

**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2007 and Earlier Census Years**

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

| All farms  | 2007        | 2002        | 1997        | Not adjusted for coverage |            |            |            |            |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|  |             |             |             | 1997                      | 1992       | 1987       | 1982       | 1978       |
| Farms ..... number   | 107,825     | 106,797     | 110,986     | 98,860                    | 98,082     | 106,105    | 112,447    | 114,963    |
| Land in farms ..... acres  | 29,026,573  | 29,946,035  | 30,202,772  | 28,826,188                | 28,546,875 | 29,209,187 | 29,266,609 | 30,098,727 |
| Average size of farm ..... acres   | 269         | 280         | 272         | 292                       | 291        | 275        | 260        | 262        |
| Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :                      |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| Average per farm ..... dollars   | 586,478     | 424,347     | 294,636     | 309,430                   | 225,015    | 175,612    | 223,247    | 191,130    |
| Average per acre ..... dollars   | 2,179       | 1,508       | 1,084       | 1,069                     | 774        | 640        | 856        | 723        |
| Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000 | 7,350,255   | 5,162,542   | 4,336,960   | 4,058,126                 | 3,537,197  | 3,007,852  | 3,418,269  | 2,874,828  |
| Average per farm ..... dollars   | 68,171      | 49,940      | 39,084      | 41,051                    | 36,155     | 28,432     | 30,450     | 25,043     |
| Farms by size:   |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| 1 to 9 acres .....   | 3,868       | 3,057       | 3,956       | 3,148                     | 3,926      | 4,960      | 4,713      | 4,309      |
| 10 to 49 acres .....   | 25,186      | 21,639      | 20,686      | 16,714                    | 16,211     | 17,028     | 19,050     | 15,772     |
| 50 to 179 acres .....  | 40,246      | 39,678      | 41,552      | 36,346                    | 34,654     | 37,413     | 40,513     | 42,921     |
| 180 to 499 acres .....   | 24,537      | 27,496      | 29,163      | 27,298                    | 27,573     | 30,423     | 32,292     | 35,923     |
| 500 to 999 acres .....   | 8,180       | 9,163       | 10,063      | 9,854                     | 10,292     | 11,413     | 11,561     | 12,200     |
| 1,000 to 1,999 acres .....   | 3,887       | 4,079       | 4,235       | 4,183                     | 4,289      | 3,990      | 3,566      | 3,213      |
| 2,000 acres or more .....  | 1,921       | 1,685       | 1,331       | 1,317                     | 1,137      | 878        | 752        | 625        |
| Total cropland ..... farms   | 86,299      | 89,662      | 95,406      | 87,092                    | 86,617     | 93,434     | 100,593    | 105,339    |
| ..... acres  | 16,405,595  | 18,884,920  | 19,926,421  | 19,229,468                | 19,228,832 | 19,378,031 | 19,376,192 | 20,283,258 |
| Harvested cropland ..... farms   | 69,585      | 71,698      | 77,808      | 72,316                    | 74,240     | 80,396     | 86,837     | 92,385     |
| ..... acres  | 12,980,113  | 13,137,184  | 12,850,509  | 12,449,272                | 12,158,832 | 11,655,304 | 12,725,378 | 12,433,661 |
| Irrigated land ..... farms   | 3,613       | 3,304       | 3,108       | 2,891                     | 2,914      | 2,823      | 2,037      | 2,136      |
| ..... acres  | 1,199,981   | 1,032,973   | 921,113     | 881,924                   | 708,864    | 534,795    | 402,914    | 320,387    |
| Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) ..... \$1,000              | 7,512,926   | 4,983,255   | 5,466,009   | 5,367,813                 | 4,303,148  | 3,644,988  | 3,606,856  | 3,310,781  |
| Average per farm ..... dollars   | 69,677      | 46,661      | 49,250      | 54,297                    | 43,873     | 34,353     | 32,076     | 28,799     |
| Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ..... \$1,000                      | 3,494,938   | 1,992,446   | 2,389,939   | 2,307,009                 | 1,861,613  | 1,460,850  | 1,546,664  | 1,391,659  |
| Livestock, poultry, and their products ..... \$1,000                             | 4,017,988   | 2,990,809   | 3,076,070   | 3,060,803                 | 2,441,535  | 2,184,138  | 2,060,191  | 1,919,122  |
| Farms by value of sales <sup>2</sup> :   |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| Less than \$2,500 .....  | 39,479      | 36,109      | 32,948      | 25,039                    | 20,638     | 23,075     | 26,779     | 20,351     |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999 .....   | 10,172      | 11,663      | 15,480      | 13,981                    | 13,881     | 15,353     | 16,764     | 17,420     |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 .....   | 12,872      | 15,249      | 17,107      | 15,962                    | 16,350     | 17,881     | 17,693     | 20,206     |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 .....   | 16,261      | 18,087      | 18,748      | 17,863                    | 18,998     | 20,749     | 20,144     | 24,264     |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 .....   | 10,563      | 9,342       | 9,159       | 8,801                     | 10,090     | 11,212     | 11,909     | 14,847     |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 .....   | 6,634       | 6,931       | 6,738       | 6,529                     | 7,525      | 8,943      | 10,004     | 10,969     |
| \$100,000 to \$499,999 .....   | 8,647       | 7,784       | 9,115       | 8,994                     | 9,573      | 8,399      | 8,713      | 6,591      |
| \$500,000 or more .....  | 3,197       | 1,632       | 1,691       | 1,691                     | 1,027      | 493        | 413        | 270        |
| Farms by type of organization:   |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| Family or individual .....   | 94,818      | 98,435      | 99,050      | 87,919                    | 86,776     | 94,574     | 99,370     | 101,807    |
| Partnership .....  | 8,202       | 5,563       | 8,402       | 7,708                     | 8,537      | 9,050      | 10,733     | 11,401     |
| Corporation .....  | 3,063       | 2,174       | 2,748       | 2,543                     | 2,283      | 2,096      | 2,020      | 1,558      |
| Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc .....                     | 1,742       | 625         | 786         | 690                       | 486        | 385        | 324        | 197        |
| Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>3</sup> :                       |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| None .....   | 37,445      | 46,248      | 38,856      | 36,025                    | 38,371     | 40,016     | 41,586     | 45,595     |
| Any .....  | 70,380      | 60,549      | 65,903      | 57,118                    | 53,243     | 58,409     | 61,466     | 63,617     |
| 200 days or more .....   | 45,621      | 45,295      | 48,391      | 41,378                    | 37,799     | 40,925     | 41,189     | 41,811     |
| Principal operator by primary occupation:  |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| Farming .....  | 45,031      | 61,035      | 47,507      | 44,751                    | 49,248     | 53,694     | 58,511     | 60,765     |
| Other .....  | 62,794      | 45,762      | 63,479      | 54,109                    | 48,834     | 52,411     | 53,936     | 54,198     |
| Average age of principal operator ..... years                                    | 57.1        | 56.0        | 54.4        | 54.7                      | 53.8       | 52.9       | 51.0       | 50.6       |
| Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000                        | 6,135,205   | 4,578,834   | 4,354,355   | 4,214,996                 | 3,395,093  | 2,804,630  | (NA)       | (NA)       |
| Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :                                 |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| Livestock and poultry purchased or leased (see text) ..... \$1,000               | 761,333     | 546,196     | 588,488     | 574,610                   | 469,893    | 397,299    | 383,293    | 395,651    |
| Feed purchased ..... \$1,000   | 1,383,506   | 1,136,939   | 1,077,369   | 1,056,896                 | 751,669    | 552,814    | 593,598    | 510,582    |
| Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>4,5</sup> ..... \$1,000             | 671,131     | 355,973     | 357,629     | 345,941                   | 301,298    | 239,254    | 255,645    | 208,886    |
| Gasoline, fuels, and oils ..... \$1,000  | 412,227     | 205,423     | 216,771     | 208,015                   | 193,235    | 176,852    | 258,582    | 159,754    |
| Hired farm labor <sup>6</sup> ..... \$1,000                                      | 325,526     | 287,744     | 261,304     | 253,888                   | 190,051    | 163,868    | 141,232    | 115,205    |
| Interest expense <sup>4</sup> ..... \$1,000                                      | 388,746     | 362,803     | 330,315     | 312,483                   | 288,478    | 277,614    | 393,388    | (NA)       |
| Chemicals <sup>4</sup> ..... \$1,000   | 250,883     | 190,396     | 237,981     | 230,054                   | 170,477    | 135,348    | 130,122    | 88,879     |
| Livestock and poultry:   |             |             |             |                           |            |            |            |            |
| Cattle and calves inventory ..... farms  | 58,645      | 64,862      | 72,236      | 67,198                    | 68,413     | 73,738     | 81,927     | 84,365     |
| ..... number   | 4,292,702   | 4,460,495   | 4,353,214   | 4,312,716                 | 4,165,357  | 4,158,226  | 4,664,498  | 4,813,408  |
| Beef cows ..... farms  | 51,289      | 56,057      | 62,009      | 57,935                    | 58,024     | 61,049     | 67,102     | 70,381     |
| ..... number   | 2,089,181   | 2,108,452   | 2,048,277   | 2,023,187                 | 1,876,845  | 1,818,969  | 1,933,477  | 2,056,924  |
| Milk cows ..... farms  | 2,621       | 3,975       | 4,351       | 4,175                     | 5,626      | 7,712      | 11,320     | 13,829     |
| ..... number   | 110,358     | 162,469     | 173,340     | 174,669                   | 215,920    | 242,039    | 267,753    | 248,301    |
| Cattle and calves sold ..... farms   | 52,060      | 57,957      | 70,736      | 66,350                    | 67,044     | 73,947     | 79,806     | 84,940     |
| ..... number   | 2,462,198   | 2,491,094   | 2,528,572   | 2,494,869                 | 2,349,975  | 2,514,867  | 2,496,490  | 2,904,931  |
| Hogs and pigs inventory ..... farms  | 2,999       | 3,449       | 5,593       | 5,419                     | 11,894     | 14,985     | 22,589     | 32,616     |
| ..... number   | 3,101,469   | 2,909,609   | 3,529,932   | 3,546,972                 | 2,908,509  | 2,581,954  | 3,186,443  | 3,837,579  |
| Hogs and pigs sold ..... farms   | 2,971       | 3,752       | 5,299       | 5,183                     | 12,133     | 15,306     | 23,444     | 33,370     |
| ..... number   | 9,073,468   | 9,288,986   | 8,524,793   | 8,540,647                 | 5,547,530  | 4,804,123  | 5,894,874  | 6,441,818  |
| Layers inventory (see text) ..... farms  | 6,099       | 4,625       | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)       | (NA)       | (NA)       | (NA)       |
| ..... number   | 7,249,420   | 6,978,102   | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)       | (NA)       | (NA)       | (NA)       |
| Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ..... farms                           | 644         | 812         | 481         | 451                       | 341        | 316        | 356        | 363        |
| ..... number   | 279,937,641 | 273,135,329 | 205,091,259 | 202,970,912               | 82,990,149 | 40,991,224 | 21,466,182 | 17,576,578 |

