

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service



MERCER NORTH DAKOTA

Land in farms

Increased 4 percent from 531,643 acres in 1992 to 551,195 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 15 percent from 1,009 acres in 1992 to 1,165 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 15 percent from 345 farms in 1992 to 292 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

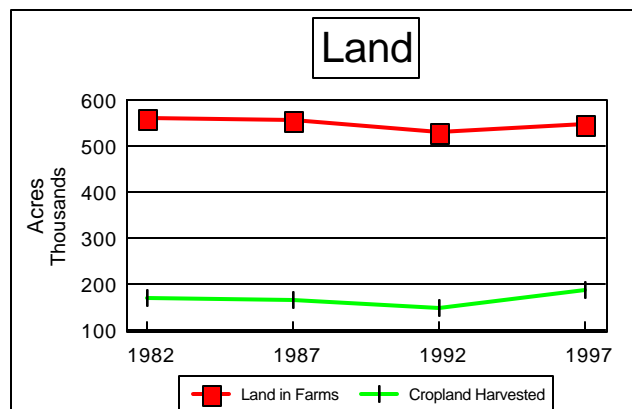
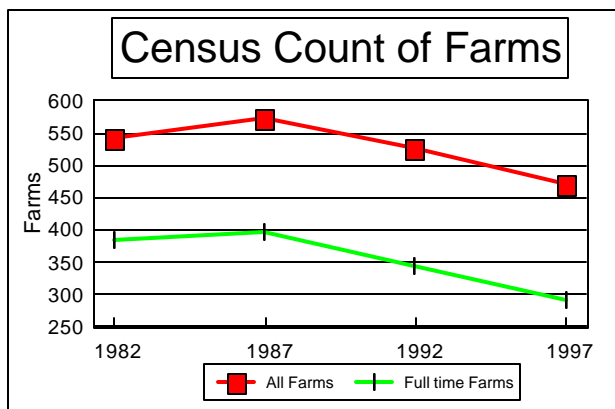
Increased 3 percent to \$23,039,000 in 1997.

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 15 percent from \$42,246 in 1992 to \$48,708 in 1997.



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MERCER

NORTH DAKOTA

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	23,039	47	53	1,988	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	12,325	46	53	1,628	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	10,713	29	53	1,810	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Wheat	9,666	43	53	230	2,578
Cattle and calves	9,406	21	53	945	3,063
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	949	17	53	974	3,043
Other crops: potatoes, peanuts, etc	(D)	25	48	539	2,237
Aquaculture	(D)	1	6	164	1,505
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	20,808	20	53	946	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	738	38	53	997	2,765
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	720	12	39	1,002	1,882
Hogs and pigs sold	560	42	53	2,015	2,976
Horses and ponies sold	68	28	53	1,317	3,015
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	42,494	13	53	753	3,064
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	811	11	53	1,315	3,002
Sheep and lamb inventory	746	41	53	1,154	2,864
Horse and pony inventory	625	19	53	1,289	3,066
Broiler inventory	(D)	19	44	1,226	2,620
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Wheat-acres	105,496	46	53	182	2,612
Hay crops-acres	61,788	17	53	163	3,061
Oats-acres	12,492	13	53	21	2,332
Barley-acres	5,921	51	53	178	1,411
Corn for silage-acres	2,410	24	52	594	2,473

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	153	183	-16
\$10,000 or more	320	344	-7
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	22,003	17,348	27
Average per farmdollars..	46,518	32,856	42
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	32	5,131	-99
Average per farmdollars..	67	9,718	-99
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	431	470	-8
Partnership or corporation	40	51	-22
Other	2	6	-67
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	292	345	-15
Other	181	182	-1
Operators by sex:			
Male	452	507	-11
Female	21	20	5
Operators by race:			
White	468	521	-10
Black and other races	5	6	-17
Average age of operator	50.7	49.5	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.