

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..	45 457	44 870	51 549	55 535	56 202	53 171	62 824	83 086
Land in farmsacres..	7 167 906	7 189 541	7 866 289	8 297 713	8 543 661	8 186 378	8 900 767	10 803 983
Average size of farmacres..	158	160	153	149	152	154	142	130
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farmdollars..	371 740	328 795	239 333	225 794	193 558	112 992	52 829	29 836
Average per acredollars..	2 390	2 056	1 579	1 520	1 262	734	373	228
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	2 418 038	2 214 947	2 144 508	2 141 296	1 730 912	1 115 476	607 823	(NA)
Average per farmdollars..	53 219	49 383	41 641	38 624	30 838	22 026	9 916	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	3 431	3 005	3 759	3 816	3 188	2 531	3 006	4 650
10 to 49 acres	9 833	9 095	10 264	11 208	9 917	8 368	10 428	15 819
50 to 179 acres	19 941	20 136	23 696	25 784	27 710	27 419	33 737	44 427
180 to 499 acres	9 815	10 286	11 453	12 398	13 208	13 016	14 115	16 571
500 to 999 acres	1 925	1 880	1 961	1 953	1 874	1 562	1 334	1 391
1,000 to 1,999 acres	409	391	350	324	248	230	166	184
2,000 acres or more	103	77	66	52	57	45	38	44
Total cropland farms..	42 573	42 390	48 546	52 795	54 208	51 709	60 189	79 917
.....acres..	5 032 151	5 021 773	5 398 072	5 545 787	5 687 734	5 283 094	5 597 790	6 042 837
Harvested cropland farms..	39 689	40 090	46 157	50 423	52 406	49 744	56 361	76 600
.....acres..	4 014 564	3 861 435	4 080 153	4 363 789	4 263 952	3 885 384	3 687 091	4 534 073
Irrigated land farms..	2 814	2 121	2 208	1 548	1 297	992	936	1 006
.....acres..	36 150	23 096	29 505	18 139	14 662	17 734	18 697	22 734
Market value of agricultural products sold ² \$1,000..	3 997 565	3 570 191	3 077 523	2 848 207	2 166 637	1 503 295	945 427	790 645
Average per farmdollars..	87 942	79 567	59 701	51 287	38 551	28 273	15 048	9 516
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ... \$1,000..	1 282 526	1 042 050	826 666	751 988	639 454	448 215	226 172	205 181
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	2 715 039	2 528 141	2 250 857	2 096 222	1 527 183	1 048 737	715 312	578 135
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	10 299	9 634	12 747	14 545	13 361	15 957	25 302	36 834
\$2,500 to \$4,999	5 036	5 314	6 517	6 989	7 954	5 546	6 778	9 957
\$5,000 to \$9,999	5 546	5 555	6 378	6 801	7 463	6 203	7 147	12 168
\$10,000 to \$24,999	6 384	6 199	6 720	7 144	8 409			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3 964	3 915	4 680	5 413	6 997	22 957	22 575	23 550
\$50,000 to \$99,999	4 630	5 241	6 893	7 402	7 691			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	8 299	7 998	6 846	6 571	3 901	2 276	906	486
\$500,000 or more	1 299	1 014	768	633	361	162	47	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	40 176	39 646	45 796	49 585	50 404	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	3 957	4 063	4 581	4 844	4 683	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	1 141	1 016	982	899	909	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	183	145	190	207	206	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	19 503	20 212	21 461	21 963	22 430	18 390	(NA)	(NA)
Any	22 778	21 243	26 610	29 470	31 074	25 718	35 451	41 763
200 days or more	14 611	13 501	17 104	18 949	20 189	17 206	22 868	26 566
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	25 635	26 959	29 797	31 058	30 946	31 555	(NA)	(NA)
Other	19 822	17 911	21 752	24 477	25 256	20 899	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	52.7	52.2	51.1	50.0	50.0	50.6	50.5	50.9
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	3 091 953	2 775 313	2 386 060	(NA)	(NA)	1 194 618	750 429	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	290 987	306 690	273 817	261 842	215 165	141 916	109 076	69 343
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	973 221	755 864	621 876	603 501	428 887	340 711	187 356	180 300
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	109 826	108 455	115 061	127 808	102 986	77 514	38 699	36 293
Petroleum products \$1,000..	112 649	107 247	98 275	140 305	88 701	58 145	34 242	35 610
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	362 811	352 456	292 030	224 174	177 403	112 822	84 802	70 403
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	146 763	144 542	146 793	182 961	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	77 519	66 144	59 518	47 445	36 916	22 956	13 942	(NA)
Livestock and poultry: Cattle and calves inventory	26 525	27 984	33 381	38 682	38 588	38 486	43 325	62 534
..... number..	1 672 295	1 699 820	1 745 617	1 848 087	1 698 928	1 762 477	1 646 196	1 789 033
Beef cows	11 237	11 461	13 429	15 986	15 345	14 518	(NA)	15 121
..... number..	169 134	157 773	160 694	174 078	165 725	192 330	142 768	123 082
Milk cows	10 920	12 448	15 096	17 894	18 963	20 873	25 337	42 981
..... number..	621 530	625 165	673 054	690 779	656 363	670 557	659 029	790 920
Cattle and calves sold farms..	24 783	26 008	31 243	34 855	35 790	35 539	40 399	53 003
..... number..	857 149	954 013	975 472	884 891	928 932	824 714	898 841	977 419
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	3 456	5 097	6 983	9 229	11 769	11 154	13 760	23 151
..... number..	1 100 754	1 074 574	919 755	869 389	782 922	492 745	510 443	449 661
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	2 971	4 577	6 495	8 176	10 297	9 436	12 112	14 890
..... number..	2 469 824	2 263 427	1 997 713	1 672 055	1 250 094	839 213	842 620	693 653
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	3 259	3 784	5 963	8 423	8 980	9 834	12 906	29 863
..... number..	27 856 467	29 682 108	25 548 494	24 389 045	17 996 450	14 277 518	15 367 883	17 636 682
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	845	839	1 052	1 262	1 368	1 277	914	826
..... number..	118 545 429	108 113 026	106 382 310	103 755 972	87 103 617	56 509 617	44 613 885	32 012 141

