

1992

Census of Agriculture



AC92-A-20

Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 20

Maryland

State and County Data



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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Introduction

HISTORY

The 1992 Census of Agriculture is the 24th 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 1992 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

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 its farm definition.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

Data on acreages and inventories for 1992 and 1987 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.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

State data. Tables 1 through 45 in chapter 1 show detailed State-level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 46 through 52 provide 1992 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County data. Chapter 2 presents selected data items by county. Tables 1 through 17 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the column headings. Tables 18 through 39 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."

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, DC 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 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.
(H)	Standard error or relative standard error of estimate is greater than or equal to 99.95 percent.
(IC)	Independent city.
(L)	Standard error or relative standard error of estimate is less than .05 percent.
(NA)	Not available.
(S)	Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards on the basis of either the response rate or a consistency review.
(X)	Not applicable.
(Z)	Less than half of the unit shown.
cwt	Hundredweight.
sq ft	Square feet.

A. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987

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

Item	All farms		
	1992	1987	Percent change from 1987 to 1992
Farms ----- number	13 037	14 776	-11.8
Land in farms ----- acres	2 223 476	2 396 629	-7.2
Average size of farm ----- acres	171	162	5.6
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	503 828	366 788	37.4
Average per acre ----- dollars	2 911	2 261	28.7
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	50 564	44 656	13.2
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres -----	1 560	1 838	-15.1
10 to 49 acres -----	3 979	4 400	-9.6
50 to 179 acres -----	4 254	4 885	-12.9
180 to 499 acres -----	2 252	2 591	-13.1
500 to 999 acres -----	641	712	-10.0
1,000 to 1,999 acres -----	266	284	-6.3
2,000 acres or more -----	85	66	28.8
Total cropland ----- farms	11 605	13 200	-12.1
Harvested cropland ----- acres	1 663 907	1 744 891	-4.6
Irrigated land ----- farms	10 447	11 960	-12.7
----- acres	1 397 069	1 346 913	3.7
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000	1 169 331	989 061	18.2
Average per farm ----- dollars	89 693	66 937	34.0
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000	388 143	253 056	53.4
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000	781 188	736 006	6.1
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 -----	3 165	4 165	-24.0
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	1 642	1 948	-15.7
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	1 698	1 881	-9.7
\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	1 822	2 012	-9.4
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	1 096	1 100	-4
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	904	1 084	-16.6
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	1 436	1 569	-8.5
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	793	737	7.6
\$500,000 or more -----	481	280	71.8
Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000	974 511	851 440	14.5
Average per farm ----- dollars	74 732	57 631	29.7
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) ¹ ----- farms	13 040	14 774	-11.7
----- \$1,000	186 174	135 200	37.7
Average per farm ----- dollars	14 277	9 151	56.0
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming -----	6 980	7 882	-11.4
Other -----	6 057	6 894	-12.1
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	6 745	7 985	-15.5
200 days or more -----	4 563	5 504	-17.1
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms	4 978	5 780	-13.9
----- number	283 167	308 052	-8.1
Beef cows ----- farms	2 921	3 185	-8.3
----- number	51 676	48 454	6.6
Milk cows ----- farms	1 329	1 694	-21.5
----- number	94 751	110 463	-14.2
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms	4 545	5 368	-15.3
----- number	133 633	154 540	-13.5
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms	910	1 322	-31.2
----- number	145 519	197 214	-26.2
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms	843	1 265	-33.4
----- number	289 149	372 470	-22.4
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms	611	660	-7.4
----- number	25 291	24 599	2.8
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms	839	1 337	-37.2
----- number	4 268 626	4 060 760	5.1
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms	1 109	1 381	-19.7
----- number	257 209 663	257 070 110	.1
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms	4 631	5 608	-17.4
----- acres	454 083	432 409	5.0
Wheat for grain ----- bushels	52 596 358	31 941 714	64.7
----- farms	2 774	3 112	-10.9
----- acres	188 122	146 081	28.8
Barley for grain ----- bushels	10 233 795	6 766 273	51.2
----- farms	1 291	1 541	-16.2
----- acres	63 024	59 268	6.3
Tobacco ----- farms	4 240 170	3 707 134	14.4
----- farms	951	1 357	-29.9
----- acres	8 470	10 780	-21.4
Soybeans for beans ----- pounds	11 794 382	13 751 729	-14.2
----- farms	3 663	3 697	-9
----- acres	503 181	405 170	24.2
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms	16 226 822	9 352 369	73.5
----- farms	5 532	6 619	-16.4
----- acres	222 184	255 676	-13.1
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ----- tons, dry	545 526	593 854	-8.1
----- farms	1 167	1 184	-1.4
----- acres	36 313	38 238	-5.0

