

PERCENT OF FARM OPERATORS WORKING OFF THEIR FARMS 100 DAYS OR MORE, BY TENURE, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1959 AND 1954 Tenure and off-farm work.—Off-farm work by farm operators is largely associated with the noncommercial farms. Of the 1,107,606 farm operators who worked off their farms 100 days or more in 1959, more than two-thirds operated noncommercial farms. Only 14.5 percent of the commercial farmers reported off-farm work of 100 or more days, compared with 58.6 percent of the noncommercial farmers. Of the operators working off their farms 100 or more days, 69.6 percent were full owners as compared with 16.4 percent who were part owners and 13.7 percent who were tenants.

A larger proportion of the operators in all tenure groups reported 100 or more days of work off the farm in 1959 than in 1954. In 1959, 36.4 percent of the full owners worked off their farms 100 or more days. Among the part owners 21.7 percent worked off their farms 100 or more days, and among the tenants 20.6 percent.

Cash tenants and other and unspecified tenants reported nonfarm work in about the same proportion as full owners. As with full owners, the high proportion may be due to the large number of individuals with nonfarm jobs who were renting farms primarily as residences. Only one-tenth of the livestock-share tenants reported off-farm work of 100 or more days. This small percentage may be due to the labor requirements of their livestock enterprises.



Other income.—In 1959, 1,328,840 farm operators reported that other income of the family exceeded the value of farm products sold from the farms they operated. These farms comprised 35.8 percent of all farms in the United States. To a considerable extent, they were the farms on which the operators worked off the farm 100 or more days. Therefore, the distribution of the two groups in regard to the tenure of operator is quite similar.

Nearly half (47.2 percent) of all full owners reported other income greater than the value of farm products sold from the farms they operated. In comparison, only one-fifth of the part owners and tenants reported other income in excess of the value of farm products sold. This same relationship was found in each of the four major regions of the United States. In the North Central region, however, the proportion of farmers reporting other income greater than the total value of farm products sold was considerably less than in the other regions. In this region approximately 37 percent of the full owners and only 14 percent of the part owners and tenants reported income from other sources greater than the value of farm products sold.

There was considerable variation among the tenant classes in the proportion reporting other income in excess of the value of farm products sold. Approximately 40 percent of the cash tenants and other and unspecified tenants reported other income greater than value of farm products sold compared with less than 20 percent of the crop-share tenants and croppers and only 8 percent of the share-cash and livestock-share tenants.