

**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	64,414	65,476	61,593	63,278	68,579	73,315	74,171	79,188
Land in farms . . . . . acres	47,227,944	46,650,618	46,089,268	46,672,188	46,628,519	47,052,213	47,499,831	47,945,722
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	733	712	748	738	680	642	640	605
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	505,999	417,704	430,533	343,312	278,047	384,197	322,165	179,454
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	687	586	577	463	413	601	498	296
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	5,983,765	4,742,477	4,560,051	3,713,712	3,447,663	3,830,616	3,137,696	2,109,529
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	95,124	72,488	74,047	58,812	50,411	52,304	42,385	28,069
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	1,578	2,647	2,223	2,632	3,689	3,547	3,186	2,797
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	9,611	8,438	6,970	6,023	6,222	6,837	5,379	5,127
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	17,300	17,075	15,118	14,221	15,510	16,720	16,971	18,974
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	13,632	14,136	13,928	15,218	16,705	18,693	20,044	23,231
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	8,641	9,468	9,687	10,817	12,093	13,600	14,871	16,047
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	7,371	7,765	7,895	8,809	9,304	9,428	9,501	9,193
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	6,281	5,947	5,772	5,558	5,056	4,490	4,219	3,819
Total cropland . . . . . farms	56,703	56,967	54,145	56,389	61,615	66,481	68,430	74,306
Harvested cropland . . . . . farms	29,542,022	31,064,605	30,020,580	31,119,250	31,385,090	30,598,859	29,843,255	29,984,268
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	44,073	50,176	48,280	52,348	57,822	62,860	64,862	70,573
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	18,976,719	20,989,979	19,839,087	18,794,787	17,729,394	20,186,974	18,987,644	19,870,535
Irrigated land . . . . . farms	5,915	6,109	6,135	6,543	7,352	7,257	7,961	6,710
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	2,678,277	2,695,816	2,707,489	2,680,343	2,463,073	2,675,167	2,685,757	2,010,385
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	8,746,244	9,312,865	9,207,130	8,315,965	6,476,669	6,190,861	4,995,543	3,682,044
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	135,782	142,233	149,483	131,420	94,441	84,442	67,352	46,497
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	2,418,447	3,352,243	3,221,766	2,270,577	1,693,609	2,143,047	1,440,843	1,794,548
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	6,327,797	5,960,622	5,985,364	6,045,388	4,783,060	4,047,815	3,554,701	1,886,980
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	20,444	13,350	10,968	8,387	9,502	9,637	7,967	10,897
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	4,594	5,368	5,068	5,618	6,919	6,565	7,897	7,698
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	6,102	7,283	6,767	7,808	9,430	9,183	10,944	11,067
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	9,256	10,856	10,293	12,132	14,070	15,130	17,284	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	6,717	7,674	7,757	9,387	10,282	11,827	13,426	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	6,282	7,497	7,304	8,277	8,997	10,459	9,687	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	9,205	11,437	11,433	10,174	8,422	9,584	6,324	5,659
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	1,814	2,011	2,003	1,495	957	895	604	412
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	57,238	56,736	53,196	54,952	60,202	64,313	65,380	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	4,062	5,444	5,196	5,686	5,889	6,702	7,092	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	2,242	2,624	2,576	2,222	2,100	1,876	1,478	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	872	672	625	418	388	424	221	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None . . . . .	30,423	26,691	25,892	27,788	29,462	30,524	34,255	31,086
Any . . . . .	33,991	34,771	31,891	30,776	34,654	35,521	36,256	29,601
200 days or more . . . . .	24,293	23,861	21,507	19,757	21,677	21,306	20,390	16,970
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	40,645	35,821	34,979	39,324	42,607	47,293	49,104	57,633
Other . . . . .	23,769	29,655	26,614	23,954	25,972	26,022	25,067	20,722
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	56.0	54.3	54.4	53.2	52.0	50.9	50.7	52.2
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	8,443,180	7,381,093	7,290,703	6,920,528	5,516,518	(NA)	(NA)	2,678,186
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	3,554,091	2,689,819	2,687,621	3,193,374	2,426,149	1,900,272	1,674,241	738,839
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	1,410,837	1,507,130	1,506,407	1,146,620	887,270	920,415	803,712	602,285
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	413,519	391,113	373,353	280,102	216,166	254,590	252,403	205,830
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	309,599	303,541	294,353	284,197	243,568	358,860	207,732	138,140
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	332,498	313,715	306,410	239,629	226,075	153,404	131,444	85,140
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	409,944	359,114	351,690	318,599	314,163	467,054	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	200,234	227,901	224,156	161,750	125,003	94,957	68,543	43,071
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	32,525	37,518	36,244	37,889	40,785	47,008	48,215	54,045
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . number	6,321,138	6,437,839	6,506,089	6,066,493	5,539,292	5,800,138	5,930,018	5,590,628
Beef cows . . . . . farms	27,616	30,218	29,446	30,308	31,475	36,497	37,856	43,545
Beef cows . . . . . number	1,539,636	1,424,975	1,466,429	1,434,017	1,354,649	1,523,697	1,579,322	1,890,367
Milk cows . . . . . farms	1,042	1,481	1,466	2,165	3,093	4,631	5,691	7,823
Milk cows . . . . . number	113,388	80,495	82,080	85,132	96,675	123,009	120,775	149,477
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	29,589	37,044	36,207	37,893	41,498	47,032	49,162	54,803
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . number	8,044,209	8,233,339	8,271,113	7,699,746	7,310,338	6,519,159	6,756,343	5,104,331
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	1,648	3,005	2,831	5,684	6,768	9,241	13,329	13,065
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . number	1,520,996	1,574,839	1,585,224	1,584,048	1,516,878	1,708,770	2,014,541	1,520,269
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	1,939	3,012	2,873	6,089	7,090	9,778	13,794	14,558
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . number	3,512,384	3,162,975	3,184,437	2,992,913	2,759,676	3,036,205	3,344,600	2,829,467
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,961	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . number	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	183	102	93	80	132	210	220	270
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . number	91,894	37,700	35,018	88,483	176,061	94,543	259,001	438,326

