

# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture  
Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service



## ST JOSEPH MICHIGAN

### Land in farms

Decreased 7 percent from 234,823 acres in 1992 to 217,345 acres in 1997.

### Average size of farms

Unchanged from 275 acres in 1992 to 275 acres in 1997.

### Full time farms

Decreased 9 percent from 456 farms in 1992 to 413 farms in 1997.

### Market value of agricultural products sold

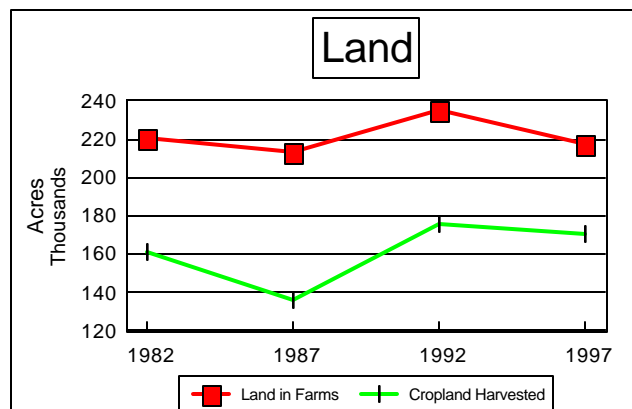
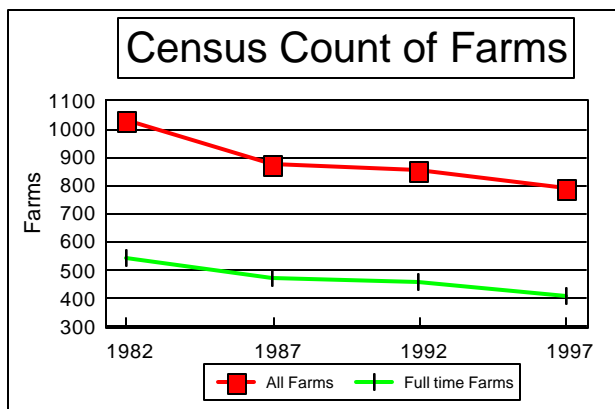
Increased 22 percent to \$81,103,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 77 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 23 percent of the market value.

### Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 32 percent from \$77,965 in 1992 to \$102,533 in 1997.



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### Ranked Items Within State and U.S., 1997

Item	Quantity	State		U.S.	
		Rank	Universe*	Rank	Universe*
<b>MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)</b>					
Total value of agricultural products sold	81,103	17	83	695	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	62,513	15	82	386	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	18,590	27	83	1,320	3,069
<b>TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)</b>					
Corn for grain	30,716	1	75	180	2,582
Soybeans	11,495	14	64	506	2,136
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	9,510	5	81	108	2,739
Hogs and pigs	8,444	9	81	381	2,976
Other crops: potatoes, peanuts, etc	6,783	8	78	180	2,237
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)</b>					
Hogs and pigs sold	79,829	8	81	390	2,976
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	(D)	2	66	633	1,882
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	3	67	180	2,200
Cattle and calves sold	5,036	34	83	2,166	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	1,741	6	79	529	2,765
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)</b>					
Hogs and pigs inventory	38,684	8	80	376	3,005
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	(D)	2	80	96	2,884
Broiler inventory	(D)	2	78	611	2,620
Cattle and calves inventory	11,680	32	83	1,999	3,064
Sheep and lamb inventory	3,009	3	79	381	2,864
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA</b>					
Corn for grain-acres	94,519	2	77	232	2,691
Soybeans for beans-acres	47,485	16	64	533	2,144
Hay crops-acres	11,425	47	83	1,574	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	9,195	3	81	76	2,741
Potatoes-acres	3,204	4	67	77	1,733

Some counties do not have five commodities in a group.

### Other County Summary Highlights

Item	1997	1992	Percent Change
<b>Farms by value of sales:</b>			
Less than \$10,000 .....	323	322	
\$10,000 or more .....	468	533	-12
Total farm production expenses .....\$1,000..	61,648	57,800	7
Average per farm .....dollars..	77,740	67,602	15
<b>Net cash return from agricultural sales</b>			
for the farm unit .....\$1,000..	19,511	11,485	70
Average per farm .....dollars..	24,604	13,433	83
<b>Farms by type of organization:</b>			
Individual or family .....	694	749	-7
Partnership or corporation .....	93	104	-11
Other .....	4	2	100
<b>OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
<b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>			
Farming .....	413	456	-9
Other .....	378	399	-5
<b>Operators by sex:</b>			
Male .....	733	799	-8
Female .....	58	56	4
<b>Operators by race:</b>			
White .....	785	848	-7
Black and other races .....	6	7	-14
Average age of operator .....	50.9	50.0	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.