

# 1987

## Census of Agriculture

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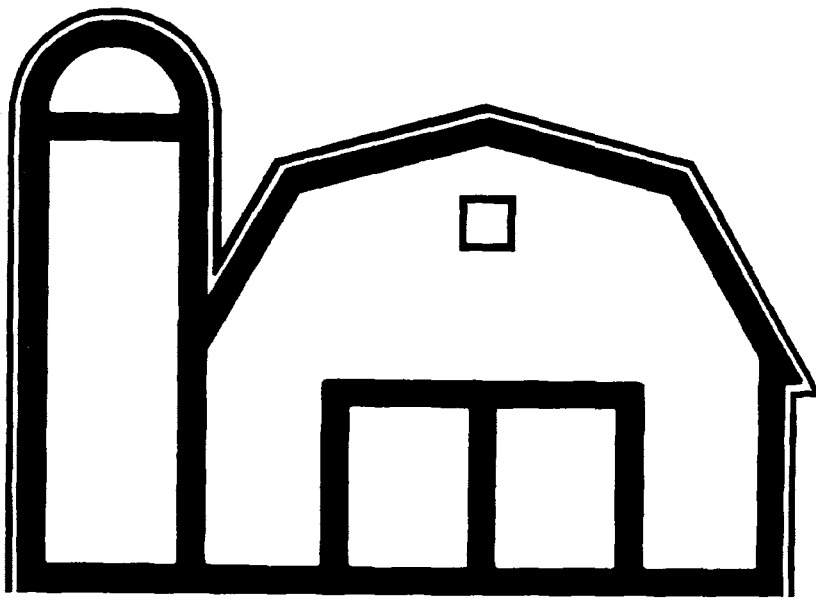
Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 49

# Wisconsin

## State and County Data

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U.S. Department of Commerce  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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This report was prepared in the Agriculture Division. Many other divisions contributed to this preparation: Data Preparation performed the clerical processing; Administrative Services provided the forms design and other administrative services; Publications Services contributed in publication planning and design, editorial review, composition, and printing procurement; Computer Services provided the computer processing facilities; Field provided selected data collection activities; Economic Programming prepared the computer programs; and Economic Surveys assisted in preparation of data collection and processing procedures and computer programs.

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The press, farm magazines, radio and television stations, and farm organizations were most helpful in publicizing the census and encouraging cooperation of farm and ranch operators.

Special tribute is paid to the millions of farm and ranch operators who furnished the information requested. Only through their cooperation was it possible to collect and publish the data in this report.

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# 1987

## Census of Agriculture

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AC87-A-49

Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 49  
**Wisconsin**  
State and County Data

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Issued March 1989



**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
**Robert A. Mosbacher**, Secretary  
Robert Ortner, Under Secretary  
for Economic Affairs  
**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

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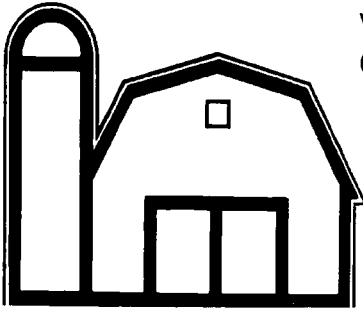
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VOLUME 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

# 1987 Census of Agriculture

AC87-A-49  
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## CHANGE SHEET Wisconsin

Following are changes to the 1987 Census of Agriculture volume 1 publications:

Table 17. **Selected Characteristics of Farms Operated by Females, Persons of Spanish Origin, and Specified Racial Groups: 1987 and 1982**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Characteristics	Female operators	Operators of Spanish origin <sup>1</sup>	Farms operated by Black and other races			
			Black	American Indian	Asian	Other (see text)
<b>1987 OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>						
Operators by days of work off farm:						
Any. ....	137	77	15	26	7	39
100 to 199 days .....	307	11	3	1	-	7

<sup>1</sup>See chapter 1, table 16, for operators not of or not reporting Spanish origin.



