

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..	31 757	32 306	37 743	42 207	43 075	43 682	51 909	66 510
Land in farms.....acres..	7 254 470	7 458 015	8 416 228	9 189 559	9 461 060	9 410 706	10 148 359	12 275 308
Average size of farm.....acres..	228	231	223	218	220	215	196	185
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars..	286 620	282 546	218 934	177 988	146 597	109 884	53 399	32 797
Average per acre.....dollars..	1 284	1 237	993	817	660	510	273	177
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	1 906 163	1 862 289	1 849 206	2 006 892	1 567 912	1 103 383	639 728	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars..	59 923	57 738	49 087	47 561	36 461	26 058	12 525	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	2 226	2 129	2 517	2 763	2 432	2 257	2 101	3 579
10 to 49 acres.....	5 499	5 201	6 114	6 575	5 528	5 093	6 589	8 874
50 to 179 acres.....	11 319	11 147	12 991	14 676	15 665	16 535	21 367	27 698
180 to 499 acres.....	9 327	10 305	12 244	14 203	15 583	16 293	18 914	23 164
500 to 999 acres.....	2 530	2 713	3 112	3 274	3 295	2 987	2 548	2 803
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	688	680	654	620	495	450	340	327
2,000 acres or more.....	168	131	111	96	77	67	50	65
Total cropland.....farms..	29 747	30 651	35 680	40 276	41 879	42 675	49 768	64 266
Harvested cropland.....farms..	4 722 143	4 876 169	5 382 175	5 697 926	5 940 780	5 788 149	6 081 847	6 469 989
.....acres..	27 569	28 715	33 664	38 509	40 647	41 121	46 518	61 978
Irrigated land.....farms..	2 501	2 020	1 992	1 713	1 715	1 447	1 393	1 917
.....acres..	69 197	46 600	50 920	52 125	56 106	54 580	55 491	79 193
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	2 834 512	2 622 001	2 441 860	2 426 936	1 861 266	1 462 383	979 000	852 640
Average per farm.....dollars..	89 256	81 161	64 697	57 501	43 210	33 478	18 859	12 820
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	1 000 417	809 291	701 352	657 719	535 330	446 448	244 732	242 260
Livestock, poultry, and their products..... \$1,000..	1 834 095	1 812 710	1 740 508	1 769 216	1 325 936	1 012 143	730 978	601 928
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	7 707	7 324	9 168	10 479	9 863	11 916	18 151	21 648
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	3 424	3 389	4 061	4 421	5 084	3 474	4 127	7 424
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	3 484	3 536	3 892	4 339	4 559	3 994	5 272	11 147
\$10,000 to \$24,999.....	4 269	4 156	4 426	4 654	5 446			
\$25,000 to \$49,999.....	2 673	2 601	3 337	4 187	6 172	21 613	23 314	25 590
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	3 335	3 973	5 560	6 731	7 453			
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	5 883	6 588	6 816	6 966	4 248	2 501	943	647
\$500,000 or more.....	982	739	483	398	209	146	59	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	26 855	27 346	32 149	36 543	37 537	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	3 153	3 284	3 835	4 086	4 158	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	1 568	1 521	1 545	1 385	1 233	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	181	155	214	193	147	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None.....	14 960	15 838	18 079	19 456	20 945	18 420	(NA)	(NA)
Any.....	15 286	14 472	17 596	19 890	20 448	18 143	24 954	29 285
200 days or more.....	9 886	9 355	11 506	13 094	13 082	12 123	16 424	18 469
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming.....	18 426	19 934	22 977	25 564	26 314	27 833	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	13 331	12 372	14 766	16 643	16 761	14 839	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴years..	53.5	52.5	51.4	50.0	50.1	51.0	51.2	51.2
Total farm production expenses ⁵ , \$1,000..	2 191 903	2 142 169	1 897 458	(NA)	(NA)	1 173 072	781 141	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased..... \$1,000..	111 258	113 243	98 770	95 488	93 577	77 352	60 098	39 083
Feed for livestock and poultry..... \$1,000..	482 735	458 038	399 658	444 460	373 642	320 110	189 720	187 460
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	93 010	94 324	94 811	109 479	87 595	68 946	33 400	34 338
Petroleum products..... \$1,000..	97 075	100 002	91 096	142 542	84 214	59 468	36 221	36 479
Hired farm labor..... \$1,000..	336 357	336 461	277 463	246 022	184 469	123 757	100 540	92 204
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	130 266	125 135	140 484	184 613	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	75 892	67 322	60 635	56 139	40 490	28 747	19 694	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory.....farms..	16 444	18 134	22 250	27 354	27 462	29 491	33 655	48 057
.....number..	1 450 090	1 470 610	1 603 390	1 781 748	1 619 706	1 752 533	1 713 232	1 959 204
Beef cows.....farms..	6 160	5 880	6 798	8 661	8 259	8 675	(NA)	7 472
.....number..	86 078	72 971	71 627	77 712	73 356	96 975	94 410	67 498
Milk cows.....farms..	8 732	10 696	13 840	17 236	18 493	20 711	24 775	39 564
.....number..	700 480	721 286	814 461	875 113	850 381	891 422	898 147	1 134 315
Cattle and calves sold.....farms..	15 494	17 167	21 153	25 234	26 046	27 567	32 370	44 226
.....number..	618 039	639 193	754 488	747 448	802 464	759 264	881 286	1 084 708
Hogs and pigs inventory.....farms..	1 508	2 094	2 644	4 325	5 017	5 011	3 717	6 894
.....number..	79 000	90 282	99 560	118 378	126 312	92 325	78 578	94 538
Hogs and pigs sold.....farms..	1 001	1 498	1 957	2 810	3 162	2 735	2 183	2 851
.....number..	167 201	168 196	172 072	183 165	178 589	125 197	109 472	133 996
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷farms..	1 909	2 088	3 236	4 654	4 862	5 207	5 822	14 641
.....number..	4 393 064	4 538 622	5 455 879	8 517 980	8 791 556	9 440 681	11 580 340	11 973 113
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold.....farms..	172	142	206	282	219	243	102	166
.....number..	1 310 733	1 042 100	1 713 646	380 753	465 434	1 543 175	1 614 001	3 101 162

