

**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.....	6 216	5 401	4 946	4 497	5 703	8 019	11 179	17 361
Land in farms.....acres.....	615 185	612 819	617 359	601 734	700 578	901 789	1 142 341	1 439 080
Average size of farm.....acres.....	99	113	125	134	123	113	102	83
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm.....dollars.....	346 530	205 677	183 339	128 535	69 362	43 492	31 692	18 552
Average per acre.....dollars.....	3 553	1 963	1 443	961	565	386	310	224
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....\$1,000.....	198 868	153 346	121 137	84 637	48 237	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars.....	32 039	28 429	24 507	19 729	8 746	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	1 105	920	798	627	859	1 508	2 057	3 923
10 to 49 acres.....	2 125	1 652	1 399	1 185	1 622	2 301	3 391	5 777
50 to 179 acres.....	2 016	1 814	1 698	1 637	2 039	2 680	3 835	5 498
180 to 499 acres.....	813	856	883	876	987	1 298	1 639	1 901
500 to 999 acres.....	126	130	137	142	156	190	216	208
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	26	21	25	21	33	33	41	54
2,000 acres or more.....	5	8	6	9	7	9		
Total cropland.....farms.....	5 654	4 941	4 645	4 212	5 168	7 101	9 752	15 217
.....acres.....	272 588	265 866	276 686	257 033	280 455	347 833	445 153	550 613
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	5 084	4 608	4 397	4 032	4 669	6 498	8 779	13 005
.....acres.....	194 874	197 769	197 405	188 015	189 635	234 443	290 682	331 180
Irrigated land.....farms.....	1 316	1 000	966	879	925	1 229	1 093	1 366
.....acres.....	20 158	17 331	16 753	18 512	18 850	24 178	19 999	22 683
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	340 464	281 436	211 994	179 653	138 650	138 543	126 440	125 226
Average per farm.....dollars.....	54 772	52 108	42 862	39 950	24 312	17 277	11 311	7 213
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	215 855	139 428	100 079	86 453	61 859	54 925	45 718	43 449
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	124 609	142 008	111 915	92 464	76 360	82 727	80 035	81 028
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500.....	2 167	1 622	1 338	1 354	2 132	2 825	4 437	8 941
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	830	706	730	444	481	853	1 451	2 167
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	720	655	636	498	600	1 166	1 568	2 498
\$10,000 to \$24,999 <sup>4</sup> .....	770	690	677				3 652	2 545
\$25,000 to \$49,999 <sup>5</sup> .....	494	526	552	1 840	2 239	2 978	-	1 100
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	515	544	506				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	623	570	438	297	195		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	97	71	49	47	20	156	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	5 124	4 541	4 087	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	481	377	439	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	544	413	358	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	67	70	62	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>6</sup> :								
None.....	2 371	2 121	2 197	1 672	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	8 223
Any.....	3 516	2 897	2 520	1 815	2 892	3 523	5 182	8 513
200 days or more.....	2 283	1 838	1 623	1 157	1 931	2 237	3 737	6 344
Operators by principal occupation <sup>6</sup> :								
Farming.....	3 174	2 941	2 852	2 560	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	3 042	2 460	2 094	1 604	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>6</sup> .....years.....	52.6	51.5	52.5	54.2	53.0	53.6	52.6	52.7
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> .....\$1,000.....	251 496	(NA)	(NA)	155 157	115 740	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	11 441	11 468	10 950	8 110	7 400	5 805	7 309	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	33 525	47 203	39 491	40 395	27 157	31 489	37 828	45 196
Commercial fertilizer <sup>7</sup> .....\$1,000.....	8 953	7 155	7 148	5 808	3 531	3 959	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	12 042	16 641	11 733	8 766	4 573	5 078	4 611	4 415
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	66 579	43 109	40 380	31 981	27 002	25 640	26 887	24 454
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> .....\$1,000.....	13 788	10 141	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>7</sup> .....\$1,000.....	7 319	4 885	3 882	2 768	2 231	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms.....	2 112	2 311	2 073	1 994	2 226	3 560	5 258	9 085
.....number.....	83 065	102 366	96 951	103 938	103 054	127 197	143 332	181 195
Beef cows.....farms.....	1 124	1 071	904	759	(NA)	872	(NA)	(NA)
.....number.....	9 692	8 176	7 408	7 650	5 928	4 916	3 673	4 688
Milk cows.....farms.....	838	1 111	1 156	1 239	1 551	2 780	4 436	7 750
.....number.....	36 913	49 891	49 728	55 328	58 786	79 275	89 353	107 414
Cattle and calves sold.....farms.....	1 725	1 908	1 803	1 745	2 022	3 067	4 247	5 647
.....number.....	39 668	47 034	51 782	48 032	59 974	84 203	78 856	89 741
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms.....	498	619	628	465	307	606	1 235	2 297
.....number.....	25 816	39 570	54 586	43 229	55 975	82 025	107 943	105 997
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms.....	387	451	435	309	224	381	569	745
.....number.....	40 048	44 391	61 181	52 681	56 879	86 696	111 322	78 497
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory <sup>9</sup> .....farms.....	738	727	685	577	803	1 615	3 724	7 832
.....number.....	1 502 202	1 276 406	1 465 853	1 956 434	2 673 382	2 806 439	3 497 662	4 084 965
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms.....	37	48	41	31	58	120	242	575
.....number.....	(D)	162 904	163 218	301 430	1 577 680	4 407 220	7 838 363	10 726 535

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--	152	165	182	138	126	150	373	687
acres--	5 681	6 077	4 634	3 022	2 012	1 388	2 188	2 764
bushels--	626 829	591 680	401 671	232 727	168 547	94 690	140 610	158 201
Tobacco----- farms--	21	46	44	51	74	157	269	733
acres--	458	352	1 078	1 568	2 420	3 057	4 009	6 164
pounds--	618 971	574 990	1 536 802	(D)	3 135 613	5 108 175	6 041 714	9 947 400
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms--	2 874	2 663	2 520	2 191	2 642	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres--	121 498	116 729	118 929	110 327	112 814	160 884	210 338	237 969
tons, dry--	250 559	241 584	244 457	225 714	228 343	254 703	365 857	408 982
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>10</sup> ----- farms--	1 008	1 011	968	931	1 005	1 319	1 640	2 347
acres--	16 325	15 307	14 812	15 422	15 626	16 611	18 466	20 324
Land in orchards ----- farms--	572	489	426	366	412	633	1 053	1 825
acres--	9 379	9 332	8 111	9 366	10 487	11 283	14 049	16 508

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

<sup>4</sup>Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

<sup>5</sup>Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

<sup>6</sup>Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships; see text.

<sup>7</sup>Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals exclude the cost of lime for 1987 and 1982.

<sup>8</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

<sup>9</sup>Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.

<sup>10</sup>Data for 1974 were from land area used.