

1992

Census of Agriculture



AC92-A-34

Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 34

North Dakota

State and County Data



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

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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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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	31 123	35 289	-11.8
Land in farms ----- acres	39 438 144	40 336 869	-2.2
Average size of farm ----- acres	1 267	1 143	10.8
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	422 936	366 475	15.4
Average per acre ----- dollars	335	319	5.0
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	87 290	77 505	12.6
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres ----- farms	785	876	-10.4
10 to 49 acres ----- farms	1 264	1 596	-20.8
50 to 179 acres ----- farms	2 945	3 025	-2.6
180 to 499 acres ----- farms	4 985	6 148	-18.9
500 to 999 acres ----- farms	6 714	8 637	-22.3
1,000 to 1,999 acres ----- farms	8 740	10 013	-12.7
2,000 acres or more ----- farms	5 690	4 994	13.9
Total cropland ----- farms	28 967	33 179	-12.7
Harvested cropland ----- acres	27 469 875	28 208 099	-2.6
Irrigated land ----- farms	27 804	32 360	-14.1
----- acres	19 216 531	18 363 910	4.6
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000	2 745 752	2 188 158	25.5
Average per farm ----- dollars	88 223	62 007	42.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000	2 030 900	1 497 212	35.6
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000	714 852	690 946	3.5
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 ----- farms	2 139	2 260	-5.4
\$2,500 to \$4,999 ----- farms	1 363	1 750	-22.1
\$5,000 to \$9,999 ----- farms	2 191	2 982	-26.5
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ----- farms	4 851	6 817	-28.8
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ----- farms	5 399	7 725	-30.1
\$50,000 to \$99,999 ----- farms	6 502	7 808	-16.7
\$100,000 to \$249,999 ----- farms	6 525	4 855	34.4
\$250,000 to \$499,999 ----- farms	1 640	846	93.9
\$500,000 or more ----- farms	513	246	108.5
Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000	2 090 938	1 846 305	13.2
Average per farm ----- dollars	67 181	52 312	28.4
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) ¹ ----- farms	31 124	35 294	-11.8
----- \$1,000	652 308	332 673	96.1
Average per farm ----- dollars	20 958	9 426	122.3
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming ----- farms	25 189	29 031	-13.2
Other ----- farms	5 934	6 258	-5.2
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any ----- farms	11 827	13 137	-10.0
200 days or more ----- farms	4 916	5 295	-7.2
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms	15 183	17 154	-11.5
----- number	1 723 920	1 873 839	-8.0
Beef cows ----- farms	13 216	14 414	-8.3
----- number	837 716	886 585	-5.5
Milk cows ----- farms	1 925	2 839	-32.2
----- number	74 885	96 366	-22.3
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms	15 249	17 428	-12.5
----- number	978 947	1 106 924	-11.6
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms	1 932	2 365	-18.3
----- number	346 082	294 427	17.5
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms	2 033	2 412	-15.7
----- number	603 910	500 107	20.8
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms	1 623	1 623	0.0
----- number	217 240	182 038	19.3
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms	838	1 670	-49.8
----- number	278 090	277 614	0.2
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms	160	305	-47.5
----- number	38 573	52 677	-26.8
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms	3 353	5 313	-36.9
----- acres	595 347	533 379	11.6
Corn for silage or green chop ----- bushels	37 487 419	46 983 098	-20.2
----- farms	3 443	4 284	-19.6
----- acres	278 181	240 373	15.7
Wheat for grain ----- tons, green	1 714 645	1 839 022	-6.8
----- farms	22 918	28 245	-18.9
----- acres	10 627 608	8 778 869	21.1
Barley for grain ----- bushels	409 882 271	248 678 425	64.8
----- farms	13 979	20 825	-32.9
----- acres	2 388 696	2 690 972	-11.2
Oats for grain ----- bushels	142 747 145	120 600 254	18.4
----- farms	7 843	9 748	-19.5
----- acres	557 388	657 196	-15.2
Sunflower seed ----- bushels	33 414 633	31 162 857	7.2
----- farms	5 287	7 043	-24.9
----- acres	1 130 593	1 407 115	-19.7
----- pounds	1 260 442 267	1 916 363 928	-34.2
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms	15 695	17 956	-12.6
----- acres	2 467 853	2 635 435	-6.4
----- tons, dry	3 267 324	4 030 165	-18.9

