

**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..	14 249	13 484	12 311	11 282	11 641	14 206	15 919	21 070
Land in farms.....acres..	46 018 005	47 096 085	47 934 714	47 046 388	46 792 302	47 646 966	46 293 207	49 450 885
Average size of farm.....acres..	3 230	3 493	3 894	4 170	4 020	3 354	2 908	2 347
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm.....dollars..	582 012	618 708	538 888	323 418	168 336	117 042	68 233	50 078
Average per acre.....dollars..	180	178	139	78	42	35	23	21
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....\$1,000..	468 262	430 983	355 406	230 893	123 688	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars..	33 093	32 053	28 982	21 731	11 141	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	2 421	1 979	1 326	1 063	1 077	1 381	1 766	3 975
10 to 49 acres.....	2 710	2 591	2 117	1 694	1 704	2 757	3 232	4 259
50 to 179 acres.....	2 164	2 127	1 937	1 801	1 831	2 379	2 721	3 678
180 to 499 acres.....	1 846	1 801	1 809	1 777	1 811	2 174	2 320	2 791
500 to 999 acres.....	1 341	1 254	1 328	1 201	1 364	1 489	1 663	2 014
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	1 126	1 171	1 174	1 136	1 194	1 224		
2,000 acres or more.....	2 641	2 561	2 620	2 610	2 680	2 822	4 217	4 353
Total cropland.....farms..	9 429	9 196	8 597	8 041	8 308	10 742	12 176	17 198
acres.....	2 279 119	2 234 468	2 257 159	2 187 446	2 281 811	2 271 160	2 291 713	2 460 654
Harvested cropland.....farms..	7 269	7 395	7 016	6 393	6 700	8 828	10 592	14 633
acres.....	989 214	1 297 305	1 208 928	975 507	1 007 527	905 867	1 076 947	1 135 073
Irrigated land.....farms..	7 022	6 918	6 554	5 714	5 698	8 274	8 850	11 690
acres.....	718 449	807 206	890 610	867 325	822 637	612 723	731 835	649 615
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000..	1 060 112	850 562	792 228	521 693	358 831	226 676	197 128	155 090
Average per farm.....dollars..	74 399	63 079	64 351	46 241	30 824	15 956	12 383	7 361
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000..	261 488	232 230	187 879	158 398	77 222	90 218	87 294	84 423
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000..	798 624	618 332	604 348	362 853	280 369	135 815	108 877	70 518
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500.....	5 104	4 851	3 566	3 754	4 146	6 858	7 741	13 075
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	1 802	1 816	1 689	1 429	1 512	1 623	1 904	2 117
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	1 700	1 552	1 615	1 474	1 661	1 633	1 840	2 251
\$10,000 to \$24,999 <sup>4</sup> .....	1 828	1 743	1 809				4 315	2 024
\$25,000 to \$49,999 <sup>5</sup> .....	1 234	1 143	1 237	3 704	3 767	3 713	-	1 467
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	966	902	1 006				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	1 304	1 188	1 133	757	434		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	311	226	187	100	60	318	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	11 929	11 440	10 360	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	1 362	1 202	1 286	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	753	617	512	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	205	225	153	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>6</sup> :								
None.....	5 265	4 462	5 040	3 890	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	11 034
Any.....	8 137	7 809	6 783	4 953	6 337	6 549	7 067	9 858
200 days or more.....	4 937	4 752	4 230	2 996	3 710	3 785	4 054	4 806
Operators by principal occupation <sup>6</sup> :								
Farming.....	7 243	6 896	6 047	6 168	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	7 006	6 588	6 264	4 675	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>6</sup> .....years..	53.7	51.9	51.9	52.7	51.1	51.7	51.1	50.0
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> .....\$1,000..	892 641	(NA)	(NA)	482 947	323 999	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000..	268 175	227 193	230 005	140 385	118 967	35 572	27 449	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000..	163 870	143 887	135 420	128 765	58 280	34 083	20 830	22 100
Commercial fertilizer <sup>7</sup> .....\$1,000..	20 913	18 245	17 049	16 166	7 452	6 535	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000..	41 585	50 808	37 494	22 255	13 711	13 615	9 753	8 950
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000..	98 309	61 178	51 754	34 931	27 145	25 481	25 015	24 675
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> .....\$1,000..	68 124	76 151	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>7</sup> .....\$1,000..	13 079	8 462	8 264	3 776	2 836	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms..	8 926	9 189	8 365	8 240	8 053	10 200	11 285	14 991
number.....	1 445 062	1 535 348	1 536 455	1 552 803	1 499 332	1 202 795	1 080 646	1 160 324
Beef cows.....farms..	6 938	7 269	6 540	6 215	(NA)	8 489	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	572 828	597 132	568 537	666 980	586 368	611 137	519 986	566 874
Milk cows.....farms..	848	1 357	1 410	1 650	1 885	3 444	5 715	9 638
number.....	58 606	53 877	37 309	31 036	29 474	34 755	38 551	43 380
Cattle and calves sold.....farms..	8 517	8 404	8 102	7 953	7 897	8 908	9 326	9 534
number.....	1 298 570	1 149 750	1 403 193	1 239 027	1 250 123	901 296	596 608	546 879
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms..	592	914	1 053	1 031	1 287	2 053	4 760	5 868
number.....	44 248	39 485	59 554	54 184	59 642	38 924	61 578	39 825
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms..	373	560	726	617	1 005	865	1 775	1 740
number.....	89 200	84 958	133 110	98 085	89 363	58 227	55 961	35 576
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory <sup>9</sup> .....farms..	1 363	1 809	1 729	1 448	1 656	4 327	7 776	12 808
number.....	(D)	(D)	1 743 779	976 613	1 043 081	738 308	814 575	768 722
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms..	19	38	13	19	6	1	1	17
number.....	(D)	2 484	709	12 627	1 402	2 000	1 000	58 000

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
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms...	434	479	514	522	404	685	2 261	3 645
acres...	37 540	57 161	68 396	44 466	18 850	13 892	21 040	25 162
bushels...	5 300 378	6 901 030	6 423 473	3 202 616	960 027	466 025	606 567	517 603
Sorghum for grain or seed ----- farms...	776	1 023	1 288	1 317	1 757	1 453	1 698	2 025
acres...	156 979	259 294	269 537	218 600	267 044	181 264	214 064	273 344
bushels...	8 680 130	9 645 858	9 387 134	10 248 456	13 036 297	8 647 535	7 068 841	4 571 850
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	1 229	1 459	1 211	1 070	1 154	950	(NA)	1 953
acres...	309 184	480 418	334 825	204 155	149 335	141 025	212 910	107 506
bushels...	8 820 030	10 026 475	5 482 576	3 433 724	3 426 062	2 610 575	3 613 411	713 224
Cotton----- farms...	687	669	1 015	1 495	1 985	2 682	2 976	3 351
acres...	79 135	77 912	122 401	148 414	138 185	188 002	189 092	197 050
bales...	113 013	88 282	118 536	150 615	153 331	256 190	299 669	290 482
Hay--alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	4 830	4 838	4 558	4 075	4 052	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	276 861	296 171	302 448	254 594	244 018	226 530	193 617	212 627
tons, dry...	960 735	1 042 289	1 042 578	917 184	893 321	740 304	559 248	499 288

<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.