

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Texas Agricultural Statistics Service



MASON TEXAS

Land in farms

Increased 9 percent from 547,428 acres in 1992 to 595,265 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 6 percent from 995 acres in 1992 to 1,054 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 9 percent from 313 farms in 1992 to 286 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

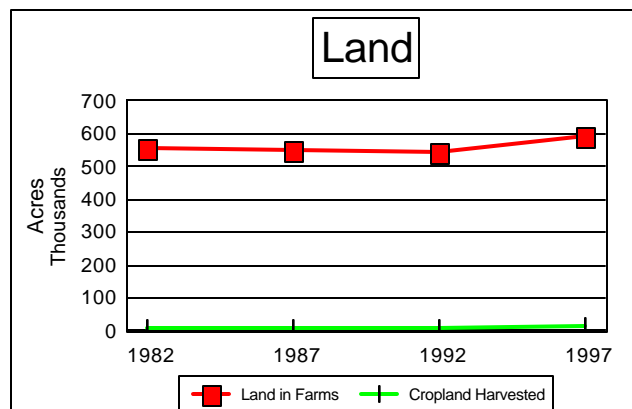
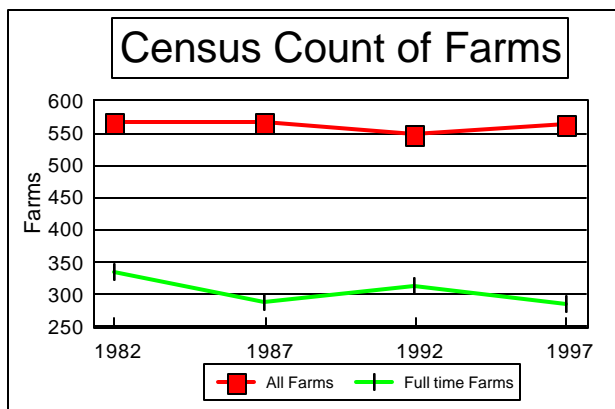
Decreased 13 percent to \$19,575,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 21 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 79 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Decreased 15 percent from \$40,858 in 1992 to \$34,647 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	19,575	166	254	2,125	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	15,471	128	254	1,488	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	4,104	163	252	2,225	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Cattle and calves	14,737	97	254	615	3,063
Other crops: potatoes, peanuts, etc	3,381	18	172	281	2,237
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	342	154	250	1,970	3,043
Sheep, lambs, and wool	248	41	238	352	2,787
Angora goats and mohair	199	17	119	20	1,034
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	28,733	120	254	672	3,063
All goats sold	6,488	19	243	20	2,686
Sheep and lambs sold	3,705	37	235	305	2,765
Hogs and pigs sold	351	141	242	2,209	2,976
Horses and ponies sold	8	244	254	2,791	3,015
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	49,698	114	254	614	3,064
All goat inventory	15,718	23	247	24	2,983
Sheep and lamb inventory	5,664	37	244	235	2,864
Horse and pony inventory	430	180	254	1,795	3,066
Hogs and pigs inventory	229	148	246	2,206	3,005
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	8,155	146	253	1,897	3,061
Peanuts-acres	3,814	13	115	82	466
Wheat-acres	532	168	211	1,882	2,612
Land in orchards-acres	365	101	236	561	2,693
Oats-acres	234	92	185	1,324	2,332

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	308	253	22
\$10,000 or more	257	297	-13
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	16,744	18,815	-11
Average per farmdollars..	29,635	34,210	-13
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	1,478	3,659	-60
Average per farmdollars..	2,615	6,653	-61
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	475	454	5
Partnership or corporation	88	96	-8
Other	2	-	
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	286	313	-9
Other	279	237	18
Operators by sex:			
Male	493	478	3
Female	72	72	
Operators by race:			
White	559	547	2
Black and other races	6	3	100
Average age of operator	58.5	58.0	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.