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CHAPTER IV— AGE, RESIDENCE,  
YEARS ON FARM, AND  
WORK OFF FARM

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## CHAPTER IV—AGE, RESIDENCE, YEARS ON FARM, AND WORK OFF FARM

**Introduction**—This chapter presents statistics relating to the farm operator. These include his age, his place of residence (whether on or off the farm operated), the number of years he had operated the farm occupied on the census date, and the number of days he worked during the year preceding the census date for pay or profit at jobs not connected with his farming operations. The color of the farm operator and the tenure under which he held the land are also shown in the presentation of the data on age. A more detailed tenure classification, showing the number, acreage, and value of farms and the several classes of land according to use for each color and tenure group, is given in Chapter III, Color and Tenure of Farm Operator.

The data presented in this chapter represent primarily numbers of farm operators classified on the basis of each specified characteristic. The figures represent totals for the United States, regions, divisions, and States. County figures for these items are shown in volume I. No figures for minor civil divisions (townships, precincts, etc.) are available. Additional data for these several characteristics are included in a separate report which presents, for a sample of the farms enumerated in the 1945 Census, data for farms in each of several classifications such as color and tenure of the farm operator, level of gross farm income, and size of farm. This report, based on the sample, makes possible a comparison of the 1945 statistics on residence, years on farm, and work off farm with the color-tenure statistics for prior censuses. Other data closely related to the farm operator are presented in chapter V, Farm Population and Farm Labor, and in chapter VI, Farm Facilities, Roads, and Farm Machinery.

**A farm operator** is the person who works a farm, performing the labor himself, or directly supervising it. If a farm is operated by two or more partners, the senior partner is considered the operator unless the junior partner is actually conducting the operations. When land is rented or cropped, the tenant, renter, or cropper is the operator, even though the owner may exercise some supervision. If the farming operations are performed by a caretaker who merely carries out the instructions of his employer, the employer is the operator. If a farm is operated for a corporation or institution, the superintendent, manager, supervisor, or other person directly responsible for the farming operations is the operator and, in such cases, the operator is classified as a manager.

The number of farm operators is considered identical with the number of farms. Infrequently a farm had no operator at the time of the enumeration. A farm operated in 1944 which was not to be operated in 1945 or a farm for which a tenant or manager had not yet been secured at the time of the enumeration was given a nominal operator. In the classifications by age, by residence, by years on farm, and by work off farm, such farms without operators were included in the "not reporting" groups. Occasionally the same individual operated two or more farms, as when a person operated one farm on his own account and another as a hired manager, or when a person managed several farms, each for a different employer. For the few reports of two or more farms operated by the same person, the additional farms were likewise included in the "not reporting" groups in the classifications by age and by work off farm.

It should be noted that the number of "farm operators" usually does not include landlords, employers of farm managers, or partners or relatives who may spend all or much of their time directing, supervising, or assisting the farm operator. Such persons are included as farm operators only if operating farms on their own account. Neither does the number of farm operators include persons such as landlords, hired workers, relatives, or others who carried on some agricultural operations of their own on farms operated primarily by others.

It should be kept in mind that the term "farm operator" does not refer to occupation. Many persons who are classified as farm operators because they are responsible for the agricultural operations on places included as farms under the Census definition are engaged primarily in some other occupation. In urban and industrial areas particularly, farming is often secondary

to some other occupation. In addition, many retired or semi-retired persons return to the land for security. Many of the farms of these part-time operators and retired or semi-retired persons represent limited agricultural production primarily for home use. Persons other than the one specified as directly responsible for the operation of the farm are excluded even though they may spend their full time at work on the farm.

**A farm**, for Census purposes, is an operating unit, not an ownership tract, and consists of all the land on which some agricultural operations are performed by one person. A farm may consist of a number of separate tracts, not necessarily adjacent, held under different tenures, as when one tract is owned and another is rented by the farm operator. When a landowner has several tenants, renters, or croppers, the land operated by each is considered a separate farm. Thus, on a plantation, the land operated by each cropper, renter, or tenant is a separate farm. Tracts of less than 3 acres are considered farms only if their agricultural products for the calendar year preceding the census date were valued at \$250 or more.

This definition is essentially the same as that used in previous censuses. Differences in definition would, in general, affect only the number of farms of under 3 acres and this group has never been particularly important, amounting to only 1.7 percent of all farms in 1945. In periods of high prices, everything else being equal, more tracts of land of less than 3 acres would be included as farms than in periods of low prices. In 1945, there was a considerable increase over 1940 in the number of farms of under 3 acres.

**Farm operators reporting**, as used in the tables, denotes the number of operators for whom the specified items shown in the particular table were reported.

Thus, in 1945, out of a total of 5,859,169 farm operators, 1,570,357 were reported as working off their farms in 1944 for pay or profit, as shown in the tables herein. If the enumerators had secured reports for all farm operators who worked off their farms in 1944, the number of operators reporting this item would represent the total number of farm operators working off their farms. Inasmuch as reports were not secured from all farm operators, the number of operators reporting represents a minimum for that item.

**Presentation.**—The statistics are presented in such manner as to provide an over-all picture for the United States, for the major geographic areas, and for the several States. The information has been arranged to facilitate comparison of one area with another. Averages and percentages are provided as aids in interpreting the data. Some of the derived data do not appear in the tables with the base figures. Comparable figures from earlier censuses provide a measure of the changes that have occurred from census to census. For the United States, all available comparative data are shown; and for the regions, divisions, and States, only comparative data for selected census years, or for selected items, are shown. Any significant lack of comparability is indicated by headnotes, footnotes, or the wording of the stub or the column headings. The text discussion for the various items gives further information on the comparability of the data. An outline map showing the States and the geographic divisions and regions for which totals are shown appears in the Introduction to this volume.

The tabular presentation is supplemented by a visual, or graphic, presentation through the use of maps and bar charts. Two of the maps are on a State-unit basis, while all the others are on a county-unit basis. The number of dots on a map prepared on a county-unit basis does not always reflect the correct State total. Thus, for the dot map showing the number of farm operators under 25 years of age for which 1 dot represents 100 operators, any county having as many as 50 operators under 25 years old but less than 150 operators in this age group, received 1 dot. Counties having less than 50 operators under 25 years old received no dots. Following this procedure, Florida, with 964

## CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1945

Table 1.—FARM OPERATORS IN EACH COLOR AND TENURE

["White" includes Mexicans; "nonwhite" includes Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese,

