

**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	44,081	45,808	34,799	35,204	36,556	36,352	36,109	32,466
Land in farms . . . . . acres	10,414,877	10,659,777	10,454,217	10,766,077	11,194,090	12,814,216	13,016,288	13,199,365
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	236	233	300	306	306	353	360	407
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	665,376	540,572	662,538	619,265	543,830	552,586	407,118	278,479
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	2,836	2,344	2,241	2,037	1,790	1,576	1,114	685
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	1,723,447	1,613,796	1,421,654	1,414,554	1,243,530	1,084,678	888,887	523,759
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	39,884	35,239	40,869	40,898	34,799	30,895	25,624	19,394
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	10,267	10,622	7,394	7,664	7,300	6,790	5,912	4,427
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	18,360	18,680	12,750	12,692	13,346	12,981	12,186	10,940
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	8,776	9,804	7,932	7,738	8,379	8,711	9,438	8,996
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	3,684	3,785	3,687	4,011	4,255	4,409	4,881	4,610
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	1,330	1,324	1,390	1,451	1,598	1,660	1,853	1,689
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	822	749	802	776	789	828	851	798
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	842	844	844	872	889	973	988	1,006
Total cropland . . . . . farms	27,348	30,792	27,141	28,702	29,386	30,565	31,548	28,658
Harvested cropland . . . . . farms	3,715,257	3,610,304	3,639,850	3,841,505	3,790,599	4,093,583	4,298,952	3,721,831
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	20,495	23,520	21,017	22,556	22,677	24,396	26,212	23,620
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	2,313,537	2,434,379	2,435,702	2,400,704	2,240,831	2,643,147	2,705,674	2,304,043
Irrigated land . . . . . farms	13,456	14,573	12,673	13,500	11,981	10,550	10,358	7,749
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	1,815,174	1,873,823	1,862,404	1,782,680	1,622,750	1,585,080	1,979,814	1,558,735
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	6,242,272	6,137,802	6,004,554	5,266,033	4,351,383	3,522,103	3,025,633	1,898,658
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	141,609	133,990	172,550	149,586	119,033	96,889	83,792	58,481
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	5,041,433	4,853,417	4,817,261	4,197,420	3,317,823	2,518,959	2,167,111	1,298,800
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	1,200,839	1,284,385	1,187,292	1,068,613	1,033,560	1,003,144	858,522	588,771
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	19,114	19,006	11,530	11,790	12,551	12,287	10,267	12,372
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	4,544	5,607	4,405	4,318	4,868	4,824	5,062	3,867
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	4,285	5,131	4,122	4,151	4,470	4,449	4,865	4,123
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	5,240	5,286	4,572	4,674	4,765	4,797	5,723	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	3,305	3,049	2,805	2,901	2,833	2,934	3,332	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	2,486	2,349	2,188	2,262	2,273	2,354	2,598	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	3,239	3,395	3,249	3,443	3,341	3,399	3,201	2,259
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	1,868	1,985	1,928	1,665	1,455	1,270	1,010	699
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	37,119	37,138	27,173	27,243	28,943	29,556	29,480	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	2,429	3,212	2,716	3,233	3,289	3,195	3,642	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	4,076	4,989	4,516	4,325	3,961	3,255	2,656	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	457	469	394	403	363	346	331	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None . . . . .	22,094	17,389	14,054	14,150	13,494	12,617	13,438	9,079
Any . . . . .	21,987	25,383	18,337	18,791	21,196	21,034	21,129	15,989
200 days or more . . . . .	16,103	18,497	13,152	13,330	15,349	15,536	15,319	11,946
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	22,998	19,207	15,782	16,557	15,821	15,610	15,913	13,496
Other . . . . .	21,083	26,601	19,017	18,647	20,735	20,742	20,196	16,741
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	57.0	56.3	56.5	55.3	53.7	52.5	51.6	52.8
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	4,734,590	4,553,217	4,384,423	4,082,659	3,200,405	(NA)	(NA)	1,552,211
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	147,080	160,467	145,770	131,497	148,405	165,018	153,375	103,448
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	410,603	501,971	446,861	382,945	336,690	349,630	329,686	279,082
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	289,115	352,800	347,559	283,424	209,617	217,332	174,996	153,412
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	146,528	138,244	131,636	128,168	104,591	135,063	80,953	46,714
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	1,157,569	944,561	925,607	937,571	721,540	480,444	388,967	264,450
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	163,345	247,091	237,536	219,234	191,913	198,515	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	321,442	355,836	350,556	320,675	227,063	165,343	107,621	68,396
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	19,182	23,007	15,849	15,522	17,321	17,822	16,501	16,474
Beef cows . . . . . farms	1,738,874	1,858,255	1,808,900	1,783,968	1,879,124	2,178,552	2,128,018	2,367,108
Milk cows . . . . . farms	15,717	18,945	13,600	13,423	14,672	14,839	14,070	12,951
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	982,404	1,012,614	1,003,072	962,527	995,250	1,098,152	1,111,594	1,179,789
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	923	952	666	877	1,073	1,385	1,444	1,948
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	144,843	160,818	159,614	171,675	176,993	194,550	183,958	198,732
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	14,149	19,974	14,600	14,127	16,071	16,075	15,682	15,423
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	847,869	895,794	869,219	897,455	1,025,178	1,108,300	1,201,067	966,002
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	1,471	2,352	1,431	1,926	2,487	3,602	5,160	3,962
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	33,479	62,967	50,309	114,899	156,137	203,231	323,349	196,283
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,090	1,467	971	1,551	2,103	3,105	4,730	3,563
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	50,533	114,147	96,512	200,375	266,652	328,150	465,063	310,136
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,707	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	10,581,159	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	446	468	321	363	402	433	419	398
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . number	109,236,689	139,309,122	105,967,210	97,854,566	93,224,832	76,456,724	64,899,236	47,448,607

