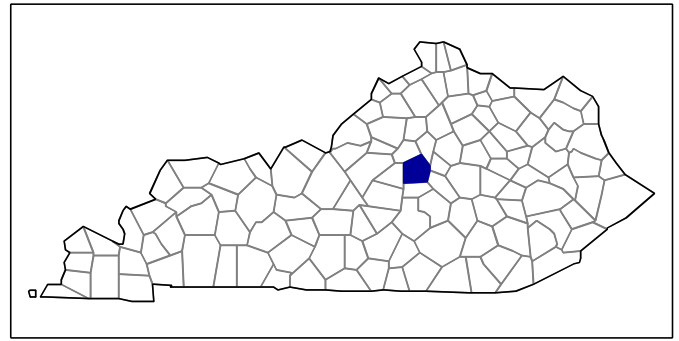




2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile



Mercer, Kentucky

Number of farms

1,086 farms in 2002, 1,079 farms in 1997, up 1 percent.

Land in farms

133,692 acres in 2002, 129,979 acres in 1997, up 3 percent.

Average size of farm

123 acres in 2002, 120 acres in 1997, up 3 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$28,900,000 in 2002, \$30,858,000 in 1997, down 6 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$8,946,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$19,954,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

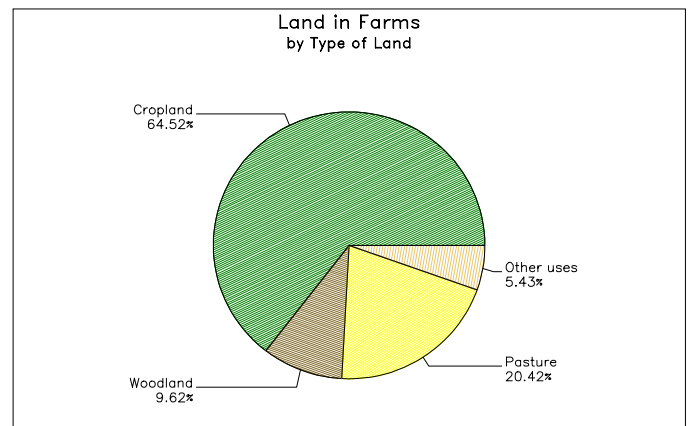
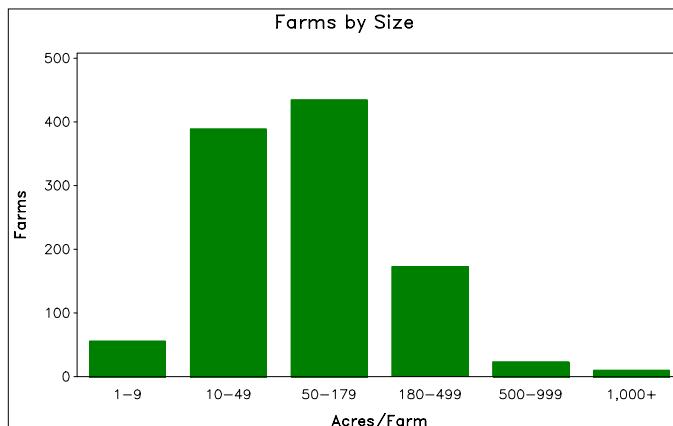
\$26,611 in 2002, \$28,598 in 1997, down 7 percent.

Government Payments

\$493,000 in 2002, \$150,000 in 1997, up 229 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$2,218 in 2002, \$984 in 1997, up 125 percent.



**2002 Census of Agriculture
County Profile
United States Department of Agriculture, Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service**

Mercer, Kentucky

Ranked items among the 120 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	28,900	40	120	1,740	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	8,946	44	120	1,732	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	19,954	32	120	1,300	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	366	68	117	2,089	2,871
Tobacco	6,099	21	114	78	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	114	37	111	1,658	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	18	56	112	2,004	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	791	31	106	1,202	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	-	-	49	-	1,774
Other crops and hay	1,559	4	120	837	3,046
Poultry and eggs	32	47	115	1,581	2,918
Cattle and calves	12,108	14	120	847	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	3,500	25	106	769	2,493
Hogs and pigs	10	77	111	2,310	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	135	5	120	631	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	4,164	8	118	20	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	51	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	4	58	100	2,120	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	38,439	19	120	809	3,059
Quail	(D)	3	40	(D)	1,412
All Goats	2,814	1	119	117	2,971
Horses and ponies	2,533	11	119	308	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	1,150	27	119	1,280	2,983
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	38,774	19	120	506	3,059
Tobacco	1,610	21	114	75	563
Corn for silage	1,551	20	106	882	2,307
Corn for grain	1,224	66	117	1,736	2,592
Soybeans	979	68	100	1,534	2,076

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	197	Farming	589
\$1,000 to \$2,499	169	Other	497
\$2,500 to \$4,999	148		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	182	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	134	Male	990
\$20,000 to \$24,999	44	Female	96
\$25,000 to \$39,999	73		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	28	Average age of principal operator (years)	54.4
\$50,000 to \$99,999	55		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	40	All operators ² by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	9	White	1,566
\$500,000 or more	7	Black or African American	4
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	25,828	American Indian or Alaska Native	5
Average per farm (\$)	23,761	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	7,078	More than one race	2
Average per farm (\$)	6,512	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	15

(D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

¹ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

² Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.