

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... | 6 269 | 7 003 | 6 775 | 6 436 | 7 971 | 12 875 | 17 360 | 23 368 |
| Land in farms.....acres... | 1 342 588 | 1 468 674 | 1 500 390 | 1 523 696 | 1 759 700 | 2 590 022 | 3 081 987 | 3 614 242 |
| Average size of farm.....acres... | 214 | 210 | 221 | 237 | 221 | 201 | 178 | 155 |
| Value of land and buildings ¹ : | | | | | | | | |
| Average per farm.....dollars... | 210 777 | 150 487 | 118 027 | 80 656 | 35 496 | 19 979 | 14 756 | 9 392 |
| Average per acre.....dollars... | 962 | 708 | 521 | 341 | 161 | 100 | 83 | 61 |
| Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000... | 240 068 | 236 527 | 206 739 | 141 550 | 90 020 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Average per farm.....dollars... | 38 325 | 33 916 | 30 542 | 22 673 | 11 639 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Farms by size: | | | | | | | | |
| 1 to 9 acres..... | 419 | 379 | 358 | 305 | 368 | 619 | 796 | 1 529 |
| 10 to 49 acres..... | 1 029 | 1 139 | 881 | 728 | 948 | 1 858 | 2 711 | 3 830 |
| 50 to 179 acres..... | 2 453 | 2 824 | 2 711 | 2 554 | 3 274 | 5 820 | 8 280 | 11 553 |
| 180 to 499 acres..... | 1 758 | 2 018 | 2 155 | 2 182 | 2 667 | 3 595 | 4 605 | 5 506 |
| 500 to 999 acres..... | 474 | 505 | 539 | 509 | 570 | 764 | 763 | 754 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 acres..... | 106 | 108 | 105 | 130 | 119 | 161 | 161 | 161 |
| 2,000 acres or more..... | 30 | 30 | 26 | 28 | 25 | 58 | 205 | 196 |
| Total cropland.....farms... | 5 919 | 6 591 | 6 402 | 6 032 | 7 253 | 12 020 | 16 329 | 22 414 |
|acres... | 592 309 | 610 691 | 650 356 | 641 940 | 706 769 | 894 206 | 1 077 670 | 1 272 350 |
| Harvested cropland.....farms... | 5 486 | 6 138 | 6 064 | 5 631 | 6 519 | 11 007 | 15 195 | 20 260 |
|acres... | 410 891 | 457 076 | 463 029 | 449 901 | 457 935 | 594 434 | 698 188 | 795 710 |
| Irrigated land.....farms... | 359 | 200 | 255 | 176 | 115 | 206 | 138 | 87 |
|acres... | 6 065 | 5 831 | 7 013 | 6 211 | 5 526 | 4 157 | 2 214 | 1 097 |
| Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000... | 405 484 | 399 412 | 393 869 | 359 612 | 198 181 | 255 931 | 171 318 | 139 541 |
| Average per farm.....dollars... | 64 681 | 57 034 | 58 136 | 55 875 | 24 862 | 19 878 | 9 869 | 5 971 |
| Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000... | 157 828 | 142 834 | 106 752 | 132 582 | 63 894 | 138 268 | 64 920 | 64 071 |
| Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000... | 247 656 | 256 578 | 287 117 | 224 145 | 132 772 | 111 956 | 100 836 | 70 711 |
| Farms by value of sales ³ : | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$2,500..... | 2 059 | 2 549 | 2 090 | 1 957 | 2 976 | 5 966 | 8 208 | 13 706 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999..... | 870 | 914 | 836 | 513 | 548 | 966 | 1 714 | 2 959 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999..... | 719 | 664 | 627 | 511 | 720 | 1 040 | 2 099 | 3 138 |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴ | 700 | 644 | 790 | 756 | 3 342 | 4 443 | 5 293 | 2 572 |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵ | 466 | 571 | 756 | 2 607 | 3 342 | 4 443 | 5 293 | 960 |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999..... | 553 | 745 | 765 | 796 | 356 | 439 | - | - |
| \$100,000 to \$499,999..... | 809 | 829 | 825 | 796 | 356 | 439 | - | - |
| \$500,000 or more..... | 93 | 82 | 77 | 38 | 15 | - | - | - |
| Farms by type of organization: | | | | | | | | |
| Individual or family (sole proprietorship)..... | 5 594 | 6 317 | 6 078 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Partnership..... | 350 | 384 | 426 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Corporation..... | 300 | 272 | 244 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc..... | 25 | 30 | 27 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ : | | | | | | | | |
| None..... | 2 275 | 2 609 | 2 842 | 2 458 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | 9 255 |
| Any..... | 3 653 | 3 932 | 3 659 | 2 743 | 4 315 | 7 031 | 9 555 | 13 708 |
| 200 days or more..... | 2 253 | 2 467 | 2 115 | 1 579 | 2 219 | 4 041 | 5 798 | 8 082 |
| Operators by principal occupation ⁶ : | | | | | | | | |
| Farming..... | 3 220 | 3 644 | 3 908 | 4 130 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Other..... | 3 049 | 3 359 | 2 867 | 2 144 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Average age of operator ⁶years... | 51.7 | 49.8 | 49.7 | 51.5 | 51.5 | 52.4 | 51.9 | 51.8 |
| Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000... | 324 276 | (NA) | (NA) | 293 191 | 175 957 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Selected farm production expenses ¹ : | | | | | | | | |
| Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000... | 21 876 | 20 717 | 34 845 | 22 851 | 16 882 | 12 610 | 10 905 | (NA) |
| Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000... | 94 386 | 100 879 | 140 499 | 115 882 | 62 681 | 56 129 | 50 730 | 37 730 |
| Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000... | 16 437 | 18 719 | 17 456 | 18 968 | 10 475 | 9 501 | (NA) | (NA) |
| Petroleum products.....\$1,000... | 12 827 | 18 739 | 13 885 | 9 268 | 6 169 | 6 098 | 5 584 | 5 329 |
| Hired farm labor.....\$1,000... | 51 613 | 44 906 | 39 420 | 31 435 | 23 295 | 22 218 | 21 735 | 18 774 |
| Interest expense ⁸\$1,000... | 15 455 | 18 511 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000... | 11 996 | 9 865 | 8 603 | 6 603 | 4 029 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Livestock and poultry: | | | | | | | | |
| Cattle and calves inventory.....farms... | 2 637 | 3 652 | 3 246 | 3 250 | 3 389 | 7 014 | 10 500 | 16 677 |
|number... | 119 475 | 141 206 | 129 250 | 137 366 | 127 018 | 157 594 | 186 216 | 227 523 |
| Beef cows.....farms... | 1 331 | 1 811 | 1 394 | 1 281 | (NA) | 1 295 | (NA) | (NA) |
|number... | 11 782 | 13 242 | 10 572 | 11 151 | 9 104 | 9 167 | 7 899 | 9 142 |
| Milk cows.....farms... | 1 183 | 1 784 | 1 837 | 2 034 | 2 246 | 5 414 | 8 926 | 14 820 |
|number... | 49 815 | 57 173 | 56 633 | 61 293 | 56 736 | 75 582 | 89 290 | 106 513 |
| Cattle and calves sold.....farms... | 2 366 | 3 030 | 2 796 | 2 716 | 2 904 | 5 396 | 7 741 | 9 707 |
|number... | 50 357 | 52 363 | 61 349 | 58 771 | 54 500 | 84 239 | 82 972 | 90 633 |
| Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms... | 421 | 804 | 809 | 769 | 609 | 1 662 | 4 134 | 6 371 |
|number... | 8 999 | 8 586 | 7 788 | 6 480 | 7 350 | 13 117 | 24 646 | 28 427 |
| Hogs and pigs sold.....farms... | 295 | 450 | 409 | 324 | 286 | 566 | 858 | 1 379 |
|number... | 13 905 | 12 067 | 9 565 | 7 844 | 9 257 | 15 667 | 24 130 | 20 490 |
| Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹farms... | 719 | 1 015 | 902 | 805 | 1 011 | 2 534 | 5 773 | 10 074 |
|number... | 6 999 685 | 7 232 235 | 9 015 115 | 9 861 717 | 7 373 553 | 4 795 565 | 4 480 993 | 3 556 980 |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms... | 95 | 145 | 337 | 387 | 554 | 911 | 1 102 | 863 |
|number... | 13 679 943 | 20 061 324 | 69 135 035 | 64 457 259 | 59 906 919 | 59 018 598 | 49 863 080 | 23 828 960 |

