

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.....	3 580	3 754	3 519	3 421	4 490	6 068	8 292	12 753
Land in farms.....acres.....	398 400	444 242	455 731	440 056	541 372	721 314	884 443	1 137 894
Average size of farm.....acres.....	111	118	130	129	121	119	107	89
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars.....	467 677	316 317	279 270	196 135	111 071	67 429	47 372	25 971
Average per acre.....dollars.....	4 171	2 655	2 158	1 525	921	561	444	291
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000.....	132 445	127 424	96 944	68 108	43 487	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars.....	36 996	33 925	27 596	20 447	10 059	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	560	594	483	481	573	907	1 170	2 313
10 to 49 acres.....	1 176	1 164	1 032	888	1 245	1 711	2 553	4 149
50 to 179 acres.....	1 176	1 223	1 201	1 272	1 724	2 197	3 103	4 583
180 to 499 acres.....	546	632	660	655	825	1 085	1 277	1 507
500 to 999 acres.....	95	111	117	106	98	137	158	158
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	24	28	20	13	19	21	31	43
2,000 acres or more.....	3	2	6	6	6	10		
Total cropland.....farms.....	3 163	3 326	3 226	3 139	3 907	5 263	7 033	11 190
.....acres.....	210 012	224 986	232 026	227 006	252 072	288 041	350 690	459 971
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	2 876	3 062	3 009	2 959	3 444	4 833	6 460	9 846
.....acres.....	153 715	171 229	169 681	159 157	162 275	205 861	237 512	285 886
Irrigated land.....farms.....	430	367	298	319	243	381	205	405
.....acres.....	7 245	6 695	6 927	7 474	8 937	14 452	5 171	11 975
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000.....	357 702	285 324	225 972	186 921	145 890	138 999	120 246	123 308
Average per farm.....dollars.....	99 917	76 005	64 215	54 639	32 492	22 907	14 501	9 669
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	164 664	102 058	82 977	75 560	59 493	53 679	38 468	46 337
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	193 039	183 266	142 995	110 929	86 167	84 804	81 560	76 737
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	1 166	1 236	947	986	1 686	2 296	3 173	6 274
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	482	486	484	343	384	515	696	1 346
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	445	437	401	350	431	693	1 095	1 749
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	436	432	461				3 265	2 285
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	275	287	310	1 340	1 729	2 384		1 067
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	247	314	419					
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	423	467	418	348	224			
\$500,000 or more.....	106	90	72	45	24	163		
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	2 923	3 119	2 927	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	355	360	362	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	276	251	205	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	26	24	25	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	1 418	1 459	1 577	1 314	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	6 250
Any.....	1 940	2 032	1 784	1 445	2 267	2 495	3 693	6 238
200 days or more.....	1 304	1 432	1 161	930	1 556	1 778	2 570	4 549
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	1 842	1 957	2 009	1 987	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	1 738	1 797	1 510	1 250	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years.....	53.5	52.5	52.2	53.1	52.9	53.2	52.3	52.7
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000.....	255 212	(NA)	(NA)	160 298	125 543	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	16 647	24 973	13 336	11 062	9 978	6 750	8 381	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	54 207	66 821	60 525	52 466	33 171	35 624	41 272	41 546
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000.....	7 333	7 547	7 707	6 512	3 932	4 343	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	9 300	14 569	9 514	6 738	4 374	4 855	3 767	3 290
Hired farm labor ⁸\$1,000.....	65 657	44 278	36 372	31 061	28 351	26 459	22 703	18 252
Interest expense ⁹\$1,000.....	11 616	12 018	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000.....	4 815	3 377	3 189	2 180	1 740	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms.....	1 596	1 896	1 722	1 715	2 122	3 363	4 899	7 962
.....number.....	89 306	110 029	99 507	102 368	106 935	123 460	139 738	174 727
Beef cows.....farms.....	887	947	754	651	(NA)	598	(NA)	(NA)
.....number.....	7 146	6 746	6 406	6 013	5 894	4 468	3 301	4 439
Milk cows.....farms.....	630	880	922	1 050	1 362	2 591	4 114	6 873
.....number.....	41 691	51 795	49 959	53 174	56 885	72 232	82 947	101 923
Cattle and calves sold.....farms.....	1 335	1 592	1 537	1 522	1 921	2 838	4 062	5 291
.....number.....	41 093	47 487	48 821	45 248	54 379	71 402	78 006	87 547
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms.....	254	379	345	270	149	317	646	1 278
.....number.....	5 429	6 915	8 388	7 521	7 760	13 660	20 828	17 904
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms.....	195	265	209	149	90	127	175	283
.....number.....	8 776	9 202	10 806	11 314	10 018	14 657	19 710	13 790
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹farms.....	443	583	569	569	806	1 602	3 223	6 399
.....number.....	4 913 031	5 637 431	5 713 767	4 924 061	4 978 834	4 278 093	3 534 583	3 652 853
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms.....	40	40	45	55	121	220	451	908
.....number.....	850 969	539 656	597 228	934 052	4 494 475	10 234 658	16 814 337	16 639 163

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
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms...	115	150	135	118	86	144	365	741
acres...	3 953	6 017	3 629	2 347	1 205	1 188	2 059	3 404
bushels...	335 317	628 384	399 904	200 638	91 367	86 947	150 527	180 637
Tobacco----- farms...	53	78	98	109	129	177	305	739
acres...	1 875	2 198	3 202	4 956	5 444	8 009	8 459	14 444
pounds...	2 831 167	3 148 241	4 830 151	7 943 473	7 071 758	12 608 667	12 607 567	21 260 264
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text)----- farms...	1 984	2 091	2 008	1 898	2 302	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	86 038	90 659	91 574	83 551	86 125	135 629	174 587	201 912
tons, dry...	184 080	190 034	190 992	174 102	180 311	222 247	326 505	371 454
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ¹⁰ ----- farms...	451	511	537	513	596	654	872	1 185
acres...	8 608	8 244	10 875	8 056	7 778	9 083	10 416	12 727
Land in orchards ----- farms...	308	331	320	267	307	513	817	1 738
acres...	5 122	5 361	5 724	5 882	6 902	7 924	8 882	12 741

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

³Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

⁴Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

⁵Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

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

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

⁸Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

⁹Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.

¹⁰Data for 1974 were from land area used.