

In the Great Plains the differences between part-time and commercial farms are perhaps less marked than in any other region. About the same percentage of farms are primarily field-crop farms, other than vegetable and fruit-and-nut—47.7 percent of the commercial farms as compared with 46.0 percent of the part-time farms. A larger proportion of the part-time farms are primarily livestock other than dairy and poultry—50.4 percent of the part-time farms as compared with only 35.7 percent of the commercial farms.

Part-time and commercial farms as a percentage of all farms of same type.—In Table 30, the comparisons are based on part-time and commercial farms shown as a percentage of all farms of the same type. Of all farms, 28.8 percent are classed as part-time and 71.2 percent as commercial. Some types of farms are predominantly commercial; other types tend toward part-time farming. For example, 78.3 percent of field-crop farms, other than vegetable and fruit-and-nut are commercial, 83.0 percent of the cotton farms are commercial, 82.1 percent of the other field-crop farms are commercial. In contrast, 67.3 percent of fruit-and-nut farms are part-time; 55.6 percent of the miscellaneous farms and 48.8 percent of the poultry farms are part-time.

Commercial farms constitute 70.4 percent of the total farms in the Eastern Region, 80.3 percent of the total in the South, 61.1 percent in the Central Region, 71.5 in the Great Plains, and only 47.4 in the Western Region. In the South, field-crop and cotton farms are predominantly commercial (Table 27), while a larger

proportion of the livestock farms are part-time. Just the opposite situation is found in the Central Region, where a smaller percentage of crop farms and a larger percentage of livestock farms are commercial. In the Western Region, field-crop and poultry farms are predominantly commercial, and fruit-and-nut farms tend toward part-time operation.

Distribution of farms by cropland harvested.—Distribution of part-time and commercial farms in Table 31 according to acres of cropland harvested illustrates relatively small differences between the two groups in the United States generally. The differences between the two groups are not particularly marked in the Eastern and the Southern Regions, but in the Central, Great Plains, and Western Regions part-time farms have twice as large a percentage in the 1- to 9-acre group as do commercial farms and a smaller percentage have harvested acreage in excess of 50 acres.

Perhaps the most important generalization based on these data is that a smaller percentage of the commercial farms are found in the smallest size group and a larger percentage have more than 50 acres of cropland harvested. In each region except the Eastern, the commercial farms have a smaller percentage in the class of 1 to 9 acres harvested. In the South there are fewer commercial farms with 50 acres or more harvested; in the Central, Great Plains, and Western Regions a larger percentage of the commercial farms are in the classes of 50-acres-and-over of cropland harvested. This is consistent with a previous generalization about these regions—that the commercial farms generally rely more heavily on cash crops or field crops than do the part-time farms.

Table 30.—DISTRIBUTION OF CLASS V FARMS AS PART-TIME AND COMMERCIAL FARMS FOR EACH TYPE OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1954

Type of farm	Percent distribution of Class V farms as part-time and commercial farms											
	United States		Eastern Region		Southern Region		Central Region		Great Plains Region		Western Region	
	Part-time	Commercial	Part-time	Commercial	Part-time	Commercial	Part-time	Commercial	Part-time	Commercial	Part-time	Commercial
All farms.....	28.8	71.2	29.6	70.4	19.7	80.3	38.9	61.1	28.5	71.5	52.6	47.4
Field-crop farms, other than vegetable and fruit-and-nut.....	21.7	78.3	20.2	79.8	16.6	83.4	45.2	54.8	27.8	72.2	38.7	61.3
Cotton farms.....	17.0	83.0	23.8	76.2	15.9	84.1	25.0	75.0	27.0	73.0	39.0	100.0
Cash-grain farms.....	38.5	61.5	38.5	61.5	29.1	70.9	47.2	52.8	26.8	73.2	45.7	61.0
Other field-crop farms.....	17.9	82.1	16.6	83.3	17.3	82.7	28.6	71.4	47.4	52.6	45.7	54.3
Livestock farms, other than dairy and poultry.....	42.3	57.7	44.7	55.3	46.2	53.8	42.1	57.8	36.0	64.0	50.2	49.8
Dairy farms.....	32.4	67.6	35.2	64.8	20.3	79.7	32.0	68.0	28.1	71.9	50.5	49.5
General farms.....	31.6	68.4	32.5	67.5	24.8	75.2	34.0	66.0	26.9	73.1	52.4	47.6
Crop and livestock farms.....	28.0	72.0	23.6	76.4	22.5	77.5	31.7	68.3	26.8	73.2	43.6	56.4
Poultry farms.....	48.8	51.2	49.5	50.5	49.0	51.0	53.8	46.2	40.9	59.1	35.9	64.1
Primarily crop farms.....	40.3	59.7	55.9	44.1	27.8	72.2	53.8	46.2	32.5	67.5	59.4	40.6
Primarily fruit-and-nut farms.....	67.3	32.7	58.3	41.7	63.6	36.4	68.2	31.8	66.7	33.3	66.7	27.7
Primarily livestock farms.....	29.0	71.0	18.2	81.8	14.3	85.7	31.5	68.5	23.1	76.9	65.6	34.4
Miscellaneous.....	55.6	44.4	41.6	58.4	50.8	49.2	66.7	33.3	62.5	37.5	71.2	28.8
Vegetable farms.....	47.8	52.3	38.5	61.5	33.3	66.7	47.6	52.4	45.5	54.5	80.0	20.0

Table 31.—CLASS V FARMS (PART-TIME AND COMMERCIAL), CROPLAND HARVESTED, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1954

Cropland harvested	Percent of farms reporting																	
	United States			Eastern Region			Southern Region			Central Region			Great Plains Region			Western Region		
	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial	All farms	Part-time	Commercial
Farms reporting.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 to 9 acres.....	11.0	13.8	9.8	18.7	20.8	17.9	12.6	16.0	11.8	5.3	7.9	3.7	2.6	4.7	1.8	21.5	28.1	14.1
10 to 19 acres.....	22.3	19.5	23.4	24.1	19.9	25.8	32.8	28.9	33.8	11.7	14.1	10.2	5.7	7.5	4.9	21.3	25.0	17.3
20 to 29 acres.....	18.4	18.0	18.5	17.6	14.7	18.9	24.0	22.2	24.5	15.3	17.8	13.6	7.7	13.7	5.3	15.6	17.1	13.9
30 to 49 acres.....	23.0	25.0	22.2	24.3	29.1	22.4	20.5	19.2	20.9	30.5	31.7	29.8	18.3	22.7	16.5	17.3	16.1	18.6
50 to 99 acres.....	18.4	19.5	18.0	12.2	14.4	12.9	9.0	12.3	8.1	30.0	25.0	33.1	36.1	34.9	36.6	14.7	10.6	19.1
100 to 199 acres.....	5.4	3.6	6.1	2.1	.9	2.6	.9	1.3	.8	6.7	3.2	8.9	21.2	14.3	23.9	6.2	2.5	10.2
200 to 499 acres.....	1.4	.5	1.8	.3	.3	.3	.1	.1	.1	.5	.3	.7	7.9	2.1	10.3	3.2	.6	6.0
500 to 999 acres.....	.1		.1					.1					.5	.1	.6	.4		.8
1,000 acres and over.....														.1	.1			