

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...	3 027	2 719	2 399	2 076	2 112	2 156	2 354	2 857
Land in farms.....acres...	9 988 520	9 980 201	10 427 111	10 813 610	10 708 346	10 482 772	10 942 936	8 231 270
Average size of farm.....acres...	3 300	3 671	4 346	5 209	5 070	4 862	4 649	2 881
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars...	749 936	925 540	801 173	440 806	270 507	182 436	141 974	78 162
Average per acre.....dollars...	227	249	184	85	53	38	31	27
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000...	158 576	143 648	115 952	71 867	37 482	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars...	52 474	52 928	48 414	35 074	18 274	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	574	405	251	186	186	89	129	379
10 to 49 acres.....	671	574	428	317	305	306	401	485
50 to 179 acres.....	574	535	520	403	484	546	614	737
180 to 499 acres.....	453	461	441	440	423	440	427	432
500 to 999 acres.....	267	224	232	215	214	216	212	236
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	154	172	177	173	167	162	157	167
2,000 acres or more.....	334	348	350	342	333	397	571	588
Total cropland..... farms...	2 317	2 227	2 120	1 857	1 855	1 993	2 129	2 486
acres.....	802 604	861 883	829 499	753 294	748 528	774 419	786 532	674 869
Harvested cropland..... farms...	1 884	1 895	1 855	1 648	1 648	1 854	1 920	2 264
acres.....	526 067	605 082	585 486	551 300	521 024	507 210	337 529	360 011
Irrigated land..... farms...	2 221	2 154	2 086	1 794	1 768	2 018	2 110	2 509
acres.....	778 977	829 761	881 151	777 510	752 696	824 511	542 976	567 498
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000...	250 458	202 581	198 954	133 437	80 880	51 277	56 892	33 744
Average per farm.....dollars...	82 741	74 506	82 932	64 276	38 295	23 784	24 168	11 811
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000...	75 685	72 582	58 748	43 647	12 239	9 764	7 301	5 059
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000...	174 773	129 999	140 206	89 788	68 635	41 191	49 496	28 634
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	861	717	476	481	577	718	762	1 326
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	353	318	281	171	225	267	258	302
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	336	322	338	256	300	303	328	401
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	437	377	371	880	847	756	946	472
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	278	288	290	880	847	756	-	301
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	258	261	239	222	115	-	-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	415	344	318	34	16	89	-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	89	70	55	-	-	-	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	2 342	2 067	1 801	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	356	392	363	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	261	198	186	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	68	62	49	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	1 217	1 024	1 020	715	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	1 513
Any.....	1 654	1 505	1 301	852	1 043	912	977	1 187
200 days or more.....	1 042	891	770	506	647	575	609	736
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	1 675	1 553	1 392	1 189	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	1 352	1 166	1 007	710	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years...	52.3	51.5	51.2	52.1	49.8	49.8	49.9	50.3
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000...	208 924	(NA)	(NA)	124 661	72 892	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000...	34 208	28 749	42 430	27 475	21 580	9 554	12 233	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000...	29 966	29 361	25 244	23 718	9 175	5 586	8 123	4 575
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000...	5 562	5 587	4 794	3 286	958	776	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000...	12 556	15 144	9 065	6 066	3 783	3 219	2 765	2 091
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000...	33 775	20 438	18 830	13 057	9 231	7 495	7 172	5 935
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000...	19 257	22 958	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000...	3 940	2 814	2 377	1 439	599	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms...	1 819	1 786	1 622	1 545	1 533	1 724	1 900	2 307
number.....	575 608	559 909	564 213	633 854	581 067	609 226	531 022	555 467
Beef cows..... farms...	1 438	1 367	1 271	1 230	(NA)	1 350	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	305 018	285 594	282 917	325 595	284 137	298 761	251 441	252 930
Milk cows..... farms...	274	348	388	419	526	778	1 158	1 544
number.....	17 646	15 851	13 487	13 816	12 489	13 205	13 624	12 674
Cattle and calves sold..... farms...	1 733	1 628	1 542	1 480	1 497	1 601	1 727	1 903
number.....	303 567	275 493	340 556	320 730	320 032	271 561	261 065	188 508
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms...	149	245	277	233	240	321	587	794
number.....	16 505	15 254	9 843	10 488	8 092	6 511	10 360	13 889
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms...	128	174	199	158	163	173	262	415
number.....	26 413	16 037	16 097	11 241	7 314	9 957	13 943	12 930
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ farms...	397	422	439	379	419	743	1 347	1 818
number.....	18 245	23 959	15 222	27 485	24 154	50 124	82 523	147 414
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms...	10	8	15	13	4	-	-	10
number.....	525	549	(D)	1 171	94	-	-	16 500

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:								
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	114	162	142	239	186	227	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	15 052	20 536	17 463	28 169	11 315	20 303	19 984	10 560
bushels...	1 096 511	1 386 182	1 053 253	1 227 677	638 265	729 228	577 506	290 111
Barley for grain----- farms...	115	193	215	(NA)	(NA)	274	381	572
acres...	9 150	28 490	26 282	(NA)	(NA)	11 387	11 875	15 787
bushels...	725 196	2 079 755	1 678 370	(NA)	(NA)	588 664	517 174	556 012
Irish potatoes ----- farms...	10	29	35	33	(NA)	69	133	319
acres...	7 501	13 804	15 986	7 609	(NA)	575	1 229	1 435
cwt...	2 561 680	4 608 250	4 855 039	2 719 185	(NA)	99 960	266 507	297 006
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	1 762	1 777	1 731	1 529	1 515	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	479 346	528 682	496 394	470 652	459 820	450 378	290 060	319 233
tons, dry...	1 223 895	1 254 889	1 079 592	925 643	932 526	811 860	513 054	508 875

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.