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

**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	9,552	10,434	10,833	9,604	8,944	8,346	10,618	13,300
acres	2,494,179	2,454,398	2,497,516	1,748,802	1,243,969	1,161,875	1,567,013	1,597,279
bushels	289,681,829	351,343,546	356,413,100	258,720,259	144,133,581	130,662,235	154,173,376	126,247,120
Corn for silage or greenchop . . . . . farms	2,865	1,712	1,765	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	307,303	116,152	117,472	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	3,213,232	2,022,960	2,042,941	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All . . . . . farms	24,236	31,852	30,392	36,623	38,638	49,231	46,131	55,895
acres	8,080,854	10,884,416	9,560,615	9,942,149	8,679,588	11,664,008	9,601,848	11,040,335
bushels	262,980,052	463,721,879	407,515,802	329,082,833	292,999,442	372,590,045	268,457,130	299,416,699
Winter wheat for grain . . . . . farms	24,236	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	8,080,854	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	262,980,052	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain . . . . . farms	1,611	2,545	2,603	4,659	5,313	6,644	4,666	(NA)
acres	53,765	77,923	79,163	118,788	128,091	168,982	94,399	(NA)
bushels	2,403,129	4,413,607	4,530,823	6,024,886	4,775,729	7,799,056	3,483,394	(NA)
Barley for grain . . . . . farms	81	156	152	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	4,193	8,499	8,203	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	154,233	344,173	336,453	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain . . . . . farms	15,086	20,578	20,398	23,820	32,492	26,908	34,778	34,821
acres	2,863,487	3,106,172	3,077,984	2,957,276	3,399,564	3,187,148	3,664,560	3,238,489
bushels	126,371,170	233,499,331	231,561,211	222,145,624	228,045,100	192,400,229	176,218,600	132,210,153
Sorghum for silage or greenchop . . . . . farms	1,826	2,447	2,500	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	113,963	122,842	123,324	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	924,207	1,778,154	1,785,730	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans . . . . . farms	13,622	14,404	14,733	14,743	18,864	17,116	16,254	14,236
acres	2,534,974	2,139,071	2,208,642	1,669,958	1,878,978	1,692,288	1,480,800	931,135
bushels	57,946,285	76,267,366	78,563,054	56,854,327	55,789,994	43,042,471	26,436,742	18,634,381
Dry edible beans, excluding limas . . . . . farms	80	118	118	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	17,494	17,609	17,767	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	297,133	358,533	362,021	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, All . . . . . farms	162	43	45	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	55,953	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bales	75,581	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Tobacco . . . . . farms	12	14	13	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	(D)	33	29	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes . . . . . pounds	(D)	64,232	56,380	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	38	72	68	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	3,764	927	924	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes . . . . . farms	1,307,484	279,008	278,751	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	17	3	3	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	29	11	11	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) . . . . . farms	3,039	949	948	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	29,760	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons, dry	3,086,085	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All . . . . . farms	6,413,838	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	896	940	936	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	119,127	117,033	115,448	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarbeets for sugar . . . . . farms	105,943,758	133,747,103	132,751,146	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup> . . . . . farms	327	424	398	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	2,854	3,126	3,128	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards . . . . . farms	476	459	406	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	7,042	6,175	6,834	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

<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.