

Overview

The 2012 Census of Agriculture Reports follows the same format as in 2007. There are several graphs in the beginning that show the changes from 2007 and 2002. Table 1 Historical Highlights contains data from the 1982 through 2012 Censuses of Agriculture. Table 2 shows the market value of agricultural products sold.

Selected Characteristics tables are tables 55-63. These tables highlight demographic groups.

The detailed summary tables are tables 64-70. These tables are about 25 pages long.

General

The following tables where generated using the Quick Stats query tool or in some cases I copied a table from the Census publication. I may have included some comments.

Number of farms and land in Farms

			2012 as
	2012	2007	percent of
FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS	Total	total	2007
Farms number	7,755	7,691	101%
Land in farms acres	523,517	517,879	101%
Average size of farm acres	68	67	101%
Median size of farm acres	23	24	

No changes from the preliminary release.

Land use

Land Use			Percent
	2012	2007	Change
		acres	
All Other LAND	91,383	69,814	31%
CROPLAND	160,789	187,406	-14%
PASTURELAND	62,234	48,120	29%
WOODLAND	209,111	212,539	-2%
Total	523,517	517,879	1%

This table shows changes in land use.



CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE Massachusetts Highlights

Farms by Economic sales class

			% of	Cumulative		
			all	% of total	% of	Cumulative
	farms	sales	farms	farms	sales	% of sales
LESS THAN						
1,000 \$	2,629	(D)	33.9%	33.9%		0.0%
1,000 TO						
2,499 \$	933	(D)	12.0%	45.9%		0.0%
2,500 TO						
4,999 \$	748	2,592,000	9.6%	55.6%	0.5%	0.4%
5,000 TO						
9,999 \$	835	5,555,000	10.8%	66.3%	1.1%	1.5%
10,000 TO						
24,999 \$	890	13,499,000	11.5%	77.8%	2.7%	4.3%
25,000 TO						
49,999 \$	493	16,039,000	6.4%	84.2%	3.3%	7.5%
50,000 TO						
99,999 \$	450	29,654,000	5.8%	90.0%	6.0%	13.6%
100,000 TO						
249,999 \$	370	55,832,000	4.8%	94.8%	11.3%	24.9%
250,000 TO						
499,999 \$	201	66,511,000	2.6%	97.3%	13.5%	38.4%
500,000 TO						
999,999 \$	117	78,970,000	1.5%	98.9%	16.0%	54.5%
1,000,000 OR						
MORE \$	89	221,447,000	1.1%	100.0%	45.0%	99.5%
Total	7,755	492,111,000	100%		100%	

Farms with \$500,000 sales and above totaled 206 and accounted for 3% of farms and 61% of all gross sales.

Farms with \$250,000 sales and above totaled 407 and accounted for 5% of farms and 75% of all gross sales.

Farms with \$100,000 sales and above totaled 777 and accounted for 10% of farms and 86% of all gross sales.





Farm Income

The following table combines farm income from commodity sales, Government payments, and farm related income.

			Percent
Data Item	2012	2007	Change
COMMODITY TOTALS - SALES, MEASURED			
IN \$	492,211,000	489,820,000	0%
GOVT PROGRAMS, FEDERAL - RECEIPTS,			
MEASURED IN \$	8,124,000	4,603,000	76%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED - RECEIPTS,			
MEASURED IN \$	78,482,000	63,327,000	24%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, AG SERVICES,			
CUSTOMWORK & OTHER - RECEIPTS,			
MEASURED IN \$	4,671,000	3,677,000	27%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, AG TOURISM &			
RECREATIONAL SERVICES - RECEIPTS,			
MEASURED IN \$	12,034,000	5,306,000	1279
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, CROP & ANIMAL			
INSURANCE PAYMENTS - RECEIPTS,			
MEASURED IN \$	3,268,000	1,423,000	130%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, FOREST			
PRODUCTS, (EXCL CHRISTMAS TREES &			
SHORT TERM WOODY CROPS & MAPLE			
SYRUP) - RECEIPTS, MEASURED IN \$	4,486,000	2,401,000	87%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, GOVT			
PROGRAMS, STATE & LOCAL - RECEIPTS,			
MEASURED IN \$	1,455,000	1,951,000	-25%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, OTHER -			
RECEIPTS, MEASURED IN \$	43,573,000	38,133,000	149
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, PATRONAGE			
DIVIDENDS & REFUNDS FROM			
COOPERATIVES - RECEIPTS, MEASURED IN \$	7,381,000	9,534,000	-239
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, RENT, LAND &			
BUILDINGS - RECEIPTS, MEASURED IN \$	1,614,000	902,000	799
Total	578,817,000	557,750,000	49

