

# **CHAPTER XI**

## **ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM**

(1189)

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# Chapter XI.—ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM

**Introduction.**—This chapter presents data showing characteristics of farms and farm operators by economic class of farm. A classification of farms by economic class was made for the purpose of segregating groups of farms that are similar in their characteristics and size of agricultural operations. There exists a wide diversity within the units defined as farms by the census. The segregating of farms into economic class groups makes it possible to provide basic data for an analysis of the organization of agriculture from the viewpoint of use of resources and amount and source (farm or off-the-farm) of income.

The data for farms grouped by economic class supplement those for other classifications which were made on the basis of size of farm (as measured by total area in the farm) presented in chapter V, tenure of farm operator presented in chapter X, and type of farm presented in chapter XII.

**Source of Data.**—The data presented in this chapter are from the 1959 Census of Agriculture with some comparable data from the 1954 Census of Agriculture. The 1959 data are not fully comparable to the 1954 data because of (1) the change in the definition of a farm and (2) the change in the criteria for some economic classes. The definition of a farm for the 1959 Census of Agriculture was based on the "acres in the place" and the estimated value of agricultural products sold. Places of less than 10 acres, in 1959, were counted as farms if the estimated sales of agricultural products for the year amounted to at least \$250. Places of 10 or more acres were counted, in 1959, if the estimated sales of agricultural products amounted to at least \$50. In the 1954 Census of Agriculture places of three or more acres were counted as farms if the annual *value* of agricultural products, whether for home use or for sale but exclusive of home garden products, amounted to \$150 or more. Places of less than three acres were counted as farms only if the annual *sales* of agricultural products amounted to \$150 or more.

The net effect of the change in the definition of a farm resulted in a reduction of 232,000 farms from 1954 to 1959. More than 200,000 of these farms would have been classified as "other" farms if counted as farms in 1959.

A sample of approximately 20 percent of the farms was classified by economic class for the conterminous United States. The data in this chapter represent estimates for the farms in the conterminous United States based on tabulations of the data for the farms included in the sample. A description of the enumeration procedures, processing of data, sampling methods, and statistical tables giving measures of reliability of estimates based on a sample of farms may be found in the Introduction to this volume. All farms in Alaska and Hawaii were classified by economic class and all farms were included in the tabulation by economic class.

**Presentation of Statistics.**—This chapter presents 1959 data for the United States, the conterminous United States, the North, the South, the West, and nine geographic divisions. An outline map showing these geographic areas appears in the Introduction to this volume.

Table 5 of this chapter presents a summary for the United States of nearly all available basic data relating to the economic class of farm. In addition, table 5 shows, by percentages, the

relationship between classes for each item. Tables 6 through 20 contain State, division, and United States totals for the more important items by economic class of farm.

The graphs accompanying this text illustrate the number of farms by economic class and the number of "commercial" and "other farms" by State.

The maps in this chapter illustrate the distributions of the number of farms by economic class.

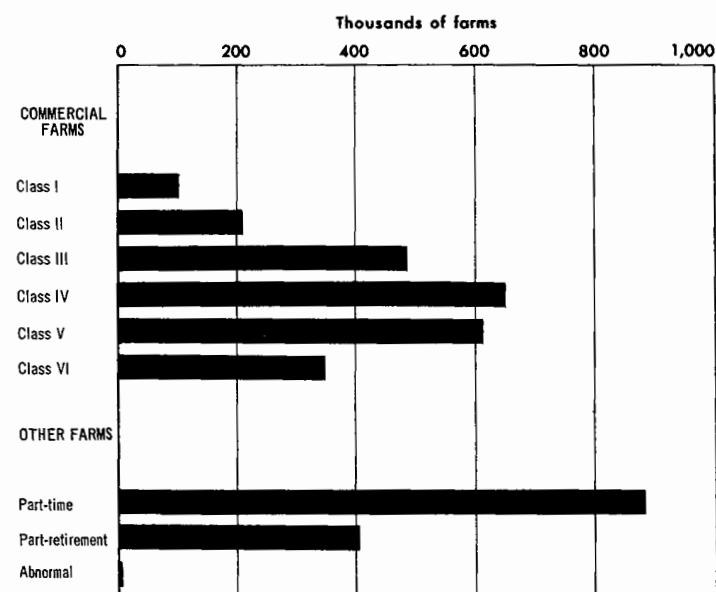
## DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

**Definitions.**—Definitions having a general application, such as those for "a farm," "farm operation," "farms reporting," etc. are given in the Introduction to this volume.

**Basis of Classification.**—The classification of farms by economic class was made on the basis of one or more of four criteria: (1) Total value of all farm products sold, (2) number of days the farm operator worked off the farm, (3) the age of the farm operator, and (4) the relationship of income received by the operator and members of his household from off-the-farm-operated sources to the value of all farm products sold. Farms were classified into two general groups, namely, "commercial farms" and "other farms." Each of these major groups was further classified.

**Commercial Farms.**—The "commercial farms" were classified into six groups—Classes I through V solely on the basis of the value of farm products sold and, in the case of Class VI, on the basis of the additional criteria that the farm operator was (1) under 65 years of age, (2) did not work off the farm 100 or more days, and (3) the income that he and the members of his household received from off-the-farm-operated sources was less than the total value of farm products sold.

NUMBER OF FARMS BY ECONOMIC CLASS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1959



"Other farms" were further classified into three groups as follows:

**Part-Time Farms.**—Farms with a value of sales of farm products of \$50 to \$2,499 were classified as "part-time" if (1) the operator was under 65 years of age and (2) he either worked off the farm 100 or more days during 1959 or the income he and members of his household received from off-the-farm-operated sources was greater than the total value of farm products sold.

**Part-Retirement Farms.**—Farms with a value of sales of farm products of \$50 to \$2,499 were classified as "part-retirement" when the operator was 65 years old or over. Many of these are farms on which the income from off-the-farm-operated sources was greater than the value of sales of agricultural products while others are residential, subsistence, or marginal farms. In previous censuses, the age of the farm operator was not a criterion for grouping farms by economic class. Since the number of elderly people in our population has been steadily increasing during recent years, a separate classification for farms operated on a "part-retirement" basis was considered important for an adequate analysis of agriculture.

**Abnormal Farms.**—Institutional farms and Indian reservations were classified as "abnormal" regardless of the value of sales of farm products. Institutional farms include those operated by hospitals, penitentiaries, schools, churches, grazing associations, and government agencies. Abnormal farms were excluded from the "commercial" group regardless of the value of the farm products sold.

**Value of Farm Products Sold.**—The data on the value of farm products sold represent estimates based upon the tabulation of data for only a sample of approximately 20 percent of the farms for the conterminous United States. For Alaska and Hawaii, data for the value of farm products sold are for all farms.

For an explanation of the methods used for computing the value of farm products sold and a statement of the reliability of the data, see chapter IX of this volume.

**Determination of Economic Class of Farm.**—The determination of economic class of farm for each farm was made during the

office processing. In many cases, the economic class of farm was determined by inspection; in others, it was necessary to calculate the approximate value of all farm products sold. There were many farms for which the sale of a single product or of two products comprised the only farm products sold and for these farms the determination for economic class of farm was relatively easy. For example, the value of sales of vegetables, horticultural specialty crops, dairy products, and cattle and calves were reported on the agriculture questionnaire. For a farm where the only farm products sold were vegetables, or a horticultural specialty crop, or dairy products, or cattle and calves, a comparison of the sale of the single product sold with the economic class limit provided an immediate determination for economic class. Likewise, in case the sale of any farm product exceeded \$40,000 the economic class could be determined immediately without the calculation of the total value of sales for all farm products. For highly specialized farms, such as vegetable, fruit-and-nut, cotton, tobacco, poultry, and dairy farms, it was possible to determine economic class by inspection rather than by the making of detailed calculations. However, for general farms and other farms with sales from several sources, it was necessary to make detailed calculations of the value of all farm products sold. In order to calculate the total value of farm products sold, it was necessary to add the values reported on the questionnaire for the following farm products: Vegetables harvested for sale, horticultural specialty crops sold, standing timber and miscellaneous forest products sold, milk and cream sold, cattle and calves sold, and horses and mules sold. To this total, it was necessary to add the estimated values of all other farm products sold. For corn, sorghums, small grains, and hay crops the estimated sales were calculated by multiplying the quantity reported sold by a State average price. For all other crops including firewood, fuelwood, fence posts, and sawlogs and veneer logs, it was necessary to calculate the estimated value of each farm product sold by multiplying the quantity sold by a State average price. For hogs and pigs and sheep and lambs it was necessary to determine the estimated value of sales by multiplying the number sold and to be sold by a State average price.

TABLE 1.—CRITERIA FOR THE ECONOMIC CLASSES OF FARMS AND NUMBER OF FARMS IN EACH CLASS, FOR THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES: 1959 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Class	Number of farms, 1959	Criteria		Farms excluded
		Value of farm products sold	Other	
United States, total.....	3,701,364	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Commercial farms, total.....	2,412,917	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Class I.....	101,835	\$40,000 and over.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class II.....	210,162	\$20,000 to \$39,999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class III.....	482,478	\$10,000 to \$19,999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class IV.....	653,150	\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class V.....	616,819	\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class VI.....	348,473	\$50 to \$2,499.....	Farm operator under 65 years of age; Did not work off the farm 100 or more days; Income that he and members of his household received from off-the-farm sources was less than the total value of farm products sold.	Abnormal.
Other farms, total.....	1,288,447	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Part-time.....	881,883	\$50 to \$2,499.....	Farm operator under 65 years of age and he either worked off the farm 100 or more days or the income he and members of his household received from off-the-farm sources was greater than the total value of farm products sold.	Abnormal.
Part-retirement.....	403,527	\$50 to \$2,499.....	Farm operator 65 years old or over.....	Abnormal.
Abnormal.....	3,037	Not a criterion.....	Institutional farms, Indian reservations, experimental farms, grazing associations, etc.	xxx.

