

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..	28 268	27 152	27 284	27 111	26 907	25 501	27 950	29 798
Land in farms acres..	32 634 221	33 983 029	34 048 433	33 537 998	35 253 411	35 902 165	36 697 132	38 258 626
Average size of farm acres..	1 154	1 252	1 248	1 237	1 310	1 408	1 313	1 284
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	707 165	536 510	458 906	562 479	416 988	264 065	124 180	90 183
Average per acre dollars..	618	426	369	454	317	188	95	70
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	2 019 029	1 485 320	1 347 073	1 390 665	1 071 443	707 561	343 595	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	71 417	54 868	49 534	51 457	39 930	29 026	12 738	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	2 502	2 424	2 725	2 677	2 163	1 681	1 981	1 500
10 to 49 acres	5 516	4 867	4 352	4 278	3 448	2 800	3 048	3 451
50 to 179 acres	5 748	5 371	5 111	5 162	5 151	5 018	5 480	6 331
180 to 499 acres	4 833	4 594	4 862	4 896	5 431	5 192	5 830	6 254
500 to 999 acres	3 030	3 188	3 355	3 337	3 494	3 578	3 886	4 195
1,000 to 1,999 acres	2 731	2 740	2 918	2 914	3 214	3 171	3 559	3 794
2,000 acres or more	3 908	3 968	3 961	3 847	4 006	4 061	4 166	4 273
Total cropland farms..	22 357	21 882	22 334	22 421	23 341	22 792	24 754	27 103
..... acres..	10 509 384	10 933 484	10 988 853	10 552 383	10 607 070	10 512 521	10 773 310	10 740 138
Harvested cropland farms..	18 406	18 573	19 446	20 061	21 217	21 049	22 476	24 938
..... acres..	5 896 984	5 532 964	5 522 216	6 036 679	5 844 805	5 956 865	5 265 721	4 725 734
Irrigated land farms..	15 470	15 193	14 913	15 232	16 016	14 687	15 567	18 317
..... acres..	3 430 129	3 169 839	3 013 773	3 200 942	3 430 860	2 873 692	2 894 984	2 690 018
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	4 534 213	4 115 552	3 143 131	2 940 897	2 589 989	1 970 236	1 100 948	612 175
Average per farm dollars..	160 401	151 575	115 201	108 476	96 257	77 261	39 389	20 544
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops, \$1,000..	1 326 944	1 036 174	781 934	847 323	573 567	682 791	217 833	182 317
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	3 207 269	3 079 378	2 361 197	2 093 574	2 016 422	1 287 162	882 741	427 983
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	7 328	6 365	6 607	6 259	5 075	4 940	7 136	9 244
\$2,500 to \$4,999	2 849	2 637	2 582	2 733	2 920	2 263	3 329	4 139
\$5,000 to \$9,999	3 220	3 005	3 008	3 042	3 166	3 052	4 354	5 047
\$10,000 to \$24,999	4 427	4 249	4 245	4 143	4 963			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3 060	3 135	3 316	3 334	3 971	12 116	11 824	10 654
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2 620	2 866	3 117	3 177	3 183			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3 774	3 986	3 721	3 694	3 049	2 703	1 076	675
\$500,000 or more	990	909	688	681	501	354	172	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	23 281	22 359	22 586	22 589	22 273	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	2 789	2 890	2 994	2 938	3 131	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	1 886	1 649	1 469	1 356	1 314	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	312	254	235	228	189	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	10 933	11 472	11 315	10 694	11 864	9 568	(NA)	(NA)
Any	15 459	13 914	14 202	14 050	13 708	10 034	14 502	13 531
200 days or more	9 615	8 353	8 311	8 396	7 617	5 479	7 142	6 192
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	15 399	16 181	16 504	16 336	16 585	17 072	(NA)	(NA)
Other	12 869	10 971	10 780	10 775	10 322	7 358	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	53.8	52.9	51.8	50.4	49.9	51.2	50.2	49.7
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	3 725 343	3 569 175	2 700 407	(NA)	(NA)	1 674 469	1 013 736	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	1 271 336	1 576 251	1 084 325	987 614	946 290	591 996	466 156	179 978
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	861 580	643 202	464 149	497 587	463 545	436 776	180 744	114 004
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	124 307	93 985	72 666	77 844	69 064	55 292	20 249	15 926
Petroleum products \$1,000..	121 592	115 815	99 575	134 797	82 371	55 005	32 506	31 203
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	263 603	209 675	172 070	129 180	106 999	82 987	55 178	44 787
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	179 469	165 509	174 717	267 692	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	74 701	57 644	45 925	32 960	22 759	12 921	6 842	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	15 592	14 797	14 637	16 127	16 102	16 739	17 798	21 190
..... number..	3 307 301	3 086 717	2 946 334	2 944 702	3 154 131	3 087 884	3 001 895	2 499 246
Beef cows farms..	12 243	11 596	11 132	11 950	11 944	12 654	(NA)	15 046
..... number..	918 891	900 347	830 216	847 010	834 269	1 025 244	880 641	857 001
Milk cows farms..	1 814	1 162	1 714	2 735	3 321	4 064	5 200	9 381
..... number..	79 617	81 825	76 285	76 279	70 900	71 353	75 288	92 731
Cattle and calves sold farms..	15 124	14 439	14 569	15 744	16 406	14 569	17 812	19 857
..... number..	3 751 788	3 569 739	3 476 740	3 272 288	3 713 503	3 207 989	3 180 957	2 120 505
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	1 225	1 643	1 685	2 518	3 492	3 013	4 274	5 243
..... number..	787 440	464 479	258 725	333 370	383 804	291 342	237 996	169 759
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	1 035	1 558	1 620	2 315	3 223	2 844	4 203	4 307
..... number..	1 452 164	878 515	460 359	605 517	666 744	586 425	434 580	277 442
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	1 628	1 767	2 709	3 836	3 686	4 004	4 925	10 127
..... number..	3 793 457	4 257 327	3 118 767	2 566 703	3 141 686	2 253 086	1 430 209	1 279 502
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	74	74	112	128	110	112	39	7
..... number..	11 933	(D)	43 706	22 595	34 234	21 283	6 222	86 383

