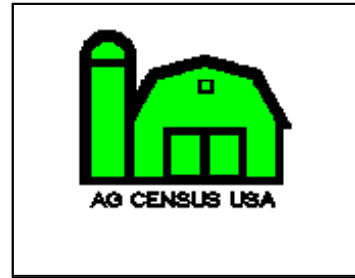


# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture  
New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service



## MERCER NEW JERSEY

### Land in farms

Decreased 21 percent from 35,786 acres in 1992 to 28,391 acres in 1997.

### Average size of farms

Decreased 17 percent from 121 acres in 1992 to 100 acres in 1997.

### Full time farms

Decreased 16 percent from 144 farms in 1992 to 121 farms in 1997.

### Market value of agricultural products sold

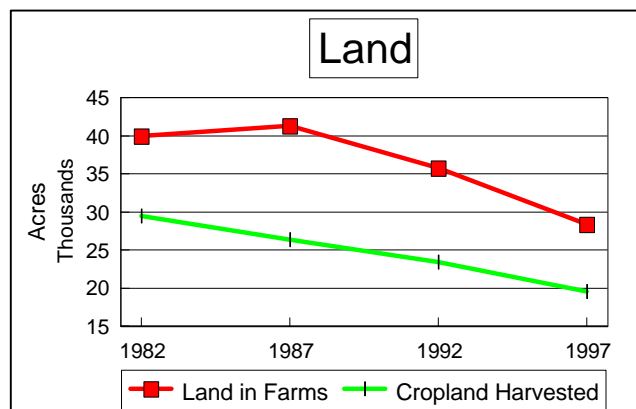
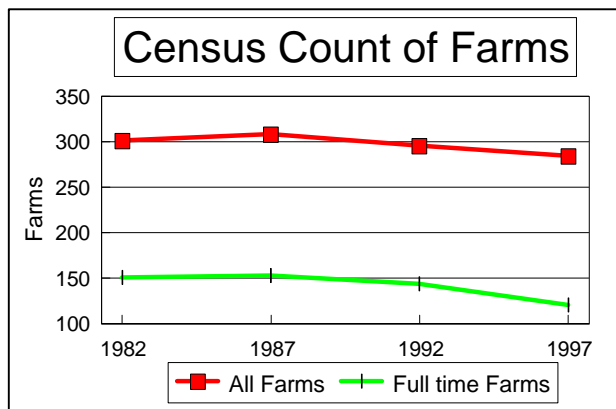
Decreased 17 percent to \$13,255,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 92 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 8 percent of the market value.

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

Decreased 13 percent from \$53,647 in 1992 to \$46,510 in 1997.



# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

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## MERCER NEW JERSEY

### 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	13,255	14	20	2,367	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	12,256	12	20	1,632	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	999	13	20	2,877	3,069
<b>TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)</b>					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	5,519	16	20	361	2,790
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	2,350	12	20	329	2,739
Soybeans	2,023	7	15	979	2,136
Corn for grain	1,599	6	16	1,185	2,582
Dairy products	571	9	14	1,680	2,563
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)</b>					
Turkeys sold	(D)	5	18	421	1,353
Hogs and pigs sold	(D)	5	20	1,503	2,976
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	9	20	998	2,203
Cattle and calves sold	334	12	19	2,955	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	312	10	19	1,497	2,765
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)</b>					
All turkeys inventory	(D)	2	19	375	2,361
Cattle and calves inventory	785	10	20	2,954	3,064
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	641	16	20	1,484	3,002
Hogs and pigs inventory	(D)	8	19	1,791	3,005
Horse and pony inventory	480	13	20	1,648	3,066
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA</b>					
Soybeans for beans-acres	9,334	7	15	1,013	2,144
Corn for grain-acres	5,123	6	17	1,307	2,691
Hay crops-acres	2,123	11	20	2,692	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	1,082	13	20	436	2,741
All nursery-acres	1,082	13	20	274	2,619

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 .....	176	170	4
\$10,000 or more .....	109	126	-13
Total farm production expenses .....\$1,000..	9,492	12,214	-22
Average per farm .....dollars..	33,424	41,262	-19
<b>Net cash return from agricultural sales</b>			
for the farm unit .....\$1,000..	3,242	3,969	-18
Average per farm .....dollars..	11,417	13,410	-15
<b>Farms by type of organization:</b>			
Individual or family .....	226	234	-3
Partnership or corporation .....	52	55	-5
Other .....	7	7	
<b>OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
<b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>			
Farming .....	121	144	-16
Other .....	164	152	8
<b>Operators by sex:</b>			
Male .....	248	241	3
Female .....	37	55	-33
<b>Operators by race:</b>			
White .....	279	294	-5
Black and other races .....	6	2	200
Average age of operator .....	57.2	55.3	3

(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.