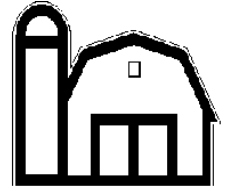


# 1992

## Census of Agriculture

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AC92-A-46

Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 46

# Virginia

## State and County Data



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

## Acknowledgments

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This report was prepared under the direction of the Agriculture Division. Many divisions contributed to the preparation: Economic Programming, Data Preparation, Administrative and Publications Services, Computer Services, Systems Support, Field, and Economic Census and Surveys.

Members of the Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics and representatives of both public and private organizations made significant recommendations which helped establish data content.

Members of various agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided valuable advice in the planning, publicizing, and processing phases of the census, and in helping farmers and ranchers complete the report forms.

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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301-763-8571 Statistical Methodology



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# Virginia

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**Economics and Statistics Administration**  
**Paul A. London, Acting Under Secretary**  
for Economic Affairs

**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
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# Introduction

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## 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 .....	42 222	44 799	-5.8
Land in farms ----- acres .....	8 297 011	8 676 336	-4.4
Average size of farm ----- acres .....	197	194	1.5
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	320 488	232 374	37.9
Average per acre ----- dollars .....	1 636	1 198	36.6
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	33 090	30 249	9.4
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres -----	3 357	3 408	-1.5
10 to 49 acres -----	10 361	10 753	-3.6
50 to 179 acres -----	16 293	17 530	-7.1
180 to 499 acres -----	8 422	9 252	-9.0
500 to 999 acres -----	2 517	2 624	-4.1
1,000 to 1,999 acres -----	987	968	2.0
2,000 acres or more -----	285	264	8.0
Total cropland ----- farms .....	38 779	41 491	-6.5
Harvested cropland ----- acres .....	4 311 840	4 363 106	-1.2
----- farms .....	34 255	37 332	-8.2
----- acres .....	2 449 013	2 406 976	1.7
Irrigated land ----- farms .....	2 312	3 054	-24.3
----- acres .....	61 759	78 681	-21.5
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000 .....	2 055 958	1 588 770	29.4
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	48 694	35 464	37.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000 .....	696 489	465 379	49.7
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000 .....	1 359 469	1 123 391	21.0
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 -----	10 546	13 622	-22.6
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	7 161	7 995	-10.4
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	7 687	7 580	1.4
\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	7 402	6 895	7.4
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	3 266	3 028	7.9
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	1 946	2 102	-7.4
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	2 197	2 144	2.5
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	1 242	966	28.6
\$500,000 or more -----	775	467	66.0
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ----- \$1,000 .....	1 699 051	1 334 393	27.3
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	40 233	29 789	35.1
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) <sup>1</sup> ----- farms .....	42 230	44 795	-5.7
----- \$1,000 .....	334 280	214 860	55.6
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	7 916	4 797	65.0
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming -----	19 571	20 617	-5.1
Other -----	22 651	24 182	-6.3
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	23 465	25 826	-9.1
200 days or more -----	16 795	18 291	-8.2
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms .....	27 638	28 325	-2.4
----- number .....	1 653 191	1 510 920	9.4
Beef cows ----- farms .....	22 519	22 228	1.3
----- number .....	674 068	581 298	16.0
Milk cows ----- farms .....	2 369	3 372	-29.7
----- number .....	140 033	157 128	-10.9
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms .....	26 917	28 222	-4.6
----- number .....	855 634	859 708	-5
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms .....	2 085	3 711	-43.8
----- number .....	412 736	345 058	19.6
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms .....	1 596	3 016	-47.1
----- number .....	715 452	642 863	11.3
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms .....	1 727	2 127	-18.8
----- number .....	117 714	161 076	-26.9
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms .....	2 069	3 194	-35.2
----- number .....	6 191 513	6 605 717	-6.3
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms .....	840	567	12.9
----- number .....	201 697 436	142 971 809	41.1
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms .....	6 169	8 162	-24.4
----- acres .....	361 326	341 412	5.8
Wheat for grain ----- bushels .....	40 633 506	20 941 850	94.0
----- farms .....	3 670	4 339	-15.4
----- acres .....	241 042	188 428	27.9
Tobacco ----- bushels .....	12 598 036	8 065 684	56.2
----- farms .....	8 444	9 750	-13.4
----- acres .....	55 419	45 121	22.8
Soybeans for beans ----- pounds .....	113 240 049	80 582 854	40.5
----- farms .....	3 709	4 586	-19.1
----- acres .....	507 878	459 924	10.4
Peanuts for nuts ----- bushels .....	15 742 573	10 421 715	51.1
----- farms .....	935	1 150	-18.7
----- acres .....	93 720	92 733	1.1
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- pounds .....	258 551 252	243 176 261	6.3
----- farms .....	25 282	27 244	-7.2
----- acres .....	1 101 530	1 075 203	2.4
Land in orchards ----- tons, dry .....	2 180 604	1 832 905	19.0
----- farms .....	1 387	1 463	-5.2
----- acres .....	32 963	34 027	-3.1

