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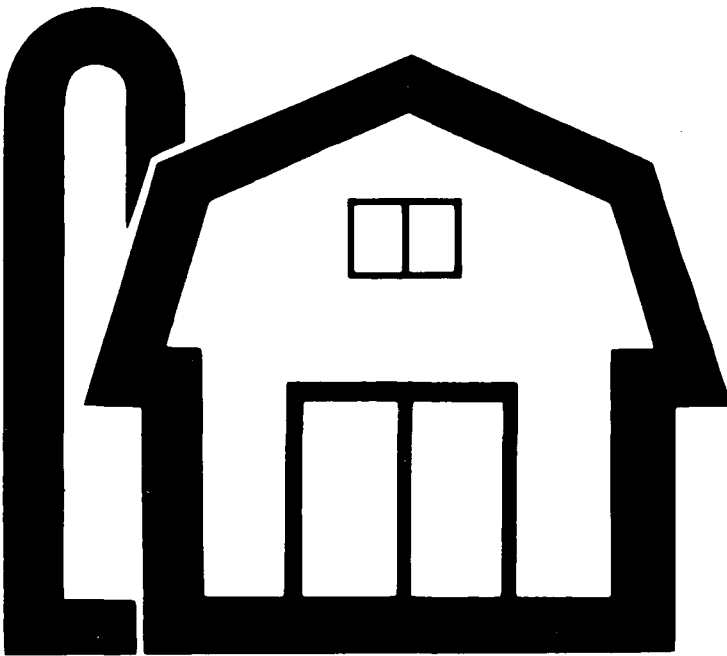
# 1982 Census of Agriculture

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AC82-A-46

Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 46  
**Virginia**  
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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Part 46  
**Virginia**  
State and County Data

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Issued April 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.

# 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

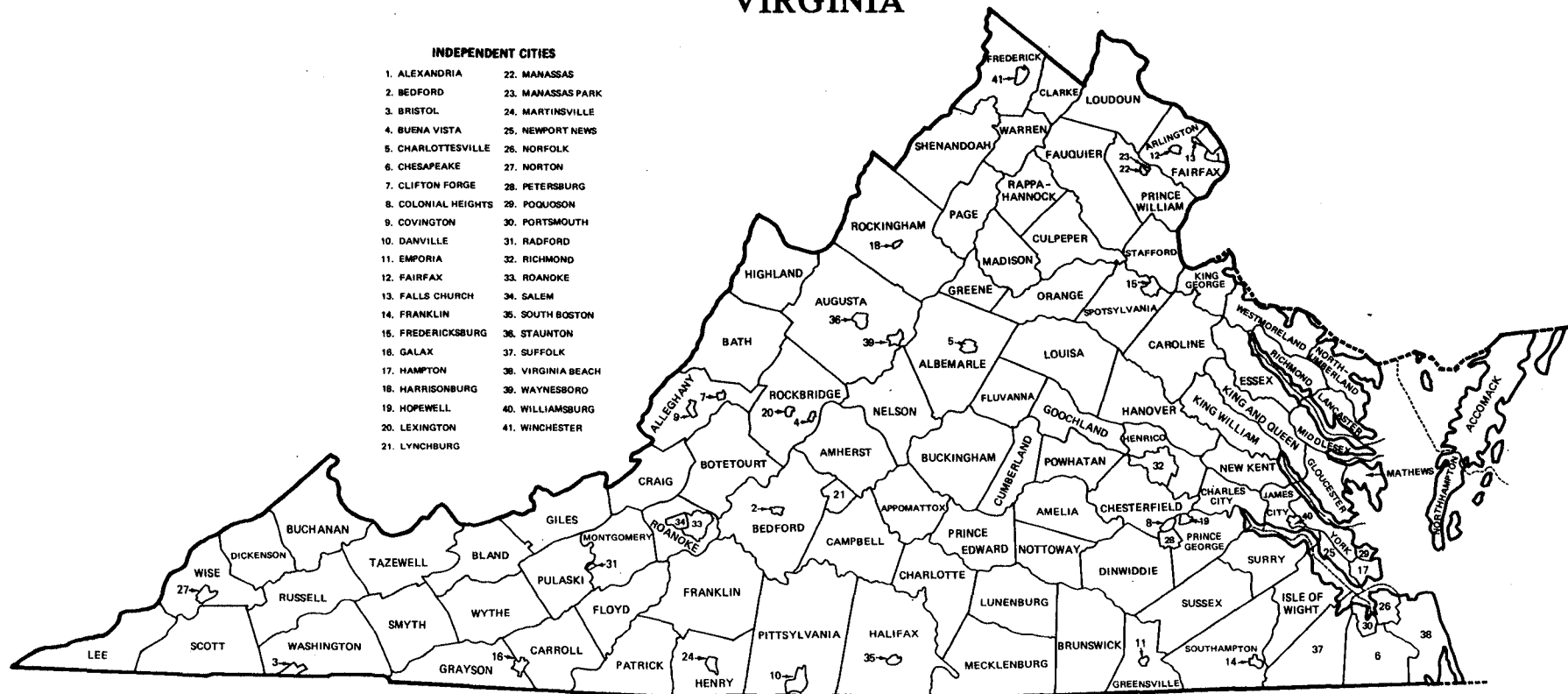
The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

