

# Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



## Grundy County

### Number of Farms

There were 754 farms counted in Grundy County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Grundy County decreased by 12 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 47 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

#### 1. Number of farms.

Year	Grundy County	State
1997	754	90,792
1992	853	96,534
1987	1,037	105,180
1982	1,135	115,413
1978	1,224	121,339
1974	1,296	126,104
1969	1,422	140,354

### Average Farm Size

Farms in Grundy County averaged 426 acres in 1997, 83 acres more than the state's average.

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

Year	Grundy County	State
1997	426	343
1992	372	325
1987	308	301
1982	282	283
1978	267	274
1974	246	262
1969	224	239

### Farm Land Use

Grundy County had 321,389 total acres in farmland in 1997, 1 percent more than in 1992.

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

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	321,389	298,946	1,882	20,561
1992	317,205	298,279	2,092	16,834
1987	319,657	298,268	1,231	20,158
1982	320,558	295,171	1,260	24,127

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

Of the acres harvested in Grundy 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	Grundy County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	52	46	50	43
1992	56	42	55	36
1987	53	43	50	39
1982	57	37	53	33
1978	57	36	54	32

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# Livestock Profile

## Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Grundy County decreased 42 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 6 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, Grundy County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	193	278,512
1992	334	262,536
1987	403	282,242
1982	496	287,986
1978	592	246,551
1974	686	194,557
1969	928	224,396

## Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Grundy County selling fattened cattle decreased 26 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 28 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, Grundy County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	117	20,930
1992	158	28,993
1987	227	36,986
1982	283	29,605
1978	359	50,298

(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 Grundy County with dairy cows decreased 38 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported decreased 9 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, Grundy County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	13	745
1992	21	819
1987	33	1,317
1982	62	2,000

## Poultry

A small number of farms in Grundy County sold chickens in 1997. A few farms also reported turkey sales.

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	6	146,838	7	2,715	2	*
1992	3	*	8	2,955	1	*
1987	8	*	28	11,380	8	5,201
1982	27	31,096	23	7,689	4	*

## Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Grundy County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 41 percent and there were 65 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, Grundy County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	42	2,388
1992	71	6,843
1987	106	5,177
1982	111	9,669

# Farm Operator Profile

## Age

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

Year	Grundy 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	12.7	24.0	24.3	22.7	16.3	50.4	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	15.5	23.3	25.2	22.7	13.2	49.2	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	19.7	22.4	23.7	22.6	11.7	48.0	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	21.9	22.8	23.0	22.9	9.4	46.8	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	19.4	21.7	25.0	25.5	8.5	47.5	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Grundy County in 1997 included 12.7 percent under the age of 35 and 16.3 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Grundy County was 50.4 in 1997, which was younger than the statewide average.

## Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Grundy County in 1997, 58.1 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	Grundy County	State
1997	58.1	62.9
1992	65.0	71.7
1987	68.3	73.5
1982	71.2	80.1
1978	73.4	80.8

## Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Grundy County	State
1997	29.4	33.3
1992	27.4	28.3
1987	25.1	26.5
1982	24.2	24.2
1978	17.0	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, Grundy County had a lower percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

### 13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Grundy County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	28.8	45.0	26.3	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	31.7	41.5	26.8	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	33.7	35.0	31.3	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	36.7	34.7	28.6	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	34.2	34.2	30.6	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 Grundy 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	Grundy County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	79.3	9.2	11.5	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	82.4	8.7	8.9	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	81.6	10.1	8.3	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	83.0	9.4	8.3	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	82.4	12.3	5.2	85.6	11.8	2.6

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## Financial Profile

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

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	149,118	35,127	18,438	1,372	49,451	41,672	3,058
1992	128,227	25,712	27,999	1,276	41,906	28,381	2,953
1987	120,898	29,918	29,779	1,997	31,292	24,373	3,539

In Grundy 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 85 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Grundy County in 1997.

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

Year	Grundy County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	23.6	12.4	0.9	33.2	27.9	2.1	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	20.1	21.8	1.0	32.7	22.1	2.3	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	24.7	24.6	1.7	25.9	20.2	2.9	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

Farms in Grundy County averaged a net cash return of \$51,654 in 1997, \$18,949 more than the state average. Of the farms in Grundy County, 81 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

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

Year	Grundy County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$51,654	\$65,965	\$11,010	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	31,593	41,223	12,528	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	26,184	33,981	6,285	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.)