COLOR, TENURE, AND YEAR	All operators	REPORTING AGE								Not reporting age
		Total	Under 25 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	Average age	
All farm operators.....	1945.. 5,659,169	5,793,024	148,496	844,579	1,332,683	1,444,762	1,172,359	850,155	48.7	66,145
	1940.. 6,096,799	5,885,950	233,355	949,350	1,250,893	1,427,561	1,146,540	828,251	48.0	250,849
	1930.. 6,288,648	6,073,523	371,679	1,049,052	1,452,425	1,459,959	1,064,034	676,374	(*)	215,125
	1920.. 5,448,943	5,364,163	383,680	1,333,020	1,597,519	1,482,494	993,771	583,679	(*)	84,180
	1910.. 5,361,502	5,339,476	419,330	1,413,876	1,571,469	1,432,707	947,524	554,570	(*)	22,026
	1900.. 5,649,008	5,635,747	275,038	1,194,482	1,409,829	1,296,147	864,763	595,442	(*)	13,261
	1890.. 4,767,179	( <sup>3</sup> )	218,531	1,082,520	1,182,056	1,034,792	1,249,180	(*)	( <sup>3</sup> )	
Owners.....	1945.. 3,961,863	3,928,529	41,015	391,163	811,575	1,045,310	921,431	718,035	51.5	39,334
	1940.. 3,699,177	3,552,109	47,518	332,806	668,120	950,866	859,733	693,066	52.1	147,068
	1930.. 3,568,394	3,447,119	47,256	334,789	766,025	942,629	793,861	562,559	(*)	121,275
	1920.. 3,925,090	3,876,034	87,400	561,442	938,174	1,021,445	780,579	483,994	(*)	52,056
	1910.. 3,948,722	3,934,968	97,690	620,961	969,859	1,036,493	741,614	468,351	(*)	13,754
	1900.. 3,638,403	3,631,036	76,419	541,064	908,250	916,375	683,475	505,453	(*)	7,367
	1890.. 3,142,745	( <sup>3</sup> )	71,140	589,470	756,555	748,609	1,026,971	(*)	( <sup>3</sup> )	
Full owners.....	1945.. 3,301,361	3,269,570	31,465	295,509	641,432	853,276	785,499	662,369	52.3	31,791
	1940.. 3,084,138	2,957,775	39,870	267,708	526,140	759,354	728,164	636,539	52.8	126,363
	1930.. 2,911,644	2,808,122	37,395	250,764	576,845	747,751	678,233	517,134	(*)	108,522
	1920.. 3,366,510	3,320,649	68,061	443,272	771,432	876,613	704,526	456,475	(*)	45,861
	1910.. 3,354,897	3,342,361	78,130	490,008	768,315	880,140	663,107	442,161	(*)	12,536
Part owners.....	1945.. 660,502	658,959	9,550	95,654	170,143	192,034	135,932	55,646	47.4	1,548
	1940.. 615,039	594,334	7,648	65,098	141,980	191,512	131,569	56,527	48.8	20,705
	1930.. 656,756	638,997	9,861	84,025	189,180	194,878	115,628	45,425	(*)	17,753
	1920.. 558,590	552,385	19,319	118,170	166,692	144,632	76,053	27,519	(*)	6,195
	1910.. 593,825	592,607	19,560	130,953	181,044	156,356	78,507	26,190	(*)	1,218
Managers.....	1945.. 38,885	37,168	750	6,632	10,305	10,128	6,659	2,694	45.8	1,717
	1940.. 36,351	31,984	1,399	7,654	8,491	7,792	4,817	1,831	43.5	4,367
	1930.. 55,889	50,957	2,782	11,193	14,501	12,340	7,044	3,007	(*)	4,932
	1920.. 68,449	66,636	5,484	17,983	18,757	14,063	7,226	3,123	(*)	1,813
	1910.. 58,104	56,846	4,820	15,700	16,212	11,724	5,840	2,550	(*)	1,258
All tenants.....	1945.. 1,858,421	1,827,327	106,721	446,784	510,803	389,324	344,269	129,426	42.3	31,094
	1940.. 2,361,271	2,251,857	184,438	608,890	574,282	468,903	281,990	133,354	41.5	109,414
	1930.. 2,664,365	2,575,447	321,641	703,080	671,799	504,908	263,129	110,808	(*)	88,918
	1920.. 2,454,804	2,424,493	290,796	753,595	630,588	446,986	205,966	96,562	(*)	30,311
	1910.. 2,354,676	2,347,662	316,820	777,215	585,398	384,490	200,070	83,669	(*)	7,014
	1900.. 2,010,605	2,004,711	198,679	653,418	501,579	379,772	181,234	89,969	(*)	5,894
	1890.. 1,624,433	( <sup>3</sup> )	147,391	543,150	425,501	286,183	222,121	(*)	( <sup>3</sup> )	
White farm operators.....	1945.. 5,169,954	5,113,595	113,920	731,846	1,170,251	1,285,803	1,054,061	757,712	49.0	56,359
	1940.. 5,377,728	5,156,433	181,768	813,305	1,104,155	1,278,129	1,036,022	743,054	48.4	221,295
	1930.. 5,372,578	5,188,239	271,466	875,914	1,259,651	1,247,069	930,178	603,961	(*)	184,339
	1920.. 5,498,454	5,425,659	293,796	1,142,232	1,363,044	1,246,559	872,861	507,167	(*)	72,795
	1910.. 5,440,619	5,423,927	330,574	1,187,452	1,344,237	1,243,722	832,312	485,625	(*)	16,692
Full owners.....	1945.. 3,126,212	3,095,732	29,635	282,122	609,919	808,255	744,853	620,948	52.3	30,480
	1940.. 2,916,562	2,796,788	35,918	251,517	498,853	720,608	691,845	597,967	52.8	119,774
	1930.. 2,752,797	2,654,676	34,233	237,485	549,577	704,982	640,653	487,746	(*)	98,111
	1920.. 3,174,109	3,130,498	63,309	422,907	732,080	821,555	665,154	425,493	(*)	43,611
	1910.. 3,159,088	3,149,104	72,751	461,956	746,053	929,596	625,275	413,474	(*)	9,984
Part owners.....	1945.. 629,734	628,260	9,252	92,979	163,359	182,971	128,677	51,022	47.3	1,474
	1940.. 581,517	562,227	7,110	62,136	135,324	181,697	123,924	52,036	48.7	19,290
	1930.. 612,987	596,221	9,098	79,993	179,418	180,310	106,219	41,183	(*)	16,566
	1920.. 517,759	512,031	17,652	111,961	156,417	192,229	69,541	24,131	(*)	5,728
	1910.. 548,413	547,330	18,259	123,606	168,926	143,346	70,590	22,613	(*)	1,063
Managers.....	1945.. 38,263	36,568	730	6,541	10,128	9,949	6,574	2,638	45.8	1,695
	1940.. 35,634	31,327	1,375	7,572	8,319	7,597	4,678	1,786	43.4	4,307
	1930.. 52,767	47,892	2,730	10,753	13,781	11,132	6,660	2,936	(*)	4,775
	1920.. 66,223	64,465	5,300	17,523	19,165	13,500	6,970	3,008	(*)	1,757
	1910.. 56,560	55,322	4,698	15,315	15,786	11,394	5,664	2,465	(*)	1,238
All tenants.....	1945.. 1,375,745	1,358,035	74,295	350,206	386,845	284,623	173,957	83,104	42.4	22,710
	1940.. 1,844,015	1,756,091	137,365	492,080	461,659	368,147	215,575	91,265	41.3	77,924
	1930.. 1,954,137	1,889,350	225,405	547,683	516,875	350,645	176,646	72,096	(*)	64,797
	1920.. 1,740,363	1,718,664	207,535	589,841	456,382	279,275	131,096	54,535	(*)	21,699
	1910.. 1,676,558	1,672,171	234,866	586,575	413,472	259,392	130,793	47,073	(*)	4,387
Nonwhite farm operators.....	1945.. 689,215	679,429	34,566	112,731	162,432	158,959	128,298	42,443	46.7	9,786
	1940.. 719,071	679,517	51,587	136,045	146,738	149,432	110,518	85,197	45.3	39,554
	1930.. 916,070	885,284	100,213	173,138	192,774	212,890	138,856	72,413	(*)	30,786
	1920.. 949,889	898,504	89,884	190,788	224,475	235,935	120,910	76,512	(*)	11,385
	1910.. 920,983	915,549	88,758	226,424	227,232	188,980	115,212	68,945	(*)	5,334
Full owners.....	1945.. 175,149	173,838	1,930	13,387	31,513	45,021	40,846	14,441	53.3	1,311
	1940.. 167,576	160,987	3,952	16,191	27,287	38,666	36,319	38,572	52.5	6,589
	1930.. 158,857	153,446	3,162	13,279	27,268	42,769	37,580	29,388	(*)	5,411
	1920.. 192,401	190,151	4,772	20,365	39,402	55,258	39,372	30,982	(*)	2,250
	1910.. 195,809	193,257	5,379	28,052	42,762	50,545	37,832	28,687	(*)	2,552
Part owners.....	1945.. 30,768	30,699	298	2,675	6,784	9,683	7,255	4,624	50.7	69
	1940.. 33,522	32,107	588	2,962	6,656	9,815	7,645	4,491	50.3	1,415
	1930.. 43,863	42,776	763	4,032	9,762	14,568	9,409	4,242	(*)	1,087
	1920.. 40,821	40,354	1,667	6,209	10,275	12,403	6,412	3,388	(*)	467
	1910.. 45,412	45,277	1,301	7,847	12,118	13,007	7,927	3,577	(*)	135
Managers.....	1945.. 622	600	12	91	177	179	85	56	46.4	22
	1940.. 717	657	24	82	172	195	139	45	46.9	60
	1930.. 3,122	2,965	52	430	820	1,208	384	71	(*)	157
	1920.. 2,226	2,170	184	460	592	563	256	115	(*)	56
	1910.. 1,544	1,524	122	385	426	330	176	85	(*)	20
All tenants.....	1945.. 482,676	474,292	32,426	96,578	123,958	104,696	70,312	46,322	44.0	8,384
	1940.. 517,255	485,766	47,073	116,810	112,623	100,756	66,415	42,089	42.5	31,490
	1930.. 710,228	686,097	96,236	155,397	154,924	154,345	86,483	38,712	(*)	24,131
	1920.. 714,441	705,829	83,261	163,754	174,206	167,711	74,870	42,027	(*)	8,612
	1910.. 678,118	675,491	81,354	190,640	171,925	125,098	69,277	36,596	(*)	2,627

