

Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



Dallas County

Number of Farms

There were 918 farms counted in Dallas County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Dallas County decreased by 3 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.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dallas County</u>	<u>State</u>
1997	918	90,792
1992	944	96,534
1987	1,081	105,180
1982	1,208	115,413
1978	1,268	121,339
1974	1,340	126,104
1969	1,485	140,354

Average Farm Size

Farms in Dallas County averaged 353 acres in 1997, 10 acres more than the state's average.

2. Average farm size (acres).

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dallas County</u>	<u>State</u>
1997	353	343
1992	331	325
1987	304	301
1982	286	283
1978	268	274
1974	264	262
1969	238	239

Farm Land Use

Dallas County had 323,612 total acres in farmland in 1997, 4 percent more than in 1992.

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Crop-land</u>	<u>Wood-land</u>	<u>Other*</u>
1997	323,612	287,666	12,928	23,018
1992	312,173	278,983	10,830	22,360
1987	328,319	288,548	12,885	26,886
1982	346,023	294,781	16,097	35,145

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

Of the acres harvested in Dallas 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.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Dallas County</u>		<u>State</u>	
	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Soy-beans</u>	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Soy-beans</u>
1997	48	48	50	43
1992	54	43	55	36
1987	49	46	50	39
1982	53	41	53	33
1978	55	37	54	32

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Livestock Profile

Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Dallas County decreased 45 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 3 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, Dallas County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	95	96,439
1992	173	93,628
1987	224	111,556
1982	323	127,958
1978	417	120,164
1974	478	129,402
1969	729	179,494

Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Dallas County selling fattened cattle decreased 27 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold increased 36 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, Dallas County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	79	12,689
1992	108	9,336
1987	165	11,549
1982	224	23,645
1978	262	25,174

(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 Dallas County with dairy cows decreased 40 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported increased 287 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, Dallas County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	6	968
1992	10	250
1987	17	349
1982	38	294

Poultry

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

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	13	*	4	921	0	0
1992	6	*	14	*	1	*
1987	9	115,472	12	*	3	136
1982	15	83,763	13	3,136	2	*

Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Dallas County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 26 percent and there were 53 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, Dallas County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	40	922
1992	54	1,975
1987	70	2,843
1982	122	2,981

Farm Operator Profile

Age

10. Percentages of farm operators by age group.

Year	Dallas 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	5.8	20.6	27.5	20.6	25.6	54.0	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	12.0	23.4	20.7	22.4	21.6	52.0	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	15.7	20.4	19.5	25.7	18.6	50.8	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	19.5	19.9	21.4	24.8	14.3	49.0	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	18.5	18.0	24.1	27.4	12.0	48.8	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Dallas County in 1997 included 5.8 percent under the age of 35 and 25.6 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Dallas County was 54.0 in 1997, which was older than the statewide average.

Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Dallas County in 1997, 48.4 percent claimed farming as their principal occupation, lower than the 62.9 percent state average.

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

Year	Dallas County	State
1997	48.4	62.9
1992	57.1	71.7
1987	61.3	73.5
1982	64.9	80.1
1978	65.8	80.8

Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Dallas County	State
1997	37.3	33.3
1992	36.3	28.3
1987	35.9	26.5
1982	33.4	24.2
1978	31.3	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, Dallas County had a higher percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Dallas County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	50.1	35.0	14.9	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	48.7	32.5	18.8	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	47.4	32.3	20.4	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	42.8	35.4	21.8	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	35.0	35.0	22.7	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 Dallas 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	Dallas County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	83.2	8.3	8.5	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	82.7	10.2	7.1	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	85.1	8.8	6.1	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	85.0	10.3	6.1	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	85.3	11.9	2.8	85.6	11.8	2.6

Extension to Communities

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Financial Profile

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

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	117,622	11,599	11,534	*	39,431	33,506	21,552
1992	87,356	8,921	10,410	301	33,347	22,953	11,424
1987	78,495	12,417	11,787	343	24,952	22,277	6,719

In Dallas 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 corn, soybeans, and other unspecified commodities accounted for 80 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Dallas County in 1997.

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

Year	Dallas County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	9.9	9.8	*	33.5	28.5	18.3	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	10.2	11.9	0.3	38.2	26.3	13.1	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	15.8	15.0	0.4	31.8	28.4	8.6	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 Dallas County averaged a net cash return of \$45,252 in 1997, \$12,547 more than the state average. Of the farms in Dallas County, 66 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

17. Average net cash return per farm.

Year	Dallas County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$45,252	\$72,125	\$7,884	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	27,006	52,521	8,794	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	18,842	36,183	6,420	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.)