

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..	76 818	75 076	79 711	90 565	86 910	93 659	121 406	133 446
Land in farms acres..	11 122 363	11 169 086	11 731 386	12 474 931	12 680 809	13 103 224	15 056 907	15 266 213
Average size of farm acres..	145	149	147	138	146	140	124	114
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	261 209	186 171	146 126	139 141	125 238	65 308	33 176	20 509
Average per acre dollars..	1 808	1 245	1 001	1 014	856	467	268	179
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	2 547 208	1 906 868	1 803 541	1 870 910	1 561 026	1 034 937	581 265	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	33 158	25 520	22 700	20 713	17 997	12 061	5 263	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	5 919	7 336	7 306	9 481	7 611	6 603	10 469	12 654
10 to 49 acres	24 401	22 173	23 209	26 965	23 141	24 759	35 117	41 406
50 to 179 acres	30 719	29 572	32 266	35 998	37 057	42 677	53 177	57 100
180 to 499 acres	11 924	11 873	12 697	13 757	14 806	15 845	18 592	18 647
500 to 999 acres	2 544	2 707	2 906	3 065	3 037	2 870	3 122	2 792
1,000 to 1,999 acres	945	1 062	984	995	993	867	717	645
2,000 acres or more	366	353	343	304	265	238	212	202
Total cropland farms..	69 393	69 297	73 703	84 774	82 450	89 518	115 086	127 992
..... acres..	7 069 470	7 086 879	7 185 903	7 602 106	7 786 086	7 756 516	8 403 509	7 855 209
Harvested cropland farms..	56 016	58 527	63 754	74 518	73 823	77 885	96 958	115 755
..... acres..	4 064 058	3 817 720	3 854 302	4 548 895	4 409 331	3 746 117	3 472 039	3 617 961
Irrigated land farms..	1 768	1 544	1 899	1 141	1 254	836	1 299	1 086
..... acres..	45 581	36 974	37 776	17 745	13 163	9 860	12 158	10 737
Market value of agricultural products sold ² \$1,000..	2 178 389	1 933 506	1 617 636	1 683 852	1 395 535	933 168	623 142	528 841
Average per farm dollars..	28 358	25 754	20 294	18 593	16 057	9 963	5 132	3 963
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ... \$1,000..	1 143 674	969 439	701 828	848 819	658 403	455 513	225 702	277 438
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	1 034 714	964 067	915 807	835 033	737 132	471 163	391 843	245 935
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	27 201	21 446	27 451	29 211	26 650	46 356	76 130	85 560
\$2,500 to \$4,999	14 578	14 365	16 106	19 026	19 438	16 129	18 895	23 365
\$5,000 to \$9,999	13 751	14 918	14 398	16 859	16 900	13 052	13 298	13 804
\$10,000 to \$24,999	11 217	13 088	11 446	13 458	13 079			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3 987	4 641	4 127	5 129	5 094	15 949	12 704	10 486
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2 176	2 681	2 719	3 358	3 137			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3 138	3 448	3 168	3 261	2 427	1 287	319	188
\$500,000 or more	770	489	296	238	145	54	20	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	69 585	66 992	71 976	80 881	77 317	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	6 275	7 234	6 947	8 910	8 868	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	681	556	496	511	590	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	277	294	292	263	135	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	25 230	25 395	26 744	27 751	28 951	27 280	(NA)	(NA)
Any	47 484	44 536	48 882	54 964	53 627	49 440	75 178	65 970
200 days or more	35 678	33 366	36 187	39 278	38 586	34 964	47 040	38 455
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	27 680	29 878	30 745	36 802	36 209	45 902	(NA)	(NA)
Other	49 138	45 198	48 966	53 763	50 701	47 458	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	55.4	54.6	53.8	52.3	52.0	53.3	53.0	52.6
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000..	1 641 727	1 492 457	1 282 885	(NA)	(NA)	710 922	502 903	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	148 848	153 877	142 988	127 847	126 405	77 524	76 713	40 150
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	312 849	266 443	237 592	228 199	209 886	178 820	107 030	75 551
Commercial fertilizer ⁵ \$1,000..	160 025	148 377	119 418	124 921	107 441	81 352	43 068	36 845
Petroleum products \$1,000..	85 428	83 727	72 838	107 387	66 198	42 791	31 000	27 245
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	159 187	138 434	117 140	109 251	81 407	48 754	45 006	35 891
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	113 698	110 900	115 019	161 398	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵ \$1,000..	94 026	79 851	57 923	57 848	40 824	20 575	11 997	(NA)
Livestock and poultry: Cattle and calves inventory farms..	51 089	50 592	52 965	60 924	56 962	70 107	80 613	100 666
..... number..	2 145 405	2 162 660	2 008 570	2 242 905	2 056 341	2 751 114	2 243 754	2 136 014
Beef cows farms..	44 235	43 333	43 616	48 768	46 237	51 003	(NA)	59 449
..... number..	1 039 583	988 550	894 348	914 784	896 058	1 210 576	856 235	756 175
Milk cows farms..	2 096	3 295	4 781	8 098	9 662	16 154	25 141	52 931
..... number..	111 985	152 067	180 390	217 234	204 084	233 939	274 418	369 960
Cattle and calves sold farms..	49 234	47 955	51 558	56 117	55 515	64 704	74 025	85 209
..... number..	1 126 232	1 043 627	1 077 665	1 043 430	1 200 619	1 068 949	1 237 368	1 058 486
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	2 043	4 912	8 465	12 963	19 535	21 191	33 398	55 403
..... number..	321 806	604 613	774 530	866 226	1 016 050	701 629	1 099 148	957 856
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	1 579	4 522	7 874	11 268	17 584	17 140	27 959	33 247
..... number..	714 999	1 293 654	1 484 049	1 512 090	1 698 418	1 286 124	1 870 686	1 478 932
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	2 657	3 328	5 810	9 655	11 567	17 015	26 336	67 949
..... number..	2 221 215	1 906 094	3 266 829	3 578 895	4 856 685	4 832 565	5 604 744	5 811 345
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	548	489	509	498	583	702	783	874
..... number..	120 830 210	98 516 358	75 974 462	53 916 803	51 590 460	35 289 808	412 404 441	36 220 128

