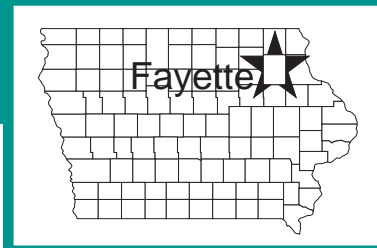


# Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



## Fayette County

### Number of Farms

There were 1,295 farms counted in Fayette County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Fayette County decreased by 9 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 37 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

#### 1. Number of farms.

Year	Fayette County	State
1997	1,295	90,792
1992	1,416	96,534
1987	1,510	105,180
1982	1,641	115,413
1978	1,742	121,339
1974	1,833	126,104
1969	2,044	140,354

### Average Farm Size

Farms in Fayette County averaged 312 acres in 1997, 31 acres less than the state's average.

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

Year	Fayette County	State
1997	312	343
1992	284	325
1987	279	301
1982	266	283
1978	254	274
1974	238	262
1969	208	239

### Farm Land Use

Fayette County had 404,407 total acres in farmland in 1997, 1 percent more than in 1992.

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

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	404,407	343,679	24,645	36,083
1992	401,625	346,042	26,724	28,859
1987	420,682	363,025	26,792	30,865
1982	437,010	365,635	27,262	44,113

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

Of the acres harvested in Fayette County in 1997, 87 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	Fayette County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	54	34	50	43
1992	60	24	55	36
1987	55	24	50	39
1982	57	21	53	33
1978	53	23	54	32

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# Livestock Profile

## Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Fayette County decreased 45 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 13 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, Fayette County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	311	514,197
1992	564	455,013
1987	611	368,889
1982	731	383,763
1978	860	309,253
1974	973	255,369
1969	1,302	266,572

## Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Fayette County selling fattened cattle decreased 11 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 12 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, Fayette County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	275	14,855
1992	310	16,910
1987	384	16,187
1982	393	29,955
1978	437	36,819

(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 Fayette County with dairy cows decreased 36 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported decreased 17 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, Fayette County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	207	12,778
1992	321	15,461
1987	404	17,710
1982	499	18,769

## Poultry

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

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	2	*	3	215	3	*
1992	11	*	9	2,255	2	*
1987	8	*	14	1,858	5	25,208
1982	33	415,593	11	14,797	4	*

## Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Fayette County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 30 percent and there were 22 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, Fayette County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	61	5,235
1992	87	6,734
1987	103	5,220
1982	102	3,445

# Farm Operator Profile

## Age

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

Year	Fayette 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	10.4	25.9	24.0	22.0	17.6	50.9	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	17.3	24.3	22.6	21.6	14.2	48.8	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	19.2	20.5	23.7	23.7	12.9	48.6	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	23.9	22.1	23.5	21.0	9.6	46.3	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	22.0	22.7	24.7	21.1	9.4	46.5	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Fayette County in 1997 included 10.4 percent under the age of 35 and 17.6 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Fayette County was 50.9 in 1997, which was younger than the statewide average.

## Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Fayette County in 1997, 63.1 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	Fayette County	State
1997	63.1	62.9
1992	66.3	71.7
1987	69.2	73.5
1982	72.3	80.1
1978	72.5	80.8

## Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Fayette County	State
1997	30.5	33.3
1992	22.6	28.3
1987	21.2	26.5
1982	20.1	24.2
1978	19.4	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, Fayette County had a lower percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

### 13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Fayette County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	46.1	37.1	16.8	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	47.4	35.3	17.3	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	50.7	31.1	18.2	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	51.6	31.6	16.8	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	29.4	29.4	16.5	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 Fayette County was lower than the state average in 1997, while the percentage of partnerships was higher.

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

Year	Fayette County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	83.2	10.3	6.5	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	84.5	11.7	3.7	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	83.0	12.5	4.5	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	84.2	12.1	4.5	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	87.7	10.3	2.0	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 Fayette County in 1997, followed by corn.

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	181,137	56,941	19,667	25,105	44,403	30,543	4,478
1992	151,654	42,940	25,114	26,729	36,847	15,873	4,151
1987	135,367	39,880	20,348	25,100	31,745	14,365	3,929

In Fayette County, sale of cattle and calves constituted a smaller 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, corn, and soybeans accounted for 73 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Fayette County in 1997.

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

Year	Fayette County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	31.4	10.9	13.9	24.5	16.9	2.5	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	28.3	16.6	17.6	24.3	10.5	2.7	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	29.5	15.0	18.5	23.5	10.6	2.9	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

Farms in Fayette County averaged a net cash return of \$35,378 in 1997, \$2,673 more than the state average. Of the farms in Fayette County, 71 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

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

Year	Fayette County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$35,378	\$53,358	\$7,754	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	22,775	35,508	9,908	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	20,689	29,534	8,957	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.)