

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..	34 030	31 892	32 014	34 087	28 503	26 753	29 063	39 757
Land in farms acres..	17 449 293	17 609 497	17 809 165	17 739 782	18 053 960	18 241 445	18 017 850	20 509 302
Average size of farm acres..	513	552	556	520	633	682	620	516
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	479 385	370 938	299 755	371 644	301 308	170 145	93 134	59 079
Average per acre dollars..	960	663	542	705	477	250	150	115
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	1 885 620	1 532 094	1 211 480	1 256 603	937 659	585 085	307 968	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	55 401	48 223	37 982	37 044	33 013	23 064	11 031	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	7 202	6 319	5 476	5 987	3 344	2 521	2 743	4 041
10 to 49 acres	11 954	11 235	11 448	12 415	9 357	8 292	9 000	13 817
50 to 179 acres	7 120	6 748	7 219	7 662	7 488	7 671	8 370	11 441
180 to 499 acres	3 369	3 390	3 617	3 906	4 042	3 940	4 461	5 442
500 to 999 acres	1 601	1 508	1 560	1 560	1 567	1 568	1 642	1 882
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1 035	997	1 008	957	1 025	1 030	1 108	1 248
2,000 acres or more	1 749	1 695	1 686	1 600	1 680	1 731	1 739	1 886
Total cropland farms..	28 101	26 508	27 318	29 300	25 809	24 875	26 604	34 763
..... acres..	5 285 659	5 037 764	5 236 393	5 237 399	5 100 837	5 074 988	5 197 520	5 281 935
Harvested cropland farms..	22 312	20 743	21 712	23 719	22 007	21 636	22 117	29 981
..... acres..	3 154 523	2 823 972	2 832 663	3 305 714	3 209 647	3 213 399	2 893 632	3 050 278
Irrigated land farms..	15 348	15 002	14 411	15 334	13 659	11 791	12 014	15 869
..... acres..	1 948 739	1 622 235	1 648 205	1 807 882	1 880 833	1 561 438	1 519 421	1 607 659
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	2 969 194	2 292 973	1 846 067	1 640 590	1 261 865	1 025 082	531 209	428 397
Average per farm dollars..	87 252	71 898	57 664	48 129	44 271	38 317	18 277	10 775
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	2 114 196	1 452 213	1 048 616	935 456	688 807	651 552	260 416	227 991
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	854 998	840 760	797 451	705 134	573 058	360 480	263 966	195 479
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	12 021	11 490	11 751	13 511	8 976	10 196	12 500	21 735
\$2,500 to \$4,999	5 027	4 569	4 785	4 987	4 435	2 931	3 580	4 386
\$5,000 to \$9,999	3 971	3 734	3 770	3 776	3 690	3 103	3 520	4 180
\$10,000 to \$24,999	4 121	3 801	3 697	3 718	3 798			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2 418	2 183	2 194	2 248	2 410	8 054	8 546	8 907
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1 904	1 940	1 972	2 007	2 270			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3 376	3 273	3 224	3 322	2 599	2 207	810	512
\$500,000 or more	1 192	902	621	470	264	207	52	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	28 965	27 506	27 766	29 802	24 633	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	2 527	2 481	2 603	2 807	2 685	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	2 182	1 672	1 490	1 311	1 046	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	356	233	155	167	139	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	12 680	11 957	11 536	10 912	10 201	8 473	(NA)	(NA)
Any	19 934	18 419	18 897	21 108	17 225	13 922	17 676	23 438
200 days or more	13 110	12 089	12 646	14 112	11 481	9 542	11 621	16 136
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	15 648	15 306	15 359	15 542	13 849	13 884	(NA)	(NA)
Other	18 382	16 586	16 655	18 545	14 654	12 158	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	54.5	53.4	52.7	50.4	50.7	52.4	51.9	51.5
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000..	2 210 747	1 881 731	1 535 162	(NA)	(NA)	784 663	466 946	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	144 065	160 847	195 278	159 787	158 630	85 275	76 862	40 373
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	229 748	230 557	170 426	193 064	151 692	135 954	62 441	55 259
Commercial fertilizer ⁵ \$1,000..	150 171	119 158	97 839	104 674	73 096	68 346	26 544	20 135
Petroleum products \$1,000..	88 887	80 192	65 914	89 859	50 914	35 528	20 984	20 421
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	478 595	367 047	257 760	179 512	138 490	94 663	69 339	54 564
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	151 901	133 197	131 483	181 873	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵ \$1,000..	124 154	104 042	79 341	56 739	32 763	20 175	11 763	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	17 122	17 088	17 515	21 811	17 870	17 174	17 294	28 508
..... number..	1 559 162	1 465 444	1 503 625	1 618 005	1 546 797	1 559 319	1 352 781	1 620 073
Beef cows farms..	13 393	13 105	13 369	16 396	13 618	13 049	(NA)	17 177
..... number..	695 635	629 625	618 857	656 150	633 712	702 189	566 620	639 362
Milk cows farms..	1 052	1 541	1 937	3 289	3 622	4 237	5 185	13 076
..... number..	86 747	99 035	95 325	99 134	89 856	87 994	86 638	126 325
Cattle and calves sold farms..	15 980	15 608	16 812	19 314	16 732	15 753	15 972	21 961
..... number..	979 199	899 088	955 484	955 226	971 474	836 921	871 367	859 905
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	1 383	1 669	1 482	2 500	2 491	2 047	2 246	4 480
..... number..	33 152	58 276	86 293	105 174	113 907	94 933	96 872	112 746
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	1 182	1 463	1 400	2 163	2 103	1 714	2 015	3 209
..... number..	54 864	97 427	143 661	172 394	169 886	158 801	160 617	205 712
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	2 241	2 480	3 178	5 218	3 949	3 431	3 414	10 366
..... number..	3 272 027	2 954 237	3 049 585	3 398 829	3 123 679	2 520 001	2 293 996	2 649 797
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	156	208	225	326	247	208	194	151
..... number..	18 966 576	18 921 442	14 244 387	14 422 115	17 123 392	11 753 447	13 032 925	9 192 504

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..	2 531	3 025	3 890	4 763	4 885	6 120	5 426	6 938
acres..	882 862	924 855	838 849	1 179 942	1 151 760	1 250 119	734 097	770 441
bushels..	54 694 903	46 527 762	51 875 186	58 924 228	45 726 181	50 087 492	26 779 314	26 372 003
Barley for grain farms..	750	1 096	1 805	2 366	2 661	(NA)	(NA)	5 191
acres..	109 108	127 185	186 504	250 291	215 394	(NA)	(NA)	363 748
bushels..	7 568 675	7 787 057	12 272 482	14 313 160	11 343 609	(NA)	(NA)	14 710 303
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms..	12 933	12 066	13 913	15 181	14 362	13 977	13 938	(NA)
acres..	1 066 643	872 535	943 905	1 016 904	1 016 763	980 967	946 631	1 105 549
tons, dry..	3 009 247	2 276 437	2 340 999	2 482 717	2 509 847	2 217 388	2 087 423	2 171 345
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁵ farms..	1 432	1 509	1 529	1 554	1 560	1 608	1 752	1 985
acres..	155 242	147 616	142 236	134 814	144 749	148 977	129 001	120 245
Land in orchards farms..	3 869	4 200	4 410	4 709	4 258	3 960	4 808	8 539
acres..	96 270	96 166	91 101	86 742	82 108	84 883	96 353	102 564

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.