FOOD INDUSTRY MERGERS BY STATE*

*State refers to headquarters of company acquired.

MOST POPULAR STATES

1. California (44)
2. Illinois (28)
3. Texas (21)
4. New York (19)
5. Colorado (15)
6. Wisconsin (15)

MOST POPULAR CITIES

1. Chicago (12)
2. New York (11)
3. Los Angeles (7)
4. San Francisco (6)
5. Denver (5)
6. Minneapolis (5)
Agricultural cooperatives took part in eight deals in 2018, a 166% increase from the previous year. Three acquisitions were of processing and storage facilities, while two were of fruit and vegetable processors and packers.

The category saw a sharp decline in 2015, dropping to zero from seven deals in 2014. However, it has been steadily making its way back up, increasing every year since.

**TOP DEALS**

- Ocean Spray Cranberries acquired Atoka Cranberries from The Bieler Group.
- The Andersons Inc. acquired Lansing Trade Group, a company focused on the movement of agricultural commodities.
- Cargill sold its grain and crop inputs retail assets in Ontario, Canada, to La Coop federee.