

**Table 16. Tenure and Characteristics of Operator and Type of Organization for All Farms and Farms Operated by Black and Other Races: 1997, 1992, and 1987**

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

| Characteristics  | All farms           |                     |                     | Farms operated by Black and other races <sup>1</sup> |        |        |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|--------|--------|
|  | 1997                | 1992                | 1987                | 1997   | 1992   | 1987   |
| <b>Tenure of operator:</b>   |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| All operators  | farms... 73 051     | farms... 77 610     | farms... 88 786     | 215  | 219    | 220    |
|  | acres... 27 204 780 | acres... 27 250 340 | acres... 28 526 664 | 39 074   | 61 478 | 50 990 |
| Harvested cropland   | farms... 62 712     | farms... 69 425     | farms... 79 986     | 146  | 178    | 170    |
|  | acres... 22 274 230 | acres... 21 868 287 | acres... 20 102 388 | 28 253   | 43 104 | 31 690 |
| <b>Full owners</b>   |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
|  | farms... 34 450     | farms... 34 158     | farms... 39 060     | 142  | 141    | 115    |
|  | acres... 5 160 597  | acres... 4 758 798  | acres... 5 499 909  | 14 636   | 25 609 | 15 038 |
| Harvested cropland   | farms... 25 383     | farms... 27 339     | farms... 31 616     | 78   | 104    | 74     |
|  | acres... 3 130 021  | acres... 2 916 422  | acres... 3 217 805  | 7 828  | 15 767 | 8 014  |
| <b>Part owners</b>   |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
|  | farms... 27 356     | farms... 29 217     | farms... 32 503     | 53   | 48     | 65     |
|  | acres... 17 568 549 | acres... 17 196 302 | acres... 17 223 608 | 19 965   | 27 223 | 27 437 |
| Harvested cropland   | farms... 26 750     | farms... 28 701     | farms... 32 028     | 51   | 45     | 63     |
|  | acres... 15 086 956 | acres... 14 321 618 | acres... 12 514 076 | 16 775   | 20 912 | 17 594 |
| <b>Tenants</b>   |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
|  | farms... 11 245     | farms... 14 235     | farms... 17 223     | 20   | 30     | 40     |
|  | acres... 4 475 634  | acres... 5 295 240  | acres... 5 803 147  | 4 473  | 8 646  | 8 515  |
| Harvested cropland   | farms... 10 579     | farms... 13 385     | farms... 16 342     | 17   | 29     | 33     |
|  | acres... 4 057 253  | acres... 4 630 247  | acres... 4 370 507  | 3 650  | 6 425  | 6 082  |
| Percent of tenancy   | percent.. 15.4      | percent.. 18.3      | percent.. 19.4      | 9.3  | 13.7   | 18.2   |
| <b>Operators by place of residence:</b>                            |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| On farm operated   | 51 582              | 55 586              | 63 360              | 139  | 131    | 135    |
| Not on farm operated   | 17 195              | 17 643              | 20 381              | 65   | 64     | 68     |
| Not reported   | 4 274               | 4 381               | 5 045               | 11   | 24     | 17     |
| <b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>                          |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| Farming  | 41 645              | 47 875              | 57 122              | 83   | 101    | 124    |
| Other  | 31 406              | 29 735              | 31 664              | 132  | 118    | 96     |
| <b>Operators by days worked off farm:</b>                          |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| None   | 31 043              | 33 728              | 38 565              | 71   | 69     | 76     |
| Any  | 37 953              | 38 703              | 43 651              | 134  | 128    | 124    |
| 1 to 49 days   | 5 309               | 5 848               | 7 635               | 12   | 11     | 16     |
| 50 to 99 days  | 2 430               | 2 541               | 3 007               | 7  | 9      | 10     |
| 100 to 149 days  | 2 441               | 2 613               | 3 048               | 4  | 8      | 9      |
| 150 to 199 days  | 3 553               | 3 645               | 3 960               | 13   | 8      | 10     |
| 200 days or more   | 24 220              | 24 056              | 26 001              | 96   | 94     | 79     |
| Not reported   | 4 055               | 5 179               | 6 570               | 10   | 22     | 20     |
| <b>Operators by years on present farm:</b>                         |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| 2 years or less  | 2 606               | 3 046               | 4 260               | 9  | 13     | 11     |
| 3 or 4 years   | 3 526               | 4 420               | 5 135               | 16   | 25     | 13     |
| 5 to 9 years   | 8 155               | 8 978               | 11 483              | 38   | 23     | 32     |
