hotel in the West by readers of <i>Travel + Leisure</i> magazine, the historic 558,000-acre ranch in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado offers an array of experiences, including alpine tundra, 19 fishable lakes, and a herd of bison 1,200 strong.
5.	 Reed Family	1,615,000	<a href="#">View profile</a>	A TWO-DECADE EFFORT to restore ancestral land along the Klamath River culminated in May with the transfer of 47,097 acres belonging to the Reeds' Green Diamond Resource Company, a move that more than doubled the land holdings of Northern California's Yurok Tribe.

**My vision for the American food system is that any American can sit down in a local restaurant and enjoy a meal where those that grew, picked, processed, transported, cooked, and served it all make a reasonable living at a fair price.**

