

# Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



## Adams County

### Number of Farms

There were 573 farms counted in Adams County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Adams County decreased by 11 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 38 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

#### 1. Number of farms.

Year	Adams County	State
1997	573	90,792
1992	643	96,534
1987	688	105,180
1982	737	115,413
1978	783	121,339
1974	874	126,104
1969	924	140,354

### Average Farm Size

Farms in Adams County averaged 411 acres in 1997, 68 acres more than the state's average.

#### 2. Average farm size (acres).

Year	Adams County	State
1997	411	343
1992	373	325
1987	354	301
1982	345	283
1978	326	274
1974	297	262
1969	287	239

### Farm Land Use

Adams County had 235,441 total acres in farmland in 1997, 2 percent less than in 1992.

#### 3. Land in farms (acres), Adams County.

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	235,441	184,649	6,119	44,673
1992	239,800	188,706	5,721	45,373
1987	243,607	190,603	8,295	44,709
1982	254,071	203,029	7,619	43,423

\* Includes land in house lots, ponds, etc., and non-crop and non-woodland pasture.

Of the acres harvested in Adams County in 1997, 86 percent were either corn or soybean acres. This was lower than the 93 percent statewide average.

#### 4. Corn and soybean acres as percentages of total acres harvested.

Year	Adams County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	43	43	50	43
1992	49	34	55	36
1987	45	37	50	39
1982	44	33	53	33
1978	49	27	54	32

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# Livestock Profile

## Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Adams County decreased 64 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county decreased by 19 percent. Statewide, the number of farms with hog and pig sales decreased 46 percent while the number of hogs and pigs sold increased 2 percent.

### 5. Farms selling hogs and pigs and number of hogs and pigs sold, Adams County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	63	76,688
1992	177	95,170
1987	229	88,680
1982	335	115,733
1978	445	127,449
1974	481	121,677
1969	653	144,949

## Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Adams County selling fattened cattle decreased 35 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold increased 3 percent. Statewide, farms selling decreased by 22 percent and cattle sales dropped by 16 percent over those five years.

### 6. Farms selling fattened cattle and number of fattened cattle sold, Adams County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	71	9,936
1992	110	9,645
1987	144	11,638
1982	214	18,149
1978	236	14,601

(Note: Fattened cattle are defined as cattle fattened on grain or concentrates for 30 days or more and sold for slaughter.)

\* Data suppressed to assure confidentiality.

## Dairy Cows

The number of farms in Adams County with dairy cows decreased 31 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported increased 1 percent. Statewide, the number of farms with dairy cows decreased 28 percent and the number of dairy cows dropped 14 percent.

### 7. Farms with dairy cows and number of dairy cows reported, Adams County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	9	177
1992	13	175
1987	15	248
1982	28	586

## Poultry

A small number of farms in Adams County sold chickens in 1997. No farms reported turkey sales.

### 8. Farms selling poultry and number of poultry sold, Adams County.

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	0	0	3	610,000	0	0
1992	4	96	3	1,107,000	0	0
1987	5	782	2	*	0	0
1982	18	3,646	3	*	0	0

## Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Adams County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 28 percent and there were 27 percent fewer head sold in 1997 than in 1992. Statewide, the number of farms with sheep and lamb sales decreased 36 percent and the number of head sold dropped 46 percent.

### 9. Farms selling sheep and lambs and number of sheep and lambs sold, Adams County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	21	784
1992	29	1,080
1987	39	2,995
1982	46	2,228

# Farm Operator Profile

## Age

### 10. Percentages of farm operators by age group.

Year	Adams County						State					
	34 or under	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 or over	Average age	34 or under	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 or over	Average age
1997	5.9	16.9	21.3	22.3	33.5	57.0	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	9.5	17.6	19.6	24.1	29.2	55.0	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	17.2	16.3	17.4	26.0	23.1	52.1	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	19.5	19.4	19.9	25.0	16.1	49.2	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	19.9	17.4	26.6	22.2	13.9	48.8	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Adams County in 1997 included 5.9 percent under the age of 35 and 33.5 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Adams County was 57.0 in 1997, which was older than the statewide average.

## Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Adams County in 1997, 63.7 percent claimed farming as their principal occupation, higher than the 62.9 percent state average.

### 11. Percentages of farm operators claiming farming as their principal occupation.

Year	Adams County	State
1997	63.7	62.9
1992	77.2	71.7
1987	80.1	73.5
1982	82.7	80.1
1978	83.5	80.8

## Days Worked Off Farm

The percentage of farm operators working 200 or more days off the farm in 1997 was greater in Adams County than in the state overall.

### 12. Percentages of farm operators working 200 or more days off the farm.

Year	Adams County	State
1997	35.4	33.3
1992	28.4	28.3
1987	26.3	26.5
1982	19.9	24.2
1978	16.9	22.2

## Tenure and Type of Organization

Full-owner farms are operations where the operator owns all the land he or she operates. Part-owners are those who rent some of the land they operate. Tenants rent all of the land they operate. Compared to the state, Adams County had a higher percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

### 13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Adams County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	56.0	33.2	10.8	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	51.0	36.9	12.1	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	54.7	32.0	13.4	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	49.8	32.0	18.2	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	31.4	31.4	19.5	45.9	32.2	21.9

Individual/family operated farms are the most common type of farm organization throughout the state. The percentage of individual/family operated farms in Adams County was higher than the state average in 1997, while the percentage of partnerships was higher also.

### 14. Percentages of farms by type of organization.

Year	Adams County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	84.6	11.2	4.2	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	83.4	13.5	3.1	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	83.3	13.8	2.9	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	87.7	9.4	2.9	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	85.7	12.6	1.7	85.6	11.8	2.6

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## Financial Profile

The sale of cattle and calves generated the greatest amount of agricultural revenue in Adams County in 1997, followed by soybeans.

### 15. Market value (\$1,000) of agricultural products sold, Adams County.

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	49,642	9,586	12,980	203	12,308	12,807	1,758
1992	46,160	9,153	14,129	251	11,419	8,148	3,060
1987	39,893	9,332	13,645	230	8,538	7,429	719

In Adams County, sale of cattle and calves constituted a greater percentage of total sales than in the state overall; hogs and pigs made up a smaller percentage of total sales. The sale of cattle and calves, soybeans, and corn accounted for 77 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Adams County in 1997.

### 16. Percent of total market value by sales of selected agricultural products.

Year	Adams County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	19.3	26.1	0.4	24.8	25.8	3.5	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	19.8	30.6	0.5	24.7	17.7	6.6	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	23.4	34.2	0.6	21.4	18.6	1.8	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

Farms in Adams County averaged a net cash return of \$20,523 in 1997, \$12,182 less than the state average. Of the farms in Adams County, 59 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

### 17. Average net cash return per farm.

Year	Adams County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$20,523	\$42,742	\$11,206	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	15,262	27,580	8,588	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	16,338	22,596	5,001	20,412	31,660	7,521

(Note: Net cash return is derived by subtracting total operating expenditures from the gross market value of agricultural products sold. Net cash return is that of the farm unit rather than the net farm income of the operator since sales and expenses of the partners, landlords, and contractors are included.)