

In 1959, the Pacific Division had the highest proportion, 46.8 percent, of farm operators reporting income from off-farm sources exceeding the value of agricultural products sold, compared to the West North Central Division with the lowest, 19.7 percent. West Virginia had the highest among the States with 64.7 percent; North Dakota had the lowest with 8.0 percent. This is consistent with the data for farm operators reporting off-farm work, as West Virginia had one of the highest proportions of operators reporting 100 or more days of off-farm work while North Dakota had the lowest. The relationship between the proportion of farm operators working 100 or more days off the farm and the proportion of operators reporting income from off-the-farm sources exceeding the value of agricultural sales would indicate that off-farm work constitutes a main source of income from off-the-farm sources.

In 1959, only 12.5 percent of the operators of commercial farms reported income from off-the-farm sources exceeding the value of agricultural products sold, whereas 79.4 percent of the other farms did. The economic classes of farms with the larger values of farm products sold have a lower proportion of operators re-

porting off-the-farm income exceeding the value of agricultural products sold. Other farms account for two-thirds of all farm operators 65 years of age and older, over two-thirds of all operators working 100 or more days off farm, and over three-fourths of all operators reporting off-the-farm income exceeding the value of agricultural products sold.

In 1959, over one-fourth of the operators of commercial poultry and fruit-and-nut farms report off-the-farm income exceeding the value of farm sales, whereas, less than one-tenth of the operators of tobacco, cotton, and dairy farms so report. Again the close relationship between off-farm work and income from off-the-farm source is evident by type of farm. Certain types of farms, such as dairy farms, which have high labor requirements throughout the year, have low proportions of operators working off farms and, therefore, low proportions of operators reporting income from off-the-farm sources exceeding value of farm products sold. Lack of off-the-farm-work opportunities in certain areas in the South are related to the low proportion of operators reporting off-the-farm income exceeding the value of agricultural products sold.

