



## Farms by Size

1-9 acres	105 farms
10-49 acres	404 farms
50-179 acres	321 farms
180-499 acres	151 farms
500-999 acres	40 farms
1,000+ acres	20 farms

## Farms by Classification

### Farms

Grain	171
Vegetable and melon	27
Fruit and tree nut	21
Greenhouse, nursery, floriculture production	73
Other crop	155
Beef cattle	205
Cattle feedlots	57
Dairy cattle and milk production	112
Hog and pig	25
Poultry and egg	12
Sheep and goat	40
Animal aquaculture and other animal production	143

**Total 1,041**

## Operators by Principal Occupation

Farming	495
Other	546

## Average Age

1997	54.5
1992	53.2

## Farms by Value of Sales

Less than \$25,000	72%
More than \$25,000	28%

## We Plan to Help You Grow

### Carroll County Department of Economic Development

225 N. Center Street  
Westminster, Maryland 21157-2450  
Agriculture Marketing Specialist: 410-876-2450  
Fax: 410-876-8471  
Visit our web site at: [www.econdev.carr.org](http://www.econdev.carr.org)



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# Carroll County Maryland Agriculture



# The Future of Agriculture in Carroll County

Carroll County is committed to sustaining a viable agricultural industry. Most farming operations are family owned, with the majority of the operators planning to continue. This determination bodes well for the our agricultural community. Maintaining a large agricultural land base is an important element in assuring that farming can continue into the future. Carroll County has demonstrated its commitment by establishing the Agricultural Land Preservation Purchase of Development Rights Program, which allow the purchase of easements to retain the agricultural land base. This program is successful in controlling development and preserving open space.

A variety of agencies and organizations assist farmers to help them prosper in Carroll County. They include:

- The Farm Bureau
- The Carroll County Agricultural Commission
- The Agricultural Land Preservation Program
- Carroll Community College - Advanced Technology Center for Agriculture and Business Development
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Farm Service Agency
- Carroll Soil Conservation District
- Maryland Cooperative Extension
- Carroll County Department of Economic Development.

Out of the 291,840 total acres in Carroll County, approximately 54.8%, or 160,000 acres, is used for agriculture. According to the 1997 Agricultural Census, the market value of all products sold in Carroll is \$92 million. This makes agriculture our number one industry, with the multiplier effect from agriculture in Carroll County estimated at \$845 million.

There are 1,041 farms in Carroll County occupying 160,180 acres. The average farm size is 154 acres and the median farm size is 52 acres. The average estimated market value of land and buildings per farm is \$568,327, and the average price per acre is \$3,790.

## Type of Organization

	Farms		Acres	
	1997	1992	1997	1992
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	926	961	115,997	115,562
Partnership	66	68	18,187	17,244
Cooperation (family held)	39	46	24,445	24,610
Cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	7	2	1,427	unknown

## Inventory of Livestock in Carroll County

	Farms	Number
Cattle and calves	527	30,584
Beef cows	304	5,575
Milk cows	126	9,968
Cattle and calves sold	496	18,233
Hogs and pigs	60	9,434
Hogs and pigs sold	52	21,395
Sheep and lambs	74	2,645
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older	637	4,639,682
Broilers and other meat - type chickens	997	256,926,521
Horses and ponies	266	10,163

## Selected Harvest Crops

	Farms	Acres	Bushels
Corn for grain or seed	423	29,160	1,716,870
Wheat for grain	185	8,559	545,230
Oats for grain	71	535	30,562
Barley for grain	101	3,804	267,337
Soybeans for beans	217	22,198	682,590
Hay	644	27,343	51,096 tons dry
Vegetables for sale	56	3,779	

## Carroll County Ranking in Maryland

	Bushels	1997	Bushels	1992
Corn	1,716,870	9th	4,126,399	4th
Wheat	545,230	8th	533,230	7th
Oats	30,562	3rd	65,487	3rd
Barley	267,337	6th	753,247	3rd
Soybeans	682,590	8th	679,339	9th
Hay	51,096 tons dry	3rd	64,869 tons dry	3rd

	Head	1997	Head	1992
Cattle and calves	30,584	3rd	33,700	3rd
Cows and heifers that calved	15,543	3rd	16,229	3rd
Beef cows	5,575	2nd	5,586	3rd
Milk cows	9,968	3rd	10,643	3rd
Heifers and heifer calves	10,127	3rd	11,121	3rd
Steers, steer calves, bulls, bull calves	4,914	3rd	6,350	1st
Horses and ponies	2,160	4th		

	Acres	1997	Acres	1992
Vegetables harvested	3,779	3rd	3,164	4th