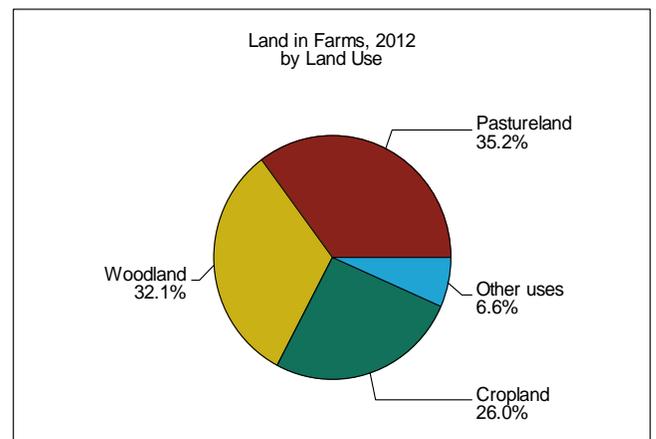
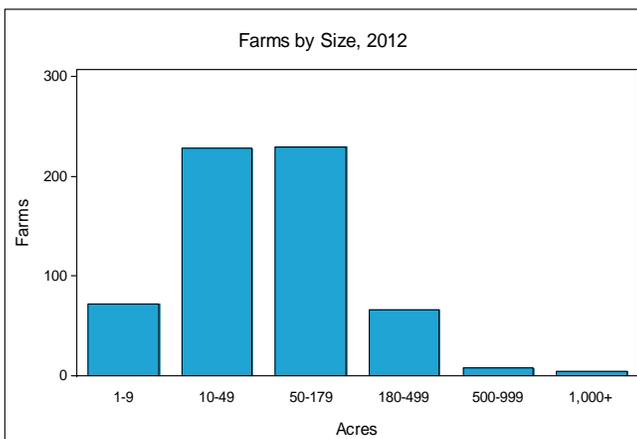


Watauga County North Carolina

| | 2012 | 2007 | % change |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Number of Farms | 609 | 587 | + 4 |
| Land in Farms | 55,765 acres | 45,782 acres | + 22 |
| Average Size of Farm | 92 acres | 78 acres | + 18 |
| Market Value of Products Sold | \$15,291,000 | \$11,529,000 | + 33 |
| Crop Sales \$5,874,000 (38 percent) | | | |
| Livestock Sales \$9,416,000 (62 percent) | | | |
| Average Per Farm | \$25,108 | \$19,641 | + 28 |
| Government Payments | \$222,000 | \$77,000 | + 188 |
| Average Per Farm Receiving Payments | \$1,622 | \$1,709 | - 5 |





Watauga County – North Carolina

Ranked items among the 100 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 | 15,291 | 87 | 100 | 2,498 | 3,077 |
| Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse | 5,874 | 88 | 100 | 2,351 | 3,072 |
| Value of livestock, poultry, and their products | 9,416 | 69 | 100 | 2,145 | 3,076 |
| VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000) | | | | | |
| Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas | 80 | 95 | 100 | 2,676 | 2,926 |
| Tobacco | 125 | 62 | 74 | 295 | 436 |
| Cotton and cottonseed | - | - | 58 | - | 635 |
| Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes | 305 | 77 | 99 | 1,303 | 2,802 |
| Fruits, tree nuts, and berries | 168 | 56 | 98 | 1,164 | 2,724 |
| Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod | 435 | 81 | 97 | 1,421 | 2,678 |
| Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops | 4,351 | 4 | 50 | 15 | 1,530 |
| Other crops and hay | 410 | 73 | 97 | 2,511 | 3,049 |
| Poultry and eggs | 18 | 86 | 99 | 2,125 | 3,013 |
| Cattle and calves | 8,617 | 11 | 99 | 1,420 | 3,056 |
| Milk from cows | (D) | 48 | 52 | (D) | 2,038 |
| Hogs and pigs | 68 | 57 | 91 | 1,356 | 2,827 |
| Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk | (D) | (D) | 98 | (D) | 2,988 |
| Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys | 303 | 27 | 93 | 904 | 3,011 |
| Aquaculture | (D) | 14 | 58 | (D) | 1,366 |
| Other animals and other animal products | 17 | 52 | 95 | 1,984 | 2,924 |
| TOP CROP ITEMS (acres) | | | | | |
| Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop | 6,620 | 38 | 98 | 2,007 | 3,057 |
| Cut Christmas trees | 3,132 | 4 | 51 | 14 | 1,557 |
| Vegetables harvested, all | 133 | 67 | 99 | 1,143 | 2,801 |
| Corn for silage | 112 | 42 | 65 | 1,876 | 2,237 |
| Corn for grain | 63 | 93 | 100 | 2,408 | 2,638 |
| TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number) | | | | | |
| Cattle and calves | 14,428 | 19 | 100 | 1,635 | 3,063 |
| Layers | 1,502 | 57 | 100 | 1,533 | 3,040 |
| Horses and ponies | 680 | 43 | 100 | 1,695 | 3,072 |
| Goats, all | 580 | 46 | 99 | 1,079 | 2,996 |
| Sheep and lambs | 338 | 33 | 95 | 1,746 | 2,897 |

Other County Highlights, 2012

| Economic Characteristics | Quantity | Operator Characteristics | Quantity |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| Farms by value of sales: | | Principal operators by primary occupation: | |
| Less than \$1,000 | 133 | Farming | 272 |
| \$1,000 to \$2,499 | 66 | Other | 337 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999 | 96 | | |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 | 104 | Principal operators by sex: | |
| \$10,000 to \$19,999 | 89 | Male | 555 |
| \$20,000 to \$24,999 | 14 | Female | 54 |
| \$25,000 to \$39,999 | 41 | | |
| \$40,000 to \$49,999 | 11 | Average age of principal operator (years) | 59.7 |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 | 24 | | |
| \$100,000 to \$249,999 | 12 | All operators by race ² : | |
| \$250,000 to \$499,999 | 16 | American Indian or Alaska Native | 3 |
| \$500,000 or more | 3 | Asian | - |
| Total farm production expenses (\$1,000) | 16,605 | Black or African American | - |
| Average per farm (\$) | 27,265 | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | - |
| | | White | 855 |
| Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000) | -116 | More than one race | - |
| Average per farm (\$) | -191 | All operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin ² | 27 |

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.