

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..	36 376	37 148	38 741	42 825	45 726	49 703	55 727	62 520
Land in farms..... acres..	44 157 503	43 810 988	44 422 328	45 977 776	45 584 164	45 567 263	44 850 666	44 949 473
Average size of farm..... acres..	1 214	1 179	1 147	1 074	997	917	805	719
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars..	326 333	418 940	295 953	155 415	83 427	56 615	40 852	28 263
Average per acre.....dollars..	269	348	256	145	84	62	51	39
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000..	1 996 230	2 248 595	1 799 205	1 168 895	587 743	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars..	55 005	60 589	46 455	27 985	13 135	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	1 881	1 919	1 730	1 780	1 893	1 025	689	1 421
10 to 49 acres.....	2 638	2 105	1 626	1 549	1 402	1 594	1 855	1 775
50 to 179 acres.....	5 083	5 248	5 368	5 927	6 019	6 674	8 467	10 808
180 to 499 acres.....	8 625	9 505	10 833	13 109	15 807	19 361	23 982	27 785
500 to 999 acres.....	7 618	8 206	8 962	9 927	10 534	11 077	11 219	11 557
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	5 728	5 723	5 945	6 089	5 925	5 757	5 515	5 174
2,000 acres or more.....	4 803	4 442	4 277	4 444	4 146	4 215		
Total cropland..... farms..	32 451	33 844	36 091	40 015	42 781	47 133	53 347	60 192
acres.....	19 641 972	18 838 739	18 732 968	19 191 587	19 837 884	18 707 247	19 164 759	19 628 494
Harvested cropland..... farms..	31 110	32 823	35 172	38 635	41 108	46 230	52 161	59 804
acres.....	12 982 611	14 433 490	13 855 939	14 854 873	12 634 488	14 445 400	14 236 384	17 759 947
Irrigated land..... farms..	1 869	1 815	1 776	1 072	1 063	1 005	1 002	923
acres.....	361 796	376 447	334 755	152 203	148 341	130 050	115 629	90 371
Market value of agricultural products sold ² \$1,000..	2 719 498	2 478 111	1 898 159	1 660 167	958 002	628 779	513 876	436 001
Average per farm.....dollars..	74 761	66 709	48 996	38 766	20 950	12 651	9 221	6 974
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops..... \$1,000..	857 373	842 980	564 177	598 401	212 626	145 239	82 257	160 326
Livestock, poultry, and their products..... \$1,000..	1 862 125	1 635 131	1 333 982	1 061 683	745 335	483 174	431 499	275 619
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	2 888	2 633	2 293	3 231	5 529	6 748	9 998	12 849
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	2 020	1 841	2 343	2 565	4 215	7 577	12 443	17 504
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	3 190	3 144	3 952	4 877	8 109	14 671	17 954	20 871
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	6 764	7 043	9 025				15 044	9 585
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	7 026	8 172	9 940	29 496	27 034	20 378		1 494
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	7 706	8 090	7 463					
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	6 338	5 791	3 410	2 443	741	280		
\$500,000 or more.....	444	338	205	137	42			
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	31 761	32 396	34 158	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	3 394	3 613	3 602	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	942	885	776	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	279	254	205	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	19 798	19 568	22 075	20 541	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	43 340
Any.....	13 553	12 941	13 928	10 206	16 136	13 975	14 553	17 091
200 days or more.....	6 641	5 616	5 576	4 244	5 309	3 640	3 382	2 789
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	28 407	30 267	31 673	36 821	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	7 969	6 881	7 068	5 403	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶ years..	49.7	48.6	48.7	50.1	49.2	48.6	47.5	46.8
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000..	2 138 164	(NA)	(NA)	1 233 024	746 192	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased..... \$1,000..	519 803	446 010	402 675	282 483	205 158	120 547	90 280	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry..... \$1,000..	277 680	268 944	203 062	233 933	116 466	85 413	74 153	44 182
Commercial fertilizer ⁷ \$1,000..	96 748	79 742	76 202	60 964	21 557	8 921	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products..... \$1,000..	144 494	214 464	118 281	86 798	54 632	51 078	43 807	40 893
Hired farm labor..... \$1,000..	94 911	67 414	54 829	39 088	27 513	20 021	17 048	18 708
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000..	200 864	296 609	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷ \$1,000..	77 926	53 836	38 042	19 808	6 244	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms..	23 998	27 000	28 120	33 895	35 979	42 994	47 401	55 200
number.....	3 630 200	3 925 131	3 703 674	4 522 597	3 891 166	4 144 129	3 321 517	3 440 208
Beef cows..... farms..	19 034	21 361	22 319	27 867	(NA)	34 040	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	1 502 927	1 595 688	1 502 830	1 970 524	1 605 420	1 577 953	1 210 873	1 187 200
Milk cows..... farms..	3 940	5 610	6 297	8 843	12 531	21 192	31 332	42 136
number.....	137 020	158 180	144 506	172 546	170 160	222 556	242 581	289 558
Cattle and calves sold..... farms..	24 464	27 274	28 658	34 378	37 091	42 991	46 525	52 341
number.....	2 398 208	2 419 576	2 274 610	2 608 546	2 605 858	2 158 559	1 711 336	1 365 248
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms..	7 906	9 336	12 193	14 387	18 143	23 820	33 021	37 859
number.....	1 750 236	1 764 654	1 772 827	1 578 264	1 639 767	1 775 757	2 042 482	1 900 235
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms..	8 265	10 022	12 749	16 154	19 366	24 328	32 491	36 591
number.....	3 181 008	3 066 751	2 881 114	2 950 064	2 704 669	2 611 723	2 511 017	1 708 682
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ farms..	2 173	3 311	4 892	7 866	13 298	27 674	41 001	49 965
number.....	1 752 361	1 795 254	2 267 826	2 880 121	4 038 838	7 310 532	8 932 412	9 004 508
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms..	269	321	383	502	218	9	13	32
number.....	237 779	200 262	234 794	93 673	50 268	94 630	50 341	143 850

