

TABLE 10.—ESTIMATES OF UNDERENUMERATION FOR NUMBER OF FARMS CLASSIFIED BY ACRES OF CROPLAND HARVESTED FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1954 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Acres of cropland harvested	Estimated total (000)	Reported in the Census		Estimated underenumeration				
		Amount (000)	Percent of estimated total	Amount (000)	Percent of estimated total	Sampling error of estimate		
						Amount (000)	Percent of estimated total	Percent of estimated underenumeration
All farms.....number.....	5,201	4,782	91.9	419	8.1	49	0.9	11.7
No cropland harvested.....number of farms.....	753	678	90.0	75	10.0	20	2.7	26.7
1-9 acres of cropland harvested.....number of farms.....	933	806	86.4	127	13.6	28	3.0	22.0
10-19 acres of cropland harvested.....number of farms.....	703	620	88.2	83	11.8	13	1.8	15.7
20-49 acres of cropland harvested.....number of farms.....	1,026	961	93.7	65	6.3	16	1.6	24.6
50-99 acres of cropland harvested.....number of farms.....	743	710	95.6	33	4.4	15	2.0	45.5
100 acres and over of cropland harvested.....number of farms.....	1,043	1,007	96.5	36	3.5	8	0.8	22.2

TABLE 11.—ESTIMATES OF UNDERENUMERATION FOR NUMBER OF FARMS CLASSIFIED BY ECONOMIC CLASS FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1954 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Economic class	Estimated total (000)	Reported in the Census ¹		Estimated underenumeration				
		Amount (000)	Percent of estimated total	Amount (000)	Percent of estimated total	Sampling error of estimate		
						Amount (000)	Percent of estimated total	Percent of estimated underenumeration
All farms.....number.....	5,202	4,783	91.9	419	8.1	49	0.9	11.7
Class I, II, and III farms.....number.....	1,323	1,290	97.5	33	2.5	11	0.8	33.3
Class IV and V farms.....number.....	1,696	1,575	93.4	111	6.6	21	1.2	18.9
Class VI and other farms.....number.....	2,193	1,918	87.5	275	12.5	46	2.1	16.7

¹ These data are estimates based upon a sample of approximately 20 percent of the farms.

The special survey was made for a probability sample and estimates of sampling reliability have been computed and are given in each table. The sampling errors are given both in amounts and also as the percentage of the estimated total (this total comprises the total for the farms included in the Census plus estimates for underenumeration) for the United States as well as the percentage of the estimated underenumeration.

The estimates in Table 8 indicate that the underenumeration of farms in 1954 was 419,000 farms or 8.1 percent of the estimated number of farms. On the basis of the data given in Table 8, the chances are 2 out of 3 that the estimate of 419,000 for the underenumeration of farms would differ from that obtained by a complete re-enumeration of farms, using the detailed procedures like those for the special survey, by less than 49,000. Likewise, the chances are 99 out of 100 that the estimate of 419,000 for the underenumeration of farms would differ from that obtained by a complete reenumeration by less than 122,000 farms.

About one-fourth of the underenumeration of farms was accounted for by farms of 100 acres or more, and farms having 50 acres or more of cropland represented only 16 percent of the underenumerated farms. Only 33,000 or less than 8 percent of the estimated underenumerated farms had a value of farm products sold of \$5,000 or more in 1954, and farms with a value of farm products sold of less than \$1,200 accounted for almost two-thirds of the underenumerated farms. About one-third of the underenumerated farms, were farms on which the operator did not reside.

The estimated underenumeration for land in farms and cropland harvested was relatively less than for the number of farms. The underenumeration of land in farms totaled 65,699,000 acres or 5.4 percent of the estimated land in farms. This estimate for underenumerated land in farms is subject also to sampling error and may be interpreted as follows. The chances are 2 out of

3 that this estimate of 65,699,000 acres would differ from that obtained by a complete enumeration by less than 22,798,000 acres. Also, the chances are 99 out of 100 that this estimate of 65,699,000 acres would differ from that obtained by a complete reenumeration by less than 56,995,000 acres. The estimated underenumeration of cropland harvested was 13,710,000 acres or 4 percent of the estimated total cropland harvested for the United States. The estimated underenumeration of acreage harvested was 3.4 percent for corn, 5.3 percent for wheat, and 0.9 percent for cotton.

Tables 8 and 9 contain comparable data on underenumeration for the 1950 Census of Agriculture. The appraisal of data in these tables indicate that the relative underenumeration for the number of farms and acres of corn harvested was greater for the 1954 Census of Agriculture than for the 1950 Census of Agriculture. The difference in the relative underenumeration of land in farms, cropland harvested, and the acreage harvested for cotton and wheat is not statistically significant. (The criteria used for determining significance of the difference of relative underenumeration is based upon a probability level of 95 out of 100.)

AVAILABILITY OF DATA FOR GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

Five different geographic areas—minor civil divisions, counties, State economic areas, States, and major economic subregions—were used as geographic units for the tabulation of data for the 1954 Census of Agriculture.

Minor civil divisions.—Minor civil divisions are primary subdivisions of counties and include townships, towns, precincts, election districts, magisterial districts, school districts, civil districts, beats, etc. Generally, totals and the number of farms reporting for all items in Sections I through VII on the Agriculture Questionnaire were tabulated by minor civil divisions. However,