

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	35,939	40,113	29,011	30,264	33,559	36,080	30,987	29,410
Land in farms acres	15,318,008	15,778,606	15,179,710	15,726,007	16,115,568	16,469,678	16,721,836	16,661,902
Average size of farm acres	426	393	523	520	480	456	540	567
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	623,333	520,306	634,619	468,482	355,976	423,352	358,679	198,154
Average per acre dollars	1,486	1,292	1,192	892	739	933	659	350
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	2,690,548	2,325,580	2,021,640	1,843,190	1,537,272	1,652,940	1,292,959	761,653
Average per farm dollars	80,212	57,987	69,693	61,053	45,905	45,947	41,814	26,853
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	7,482	9,208	5,195	5,408	6,040	6,425	4,161	3,330
10 to 49 acres	13,187	14,791	9,727	10,115	11,362	12,717	9,896	8,739
50 to 179 acres	7,223	7,646	6,250	6,536	7,216	7,755	7,433	7,626
180 to 499 acres	3,439	3,536	3,138	3,336	3,796	4,038	4,136	4,287
500 to 999 acres	1,635	1,770	1,618	1,699	1,855	1,927	2,000	2,051
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1,364	1,502	1,461	1,461	1,626	1,548	1,673	1,720
2,000 acres or more	1,609	1,660	1,647	1,709	1,664	1,670	1,688	1,657
Total cropland farms	28,184	30,082	24,656	25,765	28,891	31,317	28,488	27,581
Harvested cropland acres	8,038,469	8,291,529	7,913,709	7,999,419	8,168,454	8,190,984	8,236,401	7,945,063
Irrigated land farms	21,802	24,168	20,445	21,282	24,027	26,067	24,926	24,732
acres	4,894,634	5,160,717	4,895,633	4,734,673	4,597,476	5,278,772	5,014,228	4,946,306
acres	15,534	16,261	13,131	14,068	15,437	16,252	14,951	13,183
acres	1,823,155	1,787,120	1,705,025	1,641,437	1,518,684	1,638,470	1,639,189	1,309,018
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	5,330,740	4,947,886	4,767,727	3,821,222	2,919,634	2,831,159	2,075,155	1,658,077
Average per farm dollars	148,327	123,349	164,342	126,263	87,000	78,469	66,969	56,378
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	3,582,818	3,403,524	3,251,291	2,451,605	1,688,656	1,714,741	1,293,857	1,154,631
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	1,747,922	1,544,362	1,516,436	1,369,617	1,230,978	1,116,418	781,298	496,131
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	15,005	16,290	8,698	8,980	10,599	12,483	7,751	8,760
\$2,500 to \$4,999	3,244	4,617	3,299	3,489	4,166	4,312	4,004	2,739
\$5,000 to \$9,999	3,106	3,674	2,954	3,078	3,507	3,631	3,384	2,946
\$10,000 to \$24,999	3,454	3,805	3,242	3,327	3,684	3,681	3,967	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2,378	2,294	1,972	2,305	2,668	2,660	3,341	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,157	2,343	2,093	2,426	2,995	3,110	3,667	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	4,634	5,145	4,872	5,243	4,978	5,358	4,326	3,649
\$500,000 or more	1,961	1,945	1,881	1,416	962	812	505	349
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	30,525	33,711	23,466	25,126	28,289	31,107	26,574	(NA)
Partnership	2,280	2,998	2,548	2,675	2,850	2,748	2,652	(NA)
Corporation	2,748	3,112	2,776	2,271	2,248	2,043	1,609	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	386	292	221	192	172	182	152	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ^{4,5} :								
None	16,798	15,210	12,363	12,848	13,268	13,062	12,609	10,018
Any	19,141	22,908	15,079	15,691	18,561	20,757	17,274	14,042
200 days or more	12,948	15,894	9,924	10,441	12,330	13,943	11,248	9,521
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	21,013	18,649	15,465	16,491	17,654	17,968	16,961	16,546
Other	14,926	21,464	13,546	13,773	15,905	18,112	14,026	11,827
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	55.4	53.2	54.2	53.1	51.6	50.1	50.3	51.7
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	4,430,693	3,795,253	3,607,282	3,122,970	2,425,028	(NA)	(NA)	1,155,185
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	394,109	361,019	353,157	360,704	320,026	347,434	233,574	118,747
Feed purchased \$1,000	471,553	506,594	495,975	445,993	341,396	348,833	246,697	204,119
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	231,964	242,558	231,396	185,614	153,949	174,198	123,882	100,158
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	145,339	133,534	124,646	115,163	90,991	126,610	72,003	47,190
Hired farm labor \$1,000	987,399	810,500	771,003	601,614	420,768	313,100	236,656	155,316
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	248,172	228,197	214,518	191,779	176,125	241,997	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	262,331	219,606	208,739	170,128	132,723	102,290	55,971	33,587
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	12,215	17,381	11,721	13,484	15,434	20,147	16,478	16,505
number	1,100,181	1,211,350	1,204,265	1,270,275	1,304,673	1,321,820	1,237,822	1,222,893
Beef cows farms	9,128	11,735	8,627	9,555	10,799	14,018	11,294	11,467
number	248,664	301,814	304,473	310,554	334,966	339,997	335,701	389,436
Milk cows farms	1,208	1,590	1,302	1,842	2,410	3,608	3,737	4,488
number	246,753	247,437	247,191	242,787	220,849	210,254	190,693	165,373
Cattle and calves sold farms	8,979	14,401	10,857	12,259	14,371	17,675	15,543	15,420
number	1,081,584	1,109,756	1,086,270	1,014,365	1,089,642	1,127,460	983,997	856,698
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	961	1,219	978	1,407	1,525	2,460	2,258	2,056
number	30,289	40,152	38,030	56,171	59,195	73,836	79,237	64,694
Hogs and pigs sold farms	1,067	1,092	818	1,150	1,355	1,934	1,871	1,579
number	80,159	76,981	72,045	93,660	104,934	116,934	115,513	123,929
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	2,533	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	5,008,881	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	327	222	162	164	245	351	252	266
number	33,017,116	30,327,052	30,183,641	33,720,007	36,068,869	16,903,405	14,872,726	14,218,935