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..	19 448	18 694	21 138	20 702	25 106	30 024	30 262	45 253
acres..	2 573 567	2 583 209	2 626 001	2 316 881	2 233 845	2 537 890	2 456 485	3 352 791
bushels..	199 208 883	174 109 203	168 736 099	80 804 068	117 247 947	77 138 798	61 633 909	101 497 750
Wheat for grain ----- farms..	15 273	13 530	14 655	16 796	17 356	18 197	(NA)	(NA)
acres..	3 229 384	3 332 487	3 037 808	3 018 578	1 847 442	2 076 649	1 874 828	2 594 125
bushels..	91 141 128	85 895 594	64 231 362	55 621 567	38 926 173	36 317 731	17 240 084	25 065 969
Oats for grain ----- farms..	13 558	19 743	22 452	(NA)	(NA)	33 606	33 006	50 482
acres..	919 997	1 807 860	1 957 801	(NA)	(NA)	2 390 039	2 018 538	3 896 009
bushels..	41 997 525	97 763 987	85 325 253	(NA)	(NA)	68 387 083	39 751 143	104 058 694
Soybeans for beans ----- farms..	10 728	7 460	5 150	5 202	4 803	6 471	3 913	6 437
acres..	1 289 276	768 554	388 616	340 809	214 964	246 890	127 733	164 590
bushels..	40 074 670	22 315 924	11 435 996	6 876 227	5 002 104	4 072 470	1 510 924	2 933 649
Sunflower seed----- farms..	1 659	2 479	966	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres..	262 847	487 754	130 827	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds..	315 806 323	471 804 227	144 875 797	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms..	23 131	25 732	28 368	32 249	31 898	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres..	3 355 299	3 787 135	4 063 576	4 349 478	3 620 636	4 703 836	4 659 388	5 201 188
tons, dry..	5 682 824	6 594 617	6 838 623	5 284 209	4 940 482	4 675 297	3 263 593	4 813 473

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.