

The volume of business as well as the sources of income of these specified areas reflect the range of conditions under which the dairy farmers operate (Table 46). In those areas where alternative uses are limited to farming operations the productivity of the soil is a good indication of usual income. Economic Subregions 54 or 73 and 82 have less productive land than Economic Subregions 58 or 118 and 119. They are more diversified in their farming operations and have smaller total incomes.

Where the location of the dairy farm offers valuable alternative

Table 46.—SOURCES OF FARM INCOME FOR DAIRY FARMS, BY SPECIAL DAIRY AREAS: 1954

Special dairy areas	Sub-regions included	Total income per farm	Percent of farm income from—				
			Dairy products	Poultry and poultry products	Other livestock and livestock products	Field crops	Cash crops
Atlantic Coast.....	3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nashville Basin.....	54	\$3, 126	66	2	19	12	1
Gulf Coastal.....	58	7, 040	88	1	7	3	1
Ozark-Springfield.....	73, 82	2, 595	70	4	19	6	1
Snake River-Utah Valley.....	112	5, 185	68	(Z)	14	14	(Z)
Southern California.....	115	107, 035	92	-----	7	1	-----
California Inner Valley.....	116	13, 814	82	1	8	8	1
Puget Sound-Coastal.....	118, 119	7, 273	85	2	8	2	3

Z 0.5 percent or less.
NA Not available.

uses the price of real estate is established more by its use for other activities than by feed production for a dairy herd. Intensive agricultural use must follow if these farms are to pay out. The so-called dairy farms of the Los Angeles area illustrate how dairy-men meet this situation. Their income per farm, per cow, and per acre of land, as well as the real estate value are outstandingly greater than for any other area.

There is considerable difference in the mechanization of these farms as shown in the special lists of farm machinery (Table 47). Subregion 54 has the least mechanization, the two California areas have the most. The California Inner Valley, Subregion 116, has the most milking machines, tractors, motortrucks, and automobiles and just as much field machinery. On the other hand, the smallest amount of field machinery is found on the dairy farms in the Southern California area where there is a small acreage of harvested cropland. The dairymen of these two areas also have more of the specified home facilities—probably indicating the relatively large incomes of the groups. The Ozark-Springfield area, Subregions 73 and 82, has fewer of the facilities for the home than the other special subregions. They also have fewer cows and less total farm income.

The number of farm operators under 35 years of age is greatest in the Gulf Coast and two California areas (Table 48). These areas also have the fewest operators over 54 years old. In the discussion of the age of operators in the major dairy areas it was brought out that there were not enough young farmers in any of the areas to offset the number of farmers over 54 years. The three above-mentioned special dairy areas come nearer meeting this situation than any others. Most of the special areas have as many or more operators over 64 years old as under 35.

Table 47.—FARM MECHANIZATION AND HOME CONVENIENCES ON DAIRY FARMS, BY SPECIAL DAIRY AREAS: 1954

Item	Special dairy area							
	Atlantic Coast (Sub-regions 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16)	Nashville Basin (Sub-region 54)	Gulf Coastal (Subregion 58)	Ozark-Springfield (Subregions 73 and 82)	Snake River-Utah Valley (Subregion 112)	Southern California (Subregion 115)	California Inner Valley (Subregion 116)	Puget Sound-Coastal (Sub-regions 118 and 119)
Number of farms.....	26, 073	6, 681	2, 730	23, 017	8, 459	1, 101	8, 783	12, 321
Percent of farms reporting:								
Milking machine.....	84	29	79	36	81	96	92	82
Power feed grinder.....	25	16	16	15	16	15	10	12
Electric pig brooder.....	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
Farm tractors.....	93	47	67	60	81	45	79	85
Automobiles.....	90	66	64	57	88	94	90	87
Field forage harvesters.....	23	3	5	4	10	10	13	11
Motortrucks.....	76	38	61	53	62	74	74	63
Pick-up balers.....	47	9	6	8	19	0	18	13
Grain combines.....	29	12	5	7	15	1	2	8
Corn pickers.....	23	5	5	1	1	(Z)	1	(Z)
Telephone.....	83	60	46	28	78	95	79	78
Electricity.....	99	97	99	96	98	100	100	99
Television.....	64	32	41	18	37	79	53	36
Piped water.....	93	52	92	42	93	99	98	97
Home freezer.....	60	22	59	19	40	58	50	37

Z 0.5 percent or less.

Table 48.—DISTRIBUTION OF DAIRY FARMERS BY AGE, FOR SPECIAL DAIRY AREAS: 1954

Item	Special dairy area							
	Atlantic Coast (Sub-regions 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16)	Nashville Basin (Sub-region 54)	Gulf Coastal (Subregion 58)	Ozark-Springfield (Subregions 73 and 82)	Snake River-Utah Valley (Subregion 112)	Southern California (Subregion 115)	California Inner Valley (Subregion 116)	Puget Sound-Coastal (Sub-regions 118 and 119)
Number of farms.....	26, 073	6, 681	2, 730	23, 017	8, 459	1, 101	8, 783	12, 321
	Percent distribution							
Age groups:								
Total.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Under 25 years.....	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
25 to 34 years.....	15	9	19	12	13	16	17	12
35 to 44 years.....	23	23	28	22	20	32	28	23
45 to 54 years.....	23	24	31	26	25	27	27	25
55 to 64 years.....	21	23	15	24	21	15	18	23
65 years and over.....	15	20	8	15	14	8	9	16