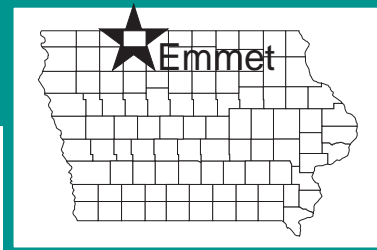


Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



Emmet County

Number of Farms

There were 519 farms counted in Emmet County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Emmet County decreased by 7 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	Emmet County	State
1997	519	90,792
1992	557	96,534
1987	609	105,180
1982	714	115,413
1978	757	121,339
1974	790	126,104
1969	841	140,354

Average Farm Size

Farms in Emmet County averaged 424 acres in 1997, 81 acres more than the state's average.

2. Average farm size (acres).

Year	Emmet County	State
1997	424	343
1992	404	325
1987	374	301
1982	344	283
1978	331	274
1974	298	262
1969	281	239

Farm Land Use

Emmet County had 220,174 total acres in farmland in 1997, 2 percent less than in 1992.

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

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	220,174	205,431	1,761	12,982
1992	224,811	209,670	1,553	13,588
1987	227,932	211,733	2,422	13,777
1982	245,412	222,299	2,226	20,887

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

Of the acres harvested in Emmet County in 1997, 99 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	Emmet County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	51	47	50	43
1992	53	46	55	36
1987	46	51	50	39
1982	52	45	53	33
1978	50	45	54	32

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Livestock Profile

Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Emmet County decreased 48 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 59 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, Emmet County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	87	176,785
1992	167	110,838
1987	182	102,578
1982	222	117,776
1978	314	114,239
1974	343	85,109
1969	447	88,489

Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Emmet County selling fattened cattle decreased 22 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold increased 27 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, Emmet County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	65	14,774
1992	83	11,659
1987	105	12,561
1982	148	22,133
1978	181	30,736

(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 Emmet County with dairy cows decreased 60 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, Emmet County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	2	*
1992	5	*
1987	7	*
1982	12	175

Poultry

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

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	4	*	5	1,240	0	0
1992	5	*	7	2,155	2	*
1987	8	17,259	7	1,415	2	*
1982	13	13,649	5	1,002	0	0

Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Emmet County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 19 percent and there were 17 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, Emmet County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	25	1,199
1992	31	1,436
1987	38	2,015
1982	43	1,401

Farm Operator Profile

Age

10. Percentages of farm operators by age group.

Year	Emmet 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	9.4	22.9	26.6	23.1	17.9	51.6	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	14.7	28.5	20.8	19.6	16.3	48.9	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	20.7	25.3	17.1	23.6	13.3	48.0	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	25.6	20.2	19.5	24.2	10.5	46.6	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	28.0	18.4	21.8	23.9	7.9	45.5	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Emmet County in 1997 included 9.4 percent under the age of 35 and 17.9 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Emmet County was 51.6 in 1997, which was younger than the statewide average.

Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Emmet County in 1997, 67.5 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	Emmet County	State
1997	67.5	62.9
1992	76.6	71.7
1987	76.4	73.5
1982	78.5	80.1
1978	79.2	80.8

Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Emmet County	State
1997	24.6	33.3
1992	20.6	28.3
1987	17.2	26.5
1982	14.7	24.2
1978	15.0	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, Emmet County had a lower percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Emmet County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	36.8	38.2	25.0	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	29.6	41.1	29.3	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	28.6	35.8	35.6	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	31.9	37.0	31.1	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	34.5	34.5	35.3	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 Emmet 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	Emmet County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	85.2	8.9	6.0	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	86.7	9.2	4.1	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	89.2	7.4	3.4	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	87.8	8.5	3.4	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	84.7	11.6	3.7	85.6	11.8	2.6

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For more information on these and other topics, please call the Extension specialists listed on the cover page or visit the Extension Internet site at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/>

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Financial Profile

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

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	91,349	17,247	13,470	0	29,646	23,903	7,083
1992	64,882	10,718	11,965	*	23,823	17,704	672
1987	56,925	10,940	9,587	*	17,840	17,858	700

In Emmet 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 hogs and pigs accounted for 78 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Emmet County in 1997.

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

Year	Emmet County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	18.9	14.7	0.0	32.5	26.2	7.8	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	16.5	18.4	*	36.7	27.3	1.0	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	19.2	16.8	*	31.3	31.4	1.2	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 Emmet County averaged a net cash return of \$58,914 in 1997, \$26,209 more than the state average. Of the farms in Emmet County, 74 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

17. Average net cash return per farm.

Year	Emmet County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$58,914	\$83,306	\$11,166	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	24,834	39,136	10,653	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	30,957	39,948	9,829	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.)