

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..	41 095	42 222	44 799	51 859	49 936	52 699	64 572	80 354
Land in farms acres..	8 228 226	8 297 011	8 676 336	9 436 854	9 459 429	9 678 307	10 649 862	12 001 860
Average size of farm acres..	200	197	194	182	189	184	165	149
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	384 979	320 488	232 374	205 034	171 658	102 388	47 191	27 572
Average per acre dollars..	1 920	1 636	1 198	1 125	900	558	286	183
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	1 718 392	1 388 837	1 350 875	1 396 216	1 060 091	699 383	371 956	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	41 835	33 090	30 249	26 976	21 282	14 487	6 234	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	2 864	3 357	3 408	4 158	3 891	3 544	4 600	6 730
10 to 49 acres	10 283	10 361	10 753	12 762	10 836	11 521	15 169	22 024
50 to 179 acres	15 938	16 293	17 530	20 489	20 393	22 480	27 735	32 981
180 to 499 acres	8 293	8 422	9 252	10 393	10 737	11 282	13 180	14 512
500 to 999 acres	2 469	2 517	2 624	2 837	2 909	2 756	2 889	3 068
1,000 to 1,999 acres	923	987	968	956	917	852	793	802
2,000 acres or more	325	285	264	264	253	264	206	237
Total cropland farms..	37 177	38 779	41 491	48 550	47 652	50 419	60 877	75 021
..... acres..	4 322 425	4 311 840	4 363 106	4 559 543	4 508 938	4 432 097	4 600 549	4 009 873
Harvested cropland farms..	32 124	34 255	37 332	44 259	44 643	46 485	54 192	71 748
..... acres..	2 520 961	2 449 013	2 406 976	2 779 282	2 599 660	2 446 897	2 277 878	2 566 117
Irrigated land farms..	2 337	2 312	3 054	1 839	2 416	1 965	2 078	4 452
..... acres..	84 926	61 759	78 681	42 824	42 030	28 257	36 618	50 968
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	2 343 518	2 055 958	1 588 770	1 606 915	1 261 255	959 687	570 335	469 651
Average per farm dollars..	57 027	48 694	35 464	30 986	25 257	18 211	8 832	5 845
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops, \$1,000..	780 099	696 489	465 379	629 303	503 579	435 652	220 445	219 925
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	1 563 418	1 359 469	1 123 391	977 612	757 676	514 246	341 829	239 617
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	10 999	10 546	13 622	15 842	14 432	21 495	33 943	47 655
\$2,500 to \$4,999	6 754	7 161	7 995	9 509	9 398	8 316	10 161	12 462
\$5,000 to \$9,999	7 203	7 687	7 580	8 558	8 595	7 893	8 760	9 882
\$10,000 to \$24,999	7 011	7 402	6 895	7 753	8 053			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3 042	3 266	3 028	3 660	3 847	13 054	11 038	9 975
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1 965	1 946	2 102	2 617	2 729			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3 035	3 439	3 110	3 541	2 657	1 791	587	321
\$500,000 or more	1 086	775	467	349	186	106	29	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	35 824	36 866	39 344	45 731	43 964	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	3 425	3 786	4 004	4 765	4 855	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	1 620	1 327	1 173	1 023	895	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	226	243	278	340	222	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	15 297	15 878	16 275	17 984	18 711	17 449	(NA)	(NA)
Any	23 215	23 465	25 826	29 561	28 719	25 591	36 797	37 459
200 days or more	16 433	16 795	18 291	20 648	19 508	17 377	23 006	23 229
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	18 410	19 571	20 617	24 090	24 425	28 599	(NA)	(NA)
Other	22 685	22 651	24 182	27 769	25 511	23 521	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	56.4	55.6	54.5	53.3	52.9	54.1	53.8	53.8
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000..	1 924 690	1 699 051	1 334 393	(NA)	(NA)	745 380	459 986	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	208 871	230 888	169 333	161 849	131 379	92 487	71 250	36 685
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	649 741	461 703	360 422	295 721	238 693	181 081	85 744	76 856
Commercial fertilizer ⁵ \$1,000..	113 688	108 844	92 982	116 005	93 963	80 091	40 059	36 101
Petroleum products \$1,000..	79 765	79 225	64 261	98 762	60 344	38 960	25 693	24 009
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	192 798	188 671	145 364	126 893	103 504	69 582	56 303	45 930
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	85 752	85 120	83 237	105 832	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵ \$1,000..	69 655	64 381	51 382	50 270	35 570	22 243	12 490	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	26 547	27 638	28 325	33 114	30 642	34 943	40 120	56 750
..... number..	1 639 058	1 653 191	1 510 920	1 672 006	1 455 042	1 703 583	1 422 418	1 312 301
Beef cows farms..	21 753	22 519	22 228	25 556	23 163	24 760	(NA)	28 496
..... number..	688 541	674 068	581 298	617 787	545 240	659 896	479 130	437 461
Milk cows farms..	1 871	2 369	3 372	5 577	7 005	10 726	16 038	36 693
..... number..	121 823	140 033	157 128	173 418	167 777	175 673	190 864	245 881
Cattle and calves sold farms..	26 350	26 917	28 222	31 287	29 692	32 127	36 476	46 660
..... number..	906 897	855 634	859 708	814 465	783 226	719 470	805 392	712 376
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	1 170	2 085	3 711	7 239	10 168	12 202	17 243	36 080
..... number..	385 755	412 736	345 058	474 393	537 412	502 033	535 949	479 894
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	823	1 596	3 016	5 282	7 768	8 450	12 247	13 727
..... number..	710 320	715 452	642 863	804 740	912 766	902 641	845 756	640 151
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	1 588	2 069	3 194	5 445	6 568	8 708	13 996	37 741
..... number..	4 834 867	6 191 513	6 605 717	4 510 736	4 751 709	5 131 750	4 254 883	5 742 585
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	671	640	567	559	561	578	777	975
..... number..	258 684 455	201 697 436	142 971 809	120 078 522	85 628 152	66 214 566	60 027 933	44 638 871

