

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	42,186	42,150	31,318	31,998	34,074	42,415	44,104	53,620
Land in farms acres	11,097,543	11,436,287	10,124,822	10,188,362	10,746,190	12,421,651	13,210,879	14,300,498
Average size of farm acres	263	271	323	318	315	293	300	267
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	370,689	299,460	337,081	248,479	215,209	257,819	200,646	101,102
Average per acre dollars	1,381	1,075	1,052	777	697	894	673	379
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	2,090,779	1,947,525	1,621,991	1,294,742	1,187,399	1,485,514	1,318,947	876,988
Average per farm dollars	51,839	46,228	51,801	40,616	34,900	35,083	29,953	17,432
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	1,807	2,035	1,108	1,122	1,387	1,627	1,396	1,699
10 to 49 acres	10,834	9,595	5,863	5,796	6,240	8,674	7,918	10,351
50 to 179 acres	17,296	16,891	12,443	12,797	13,506	17,342	18,644	24,116
180 to 499 acres	8,052	8,757	7,356	7,606	7,789	9,031	10,042	11,253
500 to 999 acres	2,105	2,612	2,415	2,524	2,884	3,100	3,354	3,393
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1,124	1,361	1,284	1,365	1,445	1,739	1,785	1,870
2,000 acres or more	968	899	849	788	823	902	965	938
Total cropland farms	29,021	31,273	25,289	27,625	29,785	37,476	40,373	49,530
Harvested cropland farms	5,822,786	6,324,156	5,947,311	6,518,288	6,747,639	7,745,113	8,119,065	8,039,574
Irrigated land acres	19,405	22,646	19,198	22,245	24,305	31,122	34,189	40,007
Harvested cropland acres	4,139,341	4,519,775	4,338,710	4,404,612	4,272,651	5,799,772	5,848,897	4,793,365
Irrigated land acres	2,235	1,912	1,769	2,127	2,012	1,462	1,139	673
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	3,116,295	3,485,867	3,127,383	2,336,737	1,862,903	1,918,486	1,663,830	1,229,033
Average per farm dollars	73,870	82,701	99,859	73,028	54,672	45,231	37,725	22,921
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	1,025,385	1,345,448	1,291,365	1,146,450	913,913	1,122,471	947,397	716,676
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	2,090,909	2,140,420	1,836,018	1,190,287	948,989	796,015	716,433	496,986
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	22,446	19,957	11,511	9,860	11,109	16,384	15,578	28,619
\$2,500 to \$4,999	4,572	5,252	4,954	5,417	5,985	6,911	7,748	6,527
\$5,000 to \$9,999	4,260	5,393	4,387	5,049	5,012	5,445	6,310	5,278
\$10,000 to \$24,999	3,892	4,101	3,666	4,119	4,070	4,377	(NA)	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1,588	1,381	1,265	1,681	1,771	2,308	2,661	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,071	1,138	1,014	1,248	1,710	2,148	2,499	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	2,475	2,685	2,613	3,489	3,723	4,185	3,892	2,811
\$500,000 or more	1,882	2,243	1,908	1,135	694	635	416	215
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	39,035	37,524	27,452	28,263	30,326	38,255	39,516	(NA)
Partnership	2,166	3,310	2,753	2,754	2,770	3,046	3,522	(NA)
Corporation	705	1,028	917	850	823	886	922	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	280	288	196	131	155	228	144	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ⁴ :								
None	19,440	14,626	11,554	12,246	12,581	14,255	15,823	17,272
Any	22,746	25,237	17,989	17,241	19,421	24,263	25,855	26,923
200 days or more	16,909	18,570	13,004	12,119	13,518	16,747	17,739	18,263
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	20,582	15,515	12,753	14,463	15,111	18,236	19,523	26,681
Other	21,604	26,635	18,565	17,535	18,963	24,179	24,581	26,347
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	57.2	55.3	55.6	55.3	53.8	52.5	51.8	53.6
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	2,767,787	2,964,295	2,458,575	1,954,337	1,465,201	(NA)	(NA)	1,031,529
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	380,748	276,886	229,688	170,363	138,882	134,197	112,632	91,230
Feed purchased \$1,000	804,106	1,121,605	845,628	458,354	328,167	288,860	302,415	255,841
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	127,224	126,691	114,194	124,296	90,795	114,525	99,915	84,572
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	122,546	116,569	100,997	101,058	86,016	142,899	90,845	59,344
Hired farm labor \$1,000	184,111	186,807	169,897	168,464	142,341	137,400	129,264	91,583
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	124,247	127,149	108,338	97,991	90,636	163,851	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	209,634	224,350	199,962	216,262	130,399	140,183	112,975	75,877
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	21,096	25,494	19,319	21,070	22,482	29,407	30,446	40,583
Beef cows farms	1,072,806	1,195,839	1,127,442	1,152,331	1,147,219	1,488,148	1,543,877	2,270,177
Milk cows farms	18,511	21,779	17,151	18,855	19,008	25,227	26,659	30,302
Cattle and calves sold farms	568,608	605,388	590,402	588,920	579,312	713,119	791,234	1,151,003
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	627	894	688	1,216	1,643	3,082	3,929	7,046
Hogs and pigs sold farms	35,114	46,332	45,540	64,510	71,834	96,224	94,891	110,780
Cattle and calves sold farms	16,494	23,948	18,912	20,282	22,087	27,466	29,677	37,610
Hogs and pigs sold farms	514,514	628,147	590,771	580,526	638,685	704,606	854,318	860,921
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	692	1,477	662	1,270	2,237	4,081	6,389	9,023
Hogs and pigs sold farms	302,190	236,184	215,936	160,917	179,063	223,274	280,950	239,438
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	504	852	425	934	1,622	2,547	4,423	4,628
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	1,171,039	790,042	756,595	278,764	284,630	356,868	389,729	378,061
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	2,097	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	5,386,404	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	1,928	1,864	1,393	1,211	1,129	1,212	1,404	1,519
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold number	752,632,925	717,040,922	554,915,961	388,128,497	276,652,292	247,236,533	223,309,303	178,822,643

