

**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	49,355	54,539	51,454	52,923	60,502	60,243	63,768	67,597
Land in farms . . . . . acres	45,903,116	45,853,656	45,525,414	44,393,129	45,305,441	44,961,371	46,113,973	46,172,012
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	930	841	885	839	749	746	723	683
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	723,863	550,705	567,468	429,188	344,253	532,741	382,902	192,574
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	776	658	645	514	457	701	523	282
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	5,370,381	4,529,411	4,348,888	3,651,286	3,549,159	4,088,785	3,461,586	2,018,175
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	111,776	83,079	84,535	69,120	58,799	68,007	54,354	31,084
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	1,656	2,943	2,591	3,698	5,090	4,162	3,832	3,350
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	5,664	5,522	4,733	4,302	4,296	4,062	3,592	3,384
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	10,180	10,767	9,764	9,408	11,166	11,100	12,042	13,720
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	11,310	13,319	12,648	14,003	17,320	19,128	22,010	25,417
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	9,049	10,631	10,338	10,966	12,153	11,847	12,369	12,586
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	6,632	6,777	6,717	6,283	6,494	6,036	6,050	5,721
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	4,864	4,580	4,663	4,263	3,983	3,908	3,873	3,719
Total cropland . . . . . farms	43,722	47,452	45,191	46,348	53,500	54,475	58,594	63,040
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	22,520,874	22,633,381	22,092,954	22,402,132	23,320,162	22,434,059	22,274,197	22,212,756
Irrigated land . . . . . farms	37,143	43,198	41,652	43,879	51,175	52,497	56,644	60,660
acres	17,336,624	17,897,591	17,551,212	16,146,818	15,276,151	17,075,625	16,371,595	16,309,434
acres	17,970	19,297	18,804	19,328	22,596	22,190	23,862	20,331
acres	7,625,170	7,065,556	6,939,036	6,311,633	5,681,835	6,039,292	5,682,931	3,966,930
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	9,703,657	9,937,248	9,831,519	8,209,691	6,667,132	6,625,742	5,149,297	3,732,982
Acres	196,609	182,204	191,074	155,125	110,197	109,984	80,750	55,224
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	3,388,265	3,881,119	3,798,462	2,651,484	2,139,116	2,379,811	1,718,714	1,565,899
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	6,315,392	6,056,130	6,033,057	5,558,208	4,528,016	4,245,931	3,430,583	2,166,946
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	9,820	6,937	5,658	3,966	4,694	3,839	3,431	5,459
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	2,172	3,023	2,394	2,664	3,405	2,963	3,550	4,084
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	3,077	3,716	3,497	4,021	5,515	4,615	5,985	7,531
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	5,853	7,064	6,733	8,445	10,923	10,096	13,108	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	6,030	7,140	6,962	8,362	10,681	11,517	14,083	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	6,619	8,117	8,005	9,274	11,305	12,508	13,243	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	12,960	16,006	15,703	14,423	12,700	13,370	9,555	6,589
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	2,824	2,536	2,502	1,768	1,279	1,301	769	453
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	42,835	44,985	42,313	44,577	51,749	51,323	54,968	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	3,080	4,736	4,505	4,604	5,212	5,608	6,280	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	3,065	4,396	4,249	3,430	3,209	3,013	2,330	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	375	422	387	312	332	299	190	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None . . . . .	25,133	25,917	25,017	27,573	31,491	30,786	35,246	30,560
Any . . . . .	24,222	24,049	22,073	20,920	24,403	21,933	23,660	17,251
200 days or more . . . . .	15,804	14,606	13,129	11,927	13,099	10,764	10,531	7,825
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	36,031	36,951	35,742	39,123	45,387	47,549	51,036	56,484
Other . . . . .	13,324	17,588	15,712	13,800	15,115	12,694	12,732	9,780
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	53.9	52.5	52.5	50.7	49.4	48.5	48.7	50.3
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	9,050,038	7,719,265	7,596,196	6,711,544	5,409,171	(NA)	(NA)	2,845,563
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	3,211,783	2,418,527	2,405,077	2,502,060	1,904,830	1,760,168	1,500,993	867,435
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	1,490,523	1,422,635	1,408,802	1,086,234	801,077	843,922	654,728	598,585
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	465,636	447,687	435,501	344,363	269,359	325,124	267,026	207,795
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	331,458	328,657	320,080	288,400	267,854	286,465	222,248	144,214
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	371,650	306,254	300,578	254,132	261,094	167,515	129,597	77,077
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	468,738	422,329	413,076	380,597	368,642	613,708	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	281,683	283,244	274,565	202,392	154,483	141,128	88,096	52,518
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	25,083	30,214	29,298	30,421	34,701	39,555	42,724	48,818
number	6,202,947	6,730,153	6,732,637	5,952,880	5,838,806	6,530,561	6,412,288	6,214,596
