

COOPERATIVES IN MINNESOTA

Cooperatives and Minnesota's Economy

According to the most recent study by the USDA Rural Development Service, Minnesota cooperatives represent:

- 3.4 million cooperative members
- More than \$15 billion in gross revenues
- 46,000 local employees
- \$64 million in taxes paid

Minnesota is home to the nation's largest number of cooperatives:

Grain, Farm Supply, and Fuel

- Approximately 200 retail agricultural grain and farm supply cooperatives provide crop inputs, animal feed, grain marketing, and petroleum products.
- Fortune 500 companies CHS Inc. and Land O'Lakes are two of Minnesota's largest employers, with combined revenues of more than \$26 billion nationally.

Dairy

- Minnesota dairy cooperatives market more than 90 percent of the milk produced in the state.

Electric

- Minnesota has 43 electric co-ops that distribute electricity statewide. Two of them (Great River Energy and East River Electric) generate and transmit power to 730,000 members.

Housing

- Minnesota is a leader in housing cooperatives, particularly in senior housing.
- The state is home to more than 70 senior housing co-ops, which is more than double all other states combined.

Farm Credit Services

- Minnesota's federally chartered farm credit cooperatives serve Minnesota farm families and agribusinesses with \$3.8 billion in loans.
- AgriBank is the largest farm credit bank in the U.S. with more than \$56.7 billion in annual loan volume.

Credit Unions

- There are approximately 152 credit unions in Minnesota.

Health Care

- HealthPartners HMO is a 1.1 million member not-for-profit health care provider that operates on cooperative principles.

Bioenergy

- Minnesota has the most cooperatively-owned ethanol plants in the nation and is a leader in biodiesel production.

Food

- The Twin Cities metro area has the highest concentration of food co-ops of any metro area in the U.S.

Telephone/Telecommunications

- Local telephone co-ops offer advanced telecommunications services to help rural Minnesota compete in a world economy.

Sugar

- Nearly 96 percent of Minnesota's sugar production occurs at co-op facilities.

Consumer

- Includes grocery and worker-owned cooperatives.

