

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2002 and Earlier Census Years

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage					
			1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974
Farms number	79,631	87,991	74,126	77,669	83,217	82,463	73,194	67,674
Land in farms acres	27,589,027	28,795,834	27,698,779	28,978,997	30,598,178	32,156,894	32,727,202	33,385,619
Average size of farm acres	346	327	374	373	368	390	447	493
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	1,206,822	839,126	941,170	820,063	583,668	746,577	521,240	322,034
Average per acre dollars	3,526	2,643	2,605	2,213	1,575	1,918	1,161	653
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	6,325,990	5,463,053	5,155,473	4,363,190	4,081,738	3,873,341	3,011,896	1,766,525
Average per farm dollars	81,933	62,129	69,590	56,485	49,223	47,361	41,411	28,512
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	21,827	27,151	20,662	21,485	22,697	22,951	16,423	13,480
10 to 49 acres	27,307	28,613	24,250	26,089	28,498	28,203	25,639	24,162
50 to 179 acres	14,356	14,874	13,288	13,883	15,017	14,873	14,761	14,253
180 to 499 acres	7,741	8,055	7,270	7,512	8,028	7,636	7,737	7,132
500 to 999 acres	3,604	3,912	3,572	3,702	3,804	3,635	3,546	3,514
1,000 to 1,999 acres	2,374	2,683	2,439	2,411	2,544	2,435	2,319	2,320
2,000 acres or more	2,422	2,703	2,645	2,587	2,629	2,730	2,769	2,813
Total cropland farms	61,810	70,231	62,269	64,417	68,266	67,916	63,663	59,192
acres	10,994,161	11,062,811	10,803,804	10,479,268	10,894,503	11,257,374	11,454,731	10,629,829
Harvested cropland farms	54,115	62,031	55,590	56,785	59,259	59,048	56,253	52,754
acres	8,466,321	8,676,242	8,543,159	7,760,773	7,676,287	8,764,808	8,804,374	8,307,246
Irrigated land farms	55,596	63,226	55,920	56,546	58,868	58,389	55,627	47,160
acres	8,709,353	8,886,693	8,712,893	7,571,313	7,596,091	8,460,508	8,505,824	7,748,709
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	25,737,173	23,280,110	23,032,259	17,051,912	13,922,234	12,491,442	9,274,495	7,394,723
Average per farm dollars	323,205	264,574	310,718	219,546	167,300	151,479	126,711	109,270
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	19,152,722	17,201,736	17,033,714	11,747,474	9,269,389	8,158,494	5,851,902	4,730,856
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	6,584,451	6,078,374	5,998,545	5,304,438	4,652,845	4,332,948	3,422,592	2,656,496
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	23,362	28,871	19,473	22,692	23,187	25,513	18,494	18,587
\$2,500 to \$4,999	6,038	7,470	6,516	7,160	8,661	8,871	8,306	6,112
\$5,000 to \$9,999	7,262	7,560	6,498	7,417	8,512	8,515	8,253	7,451
\$10,000 to \$24,999	9,455	9,685	8,621	9,324	11,028	10,178	10,460	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	7,131	7,360	6,747	6,899	7,863	7,218	7,519	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	6,798	6,909	6,544	6,360	6,895	6,423	6,593	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	11,426	12,159	11,823	11,143	11,430	10,675	9,797	8,654
\$500,000 or more	8,159	7,977	7,904	6,674	5,641	4,990	3,660	2,774
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	64,442	69,154	56,755	60,187	64,928	65,482	57,916	(NA)
Partnership	8,953	11,836	10,813	11,350	12,127	11,360	10,815	(NA)
Corporation	5,070	5,504	5,252	5,067	5,367	4,849	3,871	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	1,166	1,497	1,306	1,065	795	772	592	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ⁴ :								
None	40,223	35,359	31,588	32,118	32,051	29,641	29,135	23,312
Any	39,408	47,362	37,919	41,278	47,085	47,387	41,462	31,758
200 days or more	26,037	30,644	24,012	26,681	30,948	31,587	27,140	21,435
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	49,132	43,783	39,267	40,215	41,906	40,633	38,060	36,332
Other	30,499	44,208	34,859	37,454	41,311	41,830	35,134	28,282
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	56.8	55.7	56.5	55.2	53.6	51.8	51.3	53.2
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	20,527,198	17,085,533	16,817,253	13,804,983	10,917,593	(NA)	(NA)	6,137,764
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	949,697	774,047	759,223	935,152	776,540	855,311	873,948	649,039
Feed purchased \$1,000	2,494,806	2,616,926	2,588,982	2,108,719	1,707,608	1,721,393	1,330,184	1,276,741
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	834,536	757,065	746,325	568,772	427,924	427,823	335,444	292,054
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	610,228	500,700	488,226	414,984	332,166	449,759	252,664	154,809
Hired farm labor \$1,000	4,317,078	3,435,777	3,392,577	2,922,390	2,385,242	1,819,323	1,370,770	1,050,722
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	930,722	958,929	958,431	738,910	697,449	938,913	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	1,102,974	970,316	957,006	694,549	544,779	468,604	288,968	193,100
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	17,379	21,522	17,335	19,097	22,119	26,579	22,090	22,528
number	5,234,177	5,121,933	4,968,679	4,702,114	4,570,667	4,612,967	4,446,512	4,425,359
Beef cows farms	12,497	15,172	12,158	13,105	14,966	17,199	13,895	13,893
number	735,045	959,772	890,805	862,971	906,006	952,164	850,537	1,036,673
Milk cows farms	2,793	2,922	2,650	3,124	3,631	4,638	5,754	5,754
number	1,644,692	1,406,884	1,403,217	1,249,038	1,070,366	946,201	836,679	768,848
Cattle and calves sold farms	12,897	19,134	16,007	17,205	20,486	22,947	20,321	21,172
number	3,157,013	3,191,996	3,107,562	2,993,538	3,097,084	3,338,619	3,477,491	3,833,244
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	1,521	2,351	1,593	2,221	2,699	4,800	4,317	3,136
number	163,465	221,174	212,088	258,130	150,931	184,577	178,132	133,815
Hogs and pigs sold farms	1,513	1,638	1,193	1,761	2,297	3,769	3,444	2,273
number	308,769	396,891	373,352	481,270	303,406	281,733	297,937	222,120
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	3,244	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	22,768,304	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	338	323	240	298	298	411	310	304
number	260,447,483	244,056,157	237,723,294	225,074,862	209,376,014	123,778,881	97,785,819	94,356,838

