

**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	83,300	84,028	74,214	66,937	70,228	72,523	72,237	69,719
Land in farms . . . . . acres	33,661,826	34,069,201	33,218,677	32,143,030	31,541,977	32,369,206	33,737,292	33,082,848
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	404	405	448	480	449	446	467	475
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	285,730	257,665	271,996	235,359	215,024	311,642	235,858	143,320
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	699	628	610	496	480	699	503	302
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	3,350,879	3,015,448	2,741,400	2,134,331	2,063,371	2,323,995	1,718,075	1,066,350
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	42,155	35,893	36,936	31,943	29,465	32,109	23,850	16,693
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	3,091	3,354	2,505	2,832	3,666	3,244	2,749	2,264
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	17,072	16,132	12,673	9,614	10,134	10,651	7,894	6,001
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	28,776	28,842	24,681	21,099	22,331	23,558	23,643	22,733
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	19,357	19,749	18,288	17,234	18,006	18,670	20,352	21,280
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	7,668	8,149	8,155	8,202	8,405	8,850	10,038	10,247
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	4,119	4,795	4,973	5,133	5,132	5,124	5,181	5,003
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	3,217	3,007	2,939	2,823	2,554	2,426	2,380	2,191
Total cropland . . . . . farms	61,779	64,133	58,741	53,197	55,783	57,562	59,471	59,105
Harvested cropland . . . . . farms	14,843,357	15,478,091	14,843,823	14,520,063	14,443,459	14,213,548	14,365,738	14,667,029
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	43,930	48,060	44,786	42,015	43,522	45,825	48,168	47,123
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	7,705,860	8,964,248	8,462,079	8,272,889	7,319,193	8,961,353	8,585,011	8,989,832
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	2,942	2,860	2,710	2,581	3,029	3,069	3,770	3,454
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	4,456,404	4,253,753	4,146,351	3,562,624	2,714,892	2,530,061	2,330,408	1,594,913
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	53,498	50,623	55,870	53,224	38,658	34,886	32,261	22,876
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	819,078	951,705	907,865	778,813	610,050	827,694	617,737	670,301
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	3,637,326	3,302,048	3,238,485	2,783,832	2,104,842	1,702,366	1,712,670	923,879
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	29,927	26,997	20,476	15,902	18,501	20,261	16,150	23,360
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	9,925	12,992	11,713	10,189	11,073	11,282	12,354	9,817
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	12,452	13,384	12,341	11,208	11,999	11,490	12,887	10,399
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	12,833	13,382	12,869	12,543	12,805	12,348	(NA)	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	7,373	6,388	6,234	6,493	6,300	6,845	7,798	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	4,340	4,458	4,285	4,609	4,479	5,217	5,116	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	5,256	5,371	5,252	5,260	4,606	4,678	3,426	2,259
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	1,194	1,056	1,044	733	465	360	260	116
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	78,197	76,373	67,226	60,304	64,099	65,745	65,551	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	3,392	5,437	4,963	4,985	4,711	5,541	5,795	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	1,116	1,520	1,416	1,196	1,049	886	675	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	595	698	609	452	369	351	216	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None . . . . .	34,931	28,567	26,047	25,434	25,405	22,354	25,383	21,407
Any . . . . .	48,369	50,681	43,859	36,697	40,839	43,879	43,819	34,702
200 days or more . . . . .	36,671	37,145	31,803	25,827	28,495	30,961	30,245	23,607
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	46,053	35,653	33,060	33,279	33,052	32,847	32,053	37,165
Other . . . . .	48,375	48,375	41,154	33,658	37,176	39,676	40,184	32,068
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	56.0	54.8	55.1	55.0	53.6	51.9	51.4	52.6
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	4,069,112	3,784,514	3,576,456	3,117,869	2,359,468	(NA)	(NA)	1,321,717
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	1,244,354	1,138,481	1,100,066	1,103,395	745,844	626,108	679,962	366,642
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	917,560	967,014	900,546	628,412	439,530	396,650	417,136	311,019
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	168,328	175,692	163,334	140,995	102,292	116,377	113,512	86,881
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	173,813	167,206	156,445	146,709	128,203	181,287	111,338	70,001
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	237,162	191,754	183,170	144,750	124,732	98,335	80,082	53,428
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	243,623	239,768	224,537	195,857	189,200	263,323	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	60,663	70,673	65,621	57,080	54,052	31,075	33,421	12,209
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	59,155	63,439	58,023	52,241	53,544	58,236	58,604	58,244
Beef cows . . . . . farms	5,324,240	5,378,950	5,321,161	4,736,594	4,537,774	4,673,900	4,940,392	4,943,568
Milk cows . . . . . farms	50,465	53,502	49,284	44,115	44,130	49,090	49,510	47,128
