

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	9 101	9 079	9 032	8 277	7 984	7 409	8 493	10 641
Land in farms	acres	832 600	847 595	894 426	916 331	987 309	961 395	1 035 678	1 155 597
Average size of farm	acres	91	93	99	111	124	130	122	109
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :									
Average per farm	dollars	594 206	615 430	396 198	343 137	319 183	234 469	133 202	73 487
Average per acre	dollars	6 642	6 942	3 969	3 140	2 588	1 807	1 092	662
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :									
Average per farm	\$1,000 dollars	436 613	358 561	340 478	300 165	239 284	169 020	97 386	(NA)
	dollars	48 011	39 620	37 768	36 291	30 031	23 732	11 770	(NA)
Farms by size:									
1 to 9 acres		2 249	2 099	1 862	1 487	1 211	1 048	1 093	1 858
10 to 49 acres		3 807	3 726	3 549	3 052	2 672	2 215	2 471	3 055
50 to 179 acres		1 927	2 079	2 316	2 328	2 570	2 690	3 294	3 810
180 to 499 acres		768	836	939	1 047	1 155	1 128	1 380	1 690
500 to 999 acres		238	250	292	286	299	254	197	173
1,000 to 1,999 acres		90	74	60	62	63	56	45	44
2,000 acres or more		22	15	14	15	14	18	13	11
Total cropland	farms	8 322	8 221	8 268	7 658	7 529	7 001	7 748	9 690
	acres	594 928	623 466	642 534	669 618	708 620	674 642	707 162	776 372
Harvested cropland	farms	7 396	7 149	7 288	6 940	7 016	6 653	6 981	8 759
	acres	485 187	491 518	484 805	570 031	584 406	540 828	496 241	560 266
Irrigated land	farms	2 089	1 911	1 846	1 681	1 648	1 581	1 509	2 009
	acres	92 965	80 409	91 208	83 049	77 159	89 321	71 967	96 433
Market value of agricultural products sold ² :									
Average per farm	\$1,000 dollars	697 380	532 988	496 003	435 966	350 294	297 216	213 893	215 611
	dollars	76 627	58 706	54 916	52 672	43 875	40 116	25 184	20 262
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops	\$1,000	592 713	431 178	370 580	322 038	247 409	205 981	124 254	107 657
Livestock, poultry, and their products	\$1,000	104 666	101 810	125 423	113 928	102 885	90 941	89 483	107 365
Farms by value of sales ³ :									
Less than \$2,500		3 352	3 136	3 089	2 316	1 939	2 032	3 057	3 012
\$2,500 to \$4,999		1 105	1 175	1 281	1 179	1 089	751	853	1 164
\$5,000 to \$9,999		1 097	1 144	1 163	1 106	1 128	939	912	1 399
\$10,000 to \$24,999		1 195	1 358	1 201	1 221	1 296			
\$25,000 to \$49,999		689	676	632	683	774	2 921	3 266	4 765
\$50,000 to \$99,999		502	530	578	661	820			
\$100,000 to \$499,999		874	869	932	969	849	680	356	277
\$500,000 or more		287	191	156	124	65	61	25	
Farms by type of organization:									
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)		7 604	7 553	7 530	6 933	6 675	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership		635	668	740	732	785	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation		783	780	704	563	479	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.		79	78	58	49	45	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :									
None		3 503	3 475	3 199	3 087	3 468	2 785	(NA)	(NA)
Any		5 188	5 094	5 375	4 592	4 175	3 099	4 105	3 578
200 days or more		3 478	3 396	3 666	3 076	2 746	2 031	2 647	2 386
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :									
Farming		3 920	4 218	4 180	4 197	4 373	4 257	(NA)	(NA)
Other		5 181	4 861	4 852	4 080	3 611	2 766	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴	years	55.4	53.9	52.9	51.9	52.2	53.8	52.5	52.6
Total farm production expenses ¹	\$1,000	513 326	430 843	387 693	(NA)	(NA)	236 233	191 446	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :									
Livestock and poultry purchased	\$1,000	10 339	9 487	15 067	13 577	14 575	13 544	13 025	11 199
Feed for livestock and poultry	\$1,000	38 309	32 427	34 115	33 530	31 669	32 760	30 484	46 152
Commercial fertilizer ⁵	\$1,000	28 256	25 949	23 767	26 140	19 192	18 866	10 865	11 869
Petroleum products	\$1,000	25 935	22 184	19 961	28 878	18 859	12 441	8 232	9 002
Hired farm labor	\$1,000	142 869	115 161	87 608	62 380	55 909	43 816	43 757	41 052
Interest ⁶	\$1,000	21 483	17 122	20 320	22 870	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵	\$1,000	20 487	19 152	17 267	14 530	10 154	8 119	6 110	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:									
Cattle and calves inventory	farms	1 703	1 934	2 231	2 394	2 272	2 181	2 493	3 500
	number	56 643	69 134	77 581	94 999	95 694	106 899	121 716	152 508
Beef cows	farms	1 039	1 152	1 176	1 151	1 042	928	(NA)	677
	number	12 192	12 280	11 359	11 622	11 310	13 341	9 786	6 661
Milk cows	farms	296	450	584	770	890	1 043	1 517	2 630
	number	18 041	23 926	32 067	38 792	42 996	47 658	64 496	96 931
Cattle and calves sold	farms	1 506	1 668	2 049	2 078	2 095	1 955	2 321	3 080
	number	23 362	28 989	43 257	48 050	54 494	58 424	74 253	109 965
Hogs and pigs inventory	farms	431	640	680	889	880	639	558	891
	number	23 189	29 645	31 968	53 767	72 878	63 193	81 123	121 644
Hogs and pigs sold	farms	350	530	661	816	733	499	486	594
	number	40 396	44 325	52 320	74 235	112 968	95 329	131 835	179 835
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷	farms	827	917	950	1 104	1 037	1 000	1 244	2 781
	(D)		1 801 049	2 130 533	966 623	1 363 833	2 248 544	4 613 511	7 187 522
Broilers and other meat type chickens sold	farms	79	93	90	110	85	76	42	92
	number	40 712	95 794	453 843	204 930	572 415	556 796	544 224	1 336 656

See footnotes at end of table.

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All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain or seed								
farms	1 110	1 158	1 405	1 720	1 759	1 878	1 767	2 507
acres	89 252	83 805	74 938	103 998	87 793	76 881	62 097	56 502
bushels	9 572 100	9 508 526	7 570 456	10 186 110	7 807 146	6 284 925	5 068 801	3 246 007
Soybeans for beans								
farms	914	1 128	1 091	1 552	1 686	1 318	860	796
acres	116 557	131 768	106 296	155 071	174 658	96 774	46 655	33 998
bushels	3 599 073	4 378 643	3 153 039	4 109 956	5 259 919	2 766 781	1 333 738	475 639
Hay alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text)								
farms	3 022	3 060	3 226	2 809	3 003	2 687	2 908	(NA)
acres	114 523	118 536	122 451	111 933	131 874	117 185	112 316	165 220
tons, dry	224 259	238 792	262 323	265 054	295 413	265 219	278 506	317 099
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁸								
farms	1 577	1 861	1 908	1 970	1 970	1 895	2 212	2 615
acres	63 414	64 647	72 521	70 746	72 990	91 065	111 173	115 296

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.