

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	20,812	21,531	17,772	17,020	17,237	18,742	17,475	16,909
Land in farms acres	3,584,668	3,698,204	3,455,532	3,267,188	3,372,955	3,559,051	3,529,266	3,496,606
Average size of farm acres	172	172	194	192	196	190	202	207
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	231,999	195,213	212,832	165,088	130,802	129,390	119,153	62,094
Average per acre dollars	1,315	1,123	1,090	849	682	688	583	300
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	496,427	494,113	432,904	326,514	299,941	301,305	239,330	180,806
Average per farm dollars	26,188	22,962	24,315	19,257	17,482	16,100	13,724	11,211
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	996	1,038	727	737	643	580	512	454
10 to 49 acres	4,676	4,296	3,026	2,893	2,689	3,073	2,308	2,160
50 to 179 acres	9,337	10,172	8,164	7,787	8,081	8,984	8,421	8,260
180 to 499 acres	4,492	4,734	4,522	4,350	4,518	4,819	4,940	4,724
500 to 999 acres	956	970	1,012	948	1,004	977	991	972
1,000 to 1,999 acres	280	248	248	242	247	247	244	279
2,000 acres or more	75	73	73	63	55	62	59	60
Total cropland farms	17,821	19,479	16,509	15,891	16,246	17,763	16,780	16,344
Harvested cropland acres	1,173,032	1,420,517	1,336,723	1,294,134	1,285,786	1,319,437	1,356,048	1,329,192
Irrigated land farms	15,827	17,658	15,086	14,531	15,056	16,446	15,890	14,899
acres	648,635	661,882	621,632	555,818	553,517	576,889	560,652	511,182
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ² \$1,000	482,814	459,387	447,428	364,203	270,639	242,127	193,710	133,088
Average per farm dollars	23,199	21,336	25,176	21,399	15,701	12,919	11,085	7,871
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	69,693	68,964	64,907	63,081	49,249	57,203	44,832	34,473
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	413,121	390,423	382,521	301,122	221,390	184,923	148,877	96,858
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	12,054	10,439	7,819	6,927	7,977	9,677	8,566	10,984
\$2,500 to \$4,999	2,712	4,174	3,415	3,499	3,463	3,728	3,755	2,232
\$5,000 to \$9,999	2,398	3,148	2,863	2,848	2,547	2,533	2,441	1,552
\$10,000 to \$24,999	1,875	1,995	1,936	2,006	1,781	1,437	1,444	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999	695	699	675	688	583	539	543	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999	383	431	431	433	400	354	350	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999	469	450	439	509	414	397	326	198
\$500,000 or more	226	195	194	110	72	57	24	12
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual	19,862	20,068	16,475	15,737	15,988	17,336	16,046	(NA)
Partnership	639	1,037	918	977	971	1,134	1,216	(NA)
Corporation	220	317	285	226	197	180	140	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	91	109	94	80	81	92	73	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm ⁴ :								
None	8,910	7,491	6,390	6,269	6,018	5,802	5,574	5,068
Any	11,902	12,966	10,489	9,594	10,083	11,743	11,273	9,799
200 days or more	9,107	9,482	7,554	6,985	7,278	8,347	8,171	6,817
Principal operator by primary occupation ⁵ :								
Farming	10,507	8,123	7,145	7,169	7,201	7,117	6,586	7,496
Other	10,305	13,408	10,627	9,851	10,036	11,625	10,889	9,292
Average age of principal operator ⁵ years	56.3	56.2	56.7	56.4	55.6	53.8	53.2	54.3
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	408,650	404,647	380,631	308,703	231,077	(NA)	(NA)	114,904
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000	63,817	66,403	63,068	54,571	37,921	30,135	24,063	17,102
Feed purchased \$1,000	130,696	162,078	154,556	101,386	64,781	51,915	40,533	34,431
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners ^{6,7} \$1,000	12,976	12,283	11,710	11,670	10,779	10,226	9,184	6,694
Gasoline, fuels, and oils \$1,000	20,134	17,806	16,457	15,877	12,787	15,800	10,466	7,105
Hired farm labor \$1,000	31,843	25,683	24,160	26,956	23,244	20,340	16,643	11,136
Interest expense ⁸ \$1,000	20,711	23,319	21,169	17,179	16,409	16,738	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals ⁶ \$1,000	5,591	5,239	4,950	6,428	5,346	5,024	4,521	2,400
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	12,831	14,082	12,284	12,431	12,897	15,123	13,938	14,161
number	404,163	440,891	439,462	430,708	408,129	455,173	428,763	495,460
Beef cows farms	10,824	11,674	10,367	10,570	10,588	12,632	11,692	10,841
number	200,401	204,341	202,844	197,886	182,071	198,322	191,235	214,782
Milk cows farms	525	773	676	972	1,575	2,901	3,263	4,433
number	14,972	18,527	18,497	23,366	27,019	34,776	36,040	42,232
Cattle and calves sold farms	9,513	12,943	11,576	11,583	12,061	13,525	13,210	12,876
number	239,760	277,319	270,361	254,233	249,163	237,911	237,873	199,846
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	808	827	645	841	1,226	1,981	2,641	3,225
number	12,773	17,970	15,708	26,760	30,759	33,881	51,769	47,866
Hogs and pigs sold farms	717	489	402	587	868	1,151	1,651	1,736
number	26,173	28,620	24,884	50,642	59,181	57,979	73,570	67,861
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory farms	1,799	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	1,383,009	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	246	206	186	136	99	185	149	187
number	88,699,422	81,115,311	79,193,428	50,669,811	29,226,871	22,991,789	14,255,463	14,907,028

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	663 farms	1,235	1,150	1,517	2,097	3,670	3,625	4,245	
	acres	29,123	35,872	35,499	44,564	48,953	82,176	61,181	54,867
	bushels	3,057,437	3,291,931	3,270,197	4,668,501	3,257,345	7,416,016	5,544,781	3,903,463
Corn for silage or greenchop	594 farms	921	929	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	18,964	27,185	27,642	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons	304,619	375,826	380,942	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	148 farms	195	191	307	376	408	500	905	
	acres	6,408	7,630	7,620	9,058	7,339	7,141	5,358	9,779
	bushels	303,924	423,176	421,453	438,877	316,337	244,165	178,288	323,573
Winter wheat for grain	148 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	6,408	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	303,924	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	164 farms	342	321	406	516	750	882	(NA)	
	acres	1,515	2,818	2,720	3,677	4,605	7,594	7,305	(NA)
	bushels	74,403	136,644	132,249	201,339	227,284	383,792	320,148	(NA)
Barley for grain	79 farms	73	71	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	1,430	1,560	1,577	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	92,232	106,337	107,582	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	3 farms	6	6	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	(D)	17	17	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	(D)	660	660	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	46 farms	57	57	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	727	600	603	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons	8,227	5,458	5,471	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	126 farms	164	157	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	16,359	13,216	13,132	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels	621,463	487,373	482,228	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	4 farms	17	13	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	8	29	20	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	58	294	181	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Tobacco	544 farms	789	744	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	1,373	1,692	1,630	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds	1,874,110	2,817,779	2,737,090	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	182 farms	498	416	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	186	720	610	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	18,700	66,038	58,593	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	8 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	2	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt	170	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	14,679 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	562,810	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry	957,776	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁹	365 farms	401	362	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres	1,707	1,720	1,588	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	550 farms	662	530	558	646	775	907	833	
	acres	9,495	13,242	12,446	15,014	19,513	22,878	22,648	21,233

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.