

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.....	79 277	86 934	89 131	92 158	111 332	120 381	140 353	177 074
Land in farms.....acres.....	14 997 381	15 404 054	15 788 833	15 668 238	17 111 459	17 619 167	18 506 796	19 991 586
Average size of farm.....acres.....	189	177	177	170	154	146	132	113
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars.....	227 341	267 899	263 585	119 964	61 251	43 373	32 583	20 937
Average per acre.....dollars.....	1 199	1 504	1 484	706	399	295	247	185
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000.....	3 159 112	3 419 931	2 969 949	1 859 311	925 404	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars.....	39 979	39 415	33 375	21 223	8 683	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	6 007	6 223	5 022	4 001	5 653	5 312	7 094	16 340
10 to 49 acres.....	16 688	18 769	16 762	16 163	19 729	21 339	27 012	37 227
50 to 179 acres.....	32 074	35 951	39 203	43 689	54 591	61 048	73 174	90 863
180 to 499 acres.....	17 718	19 468	22 066	23 113	27 059	29 217	30 576	30 693
500 to 999 acres.....	5 072	5 098	4 960	4 346	3 768	3 072	2 216	1 737
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	1 485	1 261	1 008	770	479	363	281	214
2,000 acres or more.....	233	164	110	76	53	30		
Total cropland.....farms.....	74 376	82 069	85 585	89 231	105 854	115 274	131 878	164 126
Harvested cropland.....acres.....	11 920 433	11 824 451	12 081 308	11 766 094	12 447 089	11 863 819	12 255 370	12 799 017
Irrigated land.....farms.....	70 577	78 363	82 515	85 790	98 271	110 194	125 611	156 487
.....acres.....	9 297 596	10 396 323	10 213 858	9 680 470	8 515 275	9 276 437	9 743 467	10 339 955
.....farms.....	1 562	1 152	1 103	981	1 024	750	575	847
.....acres.....	32 472	27 688	24 970	22 115	22 087	17 405	11 972	15 379
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000.....	3 434 064	3 387 461	2 860 034	2 262 527	1 246 072	1 012 584	862 851	844 013
Average per farm.....dollars.....	43 317	38 966	32 088	24 551	11 192	8 411	6 148	4 766
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	1 750 783	1 863 940	1 601 374	1 320 120	489 108	423 965	327 971	368 068
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	1 683 281	1 523 522	1 258 660	938 108	752 981	583 709	531 659	474 414
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	17 263	19 057	17 439	23 078	46 002	50 909	62 897	89 937
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	10 489	11 414	12 521	10 959	16 614	18 902	25 578	31 778
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	11 664	12 732	13 761	14 805	16 465	20 302	26 784	32 497
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	14 689	16 016	17 700				24 930	19 744
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	8 953	10 095	11 789	39 188	31 186	29 721	-	3 018
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	7 678	8 788	9 410				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	7 971	8 331	6 202	3 942	959		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	570	464	251	129	42	475	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	68 547	74 910	76 962	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	8 757	10 030	10 668	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	1 690	1 654	1 217	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	283	340	284	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	28 490	30 127	32 173	27 685	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	79 638
Any.....	46 025	50 847	53 488	49 095	70 017	63 675	71 981	91 228
200 days or more.....	32 749	35 412	37 737	35 261	46 556	41 885	42 349	54 574
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	39 569	43 174	44 283	50 104	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	39 708	43 760	44 848	41 133	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years.....	51.1	49.8	49.4	50.5	50.3	51.3	51.0	50.6
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000.....	2 730 026	(NA)	(NA)	1 518 618	963 538	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	285 542	244 491	227 726	164 274	153 768	95 538	90 990	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	422 319	392 540	280 456	267 119	162 940	138 402	145 510	134 491
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000.....	276 272	357 480	266 212	211 059	80 521	75 109	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	150 404	229 853	138 918	94 690	60 216	56 505	50 538	47 226
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	218 106	166 229	137 949	95 877	72 941	61 168	57 914	45 851
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000.....	239 733	353 605	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000.....	152 953	139 930	89 870	50 650	21 674	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms.....	35 123	42 240	43 127	50 515	58 846	80 497	100 154	136 038
.....number.....	1 469 662	1 619 488	1 658 588	1 898 573	1 910 129	2 163 522	2 199 905	2 361 229
Beef cows.....farms.....	19 417	23 304	23 852	27 332	(NA)	34 027	(NA)	(NA)
.....number.....	284 646	316 523	338 403	431 984	340 674	337 448	283 308	278 603
Milk cows.....farms.....	9 144	11 377	12 698	15 975	21 870	39 896	65 484	107 958
.....number.....	347 305	368 601	363 863	385 665	424 237	544 117	640 687	804 314
Cattle and calves sold.....farms.....	33 250	38 030	40 904	45 681	54 998	70 468	88 745	110 091
.....number.....	899 517	872 813	1 024 436	958 310	1 161 087	1 269 598	1 162 276	1 074 136
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms.....	11 421	13 769	17 537	19 659	28 912	40 109	64 125	83 039
.....number.....	2 059 174	2 076 768	2 126 166	1 810 284	2 478 758	2 512 761	3 059 900	2 771 117
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms.....	11 752	13 805	17 683	20 062	29 358	36 908	54 200	67 304
.....number.....	3 810 492	3 574 397	3 353 261	3 165 535	4 103 601	4 174 502	3 881 036	3 213 051
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹farms.....	5 980	8 761	9 292	12 147	16 539	38 254	73 986	118 358
.....number.....	21 244 883	13 516 150	11 316 374	10 653 989	11 878 069	12 844 227	13 271 532	14 762 923
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms.....	525	754	671	582	404	312	649	1 461
.....number.....	8 967 735	11 627 475	14 723 956	8 155 314	8 871 024	7 698 993	13 880 204	13 631 994

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:								
Corn for grain or seed ---- farms...	45 702	52 659	54 963	60 635	63 889	80 661	104 975	133 912
acres...	3 107 822	3 862 625	3 455 555	3 150 529	2 705 447	3 011 387	3 417 735	3 383 903
bushels...	355 339 490	417 724 837	350 988 774	235 280 119	233 709 541	193 895 530	212 954 590	204 606 856
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	26 086	32 648	31 663	45 861	51 835	62 897	67 453	98 447
acres...	838 496	1 151 219	943 133	1 384 591	1 003 915	1 403 019	1 226 283	1 696 292
bushels...	42 452 489	47 417 971	36 576 855	56 715 926	37 222 662	44 002 733	29 499 714	45 202 350
Oats for grain ----- farms...	13 494	18 280	19 507	(NA)	(NA)	46 658	66 619	80 537
acres...	206 970	304 190	302 390	(NA)	(NA)	630 057	1 064 074	1 071 376
bushels...	13 781 107	20 554 883	18 325 795	(NA)	(NA)	34 571 926	47 930 525	48 456 450
Soybeans for beans ----- farms...	36 570	39 065	44 190	45 055	45 016	44 208	42 518	40 730
acres...	3 713 340	3 633 196	3 846 614	3 095 563	2 387 587	1 755 005	1 419 014	1 081 243
bushels...	132 974 160	124 408 037	121 071 160	81 392 887	69 940 637	39 679 363	35 430 327	26 033 898
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	37 730	40 709	45 635	47 160	56 026	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	1 271 206	1 241 652	1 439 225	1 260 726	1 383 727	1 944 610	2 022 024	2 536 694
tons, dry...	3 236 378	2 931 179	3 412 559	2 744 427	2 962 650	3 709 906	3 564 094	4 094 594

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.