

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2012 and Earlier Census Years

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

All farms	2012	2007	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage			
					1997	1992	1987	1982
Farms number	45,071	49,346	47,483	49,493	45,142	43,937	48,242	50,525
Land in farms acres	13,810,786	13,872,862	14,502,793	14,823,865	14,364,955	14,127,711	14,355,611	14,682,960
Average size of farm acres	306	281	305	300	318	322	298	291
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	807,965	658,732	447,104	354,095	360,114	282,389	225,604	286,402
Average per acre dollars	2,637	2,343	1,469	1,157	1,151	880	761	972
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	5,202,799	4,481,741	3,007,394	2,749,848	2,510,490	1,957,035	1,661,321	1,790,270
Average per farm dollars	115,438	90,823	65,299	55,572	55,619	44,601	34,505	35,483
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	1,918	2,581	1,728	2,043	1,686	1,727	2,249	2,069
10 to 49 acres	11,947	15,119	11,222	10,760	9,186	8,295	9,723	10,255
50 to 179 acres	16,631	16,916	17,297	18,241	16,450	15,771	17,551	19,022
180 to 499 acres	8,722	8,590	10,369	10,975	10,437	10,179	11,173	11,622
500 to 999 acres	2,598	2,959	3,526	4,103	4,049	4,188	4,371	4,519
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1,760	1,803	2,122	2,326	2,298	2,287	2,304	2,154
2,000 acres or more	1,495	1,378	1,219	1,045	1,036	950	871	884
Total cropland farms	29,380	35,154	36,908	39,704	37,205	37,408	40,536	43,228
..... acres	7,931,111	8,432,221	9,576,047	10,271,653	10,062,289	10,064,948	9,950,401	10,042,942
Harvested cropland farms	25,535	29,050	29,466	31,847	30,125	30,441	32,248	34,725
..... acres	7,316,469	7,367,068	7,457,599	7,814,711	7,665,490	7,295,095	6,477,365	7,484,316
Irrigated land farms	5,084	5,393	5,847	6,887	6,593	6,682	7,269	6,678
..... acres	4,803,902	4,460,682	4,149,766	3,785,338	3,717,217	2,701,651	2,406,338	2,022,695
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) \$1,000	9,775,758	7,508,806	4,950,397	5,613,156	5,479,692	4,159,505	3,320,258	2,826,497
Average per farm dollars	216,897	152,166	104,256	113,413	121,388	94,670	68,825	55,943
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	4,834,879	2,900,973	1,620,384	2,232,440	2,188,026	1,714,842	1,246,686	1,356,618
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	4,940,880	4,607,833	3,330,014	3,380,717	3,291,665	2,444,663	2,073,572	1,469,879
Farms by value of sales ² :								
Less than \$2,500	15,268	17,810	16,408	13,179	11,029	9,566	12,130	15,515
\$2,500 to \$4,999	4,497	5,353	5,975	7,533	6,901	6,405	7,609	7,768
\$5,000 to \$9,999	5,455	6,263	6,237	7,509	6,723	6,844	7,101	6,403
\$10,000 to \$24,999	6,788	7,147	6,308	6,446	6,071	6,071	6,088	5,544
\$25,000 to \$49,999	3,529	3,018	2,176	2,448	2,408	2,617	2,885	3,106
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,028	1,685	1,865	2,075	1,978	2,714	3,329	4,020
\$100,000 to \$499,999	2,386	3,471	5,775	7,056	6,832	7,900	8,197	7,436
\$500,000 or more	5,120	4,599	2,739	3,247	3,200	1,820	903	712
Farms by legal status for tax purposes (see text):								
Family or individual	39,351	42,470	43,458	43,020	39,009	38,221	42,885	45,152
Partnership	3,344	4,667	2,626	4,095	3,891	3,824	3,626	3,856
Corporation	1,842	1,854	1,182	2,142	2,025	1,714	1,542	1,326
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	534	355	217	236	217	178	189	191
Principal operator by days of work off farm ³ :								
None	18,308	18,241	21,312	18,908	17,714	17,942	19,132	18,816
Any	26,763	31,105	26,171	27,841	24,906	22,755	26,208	26,948
200 days or more	18,857	20,755	20,044	20,078	17,855	16,181	18,417	18,455
Principal operator by primary occupation:								
Farming	21,315	21,960	27,411	23,678	22,300	23,273	24,210	25,701
Other	23,756	27,386	20,072	25,815	22,842	20,664	24,032	24,824
Average age of principal operator years	58.1	56.5	54.9	53.4	53.5	53.0	51.8	50.9
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	7,701,266	6,134,870	3,898,297	4,709,755	4,161,029	3,245,341	2,454,097	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased or leased \$1,000	891,909	828,459	515,620	512,770	467,737	414,337	368,424	272,441
Feed purchased \$1,000	2,617,016	2,023,611	1,250,849	1,954,542	1,654,949	964,146	774,203	570,609
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners purchased ^{4 5} \$1,000	629,255	437,022	216,013	233,756	213,542	184,504	123,230	131,022
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased \$1,000	510,909	395,167	188,568	200,723	181,212	169,025	136,284	191,553
Hired farm labor \$1,000	342,712	268,860	253,395	259,973	238,733	223,124	198,167	164,885
Interest expense ⁶ \$1,000	245,943	231,796	203,361	211,518	192,005	165,014	135,440	192,827
Chemicals purchased ⁴ \$1,000	505,519	327,730	245,100	263,161	237,031	201,753	115,386	114,397
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	25,866	28,292	29,925	32,775	30,369	29,162	31,606	34,779
..... number	1,615,774	1,802,653	1,842,273	1,784,191	1,770,248	1,632,666	1,562,243	1,718,315
Beef cows farms	23,385	25,361	26,526	28,818	26,981	26,011	27,297	30,083
..... number	813,250	947,765	951,803	924,826	927,357	826,306	786,183	819,320
Milk cows farms	100	339	486	1,260	1,193	1,688	2,252	3,769
..... number	8,972	16,718	30,414	49,280	49,012	64,427	70,926	86,779
Cattle and calves sold farms	22,116	23,731	25,955	32,044	29,903	28,545	31,315	33,292
..... number	954,433	992,422	932,963	992,313	978,007	817,838	888,755	821,500
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	752	1,142	846	1,369	1,247	1,883	2,467	3,737
..... number	109,316	289,342	305,659	866,082	858,741	725,497	452,930	388,388
Hogs and pigs sold farms	540	954	867	1,106	1,019	1,666	2,168	3,172
..... number	1,144,573	1,866,416	2,408,257	2,792,531	2,762,914	2,016,536	1,211,130	827,413

