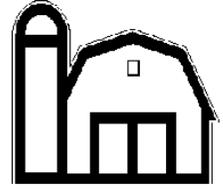


# 1992

## Census of Agriculture

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AC92-A-1

Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 1

# Alabama

## State and County Data



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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Special tribute is paid to the millions of farm and ranch operators who furnished the information requested. Only through their cooperation was it possible to collect and publish the data in this report.

If you have any questions concerning the statistics in this report, call:

301-763-8555 Division Chief

800-523-3215 General Information

301-763-8567 Crops Branch

301-763-8569 Livestock Branch

301-763-8514 Farm Economics Branch

301-763-8571 Statistical Methodology



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# Introduction

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## HISTORY

The 1992 Census of Agriculture is the 24th taken by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. The first agriculture census was taken in 1840 as part of the sixth decennial census of population. From 1840 to 1950, an agriculture census was taken as part of the decennial census. A separate mid-decade census of agriculture was conducted in 1925, 1935, and 1945. From 1954 to 1974, a census of agriculture was taken for the years ending in 4 and 9. In 1976, Congress authorized the census of agriculture to be taken for 1978 and 1982 to adjust the data reference year so that it coincided with the economic censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities. This adjustment in timing established the agriculture census on a 5-year cycle collecting data for years ending in 2 and 7.

## USES OF THE CENSUS

The census of agriculture is the leading source of statistics about the Nation's agricultural production and the only source of consistent, comparable data at the county, State, and national levels. Census statistics are used by Congress in developing and changing farm programs and for determining the effects of these programs. Many national and State programs are designed or allocated on the basis of census data, such as funds for extension services, research, and soil conservation projects. Private industry uses census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the agricultural community.

## AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The census of agriculture is required by law under Title 13, United States Code, sections 142(a) and 191, which directs that a census be taken in 1979, 1983, and in every fifth year after 1983, covering the prior year. The 1992 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

## FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes first were established, the farm definition has been changed nine times. The current definition, first

used for the 1974 census, is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year. The farm definition used for the outlying areas varies according to area. The report for each area includes a discussion of its farm definition.

## COMPARABILITY OF DATA

Data on acreages and inventories for 1992 and 1987 are generally comparable. Dollar figures shown for expenses and agricultural product sales are expressed in current dollars and have not been adjusted for inflation or deflation. In general, data for censuses since 1974 are not fully comparable with data for 1969 and earlier censuses due to changes in the farm definition.

## TABULAR PRESENTATION

**State data.** Tables 1 through 45 in chapter 1 show detailed State-level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 46 through 52 provide 1992 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

**County data.** Chapter 2 presents selected data items by county. Tables 1 through 17 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the column headings. Tables 18 through 39 include only counties reporting the data item. Counties not having the item, or with a limited number of farms reporting the item, have data combined and presented as "all other counties."

## SPECIAL TABULATIONS

Custom designed tabulations can be developed to individual user specifications on a programming cost reimbursable basis. Inquiries about special tabulations should be directed to the Chief, Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

## CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of Title 13, United States Code, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual farm. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification is not considered a release of confidential information and is provided even though other information is withheld.

## INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA

Inventories of livestock, poultry, and machinery and equipment are measured as of December 31 of the census year. Crop and livestock production, sales, and expense data are for the calendar year, except for a few crops (such as citrus) for which the production year overlaps the calendar year.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

–	Represents zero.
(D)	Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.
(H)	Standard error or relative standard error of estimate is greater than or equal to 99.95 percent.
(IC)	Independent city.
(L)	Standard error or relative standard error of estimate is less than .05 percent.
(NA)	Not available.
(S)	Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards on the basis of either the response rate or a consistency review.
(X)	Not applicable.
(Z)	Less than half of the unit shown.
cwt	Hundredweight.
sq ft	Square feet.

