

**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..	29 011	30 264	33 559	36 080	30 987	29 410	34 033	45 574
Land in farms ..... acres..	15 179 710	15 726 007	16 115 568	16 469 678	16 721 836	16 661 902	17 559 187	19 052 538
Average size of farm ..... acres..	523	520	480	456	540	567	516	418
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm ..... dollars..	634 619	468 482	355 976	423 352	358 679	198 154	115 487	64 304
Average per acre ..... dollars..	1 192	892	739	933	659	350	224	154
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> , \$1,000..	2 021 640	1 843 190	1 537 272	1 652 940	1 292 959	761 653	419 570	(NA)
Average per farm ..... dollars..	69 693	61 053	45 905	45 947	41 814	26 853	12 724	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres .....	5 195	5 408	6 040	6 425	4 161	3 330	3 708	4 604
10 to 49 acres .....	9 727	10 115	11 362	12 717	9 896	8 739	10 817	17 098
50 to 179 acres .....	6 250	6 536	7 216	7 755	7 433	7 626	8 782	11 901
180 to 499 acres .....	3 138	3 336	3 796	4 038	4 136	4 287	4 696	5 579
500 to 999 acres .....	1 618	1 699	1 855	1 927	2 000	2 051	2 384	2 625
1,000 to 1,999 acres .....	1 436	1 461	1 626	1 548	1 673	1 720	1 953	2 020
2,000 acres or more .....	1 647	1 709	1 664	1 670	1 688	1 657	1 693	1 747
Total cropland ..... farms..	24 656	25 765	28 891	31 317	28 488	27 581	31 389	41 515
..... acres..	7 913 709	7 999 419	8 168 454	8 190 984	8 236 401	7 945 063	8 229 748	8 061 098
Harvested cropland ..... farms..	20 445	21 282	24 027	26 067	24 926	24 732	26 430	35 815
..... acres..	4 895 633	4 734 673	4 597 476	5 278 772	5 014 228	4 946 306	4 366 906	4 423 400
Irrigated land ..... farms..	13 131	14 068	15 437	16 252	14 951	13 183	14 074	16 488
..... acres..	1 705 025	1 641 437	1 518 684	1 638 470	1 639 189	1 309 018	1 224 238	1 149 842
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> , \$1,000..	4 767 727	3 821 222	2 919 634	2 831 159	2 075 155	1 658 077	771 229	637 082
Average per farm ..... dollars..	164 342	126 263	87 000	78 469	66 969	56 378	22 661	13 979
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ... \$1,000..	3 251 291	2 451 605	1 688 656	1 714 741	1 293 857	1 154 631	420 872	374 994
Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000..	1 516 436	1 369 617	1 230 978	1 116 418	781 298	496 131	345 531	255 618
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 .....	8 698	8 980	10 599	12 483	7 751	8 760	12 770	22 618
\$2,500 to \$4,999 .....	3 299	3 489	4 166	4 312	4 004	2 739	3 693	4 252
\$5,000 to \$9,999 .....	2 954	3 078	3 507	3 631	3 384	2 946	3 884	4 532
\$10,000 to \$24,999 .....	3 242	3 327	3 684	3 681	3 967			
\$25,000 to \$49,999 .....	1 972	2 305	2 668	2 660	3 341	10 931	12 522	13 426
\$50,000 to \$99,999 .....	2 093	2 426	2 995	3 110	3 667			
\$100,000 to \$499,999 .....	4 872	5 243	4 978	5 358	4 326	3 649	1 040	721
\$500,000 or more .....	1 881	1 416	962	812	505	349	96	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship) .....	23 466	25 126	28 289	31 107	26 574	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership .....	2 548	2 675	2 850	2 748	2 852	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation .....	2 776	2 271	2 248	2 043	1 609	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	221	192	172	182	152	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None .....	12 363	12 848	13 268	13 062	12 609	10 018	(NA)	(NA)
Any .....	15 079	15 691	18 561	20 757	17 274	14 042	20 036	25 768
200 days or more .....	9 924	10 441	12 330	13 943	11 248	9 521	12 674	17 343
Operators by principal occupation <sup>4</sup> :								
Farming .....	15 465	16 491	17 654	17 968	16 961	16 546	(NA)	(NA)
Other .....	13 546	13 773	15 905	18 112	14 026	11 827	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>4</sup> ..... years..	54.2	53.1	51.6	50.1	50.3	51.7	50.8	50.9
Total farm production expenses <sup>5</sup> ..... \$1,000..	3 607 282	3 122 970	2 425 028	(NA)	(NA)	1 155 185	657 839	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased ..... \$1,000..	353 157	360 704	320 026	347 434	233 574	118 747	107 274	66 427
Feed for livestock and poultry ..... \$1,000..	495 975	445 993	341 396	348 833	246 697	204 119	97 247	81 921
Commercial fertilizer <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	231 396	185 614	153 949	174 198	123 882	100 158	38 038	28 356
Petroleum products ..... \$1,000..	124 646	115 163	90 991	126 610	72 003	47 190	28 075	27 223
Hired farm labor ..... \$1,000..	771 003	601 614	420 768	313 100	236 656	155 316	101 772	77 082
Interest <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	214 518	191 779	176 125	241 997	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	208 739	170 128	132 723	102 290	55 971	33 587	17 971	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory ..... farms..	11 721	13 484	15 434	20 147	16 478	16 505	18 836	32 033
..... number..	1 204 265	1 270 275	1 304 673	1 321 820	1 237 822	1 222 893	1 147 020	1 375 585
Beef cows ..... farms..	8 627	9 555	10 799	14 018	11 294	11 467	(NA)	18 258
..... number..	304 473	310 554	334 966	339 997	335 701	389 436	323 984	379 977
Milk cows ..... farms..	1 302	1 842	2 410	3 608	3 737	4 488	5 583	14 345
..... number..	247 191	242 787	220 849	210 254	190 693	165 373	149 514	192 252
Cattle and calves sold ..... farms..	10 857	12 259	14 371	17 675	15 543	15 420	17 916	25 485
..... number..	1 086 270	1 014 365	1 089 642	1 127 460	983 997	856 698	933 075	914 775
Hogs and pigs inventory ..... farms..	978	1 407	1 525	2 460	2 258	2 056	1 944	3 984
..... number..	38 030	56 171	59 195	73 836	79 237	64 694	65 940	97 615
Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms..	818	1 150	1 355	1 934	1 871	1 579	1 659	2 627
..... number..	72 045	93 660	104 934	116 934	115 513	123 929	119 806	161 230
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms..	1 543	1 886	2 654	4 476	3 387	3 230	3 325	9 634
..... number..	5 797 721	5 499 448	5 928 036	6 604 480	5 719 792	4 784 634	5 301 744	4 899 763
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	162	164	245	351	252	266	211	183
..... number..	30 183 641	33 720 007	36 068 869	16 903 405	14 872 726	14 218 935	18 008 465	16 484 353

