

**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 <sup>1</sup>
Farms.....number...	75 131	82 199	86 505	89 479	98 973	118 816	131 215	153 558
Land in farms.....acres...	16 606 567	17 234 127	17 838 982	17 624 826	18 109 273	20 377 572	21 156 223	22 507 288
Average size of farm.....acres...	221	210	206	197	183	172	161	147
Value of land and buildings <sup>2</sup> :								
Average per farm.....dollars...	182 950	232 606	175 095	85 560	42 448	26 765	21 309	14 789
Average per acre.....dollars...	826	1 113	853	434	232	155	132	101
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000...	4 053 360	4 410 681	3 475 058	2 074 183	1 046 308	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars...	54 037	53 698	40 204	23 751	10 742	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	4 012	4 254	3 117	2 392	2 311	2 600	2 713	5 526
10 to 49 acres.....	8 778	10 256	9 447	8 176	8 119	10 117	11 363	14 686
50 to 179 acres.....	27 498	31 202	35 701	41 160	50 084	63 930	74 978	92 286
180 to 499 acres.....	28 828	30 855	32 997	33 612	35 205	39 250	39 868	39 025
500 to 999 acres.....	4 923	4 682	4 437	3 527	2 841	2 572	2 014	1 778
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	921	778	672	494	333	270	279	257
2,000 acres or more.....	171	172	134	118	81	77		
Total cropland..... farms...	71 320	78 060	83 666	87 263	96 133	116 432	128 513	149 845
Harvested cropland..... farms...	11 618 876	11 769 183	12 088 709	116 685 509	11 564 178	12 043 283	12 250 260	12 680 346
acres.....	69 141	75 734	81 708	84 970	92 197	112 963	125 672	147 001
acres.....	9 335 007	10 062 154	9 863 051	9 340 375	8 133 848	9 038 263	9 599 094	9 849 700
Irrigated land..... farms...	1 850	1 695	1 645	1 185	1 252	813	638	545
acres.....	284 637	259 270	234 557	127 881	105 526	62 302	31 862	18 199
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>3</sup> .....\$1,000...	4 909 869	4 854 582	3 444 600	2 352 996	1 455 482	1 097 457	961 103	792 882
Average per farm.....dollars...	65 351	59 059	39 820	26 297	14 706	9 237	7 325	5 163
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000...	936 624	943 422	671 094	478 736	195 840	174 032	122 661	104 199
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000...	3 973 245	3 911 160	2 773 506	1 867 277	1 255 675	915 645	832 950	684 259
Farms by value of sales <sup>4</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500.....	9 838	10 768	11 653	15 233	22 796	28 553	30 298	48 663
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	6 039	6 472	8 119	7 602	10 460	20 033	28 309	45 172
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	7 505	7 884	9 901	11 517	17 056	32 162	43 543	43 472
\$10,000 to \$24,999 <sup>5</sup> .....	10 678	12 178	15 877				28 966	14 732
\$25,000 to \$49,999 <sup>6</sup> .....	10 491	12 995	18 018	52 714	47 935	37 657	-	1 493
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	15 223	18 022	16 463				-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	14 750	13 389	6 211	2 250	640	358	-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	607	465	231	124	35		-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	64 642	70 842	76 016	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	7 909	8 937	8 749	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	2 322	2 193	1 555	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	258	227	185	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>7</sup> :								
None.....	40 587	43 143	44 825	38 627	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	89 332
Any.....	30 014	33 440	38 202	33 542	45 617	50 546	53 455	60 635
200 days or more.....	18 776	20 200	23 036	20 947	25 869	25 223	22 960	22 385
Operators by principal occupation <sup>7</sup> :								
Farming.....	53 342	57 939	59 222	64 805	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	21 789	24 260	27 283	23 619	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>7</sup> .....years...	50.3	48.4	49.0	50.2	49.7	49.7	48.8	48.4
Total farm production expenses <sup>2</sup> .....\$1,000...	3 638 957	(NA)	(NA)	1 680 806	1 027 337	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>2</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000...	294 202	261 923	233 653	138 150	111 561	54 597	56 442	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000...	675 221	667 669	450 562	380 336	206 574	161 540	152 585	129 902
Commercial fertilizer <sup>8</sup> .....\$1,000...	236 568	262 517	181 264	126 706	50 289	38 532	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000...	175 966	264 315	141 420	97 613	59 720	59 724	55 287	49 896
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000...	312 325	279 154	181 536	93 914	68 468	51 677	45 203	45 878
Interest expense <sup>9</sup> .....\$1,000...	400 274	531 636	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>9</sup> .....\$1,000...	104 934	90 030	59 702	35 460	18 102	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms...	53 315	62 836	64 192	71 092	78 162	100 811	113 366	136 324
number.....	4 138 221	4 458 683	3 971 214	4 218 103	3 969 412	4 383 753	4 099 830	4 229 662
Beef cows..... farms...	10 355	14 386	15 185	19 252	(NA)	16 271	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	180 276	236 967	229 258	328 144	257 900	185 827	114 443	99 805
Milk cows..... farms...	37 325	44 093	45 518	51 655	60 634	85 407	103 143	128 797
number.....	1 743 427	1 852 784	1 699 839	1 728 670	1 723 000	2 083 336	2 095 134	2 223 645
Cattle and calves sold..... farms...	52 816	61 246	62 894	69 642	77 933	98 210	111 237	128 726
number.....	1 982 183	1 806 185	1 743 443	1 621 155	1 818 774	2 002 363	1 844 783	1 783 276
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms...	8 737	11 940	15 713	17 816	25 294	38 808	62 217	72 192
number.....	1 312 818	1 479 028	1 473 818	1 240 808	1 676 978	1 735 176	2 460 355	2 252 546
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms...	8 899	12 059	15 396	17 978	25 542	36 059	52 218	60 542
number.....	2 515 246	2 658 032	2 558 847	2 345 238	3 018 324	3 164 459	3 384 710	2 545 143
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory <sup>10</sup> ..... farms...	4 658	7 373	9 284	13 170	18 109	41 611	69 047	103 993
number.....	5 156 407	4 926 499	4 499 970	4 397 849	5 365 466	7 348 023	10 551 103	13 982 916
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms...	674	897	995	1 097	361	164	364	502
number.....	10 761 742	8 803 544	8 721 401	9 463 734	12 125 398	9 910 566	14 490 559	8 372 075