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... | 80 | 126 | 105 | 95 | 34 | 23 | 57 | 111 |
| acres... | 5 342 | 8 020 | 5 542 | 4 825 | 1 139 | 170 | 198 | 454 |
| bushels... | 485 087 | 647 910 | 374 766 | 317 888 | 102 557 | 11 265 | 9 388 | 17 150 |
| Oats for grain ----- farms... | 535 | 679 | 763 | (NA) | (NA) | 1 504 | 2 483 | 3 987 |
| acres... | 35 548 | 40 971 | 40 224 | (NA) | (NA) | 38 048 | 51 811 | 74 779 |
| bushels... | 2 728 024 | 2 514 472 | 2 548 583 | (NA) | (NA) | 2 009 298 | 2 350 822 | 2 428 555 |
| Irish potatoes ----- farms... | 839 | 1 134 | 1 287 | 1 575 | (NA) | 4 052 | 5 818 | 9 223 |
| acres... | 83 261 | 99 251 | 114 904 | 136 863 | (NA) | 130 707 | 133 349 | 130 303 |
| cwt... | 22 412 030 | 24 556 322 | 24 933 225 | 33 873 341 | (NA) | 35 251 148 | 31 869 052 | 28 272 401 |
| Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms... | 3 672 | 4 290 | 4 124 | 3 634 | 4 041 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| acres... | 221 675 | 241 490 | 236 567 | 209 889 | 208 162 | 367 496 | 451 067 | 513 188 |
| tons, dry... | 393 393 | 414 555 | 367 396 | 340 581 | 333 701 | 457 228 | 563 121 | 601 128 |
| Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ¹⁰ ----- farms... | 509 | 535 | 559 | 572 | 644 | 832 | 1 392 | 2 307 |
| acres... | 9 727 | 11 278 | 11 044 | 9 382 | 13 188 | 17 491 | 14 701 | 18 926 |

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 only 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.