U.S. Department of Commerce  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

**Table 18. Selected Characteristics of Farms by Standard Industrial Classification: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

SIC code	Value of selected capital assets <sup>1</sup> , average per farm (dollars)		SIC code	Value of selected capital assets <sup>1</sup> , average per farm (dollars)	
	Land and buildings	Machinery and equipment		Land and buildings	Machinery and equipment
Crops (01) .....	179 464	41 046	General farms, primarily crop (019) .....	153 438	33 624
Cash grains (011) .....	204 782	44 451	Livestock and animal specialties (02) .....	184 273	58 958
Wheat (0111) .....	77 054	20 030	Livestock, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialties (021) .....	123 158	29 556
Rice (0112) .....	-	-	Beef cattle feedlots (0211) .....	147 288	32 751
Corn (0115) .....	211 686	44 884	Beef cattle, except feedlots (0212) .....	98 990	22 075
Soybeans (0116) .....	128 043	28 518	Hogs (0213) .....	139 292	39 934
Cash grains, n.e.c. (0119) .....	224 054	51 461	Sheep and goats (0214) .....	72 333	10 909
Field crops, except cash grains (013) .....	130 317	32 172	General livestock, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialties (0219) .....	199 973	55 019
Cotton (0131) .....	-	-	Dairy farms (024) .....	214 268	74 458
Tobacco (0132) .....	58 727	15 588	Poultry and eggs (025) .....	165 693	58 777
Sugarcane and sugar beets (0133) .....	-	-	Broiler, fryer, and roaster chickens (0251) .....	155 509	51 480
Irish potatoes (0134) .....	898 444	269 792	Chicken eggs (0252) .....	140 184	53 172
Field crops, except cash grains, n.e.c. (0139) .....	109 523	25 264	Turkeys and turkey eggs (0253) .....	345 521	94 770
Vegetables and melons (016) .....	215 598	50 081	Poultry hatcheries (0254) .....	35 000	120 231
Fruits and tree nuts (017) .....	344 592	76 817	Poultry and eggs, n.e.c. (0259) .....	146 588	55 856
Berry crops (0171) .....	898 540	201 653	Animal specialties (027) .....	98 368	20 498
Grapes (0172) .....	90 000	5 000	Fur-bearing animals and rabbits (0271) .....	79 195	49 508
Tree nuts (0173) .....	-	-	Horses and other equines (0272) .....	99 002	11 529
Citrus fruits (0174) .....	-	-	Animal aquaculture (0273) .....	450 958	36 293
Deciduous tree fruits (0175) .....	152 043	35 751	Animal specialties, n.e.c. (0279) .....	61 301	21 192
Fruits and tree nuts, n.e.c. (0179) .....	78 668	13 309	General farms, primarily livestock and animal specialties (029) .....	304 973	75 050
Horticultural specialties (018) .....	201 736	57 807			
Ornamental floriculture and nursery products (0181) .....	203 876	58 272			
Food crops grown under cover (0182) .....	128 071	41 804			

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

**Table 48. Summary by Tenure of Operator: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms				Farms with sales of \$10,000 or more			
	Total	Full owners	Part owners	Tenants	Total	Full owners	Part owners	Tenants
<b>POULTRY</b>								
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	593 4 778 791	395 3 480 062	166 1 144 359	32 154 370	385 4 759 877	219 3 463 401	140 1 142 403	26 154 073

**Table 49. Summary by Type of Organization: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Total	Individual or family	Partnership	Corporation				Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	
				Total	Family held		Other than family held		
					Total	10 or less stockholders	Total		10 or less stockholders
<b>POULTRY</b>									
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	593 4 778 791	500 1 405 965	51 636 997	35 2 722 276	30 2 417 226	30 2 417 226	5 305 050	4 (D)	7 13 553

**Table 50. Summary by Age and Principal Occupation of Operator: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Total farming and other occupations	Farming						
		Total	Age of operator (years)					
			Under 25	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and over
<b>POULTRY</b>								
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	593 4 778 791	402 3 907 865	6 62 065	32 314 257	67 1 713 545	74 590 627	127 1 050 276	96 177 095

