

2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

Watauga, North Carolina

Number of farms

731 farms in 2002, 856 farms in 1997, down 15 percent.

Land in farms

51,758 acres in 2002, 64,756 acres in 1997, down 20 percent.

Average size of farm

71 acres in 2002, 76 acres in 1997, down 7 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$11,615,000 in 2002, \$13,252,000 in 1997, down 12 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$6,583,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$5,032,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

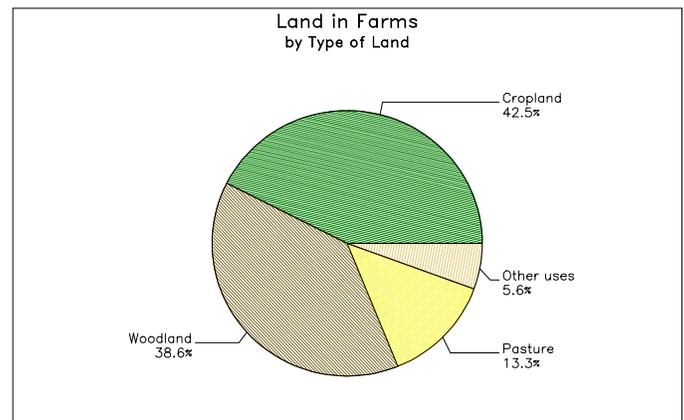
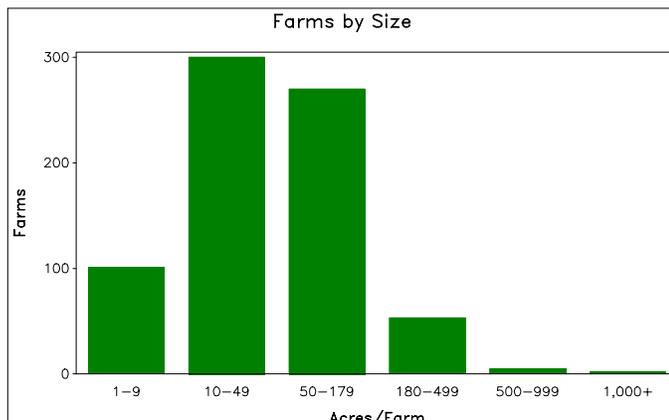
\$15,889 in 2002, \$15,481 in 1997, up 3 percent.

Government Payments

\$60,000 in 2002, \$32,000 in 1997, up 88 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$843 in 2002, \$737 in 1997, up 14 percent.



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

Watauga, 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	11,615	85	100	2,431	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	6,583	76	100	1,926	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	5,032	75	99	2,344	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	98	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	1,703	54	86	209	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	55	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	115	86	100	1,651	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	(D)	(D)	99	(D)	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	2,187	42	96	763	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	2,233	5	68	28	1,774
Other crops and hay	263	60	100	2,382	3,046
Poultry and eggs	521	67	95	1,049	2,918
Cattle and calves	4,048	12	99	1,685	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	355	46	64	1,799	2,493
Hogs and pigs	-	-	90	-	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	15	51	98	2,089	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	79	53	91	1,981	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	51	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	13	30	85	1,699	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	(D)	59	68	(D)	2,599
Cattle and calves	9,832	32	99	2,060	3,059
Horses and ponies	864	30	99	1,482	3,065
Sheep and lambs	456	20	89	1,510	2,867
All Goats	275	67	99	1,569	2,971
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	5,914	43	100	2,190	3,059
Cut Christmas trees	1,789	5	69	37	1,877
Tobacco	495	54	86	212	563
Nursery stock	409	15	90	259	2,129
Short-rotation woody crops	105	23	75	438	1,262

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales	
Less than \$1,000	130
\$1,000 to \$2,499	139
\$2,500 to \$4,999	125
\$5,000 to \$9,999	118
\$10,000 to \$19,999	84
\$20,000 to \$24,999	27
\$25,000 to \$39,999	48
\$40,000 to \$49,999	10
\$50,000 to \$99,999	30
\$100,000 to \$249,999	14
\$250,000 to \$499,999	5
\$500,000 or more	1
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	6,733
Average per farm (\$)	9,148
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	1,629
Average per farm (\$)	2,214

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	360
Other	371
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	677
Female	54
Average age of principal operator (years)	57.1
All operators ² by race:	
White	953
Black or African American	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	1
More than one race	-
All operators ² 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.

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.