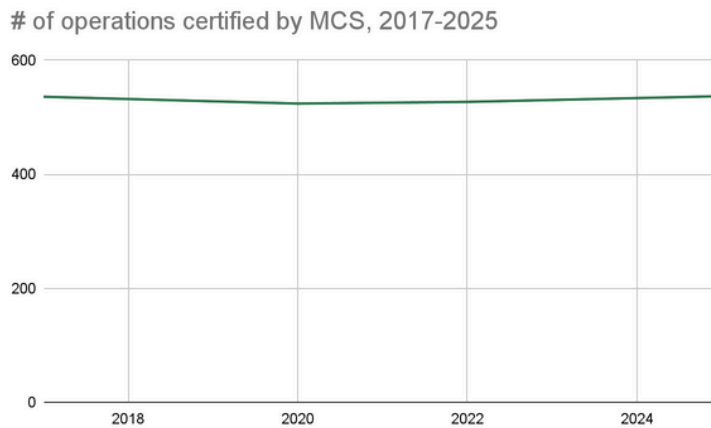


# Shifting Trends: Analysis of Operations Certified by MOFGA Certification Services, 2017-2025

## The number of MCS-certified operations has held steady from 2017-2025.

MOFGA Certification Services (MCS) certified 536 operations in 2017. This number dropped to 524 in 2020, increased to 527 in 2022, then climbed again to 537 by 2025.

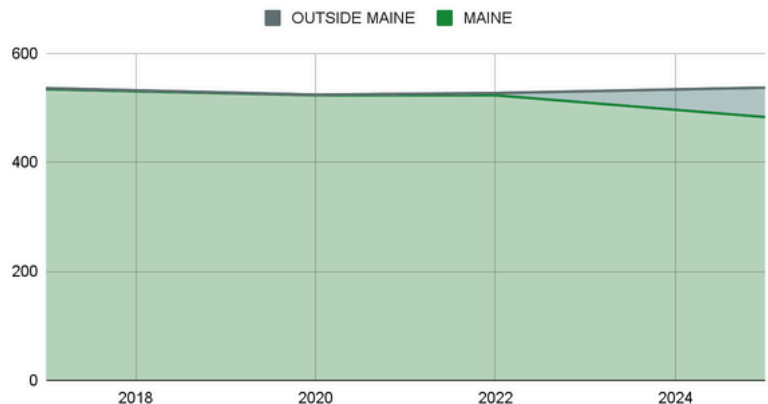


## This growth is driven by certifying new operations outside of Maine.

MCS has increased the number of operations outside of Maine that it certifies over the same time period (2017 to 2025). In 2017, MCS certified three operations outside of Maine; by 2025, that number climbed to 54. Over the same time period, the number of MCS-certified Maine-based operations dropped from 536 to 483.

Much of this growth came from New Hampshire. MCS has been certifying operations in New Hampshire for many years but saw significant increases in the number of operations in New Hampshire in both 2022 (when the New Hampshire-based certifying agency dropped the processing and livestock scopes from their National Organic Program accredited services), and 2024 (when it dropped NOP accreditation altogether).

Operations Certified by MCS: Maine and Outside Maine



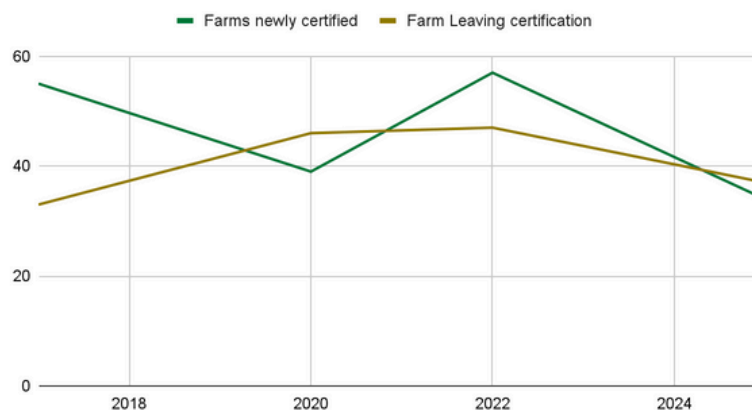
# Shifting Trends: Analysis of Operations Certified by MOFGA Certification Services, 2017-2025

## Operations leaving certification vs. newly certified operations.

Overall, the number of new certified operations outpaced the operations leaving MCS certification until 2020, when the operations leaving spiked for two years; starting in 2022, newly certified operations again began to outpace operations leaving until 2025 (when they drew close to even).

Between 2017 and 2025, MCS saw a surrender rate of 8% (certified operations dropping or leaving certification), while seeing a 9% new entry rate (operations becoming certified).

Operations newly certified and Operations Leaving certification



## Conclusion

MOFGA Certification Services has maintained the number of operations it certifies from 2017 (536) to 2025 (537). Since 2021, MCS has certified more operations outside of Maine, while the number of Maine operations has decreased. So, this similar number of MCS-certified operations from 2017-2025 shows that MCS has diversified itself geographically in order to maintain its client base and serve other regions who need certification services.

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Compiled by Jed Beach, of FarmSmart, as an addendum to MOFGA's Economic Impact Report.

By Jed Beach, FarmSmart  
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