**Table 50. Summary by Age and Principal Occupation of Operator: 1987—Con.**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Other occupations						
	Total	Age of operator (years)					
		Under 25	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and over
<b>POULTRY</b>							
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	191 870 926	4 275	29 110 288	60 195 905	45 106 604	34 339 084	19 118 770

**Table 51. Summary by Size of Farm: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Total	1 to 9 acres					10 to 49 acres		50 to 99 acres		70 to 99 acres		100 to 139 acres	
		140 to 179 acres	180 to 219 acres	220 to 259 acres	260 to 499 acres	500 to 999 acres	1,000 to 1,999 acres	2,000 acres or more						
<b>POULTRY</b>														
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	593 4 778 791	62 910 133	104 845 730	34 21 892	60 93 668	63 338 216								
<b>POULTRY</b>														
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	61 182 893	35 186 477	49 457 411	88 421 961	27 220 460	9 (D)	1 (D)							

**Table 52. Summary by Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms	\$500,000 or more		\$250,000 to \$499,999	\$100,000 to \$249,999	\$50,000 to \$99,999	\$40,000 to \$49,999
		\$1,000,000 or more	Total				
<b>POULTRY</b>							
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	593 4 778 791	14 2 431 761	25 3 126 341	16 549 568	97 728 108	82 212 570	26 33 409
<b>POULTRY</b>							
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	47 74 984	26 9 845	66 25 052	60 3 289	57 12 342	91 3 283	

**Table 53. Summary by Standard Industrial Classification of Farm: 1987**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Total	Field crops, except cash grains (013)					Vegetables and melons (016)	Fruits and tree nuts (017)
		Cash grains (011)	Total	Cotton (0131)	Tobacco (0132)	Sugarcane and sugar beets; Irish potatoes; field crops, except cash grains, n.e.c. (0133, 0134, 0139)		
<b>POULTRY</b>								
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	593 4 778 791	20 3 815	35 1 262	-	-	35 1 262	5 796	1 (D)
<b>POULTRY</b>								
Hens and pullets sold..... farms... number...	-	21 7 559	138 54 167	42 17 385	181 31 414	150 4 634 497	7 (D)	35 45 148



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**Following are changes to appendix C:**

**Table B. Reliability Estimates for Number of Farms in a County Reporting a Complete Count Item: 1987**

Farms	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)
Number of farms reporting:	
25	7.5
50	5.3
75	4.3
100	3.8
150	3.1
200	2.7
300	2.2
500	1.7
750	1.4
1,000	1.3
1,500	1.1
2,000	1.0

Note: Complete count items are items in sections 1 to 22 of the report form.

**Table C. Reliability Estimates for Number of Farms in a County Reporting a Sample Item: 1987**

Farms	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)
Number of farms reporting:	
25	19.5
50	14.3
75	12.1
100	10.8
150	9.3
200	8.5
300	7.6
500	6.8
750	6.3
1,000	6.1
1,500	5.9
2,000	5.7

Note: Sample items are items in sections 23 to 28 of the report form.

**Table G. State Coverage Evaluation Estimates of Farms Not on the Mail List: 1987**

[During additional processing for coverage evaluation estimate, minor errors in estimates and relative standard errors were discovered for selected data items in some States. Corrected estimates will be published in *Volume 2, Subject Series, Part 2, Coverage Evaluation*]





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## HISTORY

The 1987 Census of Agriculture is the 23d taken by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. The first agriculture census was taken in 1840 as part of the sixth decennial census of population. From 1840 to 1950, an agriculture census was taken as part of the decennial census. A separate mid-decade census of agriculture was conducted in 1925, 1935, and 1945. From 1954 to 1974, a census of agriculture was taken for the years ending in 4 and 9. In 1976, Congress authorized the census of agriculture to be taken for 1978 and 1982 to adjust the data reference year so that it coincided with the economic censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities. This adjustment in timing established the agriculture census on a 5-year cycle collecting data for years ending in 2 and 7.

