

**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..	17 772	17 020	17 237	18 742	17 475	16 909	23 142	34 504
Land in farms ..... acres..	3 455 532	3 267 188	3 372 955	3 559 051	3 529 266	3 496 606	4 340 554	5 278 592
Average size of farm ..... acres..	194	192	196	190	202	207	188	153
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm ..... dollars..	212 832	165 088	130 802	129 390	119 153	62 094	25 450	13 882
Average per acre ..... dollars..	1 090	849	682	688	583	300	136	91
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> , \$1,000..	432 904	326 514	299 941	301 305	239 330	180 806	96 544	(NA)
Average per farm ..... dollars..	24 315	19 257	17 482	16 100	13 724	11 211	4 466	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres .....	727	737	643	580	512	454	760	909
10 to 49 acres .....	3 026	2 893	2 689	3 073	2 308	2 160	3 808	8 188
50 to 179 acres .....	8 164	7 787	8 081	8 984	8 421	8 260	11 220	17 074
180 to 499 acres .....	4 522	4 350	4 518	4 819	4 940	4 724	5 767	6 743
500 to 999 acres .....	1 012	948	1 004	977	991	972	1 203	1 180
1,000 to 1,999 acres .....	248	242	247	247	244	279	317	335
2,000 acres or more .....	73	63	55	62	59	60	67	75
Total cropland ..... farms..	16 509	15 891	16 246	17 763	16 780	16 344	21 714	32 704
..... acres..	1 336 723	1 294 134	1 285 786	1 319 437	1 356 048	1 329 192	1 553 500	1 226 949
Harvested cropland ..... farms..	15 086	14 531	15 056	16 446	15 890	14 899	19 145	31 296
..... acres..	621 632	555 818	553 517	576 889	560 652	511 182	538 894	733 499
Irrigated land ..... farms..	268	312	255	135	116	113	130	79
..... acres..	3 285	2 769	3 132	945	1 236	1 513	3 166	2 420
Market value of agricultural products sold <sup>2</sup> ..... \$1,000..	447 428	364 203	270 639	242 127	193 710	133 088	104 638	92 234
Average per farm ..... dollars..	25 176	21 399	15 701	12 919	11 085	7 871	4 522	2 673
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ... \$1,000..	64 907	63 081	49 249	57 203	44 832	34 473	21 439	20 533
Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000..	382 521	301 122	221 390	184 923	148 877	96 858	81 477	69 304
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 .....	7 819	6 927	7 977	9 677	8 566	10 984	16 617	28 655
\$2,500 to \$4,999 .....	3 415	3 499	3 463	3 728	3 755	2 232	2 669	2 494
\$5,000 to \$9,999 .....	2 863	2 848	2 547	2 533	2 441	1 552	1 762	1 602
\$10,000 to \$24,999 .....	1 936	2 006	1 781	1 437	1 444			
\$25,000 to \$49,999 .....	675	688	583	539	543	1 907	1 985	1 665
\$50,000 to \$99,999 .....	431	433	400	354	350			
\$100,000 to \$499,999 .....	439	509	414	397	326	198	84	63
\$500,000 or more .....	194	110	72	57	24	12	5	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship) .....	16 475	15 737	15 988	17 336	16 046	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership .....	918	977	971	1 134	1 216	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation .....	285	226	197	180	140	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	94	80	81	92	73	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None .....	6 390	6 269	6 018	5 802	5 574	5 068	(NA)	(NA)
Any .....	10 489	9 594	10 083	11 743	11 273	9 799	15 158	19 501
200 days or more .....	7 554	6 985	7 278	8 347	8 171	6 817	10 067	12 982
Operators by principal occupation <sup>4</sup> :								
Farming .....	7 145	7 169	7 201	7 117	6 586	7 496	(NA)	(NA)
Other .....	10 627	9 851	10 036	11 625	10 889	9 292	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator <sup>4</sup> ..... years..	56.7	56.4	55.6	53.8	53.2	54.3	54.6	55.0
Total farm production expenses <sup>5</sup> ..... \$1,000..	380 631	308 703	231 077	(NA)	(NA)	114 904	87 997	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased ..... \$1,000..	63 068	54 571	37 921	30 135	24 063	17 102	16 441	10 026
Feed for livestock and poultry ..... \$1,000..	154 556	101 386	64 781	51 915	40 533	34 431	21 407	23 413
Commercial fertilizer <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	11 710	11 670	10 779	10 226	9 184	6 694	4 031	3 775
Petroleum products ..... \$1,000..	16 457	15 877	12 787	15 800	10 466	7 105	5 022	4 954
Hired farm labor ..... \$1,000..	24 160	28 956	23 244	20 340	16 643	11 136	10 544	9 688
Interest <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	21 169	17 179	16 409	16 738	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000..	4 950	6 428	5 346	5 024	4 521	2 400	2 069	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory ..... farms..	12 284	12 431	12 897	15 123	13 938	14 161	17 658	28 964
..... number..	439 462	430 708	408 129	455 173	428 763	495 460	454 726	482 488
Beef cows ..... farms..	10 367	10 570	10 588	12 632	11 692	10 841	(NA)	16 542
..... number..	202 844	197 886	182 071	198 322	191 235	214 782	172 702	180 632
Milk cows ..... farms..	18 497	23 366	27 019	34 776	36 040	42 232	6 863	18 772
..... number..	18 497	23 366	27 019	34 776	36 040	42 232	50 215	83 895
Cattle and calves sold ..... farms..	11 576	11 583	12 061	13 525	13 210	12 876	15 749	23 271
..... number..	270 361	254 233	249 163	237 911	237 873	199 846	253 395	260 400
Hogs and pigs inventory ..... farms..	645	841	1 226	1 981	2 641	3 225	4 479	11 609
..... number..	15 708	26 760	30 759	33 881	51 769	47 866	60 374	77 971
Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms..	402	587	868	1 151	1 651	1 736	2 469	3 544
..... number..	24 884	50 642	59 181	57 979	73 750	67 861	98 694	96 160
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms..	1 122	1 272	2 030	3 215	3 539	4 077	6 412	17 248
..... number..	1 806 870	1 510 412	691 077	531 398	534 499	696 046	1 324 946	1 771 362
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms..	186	136	99	185	149	187	309	611
..... number..	79 193 428	50 669 811	29 226 871	22 991 789	14 255 463	14 907 028	13 861 705	17 748 751

