

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1987 and Earlier Census Years

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

All farms	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964	1959	1954
Farms.....number...	9 205	8 861	8 040	8 018	8 838	9 038	9 744	11 402
Land in farms.....acres...	33 595 135	33 500 453	33 627 257	34 271 918	35 476 374	37 052 632	36 199 666	34 989 064
Average size of farm.....acres...	3 650	3 781	4 182	4 274	4 014	4 100	3 715	3 069
Value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm.....dollars...	533 284	732 875	598 623	343 063	163 529	115 355	79 447	46 935
Average per acre.....dollars...	147	193	142	80	41	28	21	15
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹\$1,000...	418 833	464 030	367 348	235 697	119 396	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average per farm.....dollars...	45 709	52 379	45 804	30 125	13 923	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres.....	795	662	439	391	660	234	155	616
10 to 49 acres.....	989	928	521	403	473	516	529	595
50 to 179 acres.....	1 356	1 315	1 178	1 156	1 111	1 333	1 634	2 356
180 to 499 acres.....	1 536	1 549	1 509	1 563	1 736	2 002	2 250	2 378
500 to 999 acres.....	1 091	1 031	1 024	987	1 121	1 163	1 213	1 403
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	954	945	994	911	1 048	1 102	1 102	1 403
2,000 acres or more.....	2 484	2 431	2 375	2 607	2 689	2 688	3 963	4 054
Total cropland..... farms...	7 237	7 214	6 907	6 857	7 296	8 033	8 763	10 068
acres...	2 838 627	2 741 423	2 711 410	2 644 208	2 788 453	2 766 265	2 737 983	2 566 205
Harvested cropland..... farms...	6 389	6 473	6 444	6 347	6 747	7 624	8 338	9 352
acres...	1 717 027	1 813 830	1 780 333	1 680 679	1 685 597	1 702 311	1 679 024	1 556 022
Irrigated land..... farms...	5 221	5 284	4 995	4 738	5 034	5 923	6 412	7 130
acres...	1 517 891	1 564 576	1 661 558	1 459 900	1 523 422	1 571 192	1 469 911	1 262 632
Market value of agricultural products sold ²\$1,000...	676 721	606 327	530 308	360 925	248 826	151 436	162 124	115 135
Average per farm.....dollars...	73 517	68 426	65 959	45 014	28 154	16 756	16 638	10 098
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000...	124 693	128 106	89 110	122 209	38 058	30 670	30 880	24 732
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000...	552 028	478 221	441 198	238 623	210 708	119 465	131 127	90 166
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500.....	1 987	1 641	1 085	1 276	1 773	2 081	2 099	3 703
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	766	822	714	680	917	1 259	1 390	2 179
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	977	982	931	1 007	1 327	1 797	1 999	2 558
\$10,000 to \$24,999 ⁴	1 497	1 531	1 549	4 225	4 333	3 700	4 199	1 952
\$25,000 to \$49,999 ⁵	1 241	1 334	1 346	716	409	170	-	941
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	1 154	1 182	1 223	60	26	-	-	-
\$100,000 to \$499,999.....	1 399	1 190	1 027	-	-	-	-	-
\$500,000 or more.....	184	138	114	-	-	-	-	-
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	7 284	6 976	6 344	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership.....	937	907	829	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation.....	858	826	759	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	126	152	108	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁶ :								
None.....	3 932	3 793	3 870	3 117	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	6 712
Any.....	4 674	4 271	3 809	2 799	4 106	3 574	3 663	4 497
200 days or more.....	2 640	2 500	2 037	1 489	1 993	1 550	1 577	1 646
Operators by principal occupation ⁶ :								
Farming.....	5 953	5 805	5 270	5 371	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other.....	3 252	3 056	2 770	2 021	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁶years...	52.0	50.8	50.4	51.4	50.5	50.3	49.8	49.0
Total farm production expenses ¹\$1,000...	536 980	(NA)	(NA)	315 092	210 826	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000...	145 511	144 233	141 566	73 934	62 774	27 610	22 780	(NA)
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000...	60 555	65 166	53 145	53 412	23 242	14 319	14 313	14 876
Commercial fertilizer ⁷\$1,000...	17 878	17 752	15 996	11 753	5 258	3 046	(NA)	(NA)
Petroleum products.....\$1,000...	32 490	44 050	25 009	17 740	11 168	10 034	8 522	7 739
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000...	50 342	40 613	32 271	24 631	19 949	16 352	14 924	14 845
Interest expense ⁸\$1,000...	54 696	86 792	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁷\$1,000...	9 118	6 311	4 779	2 648	1 362	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory..... farms...	5 990	6 428	5 933	6 373	6 923	7 515	8 134	9 972
number.....	1 412 901	1 509 913	1 477 080	1 599 108	1 437 346	1 348 043	1 253 040	1 234 608
Beef cows..... farms...	5 082	5 310	5 001	5 480	6 069	6 069	(NA)	(NA)
number.....	689 166	718 771	681 770	805 203	692 275	652 980	543 302	542 096
Milk cows..... farms...	788	1 273	1 442	2 364	3 806	5 521	7 754	7 754
number.....	9 287	13 315	12 511	13 508	15 658	23 169	28 716	38 886
Cattle and calves sold..... farms...	5 965	6 269	5 950	6 385	6 979	7 187	7 384	8 530
number.....	956 523	981 010	1 025 123	881 943	956 593	677 554	619 067	598 710
Hogs and pigs inventory..... farms...	474	567	689	713	1 004	1 349	2 462	2 952
number.....	28 437	30 375	29 812	28 565	40 058	30 052	44 626	36 577
Hogs and pigs sold..... farms...	407	480	589	604	904	1 002	1 516	1 812
number.....	54 255	57 700	54 650	48 510	63 325	44 456	41 234	34 444
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ⁹ farms...	929	1 304	1 225	1 369	1 819	3 777	5 655	7 963
number.....	29 235	58 221	57 201	99 232	157 664	259 102	371 188	530 898
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold..... farms...	37	40	25	30	18	3	1	12
number.....	9 491	2 135	2 153	2 470	2 323	33 000	(D)	21 000

