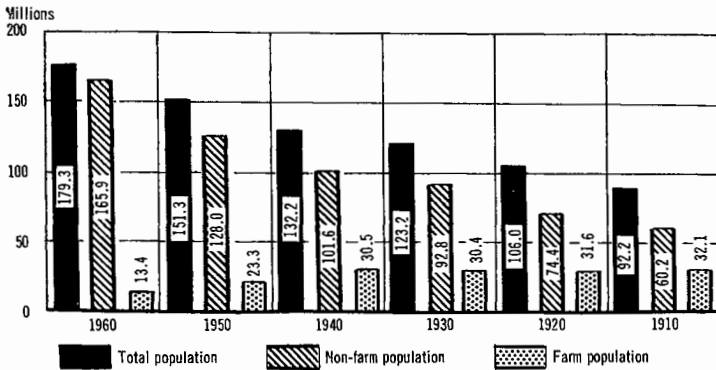
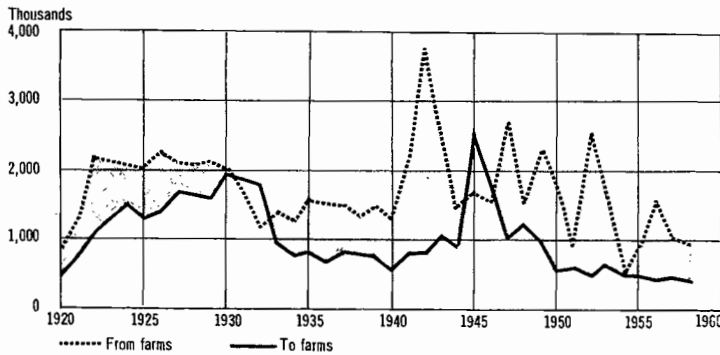


POPULATION: TOTAL, NONFARM, AND FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1910 TO 1960



MIGRATION TO AND FROM FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1920 TO 1958



RESIDENCE OF EMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE FARM LABOR FORCE, BY KIND OF WORKER, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1960



FARM POPULATION

Tenure data on agriculture include data on farm operators and the farm population, some farm laborers, and other families who live on farms but do not operate them. Moreover, many farm families are only partly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood while others operate farms but do not live on them.

Total population has increased continuously in the United States, reaching a total of 179,323,175 in April 1960. Farm population reached a peak of 32,530,000 in 1916. Since that time the number of farm residents has generally declined, reaching a low of 13,444,898 in April 1960. This is 7.5 percent of the total population in 1960.

Migration to and from farms has been substantial since 1920, but there has been wide fluctuation from year to year. According to estimates of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in the last decade migration resulted in an annual net decrease of 857,000 people on farms.

Movement of persons to and from farms has been accompanied by an even larger movement between farm and nonfarm employment. Many farm people who take nonfarm jobs do not move away from the farm, and many who move to the farm do not give up their nonfarm employment.

Tenure of the farm population.—The farm population includes not only families that depend primarily on farming for their income but also families that depend primarily on nonfarm employment for income. For many farm families, the farm serves mainly as a residence rather than as a means of livelihood.

According to the 1960 Census of Population, approximately 4.7 million of the farm population were in the labor force in April 1960, but only about 2.8 million were employed in agriculture; the remaining 1.9 million were employed in nonagricultural industries.

The tenure situation of farm people may be ascertained from information on tenure of self-employed and hired farmworkers. In 1959 there were 6,992,690 total workers on American farms. This figure includes all farm operators regardless of whether the operator reported doing any farmwork during the week prior to enumeration; also included are both regular (working 150 days or more) and seasonal hired workers that did any farmwork on the place during the week before enumeration, and unpaid members of the operator's family that worked 15 hours or more during the week. Of these workers, 3,707,973 were farm operators and 1,584,153 were hired workers. A distinction, however, should be made between commercial and noncommercial farms. To a large extent the noncommercial farms serve primarily as a place of residence. Nearly 80 percent of the operators of these farms reported income from nonfarm sources exceeding the value of the farm products sold.

Of the 6,992,690 farmworkers in 1959, 1,817,567 were farm owners and managers of commercial farms, 598,450 were tenants on commercial farms, and 1,485,044 were hired farmworkers on commercial farms. Of the hired workers on commercial farms, however, 54.6 percent were seasonal workers (employed less than 150 days) and 45.4 percent were regular hired workers. On the other hand, 1,391,065, or 19.9 percent, of all farmworkers were on noncommercial farms. More than 80 percent of these workers on noncommercial farms were owners and managers.