

# 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

## Essex, Massachusetts

### Number of farms

400 farms in 2002, 526 farms in 1997, down 24 percent.

### Land in farms

27,856 acres in 2002, 29,232 acres in 1997, down 5 percent.

### Average size of farm

70 acres in 2002, 56 acres in 1997, up 25 percent.

### Market Value of Production

\$24,469,000 in 2002, \$27,797,000 in 1997, down 12 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$20,072,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$4,397,000 of the total value in 2002.

### Market Value of Production, average per farm

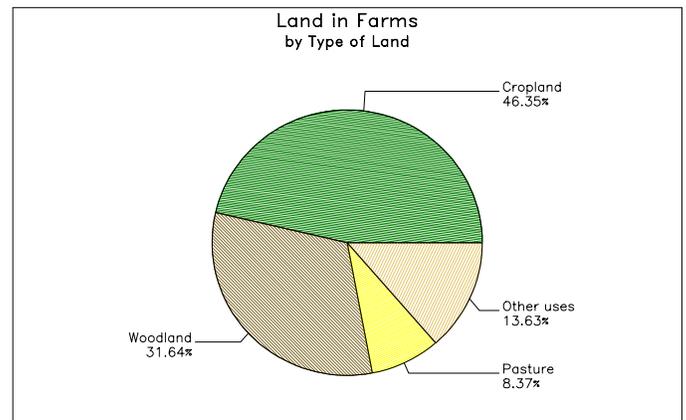
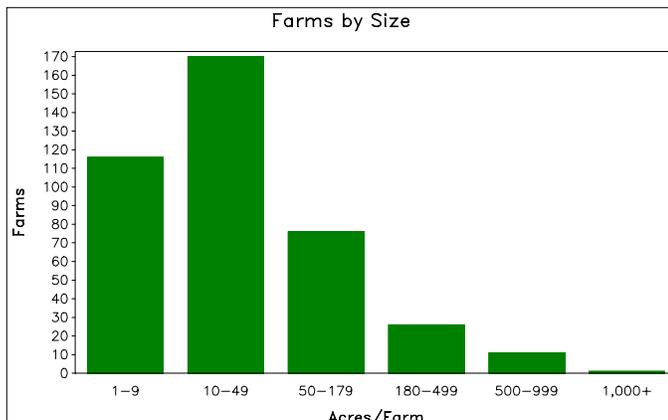
\$61,173 in 2002, \$52,846 in 1997, up 16 percent.

### Government Payments

\$166,000 in 2002, \$107,000 in 1997, up 55 percent.

### Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$9,788 in 2002, \$3,148 in 1997, up 211 percent.



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

**Essex, Massachusetts**

**Ranked items among the 14 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	24,469	7	14	1,902	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	20,072	8	14	1,162	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	4,397	8	13	2,400	3,070
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	113	6	9	2,355	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	3	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	2,376	6	14	490	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	1,444	7	14	290	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	14,988	3	14	187	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	214	3	11	255	1,774
Other crops and hay	936	6	13	1,300	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	12	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	286	8	12	2,859	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	2,133	8	10	991	2,493
Hogs and pigs	46	7	12	1,740	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	47	8	12	1,311	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	270	6	13	823	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	11	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	41	9	11	1,213	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Layers 20 weeks old and older	3,353	7	13	857	2,983
Cattle and calves	2,068	8	13	2,807	3,059
Horses and ponies	1,567	4	14	714	3,065
Turkeys	(D)	5	11	(D)	2,328
Ducks	447	3	12	255	2,630
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	5,974	8	13	2,185	3,059
All Vegetables harvested	1,134	6	14	403	2,710
Corn for silage	845	7	11	1,182	2,307
Sweet corn	525	5	13	193	2,279
Apples	293	5	12	161	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	136	Farming	209
\$1,000 to \$2,499	59	Other	191
\$2,500 to \$4,999	27		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	36	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	25	Male	282
\$20,000 to \$24,999	9	Female	118
\$25,000 to \$39,999	15		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	11	Average age of principal operator (years)	55.0
\$50,000 to \$99,999	29		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	33	All operators <sup>2</sup> by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	14	White	628
\$500,000 or more	6	Black or African American	-
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	25,348	American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Average per farm (\$)	66,010	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	3
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	3,957	More than one race	1
Average per farm (\$)	10,305	All operators <sup>2</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	10

(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.