

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..	24 279	22 821	24 568	23 570	23 565	23 324	24 951	27 020
Land in farms acres..	58 607 778	59 642 536	60 203 993	60 539 209	61 690 919	62 158 351	62 918 247	65 833 760
Average size of farm acres..	2 414	2 613	2 451	2 568	2 618	2 665	2 522	2 437
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	699 069	594 881	505 526	677 995	512 791	298 070	150 222	103 271
Average per acre dollars..	294	227	205	259	195	112	60	42
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	1 895 934	1 516 085	1 488 238	1 567 780	1 245 732	752 934	421 206	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	78 157	66 472	60 754	66 632	52 956	33 257	17 304	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	898	1 209	1 940	1 551	1 255	1 177	1 283	704
10 to 49 acres	3 570	2 804	2 745	2 673	1 889	1 550	1 485	1 641
50 to 179 acres	3 575	3 061	3 019	3 080	2 987	2 707	2 791	3 393
180 to 499 acres	3 372	2 964	3 315	3 097	3 420	3 436	3 757	4 396
500 to 999 acres	2 675	2 521	2 737	2 640	2 928	2 990	3 339	3 954
1,000 to 1,999 acres	3 127	3 040	3 460	3 345	4 011	4 053	4 700	5 101
2,000 acres or more	7 062	7 222	7 352	7 184	7 075	7 411	7 596	7 831
Total cropland farms..	20 669	19 442	21 064	20 717	21 437	21 368	22 709	25 212
..... acres..	17 629 001	17 494 553	17 829 766	16 452 331	16 232 608	15 445 720	16 108 575	15 388 431
Harvested cropland farms..	17 854	17 100	19 267	19 279	20 313	20 376	21 404	24 308
..... acres..	9 399 718	8 199 296	9 128 013	9 365 775	8 741 043	8 426 881	7 937 203	7 812 612
Irrigated land farms..	9 059	8 883	9 520	9 226	9 384	8 714	9 197	10 843
..... acres..	1 994 484	1 978 167	1 996 882	2 023 003	2 069 531	1 759 040	1 841 421	1 893 360
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	1 870 732	1 730 237	1 547 286	1 547 160	1 177 454	1 033 239	575 802	389 659
Average per farm dollars..	77 051	75 818	62 980	65 641	49 966	44 299	23 077	14 421
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	903 822	691 860	639 202	759 171	488 486	549 876	189 423	171 610
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	966 910	1 038 377	908 084	787 989	688 968	480 277	384 878	216 719
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	4 996	4 073	4 320	3 914	2 842	3 340	4 525	5 886
\$2,500 to \$4,999	2 024	1 764	2 006	1 795	1 991	1 655	2 375	3 522
\$5,000 to \$9,999	2 308	2 131	2 374	2 295	2 538	2 520	3 800	5 518
\$10,000 to \$24,999	3 415	3 413	3 912	3 703	4 573			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2 839	3 051	3 695	3 592	4 757	13 565	13 512	11 753
\$50,000 to \$99,999	3 340	3 528	4 064	3 928	4 024			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	4 878	4 492	3 945	3 981	2 567	2 036	597	251
\$500,000 or more	479	369	252	263	160	106	49	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	18 751	17 723	19 506	18 842	19 042	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	2 065	2 046	2 147	2 099	2 305	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	3 121	2 798	2 656	2 336	2 012	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	342	254	259	293	206	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	11 320	11 176	12 162	10 964	12 114	9 952	(NA)	(NA)
Any	11 280	9 838	10 764	10 108	10 079	7 284	10 651	9 918
200 days or more	6 322	5 261	5 607	5 272	5 016	3 704	4 802	4 358
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	15 703	16 006	17 405	16 898	16 855	16 967	(NA)	(NA)
Other	8 576	6 815	7 163	6 672	6 710	4 948	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	54.0	52.9	51.4	50.5	50.0	51.1	50.0	49.7
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	1 512 749	1 399 200	1 288 299	(NA)	(NA)	769 064	464 392	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	153 915	191 132	191 557	165 312	155 273	124 203	104 277	56 297
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	153 271	142 789	119 817	110 919	108 728	123 454	49 761	28 256
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	123 302	85 281	79 449	79 823	64 950	39 053	14 132	7 676
Petroleum products \$1,000..	115 091	108 667	100 191	136 526	77 033	53 253	32 484	31 230
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	109 424	107 632	102 470	84 462	70 884	47 288	36 955	29 127
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	149 306	146 474	157 891	207 237	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	74 449	57 078	64 461	43 347	27 945	12 523	3 976	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	14 216	13 813	14 866	15 822	15 887	16 937	17 851	20 792
..... number..	2 618 319	2 645 916	2 591 391	2 918 599	2 786 829	3 211 584	2 933 897	2 873 425
Beef cows farms..	12 902	12 366	13 073	13 942	14 139	15 144	(NA)	17 940
..... number..	1 558 921	1 506 445	1 399 949	1 528 036	1 473 507	1 690 839	1 506 150	1 397 736
Milk cows farms..	721	1 092	1 732	2 594	3 183	4 003	5 876	10 305
..... number..	18 052	22 409	26 879	29 447	29 306	31 637	36 831	55 102
Cattle and calves sold farms..	14 055	13 628	14 718	15 325	15 853	16 773	17 902	19 724
..... number..	1 654 014	1 677 932	1 644 768	1 778 047	1 742 652	1 831 367	1 944 478	1 419 875
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	627	1 056	1 406	1 643	2 433	2 717	3 379	4 740
..... number..	177 740	222 966	200 663	195 949	211 350	212 456	216 925	168 052
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	595	1 030	1 343	1 562	2 318	2 731	3 196	3 701
..... number..	293 161	363 440	327 855	311 634	311 070	373 412	323 125	249 832
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	1 017	1 138	2 102	2 824	3 130	3 758	5 258	11 073
..... number..	378 562	634 955	978 754	1 022 336	886 813	980 156	969 629	993 188
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	61	47	100	110	119	108	63	9
..... number..	112 821	47 505	84 676	18 440	36 111	31 706	18 869	44 960

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:								
Wheat for grain farms..	7 932	8 395	10 375	9 982	10 726	11 779	13 328	15 513
acres..	5 602 336	4 885 520	4 703 455	5 215 965	4 799 795	4 729 604	3 669 549	3 742 718
bushels..	172 214 482	142 893 032	143 802 744	159 093 238	134 207 558	109 127 964	94 305 823	87 632 232
Barley for grain farms..	4 423	5 971	9 621	8 283	8 274	(NA)	(NA)	12 996
acres..	1 093 414	1 168 663	1 900 275	1 613 964	1 263 343	(NA)	(NA)	1 474 033
bushels..	55 236 960	47 381 536	79 606 320	72 135 565	52 228 599	(NA)	(NA)	45 972 305
Oats for grain farms..	1 251	1 590	2 345	3 118	3 473	(NA)	(NA)	6 182
acres..	66 331	82 492	132 308	168 097	173 074	(NA)	(NA)	222 538
bushels..	3 501 669	4 485 707	6 356 871	8 068 970	8 414 059	(NA)	(NA)	7 966 257
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms..	13 536	12 058	13 701	14 116	15 374	14 883	15 977	(NA)
acres..	2 528 517	1 983 629	2 135 438	2 238 390	2 324 110	2 158 312	2 189 762	2 115 854
tons, dry..	4 745 596	3 670 309	3 858 349	4 335 853	4 319 247	3 658 936	3 602 073	3 220 962

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.