

1992

Census of Agriculture



AC92-A-48

Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 48

West Virginia

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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Economics and Statistics Administration
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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 | 17 020 | 17 237 | -1.3 |
| Land in farms ----- acres | 3 267 188 | 3 372 955 | -3.1 |
| Average size of farm ----- acres | 192 | 196 | -2.0 |
| Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ : | | | |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 165 088 | 130 802 | 26.2 |
| Average per acre ----- dollars | 849 | 682 | 24.5 |
| Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ : | | | |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 19 257 | 17 482 | 10.2 |
| Farms by size: | | | |
| 1 to 9 acres ----- | 737 | 643 | 14.6 |
| 10 to 49 acres ----- | 2 893 | 2 689 | 7.6 |
| 50 to 179 acres ----- | 7 787 | 8 081 | -3.6 |
| 180 to 499 acres ----- | 4 350 | 4 518 | -3.7 |
| 500 to 999 acres ----- | 948 | 1 004 | -5.6 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 acres ----- | 242 | 247 | -2.0 |
| 2,000 acres or more ----- | 63 | 55 | 14.5 |
| Total cropland ----- farms | 15 891 | 16 246 | -2.2 |
| Harvested cropland ----- acres | 1 294 134 | 1 285 786 | .6 |
| Irrigated land ----- farms | 14 531 | 15 056 | -3.5 |
| ----- acres | 555 818 | 553 517 | .4 |
| Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000 | 364 203 | 270 639 | 34.6 |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 21 399 | 15 701 | 36.3 |
| Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000 | 63 081 | 49 249 | 28.1 |
| Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000 | 301 122 | 221 390 | 36.0 |
| Farms by value of sales: | | | |
| Less than \$2,500 ----- | 6 927 | 7 977 | -13.2 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999 ----- | 3 499 | 3 463 | 1.0 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 ----- | 2 848 | 2 547 | 11.8 |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 ----- | 2 006 | 1 781 | 12.6 |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 ----- | 688 | 583 | 18.0 |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 ----- | 433 | 400 | 8.3 |
| \$100,000 to \$249,999 ----- | 349 | 299 | 16.7 |
| \$250,000 to \$499,999 ----- | 160 | 115 | 39.1 |
| \$500,000 or more ----- | 110 | 72 | 52.8 |
| Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000 | 308 703 | 231 077 | 33.6 |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 18 136 | 13 406 | 35.3 |
| Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) ¹ ----- farms | 17 022 | 17 237 | -1.2 |
| ----- \$1,000 | 49 571 | 38 395 | 29.1 |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 2 912 | 2 227 | 30.8 |
| Operators by principal occupation: | | | |
| Farming ----- | 7 169 | 7 201 | -.4 |
| Other ----- | 9 851 | 10 036 | -1.8 |
| Operators by days worked off farm: | | | |
| Any ----- | 9 594 | 10 083 | -4.8 |
| 200 days or more ----- | 6 985 | 7 278 | -4.0 |
| Livestock and poultry: | | | |
| Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms | 12 431 | 12 897 | -3.6 |
| ----- number | 430 708 | 408 129 | 5.5 |
| Beef cows ----- farms | 10 570 | 10 588 | -.2 |
| ----- number | 197 886 | 182 071 | 8.7 |
| Milk cows ----- farms | 972 | 1 575 | -38.3 |
| ----- number | 23 366 | 27 019 | -13.5 |
| Cattle and calves sold ----- farms | 11 583 | 12 061 | -4.0 |
| ----- number | 254 233 | 249 163 | 2.0 |
| Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms | 841 | 1 226 | -31.4 |
| ----- number | 26 760 | 30 759 | -13.0 |
| Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms | 587 | 868 | -32.4 |
| ----- number | 50 642 | 59 181 | -14.4 |
| Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms | 1 188 | 1 537 | -22.7 |
| ----- number | 57 091 | 74 987 | -23.9 |
| Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms | 1 272 | 2 030 | -37.3 |
| ----- number | 1 510 412 | 691 077 | 118.6 |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms | 136 | 99 | 37.4 |
| ----- number | 50 669 811 | 29 226 871 | 73.4 |
| Selected crops harvested: | | | |
| Corn for grain or seed ----- farms | 1 517 | 2 097 | -27.7 |
| ----- acres | 44 564 | 48 953 | -9.0 |
| Corn for silage or green chop ----- bushels | 4 668 501 | 3 257 345 | 43.3 |
| ----- farms | 1 027 | 1 477 | -30.5 |
| ----- acres | 27 674 | 36 870 | -24.9 |
| Wheat for grain ----- tons, green | 433 877 | 435 575 | -.4 |
| ----- farms | 307 | 376 | -18.4 |
| ----- acres | 9 058 | 7 339 | 23.4 |
| Oats for grain ----- bushels | 438 877 | 316 337 | 38.7 |
| ----- farms | 406 | 516 | -21.3 |
| ----- acres | 3 677 | 4 605 | -20.2 |
| Tobacco ----- bushels | 201 339 | 227 284 | -11.4 |
| ----- farms | 1 003 | 1 095 | -8.4 |
| ----- acres | 2 072 | 1 716 | 20.7 |
| Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- pounds | 3 101 002 | 2 158 501 | 43.7 |
| ----- farms | 13 270 | 13 849 | -4.2 |
| ----- acres | 452 480 | 435 446 | 3.9 |
| Land in orchards ----- tons, dry | 753 877 | 673 598 | 11.9 |
| ----- farms | 558 | 646 | -13.6 |
| ----- acres | 15 014 | 19 513 | -23.1 |

