

**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..	194 301	180 644	188 788	185 020	175 395	174 068	213 550	205 110
Land in farms ..... acres..	131 308 286	130 886 608	130 502 792	131 310 306	135 619 617	134 185 289	142 566 826	141 706 309
Average size of farm ..... acres..	676	725	691	710	773	771	668	691
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm ..... dollars..	398 126	360 153	374 742	386 138	294 473	187 073	99 133	77 756
Average per acre ..... dollars..	593	499	544	544	378	243	148	112
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> , \$1,000..	7 781 878	5 964 679	5 702 706	5 603 585	4 490 192	2 749 766	1 643 238	(NA)
Average per farm ..... dollars..	40 062	33 206	30 351	30 436	25 721	17 405	8 292	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres .....	11 930	11 122	12 770	10 899	7 611	6 843	10 790	6 748
10 to 49 acres .....	41 615	34 514	37 063	33 673	22 867	20 951	27 315	31 723
50 to 179 acres .....	59 420	54 214	57 666	58 198	56 742	57 611	69 574	66 789
180 to 499 acres .....	39 674	38 602	39 143	40 246	43 356	44 783	56 667	55 054
500 to 999 acres .....	18 495	18 900	19 327	19 962	21 760	21 760	26 199	23 943
1,000 to 1,999 acres .....	12 310	12 720	12 629	12 047	12 871	12 079	13 064	11 081
2,000 acres or more .....	10 857	10 672	10 190	9 995	10 188	10 038	9 941	9 772
Total cropland ..... farms..	149 104	140 222	147 174	145 880	145 748	146 373	176 790	164 645
Harvested cropland ..... acres..	37 662 040	36 381 847	35 610 951	36 597 685	39 403 578	36 498 951	39 762 277	34 268 764
Irrigated land ..... farms..	18 756	18 784	19 806	19 775	24 418	22 634	28 552	27 114
..... acres..	5 484 663	4 912 308	4 271 043	5 575 553	6 947 079	6 593 832	6 888 075	6 384 963
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> , \$1,000..	13 766 527	12 004 385	10 548 907	8 936 363	8 229 298	5 638 180	3 291 422	2 225 025
Average per farm ..... dollars..	70 852	66 453	55 877	48 299	46 919	32 391	15 413	10 848
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops, \$1,000..	4 293 474	3 334 065	2 962 663	3 025 698	2 694 552	2 171 042	1 003 668	1 190 141
Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000..	9 473 054	8 670 320	7 586 244	5 910 665	5 534 746	3 460 066	2 283 682	1 025 311
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 .....	67 440	52 446	58 693	63 042	46 582	73 094	99 977	108 917
\$2,500 to \$4,999 .....	31 746	28 770	31 227	30 795	31 598	24 285	33 239	26 174
\$5,000 to \$9,999 .....	30 136	29 303	30 076	27 367	29 220	22 242	28 847	23 381
\$10,000 to \$24,999 .....	27 410	29 226	28 350	25 771	27 680			
\$25,000 to \$49,999 .....	12 317	13 701	13 467	13 512	15 491	45 424	47 696	44 061
\$50,000 to \$99,999 .....	8 252	10 147	10 598	10 689	11 904			
\$100,000 to \$499,999 .....	13 196	14 293	14 235	12 020	11 502	8 083	3 378	
\$500,000 or more .....	3 804	2 758	2 142	1 749	1 306	841	333	2 499
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship) .....	170 640	158 121	167 602	164 243	155 393	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership .....	16 776	16 182	15 946	16 263	16 418	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation .....	5 269	4 893	3 945	3 257	2 692	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	1 616	1 448	1 295	1 257	892	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None .....	68 078	67 672	65 582	57 284	62 487	54 846	(NA)	(NA)
Any .....	114 962	101 160	113 615	113 183	105 847	87 463	128 269	102 651
200 days or more .....	79 338	69 482	77 778	80 043	73 443	60 563	82 614	64 705
Operators by principal occupation <sup>4</sup> :								
Farming .....	83 284	85 937	83 684	79 900	75 007	86 373	(NA)	(NA)
Other .....	111 017	94 707	105 104	105 120	100 388	85 667	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>4</sup> ..... years..	56.6	56.1	54.4	52.9	52.4	53.7	52.7	53.3
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000..	11 636 594	10 431 343	8 911 631	(NA)	(NA)	4 984 611	3 041 800	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased ..... \$1,000..	3 221 969	3 516 453	3 134 939	2 356 028	2 315 360	1 344 068	944 659	277 176
Feed for livestock and poultry ..... \$1,000..	2 868 805	2 063 320	1 565 112	1 562 467	1 503 227	1 317 088	561 909	339 443
Commercial fertilizer <sup>5</sup> ..... \$1,000..	526 663	445 433	339 641	367 989	329 182	285 918	135 822	96 194
Petroleum products ..... \$1,000..	524 744	486 457	416 266	601 320	404 096	226 295	146 986	143 105
Hired farm labor ..... \$1,000..	785 447	729 915	630 271	480 462	431 842	300 700	237 489	202 804
Interest <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	498 389	451 603	486 757	608 466	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>5</sup> ..... \$1,000..	345 517	288 639	246 176	208 539	167 418	89 312	59 292	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory ..... farms..	144 354	134 669	142 244	143 483	133 825	138 563	163 711	169 872
..... number..	14 532 814	13 242 832	13 020 910	12 611 712	12 701 049	13 377 867	12 484 716	9 786 430
Beef cows ..... farms..	124 980	118 728	123 291	125 651	119 752	113 683	(NA)	150 351
..... number..	5 347 457	5 186 359	5 138 558	5 223 321	5 233 424	5 991 030	5 348 313	4 871 625
Milk cows ..... farms..	4 113	5 381	5 899	8 721	9 937	13 687	21 216	42 202
..... number..	374 816	394 587	356 538	323 039	307 297	297 921	332 067	391 865
Cattle and calves sold ..... farms..	138 701	130 386	139 727	138 271	136 332	137 105	159 783	152 245
..... number..	13 028 674	11 468 849	12 120 310	10 599 615	12 058 716	10 180 184	9 758 803	6 112 086
Hogs and pigs inventory ..... farms..	5 428	6 537	7 717	9 484	12 174	12 107	22 698	33 257
..... number..	578 664	460 175	527 942	559 590	782 173	811 559	1 006 910	619 923
Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms..	3 659	4 995	6 190	7 383	10 183	9 441	19 083	18 132
..... number..	903 226	810 047	923 228	925 301	1 238 640	1 406 927	1 650 095	997 418
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms..	6 473	7 595	13 201	16 871	16 257	19 860	30 789	69 617
..... number..	20 184 249	19 728 363	19 601 318	15 061 107	13 738 886	14 155 071	16 004 907	15 113 400
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	1 000	916	1 023	1 022	1 213	1 375	1 796	1 913
..... number..	388 114 496	292 758 887	226 038 116	176 390 727	168 330 357	146 502 086	156 150 513	124 197 718

