

Section XI.—OFF-FARM WORK AND OTHER INCOME

1.] How many days this year did you work off your farm? Include work at a nonfarm job, business, profession, or on someone else's farm. (Check one) . . . (Do not include exchange work. Include days you expect to work off your farm before Jan. 1, 1955.)

1. <input type="checkbox"/> None	2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 49 days
3. <input type="checkbox"/> 50 to 99 days	4. <input type="checkbox"/> 100 to 199 days
5. <input type="checkbox"/> 200 days or more	

(a) Did any other member of your family living with you have a non-farm job, business, profession, or work on someone else's farm this year? . . . No Yes

(b) Have you any income this year from any of the following sources—sale of products from land rented out, cash rent, boarders, old-age assistance, pensions, veterans' allowances, unemployment compensation, interest, dividends, profits from nonfarm business, and help from members of your family? . . . No Yes

If "None" for question 1 and "No" for both questions (a) and (b), skip to question 12.]

Will the income which you and your family receive from work off the farm and from other sources (listed in questions (a) and (b)) be greater than the total value of all agricultural products sold or to be sold from your place this year? . . . No Yes

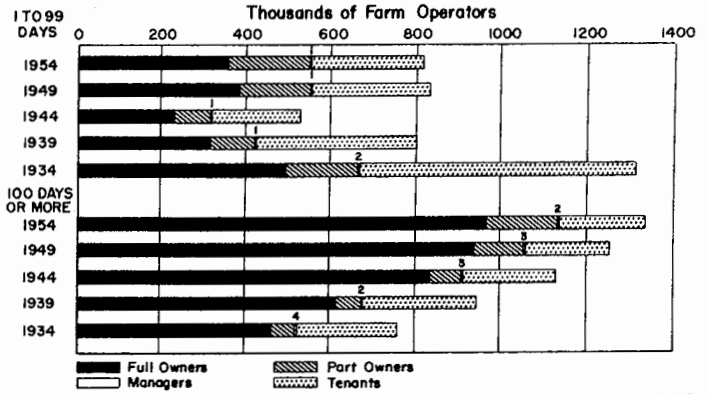
Of the farm operators reporting as to work off their farms in 1954, 45.7 percent reported some off-farm work, 17.4 percent reported 1 to 99 days, 6.5 percent reported 100 to 199 days, and 21.8 percent reported 200 or more days of off-farm work.

For 1950, 39.9 percent of the operators reported some work off their farms, and 18.0 percent worked 200 or more days off their farms.

Information on work off the farm by farm operators has been obtained for each Census beginning with 1930. The wording of the inquiry has varied somewhat for the different Censuses. In 1940, the inquiry covered the total number of days the operator worked off the farm for pay or income, with supplemental inquiries for: (a) The number of days spent at farm work not connected with the farm operated and (b) the number of days spent at nonfarm jobs, businesses, or professions. The 1935 Census inquiry specified "work for pay or income not connected with the farm you operate." The 1930 inquiry specified "work for pay at jobs not connected with the farm you operated." The enumerator was instructed to omit exchange labor for each Census except 1940. No instructions were given concerning the reporting of exchange labor for 1940.

For the 1935, 1940, 1950, and 1954 Censuses, data are shown for farm operators reporting "none" for days of work off farm. The proportion of the farm operators for whom the inquiry regarding off-farm work was not reported varied from 1.4 percent in 1954 to 7.8 percent for 1939.

NUMBER OF FARM OPERATORS REPORTING WORK OFF THEIR FARMS, BY NUMBER OF DAYS, BY TENURE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1935 TO 1954



54C-110

Relationship of income from nonfarm sources to value of farm products sold.— The inquiries on the 1954 Census of Agriculture regarding income from nonfarm sources are given above and were the same as those for the 1950 Census.

The primary purpose for the inquiries listed under (a) and (b) above was to obtain more accurate replies for the inquiries on off-farm work by the farm operator, and on other income of the family in relation to the value of agricultural products sold. For 1954, 15.9 percent of all farm operators reported other members of their family performed off-farm work. During the same period, 27.9 percent of the farm operators reported that they had income from the sale of products from land rented out, cash rent, boarders, old-age assistance, pensions, veterans' allowances, unemployment compensation, interest, dividends, profits from nonfarm business, and help from members of their family.

For 1954, 29.8 percent of the farm operators reported that the income which they and their family received from work off their farm and other sources was greater than the total value of agricultural products sold from their farm. This percentage was approximately the same for the 1950 Census of Agriculture. For a more detailed analysis regarding work off the farm by farm operator and members of his family and the importance of income from nonfarm sources to farm operators, see Part 9 of Volume III of the reports for the 1954 Census of Agriculture.