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	382 farms	560	514	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	73,703	87,564	84,300	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	14,155,973	16,725,028	16,163,861	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corn for silage or greenchop	596 farms	667	633	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	63,303	54,424	53,417	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons	1,633,993	1,366,377	1,340,460	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	3,414 farms	4,416	4,097	5,032	5,562	6,232	6,498	7,723
	acres	2,355,451	2,584,849	2,422,506	2,495,940	2,160,641	2,716,305	2,842,436
	bushels	128,410,931	160,547,364	151,124,143	120,833,207	114,781,997	128,069,408	123,527,226
Winter wheat for grain	3,002 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	1,802,614	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	104,532,829	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Durum wheat for grain	21 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	5,930	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	306,205	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Spring wheat for grain	1,792 farms	1,856	1,723	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	546,907	416,332	379,142	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	23,571,997	22,988,799	20,973,057	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	251 farms	307	286	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	12,097	12,947	13,081	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	769,381	1,006,880	1,032,614	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Barley for grain	1,254 farms	1,877	1,787	2,428	3,722	4,176	3,333	(NA)
	acres	337,483	447,039	436,299	422,447	609,133	751,963	373,885
	bushels	18,934,918	31,800,594	30,939,269	19,565,135	31,889,132	43,923,993	22,722,722
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	343 farms	347	315	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	49,429	39,891	37,155	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	936,604	873,366	819,343	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	408 farms	458	415	431	486	533	502	613
	acres	159,317	156,776	155,074	129,110	110,157	104,738	110,692
	cwt	88,969,952	88,154,530	87,208,607	62,345,425	54,358,456	46,099,795	47,099,156
Sweet potatoes	1 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	10,473 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	914,054	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry	3,783,219	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sugarbeets for sugar	7 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	3,711	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons	130,149	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	1,804 farms	1,882	1,506	1,605	1,724	2,031	2,029	2,107
	acres	215,135	226,745	209,456	172,057	144,097	169,170	167,875
	farms	6,108	6,781	5,700	6,220	6,839	6,946	6,262
	acres	311,194	318,256	301,376	256,282	241,423	215,585	173,956
	acres							156,726

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.