

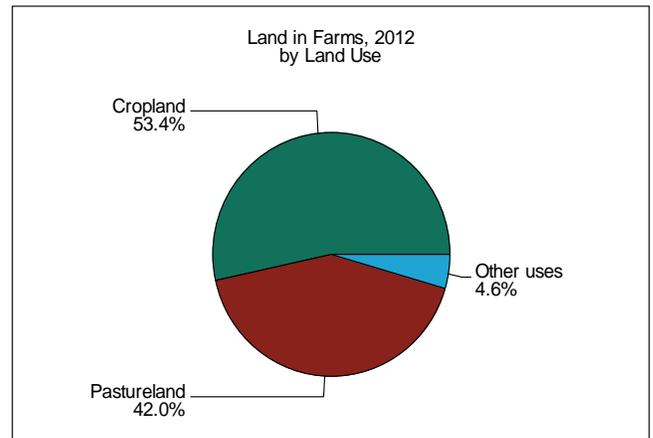
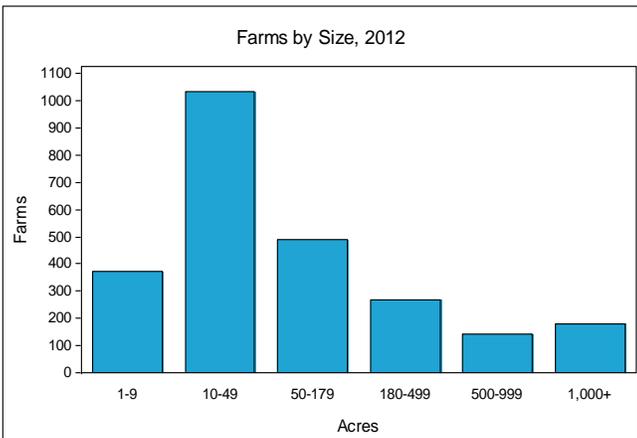
2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY PROFILE

Merced County California



	2012	2007	% change
Number of Farms	2,486	2,607	- 5
Land in Farms	978,667 acres	1,041,115 acres	- 6
Average Size of Farm	394 acres	399 acres	- 1
Market Value of Products Sold	\$2,967,523,000	\$2,330,408,000	+ 27
Crop Sales \$1,272,622,000 (43 percent)			
Livestock Sales \$1,694,900,000 (57 percent)			
Average Per Farm	\$1,193,694	\$893,904	+ 34
Government Payments	\$9,528,000	\$11,968,000	- 20
Average Per Farm Receiving Payments	\$18,980	\$23,193	- 18





Merced County – California

Ranked items among the 58 state counties and 3,079 U.S. counties, 2012

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	2,967,523	5	58	5	3,077
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	1,272,622	8	58	9	3,072
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	1,694,900	2	58	2	3,076
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	87,492	9	48	545	2,926
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	436
Cotton and cottonseed	78,463	4	11	8	635
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	296,160	7	55	9	2,802
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	710,594	9	56	10	2,724
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	9,448	28	56	276	2,678
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	32	19	41	596	1,530
Other crops and hay	90,431	3	58	19	3,049
Poultry and eggs	400,450	1	57	10	3,013
Cattle and calves	170,910	6	57	68	3,056
Milk from cows	1,113,424	2	40	2	2,038
Hogs and pigs	77	20	55	1,325	2,827
Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk	3,610	8	56	34	2,988
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	547	28	56	502	3,011
Aquaculture	3,400	11	45	93	1,366
Other animals and other animal products	2,481	7	58	88	2,924
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	129,575	3	58	9	3,057
Almonds	115,599	4	47	4	147
Corn for silage	91,880	2	37	2	2,237
Vegetables harvested, all	59,815	6	55	14	2,801
Cotton, all	48,522	4	11	42	635
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	(D)	(D)	52	(D)	2,723
Layers	3,411,016	2	57	19	3,040
Turkeys	1,626,256	1	51	12	2,416
Pullets for laying flock replacement	753,612	3	55	28	2,637
Cattle and calves	558,734	2	57	2	3,063

Other County Highlights, 2012

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales:		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	295	Farming	1,603
\$1,000 to \$2,499	67	Other	883
\$2,500 to \$4,999	115		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	119	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	168	Male	2,287
\$20,000 to \$24,999	51	Female	199
\$25,000 to \$39,999	149		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	103	Average age of principal operator (years)	58.4
\$50,000 to \$99,999	283		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	342	All operators by race ² :	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	204	American Indian or Alaska Native	41
\$500,000 or more	590	Asian	323
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	2,452,624	Black or African American	13
Average per farm (\$)	986,575	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	35
		White	3,585
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	606,978	More than one race	14
Average per farm (\$)	244,159	All operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin ²	572

See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes, explanations, definitions, and methodology.

- Represents zero. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item. ² Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.