

1997 Census of Agriculture State Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
New England Agricultural Statistics Service



MASSACHUSETTS

Land in farms

Decreased 2 percent from 526,440 acres in 1992 to 518,299 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 7 percent from 100 acres in 1992 to 93 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Increased slightly from 2,926 farms in 1992 to 2,927 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

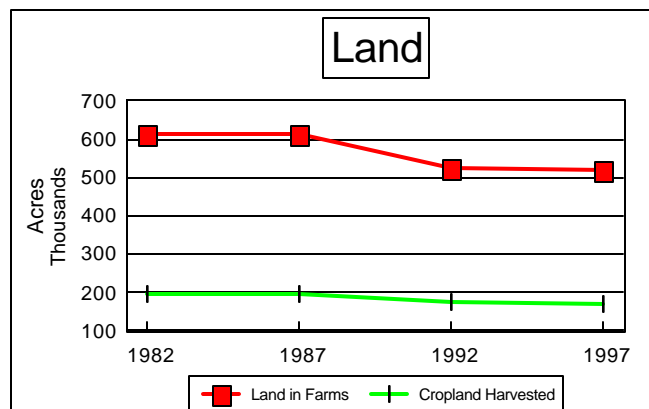
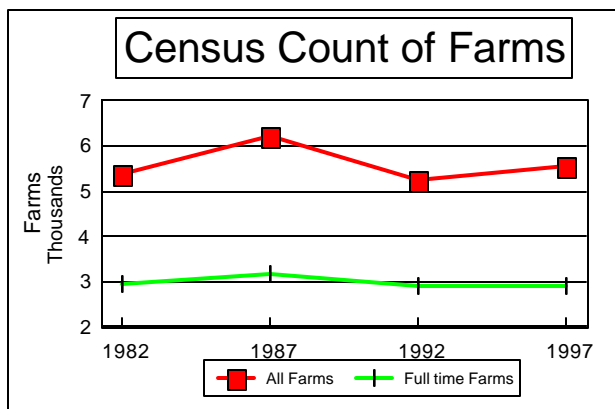
Increased 30 percent to \$454,404,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 79 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 21 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 22 percent from \$66,687 in 1992 to \$81,522 in 1997.



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Ranked Items Within U.S., 1997

Item	Quantity	U.S.	
		Rank	Universe*
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)			
Total value of agricultural products sold	454,404	43	50
Value of crops including nursery	357,377	39	50
Value of livestock and poultry	97,027	46	50
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)			
Fruits, nuts, berries	148,247	8	50
Nursery and greenhouse crops	128,192	23	50
Dairy products	59,773	38	50
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	37,438	26	50
Tobacco	23,807	12	21
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)			
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	38	50
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	(D)	35	50
Turkeys sold	93,226	27	49
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	93,045	33	50
Cattle and calves sold	24,849	45	50
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)			
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	556,206	40	50
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	126,647	36	50
Cattle and calves inventory	61,719	45	50
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	37,696	43	50
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	18,767	39	50
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA			
Hay crops-acres	100,218	44	50
Corn for silage-acres	22,813	37	49
Land used for vegetables-acres	15,855	29	50
Total berries-acres	15,047	6	49
All nursery-acres	6,891	33	50

Other State Summary Highlights

Item	1997	1992	Percent Change
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$10,000	2,987	2,883	4
\$10,000 or more	2,587	2,375	9
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	311,068	266,163	17
Average per farmdollars..	55,897	50,621	10
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	135,155	77,725	74
Average per farmdollars..	24,260	14,782	64
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	4,496	4,232	6
Partnership or corporation	997	950	5
Other	81	76	7
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	2,927	2,926	0
Other	2,647	2,332	14
Operators by sex:			
Male	4,648	4,437	5
Female	926	821	13
Operators by race:			
White	5,538	5,228	6
Black and other races	36	30	20
Average age of operator	54.9	53.8	2

(D) Cannot be disclosed. See "Census of Agriculture Volume 1 Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.
* Universe is number of states in U.S. with item.