Beef cows . . . . . farms	20,991	24,513	23,881	24,270	26,452	30,068	32,557	37,761
number	1,915,107	1,957,734	1,966,105	1,857,347	1,823,591	2,023,618	1,994,191	2,202,496
Milk cows . . . . . farms	866	1,385	1,352	2,122	3,339	4,686	5,827	8,292
number	66,926	68,872	68,216	83,295	105,168	117,536	119,068	145,322
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	23,416	30,380	29,505	30,696	35,491	39,796	43,617	49,854
number	7,351,398	7,160,738	7,143,061	6,238,779	5,888,192	6,010,865	5,988,506	5,202,122
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	3,075	6,312	6,017	10,826	13,363	15,998	20,532	21,301
number	2,933,620	3,474,386	3,452,386	4,187,389	3,944,227	3,963,364	3,723,774	2,740,440
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	3,594	6,587	6,296	11,559	14,162	17,132	21,601	23,904
number	8,993,521	7,671,698	7,602,587	8,405,466	7,442,810	7,064,612	6,086,452	4,992,209
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,396	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	11,786,314	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	231	244	225	289	524	526	575	634
number	3,361,353	739,368	725,964	1,887,881	910,980	104,105	120,813	112,994

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
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain	23,889 farms	29,879	29,149	29,679	34,717	34,573	39,326	40,830
	7,344,715 acres	8,428,593	8,279,499	7,235,528	6,090,669	6,519,250	6,662,003	5,591,301
	908,360,246 bushels	1,075,047,531	1,055,193,186	930,758,262	749,231,198	676,484,963	707,687,558	388,143,255
Corn for silage or greenchop	5,408 farms	4,085	4,058	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	409,447 acres	209,976	209,587	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	4,476,086 tons	3,288,189	3,282,555	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	6,674 farms	10,157	9,826	12,671	18,124	20,182	21,787	28,035
	1,526,775 acres	1,883,089	1,772,069	1,800,432	1,962,051	2,585,111	2,393,999	2,823,818
	50,299,684 bushels	65,250,247	61,578,806	53,512,448	76,826,252	87,959,769	72,979,509	90,599,286
Winter wheat for grain	6,673 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	1,526,025 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	50,291,179 bushels	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Spring wheat for grain	6 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	750 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	8,505 bushels	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	1,475 farms	2,668	2,612	5,234	8,165	10,852	10,452	(NA)
	53,946 acres	88,855	86,955	176,148	280,502	396,520	372,661	(NA)
	2,367,835 bushels	5,231,223	5,113,274	11,341,781	13,643,509	22,158,999	17,070,757	(NA)
Barley for grain	64 farms	146	139	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	2,588 acres	9,609	8,674	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	84,194 bushels	470,793	411,963	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	2,871 farms	6,140	5,965	10,513	12,576	15,106	17,976	18,605
	331,074 acres	740,585	720,276	1,412,747	1,300,713	1,657,237	1,802,168	1,765,336
	16,898,323 bushels	57,792,925	56,264,473	122,513,083	101,004,096	116,927,367	127,136,420	59,786,998
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	630 farms	915	905	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	22,198 acres	26,801	26,532	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	164,404 tons	327,715	326,231	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	20,074 farms	21,659	21,072	20,687	25,598	21,487	16,662	17,691
	4,571,558 acres	3,402,917	3,346,701	2,274,494	2,291,803	2,105,816	1,209,707	1,048,372
	173,029,716 bushels	133,244,032	131,017,170	88,842,343	78,147,991	70,218,107	37,689,210	25,528,000
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	758 farms	1,162	1,129	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	164,924 acres	176,817	171,889	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	3,404,542 cwt	3,583,751	3,483,866	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	60 farms	96	93	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	22,059 acres	24,656	24,630	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	8,673,392 cwt	9,376,133	9,370,243	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	7 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	6 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	(D) cwt	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	22,981 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	2,862,592 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	5,647,370 tons, dry	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All	218 farms	401	384	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	33,400 acres	52,453	50,597	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	22,405,407 pounds	56,832,532	54,934,687	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarbeets for sugar	184 farms	366	367	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	41,285 acres	59,487	60,429	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	762,822 tons	1,014,463	1,032,584	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup>	230 farms	275	266	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	4,270 acres	3,230	3,208	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	231 farms	161	143	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	1,080 acres	965	912	(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.