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1987 and Earlier Census Years—Con.

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

All farms	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964	1959	1954
Selected crops harvested:								
Wheat for grain ----- farms--	924	1 095	1 158	1 356	1 491	1 768	(NA)	(NA)
acres--	252 784	355 938	289 495	302 986	236 327	213 748	242 816	237 967
bushels--	7 207 742	9 169 664	6 641 767	7 170 544	4 777 868	4 634 132	5 268 442	2 744 533
Barley for grain----- farms--	1 190	1 311	1 591	(NA)	(NA)	2 292	2 800	3 297
acres--	127 366	136 748	144 801	(NA)	(NA)	100 625	107 886	109 035
bushels--	8 654 469	8 791 442	8 524 659	(NA)	(NA)	3 684 343	3 322 418	2 634 860
Oats for grain ----- farms--	795	1 017	1 258	(NA)	(NA)	2 381	2 982	3 149
acres--	41 987	47 012	57 714	(NA)	(NA)	80 026	92 575	85 765
bushels--	1 893 335	2 286 662	2 591 369	(NA)	(NA)	2 802 356	3 022 956	2 197 324
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms--	5 682	5 741	5 809	5 542	5 913	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres--	1 132 842	1 119 546	1 141 496	1 051 305	1 079 300	1 126 444	1 023 992	940 071
tons, dry--	1 904 291	1 935 538	1 903 450	1 723 396	1 552 785	1 513 017	1 276 017	1 062 198

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

³Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

⁴Data for 1959 are for \$10,000 or more.

⁵Data for 1954 are for \$25,000 or more.

⁶Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships; see text.

⁷Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals exclude the cost of lime for 1987 and 1982.

⁸Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

⁹Data for 1964 and prior years are for chickens 4 months old or older.