

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
New England Agricultural Statistics Service



ESSEX MASSACHUSETTS

Land in farms

Increased slightly from 25,470 acres in 1992 to 25,547 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 8 percent from 71 acres in 1992 to 65 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 3 percent from 208 farms in 1992 to 202 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

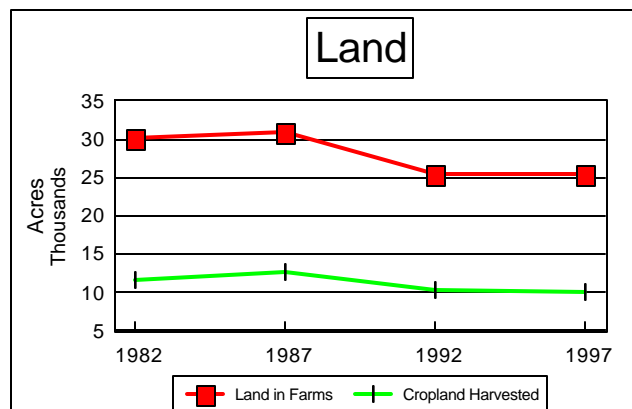
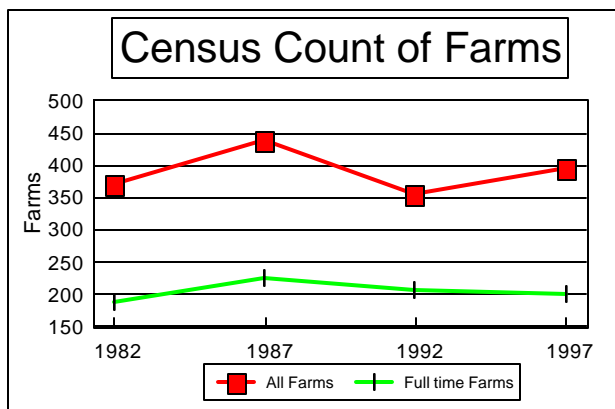
Increased 41 percent to \$25,091,000 in 1997.

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 27 percent from \$49,774 in 1992 to \$63,361 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	25,091	8	14	1,915	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	19,869	8	14	1,263	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	5,222	7	12	2,339	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	14,349	3	14	149	2,790
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	3,196	7	14	261	2,739
Dairy products	(D)	8	11	934	2,563
Poultry & poultry products	(D)	2	12	872	2,901
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	1,134	4	13	812	3,043
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	2	12	514	2,203
Turkeys sold	(D)	2	11	356	1,353
Cattle and calves sold	1,308	6	12	2,772	3,063
Rabbits and their pelts sold	(D)	3	9	347	1,593
Sheep and lambs sold	389	8	12	1,388	2,765
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	2,767	7	12	2,763	3,064
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	(D)	3	12	422	2,549
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	1,551	9	12	1,021	3,002
Horse and pony inventory	1,231	2	13	548	3,066
All turkeys inventory	1,149	3	12	376	2,361
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	6,982	7	13	2,023	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	1,366	6	14	372	2,741
Corn for silage-acres	606	8	11	1,334	2,473
All nursery-acres	606	5	14	457	2,619
Land in orchards-acres	369	6	13	556	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	217	190	14
\$10,000 or more	179	167	7
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	16,144	13,696	18
Average per farmdollars..	40,872	38,258	7
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	9,107	4,277	113
Average per farmdollars..	23,055	11,946	93
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	318	271	17
Partnership or corporation	71	78	-9
Other	7	8	-13
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	202	208	-3
Other	194	149	30
Operators by sex:			
Male	324	273	19
Female	72	84	-14
Operators by race:			
White	394	355	11
Black and other races	2	2	
Average age of operator	55.6	53.4	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.