

2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

Wilkes, North Carolina

Number of farms

1,273 farms in 2002, 1,405 farms in 1997, down 9 percent.

Land in farms

124,189 acres in 2002, 135,848 acres in 1997, down 9 percent.

Average size of farm

98 acres in 2002, 97 acres in 1997, up 1 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$207,506,000 in 2002, \$233,063,000 in 1997, down 11 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$5,150,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$202,355,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

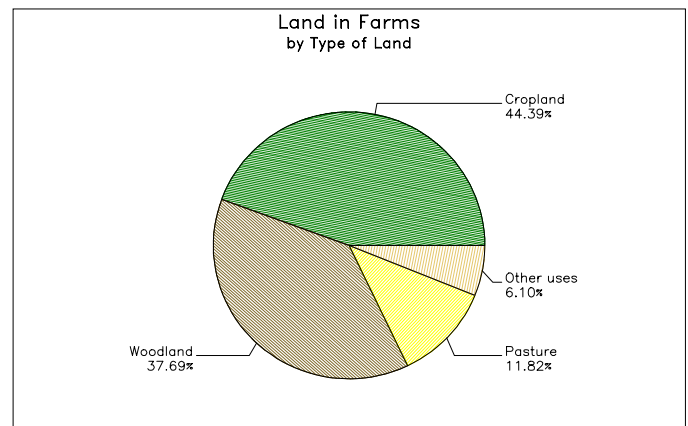
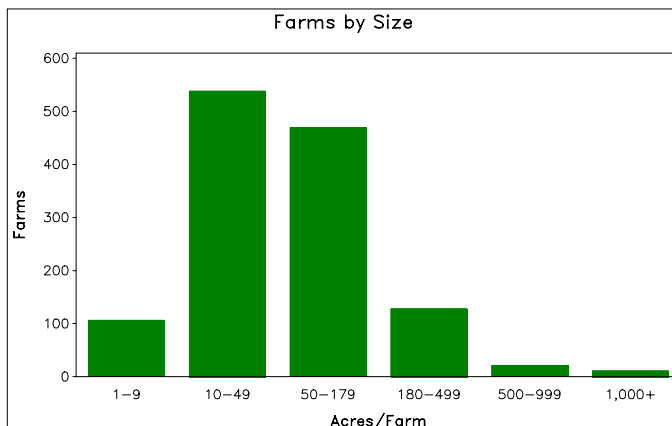
\$163,005 in 2002, \$165,881 in 1997, down 2 percent.

Government Payments

\$680,000 in 2002, \$233,000 in 1997, up 192 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$4,500 in 2002, \$3,149 in 1997, up 43 percent.



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

Wilkes, North Carolina

Ranked items among the 100 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	207,506	6	100	137	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	5,150	83	100	2,061	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	202,355	6	99	70	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	1,048	58	98	1,761	2,871
Tobacco	1,697	55	86	211	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	55	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	131	82	100	1,573	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	840	8	99	396	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	428	83	96	1,492	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	5	52	68	1,367	1,774
Other crops and hay	1,001	18	100	1,241	3,046
Poultry and eggs	192,187	2	95	12	2,918
Cattle and calves	6,078	4	99	1,370	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	3,809	14	64	740	2,493
Hogs and pigs	7	78	90	2,398	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	25	36	98	1,752	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	245	24	91	924	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	51	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	4	49	85	2,153	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	17,642,847	1	68	4	2,599
Layers 20 weeks old and older	530,583	8	95	160	2,983
Cattle and calves	32,869	4	99	972	3,059
Quail	(D)	20	44	(D)	1,412
Horses and ponies	1,252	17	99	986	3,065
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	23,167	3	100	967	3,059
Corn for silage	5,751	2	65	315	2,307
Corn for grain	1,176	60	100	1,753	2,592
Tobacco	431	55	86	226	563
Apples	306	3	74	155	2,173

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	326	Farming	797
\$1,000 to \$2,499	187	Other	476
\$2,500 to \$4,999	124		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	144	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	69	Male	1,138
\$20,000 to \$24,999	16	Female	135
\$25,000 to \$39,999	30		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	18	Average age of principal operator (years)	56.1
\$50,000 to \$99,999	33		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	89	All operators ² by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	109	White	1,701
\$500,000 or more	128	Black or African American	17
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	157,209	American Indian or Alaska Native	7
Average per farm (\$)	123,301	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	56,556	More than one race	5
Average per farm (\$)	44,357	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	34

(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.