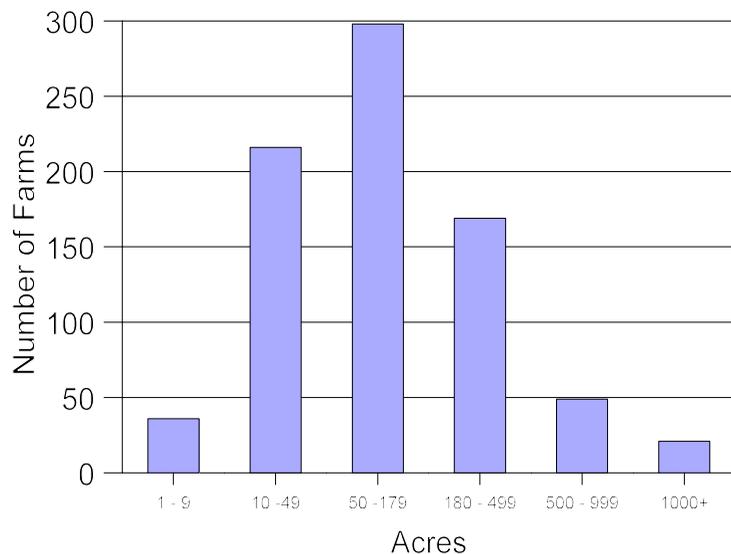
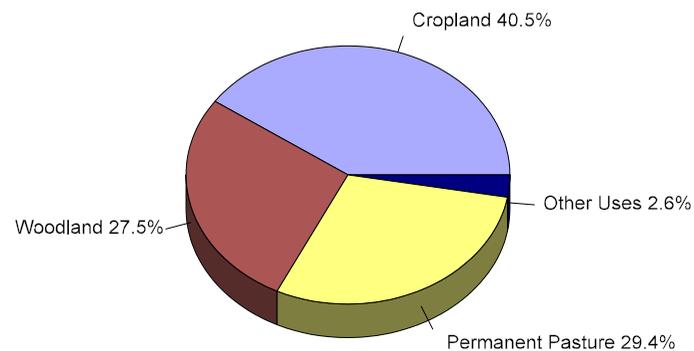


## FARMS

### Farms by Size



### Land in Farms



Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	387
Other	402
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	680
Female	109
Average age of principal operator (years)	
	57.7
All operators <sup>5</sup> by race:	
White	1109
Black or African American	8
American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	1
More than one race	-
All operators <sup>5</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	
	6

Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for "cropland pasture" and "other pasture" are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. 4/ Beginning with 1974, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. 5/ Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm. NA Not Available. (D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than 1/2 of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Vol. 1, Geographic Series" for complete footnotes.



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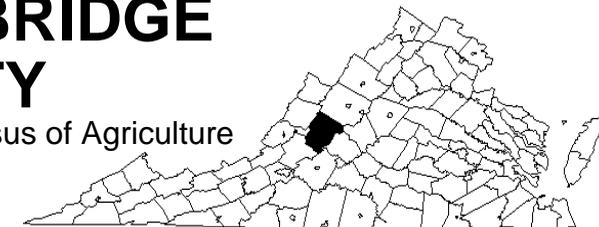
Phone (804) 771-2493  
FAX Number (804)-771-2651  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>  
Kevin Barnes, Director

For more Statistics on the 2002 Census of Agriculture go  
to  
[www.NASS.USDA.GOV](http://www.NASS.USDA.GOV)

Revised 2004

# ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture



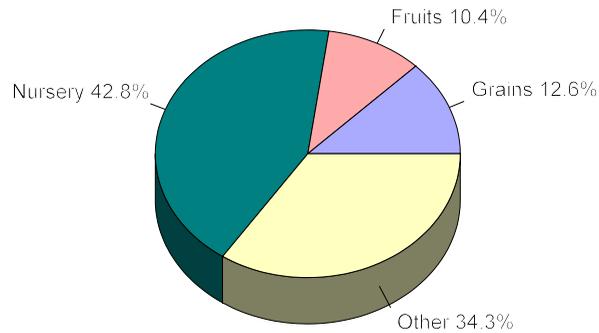
Rockbridge County is situated in the central part of the Great Valley of Virginia. Bordered by the Blue Ridge Mountains on the east and the Allegheny Mountains on the west, the county derives its name from the natural rock bridge over Cedar Creek. The county was formed in 1778 from parts of Augusta and Botetourt.

