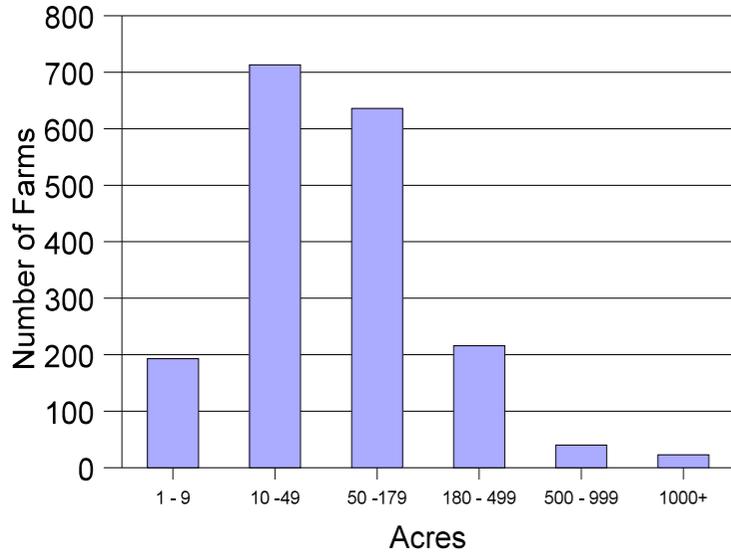
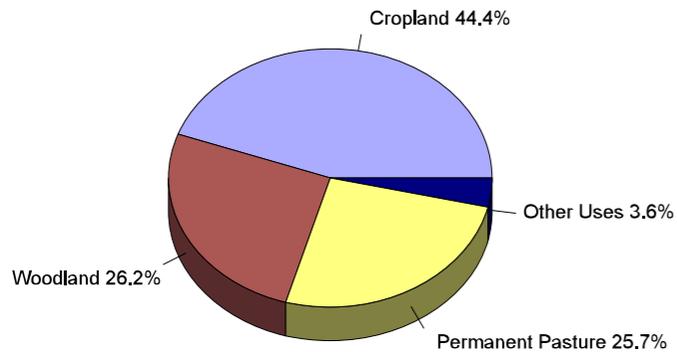


## FARMS

### Farms by Size



### Land in Farms



### Operator Characteristics

Principal operators by primary occupation:

Farming  
Other

### Quantity

957  
864

Principal operators by sex:

Male  
Female

1,593  
228

Average age of principal operator (years)

56.7

All operators<sup>5</sup> by race:

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

2,526  
6  
7  
-  
2  
2

All operators<sup>5</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin

13

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.



Distributed by:  
Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 1659  
Richmond, VA 23218-1659

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

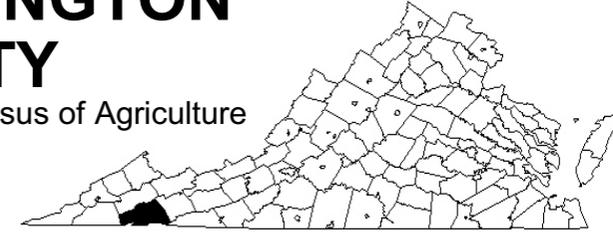
to

[www.NASS.USDA.GOV](http://www.NASS.USDA.GOV)

Revised 2004

# WASHINGTON COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture



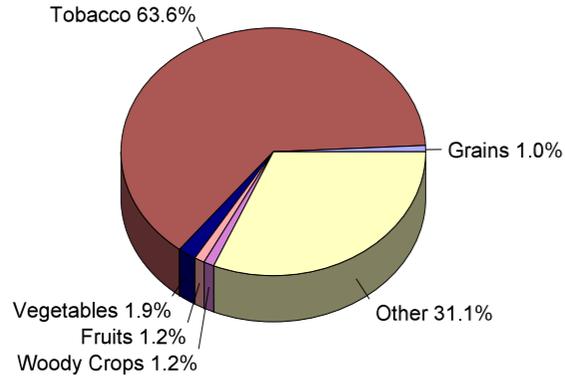
Washington County is located in the southwestern part of the Great Valley of Virginia and borders Tennessee on the south. Formed in 1777 from part of Fincastle, the county was named in honor of George Washington. Interestingly, Virginia is one of 31 states with counties honoring Washington.