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	31 123	35 289	-11.8
Land in farms hectares	15 960 617	16 324 331	-2.2
Average size of farm hectares	513	463	10.8
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm dollars	422 936	366 475	15.4
Average per hectare dollars	335	319	5.0
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :			
Average per farm dollars	87 290	77 505	12.6
Farms by size:			
.01 to 3.84 hectares	785	876	-10.4
3.85 to 20.04 hectares	1 264	1 596	-20.8
20.05 to 72.67 hectares	2 945	3 025	-2.6
72.68 to 202.22 hectares	4 985	6 148	-18.9
202.23 to 404.65 hectares	6 714	8 637	-22.3
404.66 to 809.51 hectares	8 740	10 013	-12.7
809.52 hectares or more	5 690	4 994	13.9
Total cropland farms	28 967	33 179	-12.7
..... hectares	11 117 058	11 415 818	-2.6
Harvested cropland farms	27 804	32 360	-14.1
..... hectares	7 776 930	7 431 874	4.6
Irrigated land farms	816	809	.9
..... hectares	75 765	67 995	11.4
Market value of agricultural products sold \$1,000	2 745 752	2 188 158	25.5
Average per farm dollars	88 223	62 007	42.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	2 030 900	1 497 212	35.6
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	714 852	690 946	3.5
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\$2,500 to \$4,999	1 363	1 750	-22.1
\$5,000 to \$9,999	2 191	2 982	-26.5
\$10,000 to \$24,999	4 851	6 817	-28.8
\$25,000 to \$49,999	5 399	7 725	-30.1
\$50,000 to \$99,999	6 502	7 808	-16.7
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Cattle and calves inventory farms	15 183	17 154	-11.5
..... number	1 723 920	1 873 839	-8.0
Beef cows farms	13 216	14 414	-8.3
..... number	837 716	886 585	-5.5
Milk cows farms	1 925	2 839	-32.2
..... number	74 885	96 366	-22.3
Cattle and calves sold farms	15 249	17 428	-12.5
..... number	978 947	1 106 924	-11.6
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	1 932	2 365	-18.3
..... number	346 082	294 427	17.5
Hogs and pigs sold farms	2 033	2 412	-15.7
..... number	603 910	500 107	20.8
Sheep and lambs inventory farms	1 623	1 623	0.0
..... number	217 240	182 038	19.3
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory farms	1 838	1 670	9.8
..... number	278 090	277 614	.2
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	160	305	-47.5
..... number	38 573	52 677	-26.8
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed farms	3 353	5 313	-36.9
..... hectares	240 937	215 858	11.6
..... metric tons	952 225	1 193 426	-20.2
Corn for silage or green chop farms	3 443	4 284	-19.6
..... hectares	112 580	97 279	15.7
..... metric tons	1 555 500	1 668 333	-6.8
Wheat for grain farms	22 918	28 245	-18.9
..... hectares	4 300 993	3 552 808	21.1
..... metric tons	11 155 171	6 767 920	64.8
Barley for grain farms	13 979	20 825	-32.9
..... hectares	966 705	1 089 036	-11.2
..... metric tons	3 107 954	2 625 762	18.4
Oats for grain farms	7 843	9 748	-19.5
..... hectares	225 575	265 967	-15.2
..... metric tons	485 012	452 328	7.2
Sunflower seed farms	5 287	7 043	-24.9
..... hectares	457 551	569 459	-19.7
..... metric tons	571 727	869 248	-34.2
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms	15 695	17 956	-12.6
..... hectares	998 740	1 066 561	-6.4
..... metric tons	2 964 067	3 656 105	-18.9

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

2 NORTH DAKOTA

1992 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE