

**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	49,311	49,343	40,334	40,759	43,552	49,630	51,405	54,911
Land in farms . . . . . acres	10,744,239	11,262,838	10,671,246	10,025,581	10,744,718	12,291,885	13,416,833	13,878,294
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	218	228	265	246	247	248	261	253
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	457,427	362,690	392,577	280,562	226,217	225,092	200,201	119,766
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	2,112	1,550	1,505	1,131	920	929	768	474
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	2,416,555	2,073,886	1,791,247	1,421,195	1,409,250	1,535,877	1,412,802	871,343
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	51,847	42,061	44,392	34,904	32,477	31,013	27,586	17,110
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	3,569	3,442	2,399	2,859	2,875	3,189	2,936	2,959
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	15,759	14,169	10,255	10,443	10,953	12,179	10,768	11,118
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	17,180	18,126	14,677	14,470	15,602	18,112	19,688	21,993
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	7,962	8,518	7,910	7,987	8,868	10,197	11,632	12,449
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	2,735	2,791	2,795	2,972	3,197	3,657	3,979	3,953
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	1,394	1,526	1,543	1,407	1,453	1,633	1,688	1,716
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	732	771	755	621	604	663	714	723
Total cropland . . . . . farms	34,660	37,503	32,816	34,600	37,689	43,390	46,529	49,723
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	4,676,567	5,572,570	5,370,844	5,475,712	5,780,330	6,531,234	6,828,187	6,475,079
Irrigated land . . . . . farms	24,424	27,810	25,082	27,177	30,301	35,650	39,312	40,732
acres	3,245,784	3,894,737	3,762,559	3,332,666	3,298,268	4,761,260	4,687,895	4,161,205
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	4,911,752	5,182,676	4,992,918	3,521,217	2,814,592	2,767,679	2,340,505	1,859,780
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	99,608	105,034	123,789	86,391	64,626	55,766	45,531	33,869
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	1,579,596	1,995,404	1,920,598	1,428,964	1,005,664	1,180,988	913,046	849,543
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	3,332,156	3,187,272	3,072,320	2,092,253	1,808,928	1,586,691	1,427,458	976,488
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	23,986	19,552	13,731	12,070	13,176	15,693	14,320	19,790
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	5,046	6,758	5,503	5,983	6,460	6,740	7,428	5,445
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	5,131	6,053	5,154	5,402	5,805	5,843	6,619	6,132
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	4,878	5,052	4,694	5,200	5,320	5,868	7,198	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	2,406	2,369	2,174	2,659	3,012	3,788	4,500	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	1,592	2,088	1,908	2,397	2,883	3,947	4,809	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	3,801	4,693	4,472	5,354	5,961	7,002	6,036	4,486
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	2,471	2,778	2,698	1,694	935	717	449	246
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	45,050	43,523	35,206	35,985	38,806	44,207	45,381	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	2,490	3,560	3,105	3,173	3,382	4,170	4,761	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	1,484	1,891	1,706	1,297	1,106	954	1,059	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	287	369	317	304	258	299	204	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None . . . . .	22,903	17,604	15,060	15,563	15,835	17,088	20,361	18,433
Any . . . . .	26,408	27,837	21,902	21,843	25,029	27,730	28,158	25,214
200 days or more . . . . .	19,606	21,016	16,295	16,051	18,426	20,149	19,974	18,000
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	25,076	19,860	17,523	18,817	19,449	23,075	25,373	30,243
Other . . . . .	24,235	29,483	22,811	21,942	24,103	26,555	26,032	24,067
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	56.5	55.6	55.9	55.0	53.2	51.7	51.1	52.6
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	3,845,512	4,321,340	3,840,117	2,867,358	2,338,551	(NA)	(NA)	1,491,414
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	372,108	434,150	396,933	317,816	307,677	251,478	228,092	173,453
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	1,365,162	1,630,861	1,427,778	909,360	755,609	660,526	635,109	505,816
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	190,338	244,907	219,398	191,665	156,412	199,916	200,367	180,691
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	149,582	154,820	136,653	125,189	102,026	157,335	102,594	64,585
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	326,621	315,101	285,883	252,721	209,647	149,524	138,769	96,699
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	193,171	193,283	170,943	147,611	130,645	193,325	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	197,468	223,875	196,778	148,906	108,992	111,558	87,940	58,664
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	24,554	26,938	21,874	23,339	25,349	30,440	29,591	35,478
number	1,272,291	1,289,428	1,244,489	1,258,062	1,266,679	1,578,250	1,559,994	2,022,904
Beef cows . . . . . farms	21,576	23,047	19,180	20,549	21,952	25,658	25,264	28,014
number	629,127	624,891	613,731	599,899	606,750	690,184	705,277	943,475
Milk cows . . . . . farms	841	1,188	984	1,168	1,475	2,623	3,100	4,645
number	85,075	100,306	98,931	102,001	97,763	130,542	126,902	119,532
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	18,770	24,782	21,015	22,162	24,604	28,180	28,530	33,077
number	565,767	642,462	613,950	612,588	681,238	729,924	881,451	803,176
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	1,148	2,280	1,764	3,844	5,805	8,911	14,602	15,158
number	347,816	539,913	514,029	1,000,813	1,060,377	1,317,396	1,642,059	1,243,255
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	995	1,909	1,561	3,745	5,634	8,374	13,837	14,084
number	1,179,137	1,075,860	1,030,187	1,865,702	1,869,236	2,119,068	2,478,470	2,091,998
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,274	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	20,022,117	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	2,758	2,478	2,245	2,407	2,815	3,096	3,265	3,794
number	1,288,543,081	1,069,285,689	1,017,501,305	749,018,187	609,503,009	521,508,557	424,817,579	355,956,075

