

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..	34 074	42 415	44 104	53 620	72 577	109 141	138 142	215 915
Land in farms.....acres..	10 746 190	12 421 651	13 210 879	14 300 498	16 039 665	17 751 607	18 630 263	20 702 412
Average size of farm.....acres..	315	293	300	267	221	163	135	96
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars..	215 209	257 819	200 646	101 102	51 611	24 322	14 292	7 053
Average per acre.....dollars..	697	894	673	379	234	150	106	74
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000..	1 187 399	1 485 514	1 318 947	876 988	540 376	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars..	34 900	35 083	29 953	17 432	8 053	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	1 387	1 627	1 396	1 699	2 842	6 689	10 674	26 939
10 to 49 acres.....	6 240	8 674	7 918	10 351	17 060	38 623	54 372	99 709
50 to 179 acres.....	13 506	17 342	18 644	24 116	32 330	42 646	51 154	66 288
180 to 499 acres.....	7 789	9 031	10 042	11 253	13 814	14 668	15 762	17 145
500 to 999 acres.....	2 864	3 100	3 354	3 393	3 773	3 867	3 730	3 662
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	1 445	1 739	1 785	1 870	1 864	1 770	2 450	2 172
2,000 acres or more.....	823	902	965	938	894	878		
Total cropland..... farms..	29 785	37 476	40 373	49 530	66 853	96 998	127 215	203 261
acres.....	6 747 639	7 745 113	8 119 065	8 039 574	8 189 006	6 565 301	7 092 678	7 792 351
Harvested cropland..... farms..	24 305	31 122	34 189	40 007	53 266	88 229	118 176	193 617
acres.....	4 272 651	5 799 772	5 848 897	4 793 365	4 751 591	4 400 143	4 564 307	5 529 981
Irrigated land..... farms..	2 012	1 462	1 139	673	987	857	790	1 703
acres.....	636 842	430 901	308 694	161 611	149 920	123 398	99 686	132 490
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000..	1 862 903	1 918 486	1 663 830	1 229 033	685 178	724 031	565 501	459 976
Average per farm.....dollars..	54 672	45 231	37 725	22 921	9 440	6 634	4 094	2 130
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000..	913 913	1 122 471	947 397	716 676	306 758	469 277	347 925	351 312
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000..	948 989	796 015	716 433	496 986	369 687	247 345	208 701	102 917
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	11 109	16 384	15 578	28 619	46 590	73 083	97 908	172 755
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	5 985	6 911	7 748	6 527	8 922	16 336	22 176	30 437
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	5 012	5 445	6 310	5 278	5 935	8 468	9 058	7 849
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	4 070	4 377	4 973				8 923	3 126
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	1 771	2 308	2 661	10 138	9 965	10 014	-	1 692
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	1 710	2 148	2 499				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	3 723	4 185	3 892	2 811	1 091	1 213	-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	694	635	416	215	46		-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	30 326	38 255	39 516	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	2 770	3 046	3 522	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	823	886	922	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	155	228	144	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	12 581	14 255	15 823	17 272	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	124 468
Any.....	19 421	24 263	25 855	26 923	41 342	52 060	64 634	91 383
200 days or more.....	13 518	16 747	17 739	18 263	24 132	28 998	31 740	33 078
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	15 111	18 236	19 523	26 681	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	18 963	24 179	24 581	26 347	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years..	53.8	52.5	51.8	53.6	54.1	52.8	51.4	48.7
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000..	1 465 201	(NA)	(NA)	1 031 529	650 977	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000..	138 882	134 197	112 632	91 230	73 222	42 947	35 676	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000..	328 167	288 860	302 415	255 841	144 482	115 176	76 418	46 172
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000..	90 795	114 525	99 915	84 572	44 746	41 119	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000..	86 016	142 899	90 845	59 344	41 320	36 105	29 651	23 511
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000..	142 341	137 400	129 264	91 583	79 064	62 638	56 048	45 918
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000..	90 636	163 851	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000..	130 399	140 183	112 975	75 877	40 684	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms..	22 482	29 407	30 446	40 583	50 796	83 415	100 351	153 339
number.....	1 147 219	1 488 148	1 543 877	2 270 177	1 940 930	2 350 984	2 005 511	2 319 590
Beef cows..... farms..	19 008	25 227	26 659	30 302	(NA)	58 868	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	579 312	713 119	791 234	1 151 003	904 274	1 085 634	805 138	812 224
Milk cows..... farms..	1 643	3 082	3 929	7 046	13 397	37 567	65 519	122 867
number.....	71 834	96 224	94 891	110 780	159 231	247 636	334 894	497 444
Cattle and calves sold..... farms..	22 087	27 466	29 677	37 610	44 693	59 774	73 689	74 099
number.....	638 685	704 606	854 318	860 921	969 088	864 142	783 653	750 560
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms..	2 237	4 081	6 389	9 023	17 002	43 070	86 011	126 909
number.....	179 063	223 274	280 950	239 438	384 013	381 067	811 514	660 108
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms..	1 622	2 547	4 423	4 628	10 033	12 031	30 902	32 498
number.....	284 630	356 868	389 729	378 061	536 222	380 699	591 891	321 255
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ farms..	2 550	4 631	5 796	9 828	16 399	55 407	96 650	167 126
number.....	7 027 574	6 841 117	8 475 971	11 740 676	12 724 885	10 813 781	7 339 355	5 420 280
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms..	1 129	1 212	1 404	1 519	1 469	1 677	1 494	1 237
number.....	276 652 292	247 236 533	223 309 303	178 822 643	176 261 498	150 857 316	95 332 516	31 801 716