\*Not available.

1In 1900 the number of occupants of farm homes was 88,364 less than the number of farm operators, while in 1890 the number of occupants of farm homes exceeded the number of farm operators by 202,538.

2Excludes 40,872 occupants of farm homes with form of tenure not reported.

3Not shown in the reports of the Census of 1890, as the number not reporting age was distributed among the several age groups.

4Includes managers.

5Less than 0.05 percent.

# AGE, RESIDENCE, YEARS ON FARM, AND WORK OFF FARM 231

CLASS, BY AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1890 TO 1945

and all other nonwhite races. Figures for divisions and States in tables 7 and 8]

COLOR, TENURE, AND YEAR	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATORS IN EACH TENURE CLASS, BY AGE						PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATORS IN EACH AGE GROUP, BY TENURE						
	Under 25 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	Operators reporting age	Under 25 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
All farm operators.....1945..	2.6	14.5	23.0	24.9	20.2	14.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1940..	4.0	16.3	21.4	24.5	19.6	14.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1930..	6.1	17.3	23.9	24.0	17.5	11.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1920..	6.0	20.9	24.9	23.3	15.6	9.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1910..	5.6	22.3	24.8	22.6	14.9	8.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1900..	4.9	21.2	25.0	23.0	15.3	10.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1890..	4.6	22.7	24.8	21.7	26.2		(*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Owners.....1945..	1.0	10.0	20.7	26.6	23.5	18.3	67.8	27.6	46.3	60.9	72.4	78.6	84.5
1940..	1.3	9.4	18.8	26.9	24.2	19.5	60.9	20.4	35.1	53.4	66.6	75.0	83.7
1930..	1.4	9.7	22.2	27.3	23.0	16.3	56.8	12.7	31.9	52.7	64.6	74.6	83.2
1920..	2.3	14.5	24.2	26.4	20.2	12.5	60.9	22.8	42.1	59.1	68.9	78.5	82.9
1910..	2.5	15.8	24.6	26.3	18.8	11.9	62.1	23.3	43.9	61.7	72.3	78.3	84.5
1900..	2.1	14.9	25.0	25.2	18.3	13.9	64.4	27.8	45.3	64.4	70.7	79.0	84.9
1890..	2.3	17.2	24.1	23.8	32.7		(*)	32.6	49.8	64.0	72.3	82.2	
Full owners.....1945..	1.0	9.0	19.6	25.1	24.0	20.3	56.4	21.2	35.0	48.1	59.1	67.0	77.9
1940..	1.3	9.1	17.8	25.7	24.6	21.5	50.7	17.1	28.2	42.1	53.2	63.5	75.9
1930..	1.3	8.9	20.5	26.6	24.2	18.4	46.2	10.1	23.9	39.7	51.2	63.7	76.5
1920..	2.1	13.3	23.2	26.4	21.2	13.7	52.2	17.7	33.3	48.6	59.1	70.9	78.2
1910..	2.3	14.7	23.6	26.3	19.8	13.2	52.7	18.6	34.7	50.2	61.4	70.0	79.7
Part owners.....1945..	1.4	14.5	25.8	29.1	20.6	8.4	11.4	6.4	11.3	12.8	13.3	11.6	6.5
1940..	1.3	11.0	23.9	32.2	22.1	9.5	10.2	3.3	6.9	11.4	13.4	11.5	6.8
1930..	1.5	13.1	29.6	30.5	18.1	7.1	10.5	2.7	8.0	13.0	13.3	10.9	6.7
1920..	3.5	21.4	30.2	26.2	13.8	5.0	8.7	5.0	8.9	10.5	9.8	7.7	4.7
1910..	3.3	22.1	30.6	26.4	13.2	4.4	9.3	4.7	9.3	11.5	10.9	8.3	4.7
Managers.....1945..	2.0	17.8	27.7	27.2	17.9	7.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.3
1940..	4.4	23.9	26.5	24.4	15.1	5.7	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2
1930..	5.5	21.9	28.7	24.2	13.8	5.9	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.4
1920..	8.2	27.0	28.1	21.1	10.8	4.7	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.5
1910..	8.5	27.6	28.5	20.6	10.3	4.5	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5
All tenants.....1945..	5.8	24.5	28.0	21.3	13.4	7.1	31.5	71.9	52.9	38.3	26.9	20.8	15.2
1940..	8.2	27.0	25.5	20.8	12.5	5.9	38.6	79.0	64.1	45.9	32.8	24.6	16.1
1930..	12.5	27.3	26.1	19.6	10.2	4.3	42.4	86.5	67.0	46.3	34.6	24.7	16.4
1920..	12.0	31.1	26.0	18.4	8.5	4.0	38.1	75.8	56.5	39.7	30.2	20.7	16.5
1910..	13.5	33.1	24.9	16.4	8.5	3.6	37.0	75.6	55.0	37.3	26.8	21.1	15.1
1900..	9.9	32.6	25.0	18.9	9.0	4.5	35.6	72.2	54.7	35.6	29.3	21.0	15.1
1890..	9.1	33.4	26.2	17.6	13.7		(*)	67.4	50.2	36.0	27.7	17.8	
White farm operators.....1945..	2.2	14.3	22.9	25.1	20.6	14.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1940..	3.5	15.8	21.4	24.8	20.1	14.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1930..	5.2	16.9	24.3	24.0	17.9	11.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1920..	5.4	21.1	25.1	23.0	16.1	9.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1910..	6.1	21.9	24.8	22.9	15.3	9.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full owners.....1945..	1.0	9.1	19.7	26.1	24.1	20.1	60.5	26.0	38.5	52.1	62.9	70.7	82.0
1940..	1.3	9.0	17.8	25.8	24.7	21.4	54.2	19.8	30.9	45.2	56.4	66.8	80.5
1930..	1.3	8.9	20.7	26.6	24.1	18.4	51.2	12.6	27.1	43.6	56.5	68.9	80.8
1920..	2.0	13.5	23.4	26.2	21.2	13.6	57.7	21.5	37.0	53.7	65.9	76.2	83.9
1910..	2.3	14.7	23.7	26.3	19.9	13.1	58.1	22.0	38.9	55.5	66.7	75.1	85.1
Part owners.....1945..	1.5	14.8	26.0	29.1	20.5	8.1	12.3	8.1	12.7	14.0	14.2	12.2	6.7
1940..	1.3	11.1	24.1	32.3	22.0	9.3	10.9	3.9	7.6	12.3	14.2	12.0	7.0
1930..	1.5	13.4	30.1	30.2	17.8	6.9	11.5	3.4	9.1	14.2	14.5	11.4	6.8
1920..	3.4	21.9	30.5	25.8	13.6	4.7	9.4	6.0	9.8	11.5	10.6	8.0	4.8
1910..	3.3	22.6	30.9	26.2	12.9	4.1	10.1	5.5	10.4	12.6	11.5	8.5	4.7
Managers.....1945..	2.0	17.9	27.7	27.2	18.0	7.2	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.3
1940..	4.4	24.2	26.6	24.3	14.9	5.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.2
1930..	5.7	22.4	28.7	23.2	13.9	6.1	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.5
1920..	8.2	27.2	28.2	20.9	10.8	4.7	1.2	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.6
1910..	8.5	27.7	28.5	20.6	10.2	4.5	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.5
All tenants.....1945..	5.5	25.9	28.6	21.0	12.9	6.1	26.5	65.2	47.9	33.1	22.1	16.5	11.0
1940..	7.8	27.9	26.1	20.8	12.2	5.2	34.3	75.6	60.5	41.8	28.8	20.8	12.3
1930..	11.9	29.0	27.4	18.6	9.3	3.8	36.4	83.0	62.5	41.0	28.1	19.0	11.9
1920..	12.1	34.3	26.6	16.2	7.6	3.2	31.7	70.6	51.6	33.5	22.4	15.0	10.8
1910..	14.0	35.1	24.7	15.5	7.8	2.8	30.8	71.0	49.4	30.8	20.9	15.7	9.7
Nonwhite farm operators.....1945..	5.1	16.6	23.9	23.4	17.4	13.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1940..	7.6	20.0	21.6	22.0	16.3	12.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1930..	11.3	19.6	21.8	24.0	15.1	8.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1920..	9.6	20.3	23.9	25.1	12.9	8.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1910..	9.7	24.7	24.8	20.6	12.6	7.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full owners.....1945..	1.1	7.7	18.1	23.9	23.4	23.8	25.6	5.3	11.9	19.4	28.3	34.4	44.8
1940..	2.5	10.1	16.9	24.0	22.6	24.0	23.7	7.7	11.9	18.6	25.9	32.9	45.3
1930..	2.1	8.7	17.8	27.9	24.5	19.2	17.3	8.2	7.7	14.1	20.1	28.1	40.6
1920..	2.5	10.7	20.7	29.1	20.7	16.3	20.3	5.3	10.7	17.6	23.4	32.6	40.5
1910..	2.8	14.5	22.1	26.2	19.6	14.8	21.1	6.1	12.4	18.8	26.7	32.8	41.6
Part owners.....1945..	1.0	8.7	22.1	29.5	23.6	15.1	4.5	0.9	2.4	4.2	5.7	6.1	5.0
1940..	1.7	9.2	20.7	30.6	23.8	14.0	4.7	1.0	2.2	4.5	6.6	6.9	5.3
1930..	1.8	9.4	22.8	34.1	22.0	9.9	4.8	0.8	2.3	5.1	6.8	7.0	5.9
1920..	4.1	15.4	25.8	30.7	15.9	8.4	4.3	1.9	3.3	4.6	5.3	5.3	4.4
1910..	2.9	16.2	26.8	28.7	17.5	7.9	4.9	1.5	3.2	5.3	6.9	6.9	5.2
Managers.....1945..	2.0	15.2	29.5	29.8	14.2	9.3	0.1	(*)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
1940..	3.7	12.5	26.2	29.7	21.2	6.8	0.1	(*)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
1930..	1.8	14.5	27.7	40.7	13.0	2.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.1
1920..	8.5	21.2	27.3	25.9	11.8	5.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
1910..	8.0	25.3	28.0	21.7	11.5	5.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
All tenants.....1945..	6.8	20.4	26.1	22.1	14.8	9.8	69.8	93.8	85.7	76.3	65.9	59.4	5

