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State and County Data

Part 13

Illinois

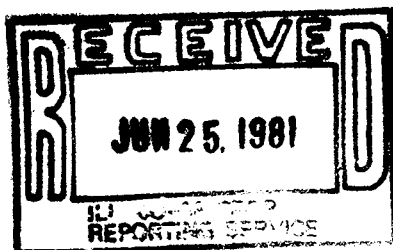
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1978

CENSUS OF
AGRICULTURE

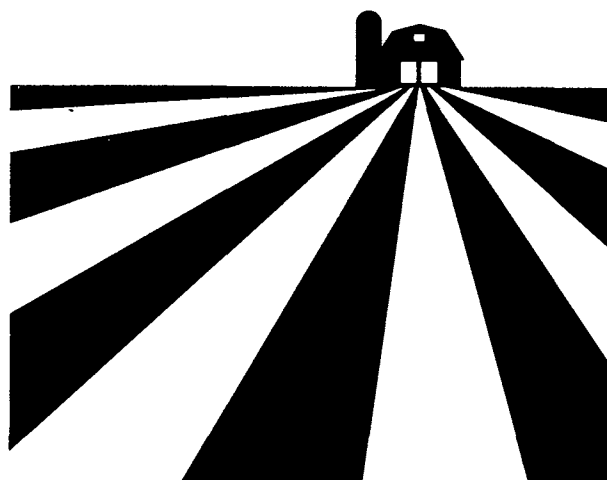


U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

180 2000

1978
CENSUS OF
AGRICULTURE

Volume 1
State and County Data



Part 13
Illinois

AC78-A-13

Issued April 1981



U.S. Department of Commerce
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William A. Cox,
Acting Chief Economist

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Daniel B. Levine,
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HISTORY

The census of agriculture provides a periodic statistical picture of the Nation's farming, ranching, and related activities. The 1978 Census of Agriculture is the 21st taken by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The first agriculture census was taken in 1840 as part of the sixth decennial census. From 1840 to 1950, an agriculture census was taken as part of the decennial census of population. A mid-decade census of agriculture was conducted in 1925, 1935, and 1945. From 1954 to 1974 a census of agriculture was taken for the years ending in 4 and 9. In 1976, Congress authorized the census of agriculture to be taken for 1978 and 1982 to adjust the data reference year to coincide with the 1982 Economic Censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities. Thereafter, the agriculture census will revert to a 5-year cycle.

AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The census of agriculture is authorized under the provisions of title 13, United States Code. Section 142(a) provides for the census to be taken in 1979, in 1983, and in every fifth year after 1983. Section 191 provides that the census shall include each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. A census of agriculture will be conducted in American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands in conjunction with the 1980 Census of Population and Housing.

FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes were first established, the farm definition has been changed nine times, as the Nation has grown and changed. The current definition was announced on August 12, 1975, in accordance with a joint agreement between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Bureau of the Census. It defines a farm, for statistical purposes, as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agri-

cultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. The previous definition (used for the 1959, 1964, and 1969 censuses, and for the 1974 preliminary county reports) counted as a farm any place with less than 10 acres from which \$250 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year, or any place of 10 acres or more from which \$50 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year.

METHOD OF ENUMERATION

Evaluation studies of the 1969 and 1974 censuses, which were conducted primarily by mail, indicated that the administrative lists used to create the census mailing list were not adequate to assure complete coverage in the census. Also, censuses prior to 1969, conducted by direct enumeration, had been found by evaluation studies (conducted since 1950) to be progressively less and less complete, as increased mobility of farm operators led to increases in the numbers of nonresident operators, operators farming on a part-time basis, and operators farming two or more separate tracts.

The 1978 Census of Agriculture was conducted primarily by mail for maximum economy, supplemented by a personal canvass of a statistical area segment sample for maximum completeness of coverage. The area segment sample, which consists of selected geographic areas completely canvassed by direct enumeration, provides reliable estimates for States of the number and characteristics of any farms not represented in the mail portion of the census. Estimates for such farms are an integral part of the State totals published for the 1978 census. The direct enumeration sample estimates are statistically reliable only for State totals and have not been allocated to counties. Appendix A provides a more detailed description of how the 1978 census was taken and includes a discussion of census coverage.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

State totals for 1978 are not directly comparable with totals for 1974 or earlier censuses as they include data for farm operations represented on the mail list plus estimates from the direct enumeration sample for farms not represented on the mail list. The 1974 State level data include only operations represented on the mail list.