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 . .	18 732	21 610	26 968	31 699	33 703	33 547	34 738	47 510
acres . .	970 895	1 012 263	1 070 293	1 282 084	1 189 893	990 850	782 937	776 749
bushels . .	93 320 717	112 034 518	99 282 796	119 837 016	113 599 487	83 440 026	71 400 446	50 456 076
Wheat for grain farms . .	6 381	7 734	9 719	12 068	12 660	17 980	21 744	33 650
acres . .	167 488	182 021	186 100	221 454	194 226	267 810	262 492	438 172
bushels . .	8 526 375	8 670 089	7 663 537	7 790 790	6 310 367	9 587 480	9 192 962	13 739 060
Oats for grain farms . .	9 041	11 205	14 900	19 254	20 736	(NA)	(NA)	40 617
acres . .	144 456	184 186	243 257	307 410	304 116	(NA)	(NA)	504 667
bushels . .	8 122 302	11 064 027	13 881 340	18 088 854	15 669 686	(NA)	(NA)	23 478 587
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . .	31 387	32 640	38 129	41 299	43 765	40 098	44 393	(NA)
acres . .	1 890 462	1 787 980	1 915 370	1 862 212	1 961 780	1 613 289	1 585 904	2 107 217
tons, dry . .	3 931 973	4 091 919	4 477 463	4 230 141	4 379 817	3 582 148	3 324 784	3 505 392
Land in orchards farms . .	2 069	2 317	2 805	3 116	3 142	2 859	3 269	7 276
acres . .	56 029	57 656	66 537	68 124	70 928	68 702	77 555	87 556

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.