



# MARYLAND EQUINE

Results of the 2002 Maryland Equine Census



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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.

<u><b>INVENTORY</b></u>	<u><b>Number</b></u>	<u><b>EQUINE RELATED ASSETS</b></u>	<u><b>Thousand Dollars</b></u>
<b><i>Equine associated with the racing industry:</i></b>			
Standardbreds	5,800	Value of equine inventory	680,240
Thoroughbreds	28,800	Value of land, fencing, facilities	3,956,780
Other Race Breeds	200	Value of equipment and supplies	552,850
		Value of other Assets	22,500
<b><i>Equine not associated with the racing industry:</i></b>			
Light horses Breeds	42,000	Value of all Assets	5,212,370
Draft horses Breeds	2,200		
Ponies All Breeds	5,900		
Donkeys, Mules & Burros	2,200		
<b><i>Total Equine Inventory</i></b>	<b>87,100</b>		
 <b><i>EQUINE RELATED EXPENDITURES</i></b>			
		Total Operating Expenditures	475,670
		Total Capital Expenditures	290,110
		Total Expenses	765,780
 <b><i>EQUINE PLACES ACREAGE &amp; PEOPLE</i></b>			
Number of Places Having Equine	20,200	<b><i>EQUINE SALES</i></b>	
Number of People Involved	38,000	<b><i>Horses</i></b>	
Total Acreage Reported	685,000	Number sold (Hd)	8,400
Acreage used for equine purposes	206,000	Total Value of Sales (000)	119,250
		<b><i>Donkeys, Mules &amp; Burros</i></b>	
		Number sold (Hd)	50
		Total Value of Sales (000)	25

## 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.

<b>Equine Inventory, Value, Places Acreage and Number of People Involved by County</b>					
<b>Counties</b>	<b>Total Equine Inventory</b>	<b>Total Value of Equine Inventory</b>	<b>Number of Equine Places</b>	<b>Total Equine Related Acres</b>	<b>Total Number of People Involved<sup>1</sup></b>
	<i>(number)</i>	<i>(thousand dollars)</i>	<i>(number)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(number)</i>
<b>Allegany</b>	270	685	120	1,300	240
<b>Garrett</b>	1,410	2,900	370	3,400	820
<b>Baltimore</b>	10,630	121,800	2,100	31,200	4,200
<b>Carroll</b>	5,730	31,735	1,290	14,700	2,430
<b>Frederick</b>	8,290	47,310	2,180	22,000	3,570
<b>Harford</b>	7,390	73,115	1,360	18,400	2,160
<b>Howard</b>	5,190	61,265	1,200	11,200	2,280
<b>Montgomery</b>	8,470	60,555	2,590	17,700	4,070
<b>Washington</b>	4,460	12,295	1,560	10,200	4,090
<b>Anne Arundel</b>	4,590	27,035	1,330	8,900	2,320
<b>Calvert</b>	1,510	9,980	420	3,500	750
<b>Charles</b>	1,640	7,375	490	4,300	1,110
<b>Prince George's</b>	7,420	63,610	1,170	11,700	1,860
<b>Saint Mary's</b>	2,710	7,540	620	8,600	1,510
<b>Caroline</b>	1,310	7,290	260	3,300	530
<b>Cecil</b>	6,580	68,345	900	15,300	1,580
<b>Kent</b>	1,610	29,025	170	4,000	410
<b>Queen Anne's</b>	2,000	18,070	300	3,800	550
<b>Talbot</b>	1,930	8,375	700	4,200	1,600
<b>Dorchester</b>	460	5,280	160	1,200	240
<b>Somerset</b>	280	800	80	500	130
<b>Wicomico</b>	2,260	9,860	650	4,400	1,220
<b>Worcester</b>	960	5,995	180	2,200	330
<b>Maryland Total</b>	87,100	680,240	20,200	206,000	38,000

<sup>1</sup> Excludes hired labor.

