

# 1982

# Census of

# Agriculture

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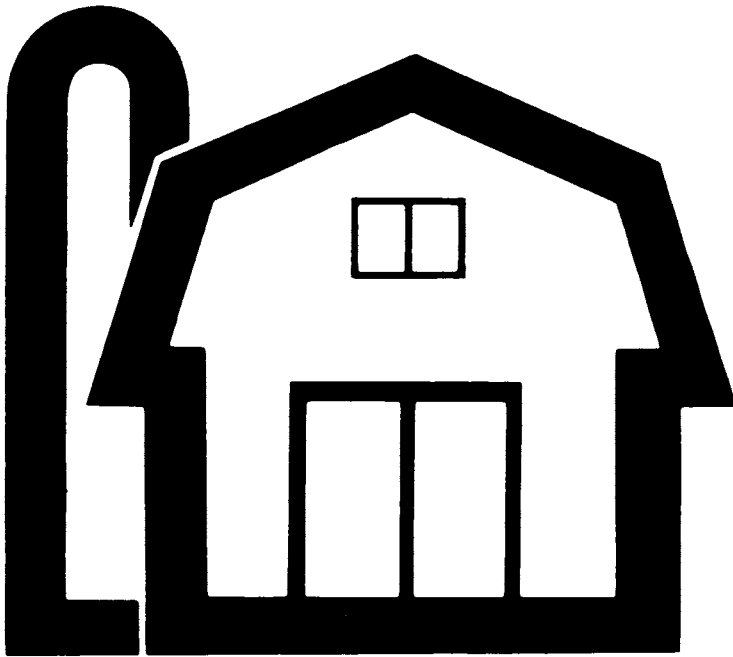
AC82-A-1

Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 1

# Alabama

## State and County Data



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The publications  
from the 1982 Economic and  
Agriculture Censuses are dedicated  
to the memory of Shirley Kallek,  
Associate Director for Economic Fields.  
During her career at the Bureau of the  
Census (1955 to 1983), she continually  
directed efforts to improve  
the timeliness and accuracy of  
economic statistics.

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GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 1

## Alabama State and County Data

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Issued July 1984



**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
**Malcolm Baldrige**, Secretary  
**Clarence J. Brown**, Deputy Secretary  
**Sidney Jones**, Under Secretary for  
Economic Affairs

**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
**John G. Keane**,  
Director

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**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
**John G. Keane, Director**  
**C.L. Kincannon, Deputy Director**  
**Charles A. Waite, Associate Director**  
for Economic Fields  
**Michael G. Farrell, Assistant Director for**  
Economic and Agriculture Censuses

**AGRICULTURE DIVISION**  
**John H. Berry, Chief**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**—Many persons participated in conducting the 1982 Census of Agriculture. Primary direction was by **Shirley Kallek**, Associate Director for Economic Fields (to May 1983), **Charles A. Waite**, her successor, and **Michael G. Farrell**, Assistant Director for Economic and Agriculture Censuses.

This report was prepared in the Agriculture Division under the general supervision of **Orvin L. Wilhite**, Chief (to January 1980); **Arnold L. Bollenbacher**, Chief (to June 1982); and **John H. Berry**, Chief (from July 1982).

Many divisions contributed to this report. Data Preparation performed the clerical processing; Administrative Services provided the forms design and other administrative services; Publications Services contributed in publication planning and design, editorial review, composition, and printing procurement; Computer Services provided the computer processing facilities; Field provided selected data collection activities; and Economic Surveys assisted in preparation of data collection and processing procedures and computer programs.

Members of the Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics and representatives of both public and private organizations made significant recommendations which helped establish data content.

Members of various agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided valuable advice in the planning, publicizing, and processing phases of the census, and in helping farmers and ranchers complete the report forms.

The press, farm magazines, radio and television stations, and farm organizations were most helpful in publicizing the census and encouraging cooperation of farm and ranch operators.

Special tribute is paid to the millions of farm and ranch operators who furnished the information requested. Only through their cooperation was it possible to collect and publish the data in this report.

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If you have any questions concerning the statistics in this report, call (301) 763-5230.

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\*Not applicable.

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## HISTORY

The census of agriculture provides a periodic statistical picture of the Nation's farming, ranching, and related activities. The 1982 Census of Agriculture is the 22d 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 of population. From 1840 to 1950, an agriculture census was taken as part of the decennial census. A separate 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. After 1982, the agriculture census will revert to a 5-year cycle and be taken covering years ending in 2 and 7.

## USES OF THE CENSUS

The census of agriculture is the leading source of statistics about the Nation's agriculture and the only source of consistent, comparable data about agriculture at the county, State, and national levels. Census statistics are used by Congress in developing and changing farm programs and for determining the effects of these programs. Many national and State programs affecting agriculture are designed or allocated on the basis of census data, such as funds for extension services, research, and soil conservation projects. Private industry uses census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the farm community.

## AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The census of agriculture is required by law under title 13, United States Code, sections 142(a) and 191, which directs that the census be taken in 1979, in 1983, and in every fifth year after 1983 covering the prior year. The 1982 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

## 1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

## FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes were first established, the farm definition has been changed nine times. The current definition, first used for the 1974 final reports, is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural 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 reports) was 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.

## COMPARABILITY OF DATA

All censuses since 1969 were conducted primarily by mail. To improve the coverage of the 1978 census, especially in counting the number of small farms, the mailout/mailback enumeration was supplemented by the direct enumeration of all households in approximately 6,400 sample segments in rural areas in all States, except Alaska and Hawaii. Due to budget reductions, the direct enumeration area sample was eliminated for 1982.

The U.S., region, and State data for 1978 shown in the 1978 Census of Agriculture publications included data for farms represented on the mail list plus estimates from the area sample for farms not on the mail list. The 1978 county data included only farms represented on the mail list as the sample was not large enough to provide reliable estimates for each county.

To provide comparable data for 1982 and 1978, estimates from the 1978 area sample have been subtracted from the 1978 data. Thus, the 1978 data in this report include only farms represented on the mail list. Appendix B includes a detailed discussion of the effect of the area sample on census comparability.

In general, data for 1982, 1978, and 1974 are not fully comparable with data for 1969 and earlier censuses due to changes in the farm definition. Data on acreages and inventories for 1982 and 1978 are generally comparable. Dollar figures shown for expenses and agricultural product sales have not been adjusted for changes in price levels between census years.

## TABULAR PRESENTATION

**State data**—In chapter 1, State tables 1 through 43 show detailed State level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 44 through 50 provide 1982 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

**County data**—Selected data items are presented by county in chapter 2. Tables 1 through 16 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the

column headings. In tables 17 through 36, only counties reporting the data item are included in the table stub. Counties not having the item, or with a limited number of farms reporting the item, are not listed separately. Data for these counties are combined and presented as "all other counties."

## PRELIMINARY REPORTS

Preliminary reports have been published separately for each county with 10 farms or more in 1982, each State, and the United States. This series provided, at the earliest possible date, information on major data items together with comparable final data from the 1978 census. The data items were standard except in tables 4 and 5 where the selected crops varied by State according to their relative importance.

For farms, land in farms, livestock inventories, and other major items at the county level, differences between the preliminary and final figures are generally less than 5 percent. At the State level, differences are significantly less.

## MICROFICHE AND COMPUTER TAPES

The data in this report and final data for individual counties are available on microfiche. The final microfiche county tables have the same format as the county preliminary report. Also, computer tapes are available for the same summary statistics that are found in the preliminary and volume 1 reports. Microfiche reports are sold by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Computer tapes are sold by the Customer Services Branch, Data User Services Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

## UNPUBLISHED DATA

Copies of computer printouts of the following unpublished county summary tables are available:

Land in Farms With Cropland Harvested and Land in Farms and Cropland Harvested on Irrigated Farms, by Size of Farm: 1982

Owned and Rented Land—Farms, Land in Farms, and Value of Land and Buildings: 1982

Farms With Grazing Permits: 1982

Other special unpublished tables and summaries on computer tape can be developed to individual user specifications.

Inquiries about the availability and cost of unpublished tabulations should be directed to the Chief, Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

## CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of title 13, United States Code, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual farm. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification is not considered a disclosure, so this information may be given even though other information is withheld.

## 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.

## INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA

Inventories of livestock, poultry, and machinery and equipment are as of December 31 of the census year. Crop and livestock production, sales, and expense data are for the calendar year, except for a few crops (such as citrus) for which the production year overlaps the calendar year.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

—	Represents zero.
(D)	Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.
(X)	Not applicable.
(Z)	Less than half of the unit shown.
(NA)	Not available.
(IC)	Independent city.
cwt.	Hundredweight.
sq. ft.	Square feet.