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	2,050,866	1,947,902	1,931,805	1,728,273	1,630,425	1,830,253	1,870,791	2,077,075
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	1,828	2,118	1,921	2,297	2,828	4,504	5,425	6,641
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	86,270	88,351	87,647	90,312	90,499	108,021	101,843	102,061
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	51,414	60,973	56,600	51,240	53,577	57,030	60,077	58,712
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	4,218,687	4,383,068	4,346,420	3,953,960	3,630,285	3,374,886	4,164,215	3,271,120
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	2,491	3,575	3,002	3,415	3,710	4,225	6,984	5,819
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	2,246,926	1,697,850	1,689,700	260,682	187,351	212,510	307,527	225,189
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	2,256	2,417	2,082	2,776	3,090	3,665	6,240	5,014
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	7,264,319	3,979,738	3,943,563	500,299	346,686	355,782	480,881	385,742
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	4,085	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	4,200,104	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	871	751	632	529	556	462	407	344
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . number	231,877,714	197,077,480	169,292,948	138,607,293	89,704,380	49,399,727	39,514,824	26,273,352

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 . . . . . farms	740	714	706	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	182,777	151,007	150,404	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	23,642,448	20,964,252	20,917,282	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corn for silage or greenchop . . . . . farms	189	216	211	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	29,204	23,519	23,361	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	548,478	393,674	391,670	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All . . . . . farms	9,611	14,881	13,935	16,716	18,644	22,999	22,589	26,483
acres	3,592,828	5,298,901	4,825,074	5,197,545	4,276,344	5,972,135	5,039,915	5,935,050
bushels	102,044,001	155,472,171	141,302,977	138,121,966	113,464,955	171,665,099	124,604,327	127,202,490
Winter wheat for grain . . . . . farms	9,611	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	3,592,828	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	102,044,001	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain . . . . . farms	334	693	676	1,006	1,114	2,264	2,654	(NA)
acres	16,326	30,377	30,391	37,838	40,105	82,169	88,925	(NA)
bushels	608,263	1,160,755	1,159,885	1,278,578	1,277,283	3,111,780	2,964,658	(NA)
Barley for grain . . . . . farms	58	53	52	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	2,343	2,817	2,809	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	98,417	113,448	113,200	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain . . . . . farms	1,264	2,650	2,557	2,076	2,961	3,337	4,676	5,556
acres	262,032	427,925	417,872	281,244	339,388	468,269	516,245	470,023
bushels	11,166,761	19,346,930	18,863,920	13,933,273	15,114,650	18,714,432	17,993,503	16,017,147
Sorghum for silage or greenchop . . . . . farms	190	275	277	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	13,345	19,829	20,060	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	135,882	225,499	227,000	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans . . . . . farms	1,167	1,975	1,921	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	246,962	325,539	323,082	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	6,218,396	9,544,400	9,498,068	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Dry edible beans, excluding limas . . . . . farms	3	5	5	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	(D)	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	(D)	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, All . . . . . farms	581	823	849	1,726	2,913	2,848	4,279	6,089
acres	172,228	172,340	176,962	296,484	360,299	414,312	548,619	502,239
bales	210,027	185,799	190,186	212,041	306,388	235,262	336,710	302,685
Potatoes . . . . . farms	67	38	35	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	434	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	78,861	59,625	59,120	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes . . . . . farms	12	9	7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	21	11	10	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	1,560	717	691	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) . . . . . farms	36,898	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	3,084,888	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons, dry	5,802,990	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice . . . . . farms	2	(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)
Sunflower seed, All . . . . . farms	23	8	7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	4,711	354	348	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	8,000,456	301,349	297,467	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts . . . . . farms	418	667	662	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	53,390	67,620	68,340	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	144,450,348	161,610,559	163,572,035	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup> . . . . . farms	582	684	629	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	18,565	19,646	19,240	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards . . . . . farms	3,279	3,072	2,733	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	88,088	88,735	86,272	(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.