

Production Statistics for Greenhouse Crops In Kentucky

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The statistics for greenhouse crop production in Kentucky offer a historical description of the industry in the state. The numbers allow current businesses to reflect on the local and national markets and their planned production. People new to the greenhouse businesses can see the wide range of crops grown in greenhouses. New businesses are able to determine if they want to grow what current businesses sell or try something new in the market place.

Agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture survey the industry on a regular basis to obtain the production statistics. Most greenhouse operators participate in the surveys, but some years, some don't take the time to complete the somewhat complicated survey. Because greenhouse crop production has been smaller than other states, Kentucky has been part of the annual survey only since 1994. Kentucky growers have always been part of the Census of Agriculture completed every 10 years. Growers are required by law to participate in this census. A specific Horticulture Specialties Census is also completed on 5-year intervals. The production statistics below come from these USDA surveys. There are inconsistencies in the production statistics below because the surveys may contact different people, some growers do not participate and because data are summarized differently in the surveys.

From general observation of the statistics, it appears that greenhouse and nursery operators

take the census seriously. The greenhouse and nursery surveys are quite complete and results are published in many trade magazines so growers get feedback from their input. In addition, the national greenhouse and nursery trade organizations lobby Congress each year to keep funding for census information in the federal budget.

Historical data from a census can show how markets change. Floriculture emerged as the largest segment of horticulture in Kentucky in the 1990s and this trend is expected to continue. The market value of greenhouse crops was more than 50% of the horticulture crop income in Kentucky in 1997 according to the Census of Agriculture (Table 2. Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold and Farms by North American Industry Classification System, p.204). However, the numbers are variable depending on the survey. The 1997 USDA Floriculture Crops Survey identified 154 Kentucky growers (with earnings over \$10,000) and a wholesale value of \$ 23,819,000

for the Kentucky industry. The 1997 Census of Agriculture identified 451 growers and a wholesale value of \$27,345,000.

The statistics do show that the industry is doing well, despite the inconsistencies. The

statistics also show growth potential. The Kentucky population is approximately 1.5% of the nation's total, but Kentucky production of greenhouse and nursery crops is only 0.5% of the nation's total. This demonstrates that there is plenty of market in the state that is available to Kentucky growers. It also demonstrates that

Crop	Kentucky Market Value (\$ millions)		
	1987	1992	1997
Floriculture	13.9	26.9	41.0
Fruit	3.8	2.9	2.4
Nursery	13.5	14.5	15.0
Vegetable	8.1	8.1	7.9
Total	39.3	52.4	66.3

significant amounts of greenhouse and nursery products are shipped into the state. The primary crops shipped into the state are cut flowers from South America, plugs and cuttings from many locations and nursery plants from the West Coast and Tennessee.

Nationally, floriculture has increased 58% since 1992 based on 2002 numbers. In addition, floriculture consumption is \$44 per capita. If we use Kentucky's 2001 population (4,065,556) and

multiply it by the per capita consumption, we can see that floriculture sales could be as high as \$178,884,464 for the state. It is likely that floriculture sales in Kentucky are not that high, but it does demonstrate that floriculture makes a significant contribution to the state's economy.

There is little doubt that the market for greenhouse crops continues to expand and that floriculture continues to be a significant part of Kentucky agriculture.

USDA-NASS Census – Annual Floriculture Summary Floriculture Crop Production in Kentucky

Census Year	Wholesale value	Number of growers with \$10,000+ sales	Number of growers with \$100,000+ sales
2002	\$32,865,000	151	60
2001	\$31,436,000	167	61
2000	\$30,707,000	184	61
1999	\$26,695,000	178	63
1998	\$26,903,000	189	62
1997	\$23,819,000	146	63
1996	\$21,462,000	154	60
1995	\$21,679,000	162	61
1994	\$21,986,000	162	67

USDA-NASS Census – Annual Floriculture Summary Floriculture Crop Production in Kentucky

(All numbers in \$1,000; from operations with \$100,000+ in sales)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Bedding Plant Flats									
Plugs and cuttings	n.i. (not identified)	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	130	n.i.
Begonia	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	1,062	947	894
Bedding Geraniums	176	280	320	611	270	191	n.i.	41	40
Cutting Geraniums	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	42	65	n.i.
New Guinea Impatiens	60	67	94	249	36	62	64	57	27
Impatiens	881	949	1,191	1,134	1,059	1,028	1,408	1,226	1,028

