



## DONKEY OR MULE INDIANA, JANUARY 1, 2002

Donkeys and mules, (The American Donkey and Mule Society - <http://www.lovelongears.com/>), differ somewhat from horses in conformation. A Donkey is a different species than the horse, but the mule is a cross between the horse and a donkey. The most noticeable difference is of course the ears. Donkey and mule ears are much longer in proportion to their size than a horse. The necks are characteristically straighter in the longears, and most donkeys and mules lack a prominent wither. The croup and rump are also a different shape in the donkey and it's hybrids, lacking the double-curve muscled haunch. The back is straighter due to the lack of withers. The mane and tail in the donkey are coarse. Donkey and mule hooves are smaller and rounder, with more upright pasterns. The vocal qualities are the frequently remembered differences in the long-ears.

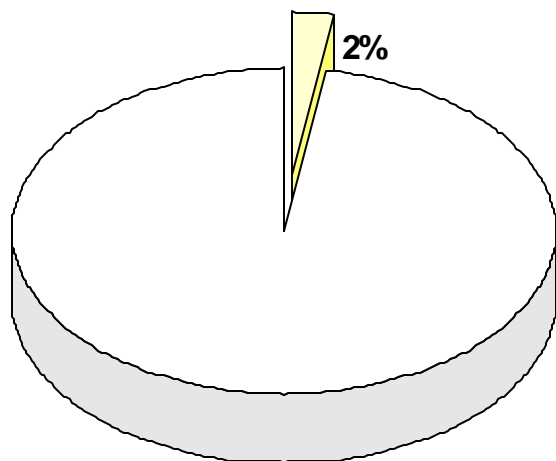
Colors in the donkey and mule range from the gray shades of Slate Gray (Gray-dun) to brown, a rare bay, black, light-faced roan (both red and gray), variants of sorrel, the blue-eyed Ivory, Frosted/spotted White, and a unique Spotted pattern. They exhibit a range of dark points, leg striping, and a dorsal stripe.

The types of donkeys are labeled by their sizes; 36" and under, Miniature Mediterranean, 36.01-48", Standard, 48.01" to 54" (jennets) or 56"; (jacks), Large Standard, and 54/56" and over, Mammoth Stock. There are no identifiable breeds of donkeys or mules left.

Donkeys and mules can be used just like horses under saddle and in harness, although donkeys are more laid back and self-preserving in nature. They are very friendly, and their nature makes them excellent for children. Donkeys can perform all the gaits horses or mules do (some are even "gaited", exhibiting a single-foot gait). Donkeys can also make wonderful guard animals - the right donkey gelding or jennet will take care of an entire herd of cattle, sheep or goats - the natural aversion to predators will inspire the donkey to severely discourage any canine attacks on the herd.

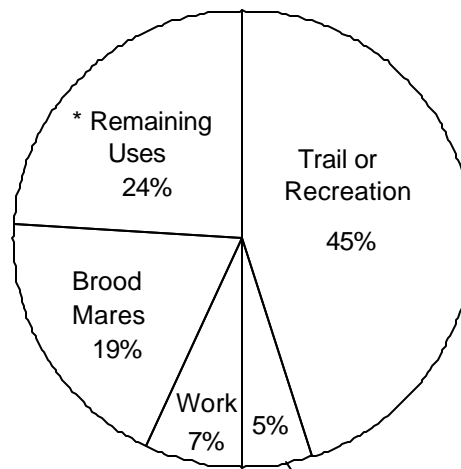
Donkey or Mule January 1, 2002		
Inventory	4,000	
Percent of Total Equine	2%	
Total Value	\$3,760,000	
Average Value Per Head	\$940	
Median Value Per Head	\$700	
Number of Operations	1,690	
Percent of Operations	5%	
Primary Use:	Number	Percent
Brood Mares	750	19%
* Stallions	150	4%
Racing	0	---
Show/Competition	220	5%
Trail/Recreation	1,790	45%
Work	270	7%
* Other Use	820	20%

**Donkey or Mule**  
**Percent of Indiana Inventory**



Total Indiana Equine Inventory = 160,000 head

**Donkey or Mule**  
**Percent of Primary Use**



Total Inventory = 4,000 Head