

Figure 6

On the 4,782,416 farms in the United States, 2.4 million, or 51 percent, have flocks below 100; on these farms most of the eggs and chickens are consumed on the farms where produced. Almost nine-tenths of the chickens that are 4 months old and over are on commercial farms. The other 10 percent are on part-time and residential farms. In the South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central geographic divisions almost 40 percent of the farms that report chickens 4 months old and over, on hand, are on noncommercial farms. Those farms account for about 25 percent of the total number of chickens on hand.

Size of flock.—Table 4 shows the variation in size of flock in different parts of the country. The percentage of farms reporting chickens and the percentage of total chickens on hand, by size of flock, for the United States and for three selected geographic divisions are shown in figure 7. Even though the small farm flocks are still common in all areas, a large proportion of the chickens on hand are in the larger flocks of 400 or more. For the United States, 63 percent of the farms reporting chickens have flocks of under 100 but these farms account for only 15 percent of the chickens on hand. Only about 6 percent of the farms report over 400 chickens on hand but these farms have 44 percent of the chickens. In the New England States, 56 percent of the farms report fewer than 100 chickens but account for only 3 percent of the total chickens; the great proportion of the chickens are in flocks of 400 or more. The 29 percent of the farms that have 400 or more chickens account for 92 percent of all the chickens in New England.

PERCENT OF FARMS REPORTING CHICKENS AND PERCENT OF TOTAL CHICKENS ON HAND, BY SIZE OF FLOCK, FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THREE GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1954

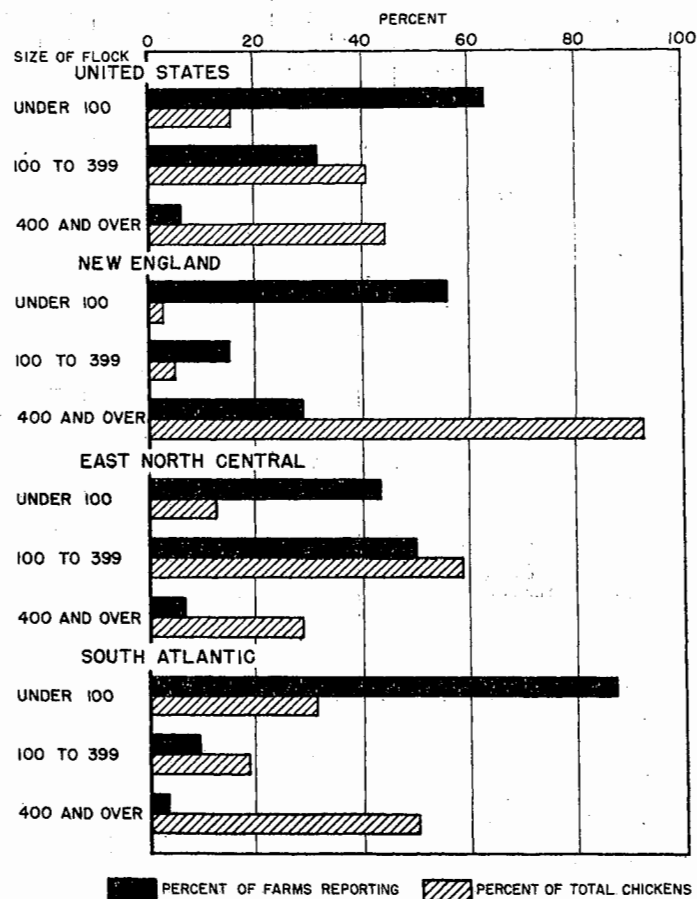


Figure 7

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