**Income From Sources Other Than the Farm Operated.**—Included in the census total count for farm operators are many operators who work at other jobs or businesses. More than 1.6 million farm operators worked off their farms in 1959. More than 1.1 million farm operators worked off their farms 100 days or more and 0.9 million worked off their farms 200 days or more in 1959. In addition, 1.5 million farm operators reported income from other sources such as sale of farm products from rented land, cash rent, social security, old age assistance, pensions, veterans' allowances, unemployment compensation, interest, dividends,

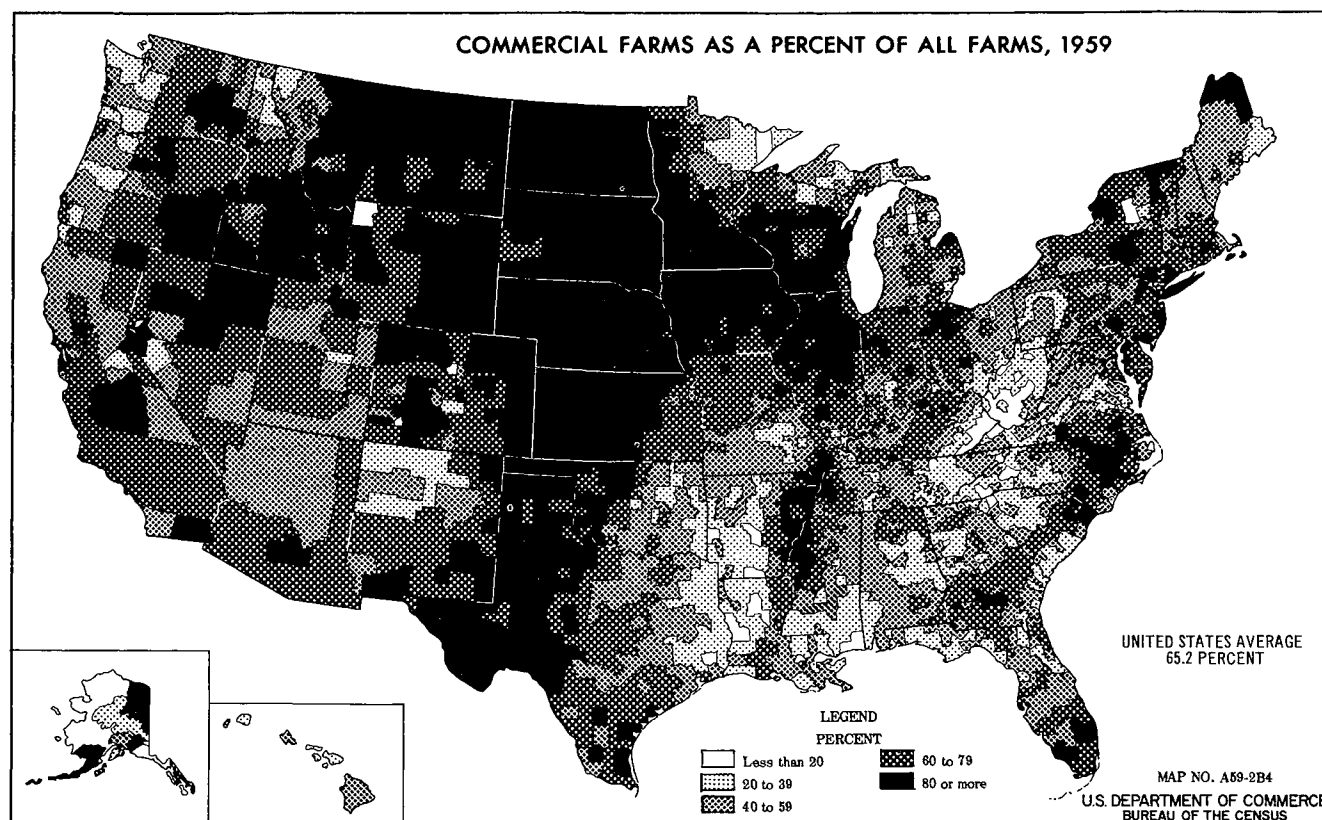
and profits from a nonfarm business. Moreover 0.8 million farm operators reported that other members of their family had a nonfarm job, profession, business, or worked on someone else's farm in 1959.

Off-farm work and income from sources other than the farm operated have been of increasing importance to farmers. The income of farm operators' families from nonfarm sources has grown steadily during the last 30 years and in 1960 it accounted for more than a third of the income of farm-operator families.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

**Importance of Commercial and Other Farms, 1959.**—The most important purpose of the economic classification of farms is to

separate the farms that provide the major source of employment and income for the farm operator's family from the farms or places that provide part-time employment for workers at non-farm jobs and on other farms, and for persons semiretired.



The characteristics of commercial and other farms are markedly different and the interests of the operators for these two distinct groups of farms are likewise different. Commercial farms accounted for 96 percent of all farm products sold, had 87 percent of the land in farms, 94 percent of the cropland harvested, and approximately 85 percent of the value of land and buildings.

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

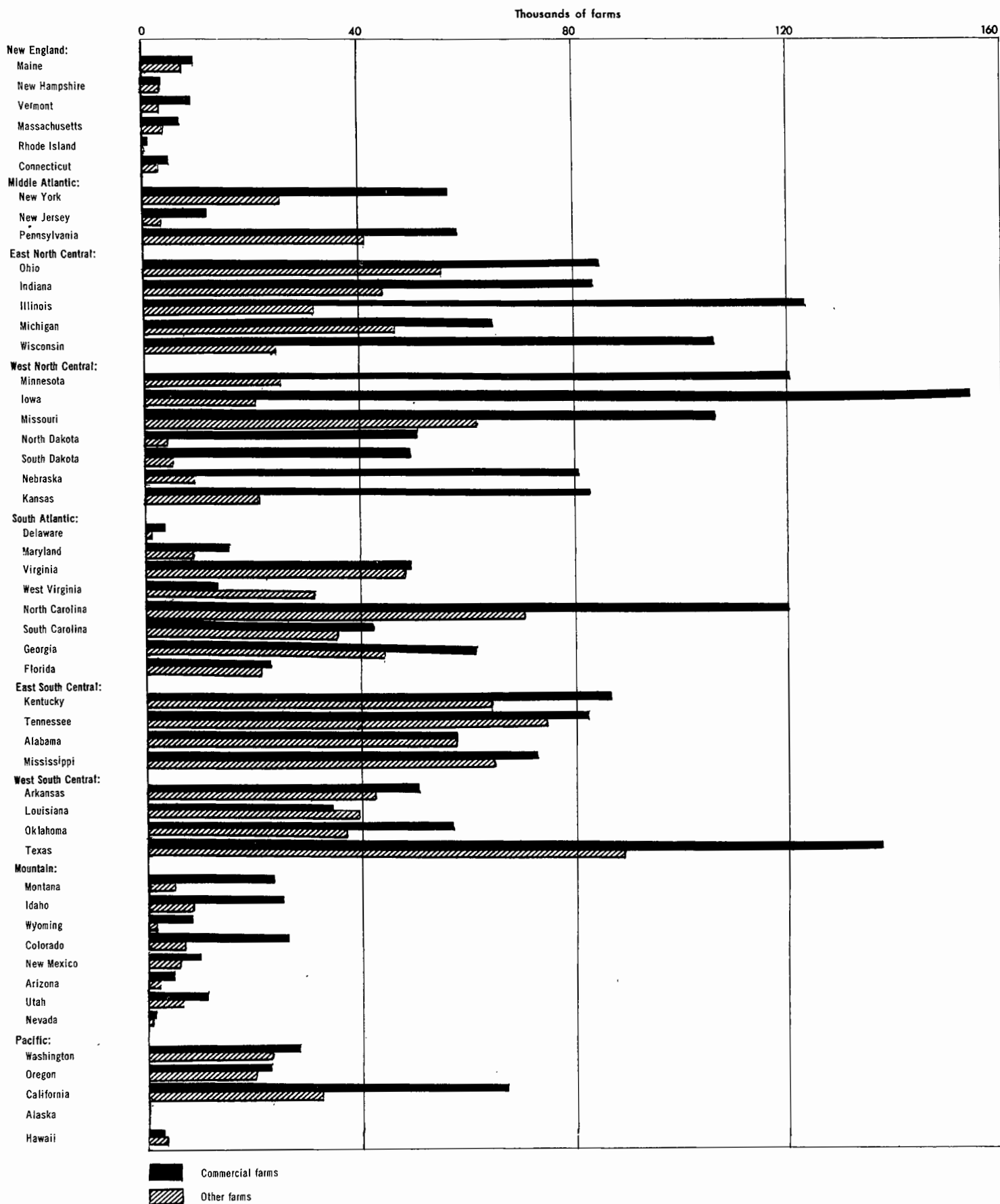
The segregating of other farms from commercial farms provides separate data for these two groups in regard to work off the farm and income from sources other than the farm operated. The following data provide measures of the relative importance of off-farm work and income from sources other than the farm operated for commercial and other farms in 1959.

