

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
New England Agricultural Statistics Service



NORFOLK MASSACHUSETTS

Land in farms

Decreased slightly from 9,882 acres in 1992 to 9,869 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Unchanged from 53 acres in 1992 to 53 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Increased 3 percent from 90 farms in 1992 to 93 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

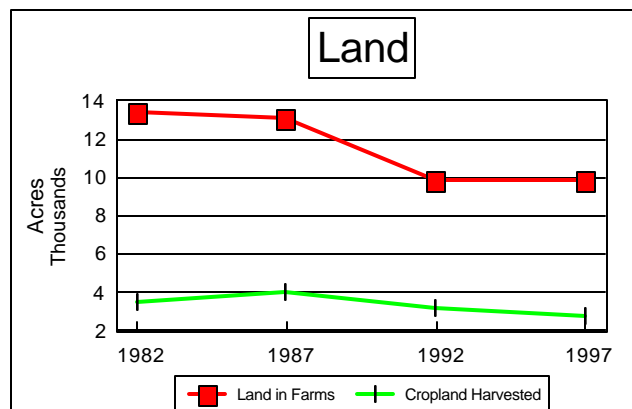
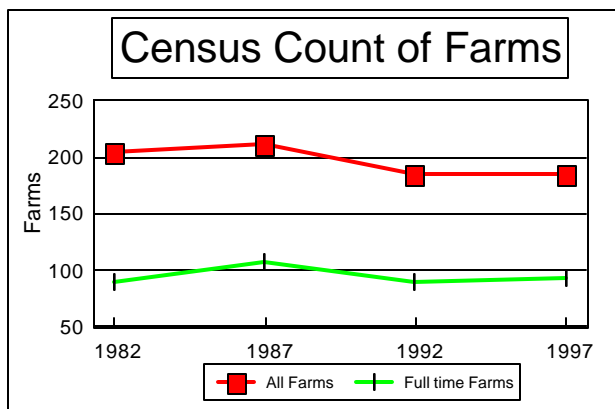
Decreased 7 percent to \$8,266,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 89 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 11 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Decreased 7 percent from \$48,002 in 1992 to \$44,680 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 | 8,266 | 11 | 14 | 2,602 | 3,076 |
| Value of crops including nursery | 7,340 | 11 | 14 | 1,936 | 3,070 |
| Value of livestock and poultry | 926 | 11 | 12 | 2,888 | 3,069 |
| TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000) | | | | | |
| Nursery and greenhouse crops | 5,533 | 7 | 14 | 360 | 2,790 |
| Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons | 1,139 | 10 | 14 | 510 | 2,739 |
| Dairy products | 589 | 10 | 11 | 1,665 | 2,563 |
| Fruits, nuts, berries | 502 | 11 | 13 | 460 | 2,547 |
| Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds | 163 | 10 | 13 | 2,470 | 3,043 |
| TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number) | | | | | |
| Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold | (D) | 6 | 12 | 924 | 2,203 |
| Hogs and pigs sold | 763 | 7 | 12 | 1,900 | 2,976 |
| Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold | (D) | 6 | 12 | 995 | 2,200 |
| Sheep and lambs sold | 365 | 10 | 12 | 1,419 | 2,765 |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold | (D) | 8 | 11 | 1,168 | 1,882 |
| TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number) | | | | | |
| Layers 20 weeks and older inventory | 3,934 | 5 | 12 | 865 | 3,002 |
| Hogs and pigs inventory | 1,011 | 6 | 12 | 1,600 | 3,005 |
| Cattle and calves inventory | 901 | 10 | 12 | 2,947 | 3,064 |
| Sheep and lamb inventory | 491 | 8 | 12 | 1,425 | 2,864 |
| Horse and pony inventory | 417 | 10 | 13 | 1,830 | 3,066 |
| TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA | | | | | |
| Hay crops-acres | 1,884 | 10 | 13 | 2,732 | 3,061 |
| Land used for vegetables-acres | 499 | 10 | 14 | 647 | 2,741 |
| Corn for silage-acres | (D) | 10 | 11 | 1,793 | 2,473 |
| All nursery-acres | 137 | 10 | 14 | 1,070 | 2,619 |
| Land in orchards-acres | 108 | 9 | 13 | 1,000 | 2,693 |

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 | 99 | 116 | -15 |
| \$10,000 or more | 86 | 70 | 23 |
| Total farm production expenses\$1,000.. | 6,351 | 7,236 | -12 |
| Average per farmdollars.. | 34,517 | 38,696 | -11 |
| Net cash return from agricultural sales | | | |
| for the farm unit\$1,000.. | 1,467 | 342 | 329 |
| Average per farmdollars.. | 7,974 | 1,829 | 336 |
| Farms by type of organization: | | | |
| Individual or family | 141 | 136 | 4 |
| Partnership or corporation | 38 | 46 | -17 |
| Other | 6 | 4 | 50 |
| OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS | | | |
| Operators by principal occupation: | | | |
| Farming | 93 | 90 | 3 |
| Other | 92 | 96 | -4 |
| Operators by sex: | | | |
| Male | 144 | 155 | -7 |
| Female | 41 | 31 | 32 |
| Operators by race: | | | |
| White | 181 | 185 | -2 |
| Black and other races | 4 | 1 | 300 |
| Average age of operator | 54.7 | 55.1 | -1 |

(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.