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>								
Wheat for grain . . . . . farms..	4 097	5 032	5 562	6 232	6 498	7 723	7 512	8 755
acres..	2 422 506	2 495 940	2 160 641	2 716 305	2 842 436	3 022 861	2 272 782	2 092 365
bushels..	151 124 143	120 833 207	114 781 997	128 069 408	123 527 226	118 994 947	84 595 856	82 489 706
Barley for grain . . . . . farms..	1 787	2 428	3 722	4 176	3 333	(NA)	(NA)	4 693
acres..	436 299	422 447	609 133	751 963	373 885	(NA)	(NA)	500 614
bushels..	30 939 269	19 565 135	31 889 132	43 923 993	22 722 722	(NA)	(NA)	21 417 595
Potatoes, excluding sweetpotatoes . . . . . farms..	415	431	486	533	502	613	(NA)	2 139
acres..	155 074	129 110	110 157	104 738	110 692	92 474	(NA)	36 788
cwt..	87 208 607	62 345 425	54 358 456	46 099 795	47 099 156	35 418 510	(NA)	11 059 479
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) . . . . . farms..	10 108	10 396	12 435	13 793	13 388	13 490	14 916	(NA)
acres..	800 677	740 586	772 618	724 940	782 520	741 981	791 340	949 084
tons, dry..	3 013 551	2 669 837	2 574 944	2 206 096	2 541 298	2 177 510	2 210 692	2 268 360
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>6</sup> . . . . . farms..	1 506	1 605	1 724	2 031	2 029	2 107	2 363	2 297
acres..	209 456	172 057	144 097	169 170	167 875	165 613	166 313	133 510
Land in orchards . . . . . farms..	5 700	6 220	6 839	6 946	6 262	5 756	6 102	8 188
acres..	301 376	256 282	241 423	215 585	173 956	156 726	153 951	141 377

<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.