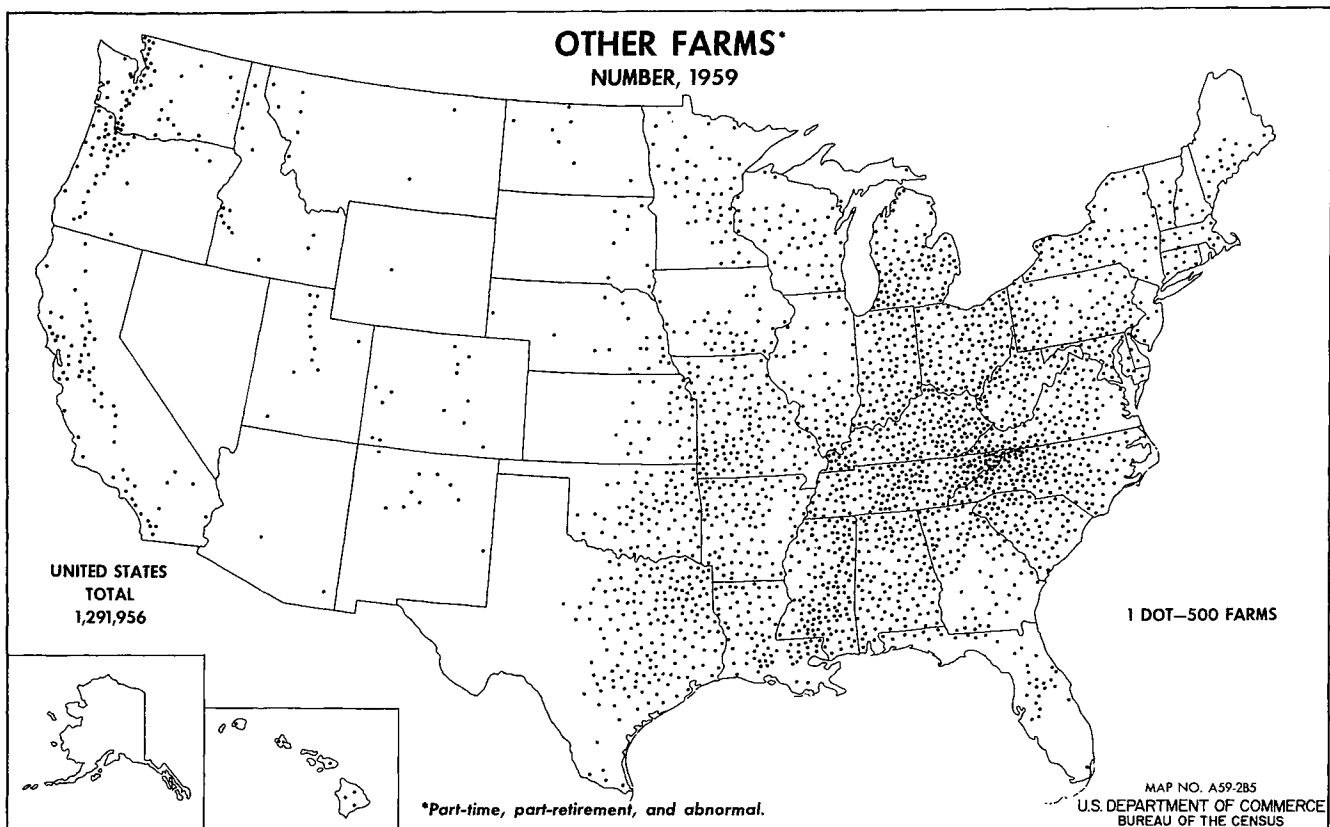
**TABLE 2.—OFF-FARM WORK AND OTHER INCOME OF FARM OPERATOR AND HIS FAMILY FOR COMMERCIAL AND OTHER FARMS FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1959**

Item	All farms, total	Commercial farms		Other farms	
		Number	Percent of total for all farms	Number	Percent of total for all farms
Farm operators—					
Working off their farms, total.....	1,663,841	808,440	48.6	855,401	51.4
1 to 99 days.....	556,235	457,929	82.3	98,306	17.7
100 to 199 days.....	229,787	104,639	45.5	125,148	54.5
200 or more days.....	877,819	245,872	28.0	631,947	72.0
With other members of family working off farm.....	481,141	214,942	44.7	266,199	55.3
With income from sources other than farm operated and off-farm work.....	698,876	321,935	46.1	376,941	53.9
With other income of family exceeding value of agricultural products sold.....	977,606	232,489	23.8	745,117	76.2
Operators not working off their farms or not reporting as to work off their farms, total.....	2,044,132	1,607,577	78.6	436,555	21.4
With other members of family working off farm.....	319,331	231,635	72.5	87,696	27.5
With income from sources other than farm operated and off-farm work.....	759,734	406,889	53.6	352,845	46.4
With other income of family exceeding value of agricultural products sold.....	351,234	69,893	19.9	281,341	80.1

## GENERAL REPORT

## NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL FARMS AND OTHER FARMS, BY STATES: 1959

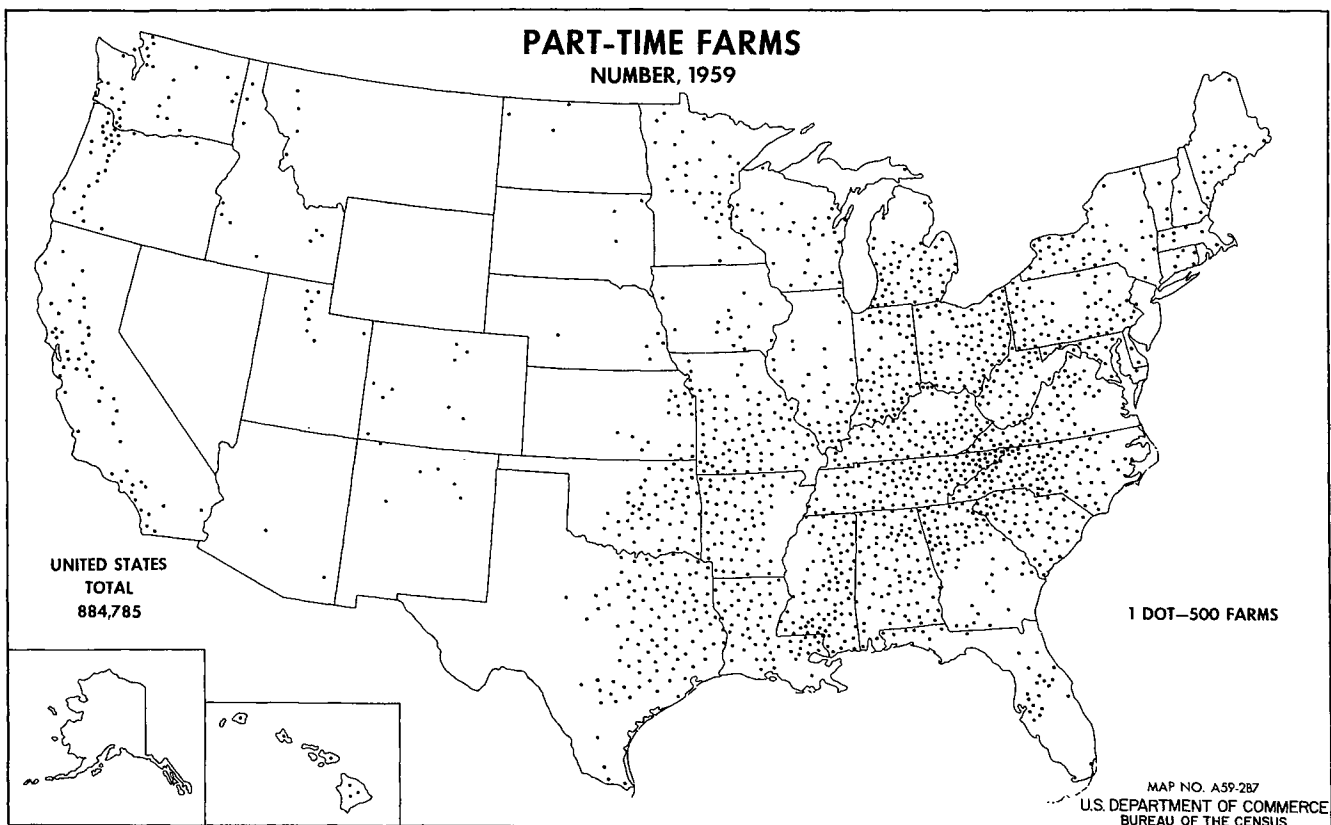




### CHARACTERISTICS OF OTHER FARMS, 1959

**Part-Time Farms.**—The combining of farm and nonfarm work into a dual income earning activity has become a widespread practice. The incidence of part-time farms is high near industrial

areas and in the South. The growth in industry, trade, and service has coincided with other developments such as the improvement of roads in rural areas and the almost universal ownership of automobiles, and has made it possible for farm people to commute to jobs in towns while continuing to live on farms.



Likewise, the existence of farms with small resources of land, equipment, capital, and low income has provided incentives for farm families to supplement their income through off-farm work.

Over two-thirds of part-time farm operators have full-time jobs off the farm operated (i.e., work off their farms 200 or more days). Over 81 percent of the operators of part-time farms worked off their farms 100 days or more in 1959.

Item	Operators of part-time farms	
	Number	Percent distribution
Total operators of part-time farms.....	884,785	100.0
Farm operators working off their farms, total.....	785,120	88.7
1 to 99 days.....	60,929	6.9
100 to 199 days.....	115,225	13.0
200 days and over.....	608,966	68.8
Farm operators not working off their farms or not reporting as to work off their farms.....	99,665	11.3

Income from sources other than the farm operated and from off-farm work was reported by about 400,000, or 45 percent, of the operators of part-time farms. On 300,000, or 33 percent, of the part-time farms other members of the farm operator's family also worked at a nonfarm job, business, profession, or on someone else's farm. For 100,000 part-time farm operators who do not work off the farm, income from sources other than the farm operated or income from an off-farm job by members of the farm operator's family provided the major source of income.

Off-the-farm-operated source of income was more important than the sale of agricultural products on more than 89 percent of the part-time farms. All except 92,000 of the 885,000 part-time farm operators reported that the income of the family from sources other than the farm operated exceeded the value of agricultural products sold.

The resources used by operators of part-time farms comprise a very small part of the total of all farms. Farms of part-time farm operators contain 6 percent of all land in farms; 3.7 percent of the acreage from which crops were harvested in 1959; 5.7 percent of the cattle and calves; 5.7 percent of the hogs and pigs; 6 percent of the chickens 4 months old and over; 1.4 percent of the hired regular farm workers; 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 the expenditures for feed for livestock and poultry; purchase of livestock and poultry; machine hire; hired farm labor; gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business; and seeds, plants, bulbs, and trees in 1959. More than half of the farms operated by part-time operators are under 50 acres in size and 1 out of 7 is less than 10 acres in size. Approximately one-fourth of the farms have no cropland harvested and about 3 out of 5 had less than 10 acres of cropland harvested. Approximately 5 percent of the

part-time farms had 50 acres or more of cropland harvested in 1959. About 52 percent of the part-time farms had a tractor, other than garden; over 79 percent had an automobile; and over 90 percent had an automobile or truck or both an automobile and truck. About half of the part-time farm operators used commercial fertilizer or fertilizing materials, and about 8 percent used lime in 1959. However, the amount of fertilizer used per farm reporting was about 2.5 tons and the amount of lime applied per farm reporting was less than 21 tons. Cattle were kept on almost 70 percent of the part-time farms, milk cows on 41 percent, hogs on 46 percent, and chickens on 53 percent. Over 60 percent of the land used for harvested crops was used for corn and hay. The sale of cattle and calves accounted for more than one-fourth of all the farm products sold and the sale of cattle, calves, hogs, pigs, and dairy products accounted for almost one-half of the value of all farm products sold.