A broad valley extends southwestward through the center of the county, and elevations in Rockbridge range from 1,000 feet in the valley to 4,000 feet at higher mountain points. Temperatures for the area average 36 degrees in January and 75 in July, while annual precipitation averages 38 inches. Rockbridge has a frost-free growing season of roughly 168 days, usually extending between April 26 and October 11.

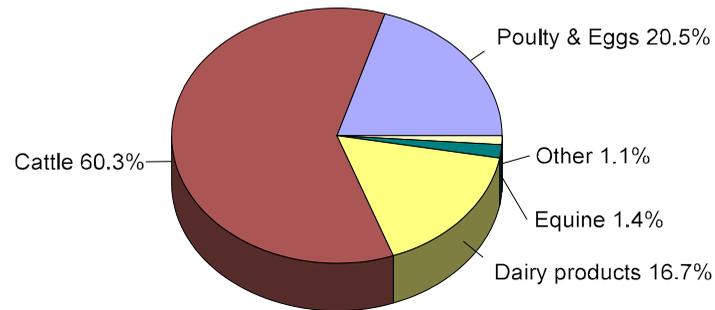
Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	789	763
Land in Farms (acres)	157,308	148,886
Average size of farm	199	195
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$18,545,000	\$15,841,000
Average per farm	\$23,505	\$20,761
Government Payments	\$759,000	\$150,000

# CASH RECEIPTS

## Crops



## Livestock & Poultry



### Ranked Items among the 98 state counties and 3,078 US Counties, 2002

Commodity	Quantity	State Rank	Universe 1/	US Rank	Universe 1/
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	319	57	95	2,123	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	43	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	262	25	93	783	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	1,081	35	95	1,057	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	76	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	771	31	97	1,503	3,046
Poultry and eggs	3,289	17	94	709	2,918
Cattle and calves	9,650	16	97	1,017	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	2,681	26	83	882	2,493
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)	90	(D)	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	124	12	93	679	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	225	33	94	1,006	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	44	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	2	64	87	2,338	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Turkeys	113,560	7	72	153	2,328
Cattle and calves	37,411	13	97	845	3,059
Sheep and lambs	1,701	12	93	648	2,867
Horses and ponies	1,401	15	97	839	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	1,323	28	96	1,196	2,983
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	29,820	12	97	730	3,059
Corn for silage	2,053	16	87	743	2,307
Corn for grain	1,520	44	96	1,659	2,592
Barley	220	41	73	570	1,246
All Wheat for grain	176	66	87	2,066	2,517

### FARM DATA & LAND USE

YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture 3/	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-						
1940	2,125	248,788	39	54,269	9,315	70,004	NA	NA	NA
1945	1,999	254,155	44	51,587	3,562	17,391	91,955	33,559	49,248
1950	1,751	239,705	68	38,850	7,055	29,114	77,999	36,066	44,006
1954	1,498	223,182	79	37,891	3,621	14,929	77,387	41,697	41,795
1959	1,128	207,667	100	29,687	5,085	22,545	66,069	33,193	45,474
1964	936	188,355	124	24,974	3,560	22,289	38,299	NA	NA
1969	780	176,862	203	22,251	3,972	37,680	32,642	17,886	28,924
1974 4/	712	168,224	384	22,392	1,442	42,161	35,642	NA	NA
1978	667	159,321	721	25,561	1,971	40,978	34,435	20,601	28,976
1982	711	158,186	788	25,465	2,136	33,809	38,390	18,053	33,566
1987	682	146,455	938	27,048	1,152	35,561	37,099	18,984	23,249
1992	643	141,766	1,447	25,887	3,155	32,253	35,484	14,622	26,965
1997 2/	763	148,886	2,023	30,729	1,637	34,383	34,693	17,424	26,653
<b>2002</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>157,308</b>	<b>2,874</b>	<b>33,852</b>	<b>1,726</b>	<b>28,060</b>	<b>46,210</b>	<b>13,142</b>	<b>30,186</b>

See footnotes on back.