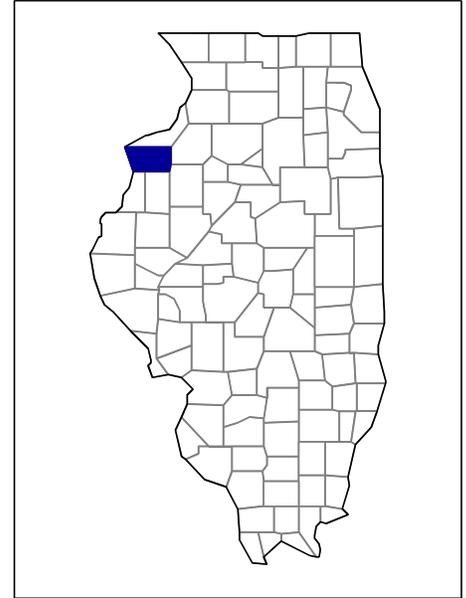


2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

Mercer, Illinois



Number of farms

746 farms in 2002, 823 farms in 1997, down 9 percent.

Land in farms

292,719 acres in 2002, 315,382 acres in 1997, down 7 percent.

Average size of farm

392 acres in 2002, 383 acres in 1997, up 2 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$90,134,000 in 2002, \$92,911,000 in 1997, down 3 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$68,030,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$22,103,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

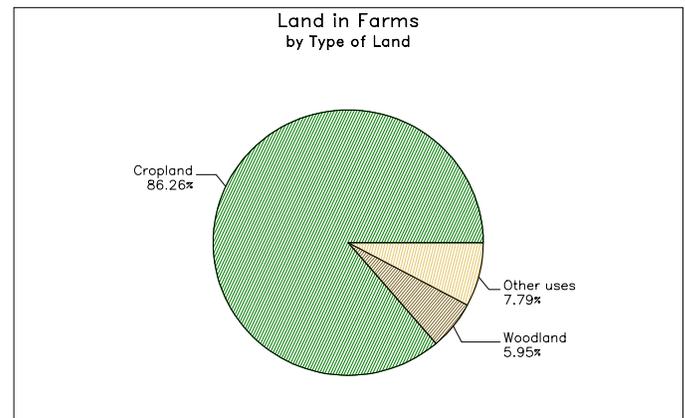
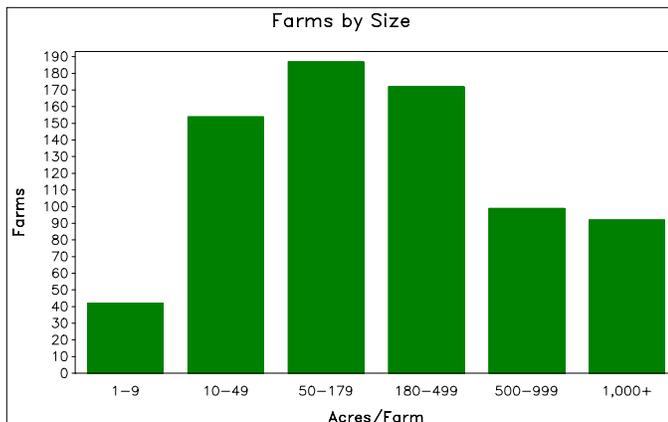
\$120,823 in 2002, \$112,894 in 1997, up 7 percent.

Government Payments

\$5,514,000 in 2002, \$5,427,000 in 1997, up 2 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$10,854 in 2002, \$10,376 in 1997, up 5 percent.



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

Mercer, Illinois

Ranked items among the 102 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	90,134	34	102	610	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	68,030	35	102	300	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	22,103	29	102	1,222	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	66,084	32	102	131	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	4	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	626	30	97	921	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	(D)	(D)	93	(D)	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	142	68	92	1,958	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	78	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	1,143	9	102	1,117	3,046
Poultry and eggs	2	78	98	2,490	2,918
Cattle and calves	6,559	25	102	1,302	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	(D)	(D)	91	(D)	2,493
Hogs and pigs	15,254	16	102	197	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	107	7	101	766	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	114	43	100	1,648	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	33	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(D)	(D)	92	(D)	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Hogs and pigs	63,545	23	102	236	2,926
Cattle and calves	15,259	33	102	1,726	3,059
Sheep and lambs	1,853	6	101	598	2,867
Horses and ponies	502	51	102	2,157	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	322	67	101	2,216	2,983
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Corn for grain	120,965	35	102	150	2,592
Soybeans	99,890	51	102	258	2,076
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	9,001	28	102	1,883	3,059
Oats	705	19	90	665	2,215
All Wheat for grain	553	86	102	1,755	2,517

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales	
Less than \$1,000	166
\$1,000 to \$2,499	38
\$2,500 to \$4,999	48
\$5,000 to \$9,999	36
\$10,000 to \$19,999	54
\$20,000 to \$24,999	26
\$25,000 to \$39,999	40
\$40,000 to \$49,999	18
\$50,000 to \$99,999	97
\$100,000 to \$249,999	109
\$250,000 to \$499,999	70
\$500,000 or more	44
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	76,420
Average per farm (\$)	102,029
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	23,700
Average per farm (\$)	31,643

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	498
Other	248
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	677
Female	69
Average age of principal operator (years)	56.6
All operators ² by race:	
White	1,033
Black or African American	-
American Indian or Alaska Native	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	-
More than one race	1
All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	4

(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.