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:								
Corn for grain or seed farms..	3 579	4 066	4 295	4 211	4 642	4 649	4 593	4 379
acres..	919 784	891 720	685 568	759 680	718 809	534 020	311 837	164 845
bushels..	130 170 731	126 076 043	98 919 585	94 879 902	78 311 274	50 167 216	29 571 367	10 990 248
Sorghum for grain or seed farms..	504	709	1 039	1 336	1 609	1 484	2 169	2 811
acres..	148 004	163 850	190 554	308 266	338 423	271 084	258 587	280 379
bushels..	5 272 619	6 280 126	7 327 665	9 815 786	10 326 553	7 743 310	9 316 899	6 982 761
Wheat for grain farms..	5 407	5 597	6 992	7 121	7 335	8 853	8 390	9 600
acres..	2 515 100	2 384 979	2 421 603	2 856 126	2 473 570	2 836 553	1 803 039	1 519 461
bushels..	76 656 526	71 825 463	81 581 401	78 307 590	55 066 616	70 089 495	38 529 542	23 826 998
Barley for grain farms..	657	1 053	2 404	2 078	2 796	(NA)	(NA)	5 918
acres..	84 564	115 321	203 226	195 536	223 962	(NA)	(NA)	277 215
bushels..	8 639 798	8 934 199	12 386 192	13 920 841	12 716 276	(NA)	(NA)	8 948 063
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms..	13 446	13 160	13 535	13 563	14 612	13 873	15 307	(NA)
acres..	1 607 991	1 449 177	1 423 807	1 309 845	1 412 566	1 345 920	1 420 508	1 328 657
tons, dry..	3 989 176	3 464 389	3 088 681	2 923 775	3 005 902	2 794 761	2 921 016	2 346 171

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.