

# Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



## Hardin County

### Number of Farms

There were 857 farms counted in Hardin County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Hardin County decreased by 13 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 42 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

#### 1. Number of farms.

Year	Hardin County	State
1997	857	90,792
1992	986	96,534
1987	1,065	105,180
1982	1,208	115,413
1978	1,278	121,339
1974	1,300	126,104
1969	1,485	140,354

### Average Farm Size

Farms in Hardin County averaged 397 acres in 1997, 54 acres more than the state's average.

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

Year	Hardin County	State
1997	397	343
1992	337	325
1987	317	301
1982	295	283
1978	279	274
1974	268	262
1969	235	239

### Farm Land Use

Hardin County had 339,951 total acres in farmland in 1997, 2 percent more than in 1992.

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

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	339,951	314,144	6,968	18,839
1992	332,358	303,894	6,690	21,774
1987	337,990	305,339	9,481	23,170
1982	355,823	315,745	10,839	29,239

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

Of the acres harvested in Hardin 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	Hardin County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	53	45	50	43
1992	59	39	55	36
1987	53	43	50	39
1982	57	38	53	33
1978	58	34	54	32

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# Livestock Profile

## Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Hardin County decreased 39 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county increased by 80 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, Hardin County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	221	770,168
1992	364	428,513
1987	406	398,460
1982	493	352,307
1978	587	300,717
1974	631	250,911
1969	915	242,694

## Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Hardin County selling fattened cattle decreased 18 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 37 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, Hardin County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	116	9,507
1992	141	15,029
1987	236	21,153
1982	288	43,880
1978	332	54,813

(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 Hardin County with dairy cows decreased 14 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported did not change. 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, Hardin County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	6	161
1992	7	161
1987	18	455
1982	24	648

## Poultry

A small number of farms in Hardin County sold chickens in 1997. One farm reported turkey sales.

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	4	121,026	5	755	1	*
1992	7	654,486	7	6,185	3	*
1987	10	116,309	12	2,447	4	90,021
1982	20	139,429	19	4,175	4	*

## Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Hardin County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 41 percent and there were 62 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, Hardin County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	38	1,428
1992	64	3,759
1987	77	1,853
1982	102	2,825

# Farm Operator Profile

## Age

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

Year	Hardin 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	9.0	25.0	22.5	21.2	22.3	52.2	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	17.4	24.7	19.6	21.4	16.8	49.4	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	20.2	20.1	21.3	22.3	16.1	48.9	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	22.0	20.8	21.5	25.1	10.6	47.5	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	22.5	17.6	25.4	25.4	9.2	47.1	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Hardin County in 1997 included 9.0 percent under the age of 35 and 22.3 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Hardin County was 52.2 in 1997, which was younger than the statewide average.

## Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Hardin County in 1997, 63.4 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	Hardin County	State
1997	63.4	62.9
1992	71.1	71.7
1987	75.8	73.5
1982	78.0	80.1
1978	79.9	80.8

## Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Hardin County	State
1997	29.1	33.3
1992	26.0	28.3
1987	24.3	26.5
1982	22.5	24.2
1978	19.9	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, Hardin County had a lower percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

### 13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Hardin County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	34.4	41.8	23.8	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	34.8	39.4	25.9	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	36.7	39.1	24.2	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	38.1	35.7	26.2	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	35.7	35.7	26.7	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 Hardin 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	Hardin County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	81.4	8.1	10.5	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	83.9	8.9	7.2	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	84.4	8.8	6.8	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	82.0	10.6	6.8	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	84.0	12.1	4.0	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 Hardin County in 1997, followed by corn.

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	201,877	88,491	9,968	305	47,522	37,735	17,856
1992	143,724	40,265	16,492	252	42,727	24,828	19,160
1987	115,469	42,300	16,562	443	29,512	23,494	3,158

In Hardin 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 86 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Hardin County in 1997.

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

Year	Hardin County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	43.8	4.9	0.2	23.5	18.7	8.8	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	28.0	11.5	0.2	29.7	17.3	13.3	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	36.6	14.3	0.4	25.6	20.3	2.7	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

Farms in Hardin County averaged a net cash return of \$51,153 in 1997, \$18,448 more than the state average. Of the farms in Hardin County, 71 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

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

Year	Hardin County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$51,153	\$79,338	\$16,402	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	28,107	42,655	7,326	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	23,162	36,119	9,572	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.)