

# 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

## Whatcom, Washington

### Number of farms

1,485 farms in 2002, 1,679 farms in 1997, down 12 percent.

### Land in farms

148,027 acres in 2002, 113,797 acres in 1997, up 30 percent.

### Average size of farm

100 acres in 2002, 68 acres in 1997, up 47 percent.

### Market Value of Production

\$287,860,000 in 2002, \$250,748,000 in 1997, up 15 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$75,998,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$211,862,000 of the total value in 2002.

### Market Value of Production, average per farm

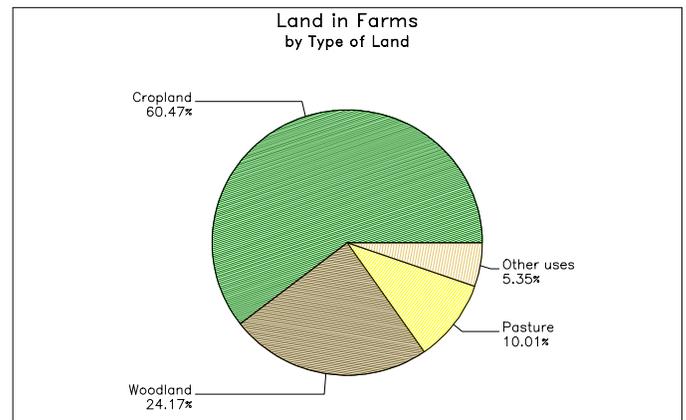
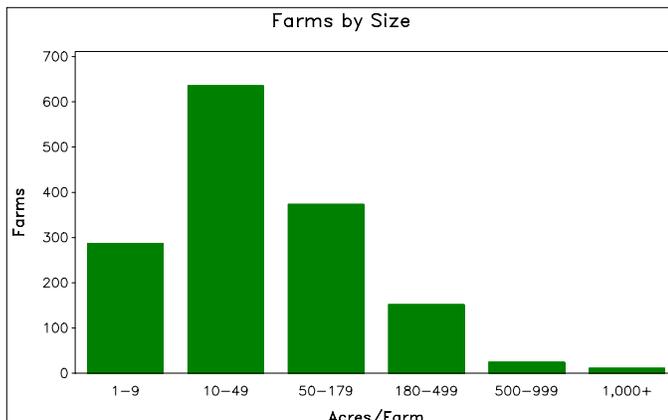
\$193,845 in 2002, \$149,343 in 1997, up 30 percent.

### Government Payments

\$4,029,000 in 2002, \$362,000 in 1997, up 1,013 percent.

### Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$18,314 in 2002, \$4,206 in 1997, up 335 percent.



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County Profile  
United States Department of Agriculture, Washington Agricultural Statistics Service**

**Whatcom, Washington**

**Ranked items among the 39 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	287,860	6	39	78	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	75,998	14	39	240	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	211,862	3	39	66	3,070
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	2,346	16	34	1,507	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	6,587	10	36	248	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	38,818	9	39	56	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	24,467	6	36	119	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	1,892	4	31	32	1,774
Other crops and hay	1,888	15	39	690	3,046
Poultry and eggs	10,467	5	39	445	2,918
Cattle and calves	32,860	4	39	267	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	159,868	2	34	15	2,493
Hogs and pigs	77	16	38	1,546	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	45	25	38	1,344	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	463	12	39	427	3,014
Aquaculture	5,412	14	35	50	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	2,671	1	37	35	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	152,057	6	36	501	2,599
Cattle and calves	112,417	3	39	100	3,059
Mink	(D)	3	6	(D)	117
Pigeons	(D)	2	20	(D)	1,368
Horses and ponies	2,350	14	39	359	3,065
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	41,592	8	39	447	3,059
Corn for silage	17,044	1	28	68	2,307
All Berries	8,496	1	33	4	2,019
Potatoes	1,641	9	27	121	1,551
Nursery stock	896	4	32	101	2,129

**Other County Highlights**

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	396	Farming	805
\$1,000 to \$2,499	195	Other	680
\$2,500 to \$4,999	117		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	127	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	96	Male	1,313
\$20,000 to \$24,999	21	Female	172
\$25,000 to \$39,999	72		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	37	Average age of principal operator (years)	53.4
\$50,000 to \$99,999	57		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	116	All operators <sup>2</sup> by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	102	White	2,148
\$500,000 or more	149	Black or African American	-
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	215,332	American Indian or Alaska Native	9
Average per farm (\$)	145,200	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4
		Asian	54
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	82,566	More than one race	11
Average per farm (\$)	55,675	All operators <sup>2</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	30

(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.