

NUMBER OF CHICKENS ON HAND AND CHICKENS SOLD FOR THE UNITED STATES, CENSUSES OF 1910 TO 1954

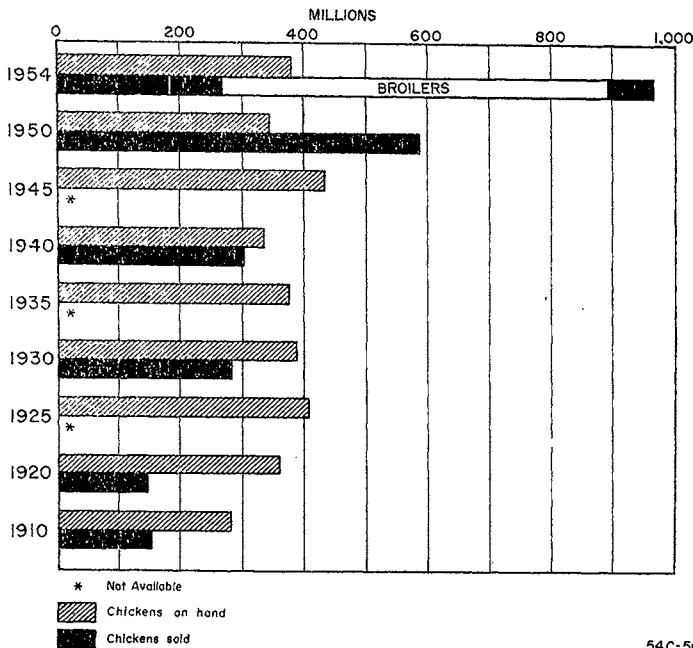


Figure 1

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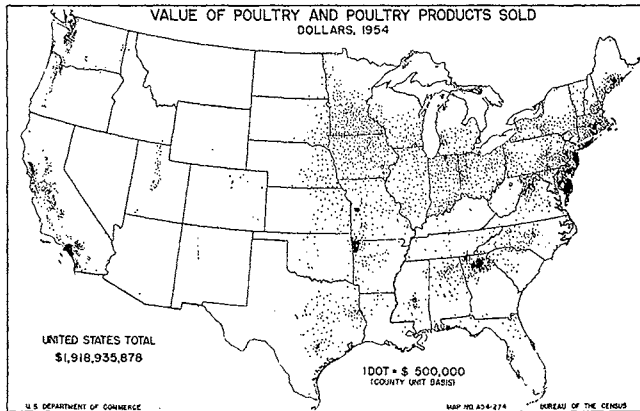


Figure 2

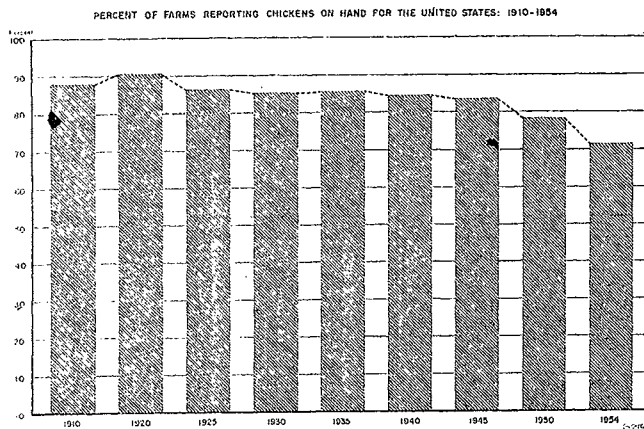


Figure 3

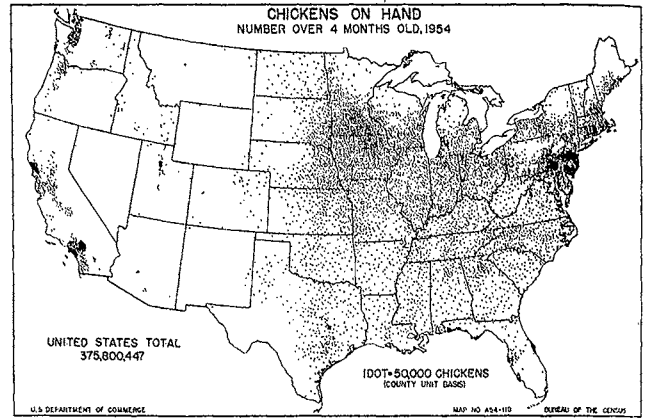


Figure 4

TYPES OF POULTRY ENTERPRISES

The three important types of poultry enterprises are (1) the production of eggs, (2) the production of broilers, and (3) the production of turkeys and other poultry products. Each of these types have significant characteristics and differ in their geographic distribution.

Egg Production

Although there has been a definite trend toward fewer and larger laying flocks on farms, the production of eggs is scattered rather widely over the country. Approximately three-fourths of our farms have a laying flock but on many farms egg production is not large—it is only a sideline.

Except for heavy concentrations of chickens in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and California, chickens 4 months old and over are distributed over all parts of the United States. Sales of eggs are more concentrated than the number of chickens. Almost half of all eggs sold are produced in five States—California, Minnesota, Iowa, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

The East North Central, West North Central, and Middle Atlantic geographic divisions lead in total sales of chicken eggs. The largest number of broilers is produced in the South Atlantic States. Production of eggs has become a highly commercialized farm operation in some areas with a continued growth of larger flocks concentrated into specific areas, but it continues to be a sideline on many farms throughout a large part of the country. Fewer than 5 percent of all farms have poultry as the main enterprise. On 95 percent of the farms the poultry is secondary to other enterprises, with flocks of relatively few laying hens.

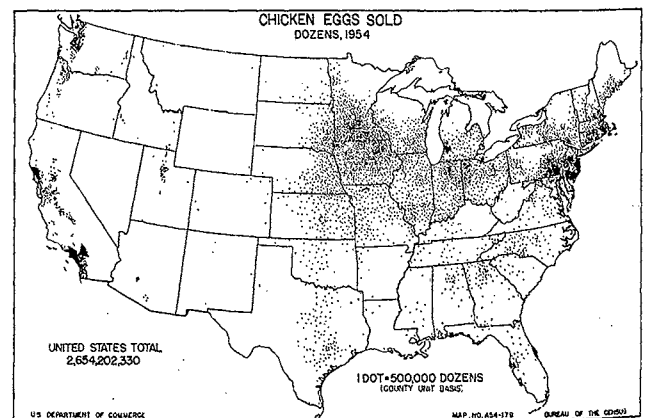


Figure 5