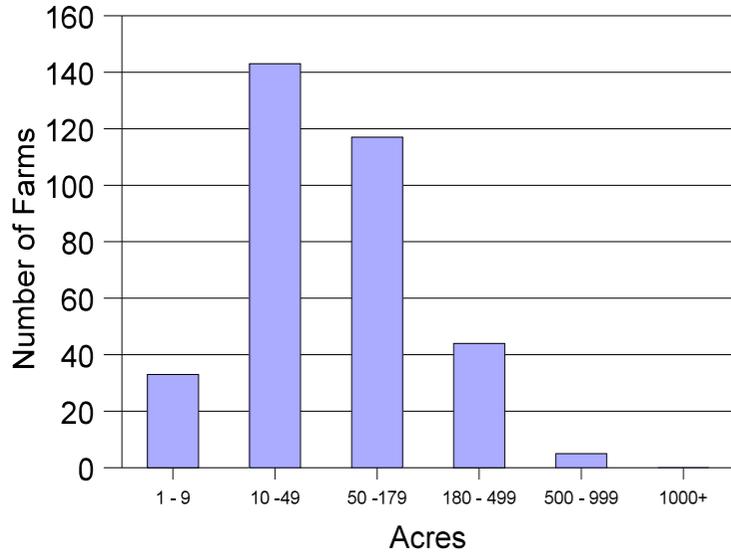
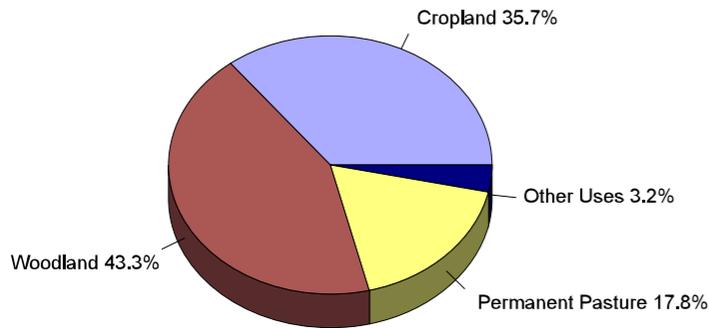


FARMS

Farms by Size



Land in Farms



Operator Characteristics

Principal operators by primary occupation:

Farming	184
Other	158

Principal operators by sex:

Male	300
Female	42

Average age of principal operator (years)

60.0

All operators⁵ by race:

White	481
Black or African American	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	2
More than one race	4

All operators⁵ of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin

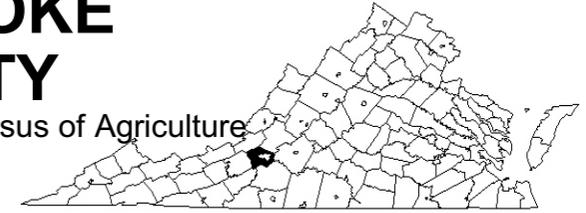
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Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/ Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for "cropland pasture" and "other pasture" 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. 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.

Quantity

ROANOKE COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture



Roanoke County is situated in south central Virginia and is bordered by the Blue Ridge Mountains on the east and south and the Allegheny Mountains on the west and north. Formed from part of Botetourt in 1838, the county is probably named after the Roanoke River, part of which flows through the county. Interestingly, "Roanoke" is an Indian term meaning "shell money."

Altitudes in the county range from about 900 feet above sea level in the valley to nearly 4,000 feet on the mountain peaks. Temperatures average 36 degrees in January and 75 in July. Annual precipitation averages 39 inches, with about 4 inches falling in each of the summer months and only 2.5 inches in November. The frost-free growing season lasts roughly 187 days. More than three-fifths of the county is wooded, and part of the Jefferson National Forest is located in the county.

Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	342	349
Land in Farms (acres)	30,914	30,174
Average size of farm	90	86
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$3,831,000	\$5,677,000
Average per farm	\$11,201	\$16,266
Government Payments	\$44,000	\$11,000



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P.O. Box 1659
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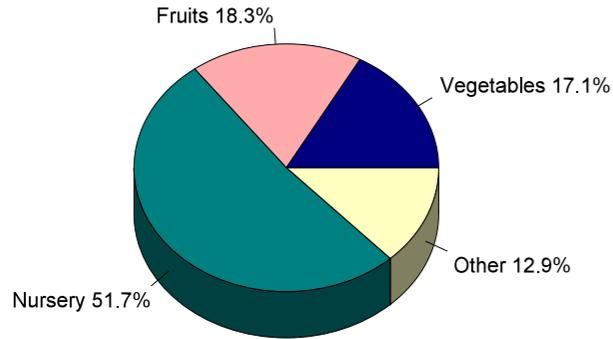
Phone (804) 771-2493
FAX Number (804)-771-2651
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>
Kevin Barnes, Director

For more Statistics on the 2002 Census of Agriculture go to
www.NASS.USDA.GOV

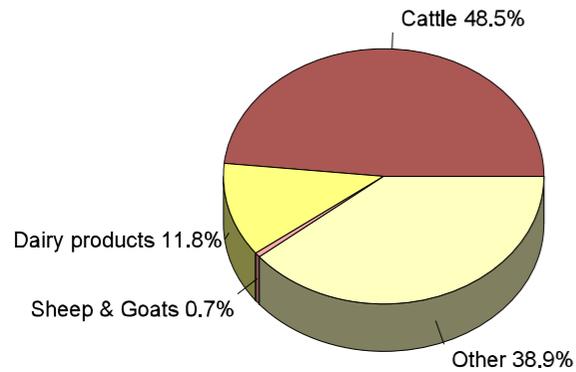
Revised 2004

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/
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	(D)	(D)	43	(D)	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	332	23	95	1,144	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	355	18	93	652	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	1,001	37	95	1,095	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	76	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	194	72	97	2,542	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	94	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	918	68	97	2,583	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	223	60	83	1,961	2,493
Hogs and pigs	(Z)	88	90	2,891	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	14	58	93	2,120	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	(D)	(D)	94	(D)	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	44	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	2	63	87	2,336	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	4,359	63	97	2,582	3,059
Horses and ponies	677	40	97	1,792	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	251	69	96	2,353	2,983
Sheep and lambs	111	63	93	2,231	2,867
All Goats	65	84	95	2,457	2,971
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	5,054	64	97	2,307	3,059
Corn for silage	239	63	87	1,692	2,307
All Vegetables harvested	128	27	95	1,140	2,710
Apples	83	18	87	403	2,173
Cut Christmas trees	72	38	81	709	1,877

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
				-Acres-					
1940	1,531	95,839	117	27,485	4,515	21,327	NA	NA	NA
1945	1,724	100,322	147	27,578	4,219	2,271	28,329	6,986	26,360
1950	1,443	99,728	213	22,180	6,907	15,143	12,846	11,487	23,993
1954	1,296	96,380	252	19,455	4,524	11,746	18,869	13,105	23,573
1959	679	75,424	254	14,742	3,867	10,340	14,951	8,688	19,529
1964	500	64,038	335	11,722	3,131	8,429	6,313	NA	NA
1969	348	47,236	412	7,713	6,249	9,274	3,497	2,824	6,887
1974 4/	304	44,224	599	6,964	566	6,623	7,109	NA	NA
1978	283	36,150	949	6,888	782	6,540	4,244	5,441	10,522
1982	306	33,475	1,415	6,269	913	7,474	5,337	3,431	8,701
1987	279	29,758	2,043	6,259	1,240	6,452	3,667	3,893	7,178
1992	272	24,924	2,038	5,179	667	6,010	2,647	2,247	7,118
1997 2/	349	30,174	2,668	6,351	717	6,664	3,462	1,851	9,656
2002	342	30,914	3,336	5,754	1,112	4,182	5,494	3,068	10,327