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2012 and Earlier Census Years (continued)

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

All farms	2012	2007	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage			
					1997	1992	1987	1982
Livestock and poultry: - Con.								
Layers inventory (see text)	3,549 farms	3,047	1,905	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	12,545,952	13,977,804	13,189,901	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	2,109 farms	2,485	3,520	3,882	3,650	3,666	4,132	3,963
number	975,950,973	1,171,556,369	1,181,907,700	1,046,510,017	1,003,161,769	862,403,824	719,764,548	569,303,000
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain	1,712 farms	1,395	800	851	831	622	748	695
acres	695,003	584,629	238,554	185,251	184,079	94,606	53,672	25,330
bushels	124,688,804	99,778,632	31,747,203	22,080,806	21,901,248	12,139,499	5,802,912	2,389,882
Corn for silage or greenchop	47 farms	30	31	36	36	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	4,208	1,887	(D)	3,442	3,442	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	29,156	26,326	(D)	41,671	41,671	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, all	1,631 farms	2,112	2,971	3,490	3,361	4,134	5,329	7,727
acres	448,235	696,681	770,551	775,040	763,388	815,096	859,405	1,667,522
bushels	25,253,539	27,859,060	34,967,687	35,833,441	35,361,702	35,234,257	33,241,332	61,332,564
Winter wheat for grain	1,631 farms	2,112	2,971	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	448,235	696,681	770,551	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	25,253,539	27,859,060	34,967,687	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	45 farms	57	104	103	100	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	6,006	6,431	7,950	8,127	8,062	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	578,583	601,737	615,630	581,000	578,205	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	525 farms	697	813	902	875	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	133,660	216,432	203,527	132,474	130,948	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	11,426,434	20,761,820	15,738,086	9,072,357	8,988,578	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	28 farms	34	29	49	49	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	3,397	2,073	1,656	2,704	2,714	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	19,423	27,488	9,158	28,033	28,413	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	4,154 farms	4,610	5,250	7,227	6,889	7,604	8,983	11,307
acres	3,154,061	2,819,478	2,888,018	3,638,298	3,571,342	3,164,168	3,160,746	4,198,968
bushels	136,482,368	98,903,025	96,257,992	104,706,642	103,074,994	99,219,546	73,279,691	98,603,852
Cotton, all	701 farms	915	1,192	1,820	1,730	2,279	2,479	2,019
acres	586,351	854,410	921,316	996,820	962,272	947,973	529,636	405,345
bales	1,253,037	1,902,073	1,655,956	1,681,803	1,621,344	1,574,664	816,723	525,887
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	20,158 farms	22,939	22,755	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	1,286,688	1,334,153	1,414,857	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons, dry	1,639,109	2,966,184	3,219,368	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice	2,345 farms	2,752	3,573	4,325	4,207	4,924	5,613	5,436
acres	1,285,381	1,326,377	1,506,615	1,404,942	1,384,969	1,363,237	1,041,433	1,262,744
cwt	96,847,596	96,033,069	97,254,798	80,020,635	78,882,488	75,410,027	54,663,266	56,860,948
Sunflower seed, all	- farms	1	5	8	7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	-	(D)	174	(D)	44	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	-	(D)	155,298	(D)	43,220	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts	36 farms	1	15	30	29	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	13,594	(D)	1,413	1,636	1,616	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	59,109,271	(D)	3,757,277	4,239,590	4,209,590	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁷	625 farms	804	482	584	536	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	11,111	14,146	13,443	14,897	14,480	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	173 farms	168	43	42	39	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	60	76	36	141	135	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	17 farms	53	50	45	40	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	2,410	3,125	1,164	172	164	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Land in orchards	536 farms	666	565	705	646	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	13,681	13,932	14,487	14,713	14,334	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

¹ Data for 2002 and prior years are based on a sample of farms.
² Data for 1982 exclude abnormal farms.
³ Data for 1997 and prior years do not include imputation for item nonresponse.
⁴ Data for 1982 exclude cost of custom applications.
⁵ Data for 1997 and prior years exclude cost of lime and manure.
⁶ Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.
⁷ Data for 2002 and prior years exclude potatoes, sweet potatoes, and ginseng.