operators in this age group, has only 4 dots, and Wyoming, with 225 operators under 25 years of age, has no dots.

**Age of farm operator.**—The number of white and nonwhite farm operators, respectively, in each of the four major tenure groups has been classified according to age, figures being shown for each of six age groups. The tables also include the average age of farm operators in each color-tenure group. This average age represents the sum of the individual ages divided by the number of farm operators who reported their age. For the United States, for each region, and for each of the States comprising the South, age data are shown by tenure within each color group. For the Northern and Western States, age data are shown only by tenure since nonwhite operators are relatively unimportant in these regions. In volume I, in which data are presented by counties, the number of all farm operators is shown for four age groups only, those under 55 years of age being grouped into two classes instead of four as in this report, and tenure figures are restricted to the average age of owners and tenants, respectively. No age data by color of operator are shown by counties. Volume I, however, shows in State table 5 for each State, including those in the North and the West, both the number of operators in each of the six age groups and the average age for each tenure within each color group.

Following are brief descriptions of the color and tenure classifications for which age distributions and averages are shown. For a more complete discussion of these terms, see chapter III, Color and tenure of farm operator.

**Color classification:**

White farm operators include Mexicans.

Nonwhite farm operators include Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and all other nonwhite races.

**Tenure classification:**

Owners own all, or a portion, of the land they operate.

Full owners own all the land they operate.

Part owners own a part and rent from others the remainder of the land they operate.

Managers operate farms for others and receive wages or salaries for their services.

Tenants operate hired or rented land only.

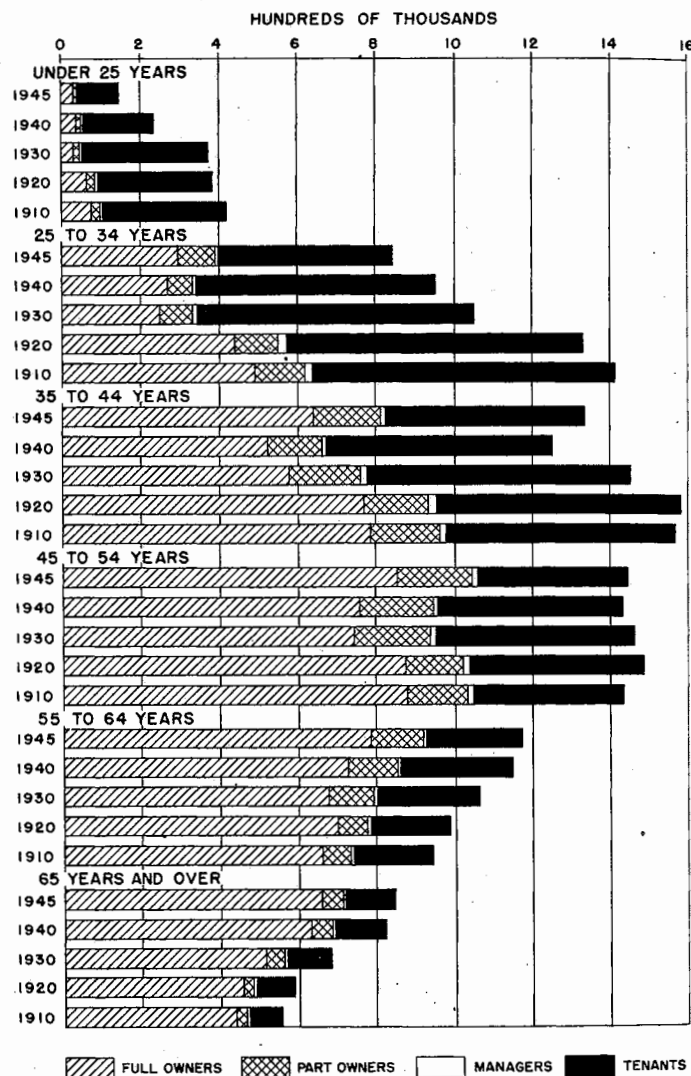
The age distribution of farm operators classified by color and tenure has been obtained for each decennial census, beginning with 1910. No information on age of operator was obtained at the mid-decennial censuses of 1925 and 1935. The censuses of population for 1890 and 1900 included a classification of occupants of farm homes by age groups. Although these data are on a slightly different basis, the relative age distribution in each tenure class is approximately comparable with the age distribution of farm operators for the 1910 and subsequent decennial censuses. These data, therefore, are presented for historical comparisons.

