

**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2002 and Earlier Census Years**

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

All farms	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage					
			1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974
Farms . . . . . number	24,541	25,807	20,189	20,242	20,517	24,929	26,706	29,275
Land in farms . . . . . acres	4,845,923	4,974,138	4,593,452	4,472,569	4,758,631	5,589,799	6,045,719	6,177,024
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	197	193	228	221	232	224	226	211
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	410,897	293,342	324,834	251,583	201,169	208,524	171,558	98,609
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	2,067	1,552	1,482	1,137	871	946	758	467
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	1,208,945	1,055,358	902,193	667,725	639,734	761,038	692,409	449,233
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	53,108	40,896	44,687	33,077	31,252	30,576	26,002	16,418
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	1,706	1,843	1,224	1,302	1,337	1,471	1,499	1,689
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	8,536	8,124	5,712	5,495	5,437	6,956	6,906	7,677
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	8,504	9,637	7,502	7,591	7,742	9,421	10,551	11,942
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	3,749	4,043	3,611	3,699	3,762	4,490	5,045	5,277
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	1,107	1,254	1,225	1,263	1,303	1,560	1,638	1,631
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	626	629	638	642	673	708	743	747
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	313	277	277	250	263	323	324	312
Total cropland . . . . . farms	19,450	21,181	17,514	18,037	18,578	23,166	25,427	28,074
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	2,270,084	2,603,915	2,462,818	2,588,525	2,686,117	3,179,278	3,375,565	3,201,239
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	13,321	15,972	13,426	14,587	15,556	20,144	22,875	24,757
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	1,374,617	1,732,870	1,654,535	1,590,794	1,589,636	2,474,025	2,524,147	2,250,952
Irrigated land . . . . . acres	1,918	1,435	1,248	1,219	1,216	946	770	446
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	1,489,750	1,679,193	1,588,173	1,066,079	878,683	968,554	854,974	676,496
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	60,705	65,067	78,665	52,667	42,827	38,853	32,014	23,108
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	593,245	821,107	791,104	562,036	451,285	601,018	543,171	459,882
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	896,505	858,086	797,069	504,043	427,398	367,536	311,804	206,582
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	14,496	11,602	8,155	7,341	7,419	9,288	8,910	12,087
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	2,543	3,940	3,060	3,317	3,516	3,756	4,342	3,665
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	2,204	3,335	2,714	2,897	2,900	3,308	3,857	3,882
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	2,117	2,603	2,274	2,428	2,547	3,101	3,685	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	921	1,137	1,003	1,301	1,276	1,621	2,154	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	600	776	703	937	954	1,511	1,696	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	970	1,515	1,432	1,554	1,592	2,044	1,862	1,395
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	690	899	848	467	313	287	182	107
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	22,755	23,328	18,078	17,933	18,337	22,297	23,673	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	1,050	1,576	1,337	1,621	1,583	2,078	2,487	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	556	746	649	547	488	417	453	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	180	157	125	141	109	137	93	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4,5</sup> :								
None . . . . .	10,917	9,041	7,443	7,573	7,335	8,390	9,769	9,424
Any . . . . .	13,624	15,355	11,615	11,271	11,791	14,172	15,596	14,484
200 days or more . . . . .	10,075	11,320	8,472	8,326	8,549	10,118	10,866	10,077
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	11,377	9,484	7,959	8,866	8,983	11,299	12,477	15,559
Other . . . . .	13,164	16,323	12,230	11,376	11,534	13,630	14,229	13,303
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	56.9	55.9	56.3	55.5	54.5	52.6	51.9	53.4
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	1,313,233	1,361,270	1,233,736	897,923	736,918	(NA)	(NA)	509,937
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	97,058	98,683	88,949	66,195	62,818	53,566	46,966	30,450
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	369,275	453,846	410,005	199,673	170,086	141,310	129,971	96,996
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	86,434	99,913	92,169	83,614	68,222	97,736	94,953	84,760
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	59,334	65,681	59,101	54,384	41,808	73,992	50,757	33,816
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	158,993	140,709	129,512	111,836	92,317	79,734	79,173	53,247
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	55,104	52,833	47,350	40,773	42,815	74,196	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	62,783	82,265	76,319	57,191	42,545	59,103	48,546	31,020
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	10,000	12,600	9,902	10,026	10,227	12,133	11,683	13,825
number . . . . .	432,265	479,758	453,631	451,719	428,491	507,279	474,050	589,827
Beef cows . . . . . farms	8,730	10,867	8,671	8,998	8,903	10,278	9,978	10,557
number . . . . .	218,650	242,808	229,048	222,566	205,344	226,482	219,696	279,175
Milk cows . . . . . farms	326	498	394	540	697	1,219	1,485	2,478
number . . . . .	20,182	25,240	24,766	31,923	40,113	47,559	45,544	47,718
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	7,139	11,610	9,287	9,337	9,635	10,583	10,628	11,811
number . . . . .	179,594	234,940	216,812	200,396	218,766	213,608	245,161	219,844
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	900	1,420	1,226	2,237	3,249	4,709	7,210	7,654
number . . . . .	291,743	311,650	304,793	327,572	352,413	399,810	478,660	345,282
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	736	1,183	1,031	2,048	3,031	3,965	6,341	6,129
number . . . . .	1,065,420	754,048	711,109	637,592	619,986	646,956	690,956	533,466
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,107	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number . . . . .	5,583,892	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	426	447	366	292	227	210	216	193
number . . . . .	181,792,956	183,717,630	158,678,646	106,171,059	60,295,197	41,578,104	30,821,889	20,674,220

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2002 and Earlier Census Years - Con.**

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

All farms	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage					
			1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain	2,243 farms	4,083	3,531	4,346	6,292	7,942	11,240	13,913
	240,085 acres	314,566	300,934	311,947	309,791	384,966	523,326	451,165
	11,147,604 bushels	29,125,176	28,107,576	27,192,657	22,143,190	31,085,287	29,268,243	28,218,982
Corn for silage or greenchop	140 farms	248	226	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	13,890 acres	20,471	20,124	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	147,218 tons	285,840	280,856	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	967 farms	2,384	2,138	2,237	3,097	4,478	1,216	2,633
	155,776 acres	318,466	306,935	240,634	213,374	426,528	53,730	101,057
Winter wheat for grain	5,710,029 bushels	14,994,429	14,500,101	10,470,395	7,558,179	14,810,264	1,745,494	2,688,032
	967 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	155,776 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	5,710,029 bushels	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	579 farms	706	625	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	21,202 acres	18,236	17,281	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	975,883 bushels	1,006,683	961,509	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Barley for grain	36 farms	76	67	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	1,790 acres	3,129	2,976	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	87,645 bushels	183,964	172,365	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	60 farms	102	89	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	3,467 acres	4,039	3,955	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	100,221 bushels	172,874	171,073	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	56 farms	16	16	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	3,885 acres	1,053	1,053	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	26,447 tons	12,926	12,926	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	1,741 farms	3,468	3,044	4,015	5,220	10,552	12,811	13,439
	350,272 acres	529,238	507,687	532,909	597,258	1,385,643	1,404,636	1,081,703
	5,897,022 bushels	11,991,017	11,554,522	11,521,171	12,872,219	29,039,562	29,082,744	21,516,524
Cotton, All	497 farms	949	894	861	744	417	488	2,509
	208,420 acres	290,281	285,858	191,690	116,424	95,392	100,793	256,082
	134,886 bales	404,212	397,545	223,658	102,078	147,897	114,401	265,454
Tobacco	873 farms	1,403	1,275	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	30,241 acres	56,512	54,660	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	57,551,827 pounds	129,155,994	125,220,334	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	77 farms	75	60	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	305 acres	369	355	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	77,947 cwt	81,871	79,750	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	119 farms	134	112	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	847 acres	816	753	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	71,035 cwt	86,494	79,419	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	7,985 farms	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	342,207 acres	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	684,149 tons, dry	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All	83 farms	12	11	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	516 acres	230	212	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	111,550 pounds	214,150	197,950	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts	178 farms	161	146	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	10,344 acres	10,114	10,097	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	24,466,790 pounds	28,308,874	28,250,921	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup>	1,046 farms	1,213	1,040	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	30,362 acres	30,894	28,774	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	1,297 farms	1,046	885	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	24,389 acres	25,953	24,775	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

<sup>1</sup> Data are based on a sample of farms.  
<sup>2</sup> Data for 1974 include the value of forest products sold.  
<sup>3</sup> Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.  
<sup>4</sup> Data for 1997 and prior years do not include imputation for item nonresponse.  
<sup>5</sup> Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorships) and partnerships.  
<sup>6</sup> Data for 1982 and prior years do not include cost of custom applications; data for chemicals include the cost of lime for 1978 and prior years.  
<sup>7</sup> Data for 1997 and prior years exclude cost of lime and manure.  
<sup>8</sup> Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.  
<sup>9</sup> Data for 1974 were from land area used.