

**CHAPTER IV – FARM LABOR, USE OF FERTILIZER,
FARM EXPENDITURES, CASH RENT**

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CHAPTER IV.—FARM LABOR, USE OF FERTILIZER, FARM EXPENDITURES, AND CASH RENT

Introduction.—This chapter presents statistics gathered in the 1954 Census of Agriculture on farm labor; use of fertilizer and lime on farms; specified farm expenditures, including those for commercial fertilizer and lime; and cash rent paid by tenant farm operators renting land solely on a cash basis. For comparative purposes, some data are presented from earlier Censuses. However, a few of the statistics, such as those relating to the crops fertilized and the rate of application of both fertilizer and lime, are of a type which heretofore had not been obtained by a nationwide Census.

Data for 1954 and 1950 for the items covered by this chapter were enumerated only for a sample of approximately 20 percent of the farms. Some of the data for 1945 was enumerated for a sample of approximately 5 percent of the farms. Most of the 1940 data are the result of the compilation of information enumerated for all farms; however, some data for 1940 as presented herein, are estimates based on the tabulation of data for a sample of 2 percent of the farms. When data are estimates based on reports for only a sample of farms, the tables have a headnote to that effect. For a description of the procedures used in the enumeration and in the processing of the statistics, for a description of the sampling technique, and for data showing reliability of estimates based on the sample, see the Introduction to this volume.

Presentation of statistics.—The text, charts, maps, and summary tables are presented in this chapter in four parts—Part 1 relates to farm labor; Part 2, to use of fertilizer and lime; Part 3, to specified farm expenditures; and Part 4, to cash rent. The tables for geographic regions, divisions, and States for all four groups of data are presented at the end of the chapter. An outline map showing the States, geographic divi-

sions, and regions for which the data are shown, appears in the Introduction. Some of the tables present data for 1954 only, while other tables include comparative data for earlier Census years to provide a measure of the changes that have occurred from Census to Census. Charts and maps present graphically some of the more significant data included in the tables.

Other published data.—A statement as to where data on farm labor, use of fertilizer and lime, and farm expenditures for the 1954 Census of Agriculture, in addition to those published in this volume, are located, is presented in a table given for each part. Data for 1954 on cash rent are shown in this volume only. Detailed data on farm expenditures for 1955 will appear in a cooperative report on farm operators' and landlords' expenditures by the Bureau of the Census and the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. These will be published as Part 11 of Volume III—Special Reports. Also, more detailed data on the use of fertilizer and lime will appear in Part 10 of Volume III.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

The descriptive terms and explanations refer principally to the 1954 Census of Agriculture, although, in general, they are applicable to earlier Censuses. Definitions of particular significance in regard to the four parts of this chapter are discussed in the applicable part. Definitions having a general application, such as those for "a farm," "a farm operator," and "farms reporting," and factors influencing the data for specified items are discussed in the Introduction to this volume and are not considered in this chapter.

Part 1.—FARM LABOR

Introduction.—In the 1954 Census of Agriculture, as in the 1950 Census, the information for farm labor was obtained for only a sample of approximately 20 percent of all farms. The information on farm labor relates to farm operators, unpaid members of their families doing farm work or chores, and hired workers. Data for hired workers show: (a) the number of regular and seasonal workers; (b) the number of persons paid on a monthly basis, on a weekly basis, on a daily basis, on an hourly basis, and on a piece-work basis; and (c) the wage rates and hours worked. The data given in the tables are estimates for all farms. For tables giving the reliability of estimates based on reports for only a sample of farms, reference should be made to the Introduction to this volume.

Inquiries on farm labor for the 1954 Census.—The farm labor inquiries for 1954, made for a sample of approximately 20 percent of the farms, called for the number of persons doing farm work or chores on the place during a specified calendar week. Since starting dates of the 1954 enumeration varied by areas or States, the calendar week to which the farm-labor inquiries related varied also. The calendar week was September 26-October 2 for 33 States, and October 24-30 for the remaining 15 States.

The farm-labor inquiry related to the calendar week of September 26-October 2 for the following 33 States:

Arizona	Michigan	Oregon
California	Minnesota	Pennsylvania
Colorado	Montana	Rhode Island
Connecticut	Nebraska	South Dakota
Florida	Nevada	Tennessee
Idaho	New Hampshire	Texas
Kansas	New Jersey	Utah
Kentucky	New Mexico	Vermont
Louisiana	New York	Washington
Maine	North Dakota	Wisconsin
Massachusetts	Oklahoma	Wyoming

For the remaining 15 States the farm-labor inquiry related to the calendar week of October 24-30:

Alabama	Indiana	North Carolina
Arkansas	Iowa	Ohio
Delaware	Maryland	South Carolina
Georgia	Mississippi	Virginia
Illinois	Missouri	West Virginia