

**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..	73 051	77 610	88 786	98 483	104 690	111 049	123 565	132 822
Land in farms ..... acres..	27 204 780	27 250 340	28 526 664	28 726 114	29 472 473	29 094 794	29 913 190	29 957 501
Average size of farm ..... acres..	372	351	321	292	282	262	242	226
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm ..... dollars..	773 141	539 181	402 970	538 886	524 718	221 774	118 507	80 894
Average per acre ..... dollars..	2 126	1 548	1 262	1 837	1 854	846	490	357
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> , \$1,000..	6 606 816	5 516 277	5 392 170	6 092 937	5 401 250	3 294 038	1 616 581	(NA)
Average per farm ..... dollars..	90 447	71 219	60 935	61 982	51 640	31 151	13 504	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres .....	4 254	5 026	5 931	6 101	4 873	4 181	5 110	4 380
10 to 49 acres .....	12 604	12 191	12 971	15 183	14 257	13 420	13 487	14 418
50 to 179 acres .....	19 606	20 239	23 824	27 513	31 203	36 499	40 937	46 125
180 to 499 acres .....	18 231	21 327	26 720	31 723	37 099	41 756	51 369	58 070
500 to 999 acres .....	11 619	12 833	14 320	13 879	14 019	12 842	11 239	8 919
1,000 to 1,999 acres .....	5 414	5 115	4 407	3 606	2 895	2 122	1 278	807
2,000 acres or more .....	1 323	879	613	478	344	229	145	103
Total cropland ..... farms..	68 082	72 626	83 056	92 250	99 624	106 639	117 871	127 091
Harvested cropland ..... farms..	23 920 923	24 164 457	25 102 092	24 748 112	25 159 492	24 399 558	24 829 095	23 867 792
Irrigated land ..... farms..	2 021	2 061	1 635	1 182	1 146	650	822	327
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> , \$1,000..	8 556 486	7 336 864	6 376 801	7 313 529	5 906 275	4 665 390	2 612 378	2 122 874
Average per farm ..... dollars..	117 130	94 535	71 822	74 262	56 417	42 012	21 141	15 983
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	6 567 164	5 251 328	4 158 936	5 092 452	3 893 237	3 193 739	1 324 926	1 127 054
Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000..	1 989 323	2 085 535	2 217 865	2 221 076	2 013 039	1 469 611	1 285 749	992 889
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 .....	12 210	9 178	10 630	11 226	10 078	14 722	24 003	27 060
\$2,500 to \$4,999 .....	5 107	5 613	6 741	7 417	8 430	8 463	13 225	14 421
\$5,000 to \$9,999 .....	5 949	6 898	8 728	8 975	10 922	12 589	18 729	23 010
\$10,000 to \$24,999 .....	9 082	11 800	14 962	15 315	19 381	19 381	23 010	23 010
\$25,000 to \$49,999 .....	8 243	10 363	13 313	14 707	18 892	63 965	64 977	67 238
\$50,000 to \$99,999 .....	9 290	11 572	14 765	17 376	19 720	11 021	2 532	1 053
\$100,000 to \$499,999 .....	20 153	20 380	18 588	22 366	16 706	254	77	
\$500,000 or more .....	3 017	1 806	1 059	1 085	529			
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	61 748	65 752	75 409	83 715	89 658	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership .....	7 603	8 997	10 651	12 239	13 178	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation .....	3 043	2 361	2 135	1 866	1 348	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	657	500	591	663	506	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None .....	31 043	33 728	38 565	42 422	48 448	43 148	(NA)	(NA)
Any .....	37 953	38 703	43 651	47 562	50 938	43 135	64 059	55 590
200 days or more .....	24 220	24 056	26 001	27 906	29 033	25 290	31 924	25 143
Operators by principal occupation <sup>4</sup> :								
Farming .....	41 645	47 875	57 122	63 756	69 351	79 830	(NA)	(NA)
Other .....	31 406	29 735	31 664	34 727	35 339	30 352	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>4</sup> ..... years..	53.4	51.7	50.4	49.2	49.2	50.9	49.7	50.1
Total farm production expenses <sup>5</sup> ..... \$1,000..	5 542 904	5 088 894	4 557 450	(NA)	(NA)	2 829 461	1 830 513	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased ..... \$1,000..	334 161	434 193	460 761	447 023	475 790	315 495	337 454	233 337
Feed for livestock and poultry ..... \$1,000..	567 098	531 978	451 832	477 619	404 412	400 796	256 686	231 422
Commercial fertilizer <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	714 914	645 280	564 393	712 705	530 912	408 562	171 330	136 395
Petroleum products ..... \$1,000..	309 146	322 542	299 486	480 860	282 731	205 536	125 676	111 965
Hired farm labor ..... \$1,000..	344 362	300 090	275 128	225 820	191 852	118 134	90 752	76 780
Interest <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	424 977	431 344	448 150	660 391	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	548 362	439 672	336 428	344 575	225 556	138 115	67 466	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory ..... farms..	24 452	27 405	33 305	41 028	45 572	54 509	64 066	88 192
Beef cows ..... farms..	1 437 697	1 601 261	1 885 444	2 315 397	2 591 583	2 898 721	3 194 190	3 750 770
Milk cows ..... farms..	17 682	19 392	23 087	28 163	31 311	36 996	(NA)	52 388
Cattle and calves sold ..... farms..	453 127	447 201	511 188	622 002	697 678	874 549	771 422	776 716
Hogs and pigs inventory ..... farms..	2 238	3 050	4 304	5 812	7 021	9 642	14 803	29 628
Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms..	127 702	151 503	186 371	206 827	210 267	237 505	292 018	422 430
Cattle and calves sold ..... farms..	23 622	26 419	32 798	38 996	44 816	51 804	63 121	83 511
Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms..	949 478	1 130 433	1 407 670	1 532 199	1 930 340	1 769 197	2 436 914	2 664 408
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms..	7 168	13 433	17 084	21 646	28 227	31 689	48 475	66 069
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	4 679 166	5 641 115	5 642 991	5 988 994	6 205 722	5 327 643	6 994 736	7 309 365
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms..	7 447	14 142	17 837	22 814	29 290	35 118	51 090	67 394
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	9 374 726	10 330 124	9 879 960	9 531 614	9 219 000	9 024 521	10 971 882	11 760 687
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms..	1 747	2 248	4 013	6 341	7 632	11 798	19 012	44 023
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	3 722 915	4 170 867	4 396 092	5 745 191	7 580 094	8 356 723	8 414 224	9 338 304
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	115	123	296	349	370	437	243	68
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	363 353	60 004	435 555	138 331	136 510	208 295	197 811	1 019 125

