

A GRAPHIC SUMMARY

INCOME OF FARM OPERATORS FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN FARM OPERATED: 1960 AND 1955

Source of income	Estimated amount of income				Average per farm-operator family (dollars)		Percent of farm-operator families reporting		Average per farm-operator family reporting (dollars)	
	Dollars (1,000)		Percent distribution		1960	1955	1960	1955	1960	1955
	1960	1955	1960	1955						
Total.....	7,415,924	8,006,472	100.0	100.0	2,280	1,682	77.9	69.9	2,926	2,405
Cash wages, salaries.....	4,175,654	5,023,656	56.3	62.7	1,284	1,055	44.7	NA	2,872	NA
Nonfarm business or professional practice.....	1,131,464	1,061,803	15.3	13.3	348	223	9.7	10.9	3,567	2,046
Custom work.....	243,497	205,521	3.3	2.6	75	43	16.0	5.7	467	762
Rental of farm property to others.....	397,948	478,281	5.4	6.0	122	100	11.8	NA	1,031	NA
Rental of nonfarm property to others.....	134,551	173,014	1.8	2.2	41	36	4.1	5.2	1,012	701
Interest, dividends, and regular payments from trust funds.....	314,176	450,052	4.2	5.6	97	95	14.1	18.7	684	505
Roomers and boarders.....	11,794	53,183	0.2	0.7	4	11	0.8	2.7	472	421
Federal Social Security, pensions, retirement pay, veterans' payments, annuities, unemployment income, workmen's compensation, and old age assistance.....	656,959	515,391	8.9	6.4	202	108	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other (oil leases, soil bank payments, contributions from persons outside family, etc.).....	349,881	45,480	4.7	0.6	108	10	NA	1.8	NA	527

NA Not available.

¹ Includes income received by wife of farm operator from nonfarm sources and income received by other family members from farm and nonfarm sources.

² Includes income received by wife of farm operator from farm sources.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

Livestock and poultry comprise an important part of our agricultural resources. Over one-half of the land area of the United States is used for the pasture or grazing of livestock. From two-thirds to three-fourths of the cropland is used to grow feed for animals.

Cattle.—Cattle and calves constitute the leading kind of livestock on United States farms. Cattle in the United States totaled 92 million head in 1959. Seven-tenths of all farms reported cattle.

Cattle numbers were widely distributed in 1959. However, the most extensive areas of high density were in Iowa, eastern Nebraska, southern Minnesota, southern Wisconsin, and northern Illinois. More than 72 out of each 100 farms had cattle in 1959. The number of farms keeping cattle has been declining since 1935. Only one-half as many farms had cattle in 1959 as in 1935.

Milk cows.—Two-fifths of the cows in the United States were milk cows and almost two-thirds of the milk cows were in the North in 1959. Areas of concentration included Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Ohio, Illinois, and California.

From 1954 to 1959, the number of farms reporting milk cows for the conterminous United States declined more than 1.1 million. The number of farms with milk cows in 1959 was only two-fifths of the number with milk cows in 1920.

Chickens.—Almost three-fifths of all farms had chickens in 1959. The number of chickens on farms in 1959 was almost the same as the number in 1920. There were large concentrations of chickens in the northern Corn Belt, around New York City, and around Los Angeles, California. California ranked first among all States in number of chickens in 1959, with 25,907 farms reporting 27 million chickens. Iowa ranked second with 26.7 million, and Minnesota ranked third with 22 million.

Significant changes have occurred in the chicken and egg production during the last few decades. Chicken meat production has become semifactory and concentrated largely on 15,000 farms. Egg production has been changed from a sideline enterprise to a highly specialized business with large-scale operations integrated with facilities for handling eggs for large-scale retail outlets. In 1959, 12,000 farms provided 36 percent of all eggs sold.

