



FARMS REPORTING FIELD TRACTORS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM

Generally, the volume of tractors and other farm machinery bought by farmers is closely related to farm cash receipts and size of farm operation. Individually, and by groups, the larger the cash sales are, the more need farm operators have for the more expensive types of machines and equipment, and the better able they are financially to fully equip their farms.

About 85 percent of all commercial farmers in Economic Classes I, II, III, and IV in 1954 reported one or more field tractors. These were the farmers whose products sold ranged from \$2,500 to more than \$25,000 per farm. This group made up less than half of all farms in 1954. Of the remaining commercial farms,

less than half reported tractors in 1954. Many of these low-income operators sold less than \$1,000 worth of products in that year. Few of them worked off the farm as much as 100 days. Only 28 percent of the 1.5 million noncommercial farms reported field tractors in 1954. Regionally, a relatively large proportion of the farmers reporting tractors that are in the higher economic classes are in the Western, Central, and Great Plains States. Large proportions of the residential and part-time farmers that reported tractors in 1954 are in the Eastern and Southern States.

FARMS REPORTING TRACTORS, AVERAGE NUMBER OF TRACTORS PER FARM REPORTING, AND AVERAGE CROP ACRES PER TRACTOR, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Economic class of farm	All farms (000)	Farms reporting tractors		Average number of tractors per farm reporting	Average crop acres per tractor
		Number (000)	Percent of all farms		
Commercial farms:					
Class I.....	135.5	122.5	90.4	3.4	117.4
Class II.....	442.8	409.7	92.5	2.2	96.4
Class III.....	726.3	648.4	89.3	1.6	83.2
Class IV.....	821.1	620.1	75.5	1.4	70.5
Class V.....	769.1	430.2	55.9	1.2	57.2
Class VI.....	457.7	145.7	31.8	1.2	55.4
Commercial farms, total.....	3,352.5	2,376.6	70.9	1.6	82.4
Other farms:					
Part-time.....	575.6	241.1	41.9	1.1	30.7
Residential.....	874.6	164.4	18.8	1.1	21.2
Abnormal.....	3.0	1.9	61.6	4.3	87.1
Other farms, total.....	1,453.2	407.4	28.0	1.1	28.0
United States, total.....	4,805.7	2,784.0	57.9	1.6	76.9