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	3,070	5,579	5,196	7,896	10,561	13,793	21,468	26,979	
acres	252,176	411,608	404,268	647,833	548,498	788,306	1,497,159	1,661,085	
bushels	26,720,244	41,144,090	40,568,303	60,513,790	43,332,343	60,031,978	76,812,159	91,870,613	
Corn for silage or greenchop . . . . . farms	282	351	330	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	30,847	32,803	32,304	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
tons	541,116	511,356	503,805	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Wheat for grain, All . . . . . farms	1,305	2,155	2,115	2,332	4,704	7,874	2,034	2,092	
acres	185,301	300,860	299,188	292,362	416,997	995,962	109,364	117,268	
bushels	7,664,451	12,768,987	12,691,834	12,371,069	13,269,742	31,864,435	3,286,853	2,759,101	
Winter wheat for grain . . . . . farms	1,305	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	185,301	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
bushels	7,664,451	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Oats for grain . . . . . farms	573	570	554	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	23,056	22,105	22,341	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
bushels	1,287,164	1,211,952	1,243,367	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Barley for grain . . . . . farms	13	28	28	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
(D)	(NA)	1,583	1,504	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
bushels	19,437	88,092	81,992	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Sorghum for grain . . . . . farms	314	361	360	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	25,904	27,672	27,786	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
bushels	1,019,355	1,311,440	1,314,386	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Sorghum for silage or greenchop . . . . . farms	135	42	43	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	12,541	3,904	3,919	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
tons	151,413	37,566	37,866	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Soybeans for beans . . . . . farms	1,108	2,921	2,864	4,193	6,036	12,683	12,147	8,943	
acres	136,138	349,098	351,359	513,781	759,582	2,023,705	1,579,370	785,367	
bushels	3,083,878	7,047,160	7,078,444	14,391,870	16,725,741	51,993,159	27,148,555	18,885,782	
Cotton, All . . . . . farms	3,216	4,410	4,188	2,015	1,733	770	851	4,279	
acres	1,267,150	1,464,105	1,367,620	431,625	231,635	131,300	113,461	373,342	
bales	1,564,995	1,918,779	1,764,127	668,950	286,188	192,496	103,409	367,268	
Tobacco . . . . . farms	822	1,256	1,180	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	25,060	42,795	41,083	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
pounds	49,998,195	89,318,476	85,789,611	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Potatoes . . . . . farms	62	70	61	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	948	1,068	1,054	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
cwt	80,606	227,071	224,753	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Sweet potatoes . . . . . farms	90	98	87	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	634	712	665	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
cwt	82,231	94,376	89,749	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) . . . . . farms	14,627	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	614,719	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
tons, dry	1,465,735	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Sunflower seed, All . . . . . farms	45	17	15	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	553	286	273	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
pounds	518,969	250,228	238,114	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Peanuts for nuts . . . . . farms	3,290	4,850	4,695	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	467,712	520,283	511,954	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
pounds	1,173,877,160	1,306,964,722	1,284,532,488	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup> . . . . . farms	1,668	2,068	1,797	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
acres	149,556	123,082	118,806	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
All land in orchards . . . . . farms	4,273	4,199	3,541	4,146	4,137	4,503	4,970	3,827	
acres	145,602	160,049	155,984	153,247	149,014	145,724	149,490	121,816	

<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.