

# 2002 Census of Agriculture State Profile

## Massachusetts

### Number of farms

6,075 farms in 2002, 7,307 farms in 1997, down 17 percent.

### Land in farms

518,570 acres in 2002, 577,637 acres in 1997, down 10 percent.

### Average size of farm

85 acres in 2002, 79 acres in 1997, up 8 percent.

### Market Value of Production

\$384,314,000 in 2002, \$483,529,000 in 1997, down 21 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$277,069,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$107,244,000 of the total value in 2002.

### Market Value of Production, average per farm

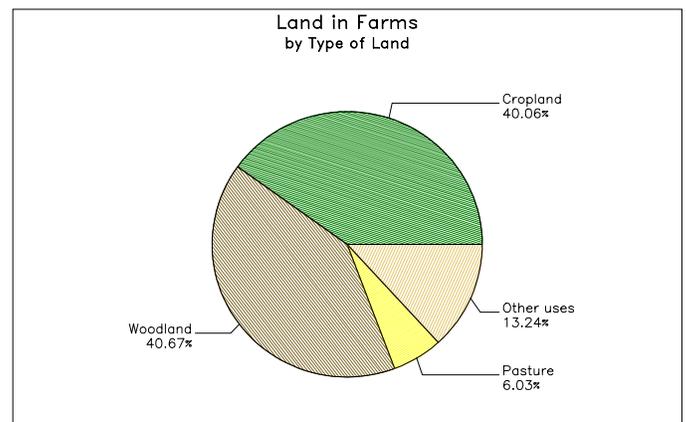
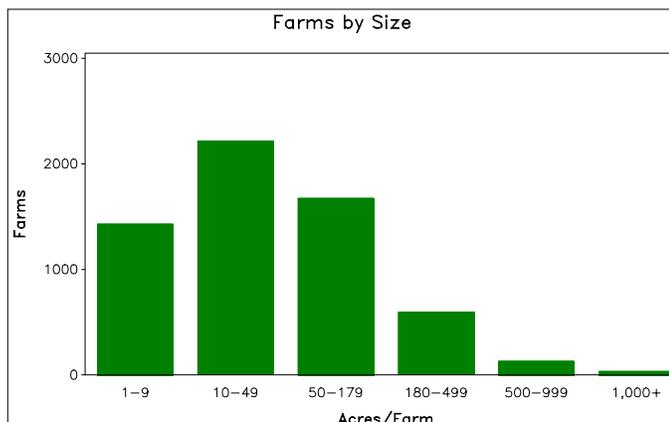
\$63,262 in 2002, \$66,173 in 1997, down 4 percent.

### Government Payments

\$4,268,000 in 2002, \$1,330,000 in 1997, up 221 percent.

### Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$10,284 in 2002, \$2,969 in 1997, up 246 percent.



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State Profile  
United States Department of Agriculture, New England Agricultural Statistics Service**

**Massachusetts**

**Ranked items within U.S., 2002**

Item	Quantity	U.S. Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>
<b>MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)</b>			
Total value of agricultural products sold	384,314	47	50
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	277,069	40	50
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	107,244	45	50
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>			
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	1,358	47	50
Tobacco	15,355	11	23
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	17
Vegetables, melons, potatoes and sweet potatoes	38,289	33	50
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	55,508	16	50
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	153,540	26	50
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	1,800	27	50
Other crops and hay	11,220	45	50
Poultry and eggs	12,107	43	50
Cattle and calves	9,612	44	50
Milk and other dairy products from cows	(D)	(D)	50
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)	50
Sheep, goats, and their products	1,127	40	50
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	3,879	40	50
Aquaculture	9,481	22	50
Other animals and other animal products	19,589	17	50
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>			
Layers 20 weeks old and older	319,358	43	50
Cattle and calves	50,791	45	50
Turkeys	18,623	28	50
Pheasants	17,301	24	50
Quail <sup>3</sup>	(D)	(D)	50
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>			
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	93,745	44	50
Corn for silage	17,365	38	49
All Berries	15,976	7	50
All Vegetables harvested	14,757	29	50
Sweet corn	5,680	19	50

**Other State Highlights**

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	1,727	Farming	3,283
\$1,000 to \$2,499	865	Other	2,792
\$2,500 to \$4,999	647	Principal operators by sex:	
\$5,000 to \$9,999	623	Male	4,770
\$10,000 to \$19,999	555	Female	1,305
\$20,000 to \$24,999	160	Average age of principal operator (years)	54.9
\$25,000 to \$39,999	279	All operators <sup>2</sup> by race:	
\$40,000 to \$49,999	143	White	9,402
\$50,000 to \$99,999	385	Black or African American	36
\$100,000 to \$249,999	380	American Indian or Alaska Native	26
\$250,000 to \$499,999	176	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1
\$500,000 or more	135	Asian	33
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	364,833	More than one race	31
Average per farm (\$)	60,035	All operators <sup>2</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	189
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	64,610		
Average per farm (\$)	10,632		

(D) Cannot be disclosed. See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

<sup>1</sup> Universe is number of states in U.S. with item.

<sup>2</sup> Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.

<sup>3</sup> Items with a rank that cannot be disclosed are separated by a blank line, position in table does not indicate rank.