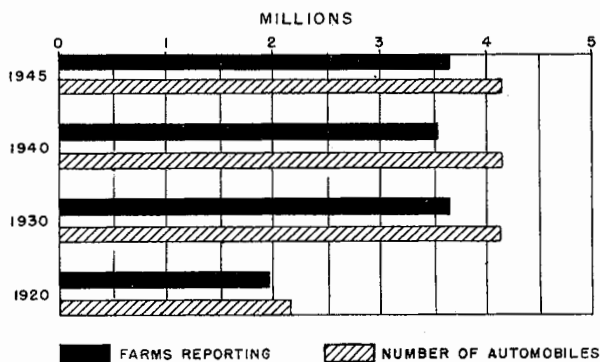


The number of motortrucks also increased, with a 42.3 percent greater number on farms in 1945 than in 1940. It is likely that some of this increase is represented by replacement or conversion of automobiles to provide greater utility. The farm motortruck can serve both as a passenger vehicle and for hauling. Of the 1,299,350 farms with motortrucks in 1945, 3 out of 10 had no automobiles. It should be pointed out that the 1,490,300 motortrucks on farms do not represent all the motortrucks used for farm hauling. Much farm hauling is done on a piecework or a contract basis with motortrucks that are not owned by farmers.

The number of automobiles on farms increased very little with only 2.5 percent more farms reporting automobiles in 1945 than in 1940. The proportion of farms having this type of transportation increased from 58.1 percent in 1940 to 62.0 percent in 1945. However, this probably does not represent the entire increase in farms with available automotive transportation. As previously mentioned, it is very likely that some farmers had converted or replaced their automobiles with motortrucks.

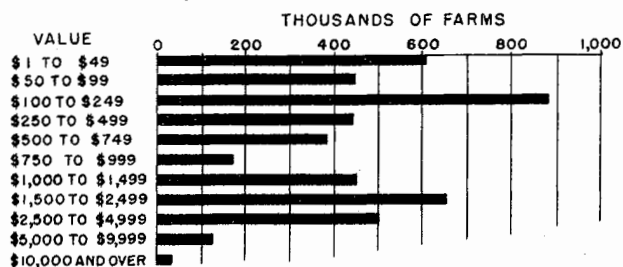
FARMS REPORTING AND NUMBER OF AUTOMOBILES FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1920 TO 1945



Farm implements and machinery.— Farm operators in 1945 were asked to place an over-all value on the farm implements and machinery used in operating the farm. This was to represent the market value of all farm implements and farm machinery (except automobiles), such as tractors, trucks, tools, wagons, harnesses, dairy equipment, threshing machines, combines, etc. Machinery and equipment used primarily for nonfarm purposes were to be excluded. Permanently installed irrigation and drainage equipment was to be enumerated under the value of land and buildings. The value of implements and machinery used jointly by two or more farmers was to be enumerated for the farm where the machinery was located.

A group inquiry of this type probably does not obtain as high a total as would have been secured if a listing had first been made of the component items and a value had been placed on each item. The reported values represent largely the individual opinions of farm operators, although quite frequently the value was obviously influenced by the enumerator. Consequently, the totals include some rather erratic reports. Therefore, they need to be used with caution for small areas, such as counties, for which the totals may have been affected to an appreciable extent by a few individual reports or by the work of a particular enumerator. However, in general, the totals represent a composite of many opinions and therefore are reasonably dependable.

NUMBER OF FARMS, BY VALUE OF IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1945



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF FARMS BY VALUE OF IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY, BY STATES: 1945