This table shows the value of farm sales, government payments, and farm related income. It does not include full value of value added sales. It will include the value of the raw farm product. For example, it does not include the value of jam sales but does include the value of the fruit that was used to make the jam.





Table 5. Net Cash Farm Income of the Operations and Operators: 2012 and 2007

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

	2012		2007	7
Item	Farms	Income (\$1,000)	Farms	Income (\$1,000)
Net cash farm income of the operations (see	7,755	39,499	7,691	96,266
text)	(X)	5,093	(X)	12,517
Average per farm dollars				
	2,585	194,581	2,950	187,701
Farms with net gains ¹	(X)	75,273	(X)	63,627
Average per farm dollars				
Farms with gains of-	245	115	246	118
less than \$1,000	454	1,246	626	1,636
\$1,000 to \$4,999	365	2,623	407	2,936
\$5,000 to \$9,999	481	7,629	589	9,502
\$10,000 to \$24,999	359	12,976	385	13,717
\$25,000 to \$49,999	681	169,992	697	159,791
\$50,000 or more				
	5,170	155,082	4,741	91,435
Farms with net losses	(X)	29,997	(X)	19,286
Average per farm dollars				
Farms with losses of-	324	155	357	187
less than \$1,000	1,280	3,740	1,215	3,519
\$1,000 to \$4,999	1,083	7,844	1,119	8,002
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1,252	19,977	1,209	19,183
\$10,000 to \$24,999	545	19,075	435	15,325
\$25,000 to \$49,999	686	104,291	406	45,219
\$50,000 or more		,		
	7,755	38,947	7,691	95,807
Net cash farm income of operators (see text) Average per farm dollars	(X)	5,022	(X)	12,457
	2,584	194,040	2,947	187,311
Farm operators reporting net gains ¹	(X)	75,093	(X)	63,560
Average per farm dollars				
Farms with gains of-	246	116	249	120
less than \$1,000	454	1,236	625	1,635
\$1,000 to \$4,999	365	2,624	402	2,890
\$5,000 to \$9,999	480	7,617	591	9,560
\$10,000 to \$24,999	360	13,022	384	13,713
\$25,000 to \$49,999	679	169,426	696	159,393
\$50,000 or more				
	5,171	155,094	4,744	91,504
Farm operators reporting net losses	(X)	29,993	(X)	19,288
Average per farm dollars				
Farms with losses of-	329	159	357	186
less than \$1,000	1,275	3,733	1,215	3,519
\$1,000 to \$4,999	1,083	7,845	1,120	8,012
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1,252	19,984	1,212	19,219
\$10,000 to \$24,999	547	19,122	432	15,234
\$25,000 to \$49,999	685	104,250	408	45,334
\$50,000 or more				



CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE Massachusetts Highlights

¹ Farms with total production expenses equal to market value of agricultural products sold, government payments, and farm-related income are included as farms with gains of less than \$1,000.

Net cash farm income of the operators. This value is the operators' total revenue (fees for producing under a production contract, total sales not under a production contract, government payments, and farm-related income) minus total expenses paid by the operators. Net cash farm income of the operator includes the payments received for producing under a production contract and does not include value of commodities produced under production contract by the contract growers. Depreciation is not used in the calculation of net cash farm income.

For publication purposes, farms are divided into two categories:

- 1. Farms with net gains (includes those operators that broke even).
- 2. Farms with net losses.





Ag Labor

Data Item	2012	2007	Per. Change
LABOR, HIRED - NUMBER OF WORKERS	15,649	13,039	20.0%
LABOR, HIRED - OPERATIONS WITH WORKERS	2,534	1,972	28.5%
LABOR, HIRED, GE 150 DAYS - NUMBER OF WORKERS	6,257	4,736	32.1%
LABOR, HIRED, LT 150 DAYS - NUMBER OF WORKERS	9,392	8,303	13.1%

This table shows the changes in hired labor.

