

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..	12 084	13 037	14 776	16 183	15 540	15 163	17 181	20 760
Land in farms acres..	2 154 875	2 223 476	2 396 629	2 557 728	2 614 439	2 634 395	2 803 442	3 180 696
Average size of farm acres..	178	171	162	158	168	174	163	153
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	563 605	503 828	366 788	332 301	298 920	184 079	104 370	64 999
Average per acre dollars..	3 176	2 911	2 261	2 121	1 719	1 060	640	422
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	728 486	657 587	657 693	660 519	497 402	328 574	167 938	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	60 176	50 564	44 656	40 853	32 107	22 568	10 156	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	1 407	1 560	1 838	2 015	1 747	1 505	1 572	2 006
10 to 49 acres	3 828	3 979	4 400	4 822	3 947	3 399	3 733	4 684
50 to 179 acres	3 825	4 254	4 885	5 263	5 430	5 797	6 931	8 357
180 to 499 acres	2 038	2 252	2 591	2 978	3 346	3 461	4 003	4 744
500 to 999 acres	617	641	712	789	781	716	724	783
1,000 to 1,999 acres	274	266	284	252	230	228	177	144
2,000 acres or more	95	85	66	64	59	57	41	42
Total cropland farms..	10 702	11 605	13 200	14 719	14 384	14 058	15 797	19 553
acres..	1 613 497	1 663 907	1 744 891	1 799 220	1 809 726	1 775 576	1 819 082	1 866 212
Harvested cropland farms..	9 474	10 447	11 960	13 672	13 663	13 183	14 454	18 685
acres..	1 382 035	1 397 069	1 346 913	1 528 994	1 477 316	1 438 842	1 301 450	1 420 692
Irrigated land farms..	1 154	1 063	1 074	845	616	499	536	467
acres..	68 588	56 913	50 762	38 556	28 467	22 629	21 501	15 996
Market value of agricultural products sold ² \$1,000..	1 312 086	1 169 331	989 061	1 029 244	784 559	619 947	339 597	275 904
Average per farm dollars..	108 580	89 693	66 937	63 600	50 486	40 886	19 765	13 290
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ... \$1,000..	458 719	388 143	253 056	339 430	267 125	255 595	100 352	91 231
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	853 367	781 188	736 006	689 815	517 434	362 976	237 629	182 402
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	3 097	3 165	4 165	3 891	3 137	3 739	5 967	7 916
\$2,500 to \$4,999	1 365	1 642	1 948	2 123	2 143	1 631	2 156	2 843
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1 551	1 698	1 881	2 044	2 247	1 916	2 298	2 996
\$10,000 to \$24,999	1 668	1 822	2 012	2 388	2 496			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	952	1 096	1 100	1 451	1 610	6 248	6 192	6 723
\$50,000 to \$99,999	854	904	1 084	1 504	1 713			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	1 944	2 229	2 306	2 525	2 047	1 538	540	261
\$500,000 or more	653	481	280	239	134	74	13	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	10 229	11 129	12 738	14 040	13 423	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	994	1 114	1 323	1 544	1 541	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	771	709	619	519	497	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	90	85	96	80	79	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	4 873	5 440	5 766	6 255	6 508	5 551	(NA)	(NA)
Any	6 362	6 745	7 985	8 682	8 278	6 721	9 083	9 814
200 days or more	4 317	4 563	5 504	5 875	5 411	4 477	5 698	5 929
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	6 235	6 980	7 882	8 740	8 711	9 162	(NA)	(NA)
Other	5 849	6 057	6 894	7 443	6 829	5 672	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	55.2	53.9	52.7	51.5	51.3	52.3	51.5	51.8
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	1 123 200	974 511	851 440	(NA)	(NA)	487 928	278 715	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	129 432	126 429	102 147	98 291	73 248	62 948	36 109	26 062
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	435 279	299 426	300 284	275 819	214 291	159 073	89 012	74 873
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	58 488	59 352	50 516	72 146	51 748	46 601	19 665	18 872
Petroleum products \$1,000..	33 726	33 278	30 365	45 329	28 140	19 066	11 820	12 169
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	102 425	93 631	81 230	68 545	52 667	36 508	27 263	24 623
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	45 896	42 938	40 272	58 509	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	38 516	34 930	26 447	27 401	18 983	12 766	5 320	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	4 444	4 978	5 780	7 002	6 608	7 219	7 985	11 619
number..	261 324	283 167	308 052	355 418	328 598	380 160	363 142	415 208
Beef cows farms..	2 726	2 921	3 185	3 736	3 297	3 651	(NA)	4 071
number..	50 619	51 676	48 454	52 151	47 821	62 977	50 812	50 393
Milk cows farms..	1 091	1 329	1 694	2 218	2 429	3 066	3 940	6 940
number..	84 953	94 751	110 463	128 183	124 321	136 709	138 652	175 315
Cattle and calves sold farms..	4 111	4 545	5 368	6 245	6 172	6 609	7 483	10 152
number..	136 747	133 633	154 540	164 982	184 855	167 523	198 068	250 821
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	584	910	1 322	1 861	2 424	2 528	3 326	5 946
number..	80 850	145 519	197 214	179 149	183 685	150 608	167 451	150 744
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	495	843	1 265	1 625	2 188	2 159	3 080	3 625
number..	149 472	289 149	372 470	335 333	301 650	240 631	287 872	245 818
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	637	839	1 337	1 926	2 013	2 235	2 652	6 959
number..	4 639 682	4 268 626	4 060 760	4 404 290	1 842 747	1 686 307	1 995 975	1 982 681
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	997	1 109	1 381	1 378	1 446	1 365	1 451	1 512
number..	256 926 521	257 209 663	257 070 110	235 112 072	196 068 244	154 577 738	151 198 410	116 253 756

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 . .	3 554	4 631	5 608	7 281	7 789	8 069	8 622	11 339
acres . .	405 451	454 083	432 409	620 198	575 652	519 683	466 709	394 344
bushels . .	36 823 284	52 596 358	31 941 714	62 845 256	55 103 713	44 736 782	37 976 521	26 204 724
Wheat for grain farms . .	2 339	2 774	3 112	3 153	2 542	4 001	4 246	6 150
acres . .	199 351	188 122	146 081	138 204	72 531	131 951	96 757	129 993
bushels . .	12 711 370	10 233 795	6 766 273	5 635 641	2 589 489	5 009 981	3 873 837	3 879 032
Soybeans for beans farms . .	3 226	3 663	3 697	3 965	3 751	3 705	3 170	3 845
acres . .	509 683	503 181	405 170	413 137	371 644	334 389	200 169	213 021
bushels . .	15 171 466	16 226 822	9 352 369	11 290 198	11 434 269	9 307 233	5 941 113	3 068 652
Tobacco farms . .	711	951	1 357	2 489	2 451	2 463	2 738	4 161
acres . .	7 939	8 470	10 780	24 840	21 260	20 459	23 737	37 214
pounds . .	11 987 083	11 794 382	13 751 729	32 280 276	25 954 144	24 050 946	24 770 979	35 636 625
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . .	5 223	5 532	6 619	6 709	6 966	6 761	7 343	(NA)
acres . .	223 014	222 184	255 676	229 046	255 913	234 233	240 672	365 908
tons, dry . .	450 781	545 526	593 854	533 939	587 186	541 248	507 361	596 148
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁸ farms . .	951	1 167	1 184	1 403	1 440	1 489	1 865	2 486
acres . .	35 958	36 313	38 238	38 331	50 832	51 525	66 834	76 047

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.