

TABLE 1.—POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES: 1850 TO 1940

(Data for 1940 and 1930 relate to Apr. 1; for 1935 and 1920 to Jan. 1; for 1910 to Apr. 15; and for earlier years to June 1. Figures for divisions and States for total population in table 18; and for farm population, urban-farm, and rural-farm, in table 8)

ITEM AND YEAR	Number of persons	Percent of total population	INCREASE OR DECREASE (-)		
			Number	Percent	
Total population	1940	151,669,275	100.0	8,894,229	7.2
	1930	122,775,046	100.0	17,064,428	16.1
	1920	105,710,620	100.0	18,738,354	14.9
	1910	91,972,266	100.0	15,977,691	21.0
	1900	75,994,575	100.0	18,046,861	20.7
	1890	62,947,714	100.0	12,791,931	25.5
	1880	50,155,785	100.0	11,597,412	30.1
	1870	38,558,371	100.0	7,115,050	22.6
	1860	31,445,321	100.0	8,251,445	26.6
	1850	23,191,876	100.0		
Rural population 1	1940	57,245,573	43.5	3,425,350	6.4
	1930	53,820,223	43.8	2,267,576	4.4
	1920	51,552,647	48.8	1,579,313	3.2
	1910	49,973,334	54.3	4,138,680	9.0
	1900	45,834,654	60.3	4,993,205	12.2
	1890	40,841,449	64.9	4,615,401	13.4
	1880	36,026,048	71.8	7,370,038	25.7
	1870	28,856,010	74.3	3,429,207	15.6
	1860	25,226,803	80.2	5,576,643	28.4
	1850	19,648,160	84.7		
Farm population 2	1940	30,546,911	23.2	-1,253,996	-3.9
	1935	31,800,907	25.0	1,555,557	4.5
	1930	30,445,350	24.8	-1,168,919	-3.7
	1920	31,614,269	29.9		
	1910	30,216,188	22.9	58,875	0.2
Rural-farm population	1940	30,157,515	24.6	-1,201,127	-3.8
	1930	31,558,640	29.7		
	1920	30,723	0.3	42,886	14.9
Urban-farm population	1940	287,837	0.2	32,208	12.6
	1930	255,629	0.2		
	1920				

1 Figures for rural population prior to 1930 represent revisions of those published in reports for previous censuses. See text discussion.
2 Figures for farm population for 1940, 1930, and 1920 from Census of Population; those for 1935 from Census of Agriculture. See text discussion.

TABLE 2.—AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER FARM WITH PER CAPITA DATA FOR LAND IN FARMS, CROPLAND HARVESTED, AND VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1850 TO 1940

(Averages for farm population by divisions and States in table 8. Base figures in tables 1, 3, and 4 of this chapter and in table 41 of chapter X)

ITEM AND YEAR	Average number of persons per farm	AVERAGE PER CAPITA			
		Land in farms (acres)	Cropland harvested ¹ (acres)	Value of farm products (dollars) ²	
Total population	1940	21.60	8.1	2.4	59
	1930	19.52	8.0	2.9	90
	1920	16.39	9.0	3.3	(s)
	1910	14.46	9.6	3.4	(s)
	1900	13.25	11.0	3.7	(s)
	1890	13.79	9.9	3.5	(s)
	1880	12.51	10.7	3.3	(s)
	1870	14.50	10.6	(s)	(s)
	1860	15.38	15.0	(s)	(s)
	1850	16.00	12.7	(s)	(s)
Farm population	1940	5.01	34.7	10.5	256
	1935	4.67	33.2	9.3	(s)
	1930	4.84	32.4	11.8	362
	1920	4.90	30.2	11.0	(s)
	1910				

1 Prior to 1924 based on total acreage of crops. See table 4. 2 Based on value of all farm products sold, traded, or used by farm households the preceding year. Excludes value for 0.6 percent of farms for 1940 and 4.6 percent for 1930 for which data were incomplete. For 1940, there was an additional 1.5 percent for farms with no value of farm products. See chapter X. 3 Not available. 4 1935 averages based on farm population as obtained in the census of agriculture for that year.

TABLE 3.—NUMBER OF FARMS, ALL LAND IN FARMS, AND TOTAL LAND AREA FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1850 TO 1940

(Data for 1940 and 1930 relate to Apr. 1; for 1935, 1925, and 1920 to Jan. 1; for 1910 to Apr. 15; and for earlier years to June 1. Figures for divisions and States, in table 9)

YEAR	NUMBER OF FARMS			All land in farms (acres)	APPROXIMATE LAND AREA	
	Total	Increase or decrease (-) from preceding census			Acres ¹	Percent in farms
		Number	Percent			
1940	6,096,799 ¹	-715,551	-10.5	1,060,852,374 ¹	1,905,561,920	55.7
1935	6,812,350	523,702	8.5	1,054,515,111	1,908,218,540	55.4
1930	6,288,648	-82,992	-1.3	986,771,016	1,908,216,640	51.8
1925	6,371,640	-78,705	-1.2	978,319,352	1,908,216,640	48.6
1920	6,449,543	86,841	1.4	955,883,718 ¹	1,908,215,560	50.2
1910	6,561,502	624,130 ¹	10.9	878,798,325	1,908,289,600	46.2
1900	5,737,372	1,172,732 ¹	25.7	838,591,774	1,908,461,760 ¹	44.1
1890	4,564,641	555,734	13.9	623,218,619	1,903,537,600	32.7
1880	4,008,907	1,548,922	50.7	536,081,835	1,903,537,600	28.2
1870	2,658,985	615,908	30.1	407,735,041	1,903,537,600	21.4
1860	2,044,077	595,004	41.1	407,212,538	1,903,537,600	21.4
1850	1,448,073			292,560,614	1,884,375,680	15.6

1 The land area shown for 1940 represents a complete remeasurement and therefore differs from those shown for previous censuses. See text discussion. An increase of 1,280 acres from 1920 to 1925 resulted from reclamation of Potomac River flats in the District of Columbia; a decrease of 74,240 acres from 1910 to 1920 was due to losses of 29,440 acres in Wyoming caused by the building of the Pathfinder and Shoshone Reservoirs and 44,800 acres in Montana due to the building of several reservoirs for irrigation projects; a net decrease of 172,160 acres from 1900 to 1910 resulted from a loss in California of 281,600 acres due to the encroachment of the Salton Sea, a loss in Arizona of 19,200 acres due to the building of Roosevelt and Laguna Reservoirs, and gains due to drainage of lakes and swamps of 26,240 acres in Illinois and 102,400 acres in Indiana; an increase of 124,160 acres from 1880 to 1900 resulted from 122,880 acres in California added due to Tulare Lake being dry and 1,280 acres of Potomac River flats reclaimed in the District of Columbia; and an increase of 18,981,920 acres from 1850 to 1860 resulted from the Gadsden Purchase. Changes in the approximate land area of the individual States, other than those given above, were due for the most part to changes in boundaries occasioned by the organization of new States.