

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Washington Agricultural Statistics Service



WHATCOM WASHINGTON

Land in farms

Decreased 12 percent from 118,136 acres in 1992 to 103,600 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 2 percent from 86 acres in 1992 to 84 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 11 percent from 751 farms in 1992 to 667 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

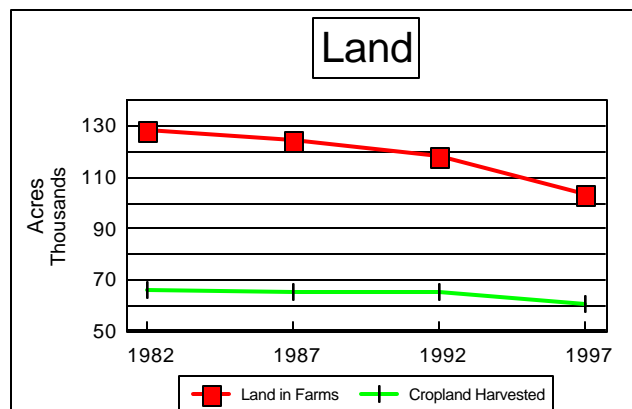
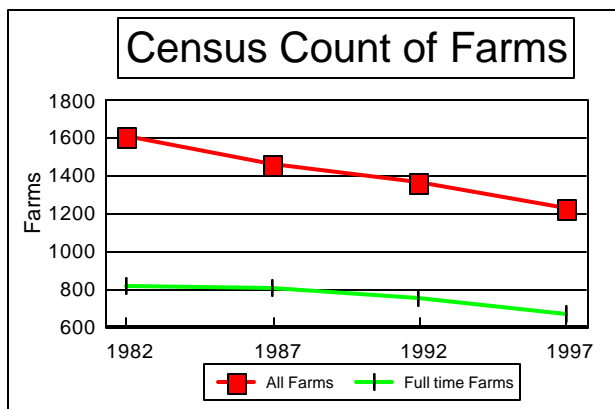
Increased 14 percent to \$241,643,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 17 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 83 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 27 percent from \$154,886 in 1992 to \$196,778 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	241,643	6	39	95	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	201,732	3	39	57	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	39,911	15	39	720	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Dairy products	164,592	1	31	12	2,563
Cattle and calves	23,226	5	39	341	3,063
Fruits, nuts, berries	21,063	9	38	81	2,547
Poultry & poultry products	12,396	6	38	384	2,901
Nursery and greenhouse crops	10,218	9	37	199	2,790
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	3,127,984	2	29	327	1,882
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	7	34	524	2,203
Cattle and calves sold	66,771	4	39	194	3,063
Mink and their pelts sold	(D)	3	7	33	191
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	10	34	526	2,200
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Broiler inventory	385,360	5	36	361	2,620
Cattle and calves inventory	120,652	3	39	87	3,064
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	(D)	9	39	450	3,002
Mink inventory	(D)	3	8	52	239
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	1,926	5	38	463	2,884
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	40,910	7	39	412	3,061
Corn for silage-acres	15,118	1	32	59	2,473
Total berries-acres	6,091	1	35	7	2,058
Potatoes-acres	1,585	8	27	130	1,733
Land used for vegetables-acres	700	18	37	561	2,741

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	574	661	-13
\$10,000 or more	654	706	-7
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	194,258	173,401	12
Average per farmdollars..	158,320	127,033	25
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	46,573	39,173	19
Average per farmdollars..	37,957	28,698	32
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	1,017	1,176	-14
Partnership or corporation	205	186	10
Other	6	5	20
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	667	751	-11
Other	561	616	-9
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,100	1,243	-12
Female	128	124	3
Operators by race:			
White	1,194	1,341	-11
Black and other races	34	26	31
Average age of operator	52.1	50.6	3

(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.