

**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   | 68,050     | 79,280     | 87,595     | 91,536     | 76,818                    | 75,076     | 79,711     | 90,565     |
| Land in farms ..... acres  | 10,867,812 | 10,969,798 | 11,681,533 | 11,986,258 | 11,122,363                | 11,169,086 | 11,731,386 | 12,474,931 |
| Average size of farm ..... acres   | 160        | 138        | 133        | 131        | 145                       | 149        | 147        | 138        |
| Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :                      |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| Average per farm ..... dollars   | 569,416    | 467,420    | 325,783    | 245,186    | 261,209                   | 186,171    | 146,126    | 139,141    |
| Average per acre ..... dollars   | 3,565      | 3,378      | 2,405      | 1,859      | 1,808                     | 1,245      | 1,001      | 1,014      |
| Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000 | 4,712,059  | 4,668,199  | 3,844,998  | 2,875,913  | 2,547,208                 | 1,906,868  | 1,803,541  | 1,870,910  |
| Average per farm ..... dollars   | 69,248     | 58,882     | 45,263     | 31,425     | 33,158                    | 25,520     | 22,700     | 20,713     |
| Farms by size:   |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| 1 to 9 acres .....   | 3,230      | 5,814      | 6,066      | 7,923      | 5,919                     | 7,336      | 7,306      | 9,481      |
| 10 to 49 acres .....   | 23,563     | 29,396     | 32,116     | 31,254     | 24,401                    | 22,173     | 23,209     | 26,965     |
| 50 to 179 acres .....  | 27,037     | 29,588     | 34,272     | 35,829     | 30,719                    | 29,572     | 32,266     | 35,998     |
| 180 to 499 acres .....   | 10,464     | 10,847     | 11,357     | 12,644     | 11,924                    | 11,873     | 12,697     | 13,757     |
| 500 to 999 acres .....   | 2,268      | 2,287      | 2,446      | 2,550      | 2,544                     | 2,707      | 2,906      | 3,065      |
| 1,000 to 1,999 acres .....   | 956        | 892        | 896        | 969        | 945                       | 1,062      | 984        | 995        |
| 2,000 acres or more .....  | 532        | 456        | 442        | 367        | 366                       | 353        | 343        | 304        |
| Total cropland ..... farms   | 51,019     | 61,274     | 74,086     | 79,858     | 69,393                    | 69,297     | 73,703     | 84,774     |
| ..... acres  | 5,329,692  | 6,047,348  | 6,992,992  | 7,451,482  | 7,069,470                 | 7,086,879  | 7,185,903  | 7,602,106  |
| Harvested cropland ..... farms   | 44,908     | 48,292     | 56,316     | 62,999     | 56,016                    | 58,527     | 63,754     | 74,518     |
| ..... acres  | 4,546,788  | 4,226,440  | 4,365,360  | 4,233,018  | 4,064,058                 | 3,817,720  | 3,854,302  | 4,548,895  |
| Irrigated land ..... farms   | 2,146      | 2,453      | 2,592      | 1,985      | 1,768                     | 1,544      | 1,899      | 1,141      |
| ..... acres  | 146,442    | 81,405     | 61,217     | 47,010     | 45,581                    | 36,974     | 37,776     | 17,745     |
| Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ..... \$1,000              | 3,611,037  | 2,617,394  | 2,199,814  | 2,263,035  | 2,178,389                 | 1,933,506  | 1,617,636  | 1,683,852  |
| Average per farm ..... dollars   | 53,064     | 33,015     | 25,113     | 24,723     | 28,358                    | 25,754     | 20,294     | 18,593     |
| Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ..... \$1,000                      | 2,086,472  | 1,147,786  | 1,072,548  | 1,173,774  | 1,143,674                 | 969,439    | 701,828    | 848,819    |
| Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000                             | 1,524,565  | 1,469,608  | 1,127,266  | 1,089,261  | 1,034,714                 | 964,067    | 915,807    | 835,033    |
| Farms by value of sales <sup>2</sup> :   |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| Less than \$2,500 .....  | 30,632     | 38,522     | 42,741     | 36,808     | 27,201                    | 21,446     | 27,451     | 29,211     |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999 .....   | 8,016      | 9,539      | 12,859     | 16,847     | 14,578                    | 14,365     | 16,106     | 19,026     |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 .....   | 8,852      | 11,217     | 12,311     | 15,548     | 13,751                    | 14,918     | 14,398     | 16,859     |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 .....   | 9,699      | 9,488      | 10,012     | 11,975     | 11,217                    | 13,088     | 11,446     | 13,458     |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 .....   | 4,624      | 4,712      | 3,691      | 4,096      | 3,987                     | 4,641      | 4,127      | 5,129      |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 .....   | 2,067      | 2,001      | 2,133      | 2,277      | 2,176                     | 2,681      | 2,719      | 3,358      |