The distribution by age of the farm operators of part-time farms and that of the operators of all commercial farms was as follows:

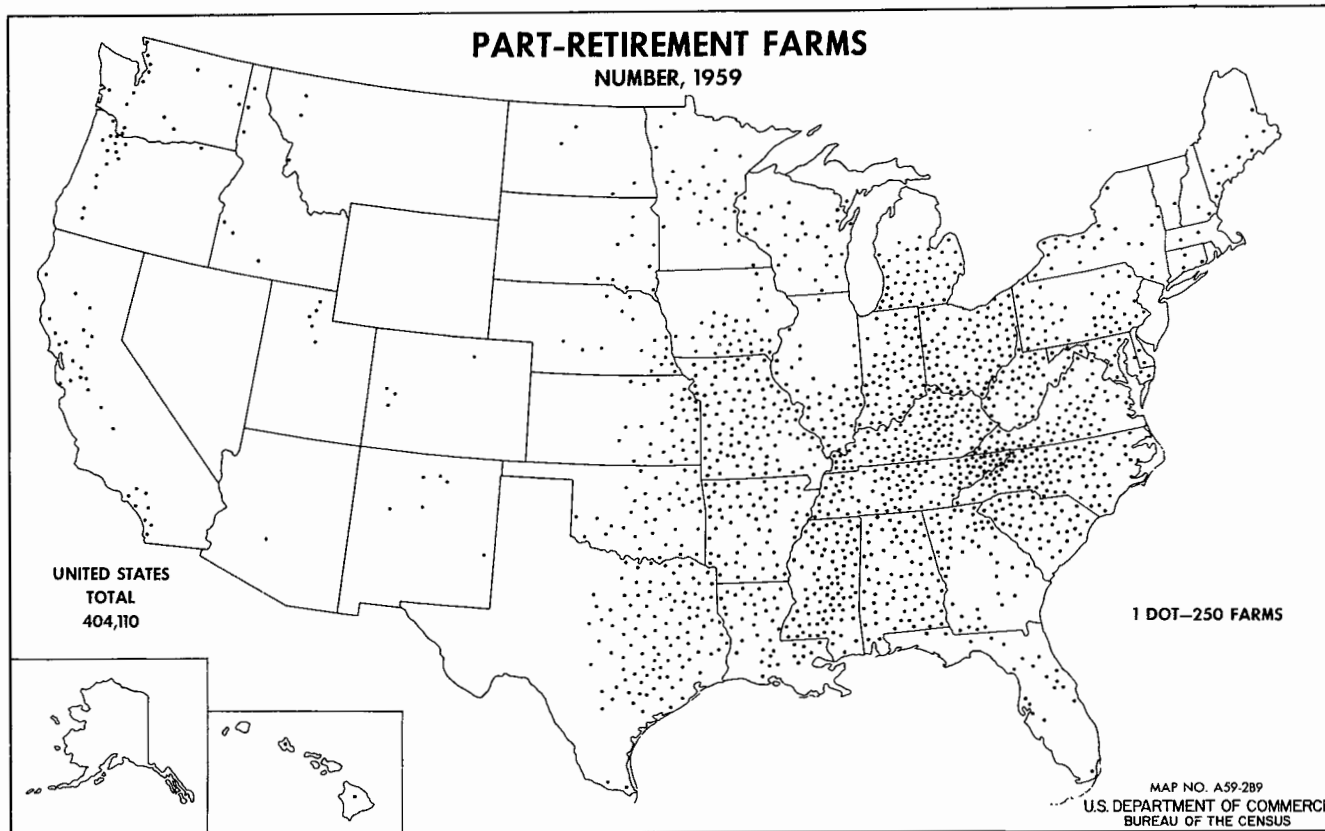
Age group	Operators of all commercial farms		Operators of part-time farms	
	Number (1,000)	Percent distribution	Number (1,000)	Percent distribution
Total operators reporting age.....	2,388	100.0	877	100.0
Under 25 years.....	45	1.9	16	1.8
25 to 34 years.....	292	12.2	111	12.7
35 to 44 years.....	563	23.6	242	27.7
45 to 54 years.....	689	28.9	290	33.1
55 to 64 years.....	585	24.5	217	24.7
65 years and over.....	213	8.9	-----	-----

More than 87 percent of the operators own all or part of the farms they operate. Over 57 percent of the part-time farms operated by tenants are rented for cash or under some rental arrangement other than a share of the crops and livestock. The average value of part-time farms was \$11,779.

**Part-Retirement Farms.**—Part-retirement farms comprised 10.9 percent of all farms in 1959. However, in terms of total resources used and production they were relatively unimportant. Part-retirement farms accounted for 3.2 percent of all land in farms; 1.8 percent of cropland harvested; 2.5 percent of cattle and calves; 2 percent of hogs and pigs; 4 percent of tractors, other than garden; and 1.1 percent of the value of all farm products sold in 1959. Part-retirement farms were heavily concentrated in the Appalachian Mountain area and in the southern and eastern half of the United States.

The average value of farm products sold per part-retirement farm was \$854 in 1959. However, the income from sources other than the farm operated exceeded the value of farm products sold on 57.8 percent of these farms. Work off the farm was not a frequent source of income for the operators of part-retirement farms.





Item	Operators of part-retirement farms	
	Number	Percent of all part-time farm operators
Operators of part-retirement farms, total.....	404,110	100.0
Farm operators:		
Working off their farms, total.....	69,817	17.3
1 to 99 days.....	37,336	9.2
100 to 199 days.....	9,899	2.4
200 or more days.....	22,582	5.6
With other members of family working off farm.....	15,031	3.7
With income from sources other than farm operated and off-farm work.....	55,095	13.6
With other income of family exceeding value of agricultural products sold.....	52,086	12.9
Not working off their farms or not reporting as to work off their farms, total.....	334,293	82.7
With other members of family working off farm.....	44,763	11.1
With income from sources other than farm operated.....	279,367	69.1
With other income of family exceeding value of agricultural products sold.....	181,482	44.9

The scale of operations of part-retirement farms is not large. Over one-fourth had no cropland harvested and three-fourths had less than 20 acres of cropland harvested. Less than 6 percent of the farms had 50 acres or more of cropland harvested. Less

than 40 percent of the farms had tractors, other than garden, and less than 4 percent had hired farm workers. About half of the farms used some commercial fertilizer and the average amount used per farm reporting was 2.3 tons. Almost all of the farms reported one or more of the six items for farm expenditures, and the average expenditure for feed for livestock and poultry; purchase of livestock and poultry; hired farm labor; gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business; machine hire; and seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees was \$410. Cattle were reported on 68 percent of the farms; milk cows, on 46 percent; hogs and pigs, on 39 percent; and chickens on 69 percent.

Corn and hay comprised almost two-thirds of the total acreage of cropland harvested. The sale of cattle and calves accounted for over a fourth of the total value of farm products sold, and the sale of hogs, dairy products, and eggs accounted for another fourth of total sales.

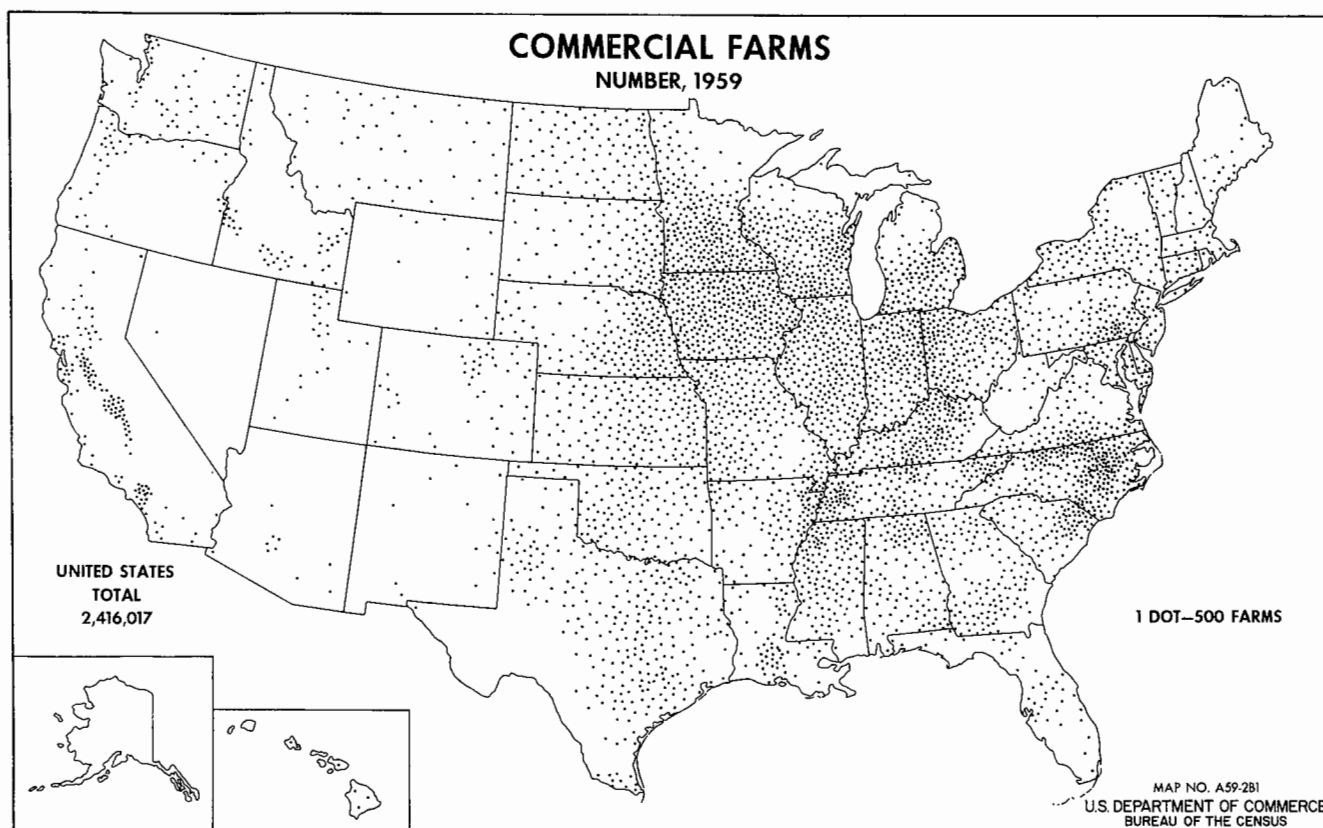
By definition, all of the operators of part-retirement farms were 65 years of age and over. Their average age was 71.1 years.

