

SALES OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Data on sales of livestock and livestock products are essential to an accurate understanding of livestock operations on commercial farms. Sales data serve to supplement the information on farms reporting and on numbers of livestock on an inventory date. They give a more complete picture of livestock enterprises by revealing livestock production carried on at a different time of the year but not present at the time of the Census enumeration—for example, cattle sold, hogs sold, etc. They present the commercial phase of livestock operations as distinguished from the overall phase which often includes a considerable proportion of production that is primarily or exclusively for direct use by the farm household.

Distribution of cattle and calves sold alive in the United States in 1954 is shown in figure 32. Cattle are sold on farms throughout the Nation, but the main regions where large numbers are sold are the Corn Belt and the Great Plains States. The concentration of sales is particularly heavy in areas of the Western and Central Corn Belt. Sales of cattle were reported on 81.9 percent of the farms in the Corn Belt in 1954 (table 73). This was a larger percentage of farms than reported sales of any other livestock or livestock product in the Corn Belt as a whole. The greatest proportion of farms reporting sales of cattle and calves was among livestock farms in the Western Corn Belt and the smallest proportion was among cash-grain farms in the Eastern Corn Belt. Cattle were sold by 97.9 percent of the Class I livestock farms and by more than 90 percent of the Classes II, III, and IV livestock farms (table 74). Only 27 percent of the Class VI cash-grain farms reported cattle sold, but even this number was greater than the number selling any other livestock item except chicken eggs. The average value of cattle sold per farm reporting, however, was smaller than the average sales of hogs per farm reporting on every economic class of farm except Class I (table 75). The wide differences in incomes of the different economic classes of farms are apparent from the great spread from Class I to Class VI farms in the receipts from the two principal classes of livestock—cattle and hogs.¹

TABLE 73.—PERCENT OF FARMS REPORTING SALES OF SPECIFIED LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS, BY PRINCIPAL TYPES OF FARMS, IN THE CORN BELT AND COMPONENT REGIONS: 1954

Region and type of farm	Livestock and livestock products sold				
	Cattle and calves	Hogs and pigs	Chickens	Chicken eggs	Sheep
Total Corn Belt:					
All commercial farms.....	81.9	69.0	48.9	66.2	13.7
Cash-grain farms.....	65.6	48.1	39.4	55.9	11.1
Livestock farms ¹	92.8	89.1	51.6	69.4	17.3
Eastern Corn Belt:					
All commercial farms.....	78.4	59.3	41.6	54.1	16.6
Cash-grain farms.....	57.0	40.1	31.9	44.1	13.4
Livestock farms ¹	87.4	88.6	42.8	55.3	24.2
Central Corn Belt:					
All commercial farms.....	80.8	74.8	51.7	65.6	15.9
Cash-grain farms.....	68.3	54.2	44.0	57.0	15.1
Livestock farms ¹	92.1	94.9	54.7	69.4	17.8
Northern Corn Belt:					
All commercial farms.....	85.6	77.9	55.0	74.1	13.3
Cash-grain farms.....	64.4	53.0	45.2	65.1	11.5
Livestock farms ¹	94.3	93.5	58.3	76.4	16.3
Western Corn Belt:					
All commercial farms.....	86.2	69.8	52.0	72.8	7.6
Cash-grain farms.....	72.5	47.5	42.2	64.1	4.9
Livestock farms ¹	94.8	86.7	55.1	75.4	9.6
Southern Corn Belt:					
All commercial farms.....	84.9	66.7	46.5	67.0	15.8
Cash-grain farms.....	66.0	48.5	36.1	55.7	9.4
Livestock farms ¹	93.9	84.0	46.6	67.8	22.4

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

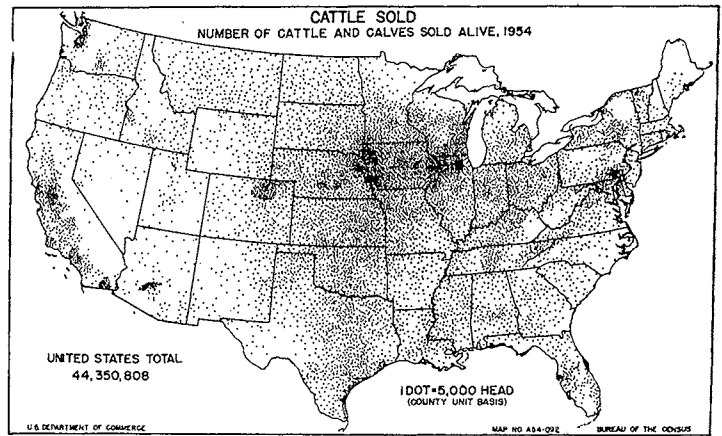


FIGURE 32.

TABLE 74.—PERCENT OF COMMERCIAL FARMS REPORTING SPECIFIED LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS SOLD, BY TYPE AND ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, IN THE CORN BELT: 1954

Type and economic class of farm	Livestock and livestock products sold				
	Cattle and calves	Hogs and pigs	Chickens	Chicken eggs	Sheep
All commercial farms.....	81.9	69.0	48.9	66.2	13.7
Cash-grain farms:					
Total.....	65.6	48.1	39.4	55.0	11.1
Class I.....	81.3	62.9	36.1	46.0	17.3
II.....	78.4	61.2	46.1	59.3	15.5
III.....	72.8	54.8	45.8	62.5	11.4
IV.....	59.9	40.4	35.3	54.5	9.2
V.....	41.9	27.0	24.4	42.3	7.0
VI.....	26.6	14.2	18.7	36.0	3.2
Livestock farms:¹					
Total.....	92.8	89.1	51.6	69.4	17.3
Class I.....	97.9	92.6	49.8	59.9	18.7
II.....	96.0	95.1	60.1	72.6	18.1
III.....	95.3	94.3	57.7	75.1	16.7
IV.....	91.8	89.1	47.0	69.4	17.7
V.....	84.3	77.3	37.3	60.7	17.0
VI.....	76.9	56.5	29.5	55.9	15.2

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

TABLE 75.—AVERAGE VALUE OF SPECIFIED LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS SOLD PER COMMERCIAL FARM REPORTING, IN THE CORN BELT: 1954

Type and economic class of farm	Livestock and livestock products sold (dollars)				
	Cattle and calves	Hogs and pigs	Chickens	Chicken eggs	Sheep
All commercial farms.....	2,559	3,076	160	448	735
Cash-grain farms:					
Total.....	970	1,343	90	340	323
Class I.....	4,543	4,528	162	506	666
II.....	1,490	1,917	113	473	402
III.....	766	1,199	89	356	297
IV.....	466	652	70	254	242
V.....	278	378	58	162	179
VI.....	162	235	39	94	125
Livestock farms:¹					
Total.....	4,462	4,383	94	401	1,115
Class I.....	28,450	13,325	165	601	7,907
II.....	5,325	6,680	112	547	899
III.....	2,065	3,551	90	422	512
IV.....	1,180	1,881	74	292	407
V.....	742	981	59	198	353
VI.....	391	450	40	108	260

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.