

NUMBER OF AUTOMOBILES, BY SIZE OF FARM

About 70 percent of all farms in the United States reported one or more automobiles in 1954. Although the larger farms had more automobiles per farm than did the small farms, the distribution of automobiles by size of farm is governed to some extent by the number of farms in each size group. For example, because of the preponderance of the smaller farms, or those of less than 100 acres, this group had a larger proportion of all automobiles in 1954 than any other size group. Although many small farms of less than 50 acres do not have an automobile, there are so many of them that, as a group, they reported 27 percent of all automobiles on farms in 1954.

The eastern and southern areas of the country with many small farms reported more than a third of all of the automobiles on farms, and the rich agricultural Central States reported another third.

In the western area, farms of less than 30 acres, and those of more than 1,000 acres reported half of all automobiles on farms in that area. This region contains large numbers of fruit and truck farms, many of which are small in acreage, but are intensively operated and consistently are well equipped with automobiles and some types of farm machinery.

NUMBER OF AUTOMOBILES, BY TENURE OF FARM OPERATOR

Well over half of the automobiles on farms in the United States in 1954 were on farms operated by full owners, and 80 percent were reported by full owners, part owners, and managers. Tenants of all classes reported 20 percent of the total number. Share tenants and croppers accounted for about half of the automobiles on tenant-operated farms.