## USES OF THE CENSUS

The census of agriculture is the leading source of statistics about the Nation's agricultural production and the only source of consistent, comparable data at the county, State, and national levels. Census statistics are used by Congress in developing and changing farm programs and for determining the effects of these programs. Many national and State programs are designed or allocated on the basis of census data, such as funds for extension services, research, and soil conservation projects. Private industry uses census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the agricultural community.

## AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The census of agriculture is required by law under Title 13, United States Code, sections 142(a) and 191, which directs that a census be taken in 1979, 1983, and in every

fifth year after 1983 covering the prior year. The 1987 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Island of the United States. A census of agriculture will be conducted in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in conjunction with the 1990 Census of Population and Housing.

## FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes first were established, the farm definition has been changed nine times. The current definition, first used for the 1974 census, is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. The farm definition used for the outlying areas varies according to area. The report for each area includes a discussion of the farm definition.

## COMPARABILITY OF DATA

Data on acreages and inventories for 1987 and 1982 are generally comparable. Dollar figures shown for expenses and agricultural product sales are expressed in current dollars and have not been adjusted for inflation or deflation. In general, data for censuses since 1974 are not fully comparable with data for 1969 and earlier censuses due to changes in the farm definition.

The 1978 U.S., region, and State data shown in the 1978 Census of Agriculture publications included data for farms on the mail list plus estimates from an area sample for farms not on the mail list. For comparability, the 1978 data in the 1987 publications include only farms on the mail list.

## TABULAR PRESENTATION

**State data**—Tables 1 through 47 in chapter 1 show detailed State-level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 48 through 53 provide 1987 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

**County data**—Chapter 2 presents selected data items by county. Tables 1 through 16 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the column headings. Tables 17 through 36 include only

counties reporting the data item. Counties not having the item, or with a limited number of farms reporting the item, have data combined and presented as "all other counties."

## ADVANCE REPORTS

Advance reports of 1987 census data have been published separately for each county with 10 farms or more, each State, and the United States. This series provided, at the earliest possible date, final data on major data items together with comparable final data from the 1982 census. Data items are standard across States except information on selected crops harvested, which vary by State according to their relative importance in the State.

## ELECTRONIC DATA DISSEMINATION

The volume 1 data are available on computer tapes and compact disc. The advance report data are available on computer tapes, computer diskettes, and through electronic data services such as the AGRIDATA network, the CENDATA package on Dialog, CompuServe on-line services, and the Census Bureau's State Data Center Bulletin Board. Computer tapes, diskettes, and compact discs are sold by the Customer Services Branch, Data User Services Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233 (telephone (301) 763-4100).

## SPECIAL TABULATIONS

Custom designed tabulations can be developed to individual user specifications on a programming cost reimbursable basis. Inquiries about special tabulations should be directed to the Chief, Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

## CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of Title 13, United States Code, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual farm. However, the number of

farms in a given size category or other classification, such as size of farm, is not considered a release of confidential information and is provided even though other information is withheld.

## INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA

Inventories of livestock, poultry, and machinery and equipment are measured as of December 31 of the census year. Crop and livestock production, sales, and expense data are for the calendar year, except for a few crops (such as citrus) for which the production year overlaps the calendar year.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

-	Represents zero.
(D)	Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.
(IC)	Independent city.
(NA)	Not available.
(S)	Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards on the basis of either the response rate (associated relative standard error) or a consistency review.
(X)	Not applicable.
(Z)	Less than half of the unit shown.
cwt	Hundredweight.
sq ft	Square feet.

# Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1987 and 1982

[Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms		
	1987	1982	Percent change from 1982 to 1987
Farms.....number.....	75 131	82 199	-8.6
Land in farms.....acres.....	16 606 567	17 234 127	-3.6
Average size of farm.....acres.....	221	210	5.2
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm.....dollars.....	182 950	232 606	-21.3
Average per acre.....dollars.....	826	1 113	-25.8
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres.....	4 012	4 254	-5.7
10 to 49 acres.....	8 778	10 256	-14.4
50 to 179 acres.....	27 498	31 202	-11.9
180 to 499 acres.....	28 828	30 855	-6.6
500 to 999 acres.....	4 923	4 682	5.1
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	921	778	18.4
2,000 acres or more.....	171	172	-6
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	69 141	75 734	-8.7
.....acres.....	9 335 007	10 062 154	-7.2
Irrigated land.....farms.....	1 850	1 695	9.1
.....acres.....	284 637	259 270	9.8
Market value of agricultural products sold.....\$1,000.....	4 909 869	4 854 582	1.1
Average per farm.....dollars.....	65 351	59 059	10.7
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	936 624	943 422	-7
Grains.....\$1,000.....	444 034	547 072	-18.8
Cotton and cottonseed.....\$1,000.....	-	-	-
Tobacco.....\$1,000.....	8 626	21 184	-59.3
Hay, silage, and field seeds.....\$1,000.....	96 506	67 791	42.4
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons.....\$1,000.....	120 328	94 492	27.3
Fruits, nuts, and berries.....\$1,000.....	85 280	59 755	42.7
Nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000.....	65 793	50 059	31.4
Other crops.....\$1,000.....	116 057	103 068	12.6
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000.....	3 973 245	3 911 160	1.6
Poultry and poultry products.....\$1,000.....	144 804	139 972	3.5
Dairy products.....\$1,000.....	2 754 868	2 778 993	-9
Cattle and calves.....\$1,000.....	749 042	641 532	16.8
Hogs and pigs.....\$1,000.....	244 777	258 039	-5.1
Sheep, lambs, and wool.....\$1,000.....	5 265	4 106	28.2
Other livestock and livestock products (see text).....\$1,000.....	74 490	88 519	-15.8
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	64 642	70 842	-8.8
Partnership.....	7 909	8 937	-11.5
Corporation.....	2 322	2 193	5.9
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	258	227	13.7
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming.....	53 342	57 939	-7.9
Other.....	21 789	24 260	-10.2
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any.....	30 014	33 440	-10.2
200 days or more.....	18 776	20 200	-7.0
Average age of operator.....years.....	50.3	48.4	3.9
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> .....farms.....	75 103	(NA)	(NA)
.....\$1,000.....	3 638 957	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :			
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000.....	294 202	261 923	12.3
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	675 221	667 669	1.1
Commercial fertilizer <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	238 568	262 517	-9.9
Agricultural chemicals <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000.....	104 934	90 030	16.6
Petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	175 966	264 315	-33.4
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	312 325	279 154	11.9
Interest expense <sup>3</sup> .....\$1,000.....	400 274	531 636	-24.7
Livestock and poultry inventory:			
Cattle and calves.....farms.....	53 315	62 836	-15.2
.....number.....	4 136 221	4 458 683	-7.2
Milk cows.....farms.....	37 325	44 093	-15.3
.....number.....	1 743 427	1 852 784	-5.9
Hogs and pigs.....farms.....	8 737	11 940	-26.8
.....number.....	1 312 818	1 479 028	-11.2
Chickens 3 months old or older.....farms.....	4 658	7 373	-36.8
.....number.....	5 156 407	4 926 499	4.7
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed.....farms.....	48 665	52 645	-7.6
.....acres.....	2 787 734	3 257 104	-14.4
Corn for silage or green chop.....farms.....	29 080	38 731	-24.9
.....acres.....	666 719	994 862	-33.0
Oats for grain.....farms.....	31 065	40 594	-23.5
.....acres.....	679 203	890 503	-23.7
Soybeans for beans.....farms.....	5 628	5 667	-7
.....acres.....	297 226	332 235	-10.5
Irish potatoes.....farms.....	470	766	-38.6
.....acres.....	72 149	68 340	5.6
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text).....farms.....	60 404	64 770	-6.7
.....acres.....	4 784 417	4 491 368	6.5
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text).....farms.....	4 177	4 262	-2.0
.....acres.....	328 902	280 326	17.3

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.