# ALABAMA



# Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1982 and 1978

[Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms			Farms with sales of \$10,000 or more		
	1982	1978	Percent change from 1978 to 1982	1982	1978	Percent change from 1978 to 1982
Farms.....number.....	48 448	50 780	-4.6	15 156	16 876	-10.2
Land in farms.....acres.....	10 200 547	11 147 825	-8.5	6 722 272	7 360 219	-8.7
Average size of farm.....acres.....	211	220	-4.1	444	436	1.8
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :						
Average per farm.....dollars.....	171 210	138 257	23.8	352 646	265 824	32.7
Average per acre.....dollars.....	826	630	31.1	805	613	31.3
Farms by size:						
1 to 9 acres.....	3 043	2 855	6.6	700	789	-11.3
10 to 49 acres.....	14 132	13 282	6.4	1 871	2 012	-7.0
50 to 179 acres.....	18 277	20 319	-10.0	4 276	4 938	-13.4
180 to 499 acres.....	8 471	9 503	-10.9	4 535	5 120	-11.4
500 to 999 acres.....	2 786	3 025	-7.9	2 206	2 399	-8.0
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	1 186	1 194	-7	1 065	1 057	.8
2,000 acres or more.....	553	602	-8.1	503	561	-10.3
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	33 351	37 301	-10.6	12 265	13 792	-11.1
.....acres.....	3 265 361	3 364 231	-2.8	2 828 256	2 835 793	-.3
Irrigated land.....farms.....	1 040	994	4.6	664	592	12.2
.....acres.....	66 020	58 581	12.7	62 654	54 164	15.7
Market value of agricultural products sold.....\$1,000.....	1 704 160	1 531 432	11.3	1 608 290	1 425 212	12.8
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse products.....farms.....	19 617	23 200	-15.4	9 642	10 847	-11.1
.....\$1,000.....	606 916	504 120	20.4	578 295	469 774	23.1
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....farms.....	36 379	39 451	-7.8	11 756	13 598	-13.5
.....\$1,000.....	1 097 244	1 027 312	6.8	1 029 996	955 439	7.8
Farms by standard industrial classification:						
Cash grains (011).....	7 629	8 461	-9.8	3 325	3 237	2.7
Field crops, except cash grains (013).....	4 259	5 436	-21.7	2 485	3 090	-19.6
Vegetables and melons (016).....	1 117	1 182	-5.5	194	239	-18.8
Fruits and tree nuts (017).....	871	770	13.1	119	84	41.7
Horticultural specialties (018).....	459	494	-7.1	280	235	19.1
General farms, primarily crop (019).....	1 256	1 273	-1.3	556	642	-13.4
Livestock, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialties (021).....	27 142	27 414	-1.0	4 093	4 659	-12.1
Dairy farms (024).....	539	637	-15.4	470	493	-4.7
Poultry and eggs (025).....	3 572	4 182	-14.6	3 397	4 010	-15.3
Animal specialties (027).....	1 036	504	105.6	189	120	57.5
General farms, primarily livestock (029).....	568	427	33.0	48	67	-28.4
Farms by type of organization:						
Individual or family.....	44 009	45 868	-4.3	12 814	14 258	-10.1
Partnership.....	3 754	4 074	-7.9	1 885	2 061	-8.5
Corporation.....	513	606	-15.3	408	527	-22.6
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	172	132	30.3	49	30	63.3
Tenure of operator:						
Full owners.....	32 791	32 654	.4	7 324	7 666	-4.5
Part owners.....	12 380	14 043	-11.8	6 468	7 506	-13.8
Tenants.....	3 277	4 083	-19.7	1 364	1 704	-20.0
Operators by principal occupation:						
Farming.....	18 316	19 839	-7.7	10 169	11 066	-8.1
Other.....	30 132	30 941	-2.6	4 987	5 810	-14.2
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :						
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	467 749	456 407	2.5	448 954	436 113	2.9
Commercial fertilizer.....\$1,000.....	110 580	104 751	5.6	95 310	87 768	8.6
Other agricultural chemicals <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	63 014	51 862	21.5	60 296	46 077	30.9
Energy and petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	113 393	77 299	46.7	97 120	64 343	50.9
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	87 505	82 662	5.9	79 767	75 737	5.3
Livestock and poultry inventory:						
Cattle and calves.....farms.....	33 671	33 304	1.1	9 071	10 072	-9.9
.....number.....	1 652 524	1 646 340	.4	1 035 993	1 071 999	-3.4
Milk cows.....farms.....	2 361	3 236	-27.0	822	1 072	-23.3
.....number.....	58 946	65 275	-9.7	54 230	58 815	-7.8
Hogs and pigs.....farms.....	6 061	10 325	-41.3	2 430	3 849	-36.9
.....number.....	463 840	677 280	-31.5	395 134	533 058	-25.9
Chickens 3 months old or older.....farms.....	4 580	5 451	-16.0	1 119	1 492	-25.0
.....number.....	17 734 581	18 168 832	-2.4	17 634 097	18 023 396	-2.2
Crops harvested:						
Corn for grain or seed.....farms.....	10 390	15 084	-31.1	4 009	5 813	-31.0
.....acres.....	310 680	485 450	-36.0	252 939	367 682	-31.2
Wheat for grain.....farms.....	4 090	977	318.6	3 181	810	292.7
.....acres.....	474 467	53 076	793.9	450 857	49 852	804.4
Cotton.....farms.....	1 458	2 083	-30.0	1 195	1 520	-21.4
.....acres.....	294 792	328 087	-10.1	290 777	319 040	-8.9
Soybeans for beans.....farms.....	9 897	10 898	-10.0	6 285	6 513	-3.5
.....acres.....	1 589 247	1 621 130	-2.0	1 476 592	1 473 952	.2
Peanuts for nuts.....farms.....	3 291	3 792	-13.2	2 440	2 821	-13.5
.....acres.....	170 931	205 717	-16.9	166 862	198 513	-15.9
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text).....farms.....	18 492	19 819	-6.7	6 497	7 392	-12.1
.....acres.....	568 456	571 087	-.5	348 514	351 967	-1.0

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1978 include the cost of lime which was not collected in 1982.