

Maryland Horse Industry Board MARYLAND EQUINE
Results of the 2002 Maryland Equine Census

Special Report made possible by the Cooperative efforts of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Maryland Horse Industry Board, and the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service

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Equine Inventory | Places, Acreage & People

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According to the 2002 Maryland Equine Census, there were a total of 87,100 horses, mules, donkeys, and burros in the State of Maryland. Light Horse Breeds accounted for about 48 percent of the total, followed by Thoroughbreds with 33 percent of the total. Ponies and Standardbreds each accounted for about 7 percent, followed by draft breeds and mules, donkeys and burros. The value of the equine inventory at the time of the census was a little over \$680 million, putting the average value per animal at about \$7,810. There were a total of 20,200 equine places in the State during the Census. This includes racing, breeding, and all sizes of boarding facilities as well as private residences where horses are being kept for recreational purposes. On these places, there are 38,000 people actively involved with the equine. These equine operations account for a total of 685,000 acres, of which, 206,000 acres were used primarily for equine related purposes. The value of all equine related assets totaled \$5.2 billion, including the value of the inventory. The value of land, fencing, and buildings made up about 76 percent of the total assets. The value of the inventory accounts for 13 percent and equipment and supplies made up about 11 percent of total reported assets. Equine related expenditures amounted to nearly \$766 million, of which 62 percent were operating expenditures and 38 percent were capital expenditures. There were 8,400 horses sold during the past year with an average value of sales of \$14,196. Less than 100 mules, donkeys, and burros were sold.

INVENTORY Number

Equine associated with the racing industry:

Standardbreds 5,800

Thoroughbreds 28,800

Other Race Breeds 200

Equine not associated with the racing industry:

Light horses Breeds 42,000

Draft horses Breeds 2,200

Ponies All Breeds 5,900

Donkeys, Mules & Burros 2,200

Total Equine Inventory 87,100

EQUINE PLACES ACREAGE & PEOPLE

Number of Places Having Equine 20,200

Number of People Involved 38,000

Total Acreage Reported 685,000

Acreage used for equine purposes 206,000

EQUINE RELATED ASSETS (Dollars)

Value of equine inventory 680,240,000

Value of land, fencing, facilities 3,965,780,000

Value of equipment and supplies 552,850,000

Value of other Assts 22,500,000

Value of all Assets 5,212,370,000

EQUINE RELATED EXPENDITURES (Dollars)

Total Operating Expenditures 475,670,000
 Total Capital Expenditures 290,110,000
 Total Expenditures 765,780,000

EQUINE SALES (Total)

Horses
 Number Sold (Hd) 8,400
 Total Value of Sales \$119,250,000
 Donkeys, Mules & Burros
 Number Sold (Hd) 50
 Total Value of Sales \$25,000

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COUNTY DATA

Maryland equine are concentrated in central and northern counties. The 5 largest counties, in terms of inventory numbers are, Baltimore (12%), Montgomery (10%), Frederick (10%), Prince George's (9%), and Harford 8% . The top ten counties, all in northern and central Maryland, account for 79% of the total inventory. The average inventory value by county is influenced greatly by the racing and breeding operations located in each county. In addition, the counties with large

concentrations of show horses tended to have higher average values. The 5 largest counties in terms of the number of equine places and their respective percentages of the total number of places are: Montgomery (13%), Frederick (11%), Baltimore (10%), Washington (8%), and Harford (7%). The average number of

people in each county (excluding hired labor) involved in equine activities varied from 2.6 people per place in Washington county to 1.5 people per place in

Dorchester county. The acreage devoted to equine by county is concentrated in Baltimore, Frederick, Harford, Montgomery, and Cecil counties where 51% of the total acreage devoted to equine was reported.

Equine Inventory, Value, Places, Acreage and Number of People Involved by County

Counties	Total Equine Inventory	Total Value of Equine	Inventory Number of Equine Places	Total Equine Related Acres	Total Number of People Involved*
	(number)	(thousand dollars)	(number)	(acres)	(number)
Allegany	270	685	120	1,300	240
Garrett	1,410	2,900	370	3,400	820
Baltimore	10,630	121,800	2,100	31,200	4,200
Carroll	5,730	31,735	1,290	14,700	2,430
Frederick	8,290	47,310	2,180	22,000	3,570
Harford	7,390	73,115	1,360	18,400	2,160
Howard	5,190	61,265	1,200	11,200	2,280
Montgomery	8,470	60,555	2,590	17,700	4,070
Washington	4,460	12,295	1,560	10,200	4,090
Anne Arundel	4,590	27,035	1,330	8,900	2,320
Calvert	1,510	9,980	420	3,500	750
Charles	1,640	7,375	490	4,300	1,110
Prince George's	7,420	63,610	1,170	11,700	1,860

Saint Mary's 2,710 7,540 620 8,600 1,510

Caroline 1,310 7,290 260 3,300 530
Cecil 6,580 68,345 900 15,300 1,580
Kent 1,610 29,025 170 4,000 410
Queen Anne's 2,000 18,070 300 3,800 550
Talbot 1,930 8,375 700 4,200 1,600

Dorchester 460 5,280 160 1,200 240
Somerset 280 800 80 500 130
Wicomico 2,260 9,860 650 4,400 1,200
Worcester 960 5,995 180 2,200 330