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 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain or seed ---- farms...	48 665	52 645	56 602	52 645	50 345	64 373	90 101	91 596
acres...	2 787 734	3 257 104	2 875 828	2 271 002	1 655 803	1 421 801	1 911 736	1 531 813
bushels...	311 689 830	332 327 822	288 060 892	161 241 513	145 785 434	101 146 378	135 477 903	92 997 544
Oats for grain ----- farms...	31 065	40 594	50 851	(NA)	(NA)	89 344	106 841	124 524
acres...	679 203	890 503	1 092 308	(NA)	(NA)	1 919 162	2 382 922	2 737 098
bushels...	37 458 060	46 411 629	60 582 588	(NA)	(NA)	98 172 508	121 399 193	120 375 951
Soybeans for beans ----- farms...	5 628	5 667	4 587	5 182	4 681	5 599	4 282	3 470
acres...	297 226	332 235	222 157	194 962	145 876	129 821	95 170	63 221
bushels...	11 491 031	10 619 901	6 602 755	3 813 422	3 100 055	2 134 465	1 851 320	921 220
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms...	60 404	64 770	71 292	74 237	76 243	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres...	4 784 417	4 491 368	4 771 840	4 105 994	3 512 233	4 130 456	3 803 221	3 859 133
tons, dry...	12 407 639	11 846 550	12 908 132	10 168 458	9 449 373	9 005 575	8 866 854	7 714 029
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>11</sup> ----- farms...	4 177	4 262	5 188	6 264	7 092	9 978	12 673	21 497
acres...	328 902	280 326	319 090	337 959	310 210	265 991	242 511	241 766

<sup>1</sup>Data for 1954 exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

<sup>2</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

<sup>4</sup>Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

<sup>5</sup>Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

<sup>6</sup>Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

<sup>7</sup>Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships; see text.

<sup>8</sup>Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals exclude the cost of lime for 1987 and 1982.

<sup>9</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

<sup>10</sup>Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.

<sup>11</sup>Data for 1974 were from land area used.