

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..	9 232	8 716	9 205	8 861	8 040	8 018	8 838	9 038
Land in farms acres..	34 088 692	32 876 071	33 595 135	33 500 453	33 627 257	34 271 918	35 476 374	37 052 632
Average size of farm acres..	3 692	3 772	3 650	3 781	4 182	4 274	4 014	4 100
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	808 346	601 437	533 284	732 875	598 623	343 063	163 529	115 355
Average per acre dollars..	222	159	147	193	142	80	41	28
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ .. \$1,000..	564 454	468 114	418 833	464 030	367 348	235 697	119 396	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	61 161	53 862	45 709	52 379	45 804	30 125	13 923	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	405	449	795	662	439	391	660	234
10 to 49 acres	1 157	994	989	928	521	403	473	516
50 to 179 acres	1 568	1 356	1 356	1 315	1 178	1 156	1 111	1 333
180 to 499 acres	1 441	1 513	1 536	1 549	1 509	1 563	1 736	2 002
500 to 999 acres	1 069	1 079	1 091	1 031	1 024	987	1 121	1 163
1,000 to 1,999 acres	965	880	954	945	994	911	1 048	1 102
2,000 acres or more	2 627	2 445	2 484	2 431	2 375	2 607	2 689	2 688
Total cropland farms..	7 122	6 756	7 237	7 214	6 907	6 857	7 296	8 033
..... acres..	2 967 899	2 842 020	2 838 627	2 741 423	2 711 410	2 644 208	2 788 453	2 766 265
Harvested cropland farms..	6 124	5 735	6 389	6 473	6 444	6 347	6 747	7 624
..... acres..	1 743 631	1 532 732	1 717 027	1 813 830	1 780 333	1 680 679	1 685 597	1 702 311
Irrigated land farms..	5 306	5 076	5 221	5 284	4 995	4 738	5 034	5 923
..... acres..	1 719 463	1 464 585	1 517 891	1 564 576	1 661 558	1 459 900	1 523 422	1 571 192
Market value of agricultural products sold ² \$1,000..	898 527	824 205	676 721	606 327	530 308	360 925	248 826	151 436
Average per farm dollars..	97 327	94 562	73 517	68 426	65 959	45 014	28 154	16 756
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	173 216	153 862	124 693	128 106	89 110	122 209	38 058	30 670
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	725 311	670 343	552 028	478 221	441 198	238 623	210 708	119 465
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	1 709	1 531	1 987	1 641	1 085	1 276	1 773	2 081
\$2,500 to \$4,999	784	722	766	822	714	680	917	1 259
\$5,000 to \$9,999	959	946	977	982	931	1 007	1 327	1 797
\$10,000 to \$24,999	1 470	1 385	1 497	1 531	1 549			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1 238	1 092	1 241	1 334	1 346	4 225	4 333	3 700
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1 172	1 185	1 154	1 182	1 223			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	1 634	1 639	1 399	1 190	1 027	716	409	170
\$500,000 or more	266	216	184	138	114	60	26	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship)	7 157	6 781	7 284	6 976	6 344	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	963	976	937	907	829	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	929	840	858	826	759	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	183	119	126	152	108	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	3 956	3 935	3 932	3 793	3 870	3 117	(NA)	(NA)
Any	4 722	4 251	4 674	4 271	3 809	2 799	4 106	3 574
200 days or more	2 771	2 435	2 640	2 500	2 037	1 489	1 993	1 550
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	5 583	5 612	5 953	5 805	5 270	5 371	(NA)	(NA)
Other	3 649	3 104	3 252	3 056	2 770	2 021	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	54.4	53.4	52.0	50.8	50.4	51.4	50.5	50.3
Total farm production expenses ⁵ \$1,000..	690 403	675 225	536 980	(NA)	(NA)	315 092	210 826	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ⁵ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	180 847	212 437	145 511	144 233	141 566	73 934	62 774	27 610
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	110 332	89 381	60 555	65 166	53 145	53 412	23 242	14 319
Commercial fertilizer ⁵ \$1,000..	24 614	21 444	17 878	17 752	15 996	11 753	5 258	3 046
Petroleum products \$1,000..	38 405	36 536	32 490	44 050	25 009	17 740	11 168	10 034
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	58 236	57 677	50 342	40 613	32 271	24 631	19 949	16 352
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	58 139	53 470	54 696	86 792	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁵ \$1,000..	11 648	9 491	9 118	6 311	4 779	2 648	1 362	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	6 370	5 839	5 990	6 428	5 933	6 373	6 923	7 515
..... number..	1 690 264	1 424 002	1 412 901	1 509 913	1 477 080	1 599 108	1 437 346	1 348 043
Beef cows farms..	5 526	5 114	5 082	5 310	5 001	5 480	(NA)	6 069
..... number..	862 639	746 789	689 166	718 771	681 770	805 203	692 275	652 980
Milk cows farms..	6 337	523	788	1 273	1 442	1 772	2 364	3 806
..... number..	6 254	7 596	9 287	13 315	12 511	13 508	15 658	23 169
Cattle and calves sold farms..	6 295	5 866	5 965	6 269	5 950	6 385	6 979	7 187
..... number..	1 130 839	1 014 982	956 523	981 010	1 025 123	881 943	956 593	677 554
Hogs and pigs inventory ... farms..	296	379	474	567	689	713	1 004	1 349
..... number..	91 135	39 128	28 437	30 375	29 812	28 565	40 058	30 052
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	246	342	407	480	589	604	904	1 002
..... number..	227 835	60 335	54 255	57 700	54 650	48 510	63 325	44 456
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	448	516	929	1 304	1 225	1 369	1 819	3 777
..... number..	13 689	26 315	29 235	58 221	57 201	99 232	157 664	259 102
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	17	8	37	40	25	30	18	3
..... number..	914	382	9 491	2 135	2 153	2 470	2 323	33 000

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1997 and Earlier Census Years—Con.

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All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Selected crops harvested:								
Wheat for grain farms..	656	670	924	1 095	1 158	1 356	1 491	1 768
acres..	221 041	211 312	252 784	355 938	289 495	302 986	236 327	213 748
bushels..	6 520 663	5 264 505	7 207 742	9 169 664	6 641 767	7 170 544	4 777 868	4 634 132
Barley for grain farms..	721	857	1 190	1 311	1 591	(NA)	(NA)	2 292
acres..	93 095	104 167	127 366	136 748	144 801	(NA)	(NA)	100 625
bushels..	7 251 158	8 178 366	8 654 469	8 791 442	8 524 659	(NA)	(NA)	3 684 343
Oats for grain farms..	490	620	795	1 017	1 258	(NA)	(NA)	2 381
acres..	33 973	31 757	41 987	47 012	57 714	(NA)	(NA)	80 026
bushels..	1 770 424	1 723 289	1 893 335	2 286 662	2 591 369	(NA)	(NA)	2 802 356
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms..	5 601	5 032	5 682	5 741	5 809	5 542	5 913	(NA)
acres..	1 239 340	1 017 562	1 132 842	1 119 546	1 141 496	1 051 305	1 079 300	1 126 444
tons, dry..	2 295 272	1 756 092	1 904 291	1 935 538	1 903 450	1 723 396	1 552 765	1 513 017

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.