

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	50,218	52,913	53,930	59,120	49,406	51,854	59,284	72,792
Land in farms acres	8,414,756	8,474,671	9,079,001	9,444,867	9,122,379	8,936,015	9,447,705	10,320,832
Average size of farm acres	168	160	168	160	185	172	159	142
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	726,944	656,080	518,719	349,841	375,895	269,000	199,781	187,840
Average per acre dollars	4,338	4,096	3,088	2,127	2,081	1,573	1,263	1,314
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000								
Average per farm dollars	4,664,336	4,063,115	3,327,385	2,801,685	2,425,402	1,991,218	1,799,492	2,097,628
	92,887	76,793	63,902	47,411	49,106	38,452	30,403	28,932
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	4,155	5,001	4,405	5,505	3,968	4,651	5,253	6,682
10 to 49 acres	20,014	20,772	20,207	21,075	15,601	15,852	18,088	23,286
50 to 179 acres	17,260	17,830	19,011	21,033	18,259	19,366	22,680	28,120
180 to 499 acres	5,387	5,786	6,398	7,491	7,506	8,007	9,337	10,914
500 to 999 acres	1,706	1,862	2,146	2,405	2,461	2,564	2,676	2,690
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1,067	1,108	1,212	1,133	1,133	1,054	938	823
2,000 acres or more	629	554	551	478	478	360	312	277
Total cropland farms	37,247	39,879	45,268	51,477	44,502	47,497	54,972	68,439
..... acres	4,745,014	4,895,204	5,472,128	5,701,023	5,608,388	5,578,191	5,716,256	5,950,155
Harvested cropland farms	32,802	32,803	36,622	43,225	38,241	42,135	50,108	63,392
..... acres	4,378,097	4,188,658	4,308,209	4,269,966	4,233,693	3,998,685	3,779,164	4,659,283
Irrigated land farms	4,699	5,788	6,721	5,059	4,695	4,337	6,445	4,026
..... acres	174,526	232,075	264,057	156,315	156,250	112,630	137,858	81,078
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) \$1,000								
Average per farm dollars	12,588,142	10,313,628	6,961,686	7,832,362	7,676,523	4,834,218	3,541,419	3,500,750
	250,670	194,917	129,087	132,482	155,376	93,227	59,737	48,093
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000								
	4,302,877	2,606,279	2,008,634	2,600,655	2,595,213	1,996,452	1,436,988	1,898,109
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000								
	8,285,265	7,707,350	4,953,052	5,231,707	5,081,310	2,837,765	2,104,430	1,602,642
Farms by value of sales ² :								
Less than \$2,500	19,294	22,608	22,096	19,819	13,653	12,616	16,758	19,845
\$2,500 to \$4,999	5,891	5,863	6,350	8,425	6,642	7,250	8,461	9,958
\$5,000 to \$9,999	6,307	5,805	5,925	7,052	6,261	6,968	8,344	9,720
\$10,000 to \$24,999	5,579	5,828	5,858	6,970	6,470	7,641	8,515	11,056
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2,870	2,765	2,702	3,669	3,470	4,397	4,817	6,948
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,946	1,718	2,208	2,900	2,764	3,640	4,271	6,246
\$100,000 to \$499,999	3,256	3,720	5,209	6,435	6,321	7,254	7,034	8,237
\$500,000 or more	5,075	4,606	3,582	3,850	3,825	2,088	1,084	741
Farms by legal status for tax purposes (see text):								
Family or individual	43,563	45,766	48,672	51,913	42,887	45,273	52,398	64,150
Partnership	3,132	4,246	3,209	4,663	4,166	4,750	5,238	7,092
Corporation	3,035	2,625	1,823	2,280	2,126	1,589	1,355	1,225
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	488	276	226	264	227	242	293	325
Principal operator by days of work off farm ³ :								
None	20,047	19,602	26,420	22,514	19,960	21,464	23,261	27,579
Any	30,171	33,311	27,510	32,450	25,856	25,958	31,914	37,303
200 days or more	19,553	20,711	19,808	23,045	18,028	17,989	21,702	24,717
Principal operator by primary occupation:								
Farming	24,574	24,244	31,669	26,958	24,355	27,376	30,687	39,795
Other	25,644	28,669	22,261	32,162	25,051	24,478	28,597	32,997
Average age of principal operator years								
	58.9	57.3	56.1	54.8	55.2	54.7	53.3	51.7
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000								
	10,061,152	8,309,765	5,645,471	6,240,498	5,673,379	3,817,833	2,779,353	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased or leased \$1,000	1,397,510	1,666,076	1,049,514	965,030	916,191	431,873	323,978	229,516
Feed purchased \$1,000	4,121,552	3,183,993	1,917,997	2,523,838	2,262,032	1,288,719	921,654	702,666
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners purchased ^{4 5} \$1,000	555,515	376,476	238,389	268,306	243,960	233,479	179,396	238,315
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased \$1,000	417,600	332,524	170,533	219,694	198,201	184,299	143,686	235,621
Hired farm labor \$1,000	765,886	623,130	552,486	536,818	487,395	388,338	287,037	245,364
Interest expense ⁶ \$1,000	207,217	176,525	164,828	226,795	205,129	143,502	130,580	206,549
Chemicals purchased ⁴ \$1,000	416,980	228,484	220,109	210,814	188,784	151,341	107,655	111,631
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory								
..... farms	19,548	19,229	23,784	27,558	22,632	22,718	24,985	30,485
..... number	829,717	820,182	848,061	959,830	941,311	901,980	784,136	890,480
Beef cows	16,059	14,895	20,461	22,664	19,616	19,531	20,630	24,286
..... farms	348,196	373,024	418,315	424,537	435,672	385,428	320,641	342,296
..... number	571	463	1,250	1,304	1,092	1,552	2,336	4,353
Milk cows	45,960	47,589	63,427	79,357	78,400	99,291	110,127	125,832
Cattle and calves sold								
..... farms	15,312	15,953	18,584	24,803	21,286	20,771	22,682	25,272
..... number	435,411	463,680	415,561	462,829	443,147	399,035	395,732	378,660
Hogs and pigs inventory								
..... farms	2,217	2,836	2,542	3,582	2,986	4,311	6,921	11,390
..... number	8,901,434	10,134,004	9,887,421	9,631,290	9,624,860	5,100,979	2,547,127	2,047,998
Hogs and pigs sold								
..... farms	1,833	2,459	2,332	3,054	2,666	4,012	6,290	9,436
..... number	34,456,613	43,241,680	42,018,621	36,451,580	36,431,039	10,776,400	5,180,960	3,907,278

