

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service



DORCHESTER MARYLAND

Land in farms

Decreased slightly from 123,762 acres in 1992 to 122,928 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 16 percent from 357 acres in 1992 to 414 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 12 percent from 214 farms in 1992 to 188 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

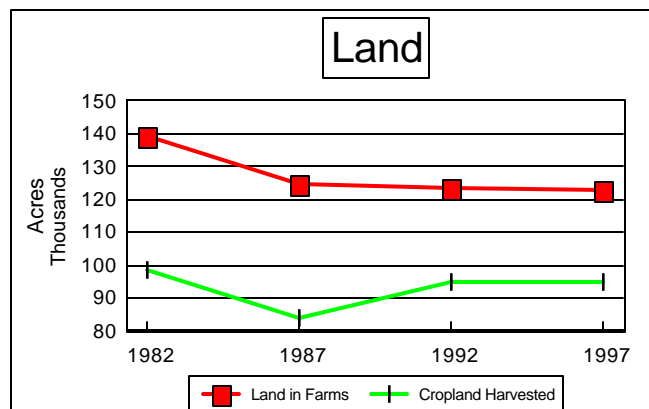
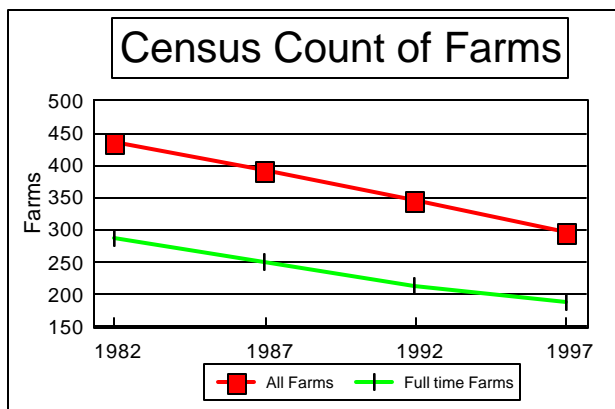
Increased 29 percent to \$82,391,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 42 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 58 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 50 percent from \$184,694 in 1992 to \$277,411 in 1997.



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MARYLAND

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	82,391	6	23	682	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	47,903	6	23	546	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	34,488	3	23	837	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Poultry & poultry products	47,074	5	23	130	2,901
Soybeans	12,874	2	23	464	2,136
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	7,032	1	23	144	2,739
Corn for grain	6,944	6	23	686	2,582
Wheat	3,588	4	23	478	2,578
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	19,794,937	5	21	99	1,882
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	301,960	6	22	259	2,203
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	2	21	155	2,200
Hogs and pigs sold	6,619	10	23	1,148	2,976
Cattle and calves sold	233	23	23	2,984	3,063
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Broiler inventory	3,983,055	5	22	81	2,620
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	185,000	1	19	83	2,549
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	35,460	10	23	647	3,002
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	(D)	5	22	302	2,884
Hogs and pigs inventory	2,529	11	23	1,248	3,005
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Soybeans for beans-acres	57,877	2	23	457	2,144
Corn for grain-acres	19,014	10	23	839	2,691
Wheat-acres	18,185	4	23	565	2,612
Land used for vegetables-acres	7,958	1	23	88	2,741
Sorghum for grain-acres	6,845	1	17	251	1,508

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	61	77	-21
\$10,000 or more	236	270	-13
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	69,980	49,541	41
Average per farmdollars..	234,833	143,182	64
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	10,605	11,178	-5
Average per farmdollars..	35,586	32,306	10
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	240	283	-15
Partnership or corporation	57	64	-11
Other			
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	188	214	-12
Other	109	133	-18
Operators by sex:			
Male	285	324	-12
Female	12	23	-48
Operators by race:			
White	284	340	-16
Black and other races	13	7	86
Average age of operator	53.5	51.3	4

(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.