## 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.

<i>Equine Inventory and Value by Breed</i>					
<i>Equine Breeds</i>	<i>Total Inventory</i>	<i>Total Inventory Owned<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Total Inventory Boarded for Others<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Total Inventory Value</i>	<i>Average Inventory Value</i>
	<i>(number)</i>	<i>(number)</i>	<i>(number)</i>	<i>(thousand dollars)</i>	<i>(dollars)</i>
<i>American Saddle</i>	680	520	160	1,185	1,743
<i>Appaloosa</i>	2,790	2,120	670	8,540	3,061
<i>Arabian and Anglo Arabian</i>	4,040	2,870	1,170	16,005	3,962
<i>Miniature Horses</i>	720	670	50	1,085	1,507
<i>Morgan</i>	1,660	980	680	5,520	3,325
<i>Paint/Pinto</i>	2,660	2,110	550	10,890	4,094
<i>Quarter Horses</i>	12,060	9,170	2,890	39,180	3,249
<i>Tennessee Walker</i>	1,700	1,180	520	5,120	3,012
<i>Other Crossbreds</i>	3,280	2,320	960	17,435	5,316
<i>Other Warmbloods</i>	3,600	2,170	1,430	60,780	16,883
<i>Other Light Breeds</i>	1,880	1,390	490	10,290	5,473
<i>Unknown</i>	6,930	4,800	2,130	11,320	1,633
<b><i>Total Light Breeds</i></b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>30,300</b>	<b>11,700</b>	<b>187,350</b>	<b>4,461</b>
<i>Standardbreds</i>	5,800	4,640	1,160	79,190	13,653
<i>Thoroughbreds</i>	28,800	18,250	10,550	387,235	13,446
<i>Other Race Breeds</i>	200	110	90	715	3,575
<b><i>Total Race Breeds</i></b>	<b>34,800</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>11,800</b>	<b>467,140</b>	<b>13,424</b>
<i>Belgian</i>	690	650	40	1,580	2,290
<i>Percheron</i>	420	330	90	1,985	4,726
<i>Clydesdale</i>	110	70	40	520	4,727
<i>Other Draft Breeds</i>	980	850	130	3,775	3,852
<b><i>Total Draft Breeds</i></b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>7,860</b>	<b>3,573</b>
<i>Ponies, All Breeds</i>	5,900	4,700	1,200	16,480	2,793
<i>Mules, Donkeys, &amp; Burros</i>	2,200	2,000	200	1,410	641
<b><i>Total All Equine</i></b>	<b>87,100</b>	<b>61,900</b>	<b>25,200</b>	<b>680,240</b>	<b>7,810</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total inventory owned by the land owner and /or family.

<sup>2</sup> This inventory is owned by someone other than the land owner.

**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.

<b>Number of Equine by Breed and Primary Function of the Operation</b>						
<b>Type of Equine Operation</b>	<b>Number of Equine By Breed Category</b>					<b>Total Equine</b>
	<b>Light Breeds</b>	<b>Race Breeds</b>	<b>Draft Breeds</b>	<b>Ponies</b>	<b>Donkey Mules or Burros</b>	
<b>Boarding, Training, Riding or Show Facility</b>	13,000	5,990	500	2,110	100	21,700
<b>Commercial or Private Breeding Facility</b>	3,870	9,560	150	710	80	14,370
<b>Racing or Race Related Facility</b>	430	13,660	30	170	140	14,430
<b>Private residence with Equine</b>	18,850	3,630	550	2,160	1,420	26,610
<b>Crop/Livestock Farm</b>	4,310	1,270	910	500	410	7,400
<b>All Other Facilities</b>	1,540	690	60	250	50	2,590
<b>Total</b>	42,000	34,800	2,200	5,900	2,200	87,100

<b>Trail Riding Preferences</b>	
<b>Total Number of Places Reporting Trail Riding <sup>1</sup></b>	11,800
<i>Percent Using State, National, or Region Parks</i>	60%
<i>Percent Using State, or National Forest Land</i>	26%
<i>Percent Using Wildlife Management Areas</i>	24%
<i>Percent Using Private Land</i>	94%
<i>Percent Using Other Locations</i>	8%

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 to the left. 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.

<sup>1</sup> Respondents could indicate multiple trail riding locations.