

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service



CHESTER PENNSYLVANIA

Land in farms

Decreased slightly from 176,643 acres in 1992 to 175,363 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 5 percent from 129 acres in 1992 to 123 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 1 percent from 925 farms in 1992 to 912 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

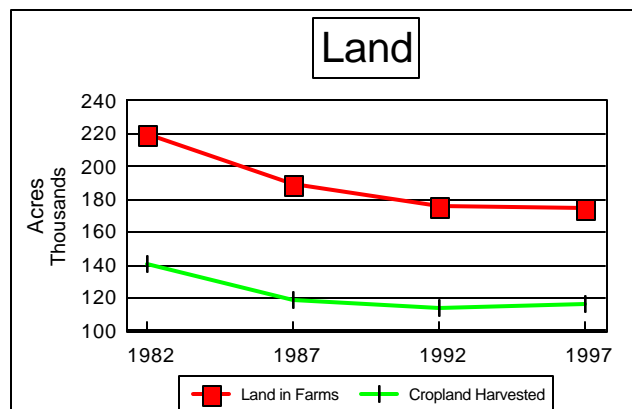
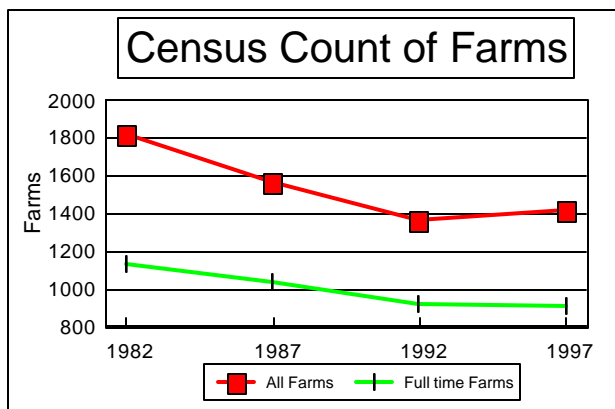
Increased 21 percent to \$342,868,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 78 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 22 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 16 percent from \$206,705 in 1992 to \$240,778 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	342,868	2	67	50	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	265,723	1	67	32	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	77,145	8	67	291	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	242,072	1	66	3	2,790
Dairy products	47,535	6	67	84	2,563
Cattle and calves	10,291	7	67	868	3,063
Poultry & poultry products	9,528	17	66	458	2,901
Horses and ponies	8,768	1	65	8	3,015
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	1,853,450	14	53	395	1,882
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	852,090	8	62	104	2,203
Turkeys sold	151,647	17	52	222	1,353
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	12	59	83	2,200
Cattle and calves sold	24,930	7	67	779	3,063
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	329,604	4	63	40	2,549
Broiler inventory	310,831	15	62	392	2,620
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	193,017	17	66	300	3,002
Cattle and calves inventory	48,897	6	67	628	3,064
All turkeys inventory	35,327	18	63	249	2,361
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	44,006	11	66	353	3,061
Corn for grain-acres	36,981	5	66	608	2,691
Soybeans for beans-acres	16,096	6	58	858	2,144
Corn for silage-acres	13,865	10	66	73	2,473
Wheat-acres	5,315	9	61	1,025	2,612

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	531	490	8
\$10,000 or more	893	877	2
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	270,495	219,822	23
Average per farmdollars..	190,221	160,806	18
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	70,040	63,101	11
Average per farmdollars..	49,254	46,160	7
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	1,116	1,057	6
Partnership or corporation	304	304	
Other	4	6	-33
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	912	925	-1
Other	512	442	16
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,233	1,226	1
Female	191	141	35
Operators by race:			
White	1,405	1,350	4
Black and other races	19	17	12
Average age of operator	52.2	51.3	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.