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	2,099 farms	2,906	2,497	3,377	4,020	5,510	8,345	13,179
	acres	416,724	405,393	269,080	120,361	80,914	107,669	132,033
	bushels	58,487,848	44,879,039	43,851,007	23,869,788	9,369,093	4,757,736	4,935,672
Corn for silage or greenchop	168 farms	297	271	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	14,976	24,209	24,202	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons	219,948	285,355	284,029	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	796 farms	748	697	1,064	1,991	4,297	593	1,047
	acres	151,317	160,739	155,049	180,840	283,477	809,015	54,242
	bushels	5,980,347	6,801,785	6,547,211	6,749,633	9,674,702	29,185,697	1,853,571
Winter wheat for grain	796 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	151,317	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	5,980,347	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	82 farms	59	48	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	2,699	1,743	1,544	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	111,430	75,529	72,842	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	267 farms	166	154	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	70,932	25,756	25,499	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	5,418,279	1,669,826	1,648,269	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	17 farms	26	24	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	455	919	1,009	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons	5,441	9,702	10,922	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	3,034 farms	4,169	3,851	4,644	6,475	11,131	13,018	11,161
	acres	1,371,014	2,024,683	1,964,202	1,652,840	2,006,263	3,459,091	3,628,845
	bushels	43,077,995	60,916,699	59,370,926	53,569,740	41,329,519	81,944,364	73,505,537
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	10 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	52	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	276	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, All	1,596 farms	1,797	1,701	3,344	4,225	3,710	4,860	11,277
	acres	1,157,432	1,022,404	966,443	1,332,855	1,028,249	978,496	1,193,677
	bales	1,944,513	1,826,423	1,714,762	2,075,048	1,654,648	1,641,939	1,338,394
Tobacco	7 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	158	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds	256,301	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	54 farms	35	25	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	69	61	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	(D)	3,957	3,167	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	156 farms	84	68	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	13,492	8,856	8,835	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	1,579,624	1,024,319	1,031,713	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	13,507 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	641,924	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry	1,557,537	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice	461 farms	529	530	748	803	714	579	(NA)
	acres	233,447	235,283	234,244	270,497	195,505	240,303	215,892
	cwt	14,526,578	13,371,386	13,330,366	15,630,876	10,466,632	10,106,176	9,161,237
Sunflower seed, All	1 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts	62 farms	91	62	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	3,831	3,995	3,003	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds	8,821,233	10,947,611	7,616,224	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	799 farms	729	507	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	11,705	9,034	7,280	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	1,100 farms	1,229	902	1,196	1,326	1,548	1,618	1,528
	acres	15,230	17,249	13,428	17,817	17,982	18,413	18,677

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.