The average age of operators is shown in the tables for 1945 and 1940, the only years for which a true average is available. In the 1930 and 1920 reports, figures on the average age of operators for 1920 and 1910 are given in the text discussion, but these represent only approximations based on the age distributions.

In 1945, farm operators for the United States as a whole averaged only 0.7 of a year older than in 1940. Although this increase in the average age was attributable primarily to the loss of the younger men to the armed services and to war industries, it also continues a trend noticeable in several previous censuses. Between 1940 and 1945, there was a decrease of 16.0 percent in the number of farm operators under 35 years of age, with those under 25 decreasing by 36.4 percent. With this loss of younger men, many of the older operators continued farming and some landlords took over the operation of farms left by tenants. The most striking change was the increase of 81,790, or 6.5 percent, in the number of operators in the 35-to-44-age group which exceeded the combined increase of 64,924 for all groups of 45 years and older. The number of farm operators 45 to 64 years of age increased by 17,201; those operators 55 to 64 years of age, by 25,819; and those 65 years old and over, by 21,904. These increases are more significant when it is considered that the number of all farms decreased by 237,630 during this period.

Increases in the age of farm operators have been noticeable at each census since 1910. The proportion of operators 45 years old and over in 1945 was 59.9 percent; in 1940, it was 58.3

AGE OF FARM OPERATORS - NUMBER OF OPERATORS REPORTING, BY TENURE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1910 TO 1945



percent; in 1930, it was 52.7 percent; in 1920, it was 49.1 percent; and in 1910, it was 43.3 percent. Generally, the operators of farms in 1945 were several years older when they began operating farms than was true for several previous censuses. Also, they are continuing to operate their farms until an older age. Each census since 1910 has shown a decrease in each of the two age groups under 35 years of age and an increase in the number of operators in the two age groups above 55. The 45-to-54-age group has remained fairly constant.

The largest number of operators, at each census beginning with 1930, was in the 45-to-54-age group. This indicates that up to this age more persons begin operating farms on their own account than quit farming and that after this age the number ceasing to farm exceeds those who are beginning. Prior to 1930 the largest number of operators was in the 35-to-44-age group.

Farm operators in the South averaged slightly younger than the operators in the North and the West. However, the average age of operators in the South was materially higher in 1945 than in 1940, while in the North and the West the average was slightly lower. The average varied a great deal from one State to another, ranging from 45.3 years for North Dakota to 53.2 for New Hampshire.

Ownership of farms is associated with operators in the higher age groups. In the 1945 Census, owners averaged 8.7 years older than tenant operators. The average age for full owners was 52.3 years and for part owners 47.4 years, as compared with 42.8 for tenants. More than two-thirds of the owners reporting age were in the three groups 45 years and older and more than one-half of all tenants were in the three groups under 45 years of age. The proportion of tenancy decreased with the increase in the age

of operators. There were approximately two and one-half times as many tenants as there were owners in the under 25-year group. In the 35-to-44-year group the owners exceeded the tenants by nearly three-fifths. However, the number of tenants in this age group was greater than for any other age group, numbering 510,803 or about two-sevenths of all tenants. In the 65 and over group there were more than five times as many owners as tenants. The greatest difference in the ages of owners and tenants was in Iowa, the difference being 10.7 years.

The highest average age reported for any State was 53.5 for owners in New Hampshire, 53.4 for owners in Rhode Island and Illinois, 47.2 for tenants in West Virginia, and 47.0 for tenants in New Hampshire. The youngest owners and the youngest tenants were reported in North Dakota, averaging 47.7 and 39.0 years, respectively.

Between 1940 and 1945, there were decreases in the proportion of tenancy for each age group. There were also decreases in the number of tenants in each age group, but the largest decrease, 42.1 percent, was in the group "Under 25 years" and the next largest, 28.6 percent, was in the group "25 to 34 years." For full owners, there was a decrease of 21.1 percent in the number reporting in the group "Under 25 years," but there were increases in all other age groups.

For the United States as a whole, nonwhite operators were younger than white operators, the averages being 43.7 and 49.0 years, respectively. However, nonwhite operators show a less proportionate decrease in tenancy as the age of the operator increases. Consequently, nonwhite full owners, part owners, and tenants were older than white operators in the corresponding tenure groups.

**Residence of farm operator.**—Information was obtained in 1945 on whether or not the operator lived on the farm he was operating. The question read "Does the operator live on this farm? (Yes or No.)" Data as to the residence of the farm operator have been obtained for only two censuses, 1945 and 1940. Croppers and tenants on multiple units (or plantations) were considered as living on their farms regardless of whether or not they lived on the particular tract of land which they operated. Replies of "Yes" were also accepted when it was evident that the operator considered himself living on the farm operated, even though there were no occupied dwellings on the farm as of the census date. In 1945, for the United States as a whole, there were 18,845 farm operators reporting residence on farms, with no report of occupied dwellings. For example, a tract of land representing one ownership unit is often thought of locally as one farm, even though it is divided between two operators. This is particularly true if there is only one residence and both operators reside therein. The operator who resides on the ownership tract, but actually does not reside on the portion assigned to him, may be reported to be residing on his farm. Also, an operator living on the farm a portion of the year, but away from the farm on the census date, may be included in the figures for resident operators.

Of 5,796,734 farm operators who answered the inquiry as to residence on the farm operated in the 1945 Census, 5,459,841, or 94.2 percent, answered in the affirmative, and 336,893, or 5.8 percent, answered in the negative. There were only 62,435, or 1.1 percent, for whom no report was obtained.

Table 2.—RESIDENCE OF FARM OPERATORS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1945 AND 1940

ITEM	1945	1940
All farm operators.....	5,859,169	6,096,799
Operators reporting as to residence.....	5,796,734	5,819,920
Percent of all operators.....	98.9	95.5
Operators reporting residence on farm.....	5,459,841	5,506,322
Percent of all operators.....	93.2	90.3
Operators reporting residence not on farms.....	336,893	313,598
Percent of all operators.....	5.7	5.1
Operators not reporting residence.....	62,435	276,879

There are many reasons why some farm operators do not live on farms. Operators often live nearby going to their farms day by day. Farm activities in some areas are restricted to short, but rather definite periods. In such cases the operator may

live at a distance from his land, being on his farm only during the planting and harvesting periods. Some operators live in a country village and operate their farms from the dwelling in the village. Utah furnishes a striking example of this type of farm operator with about one out of every five operators not living on his farm at any time of the year. In the wheat-growing areas of the Great Plains, operators quite often live off their farms. For example, for several counties in the "suitcase" farming areas of western Kansas, 20 to 30 percent, or more, of the operators do not live on their farms. In winter-garden areas, the proportion of nonresident operators is likewise high. In citrus areas, where the acreage is often small and it is a general practice to hire much of the work done on a custom basis, many operators do not live on their farms. Often they live outside the State in which their land is located. Some examples of outstanding counties in each of these types of areas are shown in the following table:

