

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..	36 556	36 352	36 109	32 466	35 586	40 542	45 100	57 543
Land in farms ----- acres..	11 194 090	12 814 216	13 016 288	13 199 365	14 031 998	15 411 181	15 236 521	18 161 675
Average size of farm ----- acres..	306	353	360	407	394	380	338	316
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm ----- dollars..	543 830	552 586	407 118	278 479	139 818	109 053	73 554	33 627
Average per acre ----- dollars..	1 790	1 576	1 114	685	355	286	218	107
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ ----- \$1,000..	1 243 530	1 084 678	888 887	523 759	297 710	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm ----- dollars..	34 799	30 895	25 624	19 394	9 664	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres -----	7 300	6 790	5 912	4 427	3 921	6 455	8 648	10 453
10 to 49 acres -----	13 346	12 981	12 186	10 940	12 413	14 479	15 660	21 566
50 to 179 acres -----	8 379	8 711	9 438	8 996	10 232	10 557	11 715	15 443
180 to 499 acres -----	4 255	4 409	4 881	4 610	5 168	5 299	5 588	6 169
500 to 999 acres -----	1 598	1 660	1 853	1 689	1 869	1 781	1 725	1 840
1,000 to 1,999 acres -----	789	828	851	798	921	875		
2,000 acres or more -----	889	973	988	1 006	1 062	1 096	1 764	2 072
Total cropland ----- farms..	29 386	30 565	31 548	28 658	30 921	35 478	39 408	50 855
Harvested cropland ----- farms..	3 790 599	4 093 583	4 298 952	3 721 831	3 774 119	3 580 644	3 400 922	3 398 469
Irrigated land ----- farms..	11 981	10 550	10 358	7 749	7 373	8 129	4 249	5 799
Market value of agricultural products sold ² ----- \$1,000..	4 351 383	3 522 103	3 025 633	1 898 658	1 132 074	954 047	700 476	466 116
Average per farm ----- dollars..	119 033	96 889	83 792	58 481	31 812	23 532	15 532	8 100
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000..	3 317 823	2 518 959	2 167 111	1 298 800	731 733	723 584	513 150	355 235
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000..	1 033 560	1 003 144	858 522	588 771	395 242	225 227	181 246	107 375
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500 -----	12 551	12 287	10 267	12 372	16 708	22 768	24 842	36 728
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	4 868	4 824	5 062	3 867	4 310	4 329	5 656	7 605
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	4 470	4 449	4 865	4 123	4 537	4 051	4 953	5 743
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴ -----	4 765	4 797	5 723				9 454	4 189
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵ -----	2 833	2 934	3 332	9 104	8 002	7 744		3 192
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	2 273	2 354	2 598					
\$100,000 to \$499,999 -----	3 341	3 399	3 201	2 259	1 618			
\$500,000 or more -----	1 455	1 270	1 010	699	369	1 611		
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship) -----	28 943	29 556	29 480	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership -----	3 289	3 195	3 642	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation -----	3 961	3 255	2 656	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. -----	363	346	331	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None -----	13 494	12 617	13 438	9 079	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	27 933
Any -----	21 196	21 034	21 129	15 989	21 241	20 659	22 939	29 510
200 days or more -----	15 349	15 536	15 319	11 946	15 425	15 157	16 740	19 706
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming -----	15 821	15 610	15 913	13 496	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other -----	20 735	20 742	20 196	16 741	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶ ----- years..	53.7	52.5	51.6	52.8	52.4	53.6	53.0	51.9
Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000..	3 200 405	(NA)	(NA)	1 552 211	997 989	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased ----- \$1,000..	148 405	165 018	153 375	103 448	88 609	40 236	35 510	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry ----- \$1,000..	336 690	349 630	329 686	279 082	133 610	89 765	70 389	45 476
Commercial fertilizer ⁷ ----- \$1,000..	209 617	217 332	174 996	153 412	96 920	84 571	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products ----- \$1,000..	104 591	135 063	80 953	46 714	30 508	26 861	18 913	15 073
Hired farm labor ----- \$1,000..	721 540	480 444	388 967	264 450	173 487	155 954	112 918	84 225
Interest expense ⁸ ----- \$1,000..	191 913	198 515	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷ ----- \$1,000..	227 063	165 343	107 621	68 396	47 865	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms..	17 321	17 822	16 501	16 474	16 628	19 071	20 233	30 055
Beef cows ----- farms..	1 879 124	2 178 552	2 128 018	2 367 108	1 983 648	1 822 007	1 500 642	1 647 348
Milk cows ----- farms..	14 672	14 839	14 070	12 951	(NA)	15 114	(NA)	(NA)
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms..	995 250	1 098 152	1 111 594	1 179 789	968 187	870 686	672 403	745 353
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms..	1 073	1 385	1 444	1 948	2 226	4 856	8 460	16 738
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms..	176 993	194 550	183 958	198 732	182 493	176 289	180 582	158 877
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ ----- farms..	16 071	16 075	15 682	15 423	15 003	14 718	15 932	15 945
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms..	1 025 178	1 108 300	1 201 067	966 002	1 047 993	807 017	663 735	658 617
Hogs and pigs ----- farms..	2 487	3 602	5 160	3 962	5 662	8 716	13 886	19 116
Chickens 3 months old or older ----- farms..	156 137	203 231	323 349	196 283	282 795	298 103	422 959	419 725
Broilers and other meat-type chickens ----- farms..	2 103	3 105	4 730	3 563	5 263	6 331	10 815	13 423
Chickens 3 months old or older ----- farms..	266 652	328 150	465 063	310 136	397 200	360 173	404 812	324 702
Broilers and other meat-type chickens ----- farms..	2 275	2 891	3 038	3 151	3 644	8 915	15 873	27 434
Broilers and other meat-type chickens ----- farms..	12 964 760	15 374 588	14 883 098	14 401 528	16 118 240	8 565 985	4 917 932	3 200 931
Broilers and other meat-type chickens ----- farms..	402	433	419	398	335	189	179	336
Broilers and other meat-type chickens ----- farms..	93 224 832	76 456 724	64 899 236	47 448 607	33 079 286	9 910 503	8 302 562	6 839 427

See footnotes at end of table.

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

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All farms	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964	1959	1954
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain or seed ---- farms...	2 088	2 987	4 923	5 613	5 920	7 716	9 064	14 383
acres...	95 874	190 254	295 790	296 893	298 669	313 355	286 167	312 789
bushels...	6 628 740	12 559 553	15 207 531	14 015 112	11 105 147	8 782 739	7 385 428	5 277 243
Soybeans for beans ---- farms...	708	2 091	2 527	1 609	1 139	815	418	374
acres...	89 938	334 401	367 936	217 439	153 464	64 856	29 545	17 830
bushels...	2 257 392	8 529 087	7 928 276	5 522 668	3 577 841	1 553 908	707 117	160 138
Sugarcane for sugar ---- farms...	138	123	153	(NA)	(NA)	162	19	16
acres...	403 014	343 680	336 493	(NA)	(NA)	214 437	46 895	41 016
tons...	13 586 040	10 359 951	10 316 794	(NA)	(NA)	6 468 898	1 756 160	1 399 069
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ¹⁰ ---- farms...	2 053	2 455	2 928	2 284	2 591	3 653	4 727	9 766
acres...	311 659	283 780	343 098	215 418	273 232	290 231	273 702	323 909
Land in orchards ---- farms...	9 965	11 214	12 011	11 079	13 187	18 834	22 015	23 675
acres...	762 068	938 527	932 495	912 079	973 549	924 750	724 134	644 657

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.