

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service



VALLEY MONTANA

Land in farms

Increased 6 percent from 1,688,070 acres in 1992 to 1,786,617 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased slightly from 2,705 acres in 1992 to 2,728 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Unchanged from 475 farms in 1992 to 475 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

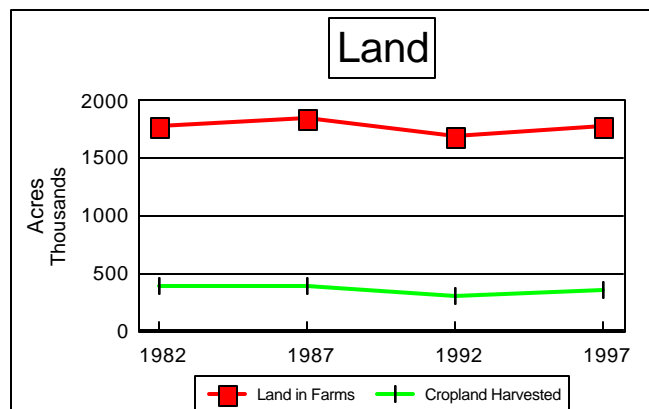
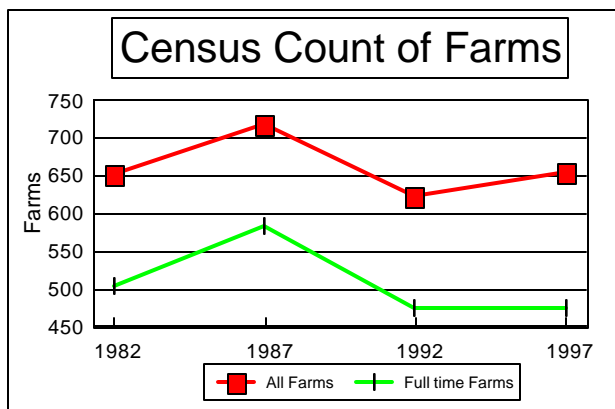
Increased 18 percent to \$47,785,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 54 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 46 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 12 percent from \$65,102 in 1992 to \$72,954 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 | 47,785 | 13 | 56 | 1,245 | 3,076 |
| Value of crops including nursery | 25,788 | 16 | 56 | 1,064 | 3,070 |
| Value of livestock and poultry | 21,996 | 18 | 56 | 1,147 | 3,069 |
| TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000) | | | | | |
| Wheat | 21,864 | 9 | 54 | 61 | 2,578 |
| Cattle and calves | 21,289 | 12 | 56 | 370 | 3,063 |
| Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds | 2,222 | 17 | 56 | 342 | 3,043 |
| Barley | 1,288 | 21 | 54 | 119 | 1,167 |
| Sheep, lambs, and wool | 362 | 29 | 56 | 273 | 2,787 |
| TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number) | | | | | |
| Cattle and calves sold | 44,037 | 12 | 56 | 361 | 3,063 |
| Sheep and lambs sold | 4,647 | 26 | 56 | 254 | 2,765 |
| Mink and their pelts sold | (D) | 8 | 9 | 140 | 191 |
| Hogs and pigs sold | (D) | 37 | 54 | 2,095 | 2,976 |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold | (D) | 15 | 26 | 1,303 | 1,882 |
| TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number) | | | | | |
| Cattle and calves inventory | 64,448 | 13 | 56 | 398 | 3,064 |
| Sheep and lamb inventory | 4,199 | 34 | 56 | 296 | 2,864 |
| Colony of bees inventory | (D) | 14 | 44 | 248 | 2,588 |
| Horse and pony inventory | 947 | 32 | 56 | 807 | 3,066 |
| Layers 20 weeks and older inventory | 369 | 36 | 55 | 1,923 | 3,002 |
| TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA | | | | | |
| Wheat-acres | 286,633 | 5 | 55 | 24 | 2,612 |
| Hay crops-acres | 59,752 | 14 | 56 | 185 | 3,061 |
| Barley-acres | 14,888 | 20 | 56 | 96 | 1,411 |
| Mustard seed-acres | 3,352 | 1 | 17 | 5 | 79 |
| Oats-acres | 1,164 | 23 | 56 | 578 | 2,332 |

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 | 195 | 187 | 4 |
| \$10,000 or more | 460 | 437 | 5 |
| Total farm production expenses\$1,000.. | 39,159 | 32,891 | 19 |
| Average per farmdollars.. | 59,785 | 52,795 | 13 |
| Net cash return from agricultural sales | | | |
| for the farm unit\$1,000.. | 8,299 | 7,908 | 5 |
| Average per farmdollars.. | 12,671 | 12,693 | -0 |
| Farms by type of organization: | | | |
| Individual or family | 529 | 505 | 5 |
| Partnership or corporation | 114 | 110 | 4 |
| Other | 12 | 9 | 33 |
| OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS | | | |
| Operators by principal occupation: | | | |
| Farming | 475 | 475 | |
| Other | 180 | 149 | 21 |
| Operators by sex: | | | |
| Male | 599 | 579 | 3 |
| Female | 56 | 45 | 24 |
| Operators by race: | | | |
| White | 638 | 610 | 5 |
| Black and other races | 17 | 14 | 21 |
| Average age of operator | 54.2 | 51.6 | 5 |

(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.