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 . .	1 150	1 517	2 097	3 670	3 625	4 245	4 836	8 592
acres . .	35 499	44 564	48 953	82 176	61 181	54 867	46 020	52 006
bushels . .	3 270 197	4 668 501	3 257 345	7 416 016	5 544 781	3 903 463	3 277 717	2 567 760
Wheat for grain . . . . . farms . .	191	307	376	408	500	905	1 173	1 801
acres . .	7 620	9 058	7 339	7 141	5 358	9 779	11 147	15 685
bushels . .	421 453	438 877	316 337	244 165	178 288	323 573	372 807	421 122
Oats for grain . . . . . farms . .	321	406	516	790	882	(NA)	(NA)	2 571
acres . .	2 720	3 677	4 605	7 594	7 305	(NA)	(NA)	17 091
bushels . .	132 249	201 339	227 284	383 792	320 148	(NA)	(NA)	683 456
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) . . . . . farms . .	13 895	13 270	13 849	14 764	14 486	13 065	15 640	(NA)
acres . .	525 257	452 480	435 446	419 964	427 056	372 000	395 707	565 654
tons, dry . .	886 054	753 877	673 598	669 643	715 828	652 606	628 923	691 911
Land in orchards . . . . . farms . .	530	558	646	775	907	833	1 357	4 351
acres . .	12 446	15 014	19 513	22 878	22 648	21 233	22 621	34 122

<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.