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 | 17 020 | 17 237 | -1.3 |
| Land in farms ----- hectares | 1 322 231 | 1 365 035 | -3.1 |
| Average size of farm ----- hectares | 78 | 79 | -1.3 |
| Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ : | | | |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 165 088 | 130 802 | 26.2 |
| Average per hectare ----- dollars | 849 | 682 | 24.5 |
| Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ : | | | |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 19 257 | 17 482 | 10.2 |
| Farms by size: | | | |
| 01 to 3.84 hectares ----- farms | 737 | 643 | 14.6 |
| 3.85 to 20.04 hectares ----- farms | 2 893 | 2 689 | 7.6 |
| 20.05 to 72.67 hectares ----- farms | 7 787 | 8 081 | -3.6 |
| 72.68 to 202.22 hectares ----- farms | 4 350 | 4 518 | -3.7 |
| 202.23 to 404.65 hectares ----- farms | 948 | 1 004 | -5.6 |
| 404.66 to 809.51 hectares ----- farms | 242 | 247 | -2.0 |
| 809.52 hectares or more ----- farms | 63 | 55 | 14.5 |
| Total cropland ----- farms | 15 891 | 16 246 | -2.2 |
| Harvested cropland ----- hectares | 523 736 | 520 358 | .6 |
| Irrigated land ----- farms | 14 531 | 15 056 | -3.5 |
| ----- hectares | 224 940 | 224 008 | .4 |
| Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000 | 364 203 | 270 639 | 34.6 |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 21 399 | 15 701 | 36.3 |
| Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000 | 63 081 | 49 249 | 28.1 |
| Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000 | 301 122 | 221 390 | 36.0 |
| Farms by value of sales: | | | |
| Less than \$2,500 ----- farms | 6 927 | 7 977 | -13.2 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999 ----- farms | 3 499 | 3 463 | 1.0 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 ----- farms | 2 848 | 2 547 | 11.8 |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 ----- farms | 2 006 | 1 781 | 12.6 |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 ----- farms | 688 | 583 | 18.0 |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 ----- farms | 433 | 400 | 8.3 |
| \$100,000 to \$249,999 ----- farms | 349 | 299 | 16.7 |
| \$250,000 to \$499,999 ----- farms | 160 | 115 | 39.1 |
| \$500,000 or more ----- farms | 110 | 72 | 52.8 |
| Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000 | 308 703 | 231 077 | 33.6 |
| Average per farm ----- dollars | 18 136 | 13 406 | 35.3 |
| Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) ¹ ----- farms | 17 022 | 17 237 | -1.2 |
| Average per farm ----- \$1,000 | 49 571 | 38 395 | 29.1 |
| ----- dollars | 2 912 | 2 227 | 30.8 |
| Operators by principal occupation: | | | |
| Farming ----- farms | 7 169 | 7 201 | -4 |
| Other ----- farms | 9 851 | 10 036 | -1.8 |
| Operators by days worked off farm: | | | |
| Any ----- farms | 9 594 | 10 083 | -4.8 |
| 200 days or more ----- farms | 6 985 | 7 278 | -4.0 |
| Livestock and poultry: | | | |
| Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms | 12 431 | 12 897 | -3.6 |
| ----- number | 430 708 | 408 129 | 5.5 |
| Beef cows ----- farms | 10 570 | 10 588 | -.2 |
| ----- number | 197 886 | 182 071 | 8.7 |
| Milk cows ----- farms | 972 | 1 575 | -38.3 |
| ----- number | 23 366 | 27 019 | -13.5 |
| Cattle and calves sold ----- farms | 11 583 | 12 061 | -4.0 |
| ----- number | 254 233 | 249 163 | 2.0 |
| Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms | 841 | 1 226 | -31.4 |
| ----- number | 26 760 | 30 759 | -13.0 |
| Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms | 587 | 868 | -32.4 |
| ----- number | 50 642 | 59 181 | -14.4 |
| Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms | 1 188 | 1 537 | -22.7 |
| ----- number | 57 091 | 74 987 | -23.9 |
| Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms | 1 272 | 2 030 | -37.3 |
| ----- number | 1 510 412 | 691 077 | 118.6 |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms | 136 | 99 | 37.4 |
| ----- number | 50 669 811 | 29 226 871 | 73.4 |
| Selected crops harvested: | | | |
| Corn for grain or seed ----- farms | 1 517 | 2 097 | -27.7 |
| ----- hectares | 18 035 | 19 811 | -9.0 |
| ----- metric tons | 118 585 | 82 740 | 43.3 |
| Corn for silage or green chop ----- farms | 1 027 | 1 477 | -30.5 |
| ----- hectares | 11 200 | 14 921 | -24.9 |
| ----- metric tons | 393 607 | 395 147 | -.4 |
| Wheat for grain ----- farms | 307 | 376 | -18.4 |
| ----- hectares | 3 666 | 2 970 | 23.4 |
| ----- metric tons | 11 944 | 8 609 | 38.7 |
| Oats for grain ----- farms | 406 | 516 | -21.3 |
| ----- hectares | 1 488 | 1 864 | -20.2 |
| ----- metric tons | 2 922 | 3 299 | -11.4 |
| Tobacco ----- farms | 1 003 | 1 095 | -8.4 |
| ----- hectares | 838 | 694 | 20.7 |
| ----- metric tons | 1 407 | 979 | 43.7 |
| Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms | 13 270 | 13 849 | -4.2 |
| ----- hectares | 183 119 | 176 225 | 3.9 |
| ----- metric tons | 683 906 | 611 078 | 11.9 |
| Land in orchards ----- farms | 558 | 646 | -13.6 |
| ----- hectares | 6 076 | 7 897 | -23.1 |

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

2 WEST VIRGINIA

1992 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE