

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.....	51 549	55 535	56 202	53 171	62 824	83 086	100 052	128 876
Land in farms.....acres.....	7 866 289	8 297 713	8 543 661	8 186 378	8 900 767	10 803 983	11 861 727	13 162 093
Average size of farm.....acres.....	153	149	152	154	142	130	119	102
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars.....	239 333	225 794	193 558	112 992	52 829	29 836	21 892	14 039
Average per acre.....dollars.....	1 579	1 520	1 262	734	373	228	185	137
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000.....	2 144 508	2 141 296	1 730 912	1 115 476	607 823	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars.....	41 641	38 624	30 838	22 026	9 916	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	3 759	3 816	3 188	2 531	3 006	4 650	6 891	14 197
10 to 49 acres.....	10 264	11 208	9 917	8 368	10 428	15 819	20 787	29 489
50 to 179 acres.....	23 696	25 784	27 710	27 419	33 737	44 427	53 555	66 425
180 to 499 acres.....	11 453	12 398	13 208	13 016	14 115	16 571	17 354	17 432
500 to 999 acres.....	1 961	1 953	1 874	1 562	1 334	1 391	1 242	1 128
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	350	324	248	230	166	184	223	205
2,000 acres or more.....	66	52	57	45	38	44		
Total cropland.....farms.....	48 546	52 795	54 208	51 709	60 189	79 917	94 544	121 291
.....acres.....	5 398 072	5 545 787	5 687 734	5 283 094	5 597 790	6 042 837	6 595 256	7 250 246
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	46 157	50 423	52 406	49 744	56 361	76 600	90 334	114 359
.....acres.....	4 080 153	4 363 789	4 263 952	3 885 384	3 687 091	4 534 073	4 853 664	5 433 491
Irrigated land.....farms.....	2 208	1 548	1 297	992	936	1 006	787	883
.....acres.....	29 505	18 139	14 662	17 734	18 697	22 734	16 523	17 950
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000.....	3 077 523	2 848 207	2 166 637	1 503 295	945 427	790 645	712 535	603 551
Average per farm.....dollars.....	59 701	51 287	38 551	28 273	15 048	9 516	7 122	4 683
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	826 666	751 988	639 454	448 215	226 172	205 181	182 007	176 419
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	2 250 857	2 096 220	1 527 183	1 048 737	715 312	578 135	525 414	423 964
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	12 747	14 545	13 361	15 957	25 302	36 834	45 940	70 671
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	6 517	6 989	7 954	5 546	6 778	9 957	13 540	20 461
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	6 378	6 801	7 463	6 203	7 147	12 168	17 927	21 387
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	6 720	7 144	8 409				22 461	13 440
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	4 680	5 413	6 997	22 957	22 575	23 550	-	2 763
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	6 893	7 402	7 691				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	6 846	6 571	3 901	2 276	906		-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	768	633	361	162	47	486	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	45 796	49 585	50 404	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	4 581	4 844	4 683	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	982	899	909	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	190	207	206	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	21 461	21 963	22 430	18 390	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	56 323
Any.....	26 610	29 470	31 074	25 718	35 451	41 763	51 185	69 206
200 days or more.....	17 104	18 949	20 189	17 206	22 868	26 566	30 780	40 266
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	29 797	31 058	30 946	31 555	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	21 752	24 477	25 256	20 899	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years.....	51.1	50.0	50.0	50.6	50.5	50.9	50.4	50.4
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000.....	2 386 060	(NA)	(NA)	1 194 618	750 429	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	273 817	261 842	215 165	141 916	109 076	69 343	72 497	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	621 876	603 501	428 887	340 711	187 356	180 300	189 144	183 124
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000.....	115 061	127 808	102 986	77 514	38 699	36 293	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	98 275	140 305	88 701	58 145	34 242	35 610	34 037	31 412
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	292 030	224 174	177 403	112 822	84 802	70 403	71 126	62 975
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000.....	146 793	182 961	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000.....	59 518	47 445	36 916	22 956	13 942	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms.....	33 381	38 682	38 588	38 486	43 325	62 534	75 666	97 103
.....number.....	1 745 617	1 848 087	1 698 928	1 762 477	1 646 196	1 789 033	1 810 340	1 856 501
Beef cows.....farms.....	13 429	15 986	15 345	14 518	(NA)	15 121	(NA)	(NA)
.....number.....	160 694	174 078	165 725	192 330	142 766	123 082	88 183	70 688
Milk cows.....farms.....	15 096	17 894	18 963	20 873	25 337	42 981	59 101	82 708
.....number.....	673 054	690 779	656 363	670 557	659 029	790 920	867 344	875 631
Cattle and calves sold.....farms.....	31 243	34 855	35 790	35 539	40 399	53 003	65 790	77 853
.....number.....	975 472	884 891	928 932	824 714	898 841	977 419	915 901	868 136
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms.....	6 983	9 229	11 769	11 154	13 760	23 151	40 892	55 718
.....number.....	919 755	869 389	782 922	492 745	510 443	449 661	620 969	604 901
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms.....	6 495	8 176	10 297	9 436	12 112	14 890	23 446	29 551
.....number.....	1 997 713	1 672 055	1 250 094	839 213	842 620	693 653	632 003	544 781
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹farms.....	5 963	8 423	8 980	9 834	12 906	29 863	55 279	88 495
.....number.....	25 548 494	24 389 045	17 996 450	14 277 518	15 367 883	17 636 682	19 013 412	20 774 023
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms.....	1 052	1 262	1 368	1 277	914	826	1 227	2 720
.....number.....	106 382 310	103 755 972	87 103 617	56 509 617	44 613 885	32 012 141	32 156 441	27 062 981

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...	26 968	31 699	33 703	33 547	34 738	47 510	64 127	83 321
acres...	1 070 293	1 282 084	1 189 893	990 850	782 937	776 749	903 150	993 114
bushels...	99 282 796	119 837 016	113 599 487	83 440 026	71 400 446	50 456 076	53 554 662	49 324 910
Wheat for grain ----- farms...	9 719	12 068	12 660	17 980	21 744	33 650	43 827	60 996
acres...	186 100	221 454	194 226	267 810	262 492	438 172	501 008	656 708
bushels...	7 663 537	7 790 790	6 310 367	9 587 480	9 192 962	13 739 060	13 213 071	18 344 429
Oats for grain ----- farms...	14 900	19 254	20 736	(NA)	(NA)	40 617	53 351	68 057
acres...	243 257	307 410	304 116	(NA)	(NA)	504 667	630 551	727 990
bushels...	13 881 340	18 088 854	15 669 686	(NA)	(NA)	23 478 587	28 481 774	30 210 258
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	38 129	41 299	43 765	40 098	44 393	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	1 915 370	1 862 212	1 961 780	1 613 289	1 585 904	2 107 217	2 160 132	2 178 756
tons, dry...	4 477 463	4 230 141	4 379 817	3 582 148	3 324 784	3 505 392	4 082 560	3 481 026
Land in orchards ----- farms...	2 805	3 116	3 142	2 859	3 269	7 276	10 951	20 306
acres...	66 537	68 124	70 928	68 702	77 555	87 556	94 461	114 397

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.