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

B. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987 (Metric Measurement)

[1 acre = 0.4047 hectare. For further metric conversions, see metric conversion table in appendix E. Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms		
	1992	1987	Percent change from 1987 to 1992
Farms ----- number	13 037	14 776	-11.8
Land in farms ----- hectares	899 841	969 916	-7.2
Average size of farm ----- hectares	69	66	4.5
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	503 828	366 788	37.4
Average per hectare ----- dollars	2 911	2 261	28.7
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	50 564	44 656	13.2
Farms by size:			
01 to 3.84 hectares -----	1 560	1 838	-15.1
3.85 to 20.04 hectares -----	3 979	4 400	-9.6
20.05 to 72.67 hectares -----	4 254	4 885	-12.9
72.68 to 202.22 hectares -----	2 252	2 591	-13.1
202.23 to 404.65 hectares -----	641	712	-10.0
404.66 to 809.51 hectares -----	266	284	-6.3
809.52 hectares or more -----	85	66	28.8
Total cropland ----- farms	11 605	13 200	-12.1
Harvested cropland ----- hectares	673 383	706 157	-4.6
Irrigated land ----- farms	10 447	11 960	-12.7
----- hectares	565 394	545 096	3.7
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000	1 169 331	989 061	18.2
Average per farm ----- dollars	89 693	66 937	34.0
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000	388 143	253 056	53.4
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000	781 188	736 006	6.1
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 -----	3 165	4 165	-24.0
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\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	1 822	2 012	-9.4
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	1 096	1 100	-4
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	904	1 084	-16.6
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	1 436	1 569	-8.5
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	793	737	7.6
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Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	6 745	7 985	-15.5
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Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms	4 978	5 780	-13.9
----- number	283 167	308 052	-8.1
Beef cows ----- farms	2 921	3 185	-8.3
----- number	51 676	48 454	6.6
Milk cows ----- farms	1 329	1 694	-21.5
----- number	94 751	110 463	-14.2
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms	4 545	5 368	-15.3
----- number	133 633	154 540	-13.5
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms	910	1 322	-31.2
----- number	145 519	197 214	-26.2
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms	843	1 265	-33.4
----- number	289 149	372 470	-22.4
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms	611	660	-7.4
----- number	25 291	24 599	2.8
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms	839	1 337	-37.2
----- number	4 268 626	4 060 760	5.1
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms	1 109	1 381	-19.7
----- number	257 209 663	257 070 110	.1
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms	4 631	5 608	-17.4
----- hectares	183 767	174 996	5.0
----- metric tons	1 336 010	811 357	64.7
Wheat for grain ----- farms	2 774	3 112	-10.9
----- hectares	76 133	59 119	28.8
----- metric tons	278 518	184 148	51.2
Barley for grain ----- farms	1 291	1 541	-16.2
----- hectares	25 506	23 986	6.3
----- metric tons	92 319	80 713	14.4
Tobacco ----- farms	951	1 357	-29.9
----- hectares	3 428	4 362	-21.4
----- metric tons	5 350	6 238	-14.2
Soybeans for beans ----- farms	3 663	3 697	-9
----- hectares	203 637	163 972	24.2
----- metric tons	441 622	254 530	73.5
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms	5 532	6 619	-16.4
----- hectares	89 918	103 472	-13.1
----- metric tons	494 893	538 735	-8.1
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ----- farms	1 167	1 184	-1.4
----- hectares	14 696	15 475	-5.0

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.