

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	99,171	107,825	106,797	110,986	98,860	98,082	106,105	112,447
Land in farms acres	28,266,137	29,026,573	29,946,035	30,202,772	28,826,188	28,546,875	29,209,187	29,266,609
Average size of farm acres	285	269	280	272	292	291	275	260
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	795,444	586,478	424,347	294,636	309,430	225,015	175,612	223,247
Average per acre dollars	2,791	2,179	1,508	1,084	1,069	774	640	856
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	8,822,239	7,350,255	5,162,542	4,336,960	4,058,126	3,537,197	3,007,852	3,418,269
Average per farm dollars	88,960	68,171	49,940	39,084	41,051	36,155	28,432	30,450
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	3,544	3,868	3,057	3,956	3,148	3,926	4,960	4,713
10 to 49 acres	21,706	25,186	21,639	20,686	16,714	16,211	17,028	19,050
50 to 179 acres	37,013	40,246	39,678	41,552	36,346	34,654	37,413	40,513
180 to 499 acres	23,301	24,537	27,496	29,163	27,298	27,573	30,423	32,292
500 to 999 acres	7,819	8,180	9,163	10,063	9,854	10,292	11,413	11,561
1,000 to 1,999 acres	3,757	3,887	4,079	4,235	4,183	4,289	3,990	3,566
2,000 acres or more	2,031	1,921	1,685	1,331	1,317	1,137	878	752
Total cropland farms	76,746	86,299	89,662	95,406	87,092	86,617	93,434	100,593
acres	15,259,319	16,405,595	18,884,920	19,926,421	19,229,468	19,228,832	19,378,031	19,376,192
Harvested cropland farms	64,722	69,585	71,698	77,808	72,316	74,240	80,396	86,837
acres	12,917,688	12,980,113	13,137,184	12,850,509	12,449,272	12,158,832	11,655,304	12,725,378
Irrigated land farms	3,727	3,613	3,304	3,108	2,891	2,914	2,823	2,037
acres	1,180,886	1,199,981	1,032,973	921,113	881,924	708,864	534,795	402,914
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) \$1,000	9,164,886	7,512,926	4,983,255	5,466,009	5,367,813	4,303,148	3,644,988	3,606,856
Average per farm dollars	92,415	69,677	46,661	49,250	54,297	43,873	34,353	32,076
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	4,566,953	3,494,938	1,992,446	2,389,939	2,307,009	1,861,613	1,460,850	1,546,664
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	4,597,933	4,017,988	2,990,809	3,076,070	3,060,803	2,441,535	2,184,138	2,060,191
Farms by value of sales ² :								
Less than \$2,500	33,002	39,479	36,109	32,948	25,039	20,638	23,075	26,779
\$2,500 to \$4,999	8,520	10,172	11,663	15,480	13,981	13,881	15,353	16,764
\$5,000 to \$9,999	11,206	12,872	15,249	17,107	15,962	16,350	17,881	17,693
\$10,000 to \$24,999	15,841	16,261	18,087	18,748	17,863	18,998	20,749	20,144
\$25,000 to \$49,999	10,822	10,563	9,342	9,159	8,801	10,090	11,212	11,909
\$50,000 to \$99,999	7,365	6,634	6,931	6,738	6,529	7,525	8,943	10,004
\$100,000 to \$499,999	8,629	8,647	7,784	9,115	8,994	9,573	8,399	8,713
\$500,000 or more	3,786	3,197	1,632	1,691	1,691	1,027	493	413
Farms by legal status for tax purposes (see text):								
Family or individual	88,713	94,818	98,435	99,050	87,919	86,776	94,574	99,370
Partnership	5,421	8,202	5,563	8,402	7,708	8,537	9,050	10,733
Corporation	3,099	3,063	2,174	2,748	2,543	2,283	2,096	2,020
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	1,938	1,742	625	786	690	486	385	324
Principal operator by days of work off farm ³ :								
None	37,495	37,445	46,248	38,856	36,025	38,371	40,016	41,586
Any	61,676	70,380	60,549	65,903	57,118	53,243	58,409	61,466
200 days or more	42,462	45,621	45,295	48,391	41,378	37,799	40,925	41,189
Principal operator by primary occupation:								
Farming	43,788	45,031	61,035	47,507	44,751	49,248	53,694	58,511
Other	55,383	62,794	45,762	63,479	54,109	48,834	52,411	53,936
Average age of principal operator years	58.3	57.1	56.0	54.4	54.7	53.8	52.9	51.0
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	8,290,499	6,135,205	4,578,834	4,354,355	4,214,996	3,395,093	2,804,630	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased or leased \$1,000	906,474	761,333	546,196	588,488	574,610	469,893	397,299	383,293
Feed purchased \$1,000	1,989,225	1,383,506	1,136,939	1,077,369	1,056,896	751,669	552,814	593,598
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners purchased ^{4 5} \$1,000	953,730	671,131	355,973	357,629	345,941	301,298	239,254	255,645
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased \$1,000	507,282	412,227	205,423	216,771	208,015	193,235	176,852	258,582
Hired farm labor \$1,000	405,792	325,526	287,744	261,304	253,888	190,051	163,868	141,232
Interest expense ⁶ \$1,000	423,275	388,746	362,803	330,315	312,483	288,478	277,614	393,388
Chemicals purchased ⁴ \$1,000	486,213	250,883	190,396	237,981	230,054	170,477	135,348	130,122
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	53,401	58,645	64,862	72,236	67,198	68,413	73,738	81,927
number	3,703,120	4,292,702	4,460,495	4,353,214	4,312,716	4,165,357	4,158,226	4,664,498
Beef cows farms	46,161	51,289	56,057	62,009	57,935	58,024	61,049	67,102
number	1,683,731	2,089,181	2,108,452	2,048,277	2,023,187	1,876,845	1,818,969	1,933,477
Milk cows farms	2,451	2,621	3,975	4,351	4,175	5,626	7,712	11,320
number	92,952	110,358	162,469	173,340	174,669	215,920	242,039	267,753
Cattle and calves sold farms	46,909	52,060	57,957	70,736	66,350	67,044	73,947	79,806
number	2,297,985	2,462,198	2,491,094	2,528,572	2,494,869	2,349,975	2,514,867	2,496,490
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	2,128	2,999	3,449	5,593	5,419	11,894	14,985	22,589
number	2,774,597	3,101,469	2,909,609	3,529,932	3,546,972	2,908,509	2,581,954	3,186,443
Hogs and pigs sold farms	1,852	2,971	3,752	5,299	5,183	12,133	15,306	23,444
number	9,727,491	9,073,468	9,288,986	8,524,793	8,540,647	5,547,530	4,804,123	5,894,874

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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

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