More than 93 percent of the part-retirement operators own all or part of the farms they operate. The average value of farm land and buildings per farm was \$11,034.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF COMMERCIAL FARMS, 1959

**Commercial Farms.**—For 1959, commercial farms were divided into six classes on the basis of the value of farm products sold. The variations in the size of operations for the farms comprising these six classes were very great—the farms varied in value of

farm products sold from \$50 to more than \$2,500,000. There are also great differences in the contribution of the various economic classes of farms to total agricultural production. For example, the sale of agricultural products from the 102,000 Class I farms exceeds the sales of agricultural products from the more than 1,600,000 Class IV, V, and VI farms.



Nearly two-thirds of all farms reported by the 1959 Census of Agriculture were classified as commercial farms. Almost half of all commercial farms in the United States were located in the Corn Belt, Lake States, and Northern Plains States. The Corn Belt States alone had nearly a fourth of all commercial farms.

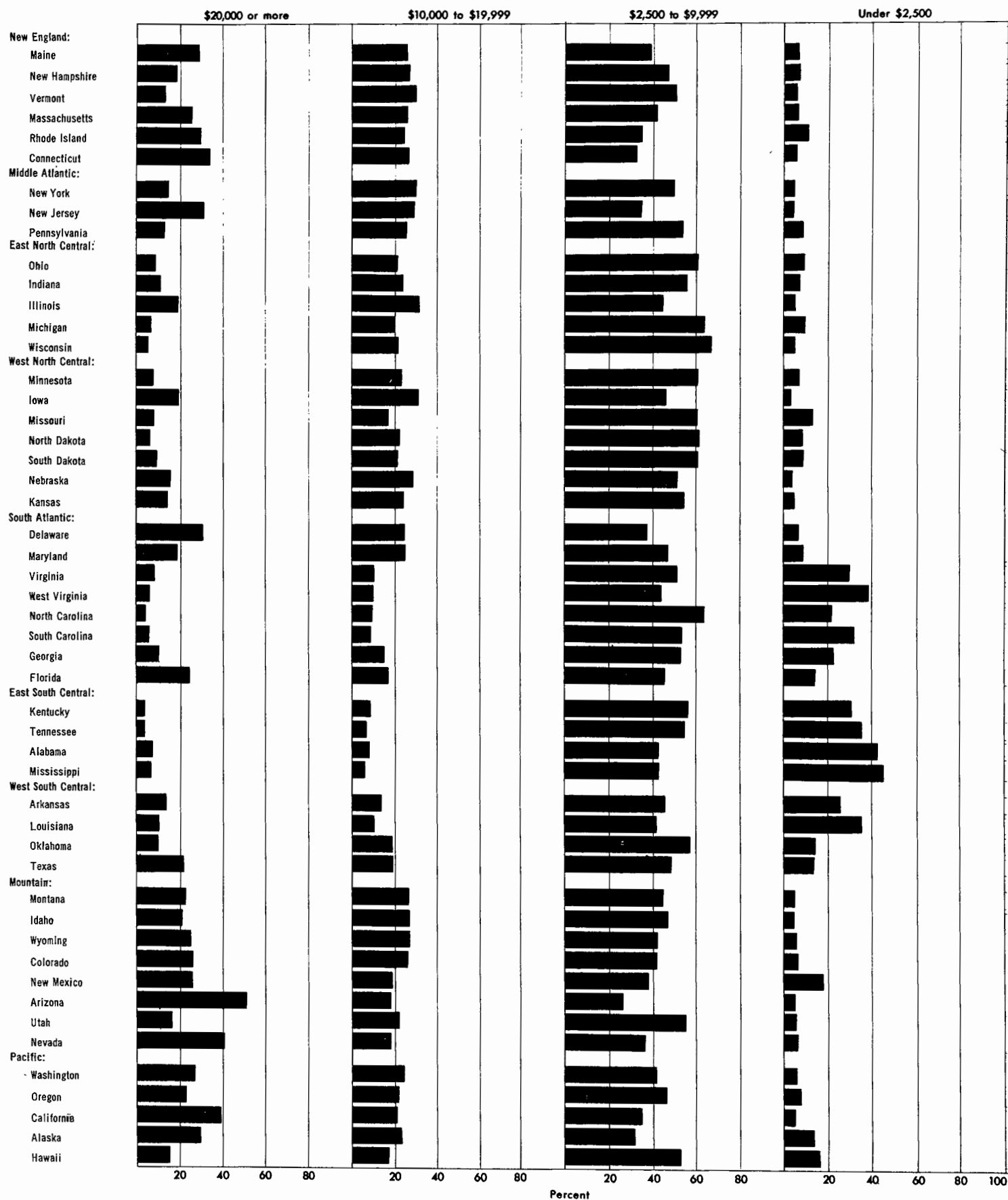
Among the States, Iowa had the largest number of commercial farms with 154,329.

The relative importance for 1959 of the various classes of farms in terms of organization, resources used, and output is indicated by the following data.

Economic class of farm	Number of farms, total	Percent distribution by economic class							
		Number of farms	Land in farms	Cropland harvested	Hired farm workers	Tractors (other than garden)	Fertilizer used	Expenditures for 6 items <sup>1</sup>	Value of all farm products sold
Commercial farms, total.....	2,416,017	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Class I.....	102,099	4.2	25.8	15.0	37.5	10.0	23.4	39.3	32.8
Class II.....	210,402	8.7	17.0	17.3	18.4	13.8	17.3	19.3	19.1
Class III.....	483,004	20.0	22.0	27.9	18.8	25.8	23.5	19.9	22.8
Class IV.....	653,881	27.1	19.3	24.3	14.3	27.1	19.3	13.5	16.0
Class V.....	617,677	25.6	12.1	12.4	8.8	18.1	12.5	6.7	7.7
Class VI.....	348,954	14.4	3.8	3.0	2.1	5.2	4.2	1.4	1.6

<sup>1</sup> Includes feed for livestock and poultry; purchase of livestock and poultry; machine hire; hired labor; seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees; and gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.

## PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF COMMERCIAL FARMS BY TOTAL VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD BY STATES: 1959



There were significant differences in the extent of ownership of the farm among economic classes of farms.

Economic class of farm	Percent of commercial farms operated by—			
	Full owners	Part owners	Managers	Tenants
Commercial farms, total.....	45.3	29.2	0.7	24.8
Class I.....	31.4	44.0	5.5	19.1
Class II.....	32.4	41.2	1.6	24.8
Class III.....	35.6	37.2	0.7	26.6
Class IV.....	44.5	30.6	0.4	24.5
Class V.....	54.1	22.8	0.3	22.8
Class VI.....	56.5	15.5	0.2	27.9

The differences in the quantities of resources used and in sales of agricultural products among economic classes were very large in 1959.

Economic class of farm	Average per farm						
	Land in farms (acres)	Crop-land harvested (acres)	Hired farm workers (persons)	Tractors (other than garden) (number)	Fertilizer used (tons)	Expenditures for 6 items <sup>1</sup> (dollars)	Value of all farm products sold (dollars)
Commercial farms, total.....	404.5	122.3	0.6	1.6	7.5	5,549	12,195
Class I.....	2,465.7	434.6	5.4	3.9	41.5	51,626	94,531
Class II.....	791.1	243.4	1.3	2.6	14.9	12,317	26,842
Class III.....	444.9	170.8	0.6	2.1	8.8	5,513	13,882
Class IV.....	288.3	109.9	0.3	1.6	5.3	2,759	7,223
Class V.....	191.9	59.3	0.2	1.2	3.7	1,446	3,683
Class VI.....	106.3	25.6	0.1	0.6	2.2	525	1,321

<sup>1</sup> Includes feed for livestock and poultry; purchase of livestock and poultry; machine hire; hired labor; seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees; and gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.

The relationship in 1959 of the use of hired labor and work off the farm by the farm operator and members of his family to economic class is indicated by the following data:

Economic class of farm	Percent of farms with—									
	Any hired workers	Regular hired workers	More than 1 hired worker	Expenditures for hired labor of—			Farm operator working off farm—			
				\$1,000 or more	\$2,500 or more	\$5,000 or more	Total	1-99 days	100-199 days	200 or more days
Commercial farms, total.....	20.5	12.5	4.5	17.5	8.5	4.0	33.5	19.0	4.3	10.2
Class I.....	76.2	67.7	43.5	83.7	69.4	50.2	19.6	10.1	2.2	7.4
Class II.....	50.3	37.6	14.0	55.2	32.2	14.2	24.7	15.7	2.7	6.3
Class III.....	27.9	17.0	4.1	25.4	9.7	2.4	29.0	18.6	3.6	6.8
Class IV.....	15.5	7.3	1.4	10.7	2.3	0.4	35.1	18.9	5.3	11.0
Class V.....	10.1	3.5	0.7	3.9	0.7	0.1	43.4	16.6	7.2	19.5
Class VI.....	3.9	0.8	0.2	0.9	0.2	( <sup>1</sup> )	28.3	28.3	-----	-----

<sup>1</sup> Less than 0.05 percent.

