

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	30,619	32,348	30,504	31,123	35,289	36,431	40,357	42,710
Land in farms acres	39,294,879	39,678,169	39,359,346	39,438,144	40,336,869	40,206,005	41,702,370	42,387,424
Average size of farm acres	1,283	1,227	1,290	1,267	1,143	1,104	1,033	992
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	517,448	495,730	512,734	422,936	366,475	486,939	360,902	193,574
Average per acre dollars	404	406	401	335	319	439	347	195
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	3,695,269	3,516,814	3,415,776	2,715,228	2,734,073	3,063,883	2,589,191	1,635,670
Average per farm dollars	124,298	108,745	112,015	87,290	77,505	84,156	64,218	39,205
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	277	617	545	785	876	1,121	1,048	981
10 to 49 acres	1,763	1,692	1,420	1,264	1,596	1,140	902	773
50 to 179 acres	5,204	4,169	3,573	2,945	3,025	3,178	3,564	3,411
180 to 499 acres	5,978	6,080	5,459	4,985	6,148	6,577	7,901	9,175
500 to 999 acres	4,919	6,185	5,867	6,714	8,637	9,756	11,774	13,249
1,000 to 1,999 acres	5,994	7,548	7,499	8,740	10,013	10,042	11,133	11,332
2,000 acres or more	6,484	6,057	6,141	5,690	4,994	4,617	4,035	3,789
Total cropland farms	28,502	29,414	27,994	28,967	33,179	34,693	38,936	41,301
Harvested cropland acres	26,506,477	27,384,403	27,024,895	27,469,875	28,208,099	28,115,546	28,605,578	29,185,095
Irrigated land farms	20,789	25,813	25,153	27,804	32,360	34,031	38,388	40,643
acres	19,908,697	20,674,991	20,438,149	19,216,531	18,363,910	20,308,135	18,978,609	19,207,401
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	3,233,366	2,908,049	2,869,322	2,745,752	2,188,158	2,294,326	1,784,315	1,802,791
Average per farm dollars	105,600	89,899	94,064	88,223	62,007	62,977	44,213	42,210
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	2,460,372	2,229,835	2,193,672	2,030,900	1,497,212	1,759,871	1,288,731	1,438,258
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	772,994	678,214	675,649	714,852	690,946	534,455	495,583	364,496
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	9,311	5,318	4,164	2,139	2,260	2,092	1,890	2,267
\$2,500 to \$4,999	1,004	1,469	1,313	1,363	1,750	1,638	2,121	1,946
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1,471	2,220	2,104	2,191	2,982	2,786	3,989	3,975
\$10,000 to \$24,999	3,080	4,479	4,365	4,851	6,817	6,924	10,490	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3,073	4,694	4,558	5,399	7,725	8,256	11,068	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	3,851	5,425	5,341	6,502	7,808	8,395	7,333	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	7,602	8,041	7,961	8,165	5,701	6,088	3,312	3,237
\$500,000 or more	1,227	702	698	513	246	227	122	98
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	27,578	28,323	26,660	27,093	31,153	31,742	35,328	(NA)
Partnership	2,289	3,218	3,075	3,504	3,692	4,338	4,769	(NA)
Corporation	446	560	551	349	293	185	131	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	306	247	218	177	151	166	129	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ⁴ :								
None	17,030	15,676	15,176	16,741	19,542	19,126	22,675	21,051
Any	13,589	14,023	12,837	11,827	13,137	13,058	15,070	10,568
200 days or more	7,868	6,935	6,135	4,916	5,295	4,814	5,034	3,617
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	21,644	23,391	22,677	25,189	29,031	30,592	34,086	38,191
Other	8,975	8,957	7,827	5,934	6,258	5,839	6,271	4,331
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	54.4	51.4	51.4	50.0	48.3	47.3	47.9	49.9
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	2,706,081	2,496,055	2,453,342	2,090,938	1,846,305	(NA)	(NA)	1,012,918
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	124,054	108,364	106,412	143,982	128,202	103,704	107,496	74,226
Feed purchased \$1,000	118,559	127,602	125,867	104,335	75,149	72,876	61,321	71,899
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	293,625	312,367	306,933	200,797	178,957	159,111	150,712	90,055
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	169,655	189,049	186,278	181,040	176,838	253,781	139,682	102,766
Hired farm labor \$1,000	140,999	123,393	122,283	99,790	92,847	76,864	70,743	47,723
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	222,187	238,378	234,100	213,388	214,381	306,237	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	258,775	221,914	217,605	161,765	143,598	116,882	70,412	27,962
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	11,705	14,694	14,232	15,183	17,154	18,548	20,733	25,364
number	1,873,191	1,813,276	1,810,409	1,723,920	1,873,839	1,886,961	1,893,212	2,403,690
Beef cows farms	10,691	13,117	12,744	13,216	14,414	15,585	17,488	21,891
number	982,270	921,588	920,559	837,716	886,585	874,660	894,999	1,191,137
Milk cows farms	633	1,190	1,170	1,925	2,839	3,689	4,724	6,699
number	34,505	53,835	54,024	74,885	96,366	102,660	101,166	111,452
Cattle and calves sold farms	10,944	14,853	14,426	15,249	17,428	18,656	21,099	25,585
number	1,100,004	1,059,624	1,055,343	978,947	1,106,924	1,018,516	1,099,421	1,211,138
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	433	838	797	1,932	2,365	2,506	3,818	5,610
number	138,838	199,750	197,372	346,082	294,427	260,160	328,025	352,017
Hogs and pigs sold farms	474	851	814	2,033	2,412	2,619	3,873	6,032
number	393,422	380,155	374,733	603,910	500,107	447,738	538,492	657,932
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	424	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	200,440	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	84	90	83	160	305	290	365	421
number	185,702	197,516	193,401	38,573	52,677	35,402	43,911	73,998

