

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service



RITCHIE WEST VIRGINIA

Land in farms

Increased 23 percent from 70,960 acres in 1992 to 86,976 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 7 percent from 230 acres in 1992 to 247 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Increased 5 percent from 133 farms in 1992 to 139 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

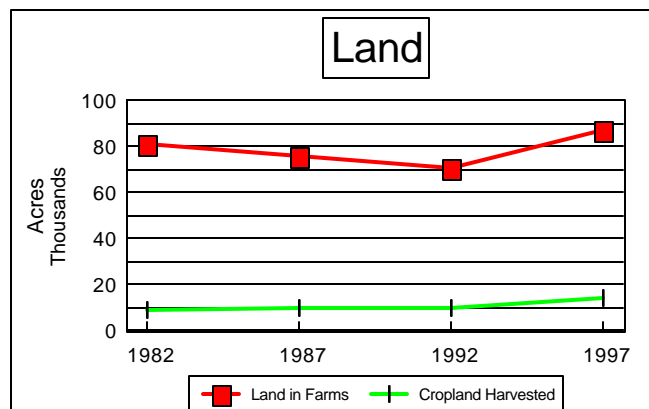
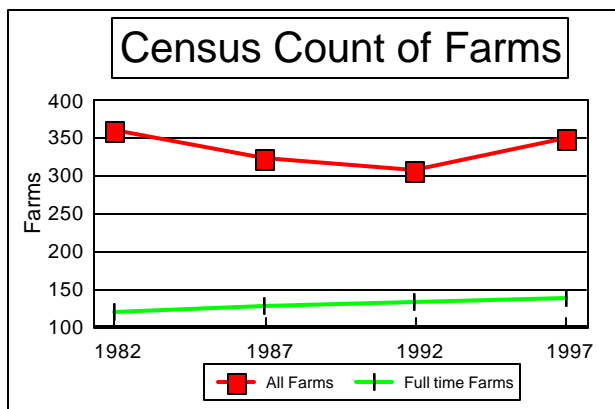
Decreased 41 percent to \$2,244,000 in 1997.

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

Decreased 48 percent from \$12,292 in 1992 to \$6,376 in 1997.



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County Profile**

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WEST VIRGINIA

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	2,244	30	55	2,929	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	1,855	25	55	2,751	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	390	36	54	2,917	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Cattle and calves	1,782	23	55	2,243	3,063
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	241	21	54	2,219	3,043
Nursery and greenhouse crops	113	34	52	1,984	2,790
Horses and ponies	32	23	51	2,292	3,015
Sheep, lambs, and wool	29	15	50	1,387	2,787
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	4,162	23	55	2,298	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	373	18	50	1,412	2,765
All goats sold	97	8	47	926	2,686
Horses and ponies sold	37	21	51	1,953	3,015
Rabbits and their pelts sold	(D)	14	23	1,057	1,593
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	7,876	20	55	2,333	3,064
Sheep and lamb inventory	672	14	50	1,219	2,864
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	550	21	52	1,607	3,002
Horse and pony inventory	312	21	54	2,165	3,066
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	241	7	47	657	2,549
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	13,798	17	54	1,378	3,061
Corn for silage-acres	205	22	48	1,803	2,473
Corn for grain-acres	49	36	51	2,461	2,691
Sorghum for silage-acres	(D)	7	20	973	1,323
Land used for vegetables-acres	13	28	51	2,109	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	306	255	20
\$10,000 or more	46	53	-13
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	2,627	3,032	-13
Average per farmdollars..	7,462	9,844	-24
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	(347)	402	-186
Average per farmdollars..	(985)	1,304	-176
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	328	300	9
Partnership or corporation	19	7	171
Other	5	1	400
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	139	133	5
Other	213	175	22
Operators by sex:			
Male	321	280	15
Female	31	28	11
Operators by race:			
White	352	308	14
Black and other races			
Average age of operator	55.4	56.0	-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.