There are large variations for 1959 among economic classes in the rate and frequency of use of resources and in the production and sales per unit of resources used.

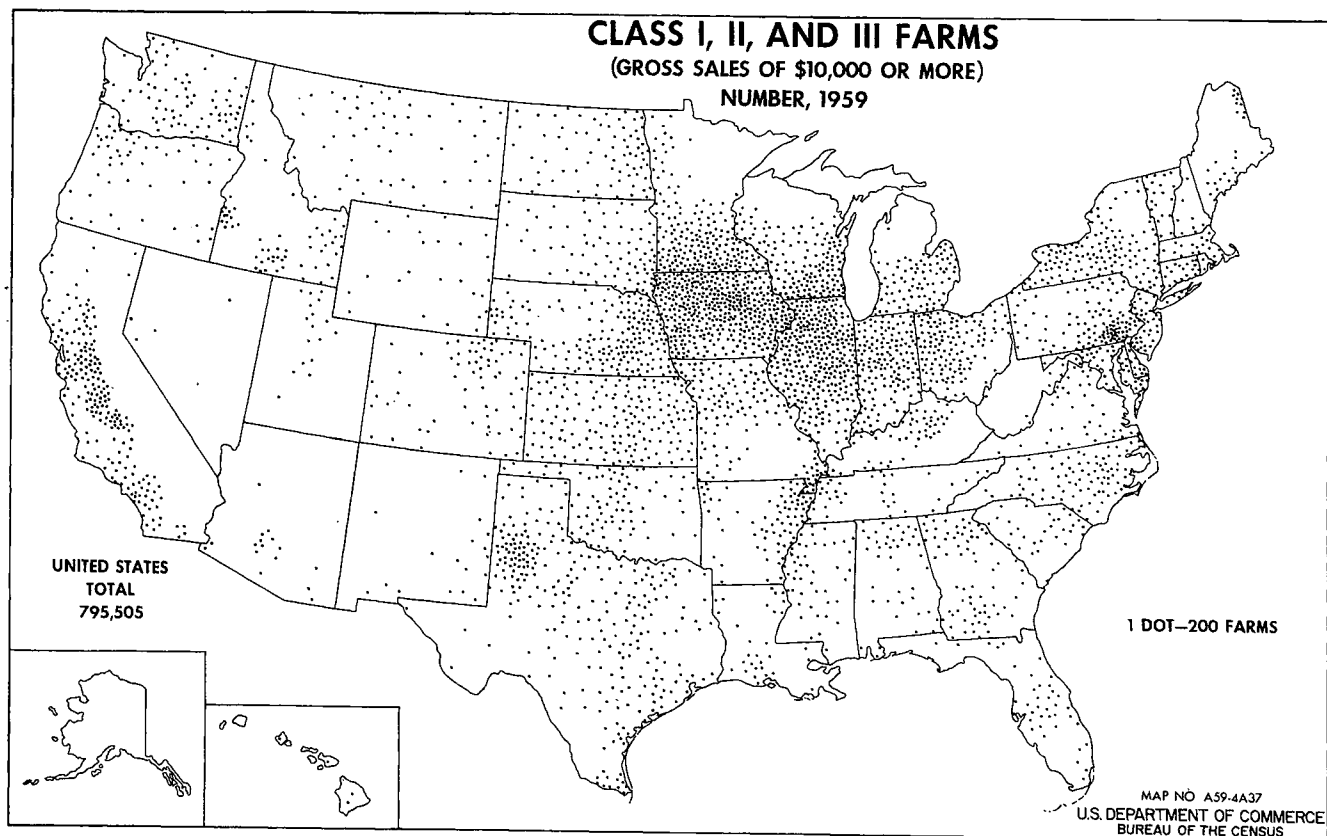
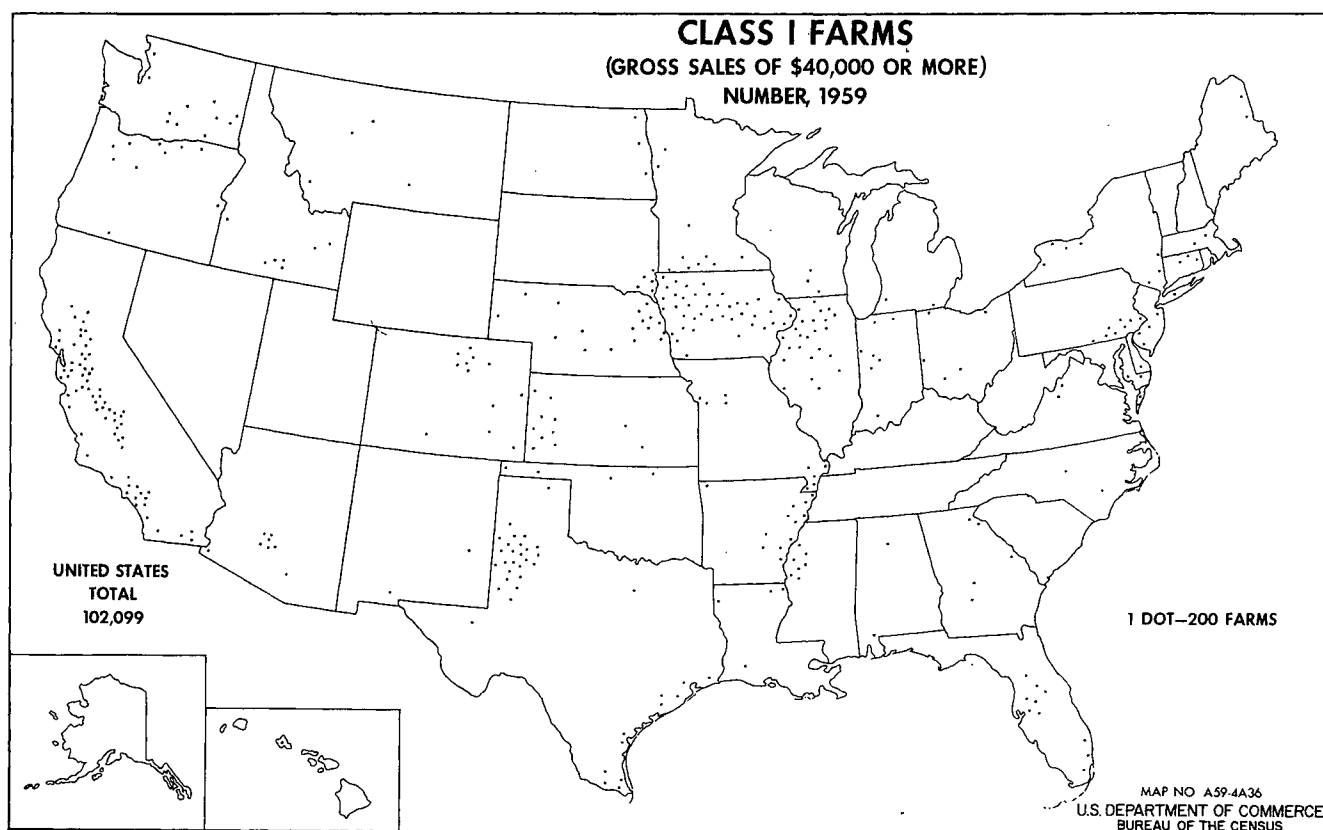
Item	Economic class of farm						
	All commercial farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI
Acres of cropland harvested per tractor (other than garden).....	75	112	94	81	67	51	43
Average acres of corn harvested for grain per corn picker.....	89	163	121	90	72	71	118
Average tons of hay harvested per pick-up baler.....	158	390	186	145	128	127	138
Percent of farms reporting—							
Regular hired workers.....	12.5	67.7	37.6	17.0	7.3	3.5	0.8
More than 1 regular hired worker.....	4.5	43.5	14.0	4.1	1.4	0.7	0.2
Expenditure of \$100 or more for gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....	81.9	98.0	96.9	96.1	92.1	76.9	38.2
Use of commercial fertilizer.....	71.7	73.5	75.5	75.5	71.0	69.0	70.1
Tractors (other than garden).....	81.4	91.9	92.6	93.1	89.0	77.9	47.1
Purchase of \$100 or more for feed for livestock and poultry.....	70.0	72.6	80.2	83.1	77.7	65.0	39.2
Expenditure of \$500 or more for hired labor.....	25.5	88.8	66.6	37.2	20.4	10.6	2.3
Pounds of fertilizer used per acre fertilized:							
Total.....	292	357	274	255	270	321	369
Hay and cropland pasture.....	322	312	333	319	312	335	355
Corn for all purposes.....	260	280	263	244	252	283	304
Sorghums for all purposes.....	131	143	129	115	115	135	147
Wheat.....	156	114	149	159	164	192	226
Irish potatoes.....	1,033	1,043	1,088	976	901	931	968
Tobacco.....	1,602	2,382	1,691	1,659	1,584	1,531	1,534
Cotton.....	375	325	336	379	436	448	456
Value of milk and cream sold per milk cow..... dollars.....	255	433	340	279	208	144	69
Value of eggs sold per chicken 4 months old and over..... dollars.....	3.33	4.81	4.09	3.25	2.58	2.13	1.19
Yield per acre of—							
Corn for grain..... bushels.....	54.3	67.0	63.9	58.0	49.4	41.8	30.3
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for hay and dehydrating..... tons.....	2.4	3.4	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.6
Clover, timothy, and mixtures of clover and grasses cut for hay..... tons.....	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3
Irish potatoes..... bushels.....	313	348	307	276	230	200	172
Cotton..... bales.....	1.0	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7

## IMPORTANCE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF COMMERCIAL FARMS BY ECONOMIC CLASS, 1959

Class I farms represent relatively large farming operations. The 102,000 Class I farms with sales of \$40,000 or more include approximately 20,000 farms with sales of \$100,000 or more. These 20,000 farms with sales of \$100,000 or more each, represented only one-half of 1 percent of all farms, yet they accounted for nearly one-fifth of all the farm products sold in 1959. The Class I farms accounted for more than one-fifth of all the fertilizer used; one-third of all the feed purchased; one-half of all the livestock and poultry purchased; more than one-fourth of all the machine hire; one-half of the expenditures for hired farm labor; over one-fourth of the expenditures for seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees; and almost one-fifth of the expenditures for gasoline and

other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business. They employed more than one-third of all hired farm workers and almost one-half of all regular hired farm workers.

