

Table 19.—NUMBER AND USE OF RESOURCES FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS, AND ALL POULTRY FARMS IN SELECTED SUBREGIONS: 1954

Item	Commercial farms			Poultry farms in selected subregions		
	All commercial farms	Poultry farms		Total	Percentage of all poultry farms	Percentage of all commercial farms
		Total	Percentage of all commercial farms			
Number of farms.....	3,327,880	154,251	4.6	56,525	36.6	1.7
All land in farms..... acres, thousands	1,032,493	12,048	1.2	3,365	27.9	0.3
Total cropland..... acres, thousands	431,585	4,908	1.2	1,216	24.3	0.3
Value of all farm products sold, total..... dollars, millions	24,299	1,486	6.1	734	49.4	3.0
All crops except fruits, nuts, and vegetables..... dollars, millions	9,736	52	2.5	16	30.8	0.2
Fruits and nuts..... dollars, millions	1,187	10	0.8	6	60.0	0.6
Vegetables for sale..... dollars, millions	628	5	0.8	3	60.0	0.5
All livestock, poultry, and their products..... dollars, millions	12,223	1,416	11.6	708	50.0	5.8
Dairy products..... dollars, millions	3,330	28	0.8	9	32.1	0.3
Poultry and poultry products..... dollars, millions	1,907	1,333	69.9	685	51.4	35.9
Other livestock and livestock products..... dollars, millions	6,986	55	0.8	14	25.5	0.2
All other products..... dollars, millions	525	3	0.6	1	33.3	0.2
Total capital..... dollars, millions	110,545	2,727	2.5	1,204	44.2	1.1
Land and buildings..... dollars, millions	85,708	2,105	2.5	950	45.1	1.1
Implements and machinery..... dollars, millions	14,280	385	2.7	145	37.7	1.0
Livestock and poultry..... dollars, millions	10,497	237	2.3	109	46.0	1.0
Man-equivalent of labor.....	4,891,935	179,223	3.7	70,963	30.6	1.5
Chickens 4 months old and over..... number, millions	340	107	31.5	67	53.3	16.8
Chicken eggs sold..... dozens, millions	2,064	1,206	45.3	672	55.7	25.2
Broilers sold..... dollars, millions	556	537	96.6	291	54.2	52.3
Other chickens sold..... dollars, millions	141	86	46.8	34	51.5	24.1
Other poultry and poultry products..... dollars, millions	289	250	89.6	97	37.5	33.6

Production of ducks is important in only a few specialized areas. Of the 11 million ducks raised in the United States during 1954, more than 7 million were reported in 5 States: New York, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts. Almost 5 million were raised in New York, mostly in Suffolk County, Long Island. Other leading duck-producing counties are Saginaw and Gratiot Counties in Michigan; Lake and Piatt Counties in Illinois; and Racine County in Wisconsin.

Geese.—Comparatively few geese, 1.7 million, are raised in this country. More than a fourth of these were raised in two States—New Mexico with 229,000 and California with 216,000. Minnesota ranked third in the production of geese, with 134,000.

Table 20.—POULTRY FARMS AS A PERCENT OF ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS, BY SUBREGIONS: ¹ 1954

Subregion	Per-cent	Subregion	Per-cent	Subregion	Per-cent	Subregion	Per-cent
United States.....	4.6	30.....	7.3	60.....	1.5	90.....	0.4
1.....	12.2	31.....	3.0	61.....	0.6	91.....	0.9
2.....	29.1	32.....	1.9	62.....	4.6	92.....	0.9
3.....	35.2	33.....	21.1	63.....	1.7	93.....	1.1
4.....	29.0	34.....	8.0	64.....	4.2	94.....	1.5
5.....	31.5	35.....	4.6	65.....	1.8	95.....	3.7
6.....	16.9	36.....	1.0	66.....	3.1	96.....	5.1
7.....	3.0	37.....	2.4	67.....	1.8	97.....	4.8
8.....	7.0	38.....	1.5	68.....	2.8	98.....	6.3
9.....	7.9	39.....	6.3	69.....	1.9	99.....	1.0
10.....	8.3	40.....	10.9	70.....	1.4	100.....	6.1
11.....	25.0	41.....	1.2	71.....	1.9	101.....	1.5
12.....	16.2	42.....	18.0	72.....	5.0	102.....	0.9
13.....	18.2	43.....	11.7	73.....	5.6	103.....	1.0
14.....	21.9	44.....	0.9	74.....	9.7	104.....	0.4
15.....	30.5	45.....	0.5	75.....	0.6	105.....	0.3
16.....	15.2	46.....	4.3	76.....	0.4	106.....	1.7
17.....	14.0	47.....	3.1	77.....	0.9	107.....	2.6
18.....	29.9	48.....	4.5	78.....	3.8	108.....	1.1
19.....	7.8	49.....	3.8	79.....	12.8	109.....	1.0
20.....	8.8	50.....	9.0	80.....	7.5	110.....	3.5
21.....	0.5	51.....	3.4	81.....	9.1	111.....	2.5
22.....	1.0	52.....	4.6	82.....	18.8	112.....	4.0
23.....	1.6	53.....	0.9	83.....	2.1	113.....	4.3
24.....	0.9	54.....	1.0	84.....	3.4	114.....	6.8
25.....	1.9	55.....	4.5	85.....	1.0	115.....	22.6
26.....	20.3	56.....	3.9	86.....	2.1	116.....	6.5
27.....	10.6	57.....	1.2	87.....	2.7	117.....	18.3
28.....	9.4	58.....	5.8	88.....	3.7	118.....	9.9
29.....	4.4	59.....	2.5	89.....	2.0	119.....	16.1

¹ Selected poultry subregions are printed in bold type.

POULTRY FARMS

Importance of poultry farms.—An increasingly large part of poultry production is being produced on specialized commercial poultry farms. This trend seems likely to continue. Information on the organization and operation of these farms consequently gives considerable insight into prospective as well as current conditions in poultry production. Poultry farms comprise less than one-twentieth of all commercial farms in the United States but they contain less than one-eightieth of the total farmland and cropland in all commercial farms. Poultry farms account for almost one-sixteenth of the value of all farm products sold, but this relative position is mainly the result of the use of relatively large quantities of purchased feed.

Poultry farms account for a smaller proportion of the total capital investment and labor force than they do of the total number of farms. On poultry farms the sales of poultry and poultry products represent almost the only source of farm income.

Poultry farms generally have much less land than most other types of farms. Almost two-thirds of all poultry farms have less than 70 acres each. Only 30 percent of all commercial farms have less than 70 acres.

Poultry farms had about a third of the chickens that were 4 months old and over on all commercial farms, in 1954. In that year, they accounted for 70 percent of all poultry and poultry products sold, 45 percent of the chicken eggs sold, and nine-tenths or more of the broilers sold and turkeys raised.

Important poultry areas.—In order to indicate the characteristics of poultry farms by size of business, 16 of the 119 economic subregions have been selected as poultry subregions because of the relative importance of specialized poultry farms (figure 15). In these subregions a considerable percentage of the farms are poultry-type farms; that is, the farms obtain more than 50 percent of their income from poultry and poultry products. However, only two subregions (subregions 3 and 18) are considered to be mainly poultry subregions. Subregions 2, 4, and 5 are poultry and dairy subregions. In subregion 82 poultry (mainly broilers) and cotton production are important. In the other 10 subregions poultry farming is combined with other kinds of farm enterprises such as livestock, general farming, field crops, and fruits and nuts. The particular combination is usually determined by the background, habits, and traditions of the earlier settlers in the locality