—	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.

# VIRGINIA

## INDEPENDENT CITIES

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. ALEXANDRIA       | 22. MANASSAS       |
| 2. BEDFORD          | 23. MANASSAS PARK  |
| 3. BRISTOL          | 24. MARTINSVILLE   |
| 4. BUENA VISTA      | 25. NEWPORT NEWS   |
| 5. CHARLOTTESVILLE  | 26. NORFOLK        |
| 6. CHESAPEAKE       | 27. NORTON         |
| 7. CLIFTON FORGE    | 28. PETERSBURG     |
| 8. COLONIAL HEIGHTS | 29. POQUOSON       |
| 9. COVINGTON        | 30. PORTSMOUTH     |
| 10. DANVILLE        | 31. RADFORD        |
| 11. EMPORIA         | 32. RICHMOND       |
| 12. FAIRFAX         | 33. ROANOKE        |
| 13. FALLS CHURCH    | 34. SALEM          |
| 14. FRANKLIN        | 35. SOUTH BOSTON   |
| 15. FREDERICKSBURG  | 36. STAUNTON       |
| 16. GALAX           | 37. SUFFOLK        |
| 17. HAMPTON         | 38. VIRGINIA BEACH |
| 18. HARRISONBURG    | 39. WAYNESBORO     |
| 19. HOPEWELL        | 40. WILLIAMSBURG   |
| 20. LEXINGTON       | 41. WINCHESTER     |
| 21. LYNCHBURG       |                    |



