



ERIE COUNTY FARM STATISTICS

April 2000

Erie county lies in the western part of the state bordering Lake Erie. In 1998, there were 156,700 acres in farms, 23 percent of the county's total 668,800 acres. There were 1,175 farms in the county averaging 133 acres per farm. Erie county ranks 4th in the state for number of farms and 24th for land in farms.

In 1997, according to the Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agricultural products sold from county farms was \$77.8 million. Total sales averaged \$79,990 per farm. The leading products sold were: dairy products, nursery and greenhouse, poultry products, cattle and calves, and vegetables.

The average value of land and buildings per farm in 1997 was \$249,147. Machinery and equipment were valued at \$57,942 per farm. Total production expenses in 1997 were \$65.1 million for an average of \$66,933 per farm. The Census showed 53 percent of the farm operators reported farming as their principal occupation. The average age of the operator was 53.8 years. Data from the U.S. Department of Commerce showed the average personal income for all wage earners in the county in 1996 was \$24,046.

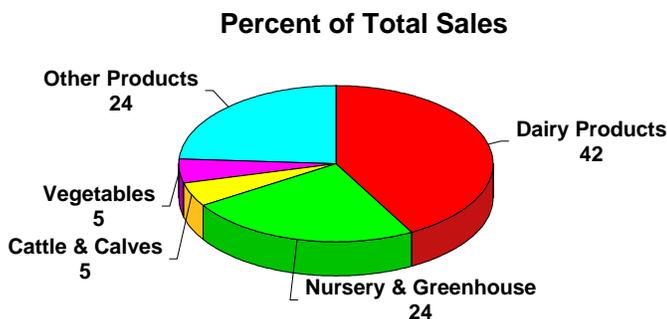
LEADING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Product	1997 Sales Thous. Dol.	Percent of Total	County Rank
Dairy Products	32,600	42	23
Nursery & Greenhouse	18,655	24	2
Poultry Products	D	0	6
Cattle & Calves	4,171	5	19
Vegetables	3,868	5	16
Other Products	18,536	24	10
TOTAL SALES	77,830		

1997 Census of Agriculture

D: Cannot be disclosed-included in "Other Products"

LEADING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS



FARMS, LAND IN FARMS, AND LAND USE

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Total Cropland 1/	Permanent Pasture 2/	Total Woodland 3/	Other Land 4/
		Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
1940	6,171	442,312	5/	5/	51,933	5/
1950	4,611	376,353	234,156	50,815	65,434	25,948
1959	2,725	289,889	190,770	28,961	48,244	21,914
1969	1,680	222,215	151,082	5/	40,054	5/
1978	1,398	202,804	149,816	9,018	31,053	12,917
1982	1,361	190,347	136,652	8,424	29,652	15,619
1987	1,335	171,700	124,200	7,700	28,500	11,300
1992	1,170	160,200	114,400	9,500	25,400	10,900
1993	1,185	158,300	113,000	9,100	24,800	11,400
1994	1,180	154,700	110,600	8,400	24,500	11,200
1995	1,165	155,200	109,900	8,000	25,500	11,800
1996	1,165	152,900	109,700	7,500	25,900	9,800
1997	1,165	153,900	108,300	7,200	26,900	11,500
1998	1,175	156,700	109,300	7,600	28,100	11,700

1940-1982 U.S. Census of Agriculture 1/ Includes cropland pastured. 2/ Excludes cropland and woodland pastured. 3/ Includes woodland pastured. 4/ Land in house lots, ponds, wasteland, etc. 5/ Not available.

FARMS BY SALES CLASS

Sales Class	1992	1997
Number of Farms		
Under \$10,000	537	515
\$10,000 to \$49,999	201	208
\$50,000 to \$99,999	79	71
\$100,000 or more	178	179
Farms Reporting	995	973

U. S. Census of Agriculture

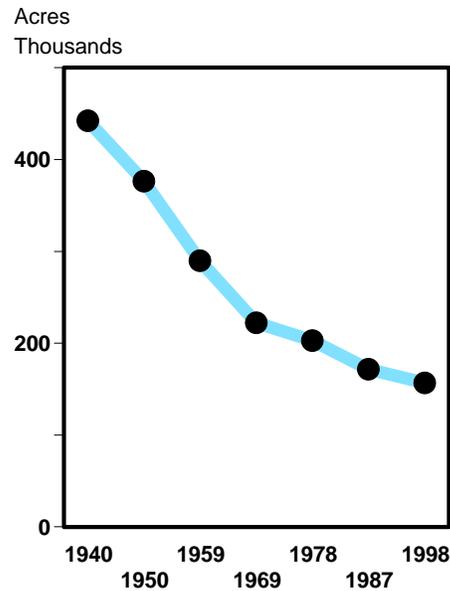
RESIDENT POPULATION

In 1998, County's population ranked 7th in the state

Year	Total	Population Per Square Mile
1940	798,400	764
1950	899,200	860
1960	1,064,700	1019
1970	1,113,500	1066
1980	1,015,500	972
1990	968,500	927
1998	934,471	894

U.S. Census of Population

Land in Farms



CATTLE: Number on Farms, January 1

Year	All Cattle & Calves	Beef Cows	Milk Cows
Number on farms			
1940	46,969	1/	1/
1950	47,485	1,159	28,423
1959	46,033	1,865	25,707
1969	39,373	2,365	21,477
1978	44,000	2,700	23,000
1982	45,000	3,000	22,000
1987	36,500	1,600	19,000
1992	31,000	1,200	16,000
1993	31,000	1,300	15,700
1994	29,000	1,600	15,700
1995	28,000	1,500	14,500
1996	30,000	1,500	16,000
1997	31,000	1,600	15,500
1998	30,000	1,500	16,000

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture
1/ Not available.