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Marigolds	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	518	522	501
Pansy/violas	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	623	1,113	1,458
Petunias	622	577	735	766	816	778	910	908	781
Others	2,595	3,006	2,546	2,674	3,704	3,890	2,494	2,202	2,979
Vegetables	609	666	644	574	737	716	811	487	544
Hanging Baskets									
Begonias	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	119	254	199
Cutting geraniums	316	505	337	444	250	224	208	254	199
New Guinea Impatiens	415	422	499	514	393	396	358	303	197
Impatiens	205	290	270	452	379	283	384	339	307
Petunias	45	86	110	148	151	180	177	263	259
Others	669	675	672	882	750	1146	960	930	1,256
Potted Bedding Plants									
Begonias	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	137	223	243
Cutting Geraniums	1,103	1,060	1,099	1,053	1,129	1,195	1,001	1,150	1,391
Seed Geraniums	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	494	462	434	518	522
New Guinea Impatiens	428	457	491	514	492	452	507	459	453
Impatiens	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	60	79	106	124	113
Marigolds	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	12	10
Pansy/Viola	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	97	178	201
Petunias	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	190	191	206	316	334
Others	639	512	866	990	2,726	2,776	1294	1,464	2,539
Vegetables	119	98	n.i.	n.i.	360	351	303	111	83
Herbaceous Perennials	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	2,189	2,777	2,571
Potted Hosta	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	361	383	381

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Flowering Pot Plants									
Garden Mums	1,053	1,017	n.i.	n.i.	1,081	917	1,596	1,639	2,175
African Violets	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	20	21	20
Azaleas	120	81	131	112	132	136	119	124	135
Cyclamen	104	88	112	72	78	77	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.
Kalanchoes	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	29	14	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.
Chrysanthemums	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	670	761	705	705	310
Easter Lilies	435	433	434	440	302	302	297	295	258
Lilies	38	38	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.
Poinsettias	2,911	2,721	2,446	2,852	3,078	2,745	2,781	3,249	3,240
Spring Bulbs	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	149	190	185
Others	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.	429	437	373	441	451
Foliage Plants									
Foliage hanging baskets	397	260	462	668	1,123	1,120	236	947	918
Potted foliage	249	222	114	511	260	278	969	744	888
Cut Flowers									
Other cut flowers	405	304	294	314	366	384	n.i.	n.i.	n.i.

Some of the following were grown in each year listed:

2002– cut flowers (tulips, snapdragons, lilies, iris, pompoms, other cut flowers and cut greens), seed geranium flats, marigold hanging baskets, seed geranium hanging baskets, potted roses.

2001 – cut flowers (tulips, snapdragons, lilies, iris, pompoms, other cut flowers and cut greens), seed geranium flats, marigold hanging baskets, seed geranium hanging baskets, potted roses.

2000 – cut flowers (tulips, snapdragons, lilies, iris, pompoms, other cut flowers and cut greens), seed geranium flats, marigold, hanging baskets, seed geranium hanging baskets, potted roses.

1999 – cut flowers (pompom and standard mums), potted African violets.

1998 – cut flowers (pompom and standard mums), potted African violets.

1997 – cut flowers (pompom and standard mums), potted African violets, pot mums, potted kalanchoes, other potted flowering plants, garden mums, potted seed geraniums, potted impatiens, potted petunias, potted vegetables.

1996 – cut flowers (pompom and standard mums), potted African violets, pot mums, potted kalanchoes, other potted flowering plants, garden mums, potted seed geraniums, potted impatiens, potted petunias, potted vegetables.

1995 – cut flowers (pompom and standard mums, hybrid tea & sweetheart roses), potted African violets, pot mums, potted kalanchoes, other potted flowering plants, potted seed geraniums, potted impatiens, potted petunias.

1994 – cut flowers (pompom and standard mums, hybrid tea & sweetheart roses), potted African violets, pot mums, potted kalanchoes, other potted flowering plants, potted seed geraniums, potted impatiens, potted petunias.

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