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
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain or seed . . . . . farms..	5 855	7 393	9 131	9 192	12 223	14 057	19 039	37 650
acres..	1 656 229	1 549 680	1 227 335	1 097 305	1 286 697	782 986	567 137	701 586
bushels..	219 361 590	180 025 937	123 806 676	110 164 572	115 710 749	62 837 989	25 237 669	22 163 997
Sorghum for grain or seed . . . . . farms..	10 438	13 942	15 935	20 348	23 280	32 749	40 969	40 386
acres..	3 041 937	3 984 934	2 665 237	4 812 115	4 498 511	5 612 585	5 983 584	4 385 620
bushels..	175 279 096	222 512 221	155 573 425	256 044 797	205 070 846	263 602 187	280 953 610	201 610 294
Wheat for grain . . . . . farms..	13 669	14 877	19 386	22 647	15 103	20 197	25 170	29 172
acres..	3 860 325	3 726 217	3 649 104	5 087 248	2 691 350	3 489 127	2 813 316	3 125 227
bushels..	108 242 787	111 202 412	98 226 965	123 039 757	55 182 535	60 811 842	65 087 965	60 570 209
Rice . . . . . farms..	843	1 276	1 212	1 157	1 393	(NA)	(NA)	1 634
acres..	280 676	369 539	299 388	520 896	597 729	(NA)	(NA)	475 785
cwt..	15 348 483	20 026 016	16 345 153	24 702 306	27 807 754	(NA)	(NA)	19 723 700
Cotton . . . . . farms..	10 971	11 237	16 557	16 292	23 035	26 334	47 730	54 472
acres..	5 221 561	3 620 070	4 349 755	4 522 787	6 476 184	4 493 986	5 032 040	5 643 643
bales..	4 828 062	3 212 770	4 071 552	2 715 950	3 746 038	2 505 597	3 040 790	3 915 081
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) . . . . . farms..	83 219	74 836	76 357	71 265	72 168	61 089	61 208	(NA)
acres..	4 277 199	3 607 387	3 252 216	2 851 469	3 024 941	2 350 721	2 113 732	2 083 997
tons, dry..	9 605 686	8 055 561	6 684 785	5 689 779	5 189 390	4 415 658	3 544 003	3 116 241
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>8</sup> . . . . . farms..	2 432	3 286	3 237	3 434	3 531	3 414	5 041	8 438
acres..	140 522	189 997	201 702	210 873	219 694	158 148	236 125	295 297

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

<sup>4</sup>Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships.

<sup>5</sup>Data for 1964 to 1982 do not include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals include the cost of lime for 1969 to 1978.

<sup>6</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

<sup>7</sup>Data for 1969 to 1992 are for chickens 3 months old or older inventory; data for 1964 are for chickens 4 months old or older.

<sup>8</sup>Data for 1974 were from land area used.