MILK: Cows & Production

Year	Annual Avg. Milk Cows	Average Production Per Cow	Total Milk Production
No. Head Pounds Million lbs.			
1940	1/	1/	1/
1950	1/	1/	1/
1959	1/	1/	1/
1969	1/	1/	1/
1978	22,300	11,000	245.3
1982	21,500	11,500	247.3
1987	18,000	14,000	252.0
1992	15,700	16,200	254.3
1993	15,700	16,000	251.2
1994	15,500	16,600	257.3
1995	15,000	17,200	258.0
1996	15,500	16,800	260.4
1997	16,000	16,600	265.6
1998	16,000	17,000	272.0

1/ Not available.

OATS: Acreage, Yield, and Production

Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
Acres Acres Bushels Bushels				
1940	1/	30,931	34.1	1,055,309
1950	1/	23,401	30.0	701,300
1959	1/	18,366	56.0	1,028,471
1969	1/	1/	1/	1/
1978	7,900	7,000	55.0	385,000
1982	8,100	7,000	67.0	469,000
1987	6,000	5,400	64.0	345,600
1992	3,600	2,800	75.0	210,000
1993	4,000	3,200	68.0	217,600
1994	3,900	3,400	69.0	234,600
1995	3,200	2,600	62.0	160,600
1996	2,600	2,200	58.0	127,900
1997	3,100	2,800	65.0	182,000
1998	3,700	3,200	60.0	192,100

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture
1/ Not available.

WHEAT: Acreage, Yield, and Production

Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
Acres Acres Bushels Bushels				
1940	1/	13,841	21.2	292,817
1950	1/	12,460	24.3	302,839
1959	1/	8,224	29.1	239,103
1969	4,100	3,800	35.0	133,000
1978	1,700	1,600	37.0	59,200
1982	2,400	2,100	38.0	79,800
1987	1,600	1,300	46.0	59,800
1992	2,200	1,900	52.0	98,800
1993	1,400	1,200	46.0	56,200
1994	1,400	1,300	49.0	63,700
1995	1,500	1,400	50.0	70,000
1996	1,900	1,700	44.0	74,800
1997	1,600	1,400	53.0	74,200
1998	1,700	1,500	48.0	72,500

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture
1/ Not available.

**EQUINE: Inventory and Value
1997 Census of Agriculture**

Total Equine	Rank in State	Inventory Value	Rank in State
1756	3	\$623,000	6

CORN: Acreage, Yield, and Production

Year	All Planted	Grain			Silage		
		Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production
	Acres	Acres	Bushels	Bushels	Acres	Tons	Tons
1940	24,931	6,864	35.3	242,261	1/	1/	1/
1950	19,475	5,327	48.4	257,576	12,940	9.0	116,861
1959	17,278	6,359	50.0	318,754	10,601	10.0	105,653
1969	18,400	5,100	86.0	438,600	1/	1/	1/
1978	32,700	14,300	85.0	1,215,500	18,100	14.0	253,400
1982	33,300	18,700	84.0	1,598,900	14,400	14.8	213,100
1987	25,500	13,300	108.0	1,436,400	11,700	16.0	187,200
1992	23,300	8,400	78.0	655,200	13,900	15.9	221,000
1993	20,700	8,000	111.0	891,300	12,500	14.1	176,300
1994	20,900	8,400	116.0	976,400	12,500	16.2	202,000
1995	22,300	10,400	108.0	1,123,800	11,800	13.6	160,700
1996	23,800	11,900	106.0	1,261,700	11,700	15.1	176,200
1997	24,200	11,300	107.0	1,209,100	12,700	15.7	199,400
1998	24,300	11,300	114.0	1,286,600	13,000	16.3	211,900

1940 - 1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

1/ Not available

HAY: Acreage, Yield, and Production 1/

Year	Alfalfa Hay			Other Hay			Total Hay		
	Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Acres	Tons	Tons	Acres	Tons	Tons
1940	3,985	1.9	7,425	83,226	1.2	103,154	87,211	1.3	110,579
1950	4,416	1.8	7,826	70,783	1.4	98,547	75,199	1.4	106,373
1959	17,748	2.3	40,642	40,639	1.8	74,810	58,387	2.0	115,452
1969	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	49,564	2.3	116,238
1978	19,900	2.3	45,800	38,100	2.0	76,200	58,000	2.1	122,000
1982	16,000	2.9	46,400	35,600	2.2	78,300	51,600	2.4	124,700
1987	17,000	2.8	48,000	40,000	2.1	85,500	57,000	2.3	133,500
1992	15,400	2.4	36,900	22,700	1.9	43,900	38,100	2.1	80,800
1993	14,600	2.6	38,000	27,500	1.8	50,000	42,100	2.1	88,000
1994	12,900	3.1	40,500	27,300	2.1	56,400	40,200	2.4	96,900
1995	12,600	2.9	36,500	25,200	1.9	49,000	37,800	2.3	85,500
1996	12,400	3.0	37,200	19,600	2.1	41,200	32,000	2.5	78,400
1997	11,600	3.0	34,600	19,700	2.5	50,100	31,300	2.7	84,700
1998	10,900	2.8	30,600	17,700	2.6	45,900	28,600	2.7	76,500

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

1/ Dry hay only - excludes silage and green chop

2/ Not available