

## FARMERS AND FARM PRODUCTION

Changes in number of farm operators working off farm 100 days or more, by geographic division, by economic class, 1949 to 1954.—Between 1949 and 1954, farm operators working off farm 100 days or more increased from 1,254,610 to 1,333,725, or about 6.3 percent (Table 7). Increases occurred in each geographic division except in the Middle Atlantic and New England divisions.

The pattern differed sharply, however, by economic class of farm. Increases occurred in each region among the commercial farm classes as a group, accompanied by net declines in most regions for part-time (Class VII) and the residential (Class VIII) farms. Substantial increases occurred among Class I farms in

all divisions except the Mountain Division. Among Classes II, III, and IV, increases occurred in all regions. The changes for Class V farms were more mixed, with substantial increases in number in the East North Central, West North Central, South Atlantic, and East South Central divisions. Also the pattern for part-time farms (Class VII) and residential farms (Class VIII) was mixed. Substantial declines occurred among part-time farms in the New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, and Pacific divisions. In contrast, substantial increases took place in the South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central divisions. For residential farms large decreases occurred in the New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, South Atlantic, and East South Central divisions.

Table 7.—NUMBER OF FARM OPERATORS WORKING OFF FARM 100 DAYS OR MORE, BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION, BY ECONOMIC CLASS: 1954 AND 1949

Geographic division and year	All farms	Commercial farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Part-time	Residential	Abnormal
United States.....1954..	1,333,725	433,746	10,478	33,183	72,263	131,250	186,572	408,600	490,979	310
.....1949..	1,254,610	336,796	8,366	24,120	50,742	97,163	156,406	395,029	521,962	823
New England.....1954..	33,252	10,719	383	1,374	2,377	3,080	3,505	7,860	14,654	19
.....1949..	38,811	9,672	272	1,011	1,817	2,940	3,632	10,301	18,822	16
Middle Atlantic.....1954..	93,134	35,461	737	3,197	6,655	11,488	13,384	26,534	31,115	24
.....1949..	98,857	28,820	557	2,153	5,192	8,941	11,986	30,990	38,950	88
East North Central.....1954..	235,187	105,393	1,208	6,337	18,042	36,095	43,711	69,900	59,762	42
.....1949..	220,304	74,160	800	3,473	10,531	23,620	35,736	75,151	70,991	92
West North Central.....1954..	139,958	64,011	1,276	5,118	11,951	20,771	24,895	40,975	34,919	53
.....1949..	125,486	49,407	1,204	3,884	8,623	14,607	21,089	41,059	34,885	135
South Atlantic.....1954..	270,656	62,402	1,722	4,581	8,816	17,209	20,984	79,805	128,418	31
.....1949..	252,276	45,988	1,121	3,134	5,428	12,645	23,660	71,713	134,447	128
East South Central.....1954..	204,175	44,181	554	1,818	4,319	11,224	26,266	73,898	86,065	31
.....1949..	192,643	31,809	384	1,413	3,080	7,649	19,283	67,575	93,179	80
West South Central.....1954..	209,647	55,448	1,717	5,031	9,031	15,062	24,607	70,887	83,295	17
.....1949..	184,233	47,689	1,647	4,360	7,446	12,474	21,762	57,130	79,343	71
Mountain.....1954..	50,472	20,851	826	1,670	3,868	6,404	8,083	13,738	15,843	40
.....1949..	46,394	17,608	885	1,656	3,125	5,306	6,696	13,795	14,850	81
Pacific.....1954..	97,244	35,280	2,055	4,057	7,204	9,827	12,137	25,003	36,908	53
.....1949..	95,516	31,574	1,495	3,036	5,500	8,981	12,562	27,315	36,495	132

When the data are arranged to show percentage of farm operators working off farm 100 days or more, by geographic division, by economic class, as in Table 8, the relatively greater increase in the percentage of commercial farmers (Classes I to V) working off farm is clearly evident. For the United States the percentage of commercial farm operators working off farm 100 days or more rose from 9.1 percent to 13.0 percent. This was an increase from 1949 to 1954 (Table 9) of 28.8 percent in total number.

By economic class, the percentage of Class I farmers working off farm 100 days or more did not increase although there was an increase of 25.3 percent in total number. At the other end of the scale, neither the percentage of part-time and residential farm operators (Table 8), nor the number working off farm 100 days or more, increased substantially between 1949 and 1954 (Table 9).

Changes in number of farm operators working off farm 100 days or more by economic class are closely related to the stage of

agricultural and industrial development of the division involved. Although the data given here are not conclusive, the following inferences are suggested relative to farm operators who work off farm 100 days or more.

(1) Among Class I operators the numbers increased substantially in two different situations, (a) among the more industrially advanced divisions—New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, and Pacific divisions and (b) among the less developed divisions, namely the South Atlantic and the East South Central divisions. Increases were smaller in the West North Central and West South Central divisions. In the Mountain division the numbers decreased slightly.

(2) In general, the increases among Classes II, III, and IV operators were relatively consistent among divisions with those of Class I, except that no division had a net decrease. The largest percentage increases among Class II farms occurred in the New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, South Atlantic, and Pacific divisions.