

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..	51 172	58 661	60 426	64 094	77 946	93 504	111 817	138 922
Land in farms.....acres..	10 316 861	10 942 172	11 038 419	10 832 234	11 900 689	13 598 992	14 782 507	16 466 750
Average size of farm.....acres..	202	187	183	169	153	145	132	119
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars..	196 065	228 238	175 171	93 435	49 821	34 027	25 535	15 800
Average per acre.....dollars..	971	1 223	960	553	326	233	193	133
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000..	2 347 585	2 676 343	1 988 471	1 313 311	715 931	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars..	45 954	45 711	32 963	21 225	9 412	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	2 866	2 714	1 972	1 788	1 951	2 659	3 545	7 964
10 to 49 acres.....	12 174	14 300	12 627	12 233	14 334	17 753	23 225	31 113
50 to 179 acres.....	19 779	23 336	26 479	30 567	39 876	47 784	58 955	72 765
180 to 499 acres.....	11 329	13 539	15 035	16 078	19 209	22 956	24 194	25 424
500 to 999 acres.....	3 667	3 672	3 451	2 880	2 248	2 129	1 690	1 423
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	1 134	924	747	486	285	180		
2,000 acres or more.....	223	176	115	62	43	43	208	233
Total cropland..... farms..	48 653	56 321	59 080	62 914	75 656	91 560	108 922	134 118
Harvested cropland..... farms..	8 181 320	8 458 021	8 382 317	8 005 478	8 580 391	9 454 589	9 956 811	10 788 098
Irrigated land..... farms..	46 017	53 738	57 294	60 836	70 605	87 947	104 712	126 757
acres.....	6 172 468	7 255 909	6 774 229	6 317 638	5 501 729	6 738 032	7 154 811	7 658 801
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000..	2 545 078	2 588 317	1 914 314	1 491 439	829 451	766 394	622 960	545 071
Average per farm.....dollars..	49 736	44 123	31 680	23 270	10 641	8 196	5 571	3 924
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000..	1 272 802	1 364 665	997 743	828 865	349 704	360 094	284 560	253 723
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000..	1 272 276	1 223 652	916 571	657 721	475 210	399 783	334 193	288 030
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	12 670	13 718	14 282	18 360	34 817	39 517	53 022	76 464
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	6 774	7 751	9 125	8 420	11 508	15 848	21 647	27 473
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	7 548	8 741	9 652	10 412	10 887	15 298	19 363	22 556
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	6 460	10 335	10 851				17 670	10 831
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	5 002	6 143	6 644	24 069	19 980	22 477	-	1 542
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	4 322	5 334	5 544				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	5 808	6 140	4 044	2 678	705		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	588	480	258	131	31	333	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	45 166	52 022	53 931	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	4 662	5 495	5 635	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	1 167	947	699	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	177	197	161	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	19 384	21 350	21 888	19 760	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	59 511
Any.....	29 155	33 579	36 289	34 349	49 652	52 438	60 991	75 717
200 days or more.....	20 818	23 181	26 054	24 549	34 807	35 909	39 190	45 486
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	26 112	30 107	29 296	34 438	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	25 060	28 554	31 130	29 164	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years..	50.9	49.5	49.7	50.9	50.4	50.7	50.4	50.4
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000..	2 211 823	(NA)	(NA)	1 096 587	676 628	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000..	190 386	170 034	145 691	105 358	85 819	52 756	47 808	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000..	273 192	254 964	179 958	150 759	84 811	75 299	72 432	68 302
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000..	194 526	242 091	173 192	131 619	53 169	54 123	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000..	120 621	181 320	97 893	67 528	39 971	41 977	39 948	36 601
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000..	242 445	186 312	136 868	92 002	70 564	59 667	51 120	40 744
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000..	197 966	273 637	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000..	119 993	114 159	67 558	39 559	22 383	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms..	19 436	25 657	25 293	30 665	36 040	54 150	67 435	96 741
number.....	1 163 352	1 345 793	1 248 623	1 430 262	1 441 556	1 724 957	1 609 891	1 839 326
Beef cows..... farms..	8 163	10 810	10 575	12 839	(NA)	13 109	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	110 156	140 969	139 275	195 130	159 924	132 015	89 852	78 457
Milk cows..... farms..	6 499	9 142	9 867	12 533	17 082	33 176	50 587	82 534
number.....	344 550	398 211	377 999	392 888	413 907	573 545	612 233	777 643
Cattle and calves sold..... farms..	18 164	22 849	23 057	27 566	33 746	48 806	60 555	78 804
number.....	653 806	642 060	675 773	653 930	759 959	879 828	743 314	746 515
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms..	5 577	7 433	8 572	8 508	10 965	18 266	34 257	43 256
number.....	1 227 069	1 064 073	931 240	619 910	699 478	716 052	968 455	788 619
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms..	5 603	7 194	8 065	7 811	10 636	15 683	25 593	31 311
number.....	2 215 872	1 734 236	1 392 522	1 013 950	1 109 623	1 167 122	1 086 709	811 203
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ farms..	3 550	5 788	6 146	8 303	9 477	23 216	49 313	85 240
number.....	8 428 623	7 572 108	7 011 188	7 609 220	7 311 189	7 773 877	8 374 699	10 773 064
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms..	495	636	493	459	205	122	257	640
number.....	702 431	601 403	496 339	362 042	737 669	1 560 202	2 670 676	3 587 759

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...	25 140	30 792	33 676	35 690	32 957	51 051	68 700	84 191
acres...	1 982 401	2 568 541	2 337 985	1 895 841	1 190 087	1 500 291	1 668 564	1 532 822
bushels...	189 779 819	256 473 754	184 697 964	112 269 703	92 288 328	87 838 628	88 560 174	70 867 260
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	10 327	15 416	13 966	29 897	32 513	48 253	63 541	(NA)
acres...	356 073	513 445	370 398	810 197	540 778	929 907	1 075 915	998 015
bushels...	16 465 394	20 764 229	14 669 977	31 891 280	21 102 066	37 094 513	34 597 340	28 772 928
Oats for grain ----- farms...	11 392	16 627	17 875	(NA)	(NA)	39 069	54 151	76 922
acres...	259 445	398 618	395 419	(NA)	(NA)	638 075	852 467	1 210 580
bushels...	14 634 547	24 770 648	22 618 711	(NA)	(NA)	32 931 429	36 282 364	44 951 853
Soybeans for beans ----- farms...	12 734	14 905	13 914	12 289	12 471	11 396	8 955	7 118
acres...	1 023 599	1 122 617	888 449	570 683	472 153	315 900	224 511	139 612
bushels...	36 267 622	34 307 197	21 174 856	12 080 412	11 054 019	7 090 057	5 417 149	2 723 650
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	25 983	28 522	32 863	33 374	39 049	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	1 436 630	1 365 495	1 561 452	1 359 191	1 375 505	1 827 892	1 882 742	2 315 471
tons, dry...	3 323 175	3 476 731	3 599 083	2 956 963	3 165 340	3 647 477	3 477 938	3 624 526
Land in orchards ----- farms...	3 791	4 280	4 722	4 746	5 913	8 999	13 081	18 299
acres...	161 567	165 238	169 413	167 747	191 048	198 960	201 197	192 580

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.