

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	27,413	30,425	23,823	25,652	27,350	31,628	31,370	33,240
Land in farms acres	7,830,664	8,367,843	7,876,528	7,837,545	8,007,173	8,928,827	9,295,029	9,133,275
Average size of farm acres	286	275	331	306	293	282	296	275
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	444,007	338,828	380,871	291,332	268,630	381,817	290,454	140,754
Average per acre dollars	1,534	1,236	1,206	972	940	1,351	981	512
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	1,694,916	1,654,927	1,414,014	1,186,601	1,046,373	1,373,382	1,195,087	713,650
Average per farm dollars	64,379	54,406	59,330	46,299	38,323	43,528	38,217	23,037
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	2,526	2,525	1,650	1,934	2,066	2,461	1,698	1,709
10 to 49 acres	8,766	9,488	6,485	6,895	7,799	9,411	8,416	9,233
50 to 179 acres	8,100	9,530	7,429	7,891	8,248	9,565	10,322	11,849
180 to 499 acres	4,202	4,651	4,128	4,553	4,811	5,632	6,163	6,216
500 to 999 acres	1,828	2,124	2,029	2,471	2,602	2,617	2,798	2,397
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1,253	1,386	1,388	1,345	1,279	1,343	1,383	1,242
2,000 acres or more	738	721	714	563	545	599	590	594
Total cropland farms	20,368	23,275	19,333	21,777	23,273	27,424	28,351	30,067
Harvested cropland farms	5,071,537	5,567,627	5,331,411	5,552,733	5,562,736	6,093,474	6,343,637	5,590,488
Irrigated land farms	14,017	17,679	15,115	17,171	18,644	21,991	23,528	23,525
acres	3,332,146	4,022,664	3,882,648	3,810,690	3,599,678	4,699,323	4,838,520	3,628,199
acres	3,496	3,784	3,400	4,064	3,929	3,693	3,799	3,777
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	1,815,803	2,142,630	2,031,277	1,607,511	1,340,162	1,406,458	1,211,920	1,193,722
Average per farm dollars	66,239	70,423	85,265	62,666	49,000	44,469	38,633	35,912
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	1,065,611	1,457,793	1,411,472	1,111,346	929,858	994,976	839,265	927,246
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	750,192	684,837	619,805	496,165	410,304	411,482	372,655	260,305
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	11,838	11,578	7,755	8,008	9,283	12,209	10,208	15,382
\$2,500 to \$4,999	3,203	4,345	3,389	3,664	4,021	4,384	4,785	3,359
\$5,000 to \$9,999	3,194	3,902	3,097	3,407	3,448	3,515	3,884	2,932
\$10,000 to \$24,999	3,039	3,323	2,825	3,149	3,050	3,112	3,742	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1,419	1,521	1,358	1,593	1,776	2,043	2,672	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,295	1,332	1,207	1,670	2,063	2,387	2,670	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	2,473	3,313	3,126	3,545	3,323	3,582	3,138	2,755
\$500,000 or more	952	1,111	1,066	616	386	356	224	280
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	24,915	26,736	20,633	22,310	24,322	28,255	27,813	(NA)
Partnership	1,323	2,141	1,850	2,032	1,926	2,402	2,643	(NA)
Corporation	1,041	1,334	1,164	1,105	905	724	748	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	134	214	176	205	197	247	166	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ⁴ :								
None	13,095	10,623	8,851	10,555	11,078	10,888	12,434	11,283
Any	14,318	17,579	13,128	13,024	14,388	17,721	17,290	15,564
200 days or more	10,092	11,636	8,550	8,594	9,202	11,312	11,281	10,129
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	14,805	13,315	11,281	12,931	13,496	14,629	15,283	17,967
Other	12,608	17,110	12,542	12,721	13,854	16,999	16,087	14,703
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	55.1	53.5	53.7	53.5	52.0	50.5	50.4	51.7
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	1,615,624	1,657,726	1,466,483	1,309,012	1,022,931	(NA)	(NA)	738,916
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	89,122	84,341	73,786	63,257	55,167	64,469	57,480	47,653
Feed purchased \$1,000	260,900	290,852	247,019	171,376	135,012	169,501	140,153	116,567
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	126,666	142,397	128,104	121,097	86,079	95,050	81,354	71,007
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	89,018	96,514	85,572	91,578	74,326	122,494	77,103	46,347
Hired farm labor \$1,000	181,647	179,549	163,558	146,667	121,984	107,345	101,312	79,639
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	73,597	85,849	75,495	70,931	72,918	133,823	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	159,159	192,734	173,185	170,327	112,347	117,109	76,231	47,717
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	15,022	18,525	14,589	15,036	16,033	20,049	19,532	23,482
number	855,717	930,114	877,124	844,260	813,295	1,003,833	1,052,216	1,515,509
Beef cows farms	12,775	15,701	12,669	13,112	13,551	16,936	16,869	17,801
number	478,428	504,611	490,437	441,725	422,604	480,918	523,342	746,592
Milk cows farms	422	1,176	982	1,279	1,581	2,652	3,134	5,181
number	44,519	68,205	64,888	78,976	83,381	100,159	112,316	125,302
Cattle and calves sold farms	11,925	17,231	13,953	14,131	15,248	17,994	18,823	22,077
number	408,531	449,689	418,642	375,903	402,235	434,781	539,157	583,538
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	680	906	633	844	1,262	2,188	3,047	3,335
number	18,262	25,229	20,338	37,519	51,857	55,657	73,475	72,365
Hogs and pigs sold farms	540	516	373	534	807	1,259	1,877	1,591
number	(D)	37,689	28,527	57,244	72,940	71,260	92,607	108,316
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	1,034	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	2,098,325	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	567	372	319	313	312	379	336	352
