

**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 <sup>1</sup>
Farms.....number.....	14 776	16 183	15 540	15 163	17 181	20 760	25 122	32 500
Land in farms.....acres.....	2 396 629	2 557 728	2 614 439	2 634 395	2 803 442	3 180 696	3 456 769	3 896 608
Average size of farm.....acres.....	162	158	168	174	163	153	138	120
Value of land and buildings <sup>2</sup> :								
Average per farm.....dollars.....	366 788	332 301	298 920	184 079	104 370	64 999	39 095	21 258
Average per acre.....dollars.....	2 261	2 121	1 719	1 060	640	422	284	177
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	657 693	660 519	497 402	328 574	167 938	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars.....	44 656	40 853	32 107	22 568	10 156	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	1 838	2 015	1 747	1 505	1 572	2 006	2 623	4 676
10 to 49 acres.....	4 400	4 822	3 947	3 399	3 733	4 684	6 008	8 179
50 to 179 acres.....	4 885	5 263	5 430	5 797	6 931	8 357	10 301	12 963
180 to 499 acres.....	2 591	2 978	3 346	3 461	4 003	4 744	5 313	5 850
500 to 999 acres.....	712	789	761	716	724	783	716	659
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	284	252	230	228	177	144	144	173
2,000 acres or more.....	66	64	59	57	41	42	161	173
Total cropland.....farms.....	13 200	14 719	14 384	14 058	15 797	19 553	23 076	29 673
.....acres.....	1 744 891	1 799 220	1 809 726	1 775 576	1 819 082	1 866 212	1 951 110	2 123 469
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	11 960	13 672	13 663	13 183	14 454	18 685	21 881	27 744
.....acres.....	1 346 913	1 528 994	1 477 316	1 438 842	1 301 450	1 420 692	1 455 921	1 571 744
Irrigated land.....farms.....	1 074	845	616	499	536	467	328	235
.....acres.....	50 762	38 556	28 467	22 629	21 501	15 996	11 174	8 344
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>3</sup> .....\$1,000.....	989 061	1 029 244	784 559	619 947	339 597	275 904	231 136	195 072
Average per farm.....dollars.....	66 937	63 600	50 486	40 886	19 765	13 290	9 201	6 002
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	253 056	339 430	267 125	255 595	100 352	91 231	73 119	69 056
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	736 006	689 815	517 434	362 976	237 629	182 402	156 053	125 004
Farms by value of sales <sup>4</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500.....	4 165	3 891	3 137	3 739	5 967	7 916	10 475	16 611
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	1 948	2 123	2 143	1 631	2 156	2 843	3 535	5 024
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	1 881	2 044	2 247	1 916	2 298	2 996	4 064	5 097
\$10,000 to \$24,999 <sup>5</sup> .....	2 012	2 388	2 496				6 997	4 402
\$25,000 to \$49,999 <sup>6</sup> .....	1 100	1 451	1 610	6 248	6 192	6 723	-	1 318
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	1 084	1 504	1 713				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	2 306	2 525	2 047	1 538	540		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	280	239	134	74	13	261	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	12 738	14 040	13 423	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	1 323	1 544	1 541	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	619	519	497	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	96	80	79	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>7</sup> :								
None.....	5 766	6 255	6 508	5 551	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	16 259
Any.....	7 985	8 682	8 278	6 721	9 083	9 814	11 784	15 391
200 days or more.....	5 504	5 875	5 411	4 477	5 698	5 929	7 067	9 150
Operators by principal occupation <sup>7</sup> :								
Farming.....	7 882	8 740	8 711	9 162	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	6 894	7 443	6 829	5 672	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>7</sup> .....years.....	52.7	51.5	51.3	52.3	51.5	51.8	51.5	51.0
Total farm production expenses <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	851 440	(NA)	(NA)	487 928	278 715	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>2</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	102 147	98 291	73 248	62 948	36 109	26 062	24 067	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	300 284	275 819	214 291	159 073	89 012	74 873	62 089	54 941
Commercial fertilizer <sup>8</sup> .....\$1,000.....	50 516	72 146	51 748	46 601	19 665	18 872	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	30 365	45 329	28 140	19 066	11 820	12 169	10 688	10 022
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	81 230	68 545	52 667	36 508	27 263	24 623	26 921	26 155
Interest expense <sup>9</sup> .....\$1,000.....	40 272	58 509	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>9</sup> .....\$1,000.....	26 447	27 401	18 983	12 766	5 320	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms.....	5 780	7 002	6 608	7 219	7 985	11 619	15 579	21 611
.....number.....	308 052	355 418	328 598	380 160	363 142	415 208	475 995	510 878
Beef cows.....farms.....	3 185	3 736	3 297	3 651	(NA)	4 071	(NA)	(NA)
.....number.....	48 454	52 151	47 821	62 977	50 812	50 393	48 376	52 274
Milk cows.....farms.....	1 694	2 218	2 429	3 066	3 940	6 940	11 093	17 152
.....number.....	110 463	128 183	124 321	136 709	138 652	175 315	198 069	219 208
Cattle and calves sold.....farms.....	5 368	6 245	6 172	6 609	7 483	10 152	13 586	16 116
.....number.....	154 540	164 982	184 855	167 523	198 068	250 821	237 449	244 012
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms.....	1 322	1 861	2 424	2 528	3 326	5 946	11 468	16 193
.....number.....	197 214	179 149	183 685	150 608	167 451	150 744	216 595	230 756
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms.....	1 265	1 625	2 188	2 159	3 080	3 625	6 697	7 946
.....number.....	372 470	335 333	301 650	240 631	287 872	245 818	222 446	217 820
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory <sup>10</sup> .....farms.....	1 337	1 926	2 013	2 235	2 652	6 959	14 073	22 473
.....number.....	4 060 760	4 404 290	1 842 747	1 686 307	1 995 975	1 982 681	2 093 034	2 706 466
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms.....	1 381	1 378	1 446	1 365	1 451	1 512	1 652	1 636
.....number.....	257 070 110	235 112 072	196 068 244	154 577 738	151 198 410	116 253 756	80 823 000	45 047 203

