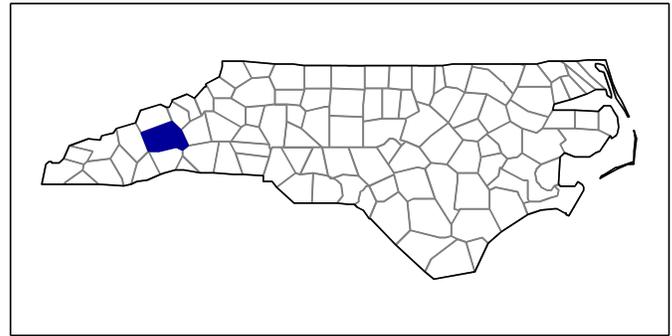




2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile



Buncombe, North Carolina

Number of farms

1,192 farms in 2002, 1,266 farms in 1997, down 6 percent.

Land in farms

94,934 acres in 2002, 95,068 acres in 1997, down slightly.

Average size of farm

80 acres in 2002, 75 acres in 1997, up 7 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$21,830,000 in 2002, \$35,108,000 in 1997, down 38 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$13,236,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$8,594,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

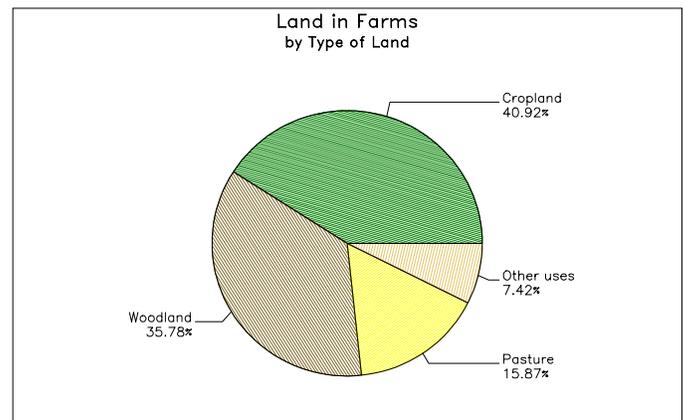
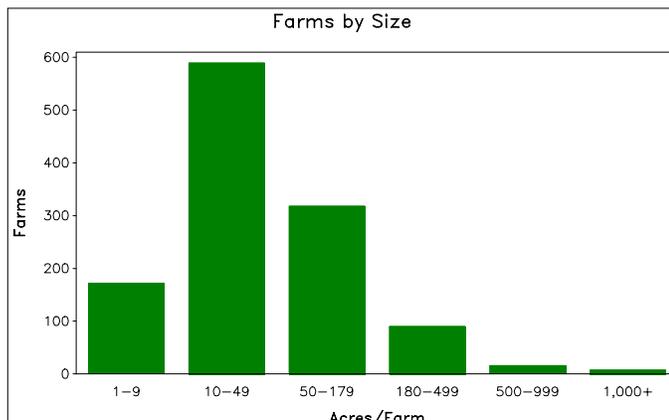
\$18,314 in 2002, \$27,732 in 1997, down 34 percent.

Government Payments

\$150,000 in 2002, \$69,000 in 1997, up 117 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$1,532 in 2002, \$1,308 in 1997, up 17 percent.



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

Buncombe, North Carolina

Ranked items among the 100 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	21,830	71	100	2,018	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	13,236	57	100	1,474	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	8,594	65	99	1,989	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	66	86	98	2,476	2,871
Tobacco	2,400	48	86	173	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	55	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	1,434	29	100	643	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	560	14	99	495	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	8,186	15	96	315	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	122	19	68	381	1,774
Other crops and hay	468	42	100	1,948	3,046
Poultry and eggs	71	73	95	1,388	2,918
Cattle and calves	3,209	20	99	1,858	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	4,907	10	64	636	2,493
Hogs and pigs	23	72	90	1,991	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	85	8	98	904	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	230	26	91	980	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	51	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(D)	(D)	85	(D)	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	17,426	14	99	1,584	3,059
Layers 20 weeks old and older	2,704	47	95	905	2,983
Horses and ponies	1,720	4	99	606	3,065
All Goats	1,639	11	99	246	2,971
Quail ³	(D)	(D)	44	(D)	1,412
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	13,342	20	100	1,482	3,059
Corn for silage	2,164	13	65	716	2,307
Tobacco	973	44	86	135	563
All Vegetables harvested	471	31	98	665	2,710
Sweet corn	200	4	94	343	2,279

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	325	Farming	671
\$1,000 to \$2,499	291	Other	521
\$2,500 to \$4,999	203		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	145	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	108	Male	1,026
\$20,000 to \$24,999	27	Female	166
\$25,000 to \$39,999	26		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	11	Average age of principal operator (years)	58.4
\$50,000 to \$99,999	31		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	10	All operators ² by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	9	White	1,678
\$500,000 or more	6	Black or African American	4
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	23,971	American Indian or Alaska Native	4
Average per farm (\$)	19,943	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	2,049	More than one race	3
Average per farm (\$)	1,705	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	13

(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.

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