



Figure 56.

Operators residing off their farms.—In 1954, 6.2 percent of the farm operators reporting as to their residence did not live on the farm operated. Some of these nonresident operators lived in rural areas near the farm operated; others, as in Utah, lived in nearby villages. In instances where the farming operations can be restricted to very limited periods of time, the operator may live at a great distance. Examples are "suit case" farming in the wheat areas of the Great Plains and fruit and vegetable farming in Florida and Texas. In areas where a large part of the work is done by the family, as in most parts of the South and the Midwest, a very small percentage of farm operators do not live on the farm.

All States east of the Mississippi River, except Florida, and those bordering the Mississippi River on the west had a rather low percentage of operators reporting residence off the farm operated. For most of this area the percentage of operators not living on the farm operated was usually less than 5. Only an occasional county had more than 10 percent of their farm operators not living on the farm operated. In Florida and from North Dakota to Texas and westward the proportion of operators not living on their farms was generally higher, with many counties having more than 10 percent of their operators living elsewhere than on the farm operated. In Florida 18.8 percent of the operators who reported as to their residence did not live on the

farm they operated. For Utah the percentage was 17.2 percent and for Arizona, 16.6 percent. Texas, North Dakota, California, Montana, Kansas, New Mexico, and Nevada were next in order with 10 percent or more of the farm operators not living on their farms.

Of 67 counties with 150 or more nonresident farm operators in 1954 and with these nonresident operators comprising 20 percent or more of all farm operators in the county, 17 were in Texas, 15 in Florida, 11 in Kansas, 6 each in Oklahoma and Utah, 4 in California, 3 each in Colorado and Montana, and 1 each in Arizona and Washington. Cash grain, fruit (citrus), or cotton farms were the predominant types of farms, or comprised a high proportion of the farms in most of these counties. Livestock types predominated in the Utah counties.

Among the tenure classes, managers were outstanding in respect to the percentage of operators residing off the farm operated, with 17.1 percent not living on their farms. A somewhat higher proportion of tenants than owners resided off their farms, with 7.6 percent for tenants and 5.4 percent for owners. A slightly higher proportion of part owners than full owners resided off their farms. Among the tenants, the proportion not residing on their farms was highest for crop-share tenants, (11.8 percent) and lowest for livestock-share tenants (3.2 percent).