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	4,996	3,736	2,571	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	13,091,384	12,748,275	10,150,213	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	1,969	1,948	2,444	2,414	2,086	2,116	2,153	2,195
number	801,883,037	781,416,896	739,566,977	663,439,144	591,248,423	499,071,743	408,721,082	348,434,068
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain farms	5,366	6,324	6,096	9,525	8,862	13,052	21,000	30,193
acres	803,020	965,426	700,045	820,916	821,039	1,019,871	1,056,000	1,393,496
bushels	93,402,417	98,245,673	58,918,039	74,291,257	74,423,999	96,617,840	71,795,021	133,576,411
Corn for silage or greenchop farms	602	733	868	1,260	1,212	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	46,650	56,886	73,309	80,124	80,164	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	732,594	631,752	873,097	1,127,700	1,128,059	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, all farms	4,156	3,184	3,488	6,099	5,949	6,883	7,747	11,950
acres	753,713	511,713	446,438	612,866	616,397	490,214	378,744	597,539
bushels	42,625,819	19,917,842	18,926,777	30,172,848	30,357,728	23,164,935	15,091,015	20,682,804
Winter wheat for grain farms	4,149	3,184	3,488	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	753,489	511,713	446,438	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	42,616,223	19,917,842	18,926,777	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Spring wheat for grain farms	10	-	-	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	224	-	-	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	9,596	-	-	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain farms	443	556	930	1,148	1,059	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	13,390	14,337	22,293	22,147	21,870	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	1,043,595	787,753	1,196,859	1,400,787	1,401,369	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Barley for grain farms	250	236	324	418	412	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	16,695	13,728	15,664	16,628	16,838	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	985,012	667,667	934,962	1,097,770	1,110,796	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain farms	594	210	128	232	210	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	49,819	8,635	7,805	8,651	8,344	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	3,007,013	394,040	328,816	414,191	404,508	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop farms	78	86	130	19	19	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	4,313	2,748	4,407	761	763	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	53,630	28,856	30,493	9,571	9,580	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans farms	7,021	6,896	7,596	10,478	9,933	13,080	17,409	26,324
acres	1,564,806	1,380,792	1,314,672	1,279,725	1,280,412	1,287,573	1,273,278	1,746,774
bushels	60,635,686	29,142,115	31,026,968	35,744,328	35,785,336	34,176,793	31,368,069	42,285,536
Dry edible beans, excluding limas farms	10	-	1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	95	-	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
cwt	1,707	-	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Cotton, all farms	1,432	1,308	2,091	2,426	2,320	2,035	981	620
acres	580,801	526,060	924,097	687,474	677,541	357,766	94,186	68,760
bales	1,134,034	785,557	802,472	930,439	916,278	445,466	93,720	92,248
Tobacco farms	1,682	2,622	7,850	12,586	12,095	17,625	22,260	29,489
acres	167,443	170,083	167,677	317,994	320,599	283,900	239,343	337,696
pounds	391,710,625	365,958,031	353,125,841	696,352,165	703,559,462	604,014,807	478,051,423	690,142,724
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) farms	19,562	19,432	21,322	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	643,186	687,650	715,519	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons, dry	1,509,153	1,170,258	1,370,181	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, all farms	41	29	94	20	18	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	858	402	523	(D)	95	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	618,531	383,562	225,311	(D)	69,925	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts farms	636	699	1,236	1,854	1,765	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	105,739	89,029	100,650	123,469	122,784	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	415,209,198	250,970,518	219,305,939	327,356,857	325,662,397	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁷ farms	3,283	3,740	2,550	2,312	2,160	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	124,936	118,780	66,521	50,286	50,079	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes farms	1,263	1,123	504	538	459	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	16,293	14,760	19,500	18,899	18,806	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes farms	415	389	563	537	512	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	59,095	42,108	38,745	29,052	29,058	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Land in orchards farms	1,687	1,551	1,211	1,476	1,213	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	12,899	13,724	13,406	16,864	15,388	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

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