number	216,941,912	143,187,649	123,132,021	115,258,369	96,147,369	91,851,892	62,414,721	44,248,794

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 1,198	farms 1,593	farms 1,462	farms 1,452	farms 1,663	farms 1,506	farms 2,376	farms 3,920
	acres 461,782	acres 422,420	acres 411,072	acres 269,642	acres 189,772	acres 33,792	acres 34,668	acres 43,937
	bushels 54,944,774	bushels 49,256,383	bushels 47,951,435	bushels 31,066,973	bushels 19,097,307	bushels 2,769,934	bushels 1,991,356	bushels 2,069,625
Corn for silage or greenchop	farms 68	farms 136	farms 127	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 6,661	acres 9,933	acres 9,799	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 66,951	tons 137,888	tons 135,939	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	farms 690	farms 572	farms 528	farms 682	farms 1,067	farms 1,962	farms 1,32	farms 170
	acres 148,926	acres 103,154	acres 98,911	acres 119,304	acres 151,251	acres 379,289	acres 13,030	acres 15,092
	bushels 5,708,218	bushels 3,897,331	bushels 3,755,759	bushels 4,432,764	bushels 4,654,627	bushels 13,515,660	bushels 400,487	bushels 372,834
Winter wheat for grain	farms 690	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 148,926	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 5,708,218	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	farms 48	farms 46	farms 38	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 2,107	acres 2,038	acres 1,857	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 144,198	bushels 136,128	bushels 126,478	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	farms 465	farms 399	farms 370	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 120,732	acres 81,272	acres 78,445	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 9,356,983	bushels 5,757,669	bushels 5,557,996	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	farms 8	farms 26	farms 25	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 323	acres 971	acres 870	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 4,360	tons 9,952	tons 8,942	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	farms 1,840	farms 3,912	farms 3,511	farms 3,903	farms 5,017	farms 8,047	farms 9,777	farms 7,180
	acres 660,650	acres 1,314,310	acres 1,260,523	acres 1,112,815	acres 1,540,372	acres 2,638,249	acres 2,969,049	acres 1,608,070
	bushels 20,736,686	bushels 37,571,260	bushels 36,152,458	bushels 33,360,521	bushels 40,524,474	bushels 67,702,197	bushels 74,258,151	bushels 42,871,889
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	farms 1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, All	farms 1,072	farms 1,711	farms 1,586	farms 2,599	farms 2,675	farms 2,371	farms 2,531	farms 4,486
	acres 474,784	acres 660,039	acres 647,257	acres 827,792	acres 590,257	acres 562,581	acres 510,107	acres 584,816
	bales 737,641	bales 985,690	bales 970,097	bales 1,219,599	bales 921,867	bales 788,360	bales 470,675	bales 519,427
Tobacco	farms 6	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 301	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	farms 32	farms 65	farms 51	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 114	acres 256	acres 226	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 14,392	cwt 31,577	cwt 28,363	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	farms 145	farms 177	farms 138	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 16,877	acres 21,082	acres 18,483	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 2,226,010	cwt 3,066,747	cwt 2,707,415	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	farms 7,999	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 406,827	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry 1,022,638	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice	farms 1,448	farms 1,844	farms 1,736	farms 2,197	farms 2,273	farms 2,508	farms 2,690	farms 2,690
	acres 538,518	acres 583,734	acres 579,299	acres 589,752	acres 417,411	acres 572,919	acres 599,432	acres 599,432
	cwt 29,612,936	cwt 26,744,677	cwt 26,474,660	cwt 26,906,404	cwt 17,970,394	cwt 23,487,541	cwt 22,442,049	cwt 22,442,049
Sunflower seed, All	farms 4	farms 4	farms 4	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 73	acres 43	acres 43	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 38,886	pounds 38,700	pounds 38,700	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarcane for sugar	farms 665	farms 802	farms 705	farms 755	farms 687	farms 709	farms 1,013	farms 1,013
	acres 471,628	acres 410,368	acres 395,588	acres 356,349	acres 264,466	acres 251,237	acres 297,361	acres 297,361
	tons 15,367,635	tons 12,616,545	tons 12,187,651	tons 9,131,174	tons 6,877,798	tons 7,572,128	tons 6,808,988	tons 6,808,988
Peanuts for nuts	farms 1	farms 18	farms 14	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres (D)	acres 888	acres 871	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds (D)	pounds 2,606,083	pounds 2,578,083	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	farms 550	farms 588	farms 441	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 5,154	acres 6,872	acres 5,641	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	farms 1,022	farms 1,047	farms 821	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 15,778	acres 18,941	acres 16,842	(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.