Economic Class II, III, and IV farms had a total value of farm products sold of \$5,000 to \$39,999. Farms in these economic classes accounted for almost three-fifths of all commercial farms and almost three-fifths of all farm products sold. These farms contain 51 percent of all land in farms and 66 percent of all cropland harvested. Most of these farms are operated by the farm operator and members of his family. Only one out of six of these farms had regular hired farm workers and less than 5 percent of the farms had more than one regular hired worker in 1959. Seventy-seven percent of these farms that harvested crops in 1959 used commercial fertilizer and 19 percent used lime. Over 91 percent of the Class II, III, and IV farms had tractors, other than garden, and 77 percent had one or more motortrucks.



Economic Class V comprises farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 to \$4,999 and Economic Class VI, farms with sales of \$50 to \$2,499. Although farms in these two economic classes comprised 26.1 percent of all farms, they accounted for only 8.9 percent of all farm products sold. The small scale of operations on these farms is indicated not only by the value of farm products sold but also by the relatively small quantities of resources used.

Farm operators of Economic Class VI farms depend primarily upon farming for their income. They use relatively small amounts of resources.

Item	Average per Class VI farm
Land in farms.....acres.....	106.3
Cropland harvested.....acres.....	25.6
Value of land and buildings.....dollars.....	9,849
Cattle and calves.....number.....	6.7
Milk cows.....number.....	1.7
Chickens 4 months old and over.....number.....	36.2
Tractors (other than garden).....number.....	0.6

Relatively small amounts of purchased inputs are used on these farms.

Item	Average per Class VI farm
Fertilizer.....tons.....	2.2
Lime.....tons.....	1.4
Hired farm labor.....dollars.....	61
Machine hire.....dollars.....	66
Feed for livestock and poultry.....dollars.....	173
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....dollars.....	121

Most of the farms in Class VI were in the smaller size groups.

Farms by size	Class VI farms	Percent distribution
Total.....	348,954	100.0
Under 10 acres.....	31,642	9.1
10 to 49 acres.....	121,439	34.8
50 to 99 acres.....	36,096	10.3
100 to 199 acres.....	48,341	13.9
200 to 499 acres.....	39,185	11.2
500 to 999 acres.....	27,457	7.9
1000 or more acres.....	44,794	12.8

Most of the Class VI farms had relatively small amounts of cropland.

Cropland	Number of farms	Percent distribution
Farms with acreage of cropland harvested of—		
Total.....	348,954	100.0
None.....	34,808	10.0
1 to 9 acres.....	77,750	22.3
10 to 19 acres.....	87,463	25.1
20 to 29 acres.....	54,638	15.7
30 to 49 acres.....	49,322	14.1
50 to 99 acres.....	32,987	9.5
100 or more acres.....	11,986	3.4

Nearly three-fourths of the Class VI farms are in the South. More than half of these Class VI farms in the South were cotton and tobacco farms.

Type of farm	Number of farms	Percent distribution
Total.....	348,954	100.0
Cash-grain farms.....	32,342	9.3
Tobacco farms.....	56,759	16.3
Cotton farms.....	83,202	23.8
Field-crop farms other than cash-grain, tobacco, and cotton.....	5,811	1.7
Vegetable farms.....	4,383	1.3
Fruit-and-nut farms.....	5,465	1.6
Poultry farms.....	8,900	2.6
Dairy farms.....	30,342	8.7
Livestock farms other than poultry and dairy and livestock ranches.....	82,886	23.8
Livestock ranches.....	6,441	1.8
General farms.....	26,068	7.5
Miscellaneous farms.....	6,355	1.8

More than 27 percent of the Class VI farms were operated by tenants and 10.8 percent were operated by croppers.

Tenure of operator	Number of farms	Percent distribution
Total.....	348,954	100.0
Full owners.....	197,071	56.5
Part owners.....	54,050	15.5
Managers.....	621	0.2
All tenants.....	97,212	27.9
Cash.....	11,280	3.2
Share-cash.....	4,463	1.3
Crop-share.....	28,512	8.2
Livestock-share.....	2,180	0.6
Croppers (South only).....	37,523	10.8
Other and unspecified.....	13,254	3.8

The data for farms with a value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500 affects significantly the averages for all farms. For example, when the farms with a value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500 are included in total, the average value of farm products sold for farms in 1959 would be \$8,232; if these farms are excluded, the average value of farm products sold per farm would be \$13,975.

## CHANGES IN FARMS, 1950 TO 1959

**Change in Number of Farms by Economic Class.**—The following table indicates the criteria used for determining economic class of farm for the 1950 and 1954 Censuses of Agriculture. Because of change in criteria it is possible to make comparisons for the 1959, 1954, and 1950 Censuses of Agriculture for four groups of economic classes of farms, i.e., farms with sales of \$10,000 and over, farms with sales of \$5,000 to \$9,999, farms with sales of \$2,500 to \$4,999, and farms with sales of less than \$2,500. Because of changes in the criteria of commercial farms, comparable data for commercial farms for the three censuses are available only for the three groups of economic classes of farms with sales of \$2,500 and over. Moreover, as Alaska and Hawaii were not included in the 1954 Census of Agriculture, comparative data are available for the three censuses only for the conterminous United States.

# ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM

1203

TABLE 3.—CRITERIA FOR THE ECONOMIC CLASSES OF FARMS AND NUMBER OF FARMS IN EACH CLASS, FOR THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES: CENSUSES OF 1954 AND 1950

Class	Number of farms	Criteria		Farms excluded
		Value of farm products sold	Other	
United States, total.....	1954..... 4, 783, 021	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Commercial farms, total.....	1950..... 5, 379, 250	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Class I.....	1954..... 3, 327, 617	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Class II.....	1950..... 3, 706, 412	xxx.....	xxx.....	xxx.
Class III.....	1954..... 134, 003	\$25, 000 or more.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class IV.....	1950..... 103, 231	\$10, 000 to \$24, 999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class V.....	1954..... 448, 945	\$5, 000 to \$9, 999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Class VI.....	1950..... 381, 151	\$2, 500 to \$4, 999.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Other farms, total.....	1954..... 706, 929	\$1, 200 to \$2, 499.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Part-time.....	1950..... 721, 211	\$250 to \$1, 199.....	Less than 100 days of off-farm work by operator and income of operator and members of his family from off-the-farm sources less than value of all farm products sold.	Abnormal.
Residential.....	1954..... 811, 965	Less than \$250.....	None.....	Abnormal.
Abnormal.....	1950..... 882, 302	Not a criterion.....	Institutional farms, experimental farms, grazing associations, community-project farms, etc.	xxx.
	1954..... 763, 348			
	1950..... 901, 316			
	1954..... 462, 427			
	1950..... 717, 201			
	1954..... 1, 455, 404			
	1950..... 1, 672, 838			
	1954..... 574, 575			
	1950..... 639, 230			
	1954..... 878, 136			
	1950..... 1, 029, 392			
	1954..... 2, 693			
	1950..... 4, 216			

## CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF FARMS WITH A VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD OF LESS THAN \$2,500

Most of the changes in the number of farms since 1950 have occurred in the number of farms with sales of farm products of less than \$2,500.

Value of farm products sold	Number of farms				
	Total			Percent change	
	1959	1954	1950	1954-1959	1950-1959
Farms with value of farm products sold of—					
Total.....	3, 701, 364	4, 783, 021	5, 379, 250	-22. 6	-31. 2
Less than \$2,500 <sup>1</sup> .....	1, 636, 920	2, 681, 179	3, 291, 355	-38. 9	-50. 3
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	616, 819	811, 965	882, 302	-24. 0	-30. 1
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	653, 150	706, 929	721, 211	-7. 6	-9. 4
\$10,000 or more.....	794, 475	582, 948	484, 382	+36. 3	+64. 0

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

The decrease of 1,044,000 in the number of farms with sales of farm products of less than \$2,500 from 1954 to 1959 was affected by a change in the definition of a farm. The change in definition of a farm accounted for 22 percent of the change from 1954 to 1959 and 16 percent of the change from 1950 to 1959 in the number of farms with a value of products of less than \$2,500. If the definition of a farm had not been changed, the decrease from 1954 to 1959 would have been from 2,681,000 to 1,869,000 rather than to 1,637,000.

Farms with a value of farm products of under \$2,500 declined more than 50 percent from 1950 to 1959. They accounted for 61 percent of all farms in 1950 and only 44 percent in 1959. In 1950, they accounted for 12 percent of all farm products sold as compared with only 5 percent in 1959.

The change in farms with less than \$2,500 of farm products sold accounts for a large part of the change in all farms.

