

**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	37,255	38,264	31,757	32,306	37,743	42,207	43,075	43,682
Land in farms . . . . . acres	7,660,969	7,788,241	7,254,470	7,458,015	8,416,228	9,189,559	9,461,060	9,410,706
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	206	204	228	231	223	218	220	215
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	345,504	272,670	286,620	282,546	218,934	177,988	146,597	109,884
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	1,708	1,327	1,284	1,237	993	817	660	510
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	3,367,939	2,162,595	1,906,163	1,862,289	1,849,206	2,006,892	1,567,912	1,103,383
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	96,252	56,522	59,923	57,738	49,087	47,561	36,461	26,058
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	2,959	3,102	2,226	2,129	2,517	2,763	2,432	2,257
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	8,359	7,723	5,499	5,201	6,114	6,575	5,528	5,093
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	13,474	14,085	11,319	11,147	12,991	14,676	15,665	16,535
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	8,977	9,897	9,327	10,305	12,244	14,203	15,583	16,293
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	2,457	2,567	2,530	2,713	3,112	3,274	3,295	2,987
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	812	721	688	680	654	620	495	450
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	217	169	168	131	111	96	77	67
Total cropland . . . . . farms	33,351	34,701	29,747	30,651	35,680	40,276	41,879	42,675
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	4,841,367	4,961,538	4,722,143	4,876,169	5,382,175	5,697,926	5,940,780	5,788,149
Irrigated land . . . . . farms	29,162	31,436	27,569	28,715	33,664	38,509	40,647	41,121
acres	3,846,368	3,855,732	3,716,942	3,534,898	3,899,819	4,430,198	4,348,591	4,156,266
acres	3,307	2,835	2,501	2,020	1,992	1,713	1,715	1,447
acres	74,663	73,791	69,197	46,600	50,920	52,125	56,106	54,580
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	3,117,834	2,930,569	2,834,512	2,622,001	2,441,860	2,426,936	1,861,266	1,462,383
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	83,689	76,588	89,256	81,161	64,697	57,501	43,210	33,478
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	1,135,129	1,066,347	1,000,417	809,291	701,352	657,719	535,330	446,448
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	1,982,706	1,864,222	1,834,095	1,812,710	1,740,508	1,769,216	1,325,936	1,012,143
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	14,243	11,542	7,707	7,324	9,168	10,479	9,863	11,916
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	3,364	4,096	3,424	3,389	4,061	4,421	5,084	3,474
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	3,223	4,119	3,484	3,536	3,892	4,339	4,559	3,994
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	4,176	4,997	4,269	4,156	4,426	4,654	5,446	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	2,725	2,941	2,673	2,601	3,337	4,187	6,172	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	3,073	3,496	3,335	3,973	5,560	6,731	7,453	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	5,369	6,077	5,883	6,588	6,816	6,966	4,248	2,501
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	1,082	996	982	739	483	398	209	146
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	32,654	32,813	26,855	27,346	32,149	36,543	37,537	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	2,846	3,465	3,153	3,284	3,835	4,086	4,158	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	1,581	1,771	1,568	1,521	1,545	1,385	1,233	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	174	215	181	155	214	193	147	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4,5</sup> :								
None . . . . .	18,492	16,736	14,960	15,838	18,079	19,456	20,945	18,420
Any . . . . .	18,763	19,779	15,286	14,472	17,596	19,890	20,448	18,143
200 days or more . . . . .	12,748	13,117	9,886	9,355	11,506	13,094	13,082	12,123
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	22,664	20,607	18,426	19,934	22,977	25,564	26,314	27,833
Other . . . . .	14,591	17,657	13,331	12,372	14,766	16,643	16,761	14,839
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	54.1	52.9	53.5	52.5	51.4	50.0	50.1	51.0
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	2,796,920	2,434,019	2,191,903	2,142,169	1,897,458	(NA)	(NA)	1,173,072
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	122,666	127,396	111,258	113,243	98,770	95,488	93,577	77,352
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	537,185	506,730	482,735	458,038	399,658	444,460	373,642	320,110
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	103,849	104,751	93,010	94,324	94,811	109,479	87,595	68,946
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	115,975	109,629	97,075	100,002	91,096	142,542	84,214	59,468
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	448,924	383,795	336,357	336,461	277,463	246,022	184,469	123,757
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	128,020	144,324	130,266	125,135	140,484	184,613	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	80,700	88,674	75,892	67,322	60,635	56,139	40,490	28,747
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	15,971	18,862	16,444	18,134	22,250	27,354	27,462	29,491
number	1,453,365	1,479,571	1,450,090	1,470,610	1,603,390	1,781,748	1,619,706	1,752,533
Beef cows . . . . . farms	6,598	6,403	6,160	5,880	6,798	8,661	8,259	8,675
number	80,831	80,157	86,078	72,971	71,627	77,712	73,356	96,975
Milk cows . . . . . farms	7,388	9,286	8,732	10,696	13,840	17,236	18,493	20,711
number	670,003	699,404	700,480	721,286	814,461	875,113	850,381	891,422
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	11,972	17,077	15,494	17,167	21,153	25,234	26,046	27,567
number	579,216	652,986	618,039	639,193	754,488	747,448	802,464	759,264
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	1,527	1,731	1,508	2,094	2,644	4,325	5,017	5,011
number	81,886	80,861	79,000	90,282	99,560	118,378	126,312	92,325
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	1,490	1,145	1,001	1,498	1,957	2,810	3,162	2,735
number	255,445	167,954	167,201	168,196	172,072	183,165	178,589	125,197
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	2,617	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	3,819,432	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	421	233	172	142	206	282	219	243
number	2,817,234	1,320,374	1,310,733	1,042,100	1,713,646	380,753	465,434	1,543,175