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...	4 020	5 510	8 345	13 179	22 421	55 562	90 762	144 638
acres...	120 361	80 914	107 689	132 033	250 984	599 004	1 093 310	1 534 023
bushels...	9 369 093	4 757 736	4 935 672	5 170 773	7 943 014	21 917 696	32 497 185	25 164 783
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	1 991	4 267	593	1 047	1 029	1 882	1 292	(NA)
acres...	283 477	809 015	54 242	104 818	73 598	138 778	30 974	(NA)
bushels...	9 674 702	29 185 697	1 853 571	2 630 717	1 978 135	3 990 095	784 273	(NA)
Soybeans for beans ----- farms...	6 475	11 131	13 018	11 161	12 580	8 690	9 636	7 166
acres...	2 006 263	3 459 081	3 628 845	2 075 772	2 428 685	1 231 877	951 441	506 599
bushels...	41 329 519	81 844 364	73 505 537	40 921 774	48 247 190	22 785 466	21 037 945	5 039 733
Rice ----- farms...	803	714	579	(NA)	(NA)	214	218	256
acres...	195 505	240 303	215 892	(NA)	(NA)	50 597	45 226	73 804
cwt...	10 466 632	10 106 176	9 161 237	(NA)	(NA)	1 922 850	1 205 710	1 940 031
Cotton ----- farms...	4 225	3 710	4 660	11 277	28 584	50 796	77 390	156 249
acres...	1 028 249	978 496	1 193 677	1 695 728	1 222 017	1 447 831	1 450 296	1 948 329
bales...	1 654 648	1 641 939	1 338 394	1 587 075	1 383 067	2 181 773	1 580 581	1 547 593
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	15 501	18 257	19 468	21 346	21 882	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	585 346	807 011	592 152	566 258	510 196	628 794	529 101	606 836
tons, dry...	1 092 059	1 148 110	960 499	967 863	816 065	937 923	700 697	613 297
Land in orchards ----- farms...	1 326	1 548	1 618	1 528	2 705	6 415	10 703	11 623
acres...	17 982	18 413	18 677	21 677	43 094	85 165	101 408	117 004

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.