

E. ECONOMIC CLASS V FARMS, PART-TIME, AND COMMERCIAL, 1954

A special tabulation is presented in this section of Economic Class V farms having value of farm sales from \$1,200 to \$2,499. The tabulation divides these farms into part-time and commercial groups. Out of 769,080 farms, 233,780, or 30.4 percent of the total, are classed as part-time, where the operator worked off farm 100 days or more, or other income of the family exceeded the value of farm products sold. About 535,300 farms, 69.6 percent of the total, are classed as commercial, where the operator did not work off farm as much as 100 days and the value of farm sales exceeded other income of the family.

The United States is divided into five regions for analysis of these farms in Figure 22, and the distribution of farms among these regions is given in Table 25. The size of the regions varies from 40.7 percent of total farms in the South to only 6.0 percent in the West; and from a proportion of 21.0 percent part-time and

79.0 percent commercial in the South to 53.5 percent part-time and 46.5 percent commercial in the Western Region.

Purpose of analysis.—Class V farms are near the lower end of a distribution of commercial farms and almost one-third of the operators work off the farm 100 days or more. Therefore, they illustrate notable characteristics and possibilities in adjustments between farm and nonfarm employment. The purpose of this tabulation and analysis is to ascertain how part-time and commercial farms in the Class V group differ as to size of farm, operating characteristics, type of farm, use of land, living facilities, geographic location, and other factors. Accompanying discussion also brings out important differences among the regions, suggests directions for necessary adjustments in size and type of farm to increase farm income and labor efficiency, and gives some indication of the extent to which off-farm employment serves as an alternative to farming.

Table 25.—CLASS V FARMS, (PART-TIME AND COMMERCIAL), FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1954

Region	Number of farms			Part-time and commercial as percent of all farms			Region as percent of United States		
	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial
United States.....	769,080	233,780	535,300	100.0	30.4	69.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
Eastern.....	116,780	36,140	80,640	100.0	30.9	69.1	15.2	15.5	15.1
Southern.....	313,180	65,800	247,380	100.0	21.0	79.0	40.7	28.1	46.2
Central.....	187,800	74,360	113,440	100.0	39.6	60.4	24.4	31.8	21.2
Great Plains.....	105,240	32,740	72,500	100.0	31.1	68.9	13.7	14.0	13.5
Western.....	46,080	24,740	21,340	100.0	53.7	46.3	6.0	10.6	4.0

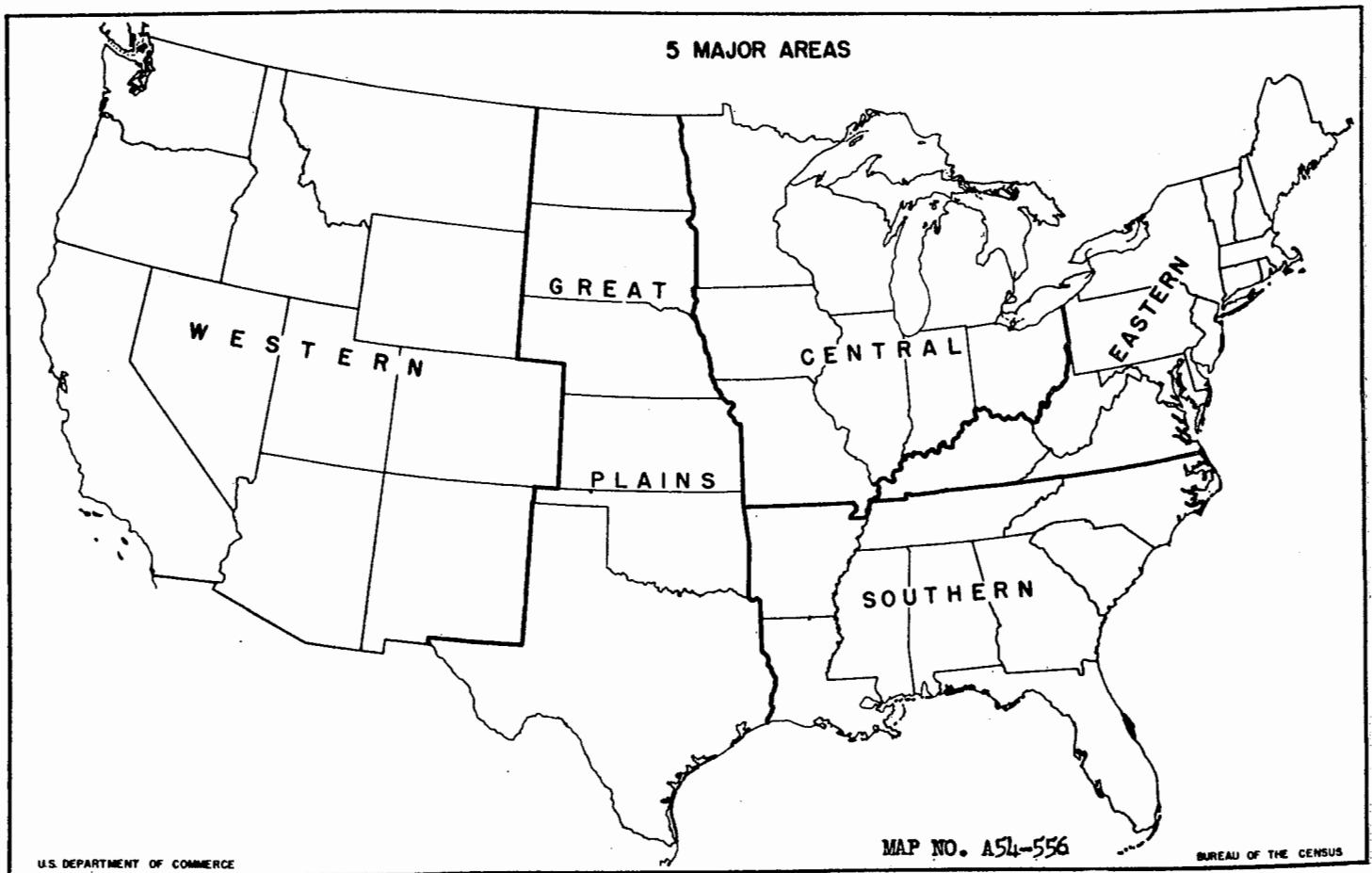


Figure 22.