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	farms 4,246	5,983	5,493	5,724	9,301	10,523	11,102	11,529
	acres 450,664	610,571	578,715	518,839	598,815	749,492	593,674	461,313
	bushels 42,767,720	65,729,918	62,242,783	47,702,362	65,911,889	70,349,704	50,651,462	35,181,978
Corn for silage or greenchop	farms 6,601	8,679	8,250	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 543,579	556,668	551,365	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 7,454,405	8,311,269	8,235,781	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	farms 1,488	2,077	1,887	2,200	2,390	2,965	2,516	7,142
	acres 115,680	129,403	120,927	117,908	86,345	116,994	64,655	205,634
	bushels 6,639,707	6,772,328	6,339,980	6,280,963	3,622,242	4,951,504	2,191,852	8,778,563
Winter wheat for grain	farms 1,482	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 115,300	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 6,630,107	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Spring wheat for grain	farms 7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 380	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 9,600	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	farms 2,205	3,077	2,808	4,059	6,364	9,422	10,704	(NA)
	acres 67,032	81,377	77,240	109,686	162,733	249,804	272,507	(NA)
	bushels 4,138,239	5,133,153	4,841,802	6,889,878	9,562,189	16,151,602	16,050,846	(NA)
Barley for grain	farms 425	525	494	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 12,569	13,426	12,847	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 589,695	720,297	695,121	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	farms 41	5	4	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 562	78	58	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 14,067	2,700	1,900	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	farms 215	196	189	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 4,189	3,299	3,232	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 36,879	28,452	28,163	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	farms 1,128	1,032	952	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 139,435	107,315	99,879	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 4,472,702	3,976,646	3,685,535	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	farms 306	452	402	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 32,520	47,492	43,305	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 444,691	705,971	649,449	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Tobacco	farms 1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	farms 530	631	544	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 22,094	25,930	23,920	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 5,482,769	7,136,559	6,611,891	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	farms 30	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 16	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 1,334	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	farms 21,959	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 2,258,448	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry 5,717,950	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All	farms 82	25	22	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 502	421	411	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 379,813	333,895	328,440	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup>	farms 2,637	3,166	2,720	2,758	2,822	3,228	3,499	3,455
	acres 143,967	180,541	169,331	139,841	150,054	158,014	154,666	147,954
All land in orchards	farms 2,753	2,886	2,436	2,938	3,290	3,955	4,111	4,084
	acres 99,148	111,469	101,628	112,905	124,432	137,356	135,015	136,371

<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.