Table 3.—FARM OPERATORS REPORTING RESIDENCE ON OR OFF FARM, FOR SPECIFIED COUNTIES: 1945

STATE AND COUNTY	All farm operators	Residence on farm operated	Residence not on farm operated	No report as to residence
<b>WINTER-GARDEN COUNTIES</b>				
California:				
Imperial.....	2,932	2,016	911	5
Florida:				
Broward.....	1,104	301	765	38
Dade.....	1,159	810	334	15
Palm Beach.....	1,139	731	397	11
Seminole.....	663	471	187	5
Texas:				
Webb.....	282	135	146	1
<b>CITRUS COUNTIES</b>				
California:				
Colusa.....	894	676	213	5
Lake.....	991	776	211	4
Orange.....	5,621	3,957	1,640	24
San Bernardino.....	7,729	6,034	1,672	23
Ventura.....	2,002	1,499	472	31
Florida:				
Brevard.....	900	521	377	2
De Soto.....	391	251	136	4
Indian River.....	754	311	434	9
Lake.....	1,663	1,144	506	13
Pinellas.....	733	445	279	9
Polk.....	3,794	2,572	1,102	120
St. Lucie.....	549	189	357	3
<b>WINTER-GARDEN AND CITRUS COUNTIES</b>				
California:				
Los Angeles.....	13,114	10,189	2,716	209
Santa Barbara.....	1,381	946	407	28
Texas:				
Hidalgo.....	5,616	3,481	2,060	75
<b>"SUITCASE" FARMING COUNTIES</b>				
Kansas:				
Finney.....	914	626	257	31
Gray.....	662	509	144	9
Greeley.....	110	88	21	1
Haskell.....	327	210	110	7
Hodgeman.....	664	468	190	6
Lane.....	454	274	173	7
Scott.....	444	331	108	5
Stevens.....	431	341	89	1
<b>VILLAGE RESIDENCE COUNTIES</b>				
Utah:				
Beaver.....	315	155	159	1
Emery.....	742	352	376	14
Garfield.....	350	118	231	1
Iron.....	521	209	308	4
Juab.....	409	147	259	3
Sanpete.....	1,590	859	724	7
Sevier.....	897	455	413	29
Washington.....	671	257	413	1

**Years on farm.**—The number of years that operators had operated the farms they were occupying on the census date was obtained in reply to an inquiry as to the year they began operating their farms. Farm operators were classified into nine groups on the basis of the replies to this inquiry. An average is also shown in the tables.

The data on years on farm reflect, in part, the stability or instability of operators on particular farms. It should be



## CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1945

Table 4.—YEARS ON FARM AS CLASSIFIED FOR EACH CENSUS, WITH THE NUMBER OF OPERATORS IN EACH CLASSIFICATION: 1910, TO 1945

[Each period includes the entire time up to the next period following]

CENSUS DATE AND ITEM		YEARS ON FARM, BASED ON CALENDAR YEARS FROM CENSUS DATE																	
		Less than 5 years						5 to 9 years					10 to 14 years					15 years and over	
		Less than 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years													
Year of occupancy		1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929 and earlier	
Jan. 1 1945	Operators reporting.....	238,210	663,495	425,098	384,866	311,466	404,166	955,527					609,495					1,727,927	
	Percent of all operators.....	4.1	11.3	7.3	6.6	5.3	6.9	16.3					10.4					29.5	
	Years and months from census date.	901,705 15.4 Less than 1 year		1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 9 years					10 to 14 years					15 years and over	
		2,427,101 41.4																	
Year of occupancy		1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925 and earlier		
Apr. 1 1940	Operators reporting.....	441,830	556,506	449,568	381,145	318,094	943,401					685,728					1,826,775		
	Percent of all operators.....	7.2	9.1	7.4	6.3	5.2	15.5					11.2					30.0		
	Years and months from census date.	Less than 3 mo.	3 to 15 mo.	15 to 27 mo.	27 to 39 mo.	39 to 51 mo.	4 yr. 3 mo. to 9 yr. 3 mo.					9 yr. 3 mo. to 14 yr. 3 mo.					14 yr. 3 mo. and over		
		2,147,143 35.2																	
Year of occupancy		1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919 and earlier	
Jan. 1 1935	Operators reporting.....	1,197,204	521,572	445,805	348,027	396,566	1,080,447					761,973					1,905,648		
	Percent of all operators.....	17.6	7.7	6.5	5.1	5.8	15.9					11.5					28.0		
	Years and months from census date.	Less than 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 9 years					10 to 14 years					15 years and over		
		2,909,174 42.7																	
Year of occupancy		1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915 and earlier		
Apr. 1 1930	Operators reporting.....	706,691	298,520		1,013,354		937,717					795,803					1,596,159		
	Percent of all operators.....	11.2	4.7		16.1		14.9					12.7					25.4		
	Years and months from census date.	Less than 1 year	1 year	2 yr. to 4 yr. 3 mo.			5 to 9 years					10 to 14 years					15 years and over		
		2,009,174 42.7																	
Year of occupancy		1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909 and earlier	
Jan. 1 1925	Operators reporting.....	1,150,056	539,054	443,571	366,859	485,040	539,342	342,462	333,487	529,741					1,468,867				
	Percent of all operators.....	18.0	8.5	7.0	5.8	7.6	8.5	5.4	5.2	8.3					23.4				
	Years and months from census date.	Less than 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 6 yr.	7 to 8 yr.	9 to 10 yr.	11 to 14 yr.					15 years and over				
		2,984,560 46.8						1,215,291 19.1											
Year of occupancy		1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904 and earlier		
Jan. 1 1920	Operators reporting.....	660,713	898,019		1,397,958		1,086,458					2,184,391							
	Percent of all operators.....	10.2	13.9		21.7		16.8					33.9							
	Years and months from census date.	Less than 1 year	1 year	2 to 4 yr.			5 to 9 years					10 years and over							
		2,956,690 45.9																	
Year of occupancy		1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895 and earlier		
Apr. 15 1910	Operators reporting.....	1,000,293	627,660		1,371,607		392,468					1,802,540							
	Percent of all operators.....	15.7	9.9		21.6		15.6					28.3							
	Years and months from census date.	Less than 1 year	1 year	2 to 4 yr.			5 to 9 years					10 years and over							
		2,999,760 47.2																	

\*Based on number of years and months on farm as operator.



noted that the number of years does not necessarily refer to the total years of farm experience. For a farm operator who moved from another farm, the years represent only a part of his experience as a farmer. The number of years of occupancy on his farm may not represent the total years of farm experience even on the farm operated on the census date. The operator may have spent his childhood or his teen years on that particular farm. Farmers who had partially retired from active farming and had turned over the management of their farms to their sons or other persons often found it advantageous to take active charge of the farming operations again when the sons or other persons left for the armed services or for war industry. For such operators, the enumerator should have reported the year the operator resumed the operation of the farm.

When the data are presented in tables for 1945 only, they are given in terms of the replies to the question, and are referred to as "Year of occupancy." In the tables in which figures are presented for other census years, the statistics are presented as "Years on farm" rather than as "Year of occupancy" in order that they may be more readily compared with those for previous years.

Information on years on farm has been obtained for each census beginning with 1910. The 1945 inquiry read "Year the operator began to operate this farm (continuously)." The wording of the question for the Censuses of 1925 to 1940 was similar to that for the 1945 Census except for the omission of the word "continuously." In 1930, the inquiry asked for the month, as well as the year, of occupancy. For the 1920 and 1910 Censuses, the schedule inquiry, instead of asking for the year of occupancy of the farm operator on the census date, asked for the number of years and months the operator had operated that particular farm.

