

# 1982 Census of Agriculture

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AC82-A-43

Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 43

## Texas

State and County Data

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U.S. Department of Commerce  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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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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## Texas State and County Data

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

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**—Many persons participated in conducting the 1982 Census of Agriculture. Primary direction was by **Shirley Kalek**, 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.

# INTRODUCTION

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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.

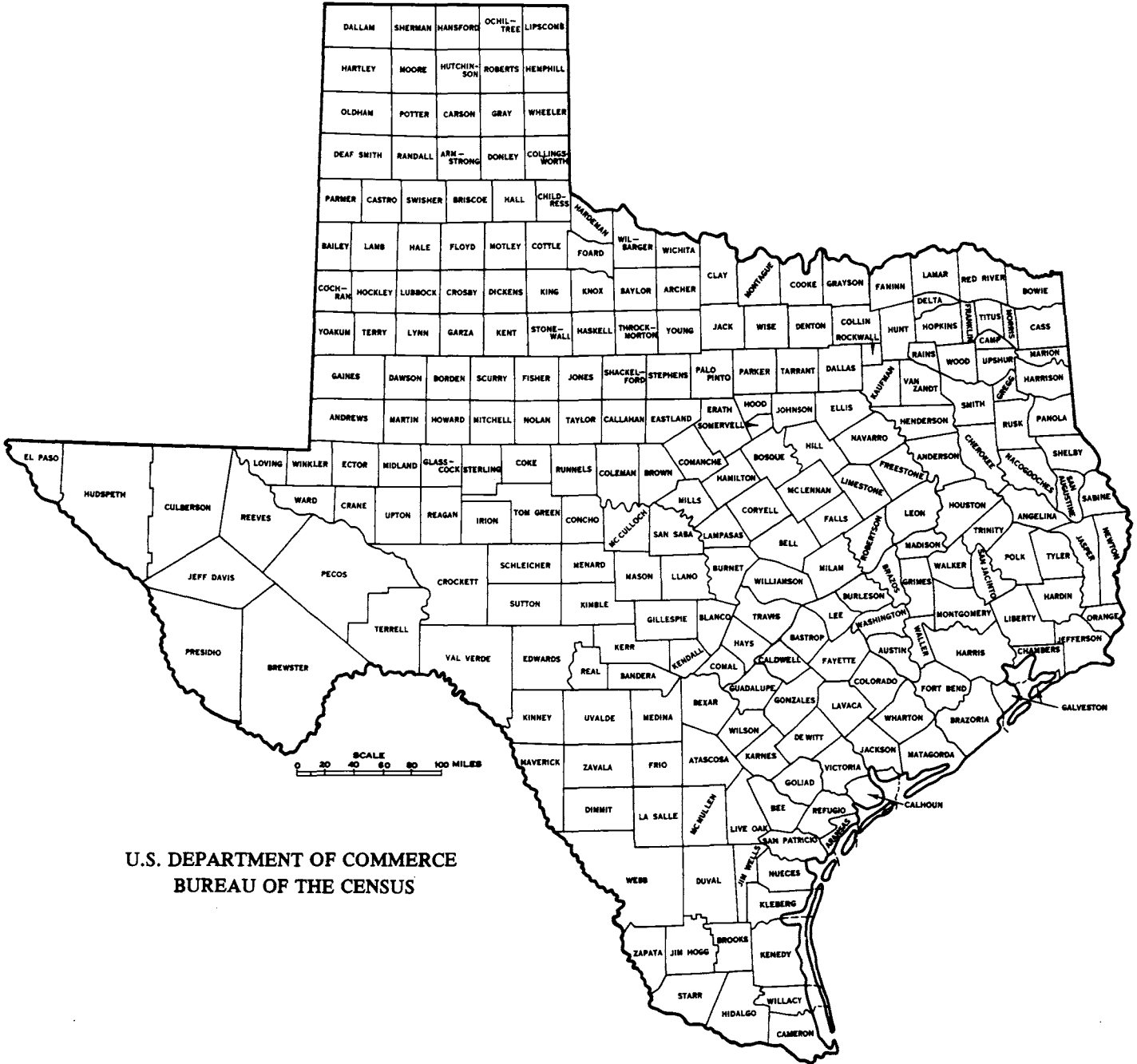
## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

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.



# TEXAS



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

# 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.....	185 020	175 395	5.5	63 741	67 883	-6.1
Land in farms.....acres.....	131 310 306	135 619 617	-3.2	110 089 081	114 016 611	-3.4
Average size of farm.....acres.....	710	773	-8.2	1 727	1 680	2.8
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :						
Average per farm.....dollars.....	386 138	294 473	31.1	820 157	575 310	42.6
Average per acre.....dollars.....	544	378	43.9	477	342	39.5
Farms by size:						
1 to 9 acres.....	10 899	7 611	43.2	1 374	1 198	14.7
10 to 49 acres.....	33 673	22 867	47.3	2 099	1 761	19.2
50 to 179 acres.....	58 198	56 742	2.6	7 821	8 376	-6.6
180 to 499 acres.....	40 246	43 356	-7.2	17 398	19 138	-9.1
500 to 999 acres.....	19 962	21 760	-8.3	15 055	16 479	-8.6
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	12 047	12 871	-6.4	10 612	11 368	-6.7
2,000 acres or more.....	9 995	10 188	-1.9	9 382	9 563	-1.9
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	110 341	112 291	-1.7	50 743	53 852	-5.8
acres.....	20 761 160	20 598 823	.8	19 016 407	18 675 511	1.8
Irrigated land.....farms.....	19 775	24 418	-19.0	13 808	17 629	-21.7
acres.....	5 575 553	6 947 079	-19.7	5 447 813	6 745 972	-19.2
Market value of agricultural products sold.....\$1,000.....	8 936 363	8 229 298	8.6	8 511 673	7 829 303	8.7
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse products.....farms.....	64 604	69 051	-6.4	39 102	41 721	-6.3
acres.....	3 025 698	2 694 552	12.3	2 948 796	2 611 904	12.9
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....farms.....	147 629	143 431	2.9	48 128	51 351	-6.3
acres.....	5 910 665	5 534 746	6.8	5 562 877	5 217 399	6.6
Farms by standard industrial classification:						
Cash grains (011).....	20 950	15 287	37.0	15 084	10 294	46.5
Field crops, except cash grains (013).....	17 403	24 602	-29.3	9 968	16 039	-37.9
Vegetables and melons (016).....	1 978	1 808	9.4	904	893	1.2
Fruits and tree nuts (017).....	3 331	3 296	1.1	644	663	-2.9
Horticultural specialties (018).....	1 463	1 252	16.9	752	618	21.7
General farms, primarily crop (019).....	3 940	4 252	-7.3	1 820	2 228	-18.3
Livestock, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialties (021).....	123 200	116 340	5.9	29 594	32 329	-8.5
Dairy farms (024).....	2 776	2 928	-5.2	2 656	2 673	-.6
Poultry and eggs (025).....	1 831	1 864	-1.8	1 179	1 511	-22.0
Animal specialties (027).....	5 967	2 523	136.5	1 044	480	117.5
General farms, primarily livestock (029).....	2 181	1 243	75.5	96	155	-38.1
Farms by type of organization:						
Individual or family.....	164 243	155 393	5.7	52 567	56 671	-7.2
Partnership.....	16 263	16 418	-.9	8 051	8 565	-6.0
Corporation.....	3 257	2 692	21.0	2 646	2 279	16.1
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	1 257	892	40.9	477	368	29.6
Tenure of operator:						
Full owners.....	111 255	98 185	13.3	24 517	23 994	2.2
Part owners.....	50 547	52 194	-3.2	27 873	30 827	-9.6
Tenants.....	23 218	25 016	-7.2	11 351	13 062	-13.1
Operators by principal occupation:						
Farming.....	79 900	75 007	6.5	45 514	46 724	-2.6
Other.....	105 120	100 388	4.7	18 227	21 159	-13.9
Selected farm production expenses <sup>2</sup> :						
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	1 562 467	1 503 227	3.9	1 454 520	1 417 088	2.6
Commercial fertilizer.....\$1,000.....	367 989	329 182	11.8	324 591	291 036	11.5
Other agricultural chemicals <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	208 539	167 418	24.6	198 464	154 785	28.2
Energy and petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	730 472	494 568	47.7	656 811	441 330	48.8
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	480 462	431 842	11.3	451 620	407 528	10.8
Livestock and poultry inventory:						
Cattle and calves.....farms.....	143 483	133 825	7.2	44 955	47 667	-5.7
number.....	12 611 712	12 701 049	-.7	9 923 643	10 254 830	-3.2
Milk cows.....farms.....	8 721	9 937	-12.2	4 219	4 870	-13.4
number.....	323 039	307 297	5.1	311 434	292 907	6.3
Hogs and pigs.....farms.....	9 484	12 174	-22.1	2 899	4 634	-37.4
number.....	559 590	782 173	-28.5	458 439	642 150	-28.6
Chickens 3 months old or older.....farms.....	16 871	16 257	3.8	3 231	4 002	-19.3
number.....	15 061 107	13 738 886	9.6	14 593 390	13 262 645	10.0
Crops harvested:						
Corn for grain or seed.....farms.....	9 192	12 223	-24.8	5 647	6 892	-18.1
acres.....	1 097 305	1 286 697	-14.7	1 047 294	1 208 057	-11.1
Sorghum for grain or seed.....farms.....	20 348	23 280	-12.6	16 392	17 700	-7.4
acres.....	4 812 115	4 498 511	7.0	4 645 450	4 240 970	9.5
Wheat for grain.....farms.....	22 647	15 103	50.0	17 210	11 537	49.2
acres.....	5 087 248	2 691 350	89.0	4 805 896	2 489 025	93.1
Rice.....farms.....	1 157	1 393	-16.9	1 137	1 348	-15.7
acres.....	520 896	597 729	-12.9	519 994	595 405	-12.7
Cotton.....farms.....	16 292	23 035	-29.3	13 883	19 278	-28.0
acres.....	4 522 787	6 476 184	-30.2	4 411 802	6 299 920	-30.0
Soybeans for beans.....farms.....	3 245	3 333	-2.6	2 991	2 977	.5
acres.....	720 133	713 218	1.0	703 318	693 042	1.5
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text).....farms.....	71 265	72 168	-1.3	26 647	28 929	-7.9
acres.....	2 851 469	3 024 941	-5.7	1 878 094	2 036 670	-7.8

<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.