

PERCENT OF VALUE OF SPECIFIED CROPS AND LIVESTOCK SOLD, BY TENURE OF OPERATOR FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1954

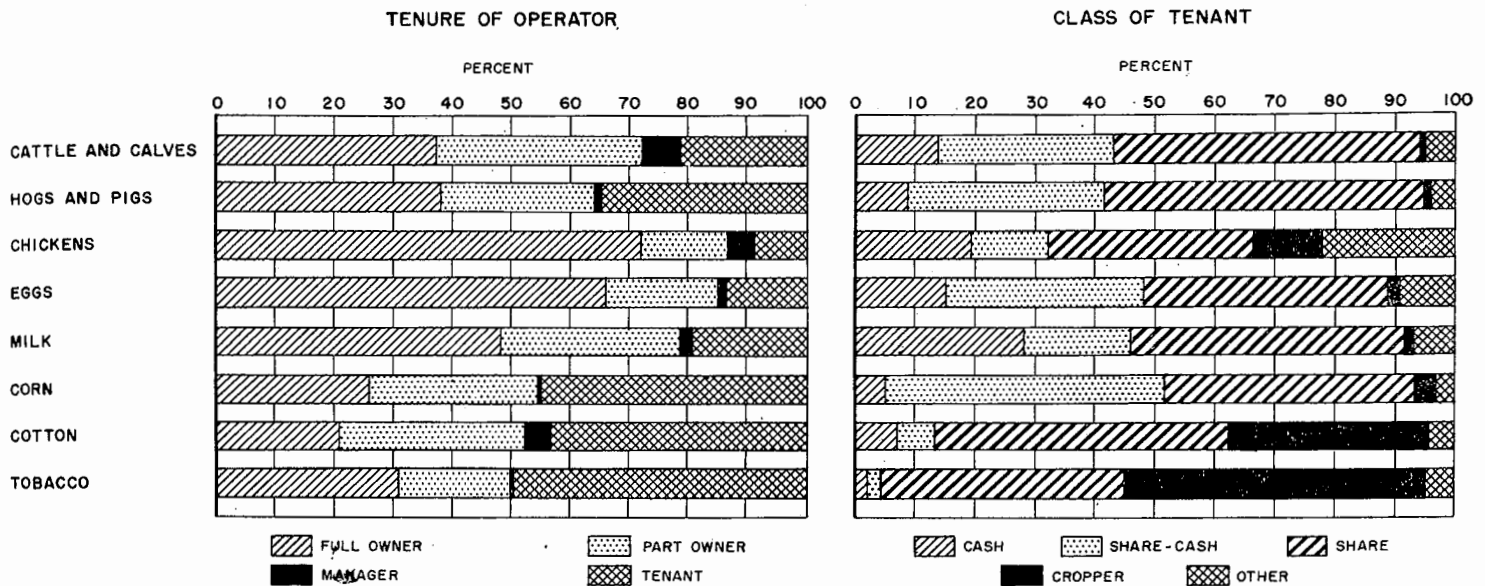


Figure 26.

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CROP AND LIVESTOCK OUTPUT

The volume of production.—Estimates made by the United States Department of Agriculture indicate that gross cash marketings in 1954 totaled more than \$30 billion, or just \$3 billion under the all-time high for cash marketings of \$33 billion reached in 1951. As a measure of total physical volume of production, without effects of price variation, the United States Department of Agriculture's index of farm marketings gives some idea of the growth of farm production. According to this index of farm marketings (based on 1947-49=100), aggregate production rose from 51 in 1910 and 100 in 1950 to 111 in 1954. The index of livestock products (based on 1947-49=100) rose from 50 in 1910 and 103 in 1950 to 117 in 1954. The index of crops grown (based on 1947-49=100) rose from 53 in 1910 and 96 in 1950 to 102 in 1954. The volume of production in terms of the index of farm marketings was, at that time, an all-time high. Crops had fallen off somewhat from previous years, but this was representative of the shifts in type of production toward livestock, not a reduction of overall output.

Although total value of all farm products sold by tenure of operator was not available from the 1954 Census of Agriculture, some specified crop and livestock values were reported. The commodities that are classified by tenure of the operator may be used to illustrate the relationship between the production processes and tenure.

The different tenure forms, as they are commonly used, have particular characteristics that adapt them to certain types of production. Around each type of agriculture there have evolved tenure arrangements associated with that particular type of agriculture. Some of the factors that might have influenced this are the relative importance of a farm as a home; the relative degree of skill that may be required; the amount of labor required; the relative importance of investment in buildings, land, livestock, and machinery; the kind and degree of government controls and incentives; the risks involved; and the length of the production cycle.

Crops.—Full owners on commercial farms operated 31.1 percent of the 78,133,608 acres of cornland; part owners, 29.8 percent; managers, 0.8 percent; and tenants, 33.6 percent. On full-owner farms, 23.7 percent of the cropland harvested was in corn;

on part-owner farms, 19.0 percent; on manager farms, 11.5 percent; and on tenant farms, 28.7 percent. The tendency for tenants to have a large portion of their cropland in corn is slightly more pronounced in the case of corn grown for grain. Acres of corn grown for grain as a percent of all cropland harvested was 19.4 for full owners, 15.6 for part owners, 8.8 for managers, and 26.2 for tenants. Virtually all of the corn produced by tenants in the commercial corn area is grown on farms that have crop-share or share-cash leases, and the corn itself is usually grown on a share arrangement.

A relatively large percent of the cotton acreage is operated by tenants. In 1954, 43.6 percent of the acreage in cotton was operated by tenants on commercial farms, whereas 20.0, 30.1, and 2.3 percent, respectively, were operated by full owners, part owners, and managers. Sharecropping and crop-share tend to be the most common leasing arrangements. In such arrangements, it is a rather common practice for the landlord to contribute a high degree of supervision.

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TABLE 2.—PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF THE VALUE OF SPECIFIED CROPS AND LIVESTOCK SOLD, BY TENURE OF OPERATOR OF COMMERCIAL FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1954

[Data are based on reports for only a sample of farms]

Item	Full owners	Part owners	Managers	All tenants	Tenants				
					Cash	Share-cash	Crop- and live-stock-share	Croppers	Other and un-specified
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn.....	26.1	29.0	0.7	44.2	5.2	46.6	41.9	3.2	3.1
Cotton.....	21.0	31.9	4.3	42.7	7.2	6.5	48.6	33.4	4.3
Tobacco.....	31.1	18.9	.6	49.4	2.0	2.3	40.9	50.3	4.4
Cattle and calves.....	37.5	34.9	6.6	21.0	14.3	20.0	50.9	.9	4.9
Hogs and pigs.....	38.3	26.3	.9	34.4	9.1	32.6	53.2	1.2	3.9
Chickens.....	72.5	14.7	3.7	9.1	19.6	12.6	34.4	11.5	21.9
Eggs.....	66.8	18.8	1.5	12.9	15.5	33.0	40.5	1.4	9.6
Milk.....	48.7	30.7	1.7	18.9	28.3	17.4	45.4	1.2	7.6