

1974
Census
of
Agriculture

Volume II
**Statistics
by Subject**

Part 3

**Tenure, Type
of Organization,
Contracts,
Operator
Characteristics,
Principal
Occupation**

Issued September 1978



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REPORTS OF 1974 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Preliminary Reports. Four pages of data published separately for each county having 10 farms or more, and for each State, the four geographic regions, and the United States. *The statistics printed in these reports are superseded by those in the final reports, Volumes I through IV.*

Volume I. State and County Data. One for each State, the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands, covering the area and its subdivisions. The reports for the States contain data for all farms and farms with sales of \$2,500 and over. *Chapter I* contains detailed data at the State level classified by size of farm, tenure and age of farm operator, type of organization, value of products sold, and major type of farm; *Chapter II*, county data summarized by subject; *Chapter III*, county data by subject for miscellaneous crop and livestock items found in relatively few counties; *Chapter IV*, county data by county.

Volume II. Statistics by Subject. Nine parts containing data for the United States, geographic regions and divisions, and States, for all farms and farms with sales of \$2,500 and over.

Volume III. Agricultural Services. Data by county for each State covering establishments whose primary activities are providing agricultural services. Data at the U.S., State, and county levels for all establishments are presented for selected four-digit standard industrial classification codes by size and type of organi-

zation. Data shown include dollar volume of business, gross receipts from products provided, gross receipts, labor and payroll by type of service performed, capital expenditures, and expenditures for electricity, gasoline, petroleum, and other fuels.

Volume IV. Special Reports.

Part 1. Graphic Summary. Profiles the Nation's agricultural system in a series of U.S. maps, a number of which are printed in color. The characteristics of America's farms in 1974 are illustrated for crops, livestock, and many other characteristics.

Part 2. Ranking Counties and States. Reports on the top ranking 100 counties and 10 States in descending order of importance for 88 selected items for 1974 with comparative data for 1969.

Part 3. Coverage Evaluation. Shows the completeness of the agriculture census for States, geographic divisions, and the United States. Data also show the characteristics of farms missed by value of sales and by selected standard industrial (type-of-farm) classifications. Sampling reliability of the estimate of coverage is shown by value of sales classifications.

Part 4. Procedural History. A comprehensive summary of the procedures used in conducting the 1974 Census of Agriculture in the 50 States, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The history explains the procedures used from early planning and testing through tabulation and publication of the final reports.

Part 5. Corporations in Agricultural Production. Presents U.S. and selected State data on farm production characteristics and nonfarm business activities for corporations reporting agricultural operations, including the proportions of business receipts from farm, farm-related, and nonfarm-related business activities. Where appropriate, production characteristics are related to corporate characteristics.

Part 6. Partnerships in Agricultural Production. Reports in depth on characteristics of farm partnerships for 1976 for the United States, with selected data for States. The survey data are based on a sample of partnerships selected from the 1974 Census of Agriculture. Where appropriate, related characteristics reported in the 1974 census are shown. The report has been prepared in cooperation with Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Part 7. Agricultural Production and Marketing Contracts. Presents detailed information on eight commodities produced and/or marketed under production and marketing contracts in 1977: Feeder and stocker cattle, fattened cattle, feeder pigs, slaughter hogs, broilers, layers, tomatoes, and potatoes. Data are presented for groups of States comprising areas of concentration, based on samples of farms reporting contracts in the 1974 Census of Agriculture. The report has been prepared in cooperation with the Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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INTRODUCTION

Authority, Area Covered, and History

The 1974 Census of Agriculture was taken in accordance with the provisions of title 13, United States Code, reaffirmed by section 818 of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-86). Sections 142(a) and 191 of title 13 provide for a census of agriculture every 5 years in each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The 1974 census is the 20th nationwide census of agriculture and the second conducted primarily by mail.

This report presents statistics for the United States and States based upon data from the 1974 census.

Farm Definition

1969 definition—All 1969 statistics in this report are in accordance with the farm definition used in 1969, which was also the definition used in the 1964 and 1959 Censuses of Agriculture. These farms are places on which agricultural operations larger than a specified minimum were conducted at any time during the census year under the control of an individual management. Places of less than 10 acres were counted as farms if the sales of the agricultural products amounted, or normally would amount, to at least \$250. Places of 10 acres or more were counted as farms if the sales of agricultural products for the year

amounted, or normally would amount, to at least \$50.

1974 definition—All 1974 statistics in this report are in accordance with the 1974 farm definition, which differs from the earlier definition in only two respects:

1. The criterion for number of "acres in place" has been deleted.
2. The criterion for minimum value of agricultural products sold has been changed to \$1,000.

For a more detailed explanation of the change in definition and measures of the effect of the change, see appendix A of Volume I, State and County Data, or part 1 of Volume II, Statistics by Subject, of the published reports of the 1974 Census of Agriculture.

Report Forms

Two basic census report forms were used for all States except Alaska and Hawaii: A regular form (A1) was used for farms with an expected value of sales of \$2,500 or more and a short version (A2) for farms with an expected value of sales of less than \$2,500. The short form covered only major items and omitted most of the detail found in the regular form.

In Alaska, the regular form was used for all farms. In Hawaii, a modified version of the regular form was used for all farms. The changes were principally in the crop sections to cover the specialized agriculture in the islands.

Tabular Presentation

More detailed information was obtained for farms with sales of \$2,500 or more than for farms with less gross sales. Thus, some tables in this report present data for all farms and others present data for farms with sales of \$2,500 or more.

Comparability of Data

In general, data for the 1974 census are directly comparable with data from the 1969 census only for farms with \$2,500 or more total value of sales, because the data for farms with less than \$2,500 sales were affected by the change in farm definition.

Dramatic changes in rates of farm expenditure and unit prices of products sold between the 1969 and 1974 censuses also affect the comparability of some census data. Between the two censuses, prices paid by farmers greatly increased. Prices received by farmers also increased but with wide fluctuations among commodities at different times during the census year of 1974.

Abbreviations and Symbols

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- Represents zero.
- D Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.
- X Not applicable.
- Z Less than half of the unit reported.
- NA Not available.