

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..	105 180	115 413	121 339	126 104	140 354	154 162	174 707	192 933
Land in farms.....acres..	31 638 130	32 611 964	33 258 233	33 044 768	33 569 629	33 758 321	33 830 950	34 044 533
Average size of farm.....acres..	301	283	274	262	239	219	194	177
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars..	283 597	471 011	427 161	188 370	93 694	59 553	49 150	35 090
Average per acre.....dollars..	947	1 684	1 548	719	392	272	254	199
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000..	5 543 375	6 731 271	5 774 996	3 527 520	1 683 466	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars..	52 844	58 398	47 666	28 968	12 290	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	7 974	7 910	6 610	5 051	5 637	4 324	5 457	9 138
10 to 49 acres.....	10 981	12 322	11 342	9 841	9 586	11 156	13 727	14 402
50 to 179 acres.....	27 556	30 959	34 898	40 146	48 256	58 301	75 553	93 069
180 to 499 acres.....	39 071	46 259	51 974	56 692	65 998	72 790	75 150	72 769
500 to 999 acres.....	15 874	14 858	14 109	12 578	9 865	6 999	4 475	3 284
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	3 401	2 796	2 152	1 646	928	532		
2,000 acres or more.....	323	309	254	150	84	60	345	271
Total cropland.....farms..	96 749	106 859	114 391	120 559	134 143	148 055	166 224	183 269
Harvested cropland.....acres..	27 290 868	27 580 749	28 063 990	27 278 052	27 738 852	26 356 116	26 402 004	25 981 414
Irrigated land.....farms..	851	616	739	348	269	291	313	132
.....acres..	92 247	91 427	100 770	39 417	20 664	21 528	18 181	2 396
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000..	8 926 799	9 828 932	8 172 960	6 319 637	3 655 512	2 596 544	2 284 110	1 839 989
Average per farm.....dollars..	84 872	85 163	67 356	50 114	26 044	16 843	13 074	9 537
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000..	3 660 117	4 143 086	3 133 218	2 800 973	886 284	733 378	496 297	451 528
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000..	5 266 682	5 685 846	5 039 742	3 517 658	2 768 051	1 861 768	1 787 174	1 388 007
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	8 799	8 092	6 721	9 608	17 322	20 654	25 926	36 725
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	5 498	5 535	6 234	6 399	11 756	15 390	23 547	33 818
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	8 252	8 230	9 901	11 002	20 543	31 546	47 428	59 884
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	17 436	17 531	21 822				77 709	52 164
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	17 752	20 458	25 887	84 747	86 346	85 065	-	10 302
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	20 656	25 735	28 293				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	25 157	28 128	21 419	13 822	4 193		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	1 630	1 660	986	451	132	1 445	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	89 188	97 610	103 884	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	11 088	13 213	14 345	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	4 404	4 110	2 668	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	500	480	442	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	51 753	55 958	62 890	56 414	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	126 087
Any.....	46 229	48 480	51 057	38 253	59 074	53 238	53 793	61 223
200 days or more.....	25 928	25 240	25 073	20 278	24 906	19 192	17 313	15 526
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	75 279	86 041	92 309	102 163	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	29 901	29 372	29 030	22 512	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years..	49.3	47.6	47.5	49.3	48.5	48.5	47.7	47.0
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000..	6 647 645	(NA)	(NA)	4 276 217	2 790 717	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000..	1 358 161	1 536 601	1 519 139	1 018 548	888 254	526 204	535 437	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000..	1 101 866	1 214 715	1 033 523	881 383	593 256	443 782	418 340	330 359
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000..	467 355	562 767	481 090	394 865	146 486	88 365	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000..	315 061	536 937	293 963	204 875	121 911	106 960	97 190	84 263
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000..	282 515	222 146	192 667	108 412	79 039	57 626	59 060	54 108
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000..	579 338	1 015 561	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000..	309 894	331 924	208 549	139 620	56 611	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms..	49 469	62 412	69 226	79 851	96 738	124 407	145 351	172 323
.....number..	4 303 682	5 822 488	6 531 710	6 658 298	7 020 754	7 284 905	6 479 829	6 062 002
Beef cows.....farms..	32 279	41 117	44 755	52 930	(NA)	65 042	(NA)	(NA)
.....number..	1 123 745	1 536 397	1 606 685	1 868 308	1 548 103	1 247 101	961 605	1 014 790
Milk cows.....farms..	7 748	10 485	12 623	18 213	30 005	59 673	92 730	138 142
.....number..	294 888	339 664	339 469	399 573	476 844	735 647	830 586	1 041 116
Cattle and calves sold.....farms..	50 509	62 765	70 693	81 011	99 981	123 505	141 538	157 190
.....number..	3 539 020	4 595 676	5 457 944	5 018 819	5 954 623	5 142 522	4 481 521	3 413 809
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms..	36 670	45 768	57 325	59 582	83 251	106 184	134 503	151 508
.....number..	12 983 074	14 332 644	14 695 418	11 476 589	13 438 546	13 674 088	14 789 165	13 283 683
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms..	38 638	49 012	60 065	66 336	88 196	108 909	136 844	152 368
.....number..	23 483 812	23 801 117	22 082 311	19 359 946	20 826 437	19 872 227	18 589 848	14 101 563
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹farms..	4 897	7 637	10 050	16 038	29 984	73 804	119 149	156 134
.....number..	9 580 666	9 584 663	9 343 813	9 816 088	11 154 735	19 503 609	26 700 633	30 128 595
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms..	1 060	1 041	1 142	1 337	775	106	163	282
.....number..	666 016	429 389	675 938	658 267	474 699	1 906 367	2 553 191	949 715

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---	83 301	92 462	100 984	106 135	116 162	133 918	155 167	173 403
acres---	10 147 051	12 880 050	12 664 796	11 865 605	9 480 821	9 612 937	11 997 052	9 781 087
bushels---	1 274 388 346	1 466 953 043	1 389 912 254	930 743 547	912 535 502	734 502 692	779 212 768	529 842 244
Oats for grain ----- farms---	25 398	35 752	39 710	(NA)	(NA)	87 530	127 849	159 178
acres---	544 907	811 716	866 584	(NA)	(NA)	2 233 231	4 207 628	5 912 507
bushels---	30 918 660	45 769 302	49 306 361	(NA)	(NA)	107 339 285	184 086 771	221 524 409
Soybeans for beans ----- farms---	68 278	73 175	78 579	82 952	80 892	88 639	64 374	70 701
acres---	7 903 395	8 044 305	7 420 862	6 905 647	5 175 289	4 173 021	2 332 161	2 109 821
bushels---	326 081 351	291 189 890	265 870 687	190 916 604	165 975 386	116 215 629	62 106 812	55 615 114
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms---	48 271	56 372	64 657	72 217	84 168	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres---	1 968 207	2 035 033	2 285 255	2 259 243	2 269 783	3 201 635	3 564 857	3 913 114
tons, dry---	5 612 944	6 201 756	6 728 686	5 896 261	6 166 678	7 643 516	8 140 050	6 873 489

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.