

**Table 6.01-- LAND OWNERSHIP, COVER, OR USE: 1982 TO 2010**

[In thousands of acres, unless otherwise indicated. Based on sample data and subject to sampling variation. Small differences between reported values accordingly may not be statistically significant. Margins of error may be available in reports]

Land ownership, cover, or use	1982	1987	1992	1997 1/	2002 1/	2007 1/	2010 1/
Total surface area	4,158.4	4,158.4	4,158.4	4,158.4	4,158.4	4,158.4	4,158.4
Land ownership							
Federal land 2/	321.5	388.0	389.7	361.2	361.2	361.2	361.2
Water area	52.5	52.6	52.4	52.4	52.5	52.5	52.5
Nonfederal land	3,784.4	3,717.8	3,716.3	3,744.8	3,744.7	3,744.7	3,744.7
Developed 3/	167.2	171.9	194.2	201.5	217.0	225.1	239.9
Rural 3/	3,617.2	3,545.9	3,522.1	3,543.3	3,527.7	3,519.6	3,504.8
Land cover or use 4/							
Nonfederal rural land 3/	3,617.2	3,545.9	3,522.1	3,543.3	3,527.7	3,519.6	3,504.8
Cropland 3/	302.6	299.3	273.0	246.4	166.9	130.8	118.2
Cultivated 3/	278.2	265.5	229.5	197.6	111.3	89.2	78.4
Irrigated 3/	157.4	152.5	117.9	75.8	72.3	64.0	53.5
Nonirrigated 3/	120.8	113.0	111.6	121.8	39.0	25.2	24.9
Noncultivated 3/	5/ 24.4	33.8	43.5	48.8	55.6	41.6	39.8
Irrigated 3/	7.0	9.4	26.8	28.5	28.9	15.4	13.6
Nonirrigated 3/	5/ 17.4	5/ 24.4	5/ 16.7	20.3	5/ 26.7	5/ 26.2	5/ 26.2
Pastureland 3/	38.6	28.0	35.0	36.4	62.3	69.0	62.6
Rangeland 3/	1,027.7	1,014.6	1,028.0	1,021.7	1,053.6	1,078.2	1,083.0
Forest land 3/	1,652.0	1,623.6	1,612.1	1,628.6	1,623.9	1,622.6	1,623.5
Other rural land 3/	596.3	580.4	574.0	610.2	621.0	619.0	617.5
Prime farmland, by cover or use 6/							
Total rural land 3/	245.5	245.7	234.9	234.4	233.5	232.0	228.4
Cropland 3/	168.6	172.7	161.4	144.6	98.1	75.6	69.8
CRP land 7/	(X)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pastureland 3/	16.0	5/ 11.1	5/ 11.6	5/ 11.5	27.2	34.5	34.2
Rangeland 3/	35.2	35.8	34.7	41.0	63.4	79.0	81.8
Forest land 3/	19.6	19.6	19.7	20.4	5/ 21.7	5/ 21.6	5/ 22.4
Other rural land 3/	6.1	6.5	7.5	16.9	23.1	21.3	20.2
Sheet or rill erosion, tons per acre							
Nonfederal rural land							
Cropland 3/	5.69	5.39	5.20	2.67	3.19	3.41	3.35
Cultivated 3/	5.87	5.67	5.60	2.56	3.23	3.31	3.23
Noncultivated 3/	5/ 3.64	5/ 3.20	3.10	3.12	3.11	3.61	3.59
CRP land 7/	(X)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pastureland 3/	0.98	5/ 0.75	5/ 0.74	5/ 0.63	0.85	0.79	0.84

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**Table 6.01-- LAND OWNERSHIP, COVER, OR USE: 1982 TO 2010-- Con.**

Land ownership, cover, or use	1982	1987	1992	1997 1/	2002 1/	2007 1/	2010 1/
On water areas & nonfederal land							
Total wetlands & deepwater habitats	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	113.4	113.5
Palustrine & estuarine wetlands	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	62.5	62.6
Palustrine	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	60.4	60.4
Estuarine	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	5/ 2.1	5/ 2.2
Other aquatic habitats	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	50.9	50.9
Lacustrine	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	5.2	5.2
Other 8/	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	45.7	45.7
Total Palustrine & estuarine wetlands	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	62.5	62.6
Cropland, pastureland, CRP land	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	5/ 1.5	5/ 1.3
Rangeland	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	5/ 3.0	5/ 3.2
Forest land	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	44.0	44.3
Other rural land	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	5/ 11.1	5/ 11.0
Developed land	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	5/ 0.1	-
Water areas	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	2.8	2.8

X Not applicable.

1/ Annual NRI surveys were conducted in 2001, 2002 and 2003 but only covered the 48 contiguous states. Later estimates were to cover Hawaii, Alaska, the Caribbean, and selected Pacific Basin islands. See the National Resources Inventory 2003 Annual NRI <<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/land/nri03/nri03landuse-mrb.html>> for discussion. See also *2007 National Resources Inventory Summary* (December 2009) and *NRI 2007 - Soil Erosion* (April 2010). Results for Hawaii were released in a 2012 supplement that included 2002 and 2007 and revisions to earlier estimates. The 2010 Inventory included Hawaii and revisions to many earlier estimates.

2/ Includes ceded land; excludes leased land and submerged land.

3/ Revised from previous *Data Book*.

4/ Land cover is the vegetation or other kind of material that covers the land surface. Land use is the purpose of human activity on the land; it is usually, but not always, related to land cover. The NRI uses the term land cover/use to identify categories that account for all the surface area of the United States.

5/ Confidence interval includes zero and so the estimate should not be used.

6/ Prime farmland has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is also available for these uses.

7/ Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Land under a federal program established under the Food Security Act of 1985 to assist private landowners to convert highly erodible cropland to vegetative cover for 10 years.

8/ Includes Estuarine deepwater, and all Riverine and Marine systems.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service), *1997 National Resources Inventory* (revised December 2000) <[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/NRI/1997/summary\\_report](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/NRI/1997/summary_report)> accessed June 5, 2006; and *Ibid. 2007 Supplemental Hawaii 2007 NRI Summary Report* (June 2012) <<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/technical/nra/nri>> accessed July 12, 2012; and *Summary Report: 2010 National Resources Inventory* (September 2013) <[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1167354.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1167354.pdf)> accessed July 2, 2014.