| \$100,000 to \$499,999 .....   | 2,551      | 2,586      | 3,046      | 3,209      | 3,138                     | 3,448      | 3,168      | 3,261      |
| \$500,000 or more .....  | 1,609      | 1,215      | 802        | 776        | 770                       | 489        | 296        | 238        |
| Farms by legal status for tax purposes (see text):                               |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| Family or individual .....   | 63,175     | 72,675     | 82,866     | 83,403     | 69,585                    | 66,992     | 71,976     | 80,881     |
| Partnership .....  | 3,419      | 5,568      | 3,996      | 7,031      | 6,275                     | 7,234      | 6,947      | 8,910      |
| Corporation .....  | 963        | 865        | 452        | 769        | 681                       | 556        | 496        | 511        |
| Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc .....                     | 493        | 172        | 281        | 333        | 277                       | 294        | 292        | 263        |
| Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>3</sup> :                       |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| None .....   | 25,071     | 26,299     | 36,807     | 28,565     | 25,230                    | 25,395     | 26,744     | 27,751     |
| Any .....  | 42,979     | 52,981     | 50,788     | 58,314     | 47,484                    | 44,536     | 48,882     | 54,964     |
| 200 days or more .....   | 29,017     | 32,834     | 38,771     | 44,358     | 35,678                    | 33,366     | 36,187     | 39,278     |
| Principal operator by primary occupation:  |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| Farming .....  | 28,454     | 30,849     | 44,100     | 30,635     | 27,680                    | 29,878     | 30,745     | 36,802     |
| Other .....  | 39,596     | 48,431     | 43,495     | 60,901     | 49,138                    | 45,198     | 48,966     | 53,763     |
| Average age of principal operator ..... years                                    | 59.2       | 57.8       | 56.0       | 54.8       | 55.4                      | 54.6       | 53.8       | 52.3       |
| Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000                        | 3,174,788  | 2,620,841  | 1,996,798  | 1,785,713  | 1,641,727                 | 1,492,457  | 1,282,885  | (NA)       |
| Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :                                 |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| Livestock and poultry purchased or leased ..... \$1,000                          | 283,304    | 213,700    | 175,145    | 165,461    | 148,848                   | 153,877    | 142,988    | 127,847    |
| Feed purchased ..... \$1,000   | 679,459    | 547,993    | 386,790    | 353,956    | 312,849                   | 266,443    | 237,592    | 228,199    |
| Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners purchased <sup>4 5</sup> ..... \$1,000   | 411,915    | 301,586    | 171,689    | 168,679    | 160,025                   | 148,377    | 119,418    | 124,921    |
| Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased ..... \$1,000                                | 197,953    | 160,637    | 93,416     | 92,683     | 85,428                    | 83,727     | 72,838     | 107,387    |
| Hired farm labor ..... \$1,000   | 252,642    | 214,487    | 173,255    | 166,163    | 159,187                   | 138,434    | 117,140    | 109,251    |
| Interest expense <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000                                      | 160,109    | 158,689    | 147,275    | 126,260    | 113,698                   | 110,900    | 115,019    | 161,398    |
| Chemicals purchased <sup>4</sup> ..... \$1,000                                   | 196,390    | 126,529    | 101,619    | 99,379     | 94,026                    | 79,851     | 57,923     | 57,848     |
| Livestock and poultry:   |            |            |            |            |                           |            |            |            |
| Cattle and calves inventory .....  | 38,826     | 46,719     | 50,471     | 58,623     | 51,089                    | 50,592     | 52,965     | 60,924     |
| ..... farms  | 1,856,316  | 2,122,018  | 2,233,988  | 2,213,719  | 2,145,405                 | 2,162,660  | 2,008,570  | 2,242,905  |
| Beef cows .....  | 33,556     | 42,344     | 44,249     | 49,979     | 44,235                    | 43,333     | 43,616     | 48,768     |
| ..... farms  | 874,630    | 1,179,102  | 1,093,059  | 1,058,870  | 1,039,583                 | 988,550    | 894,348    | 914,784    |