Direct Market Sales

Direct Market Sales		US
	2012	Ranking
OPERATIONS WITH SALES	2,206	24
SALES, MEASURED IN \$	47,909,000	5
SALES, MEASURED IN \$ / OPERATION	21,717	3
SALES, MEASURED IN PCT OF FARM OPERATIONS	28.4	4
SALES, MEASURED IN PCT OF FARM SALES	9.7	3

County	Sales	Ranking of
	Million \$	all US
		Counties
Worcester	10.585	6 th
Middlesex	8.404	10 th
Essex	5.472	25 th
Bristol	4.479	32 nd
Hampshire	4.450	33 rd
Franklin	3.449	60 th

Agri-tourism

			Percent
Data Item	2012	2007	Change
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, AG TOURISM & RECREATIONAL			
SERVICES - OPERATIONS WITH RECEIPTS	270	112	141%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, AG TOURISM & RECREATIONAL			
SERVICES - RECEIPTS, MEASURED IN \$	1,803,000	1,012,000	78%
INCOME, FARM-RELATED, AG TOURISM & RECREATIONAL			
SERVICES - RECEIPTS, MEASURED IN \$ / OPERATION	6,678	9,039	-26%

County	Sales Million \$	Ranking of all US Counties
Worcester	5.393	5 th
Middlesex	3.746	16 th





Organic.

The data represent the value of commodities produced according to USDA's National Organic Program and sold from operations during 2012. Crops, livestock, and poultry products were reported individually on the 2012 report form, but in 2007, these commodities were combined and may have come from either crops or livestock production. The data for the 2012 census years is not directly comparable.

Table 54. Organic Agriculture: 2012

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

Item	2012	Item	2012
VALUE OF SALES OF CERTIFIED OR EXEMPT ORGANICALLY PRODUCED COMMODITIES	198	PRINCIPAL OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS FOR FARMS WITH CERTIFIED OR EXEMPT ORGANIC PRODUCTION - Con.	104
Total organic product sales (see text) farms \$1,000	26,238 132,513	Place of residence: On farm operated Not on farm operated	184 47
Average per farmdollars			
By value of sales: \$1 to \$4,999farms \$1,000 \$5,000 to \$9,999farms \$1,000 \$10,000 to \$24,999farms \$1,000 \$25,000 to \$49,999farms	103 181 17 127 16 233 19 740	Days worked off farm: None Any 1 to 49 days 50 to 99 days 100 to 199 days 200 days or more	105 126 26 24 35 41
\$1,000 \$50,000 or morefarms \$1,000 TYPE OF PRODUCTION (SEE TEXT)	43 24,956	Years on present farm: 2 years or less 3 or 4 years 5 to 9 years 10 years or more	32 29 43 127
USDA National Organic Program certified organic	131	Average years on present farm	14
productionfarms USDA National Organic Program organic production exempt from certificationfarms Acres transitioning into USDA National Organic Program organic productionfarms PRINCIPAL OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS FOR FARMS WITH CERTIFIED OR EXEMPT ORGANIC PRODUCTION	100 48	Age group: Under 25 years	34 20 26 25 44 36
Sex of operator: Male Female	114 117	60 to 64 years 65 to 69 years 70 years and over	18 28
Primary occupation: Farming Other	169 62	Average age	54.0





Practices

CSAs

Massachusetts had 431 farms with CSAs which ranks 6th nationally. This is 5.6 percent of all farms and ranks 1st nationally by percent of farms.

Top Counties

County	Nu	Rank
	mber of	ing of all
	farms	US
		Counties
Middlesex	88	1 st
		(tie)
Hampshire	65	5 th
Worcester	61	7 th
Franklin	59	9 th

Wholesale direct to retailers and institutions

Massachusetts 1,035 farms that market directly to retailers which ranks 18th nationally. This is 13.3 percent of all farms and ranks 6th nationally by percent of farms.

Top Counties

County	Nu	Rank
	mber of	ing of all
	farms	US
		Counties
Worcester	175	13 st
		(tie)
Franklin	170	15 th
Middlesex	132	21 th
Hampshire	129	23 th