Coverage evaluation studies for the 1974 census indicated that 10.7 percent of all farms were not included in the census. Farms missed in the census were usually small and accounted for less than 3 percent of the total value of agricultural products sold and less than 6 percent of the land in farms. The proportion of farms missed in the 1974 census was generally higher in

States having a large proportion of small farms and urbanized areas having a sizable number of part-time farms. Farm counts for 1974, adjusted for the net undercount, are shown in appendix C.

County level data on acreages and inventories for 1978 and 1974 are generally comparable; however, improvements in the coverage of the 1978 census, especially of smaller farms, should be taken into consideration when comparing farm counts.

USE OF SAMPLING

Two types of sampling were used for data collection for the 1978 census. In addition to the State estimates from the direct enumeration sample discussed previously, data for items in sections 22 through 27 of the census report form were collected from only a sample of farms. Data based on a sample are subject to sampling error. Detailed discussions of the census report forms, the use of sampling, and estimates of sampling error are included in appendix A.

GRAPHICS

Several charts and maps presented on the following pages show selected agricultural statistics for this State. The items in the charts and the first four maps are presented for all States. The last four maps present data of particular importance to this State.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

State data—In chapter 1, State tables 1 through 28 show detailed State level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more censuses. Tables 29 through 35 provide 1978 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County summary data—Selected data items are presented by county in chapter 2. Tables 1 through 15 include general data such as land in farms, size of farms, land use, operator characteristics, expenses, and machinery and equipment. Inventory and sales data for livestock, poultry, and animal specialties are contained in tables 16 through 27 and detailed crop data in tables 28 through 35. Tables 36 through 43 present data on foreign ownership, income from customwork, direct sales to consumers, operators by racial group, and female operators.

Individual county data—Five pages of tables are presented in chapter 3 for each county with 10 farms or more in 1978. The tables include final data for each county and are more comprehensive than those in the preliminary reports. Data are provided for all farms and for farms with sales of \$2,500 or more for both 1978 and 1974.

This chapter also includes a set of similar tables for the State as a whole and for those farms in the State not on the mailing list and not included in county tables.

PRELIMINARY REPORTS

Preliminary reports have been published separately for all counties in the United States with 10 farms or more in 1978, each State, the four geographic regions, and the United States. This series provided, at the earliest possible date, information on major data items, with comparable final data from the 1974 census. The data items were standard for each State and county except in table 3 where the selected crops varied by State according to their relative importance in the State. The State preliminary report also included a full set of tables providing data derived from the direct enumeration sample on the estimated number and characteristics of farms not included in county totals because they were not represented on the mailing list.

For major data items at the county level differences between the preliminary and final figures are in general less than 5 percent. At the State level, differences are significantly less.

CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of title 13, United States Code, data that would disclose the operations of an individual farm are not published. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification is not considered a disclosure. Appendix A presents additional information on disclosure rules.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Appendix A includes definitions and explanations of selected terms used in the tables.

"SEE TEXT" REFERENCE

Items in the tables which are followed by the reference "See text" are explained or defined in appendix A.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

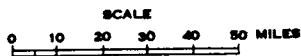
- Zero.
- (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.
- (X) Not applicable.
- (Z) Less than half of the unit reported.
- (NA) Not available.
- * Independent city.

Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1978 and 1974

	All farms			Farms with sales of \$2,500 or more		
	1978		1974 ¹	1978		1974 ¹
	Total	Not on mail list	Total	Total	Not on mail list	Total
Farms..... number.....	109 924	5 234	111 049	96 516	1 936	97 703
Land in farms..... acres.....	29 730 739	258 266	29 094 794	29 225 438	202 208	28 313 444
Average size of farm..... acres.....	270	49	262	303	104	290
Harvested cropland..... acres.....	22 822 821	146 595	21 517 665	22 690 864	131 302	21 368 709
Average per farm..... acres.....	208	28	194	235	68	219
Farms by size:						
1 to 49 acres..... number.....	22 792	3 662	17 601	12 280	591	9 222
50 to 499 acres..... number.....	69 873	1 571	78 255	67 011	1 344	73 350
500 to 999 acres..... number.....	14 020	1	12 842	13 995	1	12 791
1,000 acres or more..... number.....	3 239	-	2 351	3 230	-	2 340
Value of land and buildings: ²						
Average per farm..... dollars.....	505 175	114 295	221 774	563 719	194 997	245 922
Average per acre..... dollars.....	1 858	2 316	846	1 854	1 867	849
Value of machinery and equipment on farms ² \$1,000.....	5 473 263	72 013	3 294 038	5 353 431	36 885	3 184 065
Average per farm..... dollars.....	49 791	13 759	29 663	55 467	19 052	32 589
Value of agricultural products sold..... \$1,000.....	5 935 559	29 283	4 665 390	5 913 749	25 423	4 644 902
Average per farm..... dollars.....	53 997	5 595	42 012	61 272	13 132	47 541
Crops sold..... \$1,000.....	3 911 102	17 865	3 193 739	3 902 068	16 709	3 184 661
Average per farm..... dollars.....	35 580	3 413	28 760	40 429	8 631	32 595
Livestock and livestock products sold..... \$1,000.....	1 945 187	11 403	1 394 025	1 932 729	8 714	1 383 007
Average per farm..... dollars.....	17 696	2 179	12 553	20 025	4 501	14 155
Poultry and poultry products sold..... \$1,000.....	79 270	15	75 586	78 953	(2)	75 224
Average per farm..... dollars.....	721	3	681	818	(2)	770
Farms by value of agricultural products sold:						
Less than \$2,500..... number.....	13 376	3 298	14 722	-	-	1 411
\$2,500 to \$9,999..... number.....	20 264	912	21 052	20 264	912	21 052
\$10,000 to \$39,999..... number.....	32 723	1 022	37 752	32 723	1 022	37 752
\$40,000 to \$99,999..... number.....	26 292	-	26 213	26 292	-	26 213
\$100,000 to \$199,999..... number.....	12 501	2	8 795	12 501	2	8 795
\$200,000 or more..... number.....	4 736	-	2 480	4 736	-	2 480
Abnormal farms..... number.....	32	(0)	35	(0)	(0)	(0)
Value of agricultural products sold by farms having sales of—						
Less than \$2,500..... \$1,000.....	17 618	3 860	17 990	-	-	2 232
\$2,500 to \$9,999..... \$1,000.....	113 737	3 698	123 337	113 737	3 698	123 337
\$10,000 to \$39,999..... \$1,000.....	738 015	21 442	853 182	738 015	21 442	853 182
\$40,000 to \$99,999..... \$1,000.....	1 700 227	-	1 651 025	1 700 227	-	1 651 025
\$100,000 to \$199,999..... \$1,000.....	1 706 241	284	1 182 244	1 706 241	284	1 182 244
\$200,000 or more..... \$1,000.....	1 655 529	-	832 882	1 655 529	-	832 882
Abnormal farms..... \$1,000.....	4 192	(0)	4 730	(0)	(0)	(0)
Farm production expenses for selected items: ²						
Feed for livestock and poultry..... \$1,000.....	407 437	3 025	400 796	401 972	1 731	394 770
Seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees..... \$1,000.....	226 139	1 185	151 033	225 296	1 088	150 259
Commercial fertilizer..... \$1,000.....	532 647	1 735	408 562	530 709	1 559	406 721
Other agricultural chemicals..... \$1,000.....	227 198	1 642	138 115	226 139	1 474	137 722
Petroleum products—gasoline, diesel, etc..... \$1,000.....	285 564	2 833	205 536	282 404	2 198	202 877
Hired farm labor..... \$1,000.....	192 429	577	118 134	190 195	576	115 897
Livestock and poultry inventory:						
Cattle and calves..... number.....	2 618 148	26 565	2 898 721	2 551 302	16 097	2 789 638
Hogs and pigs..... number.....	6 252 388	46 666	5 327 643	6 212 193	39 370	5 284 684
Sheep and lambs..... number.....	151 491	1 979	213 113	135 892	-	188 311
Chickens 3 months old or older..... number.....	7 640 419	60 325	8 356 723	7 522 441	4 492	8 247 117
Crops harvested:						
Corn for grain or seed..... acres.....	11 121 407	69 230	9 567 774	11 089 283	67 075	9 531 411
Wheat for grain..... acres.....	1 188 048 227	6 198 504	773 406 578	1 185 852 494	6 075 240	771 696 220
Soybeans for beans..... acres.....	854 884	5 250	1 678 393	848 592	4 780	1 658 184
Hay crops..... acres.....	31 570 072	244 150	50 646 729	31 385 022	218 300	50 197 795
Hay crops..... tons, dry.....	9 268 472	41 489	8 317 180	9 230 579	39 223	8 289 477
Hay crops..... tons, dry.....	302 167 755	1 106 566	205 382 348	301 421 493	1 050 950	204 940 795
Hay crops..... tons, dry.....	1 192 420	23 335	1 206 426	1 145 425	16 481	1 149 953
Hay crops..... tons, dry.....	3 206 786	72 228	2 821 607	3 123 329	61 469	2 730 376

¹Not fully comparable because of direct enumeration sample in 1978 totals; see text.
²1978 data are based on a sample of farms; see text.

ILLINOIS



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