

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
New England Agricultural Statistics Service



WORCESTER MASSACHUSETTS

Land in farms

Decreased 10 percent from 114,805 acres in 1992 to 103,400 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 9 percent from 115 acres in 1992 to 105 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 10 percent from 542 farms in 1992 to 486 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

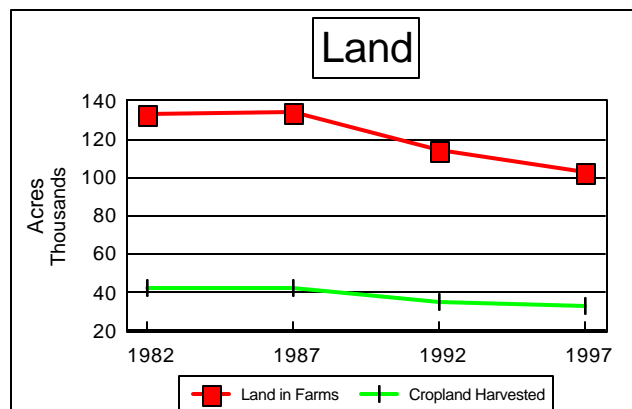
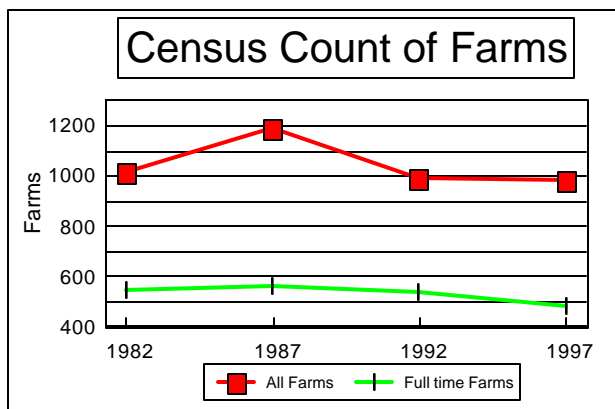
Increased 17 percent to \$57,949,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 55 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 45 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 18 percent from \$49,785 in 1992 to \$58,891 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	57,949	2	14	1,029	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	31,803	3	14	894	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	26,146	1	12	990	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	17,335	2	14	127	2,790
Dairy products	12,873	1	11	301	2,563
Poultry & poultry products	10,595	1	12	421	2,901
Fruits, nuts, berries	7,145	3	13	128	2,547
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	4,475	4	14	199	2,739
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	1	12	206	2,203
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	1	12	121	2,200
Turkeys sold	(D)	4	11	370	1,353
Cattle and calves sold	5,474	1	12	2,094	3,063
Hogs and pigs sold	4,193	4	12	1,295	2,976
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	471,094	1	12	162	3,002
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	(D)	1	12	127	2,549
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	(D)	1	9	265	1,790
Cattle and calves inventory	12,776	1	12	1,927	3,064
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	5,727	1	12	219	2,884
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	24,286	1	13	842	3,061
Corn for silage-acres	4,381	1	11	344	2,473
Land in orchards-acres	2,838	1	13	173	2,693
Land used for vegetables-acres	2,069	4	14	284	2,741
All nursery-acres	1,173	3	14	257	2,619

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	580	604	-4
\$10,000 or more	404	393	3
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	43,480	41,582	5
Average per farmdollars..	44,232	41,707	6
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	13,747	6,958	98
Average per farmdollars..	13,984	6,979	100
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	849	849	
Partnership or corporation	123	137	-10
Other	12	11	9
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	486	542	-10
Other	498	455	9
Operators by sex:			
Male	806	851	-5
Female	178	146	22
Operators by race:			
White	981	992	-1
Black and other races	3	5	-40
Average age of operator	55.9	55.0	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.