SCALE  
0 10 20 30 40 50 MILES

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.....	51 859	49 936	3.9	17 920	17 472	2.6
Land in farms.....acres.....	9 436 854	9 459 429	-2	6 279 832	6 122 478	2.6
Average size of farm.....acres.....	182	189	-3.7	350	350	-
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> .....dollars.....	205 034	171 658	19.4	397 534	324 273	22.6
Average per acre.....dollars.....	1 125	900	25.0	1 120	920	21.7
Farms by size:						
1 to 9 acres.....	4 158	3 891	6.9	703	671	4.8
10 to 49 acres.....	12 762	10 836	17.8	1 567	1 413	10.9
50 to 179 acres.....	20 489	20 393	.5	5 613	5 436	3.3
180 to 499 acres.....	10 393	10 737	-3.2	6 420	6 434	-.2
500 to 999 acres.....	2 837	2 909	-2.5	2 473	2 436	1.5
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	956	917	4.3	890	845	5.3
2,000 acres or more.....	264	253	4.3	254	237	7.2
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	44 259	44 643	-.9	16 686	16 395	1.8
.....acres.....	2 779 282	2 599 660	6.9	2 267 444	2 045 435	10.9
Irrigated land.....farms.....	1 839	2 416	-23.9	1 355	1 866	-27.4
.....acres.....	42 824	42 030	1.9	41 024	39 494	3.9
Market value of agricultural products sold.....\$1,000.....	1 606 915	1 261 255	27.4	1 490 724	1 144 317	30.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse products.....farms.....	28 826	30 287	-4.8	12 910	12 725	1.5
.....\$1,000.....	629 303	503 579	25.0	579 602	451 663	28.3
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....farms.....	35 584	34 645	2.7	13 262	12 984	2.1
.....\$1,000.....	977 612	757 676	29.0	911 123	692 654	31.5
Farms by standard industrial classification:						
Cash grains (011).....	5 292	4 869	8.7	2 390	2 035	17.4
Field crops, except cash grains (013).....	13 857	15 021	-7.7	5 114	5 275	-3.1
Vegetables and melons (016).....	612	560	9.3	243	191	27.2
Fruits and tree nuts (017).....	810	778	4.1	274	288	-4.9
Horticultural specialties (018).....	583	522	11.7	310	251	23.5
General farms, primarily crop (019).....	1 616	1 442	12.1	550	535	2.8
Livestock, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialties (021).....	23 856	22 132	7.8	5 571	5 504	1.2
Dairy farms (024).....	2 238	2 328	-3.9	2 137	2 132	.2
Poultry and eggs (025).....	1 103	1 061	4.0	909	900	1.0
Animal specialties (027).....	1 382	787	75.6	312	215	45.1
General farms, primarily livestock (029).....	510	436	17.0	110	146	-24.7
Farms by type of organization:						
Individual or family.....	45 731	43 964	4.0	14 474	14 078	2.8
Partnership.....	4 765	4 855	-1.9	2 538	2 568	-1.2
Corporation.....	1 023	895	14.3	805	771	4.4
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	340	222	53.2	103	55	87.3
Tenure of operator:						
Full owners.....	33 541	31 341	7.0	7 807	7 361	6.1
Part owners.....	14 253	14 260	(Z)	8 338	8 179	1.9
Tenants.....	4 065	4 335	-6.2	1 775	1 932	-8.1
Operators by principal occupation:						
Farming.....	24 090	24 425	-1.4	12 862	13 011	-1.1
Other.....	27 769	25 511	8.9	5 058	4 461	13.4
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :						
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	295 721	238 693	23.9	280 651	224 331	25.1
Commercial fertilizer.....\$1,000.....	116 005	93 963	23.5	102 894	79 793	29.0
Other agricultural chemicals <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	50 270	35 570	41.3	47 479	31 804	49.3
Energy and petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	121 473	75 198	61.5	102 902	60 737	69.4
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	126 893	103 504	22.6	117 028	92 872	26.0
Livestock and poultry inventory:						
Cattle and calves.....farms.....	33 114	30 642	8.1	11 409	10 887	4.8
.....number.....	1 672 006	1 455 042	14.9	1 198 453	1 037 833	15.5
Milk cows.....farms.....	5 577	7 005	-20.4	3 144	3 574	-12.0
.....number.....	173 418	167 777	3.4	166 759	157 838	5.7
Hogs and pigs.....farms.....	7 239	10 168	-28.8	3 272	4 417	-25.9
.....number.....	474 393	537 412	-11.7	432 029	459 307	-5.9
Chickens 3 months old or older.....farms.....	5 445	6 568	-17.1	1 472	1 909	-22.9
.....number.....	4 510 736	4 751 709	-5.1	4 390 663	4 594 038	-4.4
Crops harvested:						
Corn for grain or seed.....farms.....	15 288	17 564	-13.0	8 548	9 113	-6.2
.....acres.....	611 032	612 215	-.2	559 352	542 168	3.2
Wheat for grain.....farms.....	6 594	5 051	30.5	4 649	3 370	38.0
.....acres.....	296 840	123 985	139.4	275 449	110 181	150.0
Tobacco.....farms.....	13 485	14 835	-9.1	5 547	5 676	-2.3
.....acres.....	64 005	70 928	-9.8	51 587	55 475	-7.0
Soybeans for beans.....farms.....	7 247	6 925	4.6	4 757	4 460	6.7
.....acres.....	612 399	474 287	29.1	564 398	429 598	31.4
Peanuts for nuts.....farms.....	1 501	1 693	-11.3	1 287	1 385	-7.1
.....acres.....	100 465	103 311	-2.8	98 880	100 740	-1.8
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text).....farms.....	28 796	28 860	-.2	10 420	10 184	2.3
.....acres.....	948 741	910 150	4.2	587 731	537 424	9.4
Land in orchards.....farms.....	1 714	1 808	-5.2	546	607	-10.0
.....acres.....	36 274	38 452	-5.7	31 274	32 865	-4.8

<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.