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
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain	3,540 farms	2,875 farms	2,812 farms	3,353 farms	5,313 farms	3,325 farms	2,489 farms	1,899 farms
	991,390 acres	592,078 acres	578,953 acres	595,347 acres	533,379 acres	522,122 acres	298,245 acres	165,806 acres
	111,380,248 bushels	56,335,638 bushels	54,996,430 bushels	37,487,419 bushels	46,983,098 bushels	34,122,728 bushels	20,262,366 bushels	7,973,992 bushels
Corn for silage or greenchop	1,768 farms	2,008 farms	2,024 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	171,810 acres	161,299 acres	164,276 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	1,291,392 tons	1,148,578 tons	1,162,005 tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons
Wheat for grain, All	12,908 farms	19,767 farms	19,488 farms	22,918 farms	28,245 farms	29,277 farms	34,170 farms	37,288 farms
	7,909,124 acres	11,000,606 acres	10,874,126 acres	10,627,608 acres	8,778,869 acres	9,818,946 acres	9,561,795 acres	10,189,207 acres
	215,655,462 bushels	264,011,225 bushels	260,522,260 bushels	409,882,271 bushels	248,678,425 bushels	295,849,566 bushels	268,471,784 bushels	209,162,432 bushels
Winter wheat for grain	315 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	65,965 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	2,155,698 bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels
Durum wheat for grain	3,807 farms	5,590 farms	5,457 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	1,945,910 acres	2,626,753 acres	2,540,885 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	48,877,517 bushels	58,285,243 bushels	56,415,384 bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels
Spring wheat for grain	10,988 farms	17,104 farms	16,915 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	5,897,249 acres	8,310,684 acres	8,270,597 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	164,622,247 bushels	204,316,133 bushels	202,714,112 bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels
Oats for grain	3,108 farms	4,932 farms	4,937 farms	7,843 farms	9,748 farms	12,987 farms	15,523 farms	(NA) farms
	302,455 acres	421,688 acres	423,877 acres	557,388 acres	657,196 acres	963,922 acres	1,076,412 acres	(NA) acres
	12,456,205 bushels	18,541,558 bushels	18,616,546 bushels	33,414,633 bushels	31,162,857 bushels	47,655,524 bushels	53,745,033 bushels	(NA) bushels
Barley for grain	5,218 farms	9,636 farms	9,565 farms	13,979 farms	20,825 farms	12,271 farms	16,929 farms	(NA) farms
	1,303,723 acres	2,187,449 acres	2,178,700 acres	2,388,696 acres	2,690,972 acres	1,808,815 acres	2,396,811 acres	(NA) acres
	56,810,477 bushels	99,094,251 bushels	98,641,946 bushels	142,747,145 bushels	120,600,254 bushels	91,873,953 bushels	106,289,743 bushels	(NA) bushels
Sorghum for grain	18 farms	28 farms	28 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	1,439 acres	2,186 acres	2,186 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	47,785 bushels	80,400 bushels	80,400 bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	112 farms	103 farms	104 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	7,028 acres	6,325 acres	6,361 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
Soybeans for beans	30,801 tons	28,502 tons	28,806 tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons
	5,308 farms	3,584 farms	3,405 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	2,629,364 acres	1,143,902 acres	1,062,624 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	87,793,840 bushels	33,401,430 bushels	31,069,124 bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels	(NA) bushels
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	1,999 farms	2,075 farms	2,043 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	661,379 acres	568,459 acres	565,407 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
Potatoes	10,104,405 cwt	7,147,961 cwt	7,105,599 cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt
	216 farms	286 farms	280 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	105,367 acres	110,410 acres	109,777 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	23,014,706 cwt	22,170,491 cwt	22,057,457 cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt	(NA) cwt
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	12,545 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	2,827,815 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	3,525,003 tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry	(NA) tons, dry
Sunflower seed, All	3,555 farms	5,121 farms	5,069 farms	5,287 farms	7,043 farms	11,703 farms	6,554 farms	(NA) farms
	1,128,498 acres	1,352,859 acres	1,347,376 acres	1,130,593 acres	1,407,115 acres	3,115,317 acres	1,624,229 acres	(NA) acres
	1,409,006,958 pounds	1,684,417,808 pounds	1,678,505,673 pounds	1,260,442,267 pounds	1,916,363,928 pounds	3,245,244,028 pounds	2,024,066,499 pounds	(NA) pounds
Sugarbeets for sugar	694 farms	901 farms	873 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	260,235 acres	239,006 acres	235,121 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
	4,811,685 tons	4,259,981 tons	4,191,298 tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons	(NA) tons
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	69 farms	128 farms	123 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	655 acres	921 acres	903 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres
All land in orchards	10 farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms	(NA) farms
	16 acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres	(NA) acres

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.