

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..	34 799	35 204	36 556	36 352	36 109	32 466	35 586	40 542
Land in farms acres..	10 454 217	10 766 077	11 194 090	12 814 216	13 016 288	13 199 365	14 031 998	15 411 181
Average size of farm acres..	300	306	306	353	360	407	394	380
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	662 538	619 265	543 830	552 586	407 118	278 479	139 818	109 053
Average per acre dollars..	2 241	2 037	1 790	1 576	1 114	685	355	286
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	1 421 654	1 414 554	1 243 530	1 084 678	888 887	523 759	297 710	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	40 869	40 898	34 799	30 895	25 624	19 394	9 664	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	7 394	7 664	7 300	6 790	5 912	4 427	3 921	6 455
10 to 49 acres	12 750	12 692	13 346	12 981	12 186	10 940	12 413	14 479
50 to 179 acres	7 932	7 738	8 379	8 711	9 438	8 996	10 232	10 557
180 to 499 acres	3 687	4 011	4 255	4 409	4 881	4 610	5 168	5 299
500 to 999 acres	1 390	1 451	1 598	1 660	1 853	1 689	1 869	1 781
1,000 to 1,999 acres	802	776	789	828	851	798	921	875
2,000 acres or more	844	872	889	973	988	1 006	1 062	1 096
Total cropland farms..	27 141	28 702	29 386	30 565	31 548	28 658	30 921	35 478
..... acres..	3 639 850	3 841 505	3 790 599	4 093 583	4 298 952	3 721 831	3 774 119	3 580 644
Harvested cropland farms..	21 017	22 556	22 677	24 396	26 212	23 620	25 139	32 425
..... acres..	2 435 702	2 400 704	2 240 831	2 643 147	2 705 674	2 304 043	2 234 036	2 203 676
Irrigated land farms..	12 673	13 500	11 981	10 550	10 358	7 749	7 373	8 129
..... acres..	1 862 404	1 782 680	1 622 750	1 585 080	1 979 814	1 558 735	1 365 206	1 217 192
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	6 004 554	5 266 033	4 351 383	3 522 103	3 025 633	1 898 658	1 132 074	954 047
Average per farm dollars..	172 550	149 586	119 033	96 889	83 792	58 481	31 812	23 532
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops, \$1,000..	4 817 261	4 197 420	3 317 823	2 518 959	2 167 111	1 298 800	731 733	723 584
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	1 187 292	1 068 613	1 033 560	1 003 144	858 522	588 771	395 242	225 227
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	11 530	11 790	12 551	12 287	10 267	12 372	16 708	22 768
\$2,500 to \$4,999	4 405	4 318	4 868	4 824	5 062	3 867	4 310	4 329
\$5,000 to \$9,999	4 122	4 151	4 470	4 449	4 865	4 123	4 537	4 051
\$10,000 to \$24,999	4 572	4 674	4 765	4 797	5 723			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2 805	2 901	2 833	2 934	3 332	9 104	8 002	7 744
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2 188	2 262	2 273	2 354	2 598			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3 249	3 443	3 341	3 399	3 201	2 259	1 618	1 611
\$500,000 or more	1 928	1 665	1 455	1 270	1 010	699	369	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	27 173	27 243	28 943	29 556	29 480	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	2 716	3 233	3 289	3 195	3 642	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	4 516	4 325	3 961	3 255	2 656	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	394	403	363	346	331	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	14 054	14 150	13 494	12 617	13 438	9 079	(NA)	(NA)
Any	18 337	18 791	21 196	21 034	21 129	15 989	21 241	20 659
200 days or more	13 152	13 330	15 349	15 536	15 319	11 946	15 425	15 157
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	15 782	16 557	15 821	15 610	15 913	13 496	(NA)	(NA)
Other	19 017	18 647	20 735	20 742	20 196	16 741	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	56.5	55.3	53.7	52.5	51.6	52.8	52.4	53.6
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	4 384 423	4 082 659	3 200 405	(NA)	(NA)	1 552 211	997 989	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	145 770	131 497	148 405	165 018	153 375	103 448	88 609	40 236
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	446 861	382 945	336 690	349 630	329 686	279 082	133 610	89 765
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	347 559	283 424	209 617	217 332	174 996	153 412	96 920	84 571
Petroleum products \$1,000..	131 636	128 168	104 591	135 063	80 953	46 714	30 508	26 861
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	925 607	937 571	721 540	480 444	388 967	264 450	173 487	155 954
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	237 536	219 234	191 913	198 515	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	350 556	320 675	227 063	165 343	107 621	68 396	47 865	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	15 849	15 522	17 321	17 822	16 501	16 474	16 628	19 071
..... number..	1 808 900	1 783 968	1 879 124	2 178 552	2 128 018	2 367 108	1 983 648	1 822 007
Beef cows farms..	13 600	13 423	14 672	14 839	14 070	12 951	(NA)	15 114
..... number..	1 003 072	962 527	995 250	1 098 152	1 111 594	1 179 789	968 187	870 686
Milk cows farms..	666	877	1 073	1 385	1 444	1 948	2 226	4 856
..... number..	159 614	171 675	176 993	194 550	183 958	198 732	182 493	176 289
Cattle and calves sold farms..	14 600	14 127	16 071	16 075	15 682	15 423	15 003	14 718
..... number..	869 219	897 455	1 025 178	1 108 300	1 201 067	966 002	1 047 993	807 017
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	1 431	1 926	2 487	3 602	5 160	3 962	5 662	8 716
..... number..	50 309	114 899	156 137	203 231	323 349	196 283	282 795	298 103
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	971	1 551	2 103	3 105	4 730	3 563	5 263	6 331
..... number..	96 512	200 375	266 652	328 150	465 063	310 136	397 200	360 173
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	1 203	1 454	2 275	2 891	3 038	3 151	3 644	8 915
..... number..	12 605 047	10 802 573	12 964 760	15 374 588	14 883 098	14 401 528	16 118 240	8 565 985
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	321	363	402	433	419	398	335	189
..... number..	105 967 210	97 854 566	93 224 832	76 456 724	64 899 236	47 448 607	33 079 286	9 910 503

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 . .	1 268	1 548	2 088	2 987	4 923	5 613	5 920	7 716
acres . .	69 623	86 407	95 874	190 254	295 790	296 893	298 669	313 355
bushels . .	5 440 956	6 377 801	6 628 740	12 559 553	15 207 531	14 015 112	11 105 147	8 782 739
Soybeans for beans farms . .	404	415	708	2 091	2 527	1 609	1 139	815
acres . .	41 021	49 072	89 938	334 401	367 936	217 439	153 464	64 856
bushels . .	1 025 521	1 523 227	2 257 392	8 529 087	7 928 276	5 522 668	3 577 841	1 553 908
Sugarcane for sugar farms . .	152	139	138	123	153	(NA)	(NA)	162
acres . .	421 421	431 677	403 014	343 680	336 493	(NA)	(NA)	214 437
tons . .	15 718 897	16 151 380	13 586 040	10 359 951	10 316 794	(NA)	(NA)	6 468 898
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁸ farms . .	1 500	1 988	2 053	2 455	2 928	2 284	2 591	3 653
acres . .	250 562	299 867	311 659	283 780	343 098	215 418	273 232	290 231
Land in orchards farms . .	9 379	10 258	9 965	11 214	12 011	11 079	13 187	18 834
acres . .	981 910	914 642	762 068	938 527	932 495	912 079	973 549	924 750

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.