

**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1987 and Earlier Census Years**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964	1959	1954
Farms.....number...	83 217	82 463	73 194	67 674	77 875	80 852	99 274	123 075
Land in farms.....acres...	30 598 178	32 156 894	32 727 202	33 385 619	35 328 360	37 010 925	36 887 948	37 794 780
Average size of farm.....acres...	368	390	447	493	454	458	372	307
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm.....dollars...	583 668	746 577	521 240	322 034	217 429	214 650	131 212	69 620
Average per acre.....dollars...	1 575	1 918	1 161	653	479	468	353	227
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....\$1,000...	4 081 738	3 873 341	3 011 896	1 766 525	928 593	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars...	49 223	47 361	41 411	28 512	12 959	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	22 697	22 951	16 423	13 480	15 692	15 937	24 110	34 138
10 to 49 acres.....	28 498	28 203	25 639	24 162	28 915	29 475	34 570	44 342
50 to 179 acres.....	15 017	14 873	14 761	14 253	16 160	16 930	20 195	23 232
180 to 499 acres.....	8 028	7 636	7 737	7 132	7 896	8 678	9 922	10 592
500 to 999 acres.....	3 804	3 635	3 546	3 514	3 745	4 096	4 464	4 523
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	2 544	2 435	2 319	2 320	2 541	2 812	3 124	3 248
2,000 acres or more.....	2 629	2 730	2 769	2 813	2 926	3 124	6 013	6 248
Total cropland..... farms...	68 266	67 916	63 663	59 192	66 016	69 386	85 012	105 931
.....acres...	10 894 503	11 257 374	11 454 731	10 629 829	11 245 140	11 815 368	12 965 640	13 229 708
Harvested cropland..... farms...	59 259	59 048	56 253	52 754	56 877	62 078	76 863	93 231
.....acres...	7 676 287	8 764 808	8 804 374	8 307 246	7 649 021	7 845 816	8 021 836	8 326 331
Irrigated land..... farms...	58 868	58 389	55 627	47 160	51 050	59 429	74 138	84 502
.....acres...	7 596 091	8 460 508	8 505 824	7 748 709	7 240 131	7 598 698	7 395 570	7 048 049
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000...	13 922 234	12 491 442	9 274 495	7 394 723	3 903 560	3 499 383	2 822 071	2 260 921
Average per farm.....dollars...	167 300	151 479	126 711	109 270	50 125	43 281	28 427	18 370
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops...\$1,000...	9 269 389	8 158 494	5 851 902	4 730 856	2 108 455	2 113 300	1 714 299	1 477 945
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000...	4 652 844	4 332 948	3 422 592	2 656 496	1 789 211	1 377 149	1 103 053	778 956
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500.....	23 187	25 513	18 494	18 587	27 014	29 202	35 213	49 849
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	8 661	8 871	8 306	6 112	8 514	7 821	10 311	15 717
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	8 512	8 515	8 253	7 451	9 700	9 165	13 335	18 832
\$10,000 to \$24,999 <sup>4</sup> .....	11 028	10 178	10 460	23 975	25 167	27 509	40 193	20 215
\$25,000 to \$49,999 <sup>5</sup> .....	7 863	7 519	7 519	23 975	25 167	27 509	-	18 234
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	6 895	6 423	6 593	-	-	-	-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	11 430	10 675	9 797	8 654	6 343	7 043	-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	5 641	4 990	3 660	2 774	1 039	-	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	64 928	65 482	57 916	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	12 127	11 360	10 815	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	5 367	4 849	3 871	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	795	772	592	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>6</sup> :								
None.....	32 051	29 641	29 135	23 312	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	64 644
Any.....	47 085	47 387	41 462	31 758	43 564	37 799	45 706	57 548
200 days or more.....	30 948	31 587	27 140	21 435	29 115	25 740	30 885	36 919
Operators by principal occupation <sup>6</sup> :								
Farming.....	41 906	40 633	38 060	36 332	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	41 311	41 830	35 134	28 282	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>6</sup> .....years...	53.6	51.8	51.3	53.2	52.0	51.9	51.3	51.1
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> .....\$1,000...	10 917 593	(NA)	(NA)	6 137 764	3 554 746	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000...	776 540	855 311	873 948	649 039	574 532	367 470	337 681	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000...	1 707 608	1 721 393	1 330 184	1 276 741	607 974	542 259	434 926	324 004
Commercial fertilizer <sup>7</sup> .....\$1,000...	427 924	427 823	335 444	292 054	123 315	110 435	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000...	332 166	449 759	252 664	154 809	85 062	89 343	80 666	69 462
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000...	2 385 242	1 819 323	1 370 770	1 050 722	632 985	556 677	498 743	410 712
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> .....\$1,000...	697 449	938 913	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>7</sup> .....\$1,000...	544 779	468 804	288 968	193 100	108 022	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms...	22 119	26 579	22 090	22 528	24 430	31 762	38 426	53 224
.....number...	4 570 667	4 612 967	4 446 512	4 425 359	4 473 418	4 303 238	3 702 745	3 744 774
Beef cows..... farms...	14 966	17 199	13 895	13 893	(NA)	16 487	(NA)	(NA)
.....number...	906 006	952 164	850 537	1 036 673	875 135	866 077	707 448	787 369
Milk cows..... farms...	3 631	4 638	4 829	5 754	6 622	11 605	19 571	34 031
.....number...	1 070 366	946 201	836 675	768 848	649 071	732 354	753 932	790 730
Cattle and calves sold..... farms...	20 486	22 947	20 321	21 172	23 132	26 862	32 375	36 751
.....number...	3 097 084	3 338 619	3 477 491	3 833 244	4 197 687	3 965 760	2 943 594	2 229 350
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms...	2 699	4 800	4 317	3 136	2 608	3 947	9 204	11 628
.....number...	150 931	184 577	178 132	133 815	149 618	189 900	379 645	449 491
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms...	2 297	3 769	3 444	2 273	2 078	2 373	4 944	6 100
.....number...	303 406	281 733	297 937	222 120	238 361	302 242	439 240	500 786
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory <sup>9</sup> ..... farms...	5 354	7 768	6 184	5 073	5 399	11 360	25 907	47 735
.....number...	45 377 564	44 840 552	45 676 940	44 808 323	46 424 562	36 486 991	27 077 134	20 417 394
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms...	298	411	310	304	318	396	817	2 230
.....number...	209 376 014	123 778 881	97 785 819	94 356 838	68 089 158	51 125 095	38 680 935	45 424 536

