

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service



BERRIEN MICHIGAN

Land in farms

Increased 4 percent from 166,886 acres in 1992 to 173,958 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 16 percent from 127 acres in 1992 to 147 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 15 percent from 751 farms in 1992 to 641 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

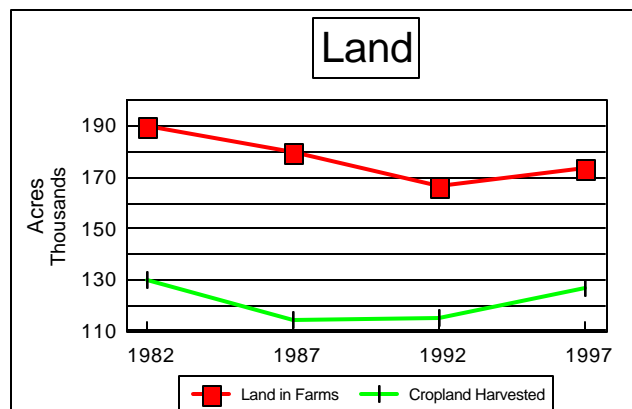
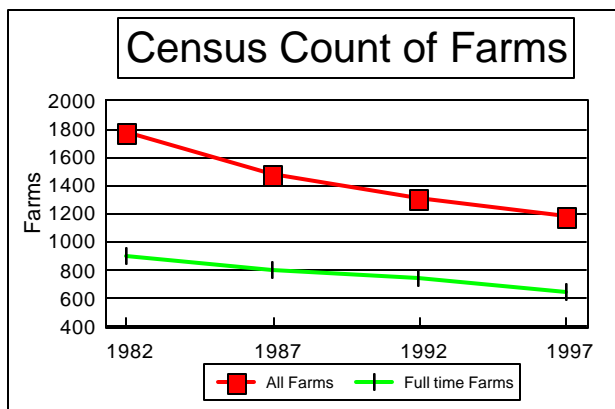
Increased 19 percent to \$81,376,000 in 1997.

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

Increased 32 percent from \$51,999 in 1992 to \$68,846 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	81,376	16	83	692	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	72,026	11	82	295	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	9,350	38	83	1,902	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Fruits, nuts, berries	27,741	3	80	69	2,547
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	13,880	3	81	83	2,739
Corn for grain	11,420	18	75	515	2,582
Soybeans	9,785	17	64	549	2,136
Nursery and greenhouse crops	7,037	13	82	293	2,790
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Hogs and pigs sold	52,219	12	81	506	2,976
Cattle and calves sold	1,785	57	83	2,684	3,063
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	(D)	15	66	855	1,882
Colonies of bees sold	(D)	7	27	97	611
Sheep and lambs sold	281	46	79	1,550	2,765
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Hogs and pigs inventory	20,364	15	80	589	3,005
Colony of bees inventory	5,490	3	75	99	2,588
Cattle and calves inventory	4,972	53	83	2,584	3,064
Horse and pony inventory	796	36	83	1,003	3,066
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	674	45	81	1,449	3,002
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Corn for grain-acres	43,846	24	77	553	2,691
Soybeans for beans-acres	41,765	17	64	578	2,144
Land in orchards-acres	19,768	1	80	48	2,693
Hay crops-acres	7,403	60	83	1,976	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	5,837	5	81	116	2,741

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	557	693	-20
\$10,000 or more	625	619	1
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	63,106	59,168	7
Average per farmdollars..	53,344	45,063	18
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	17,820	8,423	112
Average per farmdollars..	15,063	6,415	135
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	1,039	1,181	-12
Partnership or corporation	136	125	9
Other	7	6	17
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	641	751	-15
Other	541	561	-4
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,072	1,201	-11
Female	110	111	-1
Operators by race:			
White	1,169	1,302	-10
Black and other races	13	10	30
Average age of operator	55.9	54.8	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.