The topography of the county consists of a broad valley about 15 miles wide that is bordered on either side by comparatively high mountains. Elevations in the valley range from 1,300 to 2,800 feet above sea level, while the neighboring mountains reach a height of over 5,500 feet on White Top. Temperatures in the valley average 37 degrees in January and 73 in July. The frost-free growing season is roughly 165 days, usually extending from 29 to October 11. Annual precipitation averages 45 inches.

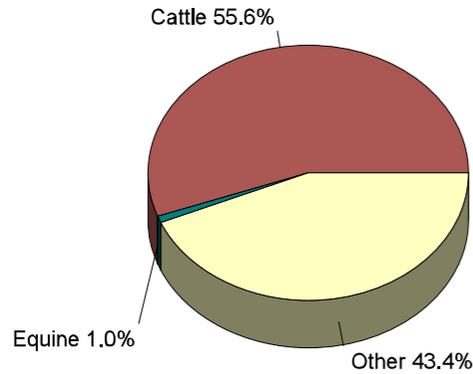
Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	1,821	2,029
Land in Farms (acres)	197,495	190,573
Average size of farm	108	94
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$50,596,000	\$52,492,000
Average per farm	\$27,784	\$25,871
Government Payments	\$804,000	\$198,000

# 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	98	69	95	2,386	2,871
Tobacco	6,315	5	43	76	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	193	34	95	1,388	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	121	42	93	1,150	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	122	12	76	378	1,774
Other crops and hay	(D)	(D)	97	(D)	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	94	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	22,605	3	97	436	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	(D)	(D)	83	(D)	2,493
Hogs and pigs	146	25	90	1,351	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	136	10	93	629	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	416	18	94	507	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	44	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	2	62	87	2,286	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Layers 20 weeks old and older	(D)	2	96	(D)	2,983
Cattle and calves	64,381	3	97	361	3,059
Sheep and lambs	2,883	7	93	391	2,867
All Goats	2,869	1	95	114	2,971
Horses and ponies	2,424	6	97	337	3,065
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	39,190	7	97	501	3,059
Corn for silage	3,116	10	87	550	2,307
Tobacco	1,877	4	43	65	563
Corn for grain	485	70	96	1,989	2,592
Dry edible peas	(D)	1	16	(D)	215

### 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	4,240	290,897	66	73,441	2,824	101,290	NA	NA	NA
1945	4,211	295,276	90	75,921	2,398	14,527	116,183	19,821	48,359
1950	3,814	281,617	127	60,912	9,350	43,552	75,084	25,885	53,592
1954	4,334	286,529	169	59,217	3,960	24,643	102,236	30,148	55,365
1959	3,395	258,800	203	50,790	5,967	26,389	91,148	21,746	51,648
1964	2,768	240,805	247	45,121	7,704	18,450	66,137	NA	NA
1969	2,608	239,332	325	37,976	10,751	61,244	43,483	16,986	15,705
1974 4/	2,167	212,637	558	38,101	5,304	56,020	42,856	NA	NA
1978	2,134	203,139	1,046	38,360	7,281	47,250	42,536	19,516	37,427
1982	2,289	215,393	1,271	41,098	7,169	47,013	42,413	21,714	43,502
1987	1,972	202,709	1,201	38,570	9,269	42,069	45,726	20,612	34,097
1992	1,986	190,062	1,547	37,786	7,295	49,231	41,597	16,549	31,525
1997 2/	2,029	190,573	2,200	40,888	4,774	49,294	38,279	18,693	31,637
<b>2002</b>	<b>1,821</b>	<b>197,495</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>44,350</b>	<b>4,812</b>	<b>38,587</b>	<b>50,845</b>	<b>17,587</b>	<b>34,125</b>