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1987 and Earlier Census Years—Con.**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964	1959	1954
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	2 841	3 429	2 300	2 993	2 223	1 975	2 884	3 101
acres...	562 302	928 713	590 373	702 932	403 898	266 770	337 852	459 070
bushels...	40 004 786	63 130 854	32 687 096	34 600 622	15 266 035	8 035 767	8 170 040	8 835 857
Barley for grain----- farms...	1 431	2 261	3 552	(NA)	(NA)	6 086	7 639	11 246
acres...	269 845	582 708	873 831	(NA)	(NA)	1 319 328	1 508 001	1 860 507
bushels...	14 560 411	31 980 247	41 029 764	(NA)	(NA)	72 071 992	67 493 535	73 678 915
Rice ----- farms...	1 654	1 322	1 236	(NA)	(NA)	1 288	1 365	1 360
acres...	399 193	566 914	484 822	(NA)	(NA)	343 286	302 132	474 421
cwt...	28 566 209	36 672 135	25 300 625	(NA)	(NA)	17 033 570	13 231 750	12 654 688
Cotton----- farms...	3 037	3 002	3 819	4 009	4 916	6 715	8 672	9 828
acres...	1 083 811	1 312 569	1 517 980	1 150 321	663 421	759 422	820 804	879 723
bales...	2 619 934	2 872 637	1 911 050	2 241 869	1 273 712	1 761 509	1 791 260	1 458 520
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	10 638	11 815	12 775	13 298	14 203	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	1 532 777	1 415 969	1 501 143	1 545 144	1 534 161	1 702 466	1 632 600	1 729 988
tons, dry...	7 304 837	6 485 070	6 195 765	6 625 208	6 612 689	7 278 558	6 328 534	6 109 908
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>10</sup> ----- farms...	3 787	4 053	4 081	3 547	3 975	4 220	5 856	7 161
acres...	882 741	894 573	900 401	740 426	675 945	625 522	657 344	560 116
Land in orchards ----- farms...	41 021	39 801	36 164	32 849	36 321	40 054	50 372	57 327
acres...	2 152 664	2 158 404	1 892 077	1 769 821	1 587 700	1 519 894	1 434 808	1 322 985

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

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

<sup>4</sup>Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

<sup>5</sup>Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

<sup>6</sup>Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships; see text.

<sup>7</sup>Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals exclude the cost of lime for 1987 and 1982.

<sup>8</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

<sup>9</sup>Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.

<sup>10</sup>Data for 1974 were from land area used.