In reporting the year when the operator began to operate the farm, there was a discernible tendency in each census to report the year the operator first lived on the farm regardless of whether he was the operator at that time, whether he had operated the farm continuously since that date, or whether the operation had qualified as a farm in previous censuses. Insofar as the results of this inquiry are used to reflect the stability of operators on particular farms, this tendency has had no appreciable effect on the usefulness of the data.

Because of variation in the census dates of the several censuses, it was not possible to translate the data into year-on-farm groups so as to make exact comparisons from one census to another. For the 1945, 1935, and 1925 Censuses, when the census date was January 1, the year of occupancy could be translated into years on farm without difficulty. For these years, however, the less-than-1-year group may have been distorted to some extent because of operators who had moved on their farms on January 1, or later, of the census year. January 1 is an important moving date in many areas. In the 1945 Census, there were 238,210 operators who reported 1945 as the year of occupancy, although the census date was January 1. This large number may be explained, in part, by the fact that the 1945 enumeration, because of wartime conditions, required a longer than normal period for completion, the average date of enumeration falling between March 16 and March 31. For 1940, when the census date was April 1, the number of years intervening between the year of occupancy and the census year was considered the number of years on farm; 1940 being considered as less than 1 year. In 1930, the month and year of occupancy were obtained, and the month, as well as the year, was taken into account in determining the less-than-1-year and the 1-year groups.

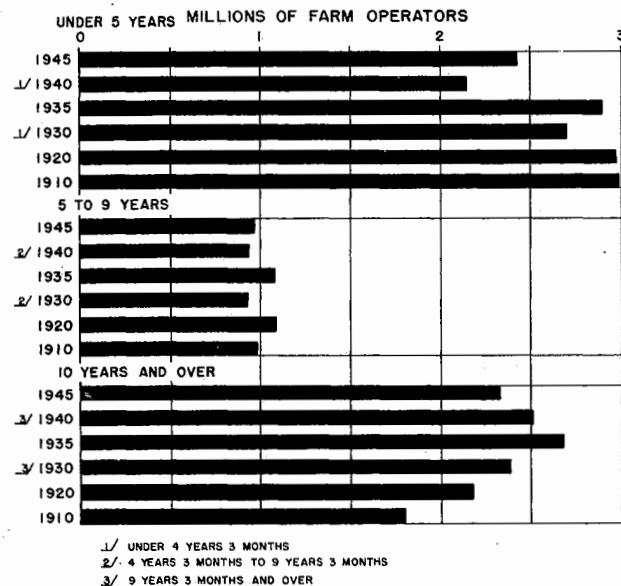
Because of the differences in the wording of the questions and differences in the classifications used in the various censuses, the user, in making comparisons for the various census years, should consider the respective length of the periods represented. These differences are indicated in table 4. In this table the columns represent the number of calendar years from the census date. For each census year there are shown: (1) the year of occupancy represented by each column; (2) the exact periods included in the classifications expressed as years and months from the census date, also braces to indicate just how these periods tie in with the calendar years; (3) the United States total for each classification; and (4) the proportion of all farm operators represented in each classification. The particular column, in which each of these totals is entered,

indicates the year-on-farm group in which this particular classification is shown in the other tables.

In comparing the distributions showing the number of years on farm for the several censuses, the date of enumeration, along with the prevailing moving time of farmers, should be considered. When the classification is based on calendar years, each year-on-farm group represents considerable overlapping as to crop years. That is, some of the operators moved in the spring and produced a crop on that farm that year, while others moved in the fall after harvesting a crop that same year on some other farm. Changes in the number of farms from one census to another, insofar as such changes represent places qualifying as farms at one census and not at another, should also be taken into account in comparing the distributions for the several censuses. Many tracts of land with limited agriculture were included in the census figures in 1945. Some of these had been inactive farms in previous years. The operators of these farms may have reported the year they moved on these places. This is particularly important in respect to the New England States, especially in the comparisons for 1945 and 1940.

In comparing the average number of years on farm (available only for 1945 and 1940), the method of calculating the average should also be taken into account. The average year of occupancy was obtained by making a summation of the years of occupancy and dividing the total by the total number of operators reporting. The resulting quotient was shown as a whole number. For example, if the average was in excess of 1931, but less than 1932, the average year of occupancy was shown as 1931. In translating this average into number of years on farm, the average year of occupancy was subtracted from the census year. Consequently, the averages are not strictly comparable, the average for the 1945 Census tending to be larger than that for the 1940 Census because of the difference in the census date. In the classification by years on farm the reverse was true, since the less-than-1-year group for the 1945 Census was considered as including all of 1944, as well as 1945, while for the 1940 Census it included only 1940.

YEARS ON FARM - NUMBER OF OPERATORS REPORTING,  
FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1910 TO 1945



Between 1940 and 1945, there was a considerable change in operators on farms because of persons going from farms into the armed services and into industry. New operators, many with previous farm experience, took up farming because of its essential nature, particularly in times of great demands for food production. During this period there was also a considerable increase in the number of farms bought and sold. Consequently, the 1945 Census figures for years on farm show, in general, a

larger number of operators who had been on their farms less than 5 years than was shown by the 1940 Census and a smaller number of operators who had been on their farms 10 or more years. However, a part of this change may be attributed to lack of comparability in the data for the two censuses. It will be noted from table 3 that, for the 1945 Census, taken as of January 1, 1945, the under-5-year group includes five calendar years plus the reports for 1945, while the 1940 Census, taken as of April 1, 1940, includes under the 5-year group, only four calendar years and three months for 1940. Despite the increases in the number of farm operators who had been on their farms less than 5 years and decreases in the number who had been on their farms 10 years and over, there was no significant change in the average number of years on farm. The apparent increase of 1 year in some of the States may be attributable to differences in date of enumeration, the average number of years on farm being computed by subtracting the average year of occupancy from the census year. From the tables presenting age of operator, it will be noted that the number of operators in the older age groups increased.

On January 1, 1945, farm operators had been operating the farms they were occupying on that date an average of 13 years. Farmers in the North had operated their farms longer on the average than those in the South and the West. Farm operators in the New England and Middle Atlantic States, with an average of 16 years, had occupied their farms longer than the operators in the other States. Among the States, Maine farmers averaged the longest time on their farms, the average for that State being 17 years, 4 years higher than the average for the United States. Georgia farmers had been on their farms only 9 years, the lowest average for any State. Approximately 14 percent of all farm operators reporting years on farm in Georgia reported 1945 as the year of occupancy.

**Work off the farm.**—Many farm operators obtain additional income from personal services performed off their farms. In some cases the operator supplements his farm income with odd or spare-time jobs or businesses; in many other cases his farming activities are only secondary, his off-farm job being his principal source of income. Some are self-employed. The inquiry carried on the 1945 Farm and Ranch Schedule ascertained the number of days the operator worked off his farm in 1944 for pay or profit. Instructions were given to the enumerators that this question was intended to obtain a record of all time spent off the farm in 1944 for pay or profit. Work of the operator in connection with a filling station, store, garage, tourist camp, or other non-farm business conducted at the farm was considered work off the farm. Exchange work was to be omitted.

Farm operators were classified into eight groups according to the number of days they worked off their farms in 1944. The tables present such numbers and also give the total number of days of such work. The number of operators working no days off their farms was not obtained in 1945. Therefore, there is no accurate measure of completeness of the reports for farm operators reporting work off the farm. In 1940, when reports were secured for farm operators working no days off the farm, slightly less than 8 percent of the farm operators in the United States did not report whether or not they worked off their farms. Consequently, the figures on number of farm operators reporting work off their farms represent the minimum number of farm operators working off their farms in 1944.

There were a few replies of "Yes" instead of the number of days worked. These were generally accepted and the number of such operators was distributed in the classification by days worked, according to the other reports for the county, and the number of days was added on the basis of the county average.

