

dwellings, respectively, being classified as "farm" or "nonfarm." In the consolidation of farms into larger operating units, such as occurred between 1940 and 1945, the dwellings were not necessarily included in the consolidation. They may have been retained or sold or rented separately for strictly residential purposes.

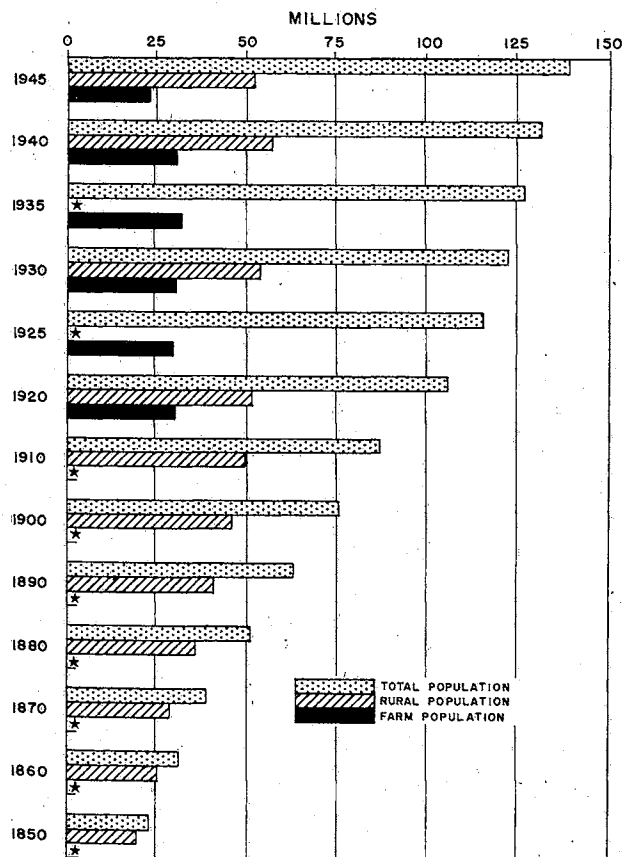
Farm population.—Farm population is defined as persons living on farms. In the 1945 Census of Agriculture, the inquiry on farm population called for the number of persons living in the occupied dwellings reported on the farm. Therefore, reference should be made to the preceding discussion of farm dwellings for definitions and for a description of the types of households which are included in the farm population.

For farms on which there were two or more occupied dwellings, there was an apparent tendency to omit occasionally persons in the additional households. Generally this error appeared on the individual returns as a relatively small number of persons in comparison with the number of dwellings. In the editing process, it was not possible to identify all of the returns which were in error or, if identified, to determine the extent of the error. Consequently, in general, corrections were not feasible. For this reason, the tables give the number of persons enumerated on farms with two or more occupied dwellings and on farms with one occupied dwelling only. Table 1 presents a summary of these data for the United States and tables 3, 4, and 5 present data, by States, for all farms, for farms with only one occupied dwelling, and for farms with two or more occupied dwellings, respectively. The average number of persons per dwelling was 3.04 for farms with two or more occupied dwellings, as compared with 3.91 for farms with only one occupied dwelling. Many of these second, third, etc., dwellings on farms represent small households; for example, landlords whose children are grown and have left the household, or a son or daughter recently married who lives in a separate dwelling on the farm. Therefore, the difference between the average number of persons

per occupied dwelling for farms with two or more occupied dwellings and that for farms with only one occupied dwelling is not entirely attributable to the underenumeration of persons in second, third, etc., households on farms. A study of supplementary information obtained for each household on a sample of the farms enumerated indicates that households on farms, other than farm-operator households, average approximately 0.2 fewer persons than farm-operator households. On this basis it would appear that the underenumeration of the farm population resulting from the failure to count the persons in all of these additional households might amount to about 700,000 to 900,000 persons. This estimate makes no allowance for the possible underenumeration of persons on farms with only one occupied dwelling.

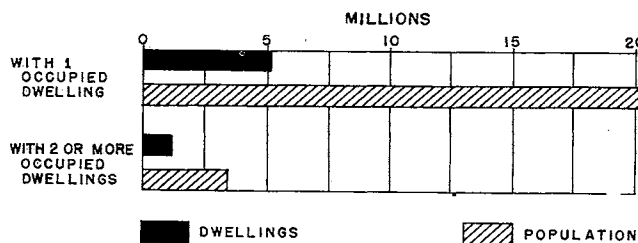
Statistics on farm population have been collected quinquennially since 1920. The data for 1940, 1930, and 1920 were collected in the decennial censuses of population and those for 1945, 1935, and 1925 in the mid-decennial censuses of agriculture. These statistics, together with those for total population, are shown for the United States in table 1 and by States in table 7. The data for farm population collected in these various censuses are not strictly comparable with those for 1945, largely for the same reasons as those outlined above in the discussion of farm dwellings. Additional lack of comparability is attributable to differences in the methods of enumeration in the population and agricultural censuses and in the wording of the schedule inquiries. For the population censuses, each individual was recorded separately, with the probable effect of a more complete count; in the agriculture censuses, totals for all households on each farm were obtained for specified age and sex groups.

TOTAL, RURAL, AND FARM POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES: 1850-1945



*DATA NOT AVAILABLE
SOURCE: TABLE 1

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS AND POPULATION FOR FARMS WITH 1 OCCUPIED DWELLING AND FOR FARMS WITH 2 OR MORE OCCUPIED DWELLINGS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1945



Changes in number of dwellings on farms and farm population.—Differences in the figures presented for the various census years do not represent accurate measures of the increase or decrease in the number of dwellings on farms or in farm population. They represent the net result of changes in definitions and procedures as well as actual changes in the basic data. Thus the differences of 920,271 in the number of occupied dwellings and of 6,988,423 in the farm population between 1940 and 1945 represent a very considerable overstatement of the actual decreases. However, there were large net losses in both farm dwellings and farm population during the 5-year period between these two censuses.

The effect of differences in definitions (i.e., the exclusion in 1945 of "dwellings rented to others") and changes in procedures (i.e., visitation of all dwelling units in 1940 and only operator dwelling units in 1945, differences in the editing procedures, etc.) would be expected to be confined largely to households of other than farm operators. The number of non-operator households on farms may be approximated by subtracting, for each census, the number of resident farm operators from the total occupied dwellings or dwelling units on farms.

	1945	1940
Occupied dwellings (or dwelling units) on farms.....	6,268,577	7,188,848
Resident farm operators.....	5,459,841	5,506,322
Dwellings on farms occupied by other than farm operators (calculated by subtracting the number of resident farm operators from the number of occupied dwellings).....	808,736	1,682,526

Only about one-half as many dwellings on farms occupied by other than farm operators were enumerated in 1945 as in 1940. (The figures shown do not represent an exact count of these nonoperator households, as 62,435 farm operators in 1945 and 276,879 farm operators in 1940 failed to report their residence.)