See footnotes at end of table.

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

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

All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain or seed . . . . . farms . .	48 443	55 685	66 600	73 372	78 643	82 696	95 249	109 886
acres . .	10 710 072	10 770 985	9 162 711	11 383 178	11 052 177	9 567 774	9 490 642	9 081 837
bushels . .	1 363 015 453	1 532 681 088	1 168 644 485	1 425 129 317	1 181 849 723	773 406 578	953 569 760	728 304 637
Wheat for grain . . . . . farms . .	14 822	17 061	21 356	28 080	21 501	38 817	43 646	61 720
acres . .	983 556	1 075 805	954 990	1 452 686	849 634	1 678 393	1 270 565	1 918 618
bushels . .	53 954 013	54 096 203	48 850 664	62 046 957	31 325 922	50 646 729	46 470 810	68 158 120
Oats for grain . . . . . farms . .	3 588	5 635	8 540	8 940	11 500	(NA)	(NA)	43 288
acres . .	69 009	108 363	157 374	176 568	228 356	(NA)	(NA)	1 043 263
bushels . .	4 887 273	6 704 097	10 312 797	10 268 768	12 732 968	(NA)	(NA)	53 129 463
Soybeans for beans . . . . . farms . .	47 008	52 339	61 547	66 595	73 558	78 447	77 327	85 159
acres . .	9 825 475	8 932 399	8 768 833	8 997 737	9 226 983	8 317 180	6 411 554	5 579 269
bushels . .	415 716 620	373 563 650	329 323 117	335 976 354	301 061 189	205 382 348	215 437 112	137 628 306
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) . . . . . farms . .	24 156	27 481	30 589	33 492	38 910	44 143	48 276	(NA)
acres . .	822 508	902 899	986 808	982 655	1 169 085	1 206 426	1 135 433	1 807 342
tons, dry . .	2 248 811	2 463 316	2 720 838	2 729 197	3 134 558	2 821 607	2 969 744	4 146 494

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

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

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

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

<sup>6</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

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