# A. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987

[Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms		
	1992	1987	Percent change from 1987 to 1992
Farms ..... number .....	37 905	43 318	-12.5
Land in farms ..... acres .....	8 450 823	9 145 753	-7.6
Average size of farm ..... acres .....	223	211	5.7
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ..... dollars .....	220 265	168 161	31.0
Average per acre ..... dollars .....	1 000	800	25.0
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ..... dollars .....	30 354	25 831	17.5
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres .....	1 902	2 602	-26.9
10 to 49 acres .....	10 165	12 356	-17.7
50 to 179 acres .....	14 929	16 514	-9.6
180 to 499 acres .....	7 162	7 776	-7.9
500 to 999 acres .....	2 244	2 469	-9.1
1,000 to 1,999 acres .....	990	1 111	-10.9
2,000 acres or more .....	513	490	4.7
Total cropland ..... farms .....	32 327	37 148	-13.0
Harvested cropland ..... acres .....	4 237 057	4 496 607	-5.8
Irrigated land ..... farms .....	24 780	28 509	-13.1
..... acres .....	2 104 064	2 231 623	-5.7
Irrigated land ..... farms .....	1 380	1 344	2.7
..... acres .....	82 015	84 054	-2.4
Market value of agricultural products sold ..... \$1,000 .....	2 369 179	1 908 303	24.2
Average per farm ..... dollars .....	62 503	44 053	41.9
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ..... \$1,000 .....	649 110	497 992	30.3
Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000 .....	1 720 070	1 410 311	22.0
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 .....	11 663	15 082	-22.7
\$2,500 to \$4,999 .....	6 506	7 726	-15.8
\$5,000 to \$9,999 .....	5 936	6 534	-9.2
\$10,000 to \$24,999 .....	5 076	5 210	-2.6
\$25,000 to \$49,999 .....	2 178	2 324	-6.3
\$50,000 to \$99,999 .....	1 661	1 956	-15.1
\$100,000 to \$249,999 .....	2 246	2 693	-16.6
\$250,000 to \$499,999 .....	1 579	1 253	26.0
\$500,000 or more .....	1 060	540	96.3
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000 .....	1 930 063	1 610 833	19.8
Average per farm ..... dollars .....	50 912	37 190	36.9
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) <sup>1</sup> ..... farms .....	37 910	43 316	-12.5
..... \$1,000 .....	381 882	223 741	70.7
Average per farm ..... dollars .....	10 073	5 165	95.0
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming .....	15 712	16 398	-4.2
Other .....	22 193	26 920	-17.6
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any .....	21 921	26 899	-18.5
200 days or more .....	16 343	20 154	-18.9
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ..... farms .....	26 360	29 844	-11.7
..... number .....	1 453 137	1 450 416	.2
Beef cows ..... farms .....	23 925	25 879	-7.6
..... number .....	771 151	748 002	3.1
Milk cows ..... farms .....	995	1 336	-25.5
..... number .....	45 454	45 994	-1.2
Cattle and calves sold ..... farms .....	25 532	29 320	-12.9
..... number .....	676 215	831 908	-18.7
Hogs and pigs inventory ..... farms .....	1 880	3 585	-47.6
..... number .....	307 672	353 062	-12.9
Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms .....	1 715	3 220	-46.7
..... number .....	571 680	648 262	-11.8
Sheep and lambs inventory ..... farms .....	320	214	49.5
..... number .....	11 016	5 334	106.5
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ..... farms .....	1 643	2 785	-41.0
..... number .....	14 493 030	15 107 005	-4.1
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms .....	2 460	2 557	-3.8
..... number .....	737 608 903	564 583 477	30.6
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ..... farms .....	5 305	7 413	-28.4
..... acres .....	281 053	234 669	19.8
Wheat for grain ..... bushels .....	24 941 228	15 623 257	59.6
..... farms .....	870	1 914	-54.5
..... acres .....	86 071	156 466	-45.0
Cotton ..... bushels .....	3 461 454	4 903 608	-29.4
..... farms .....	1 469	1 820	-19.3
..... acres .....	431 665	346 013	24.8
Soybeans for beans ..... bales .....	601 506	380 936	57.9
..... farms .....	2 065	4 124	-49.9
..... acres .....	305 713	575 370	-46.9
Peanuts for nuts ..... bushels .....	8 871 365	11 633 904	-23.7
..... farms .....	2 254	2 655	-15.1
..... acres .....	237 516	207 963	14.2
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ..... pounds .....	586 013 571	429 000 017	36.6
..... farms .....	17 480	19 061	-8.3
..... acres .....	678 726	647 843	4.8
..... tons, dry .....	1 409 044	1 186 655	18.7