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2007 and Earlier Census Years - Con.**

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

| All farms  | 2007                | 2002        | 1997        | Not adjusted for coverage |             |             |             |             |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  |                     |             |             | 1997                      | 1992        | 1987        | 1982        | 1978        |
| <b>Selected crops harvested:</b>   |                     |             |             |                           |             |             |             |             |
| Corn for grain .....   | farms 15,375        | 15,655      | 19,162      | 18,417                    | 21,382      | 25,921      | 25,323      | 31,616      |
|  | acres 3,256,195     | 2,677,491   | 2,555,175   | 2,477,027                 | 2,445,489   | 2,069,238   | 1,892,882   | 2,201,675   |
|  | bushels 439,417,160 | 268,224,535 | 282,896,729 | 274,381,159               | 308,784,225 | 218,093,408 | 178,722,297 | 184,789,444 |
| Corn for silage or greenchop .....   | farms 1,704         | 1,803       | 2,030       | 2,021                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 69,353        | 71,185      | 75,674      | 76,404                    | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | tons 1,041,591      | 942,789     | 1,042,596   | 1,048,825                 | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Wheat for grain, all .....   | farms 7,640         | 8,475       | 12,928      | 12,394                    | 16,970      | 12,683      | 29,507      | 17,564      |
|  | acres 881,227       | 811,586     | 1,091,842   | 1,055,664                 | 1,319,575   | 750,208     | 2,044,839   | 824,801     |
|  | bushels 36,293,751  | 34,888,755  | 53,942,442  | 52,178,347                | 58,143,633  | 31,939,663  | 68,338,008  | 27,277,966  |
| Winter wheat for grain .....   | farms 7,640         | 8,475       | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 881,227       | 811,586     | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | bushels 36,293,751  | 34,888,755  | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Oats for grain .....   | farms 459           | 1,300       | 1,283       | 1,254                     | 2,402       | 3,480       | 3,935       | 1,934       |
|  | acres 7,894         | 25,037      | 24,209      | 23,339                    | 46,262      | 66,414      | 67,913      | 28,187      |
|  | bushels 382,149     | 1,290,427   | 1,382,377   | 1,312,430                 | 2,363,989   | 2,712,492   | 2,840,632   | 1,133,786   |
| Barley for grain .....   | farms 56            | 170         | 94          | 93                        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 1,531         | 3,847       | 2,729       | 2,664                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | bushels 59,238      | 174,512     | 140,765     | 137,135                   | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Sorghum for grain .....  | farms 1,085         | 2,020       | 3,714       | 3,566                     | 6,998       | 9,258       | 10,317      | 13,769      |
|  | acres 105,483       | 204,007     | 325,237     | 311,511                   | 586,559     | 625,047     | 746,547     | 809,384     |
|  | bushels 9,922,598   | 16,603,961  | 28,028,020  | 26,886,487                | 53,046,665  | 50,759,064  | 54,910,329  | 59,901,303  |
| Sorghum for silage or greenchop .....  | farms 174           | 197         | 253         | 253                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 6,533         | 4,993       | 7,555       | 7,581                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | tons 79,962         | 47,636      | 86,068      | 86,937                    | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Soybeans for beans .....   | farms 18,388        | 21,687      | 25,387      | 24,201                    | 26,600      | 33,489      | 38,820      | 41,137      |
|  | acres 4,672,738     | 5,001,858   | 4,853,457   | 4,671,797                 | 4,208,729   | 4,827,272   | 5,286,129   | 5,167,477   |
|  | bushels 165,947,323 | 165,048,253 | 170,632,278 | 164,562,845               | 150,385,224 | 148,272,506 | 153,691,360 | 140,836,086 |
| Dry edible beans, excluding limas .....  | farms 2             | 12          | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres (D)           | 725         | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | cwt (D)             | 27,177      | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Cotton, all .....  | farms 511           | 596         | 906         | 863                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 377,960       | 395,880     | 394,153     | 388,725                   | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | bales 723,043       | 608,280     | 561,229     | 554,360                   | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Tobacco .....  | farms 111           | 338         | 495         | 481                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 1,577         | 1,460       | 2,782       | 2,677                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | pounds 3,557,585    | 3,228,580   | 6,677,460   | 6,430,795                 | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Forage-land used for all hay and<br>haylage, grass silage, and greenchop<br>(see text) ..... | farms 57,184        | 57,507      | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 3,895,401     | 4,142,725   | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | tons, dry 7,182,875 | 8,101,048   | (NA)        | (NA)                      | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Rice .....   | farms 435           | 445         | 457         | 418                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 179,300       | 167,716     | 124,258     | 117,595                   | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | cwt 12,266,645      | 9,965,432   | 6,596,060   | 6,261,457                 | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Sunflower seed, all .....  | farms 28            | 62          | 24          | 24                        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 1,963         | 3,668       | (D)         | 1,523                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | pounds 2,456,340    | 3,158,151   | (D)         | 2,098,065                 | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Peanuts for nuts .....   | farms 1             | 1           | 1           | 1                         | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres (D)           | (D)         | (D)         | (D)                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | pounds (D)          | (D)         | (D)         | (D)                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Vegetables harvested for sale<br>(see text) <sup>7</sup> .....                               | farms 1,335         | 938         | 948         | 858                       | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 32,837        | 27,404      | 21,804      | 21,007                    | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Potatoes .....   | farms 313           | 156         | 83          | 79                        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 6,127         | 5,256       | 5,982       | 5,979                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Sweet potatoes .....   | farms 46            | 60          | 20          | 19                        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 54            | 73          | 39          | 39                        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
| Land in orchards .....   | farms 1,345         | 1,267       | 1,127       | 1,004                     | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |
|  | acres 22,447        | 21,755      | 17,359      | 16,525                    | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        | (NA)        |

<sup>1</sup> Data for 2002 and prior years are based on a sample of farms.  
<sup>2</sup> Data for 1982 and 1978 exclude abnormal farms.  
<sup>3</sup> Data for 1997 and prior years do not include imputation for item nonresponse.  
<sup>4</sup> Data for 1982 and 1978 do not include cost of custom applications; data for chemicals include the cost of lime for 1978.  
<sup>5</sup> Data for 1997 and prior years exclude cost of lime and manure.  
<sup>6</sup> 1982 data do not include imputation for item nonresponse.  
<sup>7</sup> Data for 2002 and prior years do not include potatoes, sweet potatoes, or ginseng.