**MYTH:** Crop insurance makes it more difficult for beginning farmers and ranchers to enter the farming business.

**FACT:** The 2014 Farm Bill included provisions to make crop insurance an even better risk management tool for beginning farmers and ranchers. These provisions have only been implemented for one full year yet have had a meaningful impact.

- More than 16,000 farmers utilized the beginning farmer and rancher benefits in crop insurance in reinsurance year 2017.
- These farmers insured more than 4 million acres of farmland.
- The beginning farmer and rancher benefits include a higher premium discount as well as assistance in more quickly building a yield history in line with what the land produced prior to being operated by a beginning farmer or rancher.
- Almost every single state already has beginning farmers and ranchers utilizing these benefits.
- The ability of beginning farmers and ranchers to purchase crop insurance can be linked to their ability to obtain credit as well.

**BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER POLICIES BY COUNTY**

Reinsurance Year 2017

Source: Risk Management Agency, USDA