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2002 and Earlier Census Years - Con.

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage						
			1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	
Selected crops harvested:									
Corn for grain farms	592	987	958	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	168,354	258,501	256,292	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	28,395,621	42,632,526	42,230,303	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corn for silage or greenchop farms	2,012	2,046	1,985	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	393,694	317,367	314,357	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	10,117,296	7,533,442	7,451,051	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All farms	1,573	2,107	2,065	2,236	2,841	3,429	2,300	2,993	2,993
acres	410,369	581,692	581,071	569,044	562,302	928,713	590,373	702,932	702,932
bushels	33,590,674	42,544,545	42,372,177	39,456,581	40,004,786	63,130,854	32,687,096	34,600,622	34,600,622
Winter wheat for grain farms	1,228	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	313,495	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	23,935,058	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Durum wheat for grain farms	321	360	353	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	88,399	136,155	134,710	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	8,963,903	12,635,526	12,490,437	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Spring wheat for grain farms	83	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	8,475	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	691,713	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain farms	429	206	193	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	34,319	24,762	24,167	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	2,798,145	2,033,506	1,991,198	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Barley for grain farms	343	584	574	933	1,431	2,261	3,552	(NA)	(NA)
acres	74,721	129,524	129,549	204,119	269,845	582,708	873,831	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	5,266,774	7,630,739	7,475,447	12,183,472	14,560,411	31,980,247	41,029,764	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain farms	66	77	76	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	10,676	13,322	13,568	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	807,824	977,600	990,634	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop farms	68	11	12	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	6,020	2,219	2,259	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	94,009	41,424	42,584	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Dry edible beans, excluding limas farms	385	440	413	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	58,420	60,933	60,153	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	1,234,989	1,189,658	1,173,449	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, All farms	1,393	1,872	1,833	2,351	3,037	3,002	3,819	4,009	4,009
acres	694,653	1,043,208	1,036,316	1,066,060	1,083,811	1,312,569	1,517,980	1,150,321	1,150,321
bales	2,056,964	2,559,842	2,543,194	2,792,443	2,619,934	2,872,637	1,911,050	2,241,869	2,241,869
Potatoes farms	269	354	304	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	48,217	44,343	43,503	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	19,135,936	15,810,262	15,518,994	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes farms	133	109	100	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	10,007	7,112	7,010	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	2,851,437	1,350,480	1,321,939	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) farms	8,273	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	1,952,522	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons, dry	11,202,962	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice farms	1,473	1,567	1,544	1,575	1,654	1,322	1,236	(NA)	(NA)
acres	531,314	514,281	514,081	401,194	399,193	566,914	484,822	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	43,581,796	41,474,551	41,457,650	31,865,036	28,566,209	36,672,135	25,300,625	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All farms	154	143	135	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	18,129	23,944	23,780	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	21,455,613	29,867,157	29,689,822	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarbeets for sugar farms	228	456	449	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	55,692	104,354	103,611	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	2,063,080	2,947,634	2,924,151	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts farms	16	3	3	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	22	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	38,600	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹ farms	3,858	5,105	4,490	3,713	3,787	4,053	4,081	3,547	3,547
acres	1,197,481	1,228,721	1,209,259	1,016,744	882,741	894,573	900,401	740,426	740,426
All land in orchards farms	38,693	43,957	38,747	40,298	41,021	39,801	36,164	32,849	32,849
acres	2,871,626	2,652,993	2,582,084	2,245,781	2,152,664	2,158,404	1,892,077	1,769,821	1,769,821

¹ Data are based on a sample of farms.
² Data for 1974 include the value of forest products sold.
³ Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.
⁴ Data for 1997 and prior years do not include imputation for item nonresponse.
⁵ Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorships) and partnerships.
⁶ Data for 1982 and prior years do not include cost of custom applications; data for chemicals include the cost of lime for 1978 and prior years.
⁷ Data for 1997 and prior years exclude cost of lime and manure.
⁸ Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.
⁹ Data for 1974 were from land area used.