

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..	14 181	13 520	14 066	13 984	12 764	12 184	13 045	15 759
Land in farms acres..	12 024 661	9 624 463	9 989 073	9 772 942	10 470 564	10 610 050	11 312 951	12 867 081
Average size of farm acres..	848	712	710	699	820	871	867	817
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	486 235	347 982	302 838	389 678	320 234	163 989	79 705	57 747
Average per acre dollars..	575	491	425	560	391	188	92	71
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ .. \$1,000..	725 177	526 636	499 126	472 803	370 829	245 726	121 489	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	51 148	39 126	35 685	33 985	29 176	21 114	9 630	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	2 590	2 262	2 365	2 358	1 424	1 116	1 395	1 805
10 to 49 acres	3 978	3 735	3 835	3 938	3 218	2 948	3 159	4 085
50 to 179 acres	3 245	3 176	3 437	3 345	3 486	3 538	3 870	4 645
180 to 499 acres	2 042	2 057	2 137	2 135	2 290	2 217	2 247	2 569
500 to 999 acres	945	927	941	896	941	904	933	994
1,000 to 1,999 acres	646	582	598	572	607	639	592	661
2,000 acres or more	735	781	753	740	798	822	849	1 000
Total cropland farms..	12 227	11 700	12 233	12 349	11 779	11 327	12 055	14 570
..... acres..	2 069 751	2 093 779	2 028 537	1 920 459	2 006 845	1 838 683	1 944 576	2 069 514
Harvested cropland farms..	10 393	10 173	10 752	11 078	10 951	10 692	11 103	13 759
..... acres..	1 107 928	1 043 347	1 076 886	1 118 486	1 163 141	1 089 243	1 024 475	1 039 040
Irrigated land farms..	11 291	10 901	11 143	11 174	10 822	9 701	10 282	13 762
..... acres..	1 212 201	1 142 514	1 161 207	1 082 328	1 168 621	969 645	1 025 014	1 092 270
Market value of agricultural products sold ² \$1,000..	877 295	725 159	617 882	555 428	465 380	338 649	212 977	158 772
Average per farm dollars..	61 864	53 636	43 927	39 719	36 460	27 795	16 326	10 075
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	247 443	181 380	130 441	130 233	101 550	94 887	38 557	33 966
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	629 852	543 779	487 442	425 195	363 831	243 622	174 365	124 429
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	4 226	3 979	4 380	4 299	3 187	3 491	4 637	7 019
\$2,500 to \$4,999	1 867	1 751	1 894	1 924	1 968	1 662	1 920	2 504
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1 904	1 845	1 854	1 990	1 900	1 846	1 981	2 386
\$10,000 to \$24,999	2 270	2 217	2 272	2 151	2 215	4 433	4 053	3 527
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1 328	1 241	1 272	1 279	1 372			
\$50,000 to \$99,999	949	987	1 005	1 000	1 024			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	1 317	1 275	1 218	1 162	874			
\$500,000 or more	320	225	171	127	87	537 53	265 24	143
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	11 503	11 030	11 660	11 605	10 625	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	1 545	1 616	1 619	1 514	1 374	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	828	665	599	551	473	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	305	209	188	314	292	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	4 842	4 550	4 566	4 072	4 293	3 271	(NA)	(NA)
Any	8 726	8 142	8 688	8 925	7 942	6 489	8 345	9 648
200 days or more	6 066	5 614	5 834	6 218	5 288	4 168	5 505	6 316
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	5 987	6 269	6 350	6 155	6 041	6 287	(NA)	(NA)
Other	8 194	7 251	7 716	7 829	6 723	5 388	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	55.4	54.8	53.7	52.0	51.9	52.6	51.4	51.3
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	699 532	602 812	494 641	(NA)	(NA)	288 132	181 123	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	82 463	103 978	84 657	80 313	74 543	52 074	43 778	28 579
Feed for livestock and poultry..... \$1,000..	198 854	135 079	101 717	108 719	102 272	87 162	39 544	34 568
Commercial fertilizer ⁵ \$1,000..	22 174	17 412	13 229	10 327	11 893	9 442	4 012	2 834
Petroleum products \$1,000..	37 590	34 722	29 726	35 676	22 427	14 589	9 246	8 762
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	79 611	72 014	51 365	42 066	34 946	22 269	17 868	14 247
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	50 664	42 771	47 504	59 617	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵ \$1,000..	9 374	8 569	8 604	5 302	4 624	2 471	1 250	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	7 986	7 530	7 854	8 757	8 114	8 087	8 293	11 207
..... number..	916 090	860 830	855 338	855 997	804 935	839 849	735 847	748 238
Beef cows farms..	5 749	5 306	5 430	5 773	5 483	5 246	(NA)	6 080
..... number..	383 790	356 971	346 462	320 470	315 625	335 417	275 854	268 435
Milk cows farms..	891	1 082	1 447	2 325	2 480	2 828	3 501	6 235
..... number..	92 953	80 369	76 610	90 108	78 520	77 659	70 297	75 217
Cattle and calves sold farms..	7 598	7 212	7 520	7 836	7 608	7 547	7 871	9 775
..... number..	524 128	506 739	499 464	458 467	467 458	431 649	450 478	399 786
Hogs and pigs inventory ... farms..	511	727	748	1 061	1 356	1 384	1 554	2 633
..... number..	292 472	43 017	33 643	38 748	46 929	37 295	39 200	38 465
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	379	575	575	746	1 020	912	1 158	1 544
..... number..	330 515	61 407	48 290	50 369	61 212	56 142	59 787	54 934
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	535	622	1 008	1 417	1 189	1 171	1 224	3 276
..... number..	1 921 163	1 778 605	2 089 320	2 101 959	2 294 011	2 109 377	1 515 087	1 106 513
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	19	21	23	43	29	29	38	43
..... number..	(D)	5 091	7 793	4 357	2 483	64 061	1 502 660	1 138 273

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:								
Wheat for grain farms..	1 148	1 274	1 711	1 703	2 054	3 623	4 088	4 331
acres..	182 372	177 360	191 384	237 229	254 279	264 168	219 709	203 207
bushels..	7 832 313	6 295 501	7 149 004	6 662 449	6 672 767	6 377 354	5 814 608	4 915 551
Barley for grain farms..	1 929	2 345	3 139	3 863	4 281	(NA)	(NA)	5 929
acres..	94 072	104 213	126 345	150 908	145 346	(NA)	(NA)	118 561
bushels..	7 422 580	7 879 596	9 506 857	10 949 532	9 059 083	(NA)	(NA)	5 665 904
Oats for grain farms..	481	681	789	1 054	1 152	(NA)	(NA)	2 161
acres..	9 208	11 923	11 107	13 312	14 270	(NA)	(NA)	18 699
bushels..	643 121	669 910	699 305	784 230	762 236	(NA)	(NA)	920 175
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms..	9 033	8 660	9 114	9 312	9 267	8 853	9 026	(NA)
acres..	740 740	660 762	649 688	614 816	625 177	550 926	517 638	563 119
tons, dry..	2 533 360	2 073 029	1 962 334	1 877 759	1 759 548	1 537 290	1 486 499	1 401 053

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.