| Milk cows .....  | 979        | 1,230      | 1,427      | 2,215      | 2,096                     | 3,295      | 4,781      | 8,098      |
| ..... farms  | 47,978     | 61,131     | 84,017     | 110,022    | 111,985                   | 152,067    | 180,390    | 217,234    |
| Cattle and calves sold .....   | 32,852     | 38,961     | 42,017     | 55,611     | 49,234                    | 47,955     | 51,558     | 56,117     |
| ..... farms  | 960,682    | 1,095,372  | 1,126,131  | 1,178,979  | 1,126,232                 | 1,043,627  | 1,077,665  | 1,043,430  |
| Hogs and pigs inventory .....  | 1,297      | 1,566      | 1,491      | 2,532      | 2,043                     | 4,912      | 8,465      | 12,963     |
| ..... farms  | 147,795    | 138,207    | 230,532    | 342,805    | 321,806                   | 604,613    | 774,530    | 866,226    |
| Hogs and pigs sold .....   | 812        | 1,160      | 1,130      | 1,909      | 1,579                     | 4,522      | 7,874      | 11,268     |
| ..... farms  | 344,574    | 470,213    | 635,014    | 756,354    | 714,999                   | 1,293,654  | 1,484,049  | 1,512,090  |

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) ..... farms  | 6,487       | 5,176       | 3,551       | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... number   | 1,675,399   | 1,713,388   | 1,160,590   | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms                                       | 600         | 670         | 792         | 651         | 548                       | 489         | 509        | 498         |
| ..... number   | 165,803,445 | 206,132,684 | 181,420,343 | 137,801,700 | 120,830,210               | 98,516,358  | 75,974,462 | 53,916,803  |
| Selected crops harvested:  |             |             |             |             |                           |             |            |             |
| Corn for grain ..... farms   | 4,301       | 4,653       | 4,249       | 6,308       | 5,854                     | 9,143       | 13,715     | 18,711      |
| ..... acres  | 960,721     | 780,608     | 593,564     | 590,024     | 575,878                   | 605,287     | 553,943    | 563,467     |
| ..... bushels  | 81,645,799  | 83,636,352  | 64,081,209  | 59,605,812  | 58,459,483                | 67,755,811  | 47,899,079 | 48,544,140  |
| Corn for silage or greenchop ..... farms   | 776         | 884         | 1,126       | 1,288       | 1,253                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 48,509      | 52,565      | 66,010      | 69,309      | 68,482                    | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... tons   | 630,517     | 577,940     | 928,810     | 965,115     | 958,535                   | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Wheat for grain, all ..... farms   | 1,493       | 1,358       | 1,780       | 2,518       | 2,360                     | 3,011       | 4,579      | 8,357       |
| ..... acres  | 328,209     | 254,944     | 279,978     | 311,764     | 305,175                   | 276,243     | 324,984    | 720,123     |
| ..... bushels  | 20,315,789  | 10,445,442  | 13,061,055  | 13,744,203  | 13,482,402                | 12,175,250  | 12,749,682 | 25,038,992  |
| Winter wheat for grain ..... farms   | 1,493       | 1,358       | 1,780       | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 328,209     | 254,944     | 279,978     | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... bushels  | 20,315,789  | 10,445,442  | 13,061,055  | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Oats for grain ..... farms   | 98          | 78          | 113         | 147         | 133                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 1,405       | 1,679       | 2,135       | 1,684       | 1,581                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... bushels  | 88,272      | 83,840      | 131,167     | 80,167      | 74,403                    | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Barley for grain ..... farms   | 23          | 18          | 12          | 28          | 27                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 2,101       | 997         | 1,221       | 942         | 918                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... bushels  | 136,962     | 45,265      | 69,530      | 49,272      | 47,592                    | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Sorghum for grain ..... farms  | 79          | 72          | 139         | 118         | 113                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 11,496      | 10,107      | 19,389      | 10,074      | 9,958                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... bushels  | 840,448     | 831,540     | 1,554,244   | 610,539     | 604,949                   | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Sorghum for silage or greenchop ..... farms  | 25          | 48          | 52          | 13          | 13                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 1,104       | 1,533       | 1,427       | 590         | 590                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... tons   | 14,529      | 8,961       | 17,656      | 6,730       | 6,730                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Soybeans for beans ..... farms   | 3,656       | 2,967       | 3,974       | 5,411       | 4,926                     | 5,232       | 7,797      | 14,359      |
| ..... acres  | 1,229,385   | 976,011     | 1,088,889   | 1,192,312   | 1,156,282                 | 915,223     | 1,184,778  | 2,104,123   |
| ..... bushels  | 45,165,597  | 18,552,793  | 33,646,638  | 39,021,072  | 37,976,452                | 30,313,156  | 27,367,017 | 55,353,433  |
| Cotton, all ..... farms  | 546         | 779         | 920         | 1,271       | 1,156                     | 2,137       | 2,545      | 1,850       |
| ..... acres  | 376,997     | 504,057     | 533,755     | 496,843     | 472,165                   | 598,838     | 411,100    | 241,998     |
| ..... bales  | 701,581     | 581,236     | 813,853     | 662,888     | 629,487                   | 793,302     | 566,890    | 306,159     |
| Tobacco ..... farms  | 935         | 1,610       | 8,206       | 15,608      | 14,995                    | 22,953      | 25,052     | 36,515      |
| ..... acres  | 23,801      | 20,109      | 35,960      | 60,414      | 59,427                    | 75,621      | 51,578     | 82,390      |
| ..... pounds   | 49,576,260  | 38,652,986  | 73,563,865  | 108,175,585 | 106,785,282               | 139,367,463 | 85,715,814 | 155,161,237 |
| Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) ..... farms |             |             |             |             |                           |             |            |             |
| ..... acres  | 39,339      | 42,280      | 46,957      | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... tons, dry  | 1,742,486   | 1,784,808   | 1,917,323   | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Rice ..... farms   | 3,729,026   | 2,732,930   | 4,011,467   | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 6           | 6           | 4           | 2           | 2                         | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... cwt  | 645         | 2,317       | (D)         | (D)         | (D)                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Sunflower seed, all ..... farms  | 53,411      | 240,029     | 34,550      | (D)         | (D)                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 10          | 8           | -           | 11          | 10                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... pounds   | 610         | 23          | -           | (D)         | 44                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Peanuts for nuts ..... farms   | 246,455     | 20,500      | -           | (D)         | 57,400                    | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 22          | 19          | 23          | 20          | 17                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... pounds   | 26          | 23          | 23          | 26          | 22                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>7</sup> ..... farms                            | 30,860      | 14,610      | 23,828      | 20,782      | 16,982                    | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 1,284       | 1,543       | 1,501       | 1,326       | 1,162                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Potatoes ..... farms   | 32,854      | 34,013      | 39,502      | 35,451      | 34,609                    | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 450         | 398         | 192         | 437         | 376                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Sweet potatoes ..... farms   | 359         | 304         | 423         | 706         | 611                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 59          | 57          | 64          | 90          | 78                        | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... pounds   | 161         | 166         | 279         | 457         | 424                       | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| Land in orchards ..... farms   | 719         | 786         | 688         | 1,293       | 1,043                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |
| ..... acres  | 3,036       | 2,866       | 3,288       | 5,298       | 4,427                     | (NA)        | (NA)       | (NA)        |

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