Information for work performed off the farm by farm operators has been obtained for each census from 1930. The wording of the inquiry has varied somewhat for the different censuses. This may have some effect on the comparability of the data for the several years. The 1940 schedule carried an inquiry to obtain the total number of days the operator worked for pay or income off the farm operated and under this question were two subquestions to obtain (a) the number of days of farm work not connected with the farm operated and (b) the number of days spent at nonfarm jobs, businesses, or professions and the principal nonfarm occupation and industry. In the 1935 Census, the question specified "work for pay or income." It also specified work "not connected with the farm you operate." This might have resulted in the inclusion of a few reports of work spent as operator in 1934 on a different farm from the one operated in 1935. The 1930 inquiry specified "work for pay" and the word "income" was not mentioned in the question. There is a possibility that work performed off the farm by operators who were self-employed might have been excluded. Both the 1935 and 1930 schedules, as did the 1945 schedule, carried an instruction that exchange labor was to be omitted. No reference to exchange labor was made in 1940.

In the 1940, 1935, and 1930 Censuses, the enumerators were instructed to write "None" in reply to the inquiry for the number of days worked if the operator did not work off the farm during the year preceding the census date. The replies of "None" were tabulated for the Censuses of 1940 and 1935, but not for the 1930 Census. A count of the replies of "None" for these years, in comparison with counts of those for whom a specified

Table 5.—WORK OFF FARM BY FARM OPERATORS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1929 TO 1944

YEAR	WORK OFF FARM FOR PAY OR PROFIT				FARM OPERATORS REPORTING DAYS WORKED OFF FARM, BY NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED									
	Farm operators reporting	Farm operators not reporting <sup>1</sup>	Number of days worked		Under 50 days			50 to 99 days	100 days and over					
			Total	Average per operator reporting	Total	Under 25 days	25 to 49 days		Total	100 to 149 days	150 to 199 days	200 to 249 days	250 days and over	
1944.....	1,570,357	4,288,812	288,884,433	184	312,832	179,760	133,072	178,471	1,079,054	123,990	120,485	150,931	683,648	
1939.....	1,747,193	4,349,606	239,604,692	137	543,714	323,737	219,957	259,898	943,581	183,678	195,215	157,585	407,103	
1934.....	2,077,474	4,734,876	202,228,247	97	956,100	595,472	360,628	380,602	760,772	188,815	159,336	115,667	296,954	
1929.....	1,902,898	4,385,750	189,868,388	100	844,170	516,102	328,068	335,459	723,269	183,080	143,485	129,400	287,304	

YEAR	PERCENT OF ALL FARM OPERATORS										PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF FARM OPERATORS REPORTING DAYS WORKED OFF FARM										
	Reporting days worked off farm										Not reporting days worked off farm	Under 50 days				50 to 99 days	100 days and over				
	Total	Under 50 days			50 to 99 days	100 days and over						Total	Under 25 days	25 to 49 days	Total		100 to 149 days	150 to 199 days	200 to 249 days	250 days and over	
		Total	Under 25 days	25 to 49 days		Total	100 to 149 days	150 to 199 days	200 to 249 days	250 days and over											
1944.....	26.8	5.3	3.1	2.3	3.0	18.4	2.1	2.1	2.6	11.7	73.2	19.9	11.4	8.5	11.4	68.7	7.9	7.7	9.6	43.5	
1939.....	28.7	8.9	5.3	3.6	4.3	15.5	3.0	3.2	2.6	6.7	71.3	31.1	18.5	12.6	14.9	54.0	10.5	11.2	9.0	23.3	
1934.....	30.5	14.0	8.7	5.3	5.3	11.2	2.8	2.3	1.7	4.4	69.5	46.0	28.7	17.4	17.4	36.6	9.1	7.7	5.6	14.3	
1929.....	30.3	13.4	8.2	5.2	5.3	11.5	2.9	2.3	2.1	4.3	69.7	44.4	27.1	17.2	17.6	38.0	9.6	7.5	6.8	14.0	

<sup>1</sup>Includes operators not working off their farms, and those for whom no reports were secured.

number of days was reported and for whom no report in respect to work off farm was secured, is included in the following table:

Table 6.—FARM OPERATORS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO REPORTS IN RESPECT TO WORK OFF THEIR FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1944, 1939, 1934, AND 1929

YEAR	All farm operators	Farm operators reporting a specified number of days worked off the farm	FARM OPERATORS NOT WORKING AND THOSE FOR WHOM NO REPORT WAS SECURED IN RESPECT TO WORK OFF THE FARM		
			Total	Not working off the farm (reports of "None")	Not reporting
1944.....	5,859,169	1,570,357	4,288,812	(*)	(*)
1939.....	6,096,799	1,747,193	4,349,606	3,874,837	474,769
1934.....	6,812,350	2,077,474	4,734,876	4,554,650	180,226
1929.....	6,288,648	1,902,898	4,385,750	(*)	(*)

\*Not available.

A rather comprehensive presentation of statistics relative to work off the farm is given for the Censuses of 1925 and 1930 in a special report for the 1935 Census entitled "Part-time farming in the United States." Included in the report are several special tabulations of 1934 data, for selected areas, for farms of operators working off their farms by number of days worked.

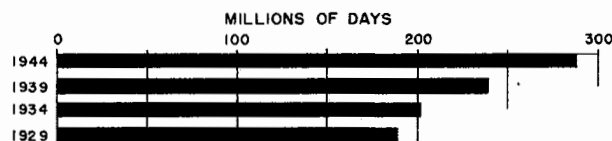
Between 1940 and 1945, there was a decrease of 10.1 percent in the number of operators reporting work off their farms for pay or profit. The number of days worked in 1944, however, was 20.6 percent greater than in 1939, 42.9 percent greater than in 1934, and 52.1 percent greater than in 1929. The average number of days worked off the farm was 184 in 1944, as compared with 137 in 1939, 97 days in 1934, and 100 days in 1929. In 1934, some of the work performed by operators off their farms was "made" work. This was a period of severe drought and low income.

The West reported a higher proportion of farm operators working off their farms in 1944 than did the North or the South. The percentages were 35.3 for the West, 26.2 for the North, and 25.8 for the South. The New England Division reported the highest proportion working off their farms. Among the States, Washington with 49.2 percent reported the highest proportion, followed by Utah with 47.6 percent, and Oregon and West Virginia with 46.5 percent each. In 1939, the four highest States were New Hampshire with 46.9 percent, Maine with 46.3, West Virginia with 46.0, and Washington with 45.6.

The West North Central Division had the lowest percentage of operators working off their farms in 1944 with 18.0 percent. South Dakota had the lowest proportion of any State, 11.4 percent, followed by North Dakota with 12.8 and Iowa with 13.9.

Some farm operators working off their farms merely supplement their farming activities with work at other jobs in their spare time; others are primarily nonfarmers as to their principal occupation. The classification of farm operators working off their farms, by the number of days worked, provides a rough means of determining which farm operators are primarily nonfarmers. More than three-fifths of the 1,570,357 operators reporting work off farm in 1944 worked 100 days or more and a little more than two-fifths worked 250 days or more. If it is assumed that those operators who reported 100 or more days of work off their farms are nonfarmers as to principal occupation, 18.4 percent of all farm operators in 1945 were farmers secondarily as compared with 15.5 percent, 11.2 percent, and 11.5 percent for 1940, 1935, and 1930, respectively. New England reported the highest proportion working 100 or more days in 1944. Washington, Massachusetts, and West Virginia showed the highest proportion among the States.

NUMBER OF DAYS OF WORK OFF FARM FOR PAY OR PROFIT, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1929 TO 1944



NUMBER OF FARM OPERATORS REPORTING WORK OFF THEIR FARMS FOR PAY OR PROFIT, BY NUMBER OF DAYS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1929 TO 1944