| 10 years or more   | 47 964              | 49 472              | 54 521              | 106  | 103    | 103    |
| Average years on present farm                                      | 22.6                | 21.3                | 20.1                | 16.9   | 16.4   | 16.6   |
| Not reported   | 10 800              | 11 694              | 13 387              | 46   | 55     | 61     |
| <b>Operators by age group:</b>                                     |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| Under 25 years   | 1 005               | 1 566               | 2 431               | 1  | —      | 5      |
| 25 to 34 years   | 5 430               | 8 865               | 12 858              | 13   | 11     | 20     |
| 35 to 44 years   | 15 459              | 16 646              | 17 453              | 36   | 57     | 47     |
| 45 to 49 years   | 8 925               | 8 130               | 8 972               | 36   | 27     | 20     |
| 50 to 54 years   | 8 442               | 8 508               | 9 276               | 31   | 24     | 38     |
| 55 to 59 years   | 8 438               | 8 195               | 10 249              | 25   | 21     | 24     |
| 60 to 64 years   | 7 796               | 8 578               | 10 990              | 21   | 26     | 20     |
| 65 to 69 years   | 6 381               | 7 168               | 7 486               | 21   | 14     | 17     |
| 70 years and over  | 11 175              | 9 954               | 9 071               | 31   | 39     | 29     |
| Average age  | 53.4                | 51.7                | 50.4                | 54.5   | 54.0   | 51.7   |
| <b>Operators by sex:</b>   |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| Male   | farms... 69 006     | farms... 73 985     | farms... 85 584     | 184  | 207    | 204    |
|  | acres... 26 550 156 | acres... 26 638 686 | acres... 28 029 832 | 29 297   | 50 752 | 48 647 |
| Female   | farms... 4 045      | farms... 3 625      | farms... 3 202      | 31   | 12     | 16     |
|  | acres... 654 624    | acres... 611 654    | acres... 496 832    | 9 777  | 10 726 | 2 343  |
| <b>Operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin (see text)</b> |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
|  | farms... 289        | farms... 175        | farms... 159        | 26   | 23     | 10     |
|  | acres... 113 343    | acres... 67 413     | acres... 50 324     | 3 269  | 6 657  | 1 658  |
| <b>Operators not of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b>        |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
|  | farms... 63 029     | farms... 57 438     | farms... 64 968     | 150  | 110    | 115    |
|  | farms... 9 733      | farms... 19 997     | farms... 23 659     | 39   | 86     | 95     |
| <b>Type of organization:</b>                                       |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| Individual or family (sole proprietorship)                         | farms... 61 748     | farms... 65 752     | farms... 75 409     | 194  | 197    | 178    |
|  | acres... 20 611 315 | acres... 21 125 676 | acres... 22 300 965 | 33 681   | 49 735 | 41 439 |
| Partnership  | farms... 7 603      | farms... 8 997      | farms... 10 651     | 17   | 15     | 30     |
|  | acres... 4 003 282  | acres... 4 242 130  | acres... 4 530 420  | 4 694  | 9 918  | 6 743  |
| Corporation  | farms... 3 043      | farms... 2 361      | farms... 2 135      | 4  | 5      | 9      |
|  | acres... 2 407 319  | acres... 1 740 154  | acres... 1 529 666  | 699  | (D)    | 1 948  |
| <b>Family held:</b>  |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| More than 10 stockholders  | farms... 53         | farms... 38         | farms... 23         | 1  | —      | —      |
|  | acres... 56 894     | acres... 30 808     | acres... 25 770     | (D)  | —      | —      |
| 10 or less stockholders  | farms... 2 737      | farms... 2 087      | farms... 1 925      | 1  | 4      | 8      |
|  | acres... 2 250 026  | acres... 1 609 774  | acres... 1 407 438  | (D)  | 880    | (D)    |
| <b>Other than family held:</b>                                     |                     |                     |                     |  |        |        |
| More than 10 stockholders  | farms... 50         | farms... 46         | farms... 35         | —  | —      | 1      |
|  | acres... 25 130     | acres... 26 059     | acres... 25 944     | —  | —      | (D)    |
| 10 or less stockholders  | farms... 203        | farms... 190        | farms... 152        | 2  | 1      | —      |
|  | acres... 75 269     | acres... 73 513     | acres... 70 514     | (D)  | (D)    | —      |
| Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.            | farms... 657        | farms... 500        | farms... 591        | —  | 2      | 3      |
|  | acres... 182 864    | acres... 142 380    | acres... 165 613    | —  | (D)    | 860    |

<sup>1</sup>For classification of social and ethnic groups, see text.