

2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

Bennington, Vermont

Number of farms

228 farms in 2002, 214 farms in 1997, up 7 percent.

Land in farms

41,126 acres in 2002, 34,766 acres in 1997, up 18 percent.

Average size of farm

180 acres in 2002, 162 acres in 1997, up 11 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$7,818,000 in 2002, \$8,283,000 in 1997, down 6 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$2,395,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$5,424,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

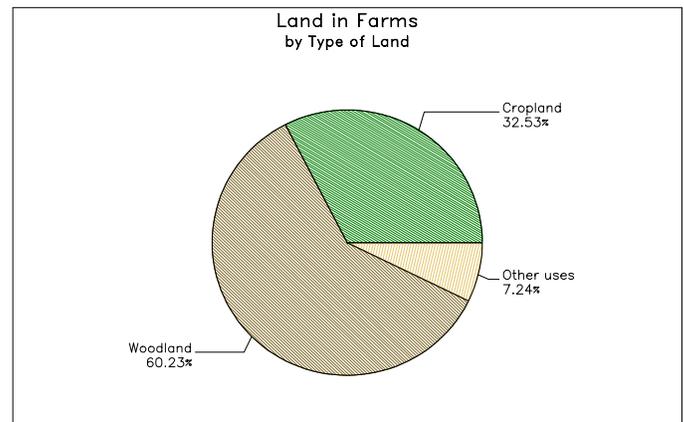
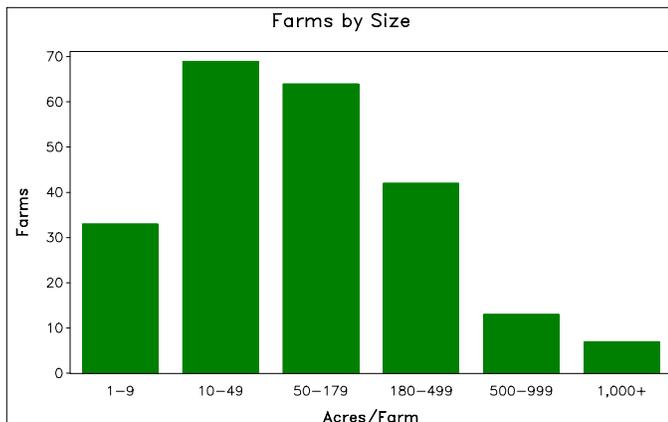
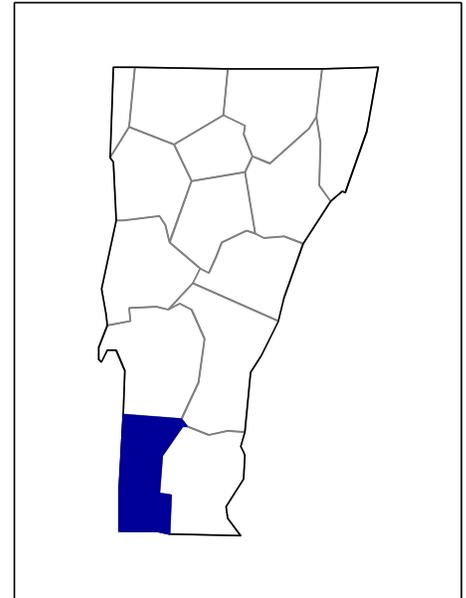
\$34,292 in 2002, \$38,707 in 1997, down 11 percent.

Government Payments

\$367,000 in 2002, \$83,000 in 1997, up 342 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$12,640 in 2002, \$2,679 in 1997, up 372 percent.



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

Bennington, Vermont

Ranked items among the 14 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	7,818	13	14	2,605	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	2,395	12	14	2,435	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	5,424	14	14	2,305	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	14	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	(D)	(D)	14	(D)	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	398	6	14	621	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	810	11	14	1,190	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	111	8	13	407	1,774
Other crops and hay	648	12	14	1,657	3,046
Poultry and eggs	12	12	14	1,919	2,918
Cattle and calves	(D)	(D)	14	(D)	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	4,466	14	14	674	2,493
Hogs and pigs	-	-	13	-	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	13	12	14	2,156	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	(D)	(D)	14	(D)	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	11	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(Z)	14	14	2,510	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	3,894	14	14	2,630	3,059
Pheasants	(D)	3	9	(D)	1,541
Sheep and lambs	626	10	14	1,301	2,867
Layers 20 weeks old and older	587	12	14	1,774	2,983
Horses and ponies	481	12	14	2,211	3,065
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	7,089	12	14	2,048	3,059
Corn for silage	1,884	11	14	788	2,307
Apples	349	3	14	142	2,173
Cut Christmas trees	300	9	14	293	1,877
All Vegetables harvested	76	12	14	1,386	2,710

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales	
Less than \$1,000	90
\$1,000 to \$2,499	30
\$2,500 to \$4,999	22
\$5,000 to \$9,999	17
\$10,000 to \$19,999	27
\$20,000 to \$24,999	7
\$25,000 to \$39,999	10
\$40,000 to \$49,999	2
\$50,000 to \$99,999	8
\$100,000 to \$249,999	7
\$250,000 to \$499,999	5
\$500,000 or more	3
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	8,356
Average per farm (\$)	36,649
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	869
Average per farm (\$)	3,813

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	130
Other	98
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	201
Female	27
Average age of principal operator (years)	55.4
All operators ² by race:	
White	341
Black or African American	-
American Indian or Alaska Native	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	6
Asian	-
More than one race	-
All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	6

(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.