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1997 and Earlier Census Years—Con.

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

All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain or seed farms..	5 493	5 724	9 301	10 523	11 102	11 529	9 596	10 774
acres..	578 715	518 839	598 815	749 492	593 674	461 313	243 475	178 099
bushels..	62 242 783	47 702 382	65 911 889	70 349 704	50 651 462	35 181 978	21 414 650	11 885 131
Wheat for grain farms..	1 887	2 200	2 390	2 965	2 516	7 142	7 627	10 635
acres..	120 927	117 908	86 345	116 994	64 655	205 634	142 311	191 493
bushels..	6 339 980	6 280 963	3 622 242	4 951 504	2 191 852	8 778 563	5 485 603	7 154 207
Oats for grain farms..	2 808	4 059	6 364	9 422	10 704	(NA)	(NA)	27 206
acres..	77 240	109 686	162 733	249 804	272 507	(NA)	(NA)	489 850
bushels..	4 841 802	6 889 878	9 562 189	16 151 602	16 050 846	(NA)	(NA)	25 315 951
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms..	20 805	22 376	26 877	30 481	32 749	32 282	36 205	(NA)
acres..	2 073 486	2 013 646	2 259 119	2 384 405	2 463 485	2 212 967	2 184 065	2 925 115
tons, dry..	4 035 722	4 268 674	4 861 661	5 056 408	4 810 961	4 696 262	4 648 116	5 017 377
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁸ farms..	2 720	2 758	2 822	3 228	3 499	3 455	4 017	5 050
acres..	169 331	139 841	150 054	158 014	154 666	147 954	148 084	163 828
Land in orchards farms..	2 436	2 938	3 290	3 955	4 111	4 084	4 639	6 931
acres..	101 628	112 905	124 432	137 356	135 015	136 371	141 075	144 087

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.