

Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



Carroll County

Number of Farms

There were 1,102 farms counted in Carroll County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Carroll County decreased by 8 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 30 percent, slower than the state's decline of 35 percent.

1. Number of farms.

Year	Carroll County	State
1997	1,102	90,792
1992	1,197	96,534
1987	1,319	105,180
1982	1,396	115,413
1978	1,422	121,339
1974	1,487	126,104
1969	1,565	140,354

Average Farm Size

Farms in Carroll County averaged 320 acres in 1997, 23 acres less than the state's average.

2. Average farm size (acres).

Year	Carroll County	State
1997	320	343
1992	301	325
1987	278	301
1982	260	283
1978	258	274
1974	248	262
1969	231	239

Farm Land Use

Carroll County had 352,698 total acres in farmland in 1997, 2 percent less than in 1992.

3. Land in farms (acres), Carroll County.

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	352,698	323,889	2,450	26,359
1992	359,755	332,327	2,364	25,064
1987	366,656	336,646	2,464	27,546
1982	363,436	326,860	3,252	33,324

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

Of the acres harvested in Carroll County in 1997, 96 percent were either corn or soybean acres. This was higher than the 93 percent statewide average.

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

Year	Carroll County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	50	46	50	43
1992	53	41	55	36
1987	49	43	50	39
1982	51	35	53	33
1978	53	31	54	32

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Livestock Profile

Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Carroll County decreased 39 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 17 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, Carroll County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	376	713,696
1992	613	609,937
1987	714	510,765
1982	807	433,469
1978	874	410,743
1974	962	353,337
1969	1,171	329,401

Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Carroll County selling fattened cattle decreased 18 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 5 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, Carroll County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	182	80,057
1992	223	84,066
1987	375	93,848
1982	483	134,875
1978	474	143,228

(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 Carroll County with dairy cows decreased 29 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported decreased 32 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, Carroll County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	10	233
1992	14	341
1987	22	558
1982	45	1,101

Poultry

A small number of farms in Carroll County sold chickens in 1997. Three farms reported turkey sales.

8. Farms selling poultry and number of poultry sold, Carroll County.

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	1	*	7	2,625	3	35
1992	8	*	7	1,265	0	0
1987	10	2,516	17	3,005	0	0
1982	35	5,718	9	1,000	0	0

Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Carroll County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 27 percent and there were 75 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, Carroll County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	37	3,335
1992	51	1,909
1987	73	5,133
1982	93	3,461

Farm Operator Profile

Age

10. Percentages of farm operators by age group.

Year	Carroll 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	15.0	24.6	26.0	17.2	17.2	49.6	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	20.5	25.8	19.1	20.6	14.0	47.7	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	25.7	20.7	18.6	23.8	11.2	46.7	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	26.0	17.1	22.6	24.7	9.5	46.7	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	22.6	19.6	26.4	22.6	8.7	46.6	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Carroll County in 1997 included 15.0 percent under the age of 35 and 17.2 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Carroll County was 49.6 in 1997, which was younger than the statewide average.

Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Carroll County in 1997, 66.8 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	Carroll County	State
1997	66.8	62.9
1992	74.0	71.7
1987	74.3	73.5
1982	77.2	80.1
1978	79.6	80.8

Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Carroll County	State
1997	29.9	33.3
1992	21.9	28.3
1987	20.0	26.5
1982	15.6	24.2
1978	15.4	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, Carroll County had a lower percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Carroll County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	35.9	40.9	23.1	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	37.1	39.7	23.2	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	39.3	35.2	25.5	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	41.0	33.0	25.9	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	32.9	32.9	27.4	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 Carroll County was higher than the state average in 1997, while the percentage of partnerships was lower.

14. Percentages of farms by type of organization.

Year	Carroll County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	84.8	9.0	6.2	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	85.5	9.5	5.0	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	84.2	9.9	5.9	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	85.4	9.5	5.9	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	85.9	10.4	3.7	85.6	11.8	2.6

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Financial Profile

The sale of hogs and pigs generated the greatest amount of agricultural revenue in Carroll County in 1997, followed by cattle and calves.

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	221,458	77,875	65,000	406	38,531	37,691	1,955
1992	196,002	55,999	77,586	563	32,258	26,458	3,138
1987	170,623	52,683	67,065	646	24,998	23,206	2,025

In Carroll County, sale of cattle and calves constituted a greater percentage of total sales than in the state overall; hogs and pigs made up a greater percentage of total sales. The sale of hogs and pigs, cattle and calves, and corn accounted for 82 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Carroll County in 1997.

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

Year	Carroll County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	35.2	29.4	0.2	17.4	17.0	0.9	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	28.6	39.6	0.3	16.5	13.5	1.6	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	30.9	39.3	0.4	14.7	13.6	1.2	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

Farms in Carroll County averaged a net cash return of \$49,501 in 1997, \$16,796 more than the state average. Of the farms in Carroll County, 71 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

17. Average net cash return per farm.

Year	Carroll County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$49,501	\$75,962	\$15,735	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	36,811	47,925	14,774	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	33,711	43,168	10,912	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.)