

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..	20 189	20 242	20 517	24 929	26 706	29 275	39 559	56 248
Land in farms acres..	4 593 452	4 472 569	4 758 631	5 589 799	6 045 719	6 177 024	6 991 718	8 101 417
Average size of farm acres..	228	221	232	224	226	211	177	144
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	324 834	251 583	201 169	208 524	171 558	98 609	46 171	24 948
Average per acre dollars..	1 482	1 137	871	946	758	467	261	171
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	902 193	667 725	639 734	761 038	692 409	449 233	261 675	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	44 687	33 077	31 252	30 576	26 002	16 418	7 138	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	1 224	1 302	1 337	1 471	1 499	1 689	2 479	4 642
10 to 49 acres	5 712	5 495	5 437	6 956	6 906	7 677	12 129	22 214
50 to 179 acres	7 502	7 591	7 742	9 421	10 551	11 942	15 605	19 585
180 to 499 acres	3 611	3 699	3 762	4 490	5 045	5 277	6 452	6 848
500 to 999 acres	1 225	1 263	1 303	1 560	1 638	1 631	1 875	1 903
1,000 to 1,999 acres	638	642	673	708	743	747	733	710
2,000 acres or more	277	250	263	323	324	312	286	346
Total cropland farms..	17 514	18 037	18 578	23 166	25 427	28 074	37 634	53 963
..... acres..	2 462 818	2 588 525	2 686 117	3 179 278	3 375 565	3 201 239	3 439 927	3 520 349
Harvested cropland farms..	13 426	14 587	15 556	20 144	22 875	24 757	32 189	50 005
..... acres..	1 654 535	1 590 794	1 589 636	2 474 025	2 524 147	2 250 952	2 041 755	2 263 258
Irrigated land farms..	1 248	1 219	1 216	946	770	446	675	1 337
..... acres..	86 477	75 681	80 689	81 326	32 031	10 335	15 003	18 524
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	1 588 173	1 066 079	878 683	968 554	854 974	676 496	362 215	349 071
Average per farm dollars..	78 665	52 667	42 827	38 853	32 014	23 108	9 156	6 206
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ... \$1,000..	791 104	562 036	451 285	601 018	543 171	459 882	204 961	247 706
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	797 069	504 043	427 398	367 536	311 804	206 582	150 263	92 925
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	8 155	7 341	7 419	9 288	8 910	12 087	22 706	32 674
\$2,500 to \$4,999	3 060	3 317	3 516	3 756	4 342	3 665	4 992	6 659
\$5,000 to \$9,999	2 714	2 897	2 900	3 308	3 857	3 882	4 575	7 597
\$10,000 to \$24,999	2 274	2 428	2 547	3 101	3 685	3 811	4 575	7 597
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1 003	1 301	1 276	1 621	2 154	8 116	6 743	6 953
\$50,000 to \$99,999	703	937	954	1 511	1 696	1 696	1 696	1 696
\$100,000 to \$499,999	1 432	1 554	1 592	2 044	1 862	1 395	498	338
\$500,000 or more	848	467	313	287	182	107	21	21
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	18 078	17 933	18 337	22 297	23 673	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	1 337	1 621	1 583	2 078	2 487	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	649	547	488	417	453	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	125	141	109	137	93	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	7 443	7 573	7 335	8 390	9 769	9 424	(NA)	(NA)
Any	11 615	11 271	11 791	14 172	15 596	14 484	22 500	26 532
200 days or more	8 472	8 326	8 549	10 118	10 866	10 077	14 309	16 425
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	7 959	8 866	8 983	11 299	12 477	15 659	(NA)	(NA)
Other	12 230	11 376	11 534	13 630	14 229	13 303	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	56.3	55.5	54.5	52.6	51.9	53.4	53.1	51.9
Total farm production expenses ⁵ , \$1,000..	1 233 736	897 923	736 918	(NA)	(NA)	509 937	319 907	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	88 949	66 195	62 818	53 566	46 966	30 450	26 649	12 941
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	410 005	199 673	170 086	141 310	129 971	96 996	54 515	34 109
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	92 169	83 614	68 222	97 736	94 953	84 760	44 546	42 878
Petroleum products \$1,000..	59 101	54 384	41 808	73 992	50 757	33 816	24 433	23 135
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	129 512	111 836	92 317	79 734	79 173	53 247	46 003	38 946
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	47 350	40 773	42 815	74 196	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	76 319	57 191	42 545	59 103	48 546	31 020	15 980	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	9 902	10 026	10 227	12 133	11 683	13 825	16 600	28 663
..... number..	453 631	451 719	428 491	507 279	474 050	589 827	515 832	555 424
Beef cows farms..	8 671	8 998	8 903	10 278	9 978	10 557	(NA)	17 027
..... number..	229 048	222 566	205 344	226 482	219 696	279 175	199 338	207 131
Milk cows farms..	394	540	697	1 219	1 485	2 478	3 866	11 657
..... number..	24 766	31 923	40 113	47 559	45 544	47 718	56 478	77 150
Cattle and calves sold farms..	9 287	9 337	9 635	10 583	10 628	11 811	13 025	16 087
..... number..	216 812	200 396	218 766	213 608	245 161	219 844	248 596	221 412
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	1 226	2 237	3 249	4 709	7 210	7 654	13 132	28 225
..... number..	304 793	327 572	352 413	399 810	478 660	345 282	414 291	369 367
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	1 031	2 048	3 031	3 965	6 341	6 129	10 106	11 688
..... number..	711 109	637 592	619 986	646 956	690 956	533 466	534 342	421 394
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	730	920	1 477	2 320	3 177	4 295	7 443	27 503
..... number..	5 711 843	5 739 400	7 539 759	7 475 114	6 957 373	6 203 860	6 835 645	4 758 926
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	366	292	227	210	216	193	243	229
..... number..	158 678 646	106 171 059	60 295 197	41 578 104	30 821 889	20 674 220	23 425 555	16 220 809

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:								
Corn for grain or seed farms . . .	3 531	4 346	6 292	7 942	11 240	13 913	17 888	33 434
acres . .	300 934	311 947	309 791	384 966	523 326	451 165	386 999	415 380
bushels . .	28 107 576	27 192 657	22 143 190	31 085 287	29 268 243	28 218 982	19 172 480	16 534 566
Wheat for grain farms . . .	2 138	2 237	3 097	4 478	1 216	2 633	3 372	5 323
acres . .	306 935	240 634	213 374	426 528	53 730	101 057	64 905	79 315
bushels . .	14 500 101	10 470 395	7 558 179	14 810 264	1 745 494	2 688 032	2 165 011	2 091 759
Soybeans for beans farms . . .	3 044	4 015	5 220	10 552	12 811	13 439	14 038	13 539
acres . .	507 687	532 909	597 258	1 385 643	1 404 636	1 081 703	851 524	621 223
bushels . .	11 554 522	11 521 171	12 872 219	29 039 562	29 082 744	21 516 524	18 613 432	12 907 064
Cotton farms . . .	894	861	744	417	488	2 509	10 161	25 928
acres . .	285 858	191 690	116 424	95 392	100 793	256 082	300 240	525 582
bales . .	397 545	223 658	102 078	147 897	114 401	265 454	236 417	554 072
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . . .	7 618	7 056	7 272	7 481	7 765	7 119	7 846	(NA)
acres . .	287 002	244 228	230 800	216 153	211 184	157 401	151 046	236 486
tons, dry . .	592 327	481 619	432 109	414 498	405 556	309 783	293 363	354 017

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.