

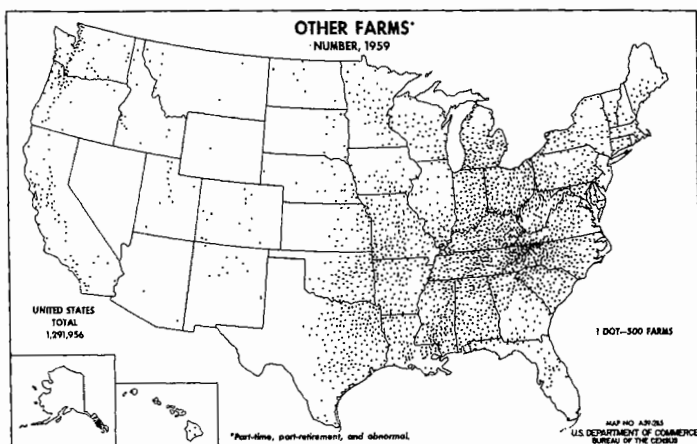
Most of the land in farms with less than \$2,500 sales has been shifted to farms with greater sales.

Item and year	All farms	Farms with value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500 <sup>1</sup>		Farms with value of farm products sold of \$2,500 or more		
		Number	Percent of all farms	Number	Percent of all farms	
Land in farms.....acres (1,000)	1959..	1,120,028	182,867	16.3	937,161	83.7
	1954..	1,160,044	275,008	23.7	885,036	76.3
	1950..	1,159,789	309,994	26.7	849,795	73.3
Cropland harvested...acres (1,000)	1959..	313,446	27,072	8.6	286,374	91.4
	1954..	334,164	51,494	15.4	282,670	84.6
	1950..	345,528	70,113	20.3	275,415	79.7

<sup>1</sup> Includes abnormal farms.

OTHER FARMS

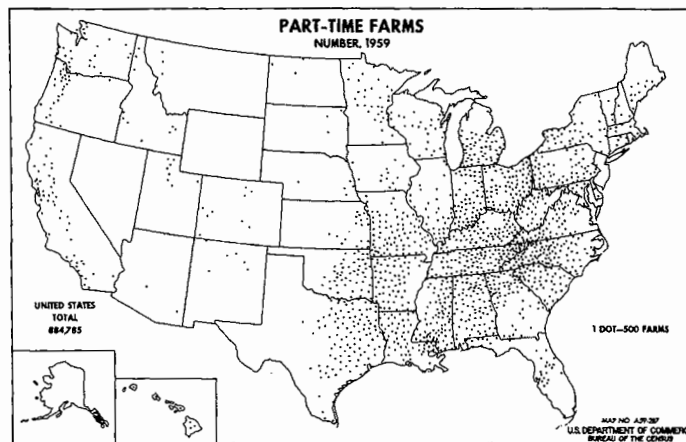
There were 1.3 million part-time, part-retirement, and abnormal farms in 1959. They accounted for 34.8 percent of all farms but only produced 3.8 percent of the value of all farm products sold. The largest concentration of other farms is found in the Appalachian areas of Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia and more generally in the eastern half of the United States. Most of these were part-time and part-retirement farms.



The characteristics of other farms are markedly different from those of commercial farms and the interests of the operators for these two distinct groups of farms are likewise different.

Item	Percent of total for all farms represented by—	
	Commercial farms	Other farms
Number of farms.....	65.2	34.8
Land in farms.....	87.0	13.0
Cropland harvested.....	94.2	5.8
Value of land and buildings.....	85.7	14.3
Value of farm products sold.....	96.2	3.8
Number of cattle and calves.....	91.3	8.7
Number of chickens 4 months old and over.....	89.2	10.8
Number of tractors (other than garden).....	84.2	15.8
Expenditures for feed for livestock and poultry.....	94.2	5.8
Purchase of livestock and poultry.....	96.9	3.1
Expenditures for hired labor.....	96.6	3.4
Expenditures for gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....	92.9	7.1
Tons of fertilizer used.....	91.6	8.4
Tons of lime used.....	89.7	10.3
Farm operators 65 years old and over.....	34.5	65.5
Farm operators working off their farms 100 or more days.....	31.6	68.4
Farm operators reporting other members of the family working off the farm.....	55.8	44.2
Farm operators reporting income from sources other than the farm operated and off-farm work.....	50.0	50.0
Farm operators reporting income of family from sources other than the farm operated greater than the value of farm products sold.....	22.8	77.2

Part-time farms.—More than two-thirds of the farms classed as other farms in 1959 were part-time farms. Part-time farms comprise a variety of farm operating situations. Many farm operators who had little or no work off the farm, have obtained off-farm work and have continued to live on the farm and carry on some farm operations. In some cases, farming operations have been continued at about the same level as before off-the-farm work was undertaken. In other cases, farming operations have been reduced either as a result of changes in the family of the farm operator or as a result of increased nonfarm income and the diminished time available for farmwork. Expansion of industry and other off-the-farm employment opportunities have created work not only for the farm operator but also members of his family. In such cases, off-the-farm earnings of the farm operator and of members of his family increase the family income. Some persons with jobs in cities, industry, etc. have moved to rural areas to supplement their income by producing farm products to secure what they consider to be the advantages of country living. In some areas, part-time farming represents a transition from part-time to full-time farming, or to the discontinuing of farming.



Part-time farms comprise only a part of the farms on which the farm operator has full-time employment off the farm or the family of the farm operator secures more income from sources other than the farm operated than from farming operations. In 1959, there were 281,147 farm operators operating farms with a value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500 and there were 69,893 farm operators of farms with a value of farm products sold of \$2,500 or more, reporting that the income from sources other than the farm operated exceeded the value of farm products sold.

Almost 69 percent of part-time farm operators have full-time jobs off the farm operated (i.e., work off their farms 200 or more days). Over 80 percent of the operators of part-time farms worked off their farms 100 days or more in 1959.

Income from sources other than the farm operated or from off-farm work by the operator or members of his family provided the major source of income on 45 percent of the part-time farms. On one-third of the part-time farms, other members of the farm operator's family also worked at nonfarm jobs, businesses, professions, or on someone else's farm. Off-farm sources of income were more important than the sales of agricultural products on almost 90 percent of the part-time farms.

In 1959, part-time farms accounted for 6.0 percent of all land in farms, 3.7 percent of the acreage from which crops were harvested, 5.7 percent of the cattle and calves, 5.7 percent of the hogs and pigs, 6.0 percent of the chickens 4 months old and over, 1.4 percent of the hired regular farmworkers, and 11.6 percent of the tractors, other than garden. Operators of part-time farms used 5.7 percent of the fertilizer; 7.3 percent of the lime; and accounted for 3.1 percent of the total expenditures of all farms for