

B. GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION

Data on geographic location and percentage of distribution of farm operators, presented in maps 1 to 15, are on an economic area-unit basis. They show the percentage of farm operators whose families have other income exceeding the value of farm products sold. They also show the percentage of farm operators who worked off their farms 100 days or more in 1954. Both are shown by economic class.

Attention is invited first to the distribution of farm operators by geographic division and by economic class in Tables 5 and 6. These tables show that about 84 percent of the total number of farms are located in the four central divisions and the South Atlantic Division and that the distribution by classes varies considerably from division to division. For example, in the North, Northeast, and Pacific divisions there are relatively higher percentages of Classes I, II, and III farms than in the South. The South Atlantic and East South Central divisions contain relatively high percentages of Classes IV, V, and VI farms. These relative distributions should be kept in mind when the data in the following maps are compared.

Percentage of farm operators by economic class reporting other income of family exceeding value of farm products sold.—Maps 1 to 7, inclusive, compare the percentage of farm operators by economic class who report other income that exceeds the value of farm products sold in 1954. In maps 1 to 5, corresponding to Economic Classes I to V, the distribution changes markedly from class to class.

The highest percentages of Classes I, II, and III farms with other income exceeding value of farm sales is found in the South. Here, there are concentrations of 40 percent and more of the operators in these classes who report other income exceeding the

value of farm sales. The higher incidence of other income in the South is influenced by the tenure system. Sharecropping is prevalent in the South and proceeds to a landlord from the sale of his share of the crops or livestock on other farms may be greater than sales of products from the farm he operates himself. It will be noted, however, that the highest concentration of Classes I, II, and III reporting other income exceeding sales are in areas where cropper farms are less numerous. Conversely, very few of these farms report other income exceeding that from farm sales in areas, such as the Mississippi Delta, where sharecroppers are most numerous. Outside of the South, only a few scattered areas report more than 5 percent of Class I farms as having operators who have other income exceeding the value of farm sales. Significantly these areas are usually close to metropolitan centers, and a few are in regions where other resources, such as coal and oil, are prevalent. There are areas of concentration, for example, along the East and West coasts and around the Great Lakes. Other areas of concentration—around south-central Illinois, eastern Oklahoma, and Texas—suggest income derived from oil.

As one goes down the scale from Class I to Class IV farms, the percentage of farm operators with other income exceeding the value of farm sales generally increases. The areas of concentration first spread across the southern part of the United States and along both coasts. Finally, with Class V farms, the largest percentage concentrations are found in the West and the Northeast, whereas a relatively low percentage is found in the Great Plains, the West North Central Division, and the South. This pattern for Class V farms illustrates the chief areas of close integration of farm and urban economies in the Western parts of the country and throughout the industrial Northeast.

Table 5.—NUMBER OF FARMS BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS: 1954

Geographic division	All farms	Commercial farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Part-time	Residential	Abnormal
United States.....	4,783,021	3,327,617	134,003	448,945	706,929	811,065	763,348	462,427	574,575	878,136	2,003
New England.....	81,818	50,371	3,872	10,627	12,911	10,983	8,081	3,897	10,181	21,090	174
Middle Atlantic.....	257,109	176,754	8,348	34,235	48,104	42,043	30,070	13,864	33,139	47,030	276
East North Central.....	706,085	610,685	20,176	110,613	169,453	158,182	113,585	47,663	86,202	92,685	463
West North Central.....	906,195	781,093	26,228	143,198	236,214	200,112	119,870	56,501	57,324	66,382	306
South Atlantic.....	858,675	508,837	10,898	30,076	70,469	142,647	152,003	102,654	117,135	232,296	407
East South Central.....	789,667	490,881	4,157	13,892	33,167	105,956	181,883	146,826	115,882	182,700	20
West South Central.....	668,954	405,617	20,068	43,770	64,623	93,290	110,014	73,962	103,573	159,603	16
Mountain.....	179,871	136,439	13,229	28,202	34,156	29,536	21,654	9,572	18,007	25,063	362
Pacific.....	242,579	157,960	27,037	34,272	32,839	29,216	26,098	8,498	33,072	51,287	26

Table 6.—PERCENT OF FARMS BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS: 1954

[Geographic division as percent of United States]

Geographic division	All farms	Commercial farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Part-time	Residential	Abnormal
United States.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
New England.....	1.7	1.5	2.9	2.4	1.8	1.3	1.0	.8	1.8	2.4	6.4
Middle Atlantic.....	5.4	5.3	6.2	7.6	6.8	5.1	3.9	2.9	5.8	5.3	10.2
East North Central.....	16.7	18.0	15.0	24.6	24.0	19.4	14.9	10.3	15.0	10.6	16.8
West North Central.....	18.9	23.5	19.6	31.9	33.4	24.6	15.7	12.0	10.0	7.6	14.7
South Atlantic.....	18.0	15.3	8.1	6.7	10.0	17.0	19.9	22.1	20.3	26.4	15.1
East South Central.....	16.5	14.8	3.1	3.1	5.3	13.1	23.8	31.8	20.1	20.8	7.6
West South Central.....	14.0	12.2	15.0	9.7	9.1	11.4	14.4	16.0	18.0	18.1	5.9
Mountain.....	3.8	4.1	9.9	6.3	4.8	3.6	2.8	2.0	3.1	2.9	13.4
Pacific.....	5.1	4.7	20.1	7.6	4.6	3.0	3.4	1.8	5.8	5.8	9.