

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	60,296	66,707	57,916	62,778	70,506	77,180	82,483	87,915
Land in farms acres	15,058,670	15,525,154	15,111,022	15,618,831	16,170,895	16,294,268	16,824,438	16,785,208
Average size of farm acres	250	233	261	249	229	211	204	191
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	637,645	486,171	532,663	346,199	265,446	338,549	323,213	137,385
Average per acre dollars	2,567	2,097	2,064	1,395	1,158	1,610	1,579	720
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	4,636,855	3,909,303	3,709,854	3,474,495	3,129,398	3,464,195	3,118,331	1,899,878
Average per farm dollars	80,240	58,614	64,050	55,440	44,502	45,033	37,893	23,128
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	5,436	5,741	4,183	5,141	5,444	5,648	4,606	3,594
10 to 49 acres	18,595	17,937	13,987	14,234	15,010	17,373	17,166	17,325
50 to 179 acres	18,691	22,818	19,913	21,268	24,892	27,460	31,559	37,055
180 to 499 acres	9,263	11,569	11,099	12,928	15,902	18,009	20,984	22,828
500 to 999 acres	4,494	5,194	5,268	6,000	6,670	6,567	6,552	5,969
1,000 to 1,999 acres	2,827	2,735	2,763	2,687	2,291	1,872	1,452	1,019
2,000 acres or more	990	713	713	520	297	251	164	125
Total cropland farms	53,725	59,496	53,256	58,117	65,529	71,836	78,174	84,277
Harvested cropland farms	12,909,002	13,065,057	12,848,950	13,366,034	13,592,873	13,331,077	13,539,395	13,198,261
Irrigated land acres	44,298	51,984	47,613	54,252	61,689	68,040	74,450	80,195
Harvested cropland acres	11,937,370	11,844,628	11,716,704	11,834,675	10,706,298	12,136,310	11,809,491	11,234,214
Irrigated land farms	2,212	1,918	1,753	1,742	1,481	1,206	901	633
Irrigated land acres	313,130	255,917	250,050	240,898	169,703	131,987	75,173	33,385
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	4,783,158	5,323,116	5,229,977	4,633,090	4,067,684	4,226,930	3,358,288	2,612,631
Average per farm dollars	79,328	79,798	90,303	73,801	57,693	54,767	40,715	29,718
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	2,992,747	3,297,312	3,246,617	2,698,335	2,127,135	2,439,409	1,926,051	1,574,830
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	1,790,411	2,025,804	1,983,359	1,934,755	1,940,549	1,787,521	1,432,237	1,033,709
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	21,620	18,568	13,022	11,189	12,433	13,717	12,675	18,215
\$2,500 to \$4,999	5,169	6,617	5,710	6,848	8,072	8,731	10,123	10,572
\$5,000 to \$9,999	5,760	7,398	6,579	8,053	9,515	10,161	12,405	13,701
\$10,000 to \$24,999	7,329	9,476	8,757	10,642	12,820	13,878	16,670	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	5,112	6,529	6,057	7,296	8,682	9,671	11,738	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	4,945	5,827	5,728	6,694	8,031	9,228	10,338	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	8,505	10,290	10,079	10,750	10,126	11,016	8,141	5,354
\$500,000 or more	1,856	2,002	1,984	1,306	827	749	348	154
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	53,864	57,266	49,293	53,105	59,955	65,548	70,551	(NA)
Partnership	3,463	5,803	5,235	6,721	7,469	8,905	9,855	(NA)
Corporation	2,632	3,200	3,018	2,622	2,823	2,422	1,828	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	337	438	370	330	259	305	249	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ⁴ :								
None	23,945	22,469	20,733	23,384	25,127	27,352	30,730	26,960
Any	36,351	40,651	33,959	35,397	40,682	44,050	47,970	44,590
200 days or more	27,064	29,612	24,216	25,237	28,153	30,319	33,500	31,559
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	33,612	28,779	26,993	31,547	36,654	40,189	43,010	50,017
Other	26,684	37,928	30,923	31,231	33,852	36,991	39,473	36,881
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	53.7	52.3	52.8	51.6	50.5	49.1	49.0	50.2
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	4,310,513	4,120,616	4,011,772	3,645,379	3,178,679	(NA)	(NA)	1,730,678
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	307,156	294,217	282,253	328,492	328,366	300,350	285,567	193,829
Feed purchased \$1,000	660,587	834,291	818,113	657,193	576,585	522,442	387,069	334,734
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	435,657	458,618	451,832	420,849	354,501	453,678	352,541	283,265
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	171,335	198,454	192,729	205,728	171,786	275,154	160,578	108,634
Hired farm labor \$1,000	300,988	255,577	248,070	209,089	196,231	152,061	117,573	71,751
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	294,199	283,583	272,608	290,504	306,836	426,334	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	258,403	296,398	291,799	247,300	183,674	173,999	115,557	68,177
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	20,662	26,816	23,025	25,974	30,340	36,907	39,097	47,461
number	862,074	1,049,323	976,701	1,113,473	1,236,480	1,437,618	1,547,083	1,826,638
Beef cows farms	12,612	17,591	15,164	16,783	19,150	23,206	25,000	29,994
number	230,421	299,120	277,797	293,836	315,784	377,741	424,078	546,270
Milk cows farms	2,799	3,464	3,216	3,958	5,204	6,795	7,590	10,100
number	144,792	134,492	131,630	144,532	163,867	188,716	184,413	205,075
Cattle and calves sold farms	16,879	24,431	21,585	24,215	28,905	33,780	37,374	43,519
number	602,637	732,396	667,846	763,919	881,663	890,380	1,066,881	994,638
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	4,087	6,809	6,442	11,987	14,834	17,654	22,141	23,988
number	3,478,570	3,926,726	3,972,060	4,618,663	4,372,294	4,298,027	4,159,733	3,350,529
Hogs and pigs sold farms	4,603	6,977	6,623	12,559	15,458	18,271	22,849	25,946
number	8,221,628	7,587,358	7,584,642	8,760,626	8,024,713	7,279,358	6,448,136	5,927,786
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	2,152	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	21,952,110	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	385	249	204	188	311	405	503	530
number	25,385,811	10,862,185	10,391,178	21,081,124	22,306,685	12,583,016	13,253,804	8,469,794

