

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1997 and Earlier Census Years

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Farms number..	74 126	77 669	83 217	82 463	73 194	67 674	77 875	80 852
Land in farms acres..	27 698 779	28 978 997	30 598 178	32 156 894	32 727 202	33 385 619	35 328 360	37 010 925
Average size of farm acres..	374	373	368	390	447	493	454	458
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	941 170	820 063	583 668	746 577	521 240	322 034	217 429	214 650
Average per acre dollars..	2 605	2 213	1 575	1 918	1 161	653	479	468
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	5 155 473	4 363 190	4 081 738	3 873 341	3 011 896	1 766 525	928 593	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	69 590	56 485	49 223	47 361	41 411	28 512	12 959	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	20 662	21 485	22 697	22 951	16 423	13 480	15 692	15 937
10 to 49 acres	24 250	26 089	28 498	28 203	25 639	24 162	28 915	29 475
50 to 179 acres	13 288	13 883	15 017	14 873	14 761	14 253	16 160	16 930
180 to 499 acres	7 270	7 512	8 028	7 636	7 737	7 132	7 896	8 678
500 to 999 acres	3 572	3 702	3 804	3 635	3 546	3 514	3 745	4 096
1,000 to 1,999 acres	2 439	2 411	2 544	2 435	2 319	2 320	2 541	2 612
2,000 acres or more	2 645	2 587	2 629	2 730	2 769	2 813	2 926	3 124
Total cropland farms..	62 269	64 417	68 266	67 916	63 663	59 192	66 016	69 386
Harvested cropland farms..	10 803 804	10 479 268	10 894 503	11 257 374	11 454 731	10 629 829	11 245 140	11 815 368
..... acres..	55 590	56 785	59 259	59 048	56 253	52 754	56 677	62 078
Irrigated land farms..	8 543 159	7 760 773	7 676 287	8 764 808	8 804 374	8 307 246	7 649 021	7 845 816
..... acres..	55 920	56 546	58 868	58 389	55 627	47 160	51 050	59 429
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	23 032 259	17 051 912	13 922 234	12 491 442	9 274 495	7 394 723	3 903 560	3 499 383
Average per farm dollars..	310 718	219 546	167 300	151 479	126 711	109 270	50 125	43 281
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops, \$1,000..	17 033 714	11 747 474	9 269 389	8 158 494	5 851 902	4 730 856	2 108 455	2 113 300
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	5 998 545	5 304 438	4 652 845	4 332 948	3 422 592	2 656 496	1 789 211	1 377 149
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	19 473	22 692	23 187	25 513	18 494	18 587	27 014	29 202
\$2,500 to \$4,999	6 516	7 160	8 661	8 871	8 306	6 112	8 514	7 821
\$5,000 to \$9,999	6 498	7 417	8 512	8 515	8 253	7 451	9 700	9 165
\$10,000 to \$24,999	8 621	9 324	11 028	10 178	10 460			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	6 747	6 899	7 863	7 218	7 519	23 975	25 167	27 509
\$50,000 to \$99,999	6 544	6 360	6 895	6 423	6 593			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	11 823	11 143	11 430	10 675	9 797	8 654	6 343	7 043
\$500,000 or more	7 904	6 674	5 641	4 990	3 660	2 774	1 039	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	56 755	60 187	64 928	65 482	57 916	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	10 813	11 350	12 127	11 360	10 815	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	5 252	5 067	5 367	4 849	3 871	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	1 306	1 065	795	772	592	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	31 588	32 118	32 051	29 641	29 135	23 312	(NA)	(NA)
Any	37 919	41 278	47 085	47 387	41 462	31 758	43 564	37 799
200 days or more	24 012	26 681	30 948	31 587	27 140	21 435	29 115	25 740
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	39 267	40 215	41 906	40 633	38 060	36 332	(NA)	(NA)
Other	34 859	37 454	41 311	41 830	35 134	28 282	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	56.5	55.2	53.6	51.8	51.3	53.2	52.0	51.9
Total farm production expenses ⁵ , \$1,000..	16 817 253	13 804 983	10 917 593	(NA)	(NA)	6 137 764	3 554 746	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	759 223	935 152	776 540	855 311	873 948	649 039	574 532	367 470
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	2 588 982	2 108 719	1 707 608	1 721 393	1 330 184	1 276 741	607 974	542 259
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	746 325	568 772	427 924	427 823	335 444	292 054	123 315	110 435
Petroleum products \$1,000..	488 226	414 984	332 166	449 759	252 664	154 809	85 062	89 343
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	3 392 577	2 922 390	2 385 242	1 819 323	1 370 770	1 050 722	632 985	556 677
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	958 431	738 910	697 449	938 913	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	957 006	694 549	544 779	468 604	288 968	193 100	108 022	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	17 335	19 097	22 119	26 579	22 090	22 528	24 430	31 762
..... number..	4 968 679	4 702 114	4 570 667	4 612 967	4 446 512	4 425 359	4 473 418	4 303 238
Beef cows farms..	12 158	13 105	14 966	17 199	13 895	13 893	(NA)	16 487
..... number..	890 805	862 971	906 006	952 164	850 537	1 036 673	875 135	866 077
Milk cows farms..	2 650	3 124	3 631	4 638	4 829	5 754	6 822	11 605
..... number..	1 403 217	1 249 038	1 070 366	946 201	836 675	768 848	649 071	732 354
Cattle and calves sold farms..	16 007	17 205	20 486	22 947	20 321	21 172	23 132	26 862
..... number..	3 107 562	2 993 538	3 097 084	3 338 619	3 477 491	3 833 244	4 197 687	3 965 760
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	1 593	2 221	2 699	4 800	4 317	3 136	2 608	3 947
..... number..	212 088	258 130	150 931	184 577	178 132	133 815	149 618	189 900
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	1 193	1 761	2 297	3 769	3 444	2 273	2 078	2 373
..... number..	373 352	481 270	303 406	281 733	297 937	222 120	238 361	302 242
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	2 731	3 592	5 354	7 768	6 184	5 073	5 399	11 360
..... number..	34 149 987	33 253 782	45 377 564	44 840 552	45 676 940	44 808 323	46 424 562	36 486 991
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	240	298	298	411	310	304	318	396
..... number..	237 723 294	225 074 862	209 376 014	123 778 881	97 785 819	94 356 838	68 089 158	51 125 095

