

# Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



## Clay County

### Number of Farms

There were 668 farms counted in Clay County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Clay County decreased by 13 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 48 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

#### 1. Number of farms.

Year	Clay County	State
1997	668	90,792
1992	770	96,534
1987	877	105,180
1982	1,045	115,413
1978	1,093	121,339
1974	1,093	126,104
1969	1,287	140,354

### Average Farm Size

Farms in Clay County averaged 428 acres in 1997, 85 acres more than the state's average.

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

Year	Clay County	State
1997	428	343
1992	409	325
1987	360	301
1982	333	283
1978	318	274
1974	308	262
1969	276	239

### Farm Land Use

Clay County had 285,829 total acres in farmland in 1997, 10 percent less than in 1992.

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

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	285,829	262,903	3,664	19,262
1992	314,812	287,686	3,872	23,254
1987	315,558	288,126	3,662	23,770
1982	347,722	311,666	4,561	31,495

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

Of the acres harvested in Clay County in 1997, 98 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	Clay County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	48	49	50	43
1992	52	46	55	36
1987	45	50	50	39
1982	50	42	53	33
1978	50	41	54	32

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# Livestock Profile

## Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Clay County decreased 44 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 10 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, Clay County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	145	221,728
1992	257	201,603
1987	299	194,631
1982	387	198,220
1978	430	182,959
1974	526	159,367
1969	705	146,760

## Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Clay County selling fattened cattle decreased 35 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 38 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, Clay County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	75	10,123
1992	116	16,347
1987	150	22,412
1982	271	44,641
1978	292	52,348

(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 Clay County with dairy cows decreased 25 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported was too small to report.\* 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, Clay County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	3	*
1992	4	119
1987	11	243
1982	27	634

## Poultry

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

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	4	1,731,985	7	2,351	0	0
1992	6	*	14	*	3	*
1987	11	802,715	5	4,705	2	*
1982	15	704,556	3	*	0	0

## Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Clay County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 49 percent and there were 39 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, Clay County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	35	4,244
1992	69	6,992
1987	86	10,906
1982	101	8,748

# Farm Operator Profile

## Age

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

Year	Clay 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	7.6	25.3	26.0	20.8	20.2	52.3	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	12.7	25.2	19.6	21.6	20.9	51.0	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	20.5	20.3	19.6	25.5	14.0	48.7	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	23.8	20.3	19.8	26.1	10.0	47.0	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	24.3	14.8	26.3	26.9	7.6	47.0	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Clay County in 1997 included 7.6 percent under the age of 35 and 20.2 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Clay County was 52.3 in 1997, which was younger than the statewide average.

## Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Clay County in 1997, 64.5 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	Clay County	State
1997	64.5	62.9
1992	73.9	71.7
1987	78.2	73.5
1982	81.1	80.1
1978	82.6	80.8

## Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Clay County	State
1997	28.7	33.3
1992	20.0	28.3
1987	22.1	26.5
1982	19.0	24.2
1978	18.3	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, Clay County had a lower percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

### 13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Clay County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	35.6	41.8	22.6	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	35.3	41.8	22.9	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	36.5	39.6	23.9	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	32.2	38.3	29.5	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	36.4	36.4	30.1	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 Clay County was lower than the state average in 1997, while the percentage of partnerships was lower also.

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

Year	Clay County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	79.3	6.1	14.5	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	80.5	8.7	10.8	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	85.4	7.6	7.0	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	84.0	10.7	7.0	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	86.0	10.3	3.7	85.6	11.8	2.6

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## Financial Profile

The sale of soybeans generated the greatest amount of agricultural revenue in Clay County in 1997, followed by corn.

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	120,624	24,892	10,281	*	33,259	33,786	18,406
1992	105,076	20,673	17,139	132	28,986	25,804	12,342
1987	93,702	22,439	20,793	210	21,767	22,640	5,853

In Clay County, sale of cattle and calves constituted a smaller percentage of total sales than in the state overall; hogs and pigs made up a smaller percentage of total sales. The sale of soybeans, corn, and hogs and pigs accounted for 76 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Clay County in 1997.

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

Year	Clay County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	20.6	8.5	*	27.6	28.0	15.3	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	19.7	16.3	0.1	27.6	24.6	11.7	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	23.9	22.2	0.2	23.2	24.2	6.2	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

\* Data suppressed to assure confidentiality. Amounts for this category included in 'Other' totals.

Farms in Clay County averaged a net cash return of \$54,557 in 1997, \$21,852 more than the state average. Of the farms in Clay County, 74 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

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

Year	Clay County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$54,557	\$78,572	\$13,096	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	33,495	47,829	7,912	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	28,897	39,157	8,198	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.)