

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service



HOWARD MARYLAND

Land in farms

Decreased 11 percent from 44,623 acres in 1992 to 39,846 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 7 percent from 117 acres in 1992 to 125 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 28 percent from 177 farms in 1992 to 127 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

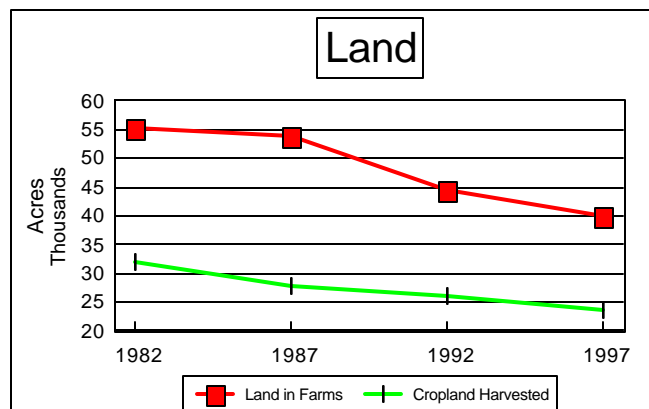
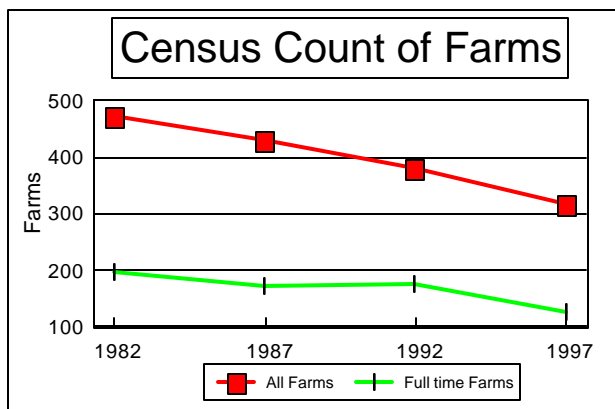
Increased 3 percent to \$19,610,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 62 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 38 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 24 percent from \$49,605 in 1992 to \$61,667 in 1997.



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Ranked Items Within State and U.S., 1997

Item	Quantity	State		U.S.	
		Rank	Universe*	Rank	Universe*
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	19,610	18	23	2,122	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	12,086	18	23	1,639	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	7,524	17	23	2,084	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	8,664	7	23	248	2,790
Dairy products	3,257	11	21	825	2,563
Horses and ponies	2,289	6	23	39	3,015
Cattle and calves	1,356	11	23	2,395	3,063
Corn for grain	1,072	19	23	1,310	2,582
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Turkeys sold	(D)	2	17	377	1,353
Cattle and calves sold	3,370	10	23	2,421	3,063
Hogs and pigs sold	2,158	17	23	1,521	2,976
Sheep and lambs sold	359	12	21	1,428	2,765
Horses and ponies sold	166	6	23	470	3,015
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	6,321	10	23	2,454	3,064
Hogs and pigs inventory	1,254	16	23	1,506	3,005
Horse and pony inventory	1,032	8	23	709	3,066
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	604	19	23	1,529	3,002
Sheep and lamb inventory	477	13	23	1,434	2,864
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Corn for grain-acres	7,632	16	23	1,168	2,691
Hay crops-acres	6,502	10	23	2,090	3,061
Soybeans for beans-acres	4,717	20	23	1,222	2,144
Wheat-acres	2,211	19	23	1,392	2,612
Corn for silage-acres	1,595	11	23	802	2,473

Some counties do not have five commodities in a group.

Other County Summary Highlights

Item	1997	1992	Percent Change
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$10,000	209	268	-22
\$10,000 or more	109	114	-4
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	16,144	15,819	2
Average per farmdollars..	50,609	41,303	23
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	2,775	1,704	63
Average per farmdollars..	8,698	4,448	96
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	244	312	-22
Partnership or corporation	69	65	6
Other	5	5	
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	127	177	-28
Other	191	205	-7
Operators by sex:			
Male	262	317	-17
Female	56	65	-14
Operators by race:			
White	316	380	-17
Black and other races	2	2	
Average age of operator	56.9	55.9	2

(D) Cannot be disclosed. See "Census of Agriculture Volume 1 Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

* Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.