

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...	35 289	36 431	40 357	42 710	46 381	48 836	54 928	61 943
Land in farms.....acres...	40 336 869	40 206 005	41 702 370	42 387 424	43 117 831	42 717 360	41 465 717	41 876 924
Average size of farm.....acres...	1 143	1 104	1 033	992	930	875	755	676
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars...	366 475	486 939	360 902	193 574	87 222	58 450	38 978	24 110
Average per acre.....dollars...	319	439	347	195	94	67	52	36
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000...	2 734 073	3 063 883	2 589 191	1 635 670	829 187	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars...	77 505	84 156	64 218	39 205	18 215	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	876	1 121	1 048	981	1 285	417	268	757
10 to 49 acres.....	1 596	1 140	902	773	721	776	850	856
50 to 179 acres.....	3 025	3 178	3 564	3 411	3 441	3 085	4 001	5 238
180 to 499 acres.....	6 148	6 577	7 901	9 175	10 685	13 159	17 781	23 168
500 to 999 acres.....	8 637	9 756	11 774	13 249	15 749	18 191	20 661	21 999
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	10 013	10 042	11 133	11 332	11 343	10 635	11 367	9 925
2,000 acres or more.....	4 994	4 617	4 035	3 789	3 157	2 573		
Total cropland..... farms...	33 179	34 693	38 936	41 301	44 581	47 748	53 980	60 722
acres.....	28 208 099	28 115 546	28 605 578	29 185 095	29 458 878	27 445 689	27 706 756	27 699 621
Harvested cropland..... farms...	32 360	34 031	38 388	40 643	43 606	47 070	53 314	60 523
acres.....	18 363 910	20 306 135	18 978 609	19 207 401	17 174 891	17 695 162	19 357 711	21 241 135
Irrigated land..... farms...	809	762	792	510	480	442	471	399
acres.....	168 013	162 643	141 434	70 891	63 238	50 548	47 656	37 672
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000...	2 188 158	2 294 326	1 784 315	1 802 791	748 910	570 465	468 709	376 122
Average per farm.....dollars...	62 007	62 977	44 213	42 210	16 146	11 681	8 333	6 072
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000...	1 497 212	1 759 871	1 288 731	1 438 258	480 535	374 050	278 164	256 655
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000...	690 946	534 455	495 583	364 496	268 337	196 249	190 501	119 437
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	2 260	2 092	1 890	2 267	5 154	5 879	8 718	14 554
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	1 750	1 638	2 121	1 946	4 646	7 558	12 482	20 363
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	2 982	2 786	3 989	3 975	9 995	15 388	18 756	18 301
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	6 817	6 924	10 490				14 810	7 502
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	7 725	8 256	11 068	31 157	26 226	19 777	-	1 071
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	7 808	8 395	7 333				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	5 701	6 088	3 312	3 237	313	209	-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	246	227	122	98	15		-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	31 153	31 742	35 328	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	3 692	4 338	4 769	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	293	185	131	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	151	166	129	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	19 542	19 126	22 675	21 051	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	44 557
Any.....	13 137	13 058	15 070	10 568	17 351	15 137	15 938	15 219
200 days or more.....	5 295	4 814	5 034	3 617	4 871	3 365	3 303	2 773
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	29 031	30 592	34 086	38 191	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	6 258	5 839	6 271	4 331	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years..	48.3	47.3	47.9	49.9	48.9	48.1	46.9	46.1
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000...	1 846 305	(NA)	(NA)	1 012 918	548 345	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000...	128 202	103 704	107 496	74 226	55 730	43 923	29 015	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000...	75 149	72 876	61 321	71 899	28 733	25 655	24 904	17 204
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000...	178 957	159 111	150 712	90 055	30 527	16 775	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000...	176 838	253 781	139 682	102 766	59 009	56 414	53 017	49 927
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000...	92 847	76 864	70 743	47 723	32 911	25 016	22 673	25 300
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000...	214 381	306 237	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000...	143 598	116 882	70 412	27 962	8 108	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms...	17 154	18 548	20 733	25 364	27 645	35 439	39 663	49 296
number.....	1 873 839	1 886 961	1 893 212	2 403 690	2 031 144	2 465 348	1 840 828	2 103 901
Beef cows..... farms...	14 414	15 585	17 488	21 891	(NA)	27 762	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	886 585	874 660	894 999	1 191 137	962 654	937 300	625 576	551 838
Milk cows..... farms...	2 839	3 689	4 724	6 699	11 267	21 329	30 486	42 686
number.....	96 366	102 660	101 166	111 452	135 798	228 538	264 185	361 218
Cattle and calves sold..... farms...	17 428	18 656	21 099	25 585	28 262	35 256	37 807	45 982
number.....	1 106 924	1 018 516	1 099 421	1 211 138	1 235 824	1 130 452	918 958	693 576
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms...	2 365	2 506	3 818	5 610	7 566	12 567	23 214	30 196
number.....	294 427	260 160	328 025	352 017	295 027	341 931	508 355	537 313
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms...	2 412	2 619	3 873	6 032	7 518	10 378	16 390	21 819
number.....	500 107	447 738	538 492	657 932	499 822	519 575	577 720	397 727
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ farms...	1 670	2 542	3 711	5 891	8 536	19 382	30 317	42 200
number.....	277 614	429 469	520 842	739 329	915 440	1 929 745	2 922 401	4 363 543
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms...	305	290	365	421	156	5	3	47
number.....	52 677	35 402	43 911	73 998	22 679	32 550	8 200	701 500

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...	5 313	3 325	2 489	1 899	2 240	3 782	5 423	11 935
acres...	533 379	522 122	298 245	165 806	128 973	187 331	267 887	394 300
bushels...	46 983 098	34 122 728	20 262 366	7 973 992	7 298 676	5 355 011	6 750 774	9 091 597
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	28 245	29 277	34 170	37 288	40 685	43 556	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	8 778 869	9 818 946	9 561 795	10 189 207	6 935 977	6 266 949	6 433 860	7 582 663
bushels...	248 678 425	295 849 566	268 471 784	209 162 432	202 205 974	146 485 995	94 798 822	64 543 608
Barley for grain ----- farms...	20 825	12 271	16 929	(NA)	(NA)	29 861	38 668	41 551
acres...	2 690 972	1 808 815	2 396 811	(NA)	(NA)	2 479 849	3 762 165	3 045 931
bushels...	120 600 254	91 873 953	106 289 743	(NA)	(NA)	79 608 658	71 288 512	63 289 205
Oats for grain ----- farms...	9 748	12 987	15 523	(NA)	(NA)	33 252	32 600	43 960
acres...	657 196	963 922	1 076 412	(NA)	(NA)	1 980 592	1 599 906	2 090 952
bushels...	31 162 857	47 655 524	53 745 033	(NA)	(NA)	82 084 914	39 116 923	47 798 043
Sunflower seed ----- farms...	7 043	11 703	6 554	(NA)	(NA)	322	282	44
acres...	1 407 115	3 115 317	1 624 229	(NA)	(NA)	16 468	13 640	2 010
pounds...	1 916 363 928	3 245 244 028	2 024 066 499	(NA)	(NA)	8 478 272	9 966 112	1 763 872
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	17 956	19 094	22 815	26 211	25 682	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	2 635 435	2 654 859	2 998 651	3 494 228	2 696 394	3 367 074	3 832 568	3 554 918
tons, dry...	4 030 165	4 190 010	4 914 517	4 567 783	3 691 724	3 932 342	2 968 110	3 912 619

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.