

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	31,989	31,169	31,736	33,191	31,284	34,057	36,376	37,148
Land in farms acres	43,257,079	43,666,403	43,785,079	44,141,892	44,354,880	44,828,124	44,157,503	43,810,988
Average size of farm acres	1,352	1,401	1,380	1,330	1,418	1,316	1,214	1,179
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	2,281,026	1,255,332	618,651	473,015	487,039	360,111	326,333	418,940
Average per acre dollars	1,687	896	442	358	348	273	269	348
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	7,721,279	4,847,160	3,340,044	2,961,502	2,852,531	2,398,312	1,996,230	2,248,595
Average per farm dollars	241,388	155,652	107,376	89,285	91,182	70,495	55,005	60,589
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	1,300	920	777	1,243	1,015	1,504	1,881	1,919
10 to 49 acres	4,976	3,898	3,549	3,189	2,596	3,189	2,638	2,105
50 to 179 acres	6,419	5,909	5,755	5,607	4,844	4,977	5,083	5,248
180 to 499 acres	5,353	5,874	6,091	6,961	6,500	7,286	8,625	9,505
500 to 999 acres	4,229	4,714	5,353	5,917	5,866	6,917	7,618	8,206
1,000 to 1,999 acres	4,075	4,362	4,758	5,117	5,185	5,584	5,728	5,723
2,000 acres or more	5,637	5,492	5,453	5,157	5,278	5,167	4,803	4,442
Total cropland farms	26,422	26,625	28,110	29,125	27,712	30,142	32,451	33,844
..... acres	19,147,320	19,094,311	20,318,036	19,706,193	19,355,256	19,582,565	19,641,972	18,838,739
Harvested cropland farms	21,340	21,902	22,931	26,808	25,654	28,430	31,110	32,823
..... acres	16,392,000	15,278,709	13,492,286	14,770,445	14,284,741	13,624,006	12,982,611	14,433,490
Irrigated land farms	1,656	1,627	1,755	1,555	1,439	1,674	1,869	1,815
..... acres	378,678	373,842	401,083	367,195	343,742	371,263	361,796	376,447
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) \$1,000	10,170,227	6,570,450	3,834,625	3,664,129	3,569,951	3,243,554	2,719,498	2,478,111
Average per farm dollars	317,929	210,801	120,829	110,395	114,114	95,239	74,761	66,709
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	6,072,922	3,383,497	1,575,910	1,744,438	1,654,044	1,072,895	857,373	842,980
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	4,097,304	3,186,953	2,258,715	1,919,692	1,915,907	2,170,659	1,862,125	1,635,131
Farms by value of sales ² :								
Less than \$2,500	7,945	8,277	6,952	4,108	3,338	2,792	2,888	2,633
\$2,500 to \$4,999	1,495	1,077	1,412	1,788	1,605	1,658	2,020	1,841
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1,767	1,433	1,774	2,496	2,273	2,779	3,190	3,144
\$10,000 to \$24,999	2,527	2,515	3,530	4,741	4,516	5,493	6,764	7,043
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2,281	2,515	3,838	4,894	4,690	5,792	7,026	8,172
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,946	3,409	4,564	5,555	5,415	6,829	7,706	8,090
\$100,000 to \$499,999	8,218	9,099	8,441	8,595	8,449	8,043	6,338	5,791
\$500,000 or more	4,810	2,844	1,225	1,014	998	671	444	338
Farms by legal status for tax purposes (see text):								
Family or individual	27,544	26,633	28,189	28,906	27,133	29,525	31,761	32,396
Partnership	2,150	2,658	2,163	2,694	2,605	3,179	3,394	3,613
Corporation	1,644	1,421	1,066	1,321	1,298	1,104	942	885
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	651	457	318	270	248	249	279	254
Principal operator by days of work off farm ³ :								
None	14,049	13,679	16,736	16,492	16,003	18,373	19,798	19,568
Any	17,940	17,490	15,000	14,327	13,049	12,540	13,553	12,941
200 days or more	11,551	10,335	9,571	8,174	7,289	6,614	6,641	5,616
Principal operator by primary occupation:								
Farming	18,844	18,775	23,049	23,498	22,704	26,141	28,407	30,267
Other	13,145	12,394	8,687	9,693	8,580	7,916	7,969	6,881
Average age of principal operator years	55.9	55.7	53.3	51.7	51.8	51.1	49.7	48.6
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	8,104,502	4,989,172	3,311,884	2,803,735	2,733,387	2,563,564	2,138,164	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased or leased \$1,000	978,174	881,582	580,920	456,104	452,194	632,721	519,803	446,010
Feed purchased \$1,000	1,282,133	617,725	433,345	373,462	369,705	360,923	277,680	268,944
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners purchased ^{4 5} \$1,000	989,154	524,327	239,257	191,678	185,850	128,044	96,748	79,742
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased \$1,000	447,956	310,328	160,186	163,269	159,131	157,432	144,494	214,464
Hired farm labor \$1,000	267,349	177,684	134,685	113,183	109,897	95,956	94,911	67,414
Interest expense ⁶ \$1,000	392,136	306,448	266,573	233,514	226,685	198,194	200,864	296,609
Chemicals purchased ⁴ \$1,000	485,145	257,553	163,371	184,055	175,778	110,347	77,926	53,836
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	15,583	15,667	17,983	21,345	20,502	22,576	23,998	27,000
..... number	3,893,251	3,687,728	3,695,877	3,710,629	3,723,271	3,777,822	3,630,200	3,925,131
Beef cows farms	13,327	13,802	15,515	18,008	17,428	18,597	19,034	21,361
..... number	1,610,559	1,649,492	1,694,091	1,662,162	1,675,000	1,604,838	1,502,927	1,595,688
Milk cows farms	689	656	1,114	1,854	1,802	2,873	3,940	5,610
..... number	91,831	86,243	84,080	96,712	95,882	117,454	137,020	158,180
Cattle and calves sold farms	14,306	15,171	17,060	21,512	20,782	22,802	24,464	27,274
..... number	2,567,027	2,745,227	2,707,872	2,449,587	2,448,551	2,500,254	2,398,208	2,419,576
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	681	959	1,506	3,027	2,899	6,710	7,906	9,336
..... number	1,191,162	1,490,034	1,375,506	1,394,357	1,396,326	1,978,195	1,750,236	1,764,654
Hogs and pigs sold farms	678	1,042	1,738	3,189	3,067	7,125	8,265	10,022
..... number	3,914,312	4,487,708	3,773,503	2,610,493	2,596,164	3,654,082	3,181,008	3,066,751

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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