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
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain	519 farms	1,324	1,268	1,548	2,088	2,987	4,923	5,613
	26,790 acres	67,439	69,623	86,407	95,874	190,254	295,790	296,893
	2,456,508 bushels	5,247,737	5,440,956	6,377,801	6,628,740	12,559,553	15,207,531	14,015,112
Corn for silage or greenchop	131 farms	162	148	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	27,049 acres	28,151	28,316	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	425,131 tons	398,131	401,097	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	68 farms	184	189	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	6,108 acres	16,078	16,231	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	211,973 bushels	583,322	585,557	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Winter wheat for grain	68 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	6,108 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	211,973 bushels	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	76 farms	122	124	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	4,368 acres	5,601	5,836	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	190,940 bushels	298,906	311,981	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	18 farms	21	22	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	1,385 acres	925	945	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	60,951 bushels	41,895	42,395	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	35 farms	23	23	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	3,524 acres	3,662	3,662	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	35,053 tons	38,170	38,170	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	77 farms	391	404	415	708	2,091	2,527	1,609
	7,478 acres	39,680	41,021	49,072	89,938	334,401	367,936	217,439
	242,878 bushels	988,263	1,025,521	1,523,227	2,257,392	8,529,087	7,928,276	5,522,668
Cotton, All	268 farms	329	343	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	101,766 acres	91,025	93,504	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	93,915 bales	125,714	128,600	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Tobacco	115 farms	196	186	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	3,851 acres	6,951	6,881	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	9,609,134 pounds	16,350,368	16,191,980	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	106 farms	156	140	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	35,386 acres	41,258	41,255	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	8,663,744 cwt	8,813,440	8,815,285	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	38 farms	35	36	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	3,105 acres	1,570	1,575	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	628,969 cwt	244,136	244,410	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	4,600 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	299,435 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	860,405 tons, dry	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice	10 farms	10	10	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	14,108 acres	10,691	10,691	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	722,435 cwt	445,619	445,619	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarcane for sugar	120 farms	162	152	139	138	123	153	(NA)
	440,768 acres	421,727	421,421	431,677	403,014	343,680	336,493	(NA)
	16,174,145 tons	15,728,855	15,718,897	16,151,380	13,586,040	10,359,951	10,316,794	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts	494 farms	724	750	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	76,459 acres	74,447	76,682	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	210,036,443 pounds	204,343,523	209,914,666	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup>	1,507 farms	1,792	1,500	1,988	2,053	2,455	2,928	2,284
	219,412 acres	253,321	250,562	299,867	311,659	283,780	343,098	215,418
All land in orchards	10,115 farms	11,080	9,379	10,258	9,965	11,214	12,011	11,079
	894,955 acres	996,717	981,910	914,642	762,068	938,527	932,495	912,079

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