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1997 and Earlier Census Years—Con.

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All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Selected crops harvested:								
Wheat for grain..... farms..	2 065	2 236	2 841	3 429	2 300	2 993	2 223	1 975
acres..	581 071	569 044	562 302	928 713	590 373	702 932	403 898	266 770
bushels..	42 372 177	39 456 581	40 004 786	63 130 854	32 687 096	34 600 622	15 266 035	8 035 767
Barley for grain..... farms..	574	933	1 431	2 261	3 552	(NA)	(NA)	6 086
acres..	129 549	204 119	269 845	582 708	873 831	(NA)	(NA)	1 319 328
bushels..	7 475 447	12 183 472	14 560 411	31 980 247	41 029 764	(NA)	(NA)	72 071 992
Rice..... farms..	1 544	1 575	1 654	1 322	1 236	(NA)	(NA)	1 288
acres..	514 081	401 194	399 193	566 914	484 822	(NA)	(NA)	343 286
cwt..	41 457 650	31 865 036	28 566 209	36 672 135	25 300 625	(NA)	(NA)	17 033 570
Cotton..... farms..	1 833	2 351	3 037	3 002	3 819	4 009	4 916	6 715
acres..	1 036 316	1 066 060	1 083 811	1 312 569	1 517 980	1 150 321	663 421	759 422
bales..	2 543 194	2 792 443	2 619 934	2 872 637	1 911 050	2 241 869	1 273 712	1 761 509
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text)..... farms..	8 636	9 286	10 638	11 815	12 775	13 298	14 203	(NA)
acres..	1 698 773	1 531 230	1 532 777	1 415 969	1 501 143	1 545 144	1 534 161	1 702 466
tons, dry..	8 344 564	7 567 342	7 304 837	6 485 070	6 195 765	6 625 208	6 612 689	7 278 558
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁸ farms..	4 490	3 713	3 787	4 053	4 081	3 547	3 975	4 220
acres..	1 209 259	1 016 744	882 741	894 573	900 401	740 426	675 945	625 522
Land in orchards..... farms..	38 747	40 298	41 021	39 801	36 164	32 849	36 321	40 054
acres..	2 582 084	2 245 781	2 152 664	2 158 404	1 892 077	1 769 821	1 587 700	1 519 894

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

³Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

⁴Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships.

⁵Data for 1964 to 1982 do not include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals include the cost of lime for 1969 to 1978.

⁶Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

⁷Data for 1969 to 1992 are for chickens 3 months old or older inventory; data for 1964 are for chickens 4 months old or older.

⁸Data for 1974 were from land area used.