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 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms...	5 608	7 281	7 789	8 069	8 622	11 339	16 057	21 278
acres...	432 409	620 198	575 652	519 683	466 709	394 344	398 318	427 038
bushels...	31 941 714	62 845 256	55 103 713	44 736 782	37 976 521	26 204 724	21 580 372	18 070 605
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	3 112	3 153	2 542	4 001	4 246	6 150	7 846	10 100
acres...	146 081	138 204	72 531	131 951	96 757	129 993	150 287	185 932
bushels...	6 766 273	5 635 641	2 589 489	5 009 981	3 873 837	3 879 032	3 708 867	4 715 287
Soybeans for beans ----- farms...	3 697	3 965	3 751	3 705	3 170	3 845	4 417	4 521
acres...	405 170	413 137	371 644	334 389	200 169	213 021	183 393	137 445
bushels...	9 352 369	11 290 198	11 434 269	9 307 233	5 941 113	3 068 652	4 439 382	2 489 419
Tobacco----- farms...	1 357	2 489	2 451	2 463	2 738	4 161	4 384	5 601
acres...	10 780	24 840	21 260	20 459	23 737	37 214	39 608	47 645
pounds...	13 751 729	32 280 276	25 954 144	24 050 946	24 770 979	35 636 625	32 567 804	38 297 862
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text)----- farms...	6 619	6 709	6 966	6 761	7 343	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	255 676	229 046	255 913	234 233	240 672	365 908	408 493	447 405
tons, dry...	593 854	533 939	587 186	541 248	507 361	596 148	768 810	606 618
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>11</sup> ----- farms...	1 184	1 403	1 440	1 489	1 865	2 486	3 565	5 345
acres...	38 238	38 331	50 832	51 525	66 834	76 047	82 065	94 078

<sup>1</sup>Data for 1954 exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

<sup>2</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

<sup>4</sup>Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

<sup>5</sup>Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

<sup>6</sup>Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

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

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

<sup>9</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

<sup>10</sup>Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.

<sup>11</sup>Data for 1974 were from land area used.