

# 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

## Van Buren, Michigan

### Number of farms

1,160 farms in 2002, 1,217 farms in 1997, down 5 percent.

### Land in farms

176,260 acres in 2002, 189,432 acres in 1997, down 7 percent.

### Average size of farm

152 acres in 2002, 156 acres in 1997, down 3 percent.

### Market Value of Production

\$96,724,000 in 2002, \$104,868,000 in 1997, down 8 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$84,835,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$11,889,000 of the total value in 2002.

### Market Value of Production, average per farm

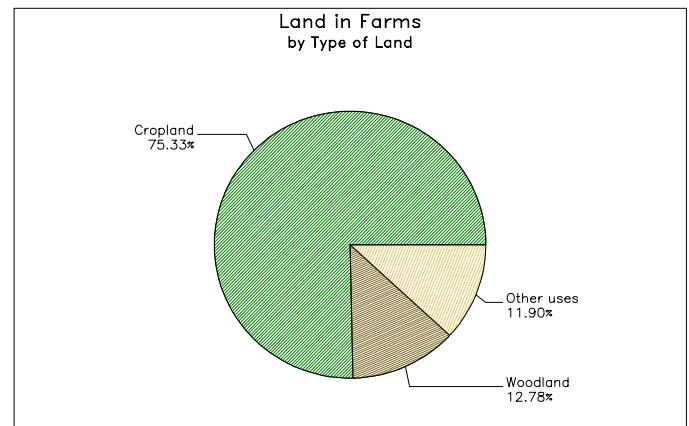
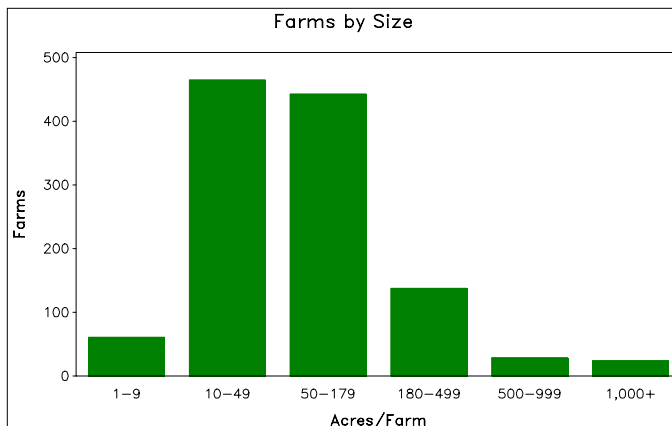
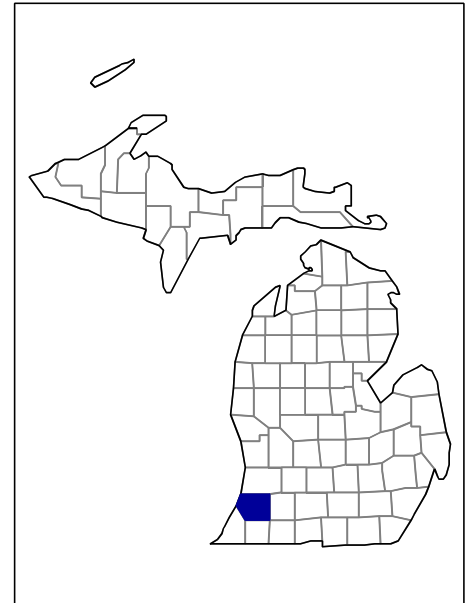
\$83,382 in 2002, \$86,169 in 1997, down 3 percent.

### Government Payments

\$2,092,000 in 2002, \$1,458,000 in 1997, up 43 percent.

### Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$7,473 in 2002, \$4,764 in 1997, up 57 percent.



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

**Van Buren, Michigan**

**Ranked items among the 83 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002**

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>
<b>MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)</b>					
Total value of agricultural products sold	96,724	12	83	539	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	84,835	7	83	190	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	11,889	35	83	1,737	3,070
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	12,710	32	80	900	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	16,259	5	81	119	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	34,503	1	82	61	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	19,272	9	81	143	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	1,024	7	80	51	1,774
Other crops and hay	1,067	48	83	1,173	3,046
Poultry and eggs	79	24	80	1,366	2,918
Cattle and calves	1,319	48	82	2,424	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	4,971	36	76	632	2,493
Hogs and pigs	5,051	14	79	478	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	98	20	81	822	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	188	37	82	1,161	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	38	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(D)	(D)	79	(D)	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Hogs and pigs	24,985	12	78	462	2,926
Cattle and calves	7,805	39	83	2,258	3,059
Turkeys	(D)	8	75	(D)	2,328
Sheep and lambs	1,933	11	80	572	2,867
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	1,774	15	78	776	2,599
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Corn for grain	31,870	28	80	644	2,592
Soybeans	29,321	29	61	731	2,076
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	12,623	42	83	1,538	3,059
All Vegetables harvested	10,553	2	80	61	2,710
All Berries	7,840	1	74	6	2,019

**Other County Highlights**

Economic Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales	
Less than \$1,000	333
\$1,000 to \$2,499	130
\$2,500 to \$4,999	100
\$5,000 to \$9,999	111
\$10,000 to \$19,999	105
\$20,000 to \$24,999	35
\$25,000 to \$39,999	82
\$40,000 to \$49,999	30
\$50,000 to \$99,999	95
\$100,000 to \$249,999	60
\$250,000 to \$499,999	34
\$500,000 or more	45
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	82,685
Average per farm (\$)	70,671
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	26,545
Average per farm (\$)	22,688

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	623
Other	537
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	1,019
Female	141
Average age of principal operator (years)	54.7
All operators <sup>2</sup> by race:	
White	1,626
Black or African American	41
American Indian or Alaska Native	10
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	1
More than one race	6
All operators <sup>2</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	57

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

<sup>1</sup> Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

<sup>2</sup> Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.