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 . .	5 854	9 143	13 715	18 711	21 871	26 268	32 124	55 801
acres . .	575 878	605 287	553 943	563 467	615 553	426 926	568 949	804 129
bushels . .	58 459 483	67 755 811	47 899 079	48 544 140	42 165 218	25 685 139	28 991 484	39 398 126
Wheat for grain farms . .	2 360	3 011	4 579	8 357	3 885	6 607	6 702	8 088
acres . .	305 175	276 243	324 984	720 123	145 777	241 891	152 424	153 450
bushels . .	13 482 402	12 175 250	12 749 682	25 038 992	5 092 917	7 017 893	5 015 459	4 499 006
Soybeans for beans farms . .	4 926	5 232	7 797	14 359	15 433	15 233	12 706	9 010
acres . .	1 156 282	915 223	1 184 778	2 104 123	2 105 885	1 401 705	971 948	560 263
bushels . .	37 976 452	30 313 156	27 367 017	55 353 433	49 101 186	29 315 109	22 858 585	12 628 683
Cotton farms . .	1 156	2 137	2 545	1 850	2 308	8 119	19 554	27 499
acres . .	472 165	598 838	411 100	241 998	227 995	497 362	413 512	497 142
bales . .	629 487	793 302	566 890	306 159	232 005	310 287	427 960	641 268
Tobacco farms . .	14 995	22 953	25 052	36 515	33 938	34 419	53 581	56 308
acres . .	59 427	75 621	51 578	82 390	66 813	49 486	58 648	68 605
pounds . .	106 785 282	139 367 463	85 715 814	155 161 237	125 808 371	91 360 581	111 492 016	129 335 981
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . .	44 161	40 529	44 314	43 737	45 584	47 431	50 802	(NA)
acres . .	1 646 290	1 410 204	1 372 674	1 127 138	1 146 423	1 052 796	1 048 022	1 201 780
tons, dry . .	3 326 031	2 616 430	2 161 679	1 923 652	1 833 474	1 764 108	1 631 323	1 735 490

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.