

# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture  
North Carolina Agricultural Statistics Service



## BUNCOMBE NORTH CAROLINA

### Land in farms

Decreased 7 percent from 93,584 acres in 1992 to 87,382 acres in 1997.

### Average size of farms

Increased 2 percent from 85 acres in 1992 to 87 acres in 1997.

### Full time farms

Decreased 15 percent from 471 farms in 1992 to 400 farms in 1997.

### Market value of agricultural products sold

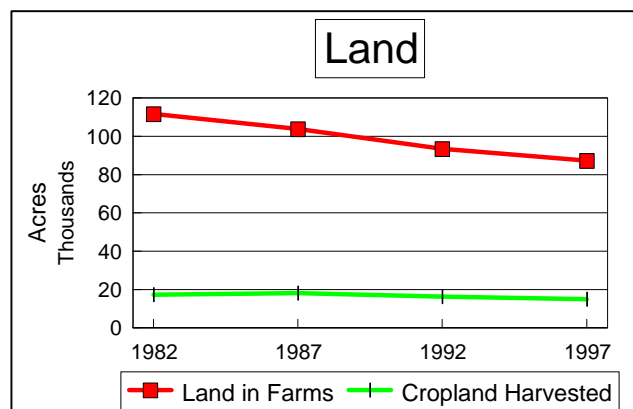
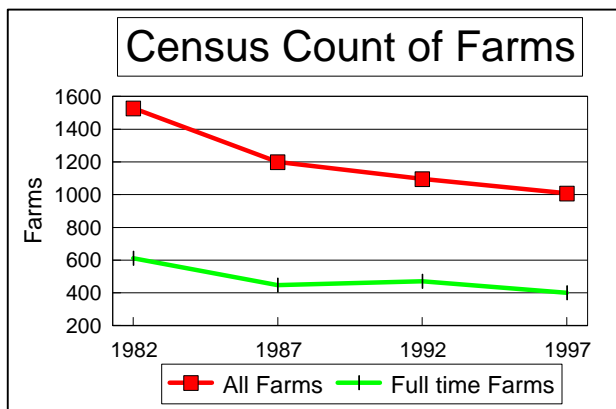
Increased 55 percent to \$34,413,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 73 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 27 percent of the market value.

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

Increased 68 percent from \$20,281 in 1992 to \$34,106 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	34,413	54	100	1,587	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	25,111	36	100	1,087	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	9,303	64	100	1,906	3,069
<b>TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)</b>					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	20,980	3	96	102	2,790
Dairy products	5,877	9	67	563	2,563
Tobacco	2,869	51	86	212	580
Cattle and calves	2,731	23	99	1,921	3,063
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	453	19	97	1,701	3,043
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves sold	8,080	18	99	1,782	3,063
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	13	63	334	2,200
Sheep and lambs sold	343	7	83	1,457	2,765
Hogs and pigs sold	339	74	95	2,223	2,976
All goats sold	256	15	94	379	2,686
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves inventory	18,528	17	99	1,607	3,064
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	1,860	19	86	480	2,884
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	1,149	49	98	1,125	3,002
Horse and pony inventory	1,012	7	100	730	3,066
Colony of bees inventory	782	3	88	513	2,588
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA</b>					
Hay crops-acres	11,423	20	99	1,576	3,061
Corn for silage-acres	1,926	13	88	706	2,473
Tobacco-acres	1,182	48	86	181	583
Corn for grain-acres	538	80	100	2,038	2,691
Land used for vegetables-acres	205	42	98	955	2,741

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 .....	804	853	-6
\$10,000 or more .....	205	244	-16
Total farm production expenses .....\$1,000..	30,898	17,126	80
Average per farm .....dollars..	30,562	15,626	96
<b>Net cash return from agricultural sales</b>			
for the farm unit .....\$1,000..	4,506	4,613	-2
Average per farm .....dollars..	4,457	4,209	6
<b>Farms by type of organization:</b>			
Individual or family .....	910	990	-8
Partnership or corporation .....	94	102	-8
Other .....	5	5	
<b>OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
<b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>			
Farming .....	400	471	-15
Other .....	609	626	-3
<b>Operators by sex:</b>			
Male .....	899	997	-10
Female .....	110	100	10
<b>Operators by race:</b>			
White .....	1,003	1,095	-8
Black and other races .....	6	2	200
Average age of operator .....	57.5	57.6	-0

(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.