

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.....	24 142	24 714	24 249	23 680	25 475	29 661	33 670	38 740
Land in farms.....acres.....	13 931 875	13 921 639	14 699 100	14 274 258	14 416 521	15 301 513	15 232 401	14 364 471
Average size of farm.....acres.....	577	563	606	603	566	516	452	371
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars.....	336 615	459 965	348 408	204 091	99 916	68 178	50 528	33 466
Average per acre.....dollars.....	572	814	574	339	177	132	112	90
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000.....	1 330 607	1 454 150	1 275 154	762 410	389 697	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars.....	55 327	59 016	52 760	33 594	15 752	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	3 021	2 953	1 708	1 286	1 807	2 050	2 625	4 323
10 to 49 acres.....	5 268	5 296	4 528	4 251	4 382	5 331	6 013	7 116
50 to 179 acres.....	5 685	6 129	6 792	7 443	8 044	9 997	12 584	15 087
180 to 499 acres.....	4 716	4 887	5 520	5 286	5 835	6 605	6 887	6 927
500 to 999 acres.....	2 446	2 562	2 622	2 516	2 568	2 741	2 773	2 759
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	1 697	1 568	1 766	1 652	1 621	1 666		
2,000 acres or more.....	1 309	1 319	1 313	1 246	1 218	1 271	2 788	2 528
Total cropland.....farms.....	21 085	22 031	22 545	22 312	23 734	27 660	31 318	35 941
.....acres.....	6 742 285	6 484 076	6 540 493	6 247 705	6 172 473	5 877 633	5 784 005	5 475 520
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	18 270	19 596	20 815	20 854	21 640	25 636	29 251	33 697
.....acres.....	4 349 122	4 887 805	4 820 928	4 531 164	3 954 957	3 934 659	3 832 164	3 727 616
Irrigated land.....farms.....	16 620	17 355	18 215	16 825	17 840	22 251	25 383	28 218
.....acres.....	3 219 192	3 450 443	3 475 392	2 859 047	2 760 852	2 801 500	2 576 580	2 324 571
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000.....	2 269 404	2 231 605	1 633 160	1 381 209	649 571	478 181	438 384	332 126
Average per farm.....dollars.....	94 002	90 297	67 350	58 328	25 498	16 122	13 020	8 573
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	1 097 255	1 160 742	796 800	875 759	295 922	265 900	240 511	196 684
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	1 172 149	1 070 863	836 360	502 917	352 072	211 132	195 967	133 890
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	5 329	4 910	3 801	4 304	6 110	8 766	9 237	13 496
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	2 519	2 435	2 606	2 100	2 941	4 080	4 895	7 002
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	2 627	2 635	2 988	2 791	4 022	5 404	7 164	8 735
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	3 646	3 655	4 371				12 248	7 220
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	2 781	3 042	3 857	11 611	11 389	10 805	-	2 319
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	2 787	3 306	3 248				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	3 791	3 963	2 897	2 421	809		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	662	664	358	330	75	505	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	20 368	20 950	20 506	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	2 314	2 312	2 409	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	1 207	1 175	1 118	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	253	277	216	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	10 101	10 044	10 598	8 712	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	18 273
Any.....	12 614	12 567	12 495	9 820	13 952	15 216	16 677	19 859
200 days or more.....	7 555	7 425	6 829	5 637	7 248	7 540	7 260	7 741
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	14 550	15 268	15 720	15 961	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	9 592	9 446	8 529	6 840	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years.....	51.1	49.6	49.6	50.8	50.3	49.9	48.6	47.9
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000.....	1 862 264	(NA)	(NA)	993 575	545 319	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	394 684	326 442	311 262	153 470	130 722	61 688	48 911	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	230 572	233 142	182 418	153 117	63 464	46 678	40 879	26 724
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000.....	148 396	160 602	107 141	91 490	32 798	21 603	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	83 022	118 529	67 230	46 304	26 309	26 308	23 342	19 087
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	181 790	147 584	108 936	85 782	52 857	39 475	33 714	30 442
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000.....	158 965	218 310	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000.....	65 098	52 652	28 849	18 127	8 333	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms.....	13 481	15 980	15 535	16 621	17 673	23 592	27 415	32 905
.....number.....	1 772 756	1 925 419	1 853 621	1 917 279	1 731 284	1 602 721	1 379 978	1 356 723
Beef cows.....farms.....	8 604	10 201	10 117	11 115	(NA)	12 460	(NA)	(NA)
.....number.....	558 229	614 385	605 859	724 012	565 038	515 512	359 044	337 910
Milk cows.....farms.....	2 789	4 199	4 663	5 833	7 617	13 748	20 873	27 915
.....number.....	157 665	178 082	137 492	137 712	128 614	164 560	194 013	209 392
Cattle and calves sold.....farms.....	13 321	15 262	15 103	16 244	17 606	21 942	24 774	24 924
.....number.....	1 502 218	1 490 079	1 482 254	1 239 761	1 246 601	960 584	722 128	534 239
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms.....	1 258	1 648	2 426	2 089	3 034	4 247	9 401	9 634
.....number.....	76 882	80 957	96 456	79 302	118 485	105 814	173 739	121 541
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms.....	1 113	1 355	1 992	1 718	2 817	3 110	5 457	5 970
.....number.....	119 188	114 391	133 861	125 089	176 406	169 465	200 566	119 272
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹farms.....	1 839	2 731	2 723	2 855	3 114	8 125	15 446	23 386
.....number.....	1 425 572	1 131 996	987 584	1 098 055	1 008 130	1 115 267	1 371 750	1 666 877
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms.....	85	107	83	105	67	39	57	96
.....number.....	8 733	14 634	15 570	20 152	1 766 522	4 600 934	1 855 835	844 540

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:								
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	7 706	7 870	8 367	10 430	11 830	14 793	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	1 239 480	1 507 775	1 362 793	1 413 811	960 758	1 041 424	1 086 593	1 155 362
bushels...	83 250 152	87 980 724	69 166 361	57 552 348	38 091 608	40 977 149	38 412 559	34 544 986
Barley for grain----- farms...	7 852	9 379	9 817	(NA)	(NA)	8 466	9 173	11 832
acres...	833 225	1 090 811	1 008 445	(NA)	(NA)	463 739	499 879	540 793
bushels...	59 437 911	73 169 464	61 765 733	(NA)	(NA)	19 570 516	15 436 869	17 734 854
Irish potatoes ----- farms...	1 792	1 892	2 271	2 296	(NA)	4 434	6 261	11 409
acres...	352 670	320 019	363 309	315 921	(NA)	228 250	199 641	150 151
cwt...	99 392 607	89 540 662	96 201 115	78 025 304	(NA)	37 339 271	40 130 750	25 735 619
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	13 717	14 635	16 022	16 733	17 228	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	1 173 475	1 222 726	1 322 426	1 323 140	1 179 630	1 327 619	1 162 469	1 113 379
tons, dry...	3 563 558	3 846 435	3 956 186	3 760 095	3 336 854	3 417 672	2 869 466	2 730 983

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.