

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
North Carolina Agricultural Statistics Service



WILKES NORTH CAROLINA

Land in farms

Increased 11 percent from 115,106 acres in 1992 to 127,428 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 8 percent from 101 acres in 1992 to 109 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 3 percent from 576 farms in 1992 to 561 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

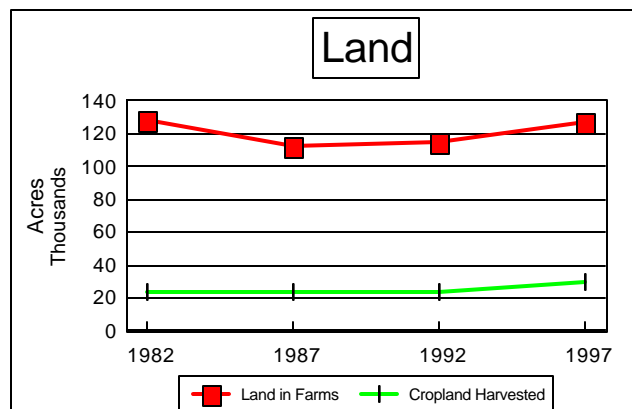
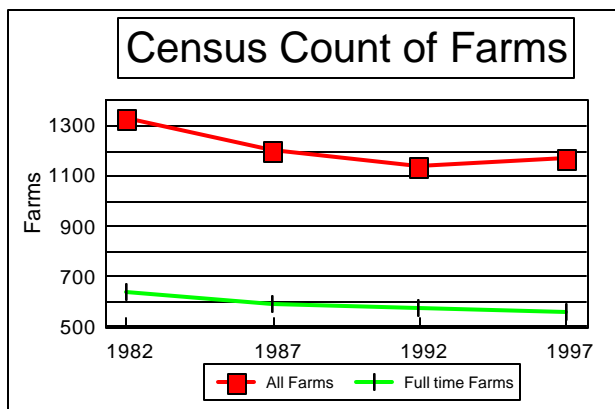
Increased 37 percent to \$214,889,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 4 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 96 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 33 percent from \$137,709 in 1992 to \$183,665 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	214,889	7	100	122	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	206,083	5	100	55	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	8,805	73	100	1,839	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Poultry & poultry products	197,111	2	97	12	2,901
Cattle and calves	5,840	5	99	1,340	3,063
Tobacco	3,928	49	86	182	580
Dairy products	2,876	21	67	894	2,563
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	2,751	1	97	255	3,043
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	89,648,301	1	68	6	1,882
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	1,813,187	3	72	32	2,203
Cattle and calves sold	15,757	4	99	1,202	3,063
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	7,565	12	63	327	2,200
Rabbits and their pelts sold	(D)	7	35	526	1,593
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Broiler inventory	14,514,374	1	81	6	2,620
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	682,385	6	98	116	3,002
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	378,661	4	72	31	2,549
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	236,530	2	51	64	1,790
Cattle and calves inventory	33,163	4	99	1,024	3,064
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	19,589	3	99	1,059	3,061
Corn for silage-acres	6,604	2	88	217	2,473
Corn for grain-acres	2,685	53	100	1,547	2,691
Tobacco-acres	1,111	52	86	191	583
Soybeans for beans-acres	549	78	88	1,700	2,144

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	652	606	8
\$10,000 or more	518	533	-3
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	171,196	126,342	36
Average per farmdollars..	146,321	110,826	32
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	24,709	26,223	-6
Average per farmdollars..	21,118	23,003	-8
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	1,072	1,028	4
Partnership or corporation	95	108	-12
Other	3	3	
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	561	576	-3
Other	609	563	8
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,067	1,019	5
Female	103	120	-14
Operators by race:			
White	1,155	1,128	2
Black and other races	15	11	36
Average age of operator	55.1	54.3	1

(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.