

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 ¹
Farms ----- number..	2 966	3 338	3 398	3 400	3 710	4 401	5 208	6 297
Land in farms ----- acres..	608 245	655 465	669 646	630 605	673 895	717 013	762 526	814 316
Average size of farm ----- acres..	205	196	197	185	182	163	146	129
Value of land and buildings ² :								
Average per farm ----- dollars..	369 751	364 843	283 593	180 023	90 632	53 443	34 551	20 287
Average per acre ----- dollars..	1 765	1 829	1 493	971	499	322	236	157
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ² ----- \$1,000..	158 043	153 587	139 851	86 213	47 103	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm ----- dollars..	53 447	46 012	41 157	27 300	13 343	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres -----	514	503	486	507	388	606	568	691
10 to 49 acres -----	867	905	806	788	872	939	1 200	1 559
50 to 179 acres -----	788	1 012	1 089	1 130	1 365	1 593	2 138	2 678
180 to 499 acres -----	481	591	685	664	791	1 017	1 072	1 182
500 to 999 acres -----	188	211	227	225	218	184	182	148
1,000 to 1,999 acres -----	100	90	83	69	62	53	48	39
2,000 acres or more -----	28	26	22	17	14	9		
Total cropland ----- farms..	2 397	2 843	2 929	2 912	3 249	3 845	4 589	5 832
Harvested cropland ----- farms..	501 290	521 104	529 651	485 727	505 356	500 329	496 094	514 534
----- acres..	2 172	2 700	2 806	2 792	3 052	3 646	4 358	5 512
----- acres..	441 502	499 986	496 756	451 752	422 984	418 538	416 197	412 295
Irrigated land ----- farms..	384	323	255	154	164	158	156	81
----- acres..	60 812	44 168	33 725	19 879	20 421	17 542	15 533	5 553
Market value of agricultural products sold ³ ----- \$1,000..	443 575	370 562	321 248	250 902	129 471	107 630	85 962	81 565
Average per farm ----- dollars..	149 553	111 013	94 540	73 795	34 897	24 456	16 506	12 953
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000..	96 118	110 276	102 937	93 526	37 325	27 035	26 372	22 795
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000..	347 456	260 286	218 310	156 816	91 792	80 149	59 171	58 566
Farms by value of sales ⁴ :								
Less than \$2,500 -----	540	548	368	437	927	1 250	1 581	2 365
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	270	304	336	281	439	477	545	910
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	297	306	379	402	434	537	918	1 050
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁵ -----	280	479	521				2 154	1 289
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁶ -----	214	333	412	1 598	1 648	1 971	-	676
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	257	346	442				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999 -----	952	904	863	633	246		-	-
\$500,000 or more -----	156	118	74	46	14	162	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship) -----	2 553	2 830	2 944	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership -----	216	302	291	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation -----	181	190	150	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. -----	16	16	13	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁷ :								
None -----	1 263	1 367	1 503	1 225	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	3 660
Any -----	1 426	1 629	1 722	1 387	1 997	1 883	2 200	2 437
200 days or more -----	955	1 129	1 111	984	1 312	1 187	1 289	1 499
Operators by principal occupation ⁷ :								
Farming -----	1 774	1 956	2 004	2 189	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other -----	1 192	1 382	1 394	1 124	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁷ ----- years..	51.5	50.6	50.1	51.9	50.9	51.3	51.5	51.0
Total farm production expenses ² ----- \$1,000..	377 102	(NA)	(NA)	209 175	106 102	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ² :								
Livestock and poultry purchased ----- \$1,000..	53 522	37 202	36 283	30 263	14 964	12 222	9 016	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry ----- \$1,000..	187 183	140 508	118 266	94 366	46 228	43 488	36 053	40 655
Commercial fertilizer ⁸ ----- \$1,000..	15 802	19 993	14 166	14 488	6 442	5 755	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products ----- \$1,000..	8 787	13 435	7 991	5 705	3 826	3 560	2 442	2 559
Hired farm labor ----- \$1,000..	22 788	17 893	15 131	11 802	7 527	6 792	6 028	7 780
Interest expense ⁹ ----- \$1,000..	14 872	16 948	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁹ ----- \$1,000..	11 197	10 868	6 857	5 020	2 007	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms..	461	660	665	782	842	1 420	2 299	3 516
----- number..	31 191	33 360	28 103	30 615	27 381	37 003	49 896	66 003
Beef cows ----- farms..	216	311	292	339	(NA)	382	(NA)	(NA)
----- number..	2 187	5 129	4 122	4 711	3 078	4 168	4 089	5 666
Milk cows ----- farms..	169	248	291	341	479	865	1 727	2 822
----- number..	9 354	9 956	10 305	10 706	11 957	17 545	23 500	31 014
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms..	376	521	567	632	716	1 169	2 013	2 503
----- number..	26 934	26 224	16 631	14 293	13 224	22 085	26 337	29 116
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms..	301	421	577	534	784	1 094	2 182	3 108
----- number..	49 714	54 411	61 305	42 955	47 669	33 040	38 085	41 136
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms..	310	413	574	534	735	770	1 295	1 623
----- number..	109 600	101 972	100 178	82 422	81 272	54 666	43 328	41 093
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ¹⁰ ----- farms..	175	253	317	315	421	1 013	2 701	3 837
----- number..	834 287	968 058	727 795	701 871	680 278	703 614	725 705	711 803
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms..	1 001	922	1 005	1 021	1 072	1 428	1 483	1 622
----- number..	210 492 139	170 418 428	145 796 536	124 447 551	112 850 951	108 043 852	71 214 647	64 684 639

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 ¹
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain or seed ---- farms...	1 076	1 363	1 600	1 751	2 136	2 753	3 659	4 893
acres...	130 234	150 676	156 517	150 931	172 817	150 849	141 261	161 682
bushels...	9 876 539	14 880 293	14 980 373	10 805 497	13 506 396	7 771 508	7 038 193	5 957 323
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	630	783	370	741	551	709	1 002	1 394
acres...	43 573	56 867	16 206	41 216	17 377	18 494	23 958	32 904
bushels...	1 827 869	2 234 788	572 030	1 447 484	715 794	577 835	617 917	809 946
Barley for grain----- farms...	360	471	464	(NA)	(NA)	659	762	890
acres...	32 642	33 951	25 133	(NA)	(NA)	15 775	12 732	12 062
bushels...	1 897 161	1 912 955	1 108 162	(NA)	(NA)	679 014	498 442	368 994
Soybeans for beans ----- farms...	1 515	1 991	2 124	2 033	1 922	2 454	2 960	2 771
acres...	219 941	264 971	262 363	209 977	142 711	147 720	140 643	80 801
bushels...	4 143 975	6 373 519	7 501 262	5 386 399	4 033 995	1 731 376	3 246 234	1 484 697
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ¹¹ ----- farms...	317	367	381	340	432	564	888	1 446
acres...	43 036	40 421	41 038	33 721	39 234	43 805	42 135	40 033

¹Data for 1954 exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

²Data are based on a sample of farms.

³Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

⁴Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

⁵Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

⁶Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

⁷Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships; see text.

⁸Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals exclude the cost of lime for 1987 and 1982.

⁹Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

¹⁰Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.

¹¹Data for 1974 were from land area used.