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

## B. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987 (Metric Measurement)

[1 acre = 0.4047 hectare. For further metric conversions, see metric conversion table in appendix E. Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms		
	1992	1987	Percent change from 1987 to 1992
Farms ----- number .....	37 905	43 318	-12.5
Land in farms ----- hectares .....	3 420 048	3 701 286	-7.6
Average size of farm ----- hectares .....	90	85	5.9
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	220 265	168 161	31.0
Average per hectare ----- dollars .....	1 000	800	25.0
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	30 354	25 831	17.5
Farms by size:			
.01 to 3.84 hectares -----	1 902	2 602	-26.9
3.85 to 20.04 hectares -----	10 165	12 356	-17.7
20.05 to 72.67 hectares -----	14 929	16 514	-9.6
72.68 to 202.22 hectares -----	7 162	7 776	-7.9
202.23 to 404.65 hectares -----	2 244	2 469	-9.1
404.66 to 809.51 hectares -----	990	1 111	-10.9
809.52 hectares or more -----	513	490	4.7
Total cropland ----- farms .....	32 327	37 148	-13.0
----- hectares .....	1 714 737	1 819 777	-5.8
Harvested cropland ----- farms .....	24 780	28 509	-13.1
----- hectares .....	851 515	903 138	-5.7
Irrigated land ----- farms .....	1 380	1 344	2.7
----- hectares .....	33 191	34 017	-2.4
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000 .....	2 369 179	1 908 303	24.2
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	62 503	44 053	41.9
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000 .....	649 110	497 992	30.3
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000 .....	1 720 070	1 410 311	22.0
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 -----	11 663	15 082	-22.7
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	6 506	7 726	-15.8
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	5 936	6 534	-9.2
\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	5 076	5 210	-2.6
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	2 178	2 324	-6.3
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	1 661	1 956	-15.1
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	2 246	2 693	-16.6
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	1 579	1 253	26.0
\$500,000 or more -----	1 060	540	96.3
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ----- \$1,000 .....	1 930 063	1 610 833	19.8
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	50 912	37 190	36.9
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) <sup>1</sup> ----- farms .....	37 910	43 316	-12.5
----- \$1,000 .....	381 882	223 741	70.7
Average per farm ----- dollars .....	10 073	5 165	95.0
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming -----	15 712	16 398	-4.2
Other -----	22 193	26 920	-17.6
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	21 921	26 899	-18.5
200 days or more -----	16 343	20 154	-18.9
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms .....	26 360	29 844	-11.7
----- number .....	1 453 137	1 450 416	.2
Beef cows ----- farms .....	23 925	25 879	-7.6
----- number .....	771 151	748 002	3.1
Milk cows ----- farms .....	995	1 336	-25.5
----- number .....	45 454	45 994	-1.2
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms .....	25 532	29 320	-12.9
----- number .....	676 215	831 908	-18.7
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms .....	1 880	3 585	-47.6
----- number .....	307 672	353 062	-12.9
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms .....	1 715	3 220	-46.7
----- number .....	571 680	648 262	-11.8
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms .....	320	214	49.5
----- number .....	11 016	5 334	106.5
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms .....	1 643	2 785	-41.0
----- number .....	14 493 030	15 107 005	-4.1
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms .....	2 460	2 557	-3.8
----- number .....	737 608 903	564 583 477	30.6
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms .....	5 305	7 413	-28.4
----- hectares .....	113 742	94 971	19.8
----- metric tons .....	633 537	396 849	59.6
Wheat for grain ----- farms .....	870	1 914	-54.5
----- hectares .....	34 833	63 322	-45.0
----- metric tons .....	94 205	133 454	-29.4
Cotton ----- farms .....	1 469	1 820	-19.3
----- hectares .....	174 695	140 031	24.8
----- metric tons .....	130 963	82 939	57.9
Soybeans for beans ----- farms .....	2 065	4 124	-49.9
----- hectares .....	123 722	232 852	-46.9
----- metric tons .....	241 439	316 623	-23.7
Peanuts for nuts ----- farms .....	2 254	2 655	-15.1
----- hectares .....	96 123	84 163	14.2
----- metric tons .....	265 811	194 591	36.6
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms .....	17 480	19 061	-8.3
----- hectares .....	274 680	262 182	4.8
----- metric tons .....	1 278 264	1 076 516	18.7

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

## 2 ALABAMA

## 1992 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE