

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	2,128,982	2,215,876	1,911,859	1,925,300	2,087,759	2,240,976	2,257,775	2,314,013
Land in farms acres	938,279,056	954,752,502	931,795,255	945,531,506	964,470,625	986,796,579	1,014,777,234	1,017,030,357
Average size of farm acres	441	431	487	491	462	440	449	440
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	537,833	416,007	449,748	357,056	289,387	345,869	279,672	147,838
Average per acre dollars	1,213	967	933	727	627	784	619	336
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	136,624,880	119,302,923	110,256,802	93,316,496	85,801,360	93,662,947	77,600,689	48,402,624
Average per farm dollars	66,570	53,861	57,678	48,605	41,227	41,919	34,471	22,303
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	179,346	205,390	153,515	166,496	183,257	187,665	151,233	128,254
10 to 49 acres	563,772	530,902	410,833	387,711	412,437	449,252	391,554	379,543
50 to 179 acres	658,705	694,489	592,972	584,146	644,849	711,652	759,047	827,884
180 to 499 acres	388,617	428,215	402,769	427,648	478,294	526,510	581,631	616,098
500 to 999 acres	161,552	179,447	175,690	186,387	200,058	203,925	213,209	207,297
1,000 to 1,999 acres	99,020	103,007	101,468	101,923	102,078	97,395	92,712	90,800
2,000 acres or more	77,970	74,426	74,612	70,989	66,786	64,577	63,301	62,225
Total cropland farms	1,751,450	1,857,239	1,661,395	1,697,137	1,848,574	2,010,609	2,081,604	2,157,511
acres	434,164,946	445,324,765	431,144,896	435,365,878	443,318,233	445,362,028	453,874,133	440,039,087
Harvested cropland farms	1,362,608	1,545,681	1,410,606	1,491,786	1,643,633	1,809,756	1,904,602	1,954,700
acres	302,697,252	318,937,401	309,395,475	295,936,976	282,223,880	326,306,462	317,145,955	303,001,943
Irrigated land farms	299,583	308,818	279,442	279,357	291,628	278,277	280,779	236,733
acres	55,311,236	56,289,172	55,058,128	49,404,030	46,386,201	49,002,433	50,349,906	41,243,023
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	200,646,355	201,379,812	196,864,649	162,608,334	136,048,516	131,900,223	107,073,458	81,526,126
Average per farm dollars	94,245	90,880	102,970	84,459	65,165	58,858	47,424	35,231
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	95,151,954	100,668,794	98,055,656	75,228,256	58,931,085	62,256,087	48,203,200	41,790,365
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	105,494,401	100,711,018	98,808,993	87,380,078	77,117,431	69,644,136	58,870,258	39,503,850
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	826,558	693,026	496,514	422,767	490,296	536,327	460,535	649,448
\$2,500 to \$4,999	213,326	265,667	228,477	231,867	262,918	278,208	300,699	257,263
\$5,000 to \$9,999	223,168	267,575	237,975	251,883	274,972	281,802	314,088	296,373
\$10,000 to \$24,999	256,157	293,639	274,040	301,804	326,166	340,254	(NA)	394,876
\$25,000 to \$49,999	157,906	179,629	170,705	195,354	219,636	248,828	300,515	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	140,479	163,510	158,160	187,760	218,050	251,501	263,092	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	240,746	282,422	277,194	286,951	263,698	274,580	203,695	141,187
\$500,000 or more	70,642	70,408	68,794	46,914	32,023	27,800	17,973	11,412
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	1,909,598	1,922,590	1,643,424	1,653,491	1,809,324	1,945,639	1,965,860	(NA)
Partnership	129,593	185,607	169,462	186,806	199,559	223,274	232,538	(NA)
Corporation	73,752	90,432	84,002	72,567	66,969	59,792	50,231	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	16,039	17,247	14,971	12,436	11,907	12,271	9,146	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ^{4,5} :								
None	962,200	832,585	755,254	801,881	844,476	861,798	942,803	829,843
Any	1,166,782	1,254,537	1,042,158	992,773	1,115,560	1,187,374	1,203,286	1,011,476
200 days or more	832,348	870,945	709,279	665,570	737,206	774,844	770,045	657,971
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	1,224,246	1,044,388	961,560	1,053,150	1,138,179	1,234,787	1,269,305	1,427,368
Other	904,736	1,171,488	950,299	872,150	949,580	1,006,189	988,470	851,902
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	55.3	54.0	54.3	53.3	52.0	50.5	50.3	51.7
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	173,199,216	157,752,357	150,590,993	130,779,261	108,138,053	(NA)	(NA)	61,007,649
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	27,420,965	22,213,229	21,614,559	23,043,431	19,344,645	17,174,334	16,039,244	9,953,946
Feed purchased \$1,000	31,694,850	34,749,048	32,759,966	24,084,507	19,163,364	18,591,984	15,785,995	13,647,816
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	9,751,460	9,999,752	9,597,128	8,204,324	6,684,944	7,689,365	6,330,581	5,137,361
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	6,675,419	6,715,936	6,371,515	6,120,452	5,277,227	7,888,052	4,691,425	3,087,606
Hired farm labor \$1,000	18,568,446	15,457,896	14,841,036	12,961,639	10,866,236	8,441,180	6,814,428	4,652,075
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	9,571,577	9,392,431	8,928,107	8,111,337	8,158,268	11,668,942	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	7,608,921	7,934,936	7,581,424	6,133,705	4,690,243	4,282,213	2,889,503	1,757,779
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	1,018,359	1,188,659	1,046,863	1,074,349	1,176,346	1,354,992	1,346,106	1,503,244
number	95,497,994	99,907,017	98,989,244	96,135,825	95,847,299	104,475,827	103,865,109	113,174,700
Beef cows farms	796,436	899,756	804,595	803,241	841,778	957,698	954,360	1,024,935
number	33,398,271	34,193,965	34,066,615	32,545,976	31,652,593	34,202,607	34,326,274	41,257,898
Milk cows farms	91,989	125,041	116,874	155,339	202,068	277,762	312,095	403,754
number	9,103,959	9,139,812	9,095,439	9,491,818	10,084,697	10,849,890	10,221,692	10,654,516
Cattle and calves sold farms	851,971	1,121,003	1,011,809	1,034,189	1,150,523	1,278,609	1,320,163	1,437,101
number	73,509,165	75,005,184	74,089,046	70,562,908	72,603,841	71,216,727	78,020,351	70,019,180
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	78,895	124,889	109,754	191,347	243,398	329,833	445,117	470,258
number	60,405,103	61,188,149	61,206,236	57,563,118	52,271,120	55,366,205	57,697,318	45,503,604
Hogs and pigs sold farms	82,028	112,377	102,106	188,167	238,819	315,095	423,578	449,841
number	184,997,686	142,956,569	142,611,882	111,326,807	96,569,359	94,783,598	90,757,143	79,897,397
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	98,315	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	334,435,155	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	32,006	27,737	23,937	23,949	27,645	30,100	31,743	34,340
number	8,500,313,357	7,366,526,456	6,741,927,110	5,428,589,485	4,361,975,630	3,516,622,889	3,062,154,490	2,518,513,032

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 348,590	450,520	430,711	503,935	627,602	715,171	810,577	883,309
	acres 68,230,523	71,088,454	69,796,716	69,339,869	58,701,505	69,857,993	70,043,480	61,653,842
	bushels 8,613,061,814	8,732,478,098	8,578,634,770	8,697,362,804	6,725,001,837	7,508,721,493	6,805,185,861	4,396,912,922
Corn for silage or greenchop	farms 103,621	123,325	119,308	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 6,683,995	5,771,666	5,727,594	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 97,132,738	89,219,954	88,380,934	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	farms 169,528	252,922	243,568	292,464	352,237	446,075	378,574	533,520
	acres 45,519,976	62,084,743	58,836,344	59,089,470	53,224,174	70,910,293	54,155,168	62,957,215
	bushels 1,577,005,140	2,329,807,815	2,204,026,684	2,206,729,476	1,887,103,964	2,373,246,659	1,607,540,430	1,691,553,354
Winter wheat for grain	farms 141,062	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 29,303,293	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 1,104,334,391	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Durum wheat for grain	farms 5,325	7,070	6,887	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 2,717,841	3,202,949	3,099,732	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 81,170,077	88,251,199	85,802,466	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Spring wheat for grain	farms 30,333	47,193	46,268	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 13,498,842	18,024,687	17,488,113	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 391,500,672	537,892,213	519,176,940	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	farms 63,763	94,811	89,606	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,996,916	2,739,810	2,680,958	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 109,840,449	154,654,269	151,327,329	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Barley for grain	farms 24,747	43,269	41,930	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 