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 . . .	4 395	6 169	8 162	15 288	17 564	20 890	24 571	38 022
acres . .	318 208	361 326	341 412	611 032	612 215	543 067	423 864	433 862
bushels . .	29 480 704	40 633 506	20 941 850	58 283 179	50 865 163	43 268 674	32 511 424	24 255 072
Wheat for grain farms . . .	2 888	3 670	4 339	6 594	5 051	10 115	10 745	14 766
acres . .	257 063	241 042	188 428	296 840	123 985	258 366	151 983	177 148
bushels . .	15 504 394	12 598 036	8 065 684	10 873 751	4 427 658	9 636 104	6 477 754	5 086 620
Soybeans for beans farms . . .	3 135	3 709	4 586	7 247	6 925	7 950	7 011	8 838
acres . .	487 001	507 878	459 924	612 399	474 287	421 462	303 038	319 294
bushels . .	11 406 611	15 742 573	10 421 715	17 698 179	13 015 028	10 011 420	7 776 397	6 370 491
Tobacco farms . . .	5 870	8 444	9 750	13 485	14 835	15 903	21 183	27 695
acres . .	54 035	55 419	45 121	64 005	70 928	67 308	66 293	78 542
pounds . .	115 735 107	113 240 049	80 582 854	122 488 095	131 522 222	122 370 907	117 547 795	151 808 299
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . . .	25 028	25 282	27 244	28 796	28 860	28 667	31 469	(NA)
acres . .	1 189 425	1 101 530	1 075 203	948 741	910 150	787 434	775 454	988 039
tons, dry . .	2 291 672	2 180 604	1 832 905	1 714 484	1 535 228	1 403 313	1 278 689	1 233 824
Land in orchards farms . . .	1 080	1 387	1 463	1 714	1 808	1 653	2 072	4 659
acres . .	27 650	32 963	34 027	36 274	38 452	41 955	48 992	55 276

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.