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 24,156	32,047	30,642	37,005	45,383	50,290	56,441	59,911
	acres 5,123,291	5,508,168	5,473,792	5,828,308	4,884,114	5,975,300	6,062,791	5,068,354
	bushels 606,156,476	657,405,247	652,547,322	805,637,216	619,045,978	712,234,375	626,525,204	371,396,556
Corn for silage or greenchop	farms 2,875	3,545	3,365	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 116,939	104,618	102,464	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 1,747,847	1,678,342	1,639,160	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	farms 5,907	10,926	10,658	12,936	18,294	23,764	20,065	37,039
	acres 299,873	548,890	545,027	542,058	590,920	892,929	581,847	1,178,919
	bushels 15,345,210	29,417,190	29,209,090	25,048,728	30,789,151	37,007,361	22,175,789	44,246,255
Winter wheat for grain	farms 5,907	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 299,873	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 15,345,210	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	farms 914	1,869	1,739	2,905	4,982	6,250	7,112	(NA)
	acres 11,015	24,508	23,551	41,538	69,063	94,806	100,281	(NA)
	bushels 705,534	1,498,286	1,445,213	2,603,270	4,317,321	5,868,963	5,234,841	(NA)
Barley for grain	farms 75	108	106	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,255	2,018	2,037	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 59,370	108,418	108,294	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	farms 94	142	141	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 9,950	13,028	13,210	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 751,444	931,494	945,156	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	farms 56	90	86	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,020	1,667	1,633	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 6,389	15,548	14,281	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	farms 25,212	29,152	28,056	33,568	40,068	42,516	46,423	51,625
	acres 5,761,363	5,041,793	5,003,186	4,729,880	4,397,253	4,397,224	4,086,126	3,734,150
	bushels 235,450,361	212,463,202	210,645,005	195,049,717	169,749,051	161,462,876	134,853,388	94,724,611
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	farms 19	16	17	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,016	1,583	1,795	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 29,487	29,362	32,966	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Tobacco	farms 1,282	2,110	2,017	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 4,034	8,902	8,507	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 7,411,634	18,096,537	17,275,291	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	farms 131	132	115	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 2,491	4,068	4,041	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 586,706	1,014,681	1,010,898	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	farms 12	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 5	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 744	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	farms 22,196	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 625,898	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry 1,611,419	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All	farms 30	12	11	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 307	262	261	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 343,938	261,600	261,100	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	farms 1,139	1,379	1,125	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 37,682	34,443	30,139	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	farms 613	703	571	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 5,354	6,564	5,835	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

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.