

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service



BERKS PENNSYLVANIA

Land in farms

Decreased slightly from 221,981 acres in 1992 to 221,511 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 1 percent from 142 acres in 1992 to 140 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 1 percent from 1,010 farms in 1992 to 999 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

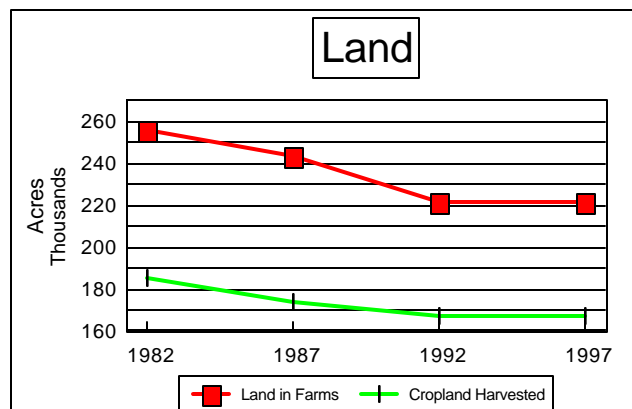
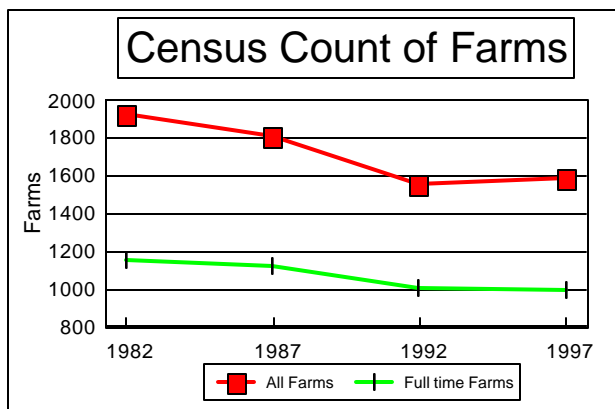
Increased 4 percent to \$247,789,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 48 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 52 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 2 percent from \$152,564 in 1992 to \$156,235 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	247,789	3	67	90	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	129,535	4	67	116	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	118,254	2	67	96	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Nursery and greenhouse crops	85,544	2	66	20	2,790
Dairy products	55,162	4	67	60	2,563
Poultry & poultry products	45,783	4	66	135	2,901
Cattle and calves	15,153	3	67	585	3,063
Corn for grain	12,974	3	66	478	2,582
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	8,950,114	4	53	202	1,882
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	2,301,664	2	62	18	2,203
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	1	59	10	2,200
Hogs and pigs sold	131,937	5	67	262	2,976
Cattle and calves sold	31,686	4	67	590	3,063
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	1,443,878	5	66	49	3,002
Broiler inventory	1,318,935	4	62	208	2,620
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	628,806	2	63	12	2,549
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	(D)	5	51	97	1,790
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	(D)	4	65	26	2,884
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Corn for grain-acres	57,978	3	66	456	2,691
Hay crops-acres	56,385	10	66	208	3,061
Soybeans for beans-acres	23,867	3	58	748	2,144
Corn for silage-acres	16,303	6	66	50	2,473
Wheat-acres	11,527	3	61	714	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	555	520	7
\$10,000 or more	1,031	1,038	-1
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	196,647	172,048	14
Average per farmdollars..	124,224	110,429	12
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	45,732	65,815	-31
Average per farmdollars..	28,890	42,243	-32
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	1,407	1,358	4
Partnership or corporation	170	194	-12
Other	9	6	50
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	999	1,010	-1
Other	587	548	7
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,471	1,456	1
Female	115	102	13
Operators by race:			
White	1,586	1,556	2
Black and other races	-	2	-100
Average age of operator	52.0	51.4	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.