

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..	98 860	98 082	106 105	112 447	114 963	115 711	137 067	147 315
Land in farms acres..	28 826 188	28 546 875	29 209 187	29 266 609	30 098 727	29 801 127	32 420 284	32 691 618
Average size of farm acres..	292	291	275	260	262	258	237	222
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	309 430	225 015	175 612	223 247	191 130	102 074	53 034	33 451
Average per acre dollars..	1 069	774	640	856	723	396	224	150
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	4 058 126	3 537 197	3 007 852	3 418 269	2 874 828	1 876 041	987 604	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	41 051	36 155	28 432	30 450	25 043	17 311	7 543	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	3 148	3 926	4 960	4 713	4 309	3 498	4 662	3 080
10 to 49 acres	16 714	16 211	17 028	19 050	15 772	13 919	16 823	21 294
50 to 179 acres	36 346	34 654	37 413	40 513	42 921	44 752	54 252	59 560
180 to 499 acres	27 298	27 573	30 423	32 292	35 923	38 543	46 813	50 350
500 to 999 acres	9 854	10 292	11 413	11 561	12 200	11 668	11 794	10 734
1,000 to 1,999 acres	4 183	4 289	3 990	3 566	3 213	2 822	2 327	1 943
2,000 acres or more	1 317	1 137	878	752	625	509	396	354
Total cropland farms..	87 092	86 617	93 434	100 593	105 339	107 673	127 337	134 608
..... acres..	19 229 468	19 228 832	19 378 031	19 376 192	20 283 258	19 339 032	20 954 640	17 960 340
Harvested cropland farms..	72 316	74 240	80 396	86 837	92 385	93 357	105 853	119 569
..... acres..	12 449 272	12 158 832	11 655 304	12 725 378	12 433 661	11 764 849	10 035 742	11 067 975
Irrigated land farms..	2 891	2 914	2 823	2 037	2 136	1 310	1 386	822
..... acres..	881 924	708 864	534 795	402 914	320 387	150 446	155 862	59 426
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	5 367 813	4 303 148	3 644 988	3 606 856	3 310 781	2 304 081	1 460 033	1 053 094
Average per farm dollars..	54 297	43 873	34 353	32 076	28 799	19 912	10 651	7 149
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops, \$1,000..	2 307 009	1 861 613	1 460 850	1 546 664	1 391 659	1 061 698	397 586	401 592
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	3 060 803	2 441 535	2 184 138	2 060 191	1 919 122	1 237 757	1 058 581	647 314
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	25 039	20 638	23 075	26 779	20 351	35 341	52 088	69 455
\$2,500 to \$4,999	13 981	13 881	15 353	16 764	17 420	16 516	22 787	24 888
\$5,000 to \$9,999	15 962	16 350	17 881	17 693	20 206	18 105	23 346	23 778
\$10,000 to \$24,999	17 863	18 998	20 749	20 144	24 264			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	8 801	10 090	11 212	11 909	14 847	41 907	37 727	28 680
\$50,000 to \$99,999	6 529	7 525	8 943	10 004	10 969			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	8 994	9 573	8 399	8 713	6 591	3 699	1 046	482
\$500,000 or more	1 691	1 027	493	413	270	102	44	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	87 919	86 776	94 574	99 370	101 807	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	7 708	8 537	9 050	10 733	11 401	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	2 543	2 283	2 096	2 020	1 558	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	690	486	385	324	197	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	36 025	38 371	40 016	41 586	45 595	39 392	(NA)	(NA)
Any	57 118	53 243	58 409	61 466	63 617	52 359	75 104	69 611
200 days or more	41 378	37 799	40 925	41 189	41 811	34 375	43 954	38 595
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	44 751	49 248	53 694	58 511	60 765	70 094	(NA)	(NA)
Other	54 109	48 834	52 411	53 936	54 198	44 733	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	54.7	53.8	52.9	51.0	50.6	52.1	52.0	52.5
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000..	4 214 996	3 395 093	2 804 630	(NA)	(NA)	1 738 856	1 187 850	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	574 610	469 893	397 299	383 293	395 651	245 455	250 327	134 774
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	1 056 896	751 669	552 814	593 598	510 582	430 781	257 067	200 000
Commercial fertilizer ⁵ \$1,000..	345 941	301 298	239 254	255 645	208 886	181 098	88 868	67 938
Petroleum products \$1,000..	208 015	193 235	176 852	258 582	159 754	111 493	70 481	61 423
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	253 888	190 051	163 868	141 232	115 205	70 235	56 744	46 376
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	312 483	288 478	277 614	393 388	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵ \$1,000..	230 054	170 477	135 348	130 122	88 879	57 628	34 092	(NA)
Livestock and poultry: Cattle and calves inventory farms..	67 198	68 413	73 738	81 927	84 365	89 009	101 444	123 447
..... number..	4 312 716	4 165 357	4 158 226	4 664 498	4 813 408	5 297 947	4 815 932	4 522 108
Beef cows farms..	57 935	58 024	61 049	67 102	70 381	72 729	(NA)	89 163
..... number..	2 023 187	1 876 845	1 818 969	1 933 477	2 056 924	2 335 612	1 863 144	1 550 094
Milk cows farms..	4 175	5 626	7 712	11 320	13 829	17 712	28 022	57 398
..... number..	174 669	215 920	242 039	267 753	248 301	259 964	309 319	460 849
Cattle and calves sold farms..	66 350	67 044	73 947	79 806	84 940	87 751	100 641	113 482
..... number..	2 494 869	2 349 975	2 514 867	2 496 490	2 904 931	2 554 557	3 003 328	2 434 636
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	5 419	11 894	14 985	22 589	32 616	31 100	48 219	62 895
..... number..	3 546 972	2 908 509	2 581 954	3 186 443	3 837 579	2 911 525	4 249 638	3 853 704
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	5 183	12 133	15 306	23 444	33 370	33 796	49 701	58 846
..... number..	8 540 647	5 547 530	4 804 123	5 894 874	6 441 818	5 559 106	7 219 227	6 181 497
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	3 707	4 544	7 485	11 304	12 951	17 792	26 423	62 044
..... number..	8 846 447	8 343 409	8 235 467	7 314 637	7 867 222	7 917 604	7 504 934	7 416 625
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	451	341	316	356	363	467	361	559
..... number..	202 970 912	82 990 149	40 991 224	21 466 182	17 576 578	16 879 231	13 179 941	28 133 321