4,015,654	6,108,682	5,944,951	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 214,800,035	346,413,080	336,435,009	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	farms 33,172	50,860	49,397	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 6,755,326	8,647,643	8,470,353	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 333,485,523	569,984,239	559,070,136	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	farms 7,042	7,962	7,918	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 406,031	384,320	382,024	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 3,904,834	4,669,985	4,640,291	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	farms 317,611	367,300	354,692	381,000	441,899	511,229	537,037	542,029
	acres 72,399,844	67,773,274	66,147,726	56,351,304	55,291,205	64,832,842	61,339,849	48,118,849
	bushels 2,707,719,216	2,560,330,804	2,504,307,294	2,053,163,265	1,838,053,979	1,989,993,158	1,722,154,229	1,145,788,470
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	farms 8,647	11,348	10,911	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,691,775	1,731,898	1,691,899	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 29,687,475	27,888,555	27,223,851	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, All	farms 24,805	33,640	31,493	34,812	43,046	38,266	52,628	89,536
	acres 12,456,162	13,897,404	13,235,236	10,961,720	9,826,081	9,781,404	12,693,772	12,223,500
	bales 17,145,345	18,706,703	17,878,743	15,370,310	13,280,143	11,375,524	10,686,447	10,887,205
Tobacco	farms 56,977	93,530	89,706	124,270	136,682	179,141	188,649	197,764
	acres 428,631	837,363	838,530	831,231	633,310	931,655	963,224	877,113
	pounds 873,350,412	1,744,192,909	1,747,702,321	1,697,831,562	1,215,221,360	1,871,309,459	1,918,189,782	1,733,365,121
Potatoes	farms 9,408	11,649	10,523	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,266,087	1,372,458	1,355,241	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 451,405,823	465,221,318	459,886,344	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	farms 2,366	1,976	1,770	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 92,310	80,953	77,384	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 13,651,312	11,896,063	11,419,653	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	farms 884,831	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 64,041,337	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry 154,976,932	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice	farms 8,046	9,627	9,291	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 3,197,641	3,161,576	3,122,120	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 210,358,014	184,412,536	182,231,457	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All	farms 7,506	11,176	11,067	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,833,435	2,559,990	2,534,708	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 2,042,510,240	3,218,848,621	3,198,790,249	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarbeets for sugar	farms 5,027	7,057	7,102	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,365,769	1,449,819	1,453,824	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 27,793,126	29,740,760	29,775,479	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarcane for sugar	farms 953	1,079	973	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 978,393	890,193	875,180	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 35,319,767	31,986,258	31,549,377	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Pineapples harvested	farms 34	28	28	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 10,211	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 314,626	(D)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts	farms 8,640	12,788	12,221	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,223,093	1,377,097	1,352,155	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 3,137,586,781	3,434,648,039	3,377,142,874	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	farms 54,391	60,631	53,727	61,969	60,819	69,109	73,183	78,566
	acres 3,698,744	3,906,983	3,773,219	3,782,358	3,467,563	3,330,637	3,534,142	3,124,257
	farms 113,649	123,420	106,069	116,207	120,434	123,663	121,852	105,997
	acres 5,330,439	5,349,292	5,158,064	4,770,778	4,560,163	4,750,667	4,463,627	4,190,340

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.