Maryland Total 87,100 680,240 20,200 206,000 38,000

*Excludes hired labor

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BREED DATA

Light Breeds and Racing Breeds dominated the breed categories across the State, accounting for 48 and 40 percent of the total inventory, respectively. The top 5

individual Breeds in terms of inventory numbers and the respective percents of total were, Thoroughbreds (33%), Quarter Horses (14%), Standardbreds (7%), Arabian and Anglo Arabian (5%), and Other Warmbloods (4%). This breed ranking excludes the Unknown Light Breed category which accounted for 8% of the inventory and All Breeds of Ponies which accounted for 7% of the total. The inventory numbers were reported by land owners who kept equine on their operations. This table provides a breakout of the animals owned by the land holder and the animals boarded for others. Of the total 87,100 equine on Maryland horse places, 61,900 or 71% were owned by the land owners and family. There were 25,200 equine or 29% boarded for other owners. For the major breed categories, 34% of the racing breeds are boarded out and 28% of the Light Breeds

are boarded out. The value of the equine inventory at the time of the census was

estimated to total more than \$680 million or an average of \$7,810 per animal. The most valuable breeds were Other Warmbloods with an average value of \$16,883.

This category groups several warmblood breeds or cross breeds together and includes a large concentration of show horses. The racing breeds ranked next in average value with standardbreds at \$13,653 and thoroughbreds at \$13,446. There was a wide range of values reported for most breeds with retired animals at the low end of the scale and show or racing animals at the top end of the value scale.

Equine Inventory and Value by Breed

Equine Breeds Total

Inventory Total

Inventory

Owned* Total

Inventory

Boarded for

Others** Total

Inventory

Value Average

Inventory

Value

(number) (number) (number) (thousand)

dollars) (dollars)

American Saddle	680	520	160	1,185	1,743
Appaloosa	2,790	2,120	670	8,540	3,061
Arabian and Anglo Arabian	4,040	2,870	1,170	16,005	3,962
Miniature Horses	720	670	50	1,085	1,507
Morgan	1,660	980	680	5,520	3,325
Paint / Pinto	2,660	2,110	550	10,890	4,094
Quarter Horses	12,060	9,170	2,890	39,180	3,249
Tennessee Walker	1,700	1,180	520	5,120	3,012
Other Crossbreds	3,280	2,320	960	17,435	5,316
Other Warmbloods	3,600	2,170	1,430	60,780	16,883
Other Light Breeds	1,880	1,390	490	10,290	5,473
Unknown	6,930	4,800	2,130	11,320	1,633
Total Light Breeds	42,000	30,300	11,700	187,350	4,461

Standardbreds	5,800	4,640	1,160	79,190	13,653
Thoroughbreds	28,800	18,250	10,550	387,235	13,446
Other Race Breeds	200	110	90	715	3,575
Total Race Breeds	34,800	23,000	11,800	467,140	13,424

Belgian	690	650	40	1,580	2,290
Percheron	420	330	90	1,985	4,726
Clydesdale	110	70	40	520	4,727
Other Draft Breeds	980	850	130	3,775	3,852
Total Draft Breeds	2,200	1,900	300	7,860	3,573

Ponies, All Breeds	5,900	4,700	1,200	16,480	2,793
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Mules, Donkeys, & Burros	2,200	2,000	200	1,410	641
Total All Equine	87,100	61,900	25,200	680,240	7,810

*Total inventory owned by the land owner and/or family.

**This inventory is owned by someone other than the land owner.

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OTHER DATA

Most of the Light Breeds, 45%, were kept at private residences, while 31% were kept at Boarding, Training, Riding, or Show Facilities. As would be expected, most of the race breeds (39%) were kept at Race related facilities while 27% were kept at Breeding facilities. The largest percent of Draft Breeds, 41%, were

kept on crop or livestock farms. Ponies are mainly kept at private residences and Boarding, Training, Riding, or Show facilities. Mules, donkeys, and burros were mainly kept at private residences. Number of Equine by Breed and

Primary Function of the Operation

Number of Equine By Breed Category

Type of Equine Operation Light

Breeds Race

Breeds Draft

Breeds Ponies Donkey

Mules or

Burros Total

Equine

Boarding, Training, Riding or Show Facility	13,000	5,990	500	2,110	100
	21,700				

Commercial or Private Breeding Facility	3,870	9,560	150	710	80
	14,370				

Racing or Race Related Facility	430	13,660	30	170	140
	14,430				

Private residence with Equine	18,850	3,630	550	2,160	1,420	26,610
Crop/Livestock Farm	4,310	1,270	910	500	410	7,400
All Other Facilities	1,540	690	60	250	50	2,590
Total	42,000	34,800	2,200	5,900	2,200	87,100

Trail Riding Preferences

Total Number of Places Reporting Trail Riding*	11,800
Percent Using State, National, or Region Parks	60%
Percent Using State, or National Forest Land	26%
Percent Using Wildlife Management Areas	24%
Percent Using Private Land	94%
Percent Using Other Locations	8%

*Respondents could indicate multiple trail riding locations.

Of the total number of equine places at, 20,200, approximately 11,800, or 58%, indicated that they had rode trails some time during the past year. Respondents were then asked to indicate where they rode, given the categories listed in the table above. An overwhelming majority indicated they rode on private land, 94%, while 60% indicated they rode on State, National, or Regional Parks. Respondents

could choose multiple entries if they rode in multiple areas.

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