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 . .	18 417	21 382	25 921	25 323	31 616	38 819	49 482	64 423
acres . .	2 477 027	2 445 489	2 069 238	1 892 882	2 201 675	2 558 860	2 654 981	2 832 801
bushels . .	274 381 159	308 784 225	218 093 408	178 722 297	184 789 444	137 211 116	169 466 544	149 474 160
Sorghum for grain or seed farms . .	3 566	6 998	9 258	10 317	13 769	8 921	5 275	7 108
acres . .	311 511	586 559	625 047	746 547	809 384	455 750	198 938	188 727
bushels . .	26 886 487	53 046 665	50 759 064	54 910 329	59 901 303	22 239 428	11 820 028	9 033 604
Wheat for grain farms . .	12 394	16 970	12 683	29 507	17 564	27 736	34 110	45 707
acres . .	1 055 664	1 319 575	750 208	2 044 839	824 801	1 237 112	906 377	1 458 163
bushels . .	52 178 347	58 143 633	31 939 663	68 338 008	27 277 966	34 764 459	26 961 174	44 525 013
Oats for grain farms . .	1 254	2 402	3 480	3 935	1 934	(NA)	(NA)	19 273
acres . .	23 339	46 262	66 414	67 913	28 187	(NA)	(NA)	292 403
bushels . .	1 312 430	2 363 989	2 712 492	2 840 632	1 133 786	(NA)	(NA)	10 396 790
Soybeans for beans farms . .	24 201	26 600	33 489	38 820	41 137	40 893	41 119	43 870
acres . .	4 671 797	4 208 729	4 827 272	5 286 129	5 167 477	4 065 228	3 027 227	2 600 576
bushels . .	164 562 845	150 385 224	148 272 506	153 691 360	140 836 086	87 981 623	75 475 951	53 465 637
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . .	57 483	57 749	60 138	63 951	70 364	69 622	73 913	(NA)
acres . .	3 661 772	3 470 298	3 138 012	2 970 014	3 268 002	2 938 842	2 555 996	2 940 900
tons, dry . .	6 847 820	6 109 410	5 409 063	5 575 960	5 749 474	5 080 402	4 916 929	4 758 131

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.