

Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



Page County

Number of Farms

There were 845 farms counted in Page County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Page County decreased by 8 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 41 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

1. Number of farms.

Year	Page County	State
1997	845	90,792
1992	916	96,534
1987	1,015	105,180
1982	1,057	115,413
1978	1,166	121,339
1974	1,200	126,104
1969	1,443	140,354

Average Farm Size

Farms in Page County averaged 366 acres in 1997, 23 acres more than the state's average.

2. Average farm size (acres).

Year	Page County	State
1997	366	343
1992	348	325
1987	333	301
1982	315	283
1978	294	274
1974	274	262
1969	239	239

Farm Land Use

Page County had 282,228 total acres in farmland in 1997, 13 percent less than in 1992.

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

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	282,228	259,981	7,566	14,681
1992	318,778	272,370	6,981	39,427
1987	337,772	284,766	8,019	44,987
1982	333,108	281,529	6,995	44,584

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

Of the acres harvested in Page County in 1997, 92 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	Page County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	44	47	50	43
1992	48	43	55	36
1987	42	47	50	39
1982	43	42	53	33
1978	48	37	54	32

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Livestock Profile

Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Page County decreased 56 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county decreased by 33 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, Page County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	130	98,018
1992	293	147,214
1987	332	147,801
1982	436	172,527
1978	601	182,893
1974	643	165,030
1969	949	207,684

Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Page County selling fattened cattle decreased 37 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 16 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, Page County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	100	12,317
1992	158	14,738
1987	258	22,032
1982	329	28,749
1978	404	33,811

(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 Page County with dairy cows decreased 44 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported decreased 71 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, Page County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	5	75
1992	9	261
1987	19	290
1982	29	449

Poultry

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

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

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	0	0	2	*	0	0
1992	4	545	4	*	1	*
1987	6	559	3	250	1	*
1982	17	2,861	7	292	0	0

Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Page County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 28 percent and there were 12 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, Page County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	34	1,779
1992	47	2,014
1987	57	2,012
1982	56	3,146

Farm Operator Profile

Age

10. Percentages of farm operators by age group.

Year	Page 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	6.7	20.9	23.7	19.1	29.6	55.0	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	13.6	20.2	18.7	22.1	25.4	52.7	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	16.6	19.3	18.0	24.3	21.8	51.6	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	22.3	16.1	21.9	23.7	16.0	48.9	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	20.2	14.0	24.6	25.7	15.4	49.5	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Page County in 1997 included 6.7 percent under the age of 35 and 29.6 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Page County was 55.0 in 1997, which was older than the statewide average.

Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Page County in 1997, 70.8 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	Page County	State
1997	70.8	62.9
1992	78.5	71.7
1987	78.1	73.5
1982	85.4	80.1
1978	82.9	80.8

Days Worked Off Farm

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

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

Year	Page County	State
1997	36.2	33.3
1992	30.7	28.3
1987	28.5	26.5
1982	24.7	24.2
1978	18.8	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, Page County had a higher percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Page County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	54.2	34.6	11.2	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	47.7	38.0	14.3	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	48.9	34.4	16.7	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	44.7	34.8	20.4	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	33.2	33.2	21.8	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 Page County was higher than the state average in 1997, while the percentage of partnerships was the same.

14. Percentages of farms by type of organization.

Year	Page County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	86.3	9.1	4.6	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	84.6	11.1	4.3	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	83.2	13.8	3.1	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	82.7	14.3	3.1	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	82.3	15.3	2.4	85.6	11.8	2.6

Extension to Communities

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Financial Profile

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

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

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	79,419	11,372	15,149	*	23,270	25,299	4,329
1992	81,768	14,836	17,449	449	21,087	18,157	9,790
1987	72,822	15,553	19,578	451	13,097	16,006	8,137

In Page County, sale of cattle and calves constituted a greater percentage of total sales than in the state overall; hogs and pigs made up a smaller percentage of total sales. The sale of soybeans, corn, and cattle and calves accounted for 80 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Page County in 1997.

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

Year	Page County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	14.3	19.1	*	29.3	31.9	5.5	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	18.1	21.3	0.5	25.8	22.2	12.0	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	21.4	26.9	0.6	18.0	22.0	11.2	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 Page County averaged a net cash return of \$28,252 in 1997, \$4,453 less than the state average. Of the farms in Page County, 71 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

17. Average net cash return per farm.

Year	Page County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$28,252	\$42,338	\$5,793	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	33,008	42,881	5,279	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	21,115	29,806	5,870	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.)