<sup>1</sup>Data 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 .....	42 222	44 799	-5.8
Land in farms ----- hectares .....	3 357 800	3 511 313	-4.4
Average size of farm ----- hectares .....	80	78	2.6
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	320 488	232 374	37.9
Average per hectare ----- dollars .....	1 636	1 198	36.6
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	33 090	30 249	9.4
Farms by size:			
01 to 3.84 hectares -----	3 357	3 408	-1.5
3.85 to 20.04 hectares -----	10 361	10 753	-3.6
20.05 to 72.67 hectares -----	16 293	17 530	-7.1
72.68 to 202.22 hectares -----	8 422	9 252	-9.0
202.23 to 404.65 hectares -----	2 517	2 624	-4.1
404.66 to 809.51 hectares -----	987	968	2.0
809.52 hectares or more -----	285	264	8.0
Total cropland ----- farms .....	38 779	41 491	-6.5
Harvested cropland ----- hectares .....	1 745 002	1 765 749	-1.2
Irrigated land ----- farms .....	34 255	37 332	-8.2
----- hectares .....	991 116	974 103	1.7
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000 .....	2 055 958	1 588 770	29.4
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	48 694	35 464	37.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000 .....	696 489	465 379	49.7
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000 .....	1 359 469	1 123 391	21.0
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 -----	10 546	13 622	-22.6
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	7 161	7 995	-10.4
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	7 687	7 580	1.4
\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	7 402	6 895	7.4
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	3 266	3 028	7.9
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	1 946	2 102	-7.4
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	2 197	2 144	2.5
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	1 242	966	28.6
\$500,000 or more -----	775	467	66.0
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ----- \$1,000 .....	1 699 051	1 334 393	27.3
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	40 233	29 789	35.1
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) <sup>1</sup> ----- farms .....	42 230	44 795	-5.7
Average per farm ----- \$1,000 .....	334 280	214 860	55.6
----- dollars .....	7 916	4 797	65.0
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming -----	19 571	20 617	-5.1
Other -----	22 651	24 182	-6.3
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	23 465	25 826	-9.1
200 days or more -----	16 795	18 291	-8.2
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms .....	27 638	28 325	-2.4
----- number .....	1 653 191	1 510 920	9.4
Beef cows ----- farms .....	22 519	22 228	1.3
----- number .....	674 068	581 298	16.0
Milk cows ----- farms .....	2 369	3 372	-29.7
----- number .....	140 033	157 128	-10.9
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms .....	26 917	28 222	-4.6
----- number .....	855 634	859 708	-5
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms .....	2 085	3 711	-43.8
----- number .....	412 736	345 058	19.6
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms .....	1 596	3 016	-47.1
----- number .....	715 452	642 863	11.3
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms .....	1 727	2 127	-18.8
----- number .....	117 714	161 076	-26.9
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms .....	2 069	3 194	-35.2
----- number .....	6 191 513	6 605 717	-6.3
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms .....	840	567	12.9
----- number .....	201 697 436	142 971 809	41.1
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms .....	6 169	8 162	-24.4
----- hectares .....	146 229	138 169	5.8
----- metric tons .....	1 032 139	531 948	94.0
Wheat for grain ----- farms .....	3 670	4 339	-15.4
----- hectares .....	97 550	76 257	27.9
----- metric tons .....	342 862	219 512	56.2
Tobacco ----- farms .....	8 444	9 750	-13.4
----- hectares .....	22 428	18 260	22.8
----- metric tons .....	51 365	36 552	40.5
Soybeans for beans ----- farms .....	3 709	4 586	-19.1
----- hectares .....	205 538	186 131	10.4
----- metric tons .....	428 443	283 633	51.1
Peanuts for nuts ----- farms .....	935	1 150	-18.7
----- hectares .....	37 928	37 529	1.1
----- metric tons .....	117 277	110 303	6.3
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms .....	25 282	27 244	-7.2
----- hectares .....	445 789	435 135	2.4
----- metric tons .....	1 978 211	1 662 784	19.0
Land in orchards ----- farms .....	1 387	1 463	-5.2
----- hectares .....	13 340	13 771	-3.1

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