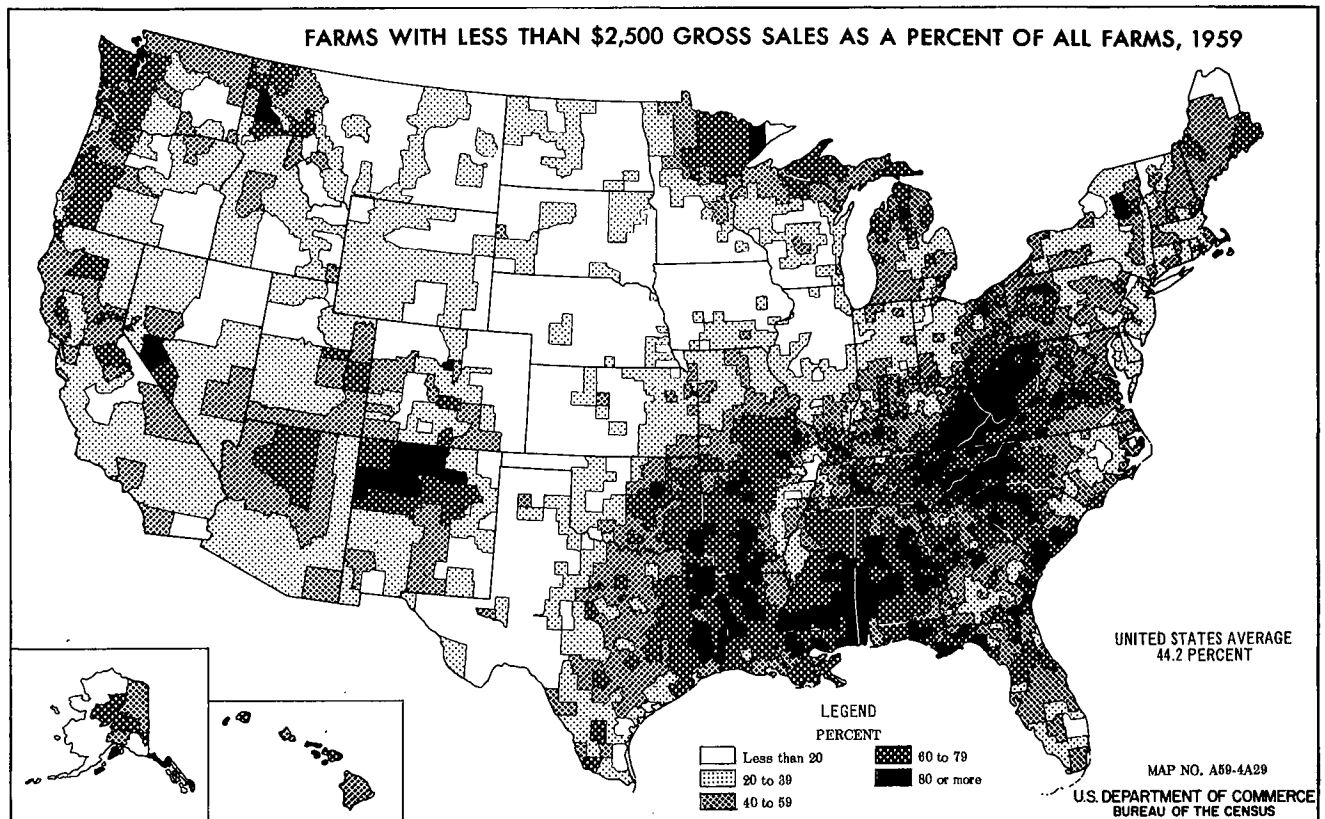
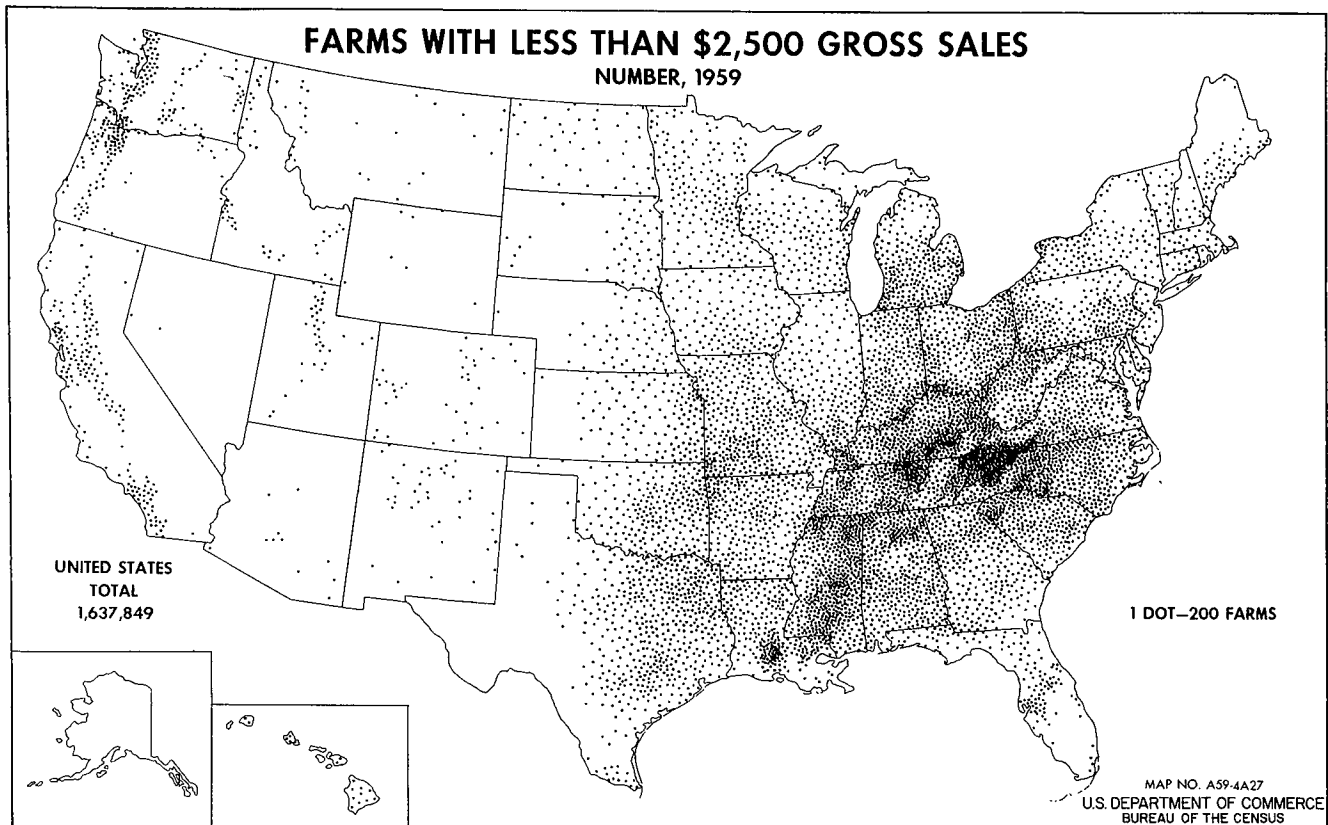
Item and year	All farms	Farms with value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500 <sup>1</sup>	Farms with value of farm products sold of \$2,500 or more
Number of farms.....			
1959.....	3, 701, 364	1, 636, 920	2, 064, 444
1954.....	4, 783, 021	2, 681, 179	2, 101, 842
1950.....	5, 379, 250	3, 291, 355	2, 087, 895
Change in number of farms.....			
1954-1959.....	-1, 081, 657	-1, 044, 259	-37, 398
1950-1959.....	-1, 677, 886	-1, 654, 435	-23, 451
1950-1954.....	-596, 229	-610, 176	+13, 947
Average size of farm.....			
acres 1959.....	302. 6	111. 7	454. 0
1954.....	242. 5	102. 6	421. 1
1950.....	215. 6	94. 2	407. 0
Value of farm products sold per farm.....			
dollars 1959.....	8, 232	990	13, 975
1954.....	5, 188	846	10, 726
1950.....	4, 142	825	9, 370

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

Most of the farms with less than \$2,500 of sales that have disappeared are in the smaller size groups.

Size of farm 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
All farms.....			
1959.....	3, 701, 364	1, 636, 920	2, 064, 444
1954.....	4, 782, 416	2, 680, 545	2, 101, 871
1950.....	5, 379, 250	3, 291, 355	2, 087, 895
Farms under 10 acres.....			
1959.....	240, 351	193, 961	46, 390
1954.....	484, 291	438, 500	45, 791
1950.....	480, 373	438, 173	42, 200
Farms 10 to 99 acres.....			
1959.....	1, 467, 721	1, 013, 489	454, 232
1954.....	2, 076, 894	1, 556, 988	519, 906
1950.....	2, 522, 717	2, 025, 262	497, 455
Farms 100 to 219 acres.....			
1959.....	997, 210	317, 870	679, 340
1954.....	1, 210, 298	485, 358	724, 940
1950.....	1, 379, 654	612, 638	767, 016
Farms 220 to 499 acres.....			
1959.....	660, 027	89, 376	570, 651
1954.....	688, 755	152, 731	536, 024
1950.....	691, 530	170, 829	520, 701
Farms 500 to 999 acres.....			
1959.....	199, 755	16, 263	183, 492
1954.....	191, 697	33, 123	158, 574
1950.....	183, 913	32, 675	151, 238
Farms 1,000 or more acres.....			
1959.....	136, 300	5, 961	130, 339
1954.....	130, 481	13, 845	116, 636
1950.....	121, 063	11, 778	109, 285

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





# ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM

1205

More than three-fifths of the farms disappearing since 1950 from the group of farms with a value of farm products sold of

less than \$2,500 were operated by full owners or part owners.

Tenure of operator	Farms with total value of products of \$2,500 or less <sup>1</sup>						All farms (number)		
	Number			Increase-decrease in number			1959	1954	1950
	1959	1954	1950	1954-1959	1950-1959	1950-1954			
Total.....	1,636,920	2,681,179	3,291,355	-1,044,259	-1,654,435	-610,176	3,701,364	4,783,021	5,379,250
Full owners.....	1,217,237	1,850,722	2,155,081	-633,485	-937,844	-304,359	2,113,940	2,744,708	3,091,473
Part owners.....	181,945	290,911	315,376	-108,966	-133,431	-24,465	833,073	868,180	840,924
Managers.....	4,656	5,091	4,560	-435	96	531	20,934	20,894	23,163
All tenants.....	233,082	534,455	816,338	-301,373	-583,256	-281,883	733,417	1,149,239	1,423,690
Cash.....	49,463	102,857	145,073	-53,394	-95,610	-42,216	105,194	160,131	217,196
Share-cash.....	10,005	21,642	38,723	-11,637	-28,718	-17,081	132,506	165,241	197,329
Crop-share.....	56,536	140,657	240,558	-84,121	-184,022	-99,901	200,987	327,261	409,977
Livestock-share.....	5,264	9,838	18,139	-4,574	-12,875	-8,301	86,428	111,154	115,686
Croppers (South only).....	60,067	173,036	265,229	-112,969	-205,162	-92,193	121,037	267,662	338,775
Other and unspecified.....	51,747	86,425	108,616	-34,678	-56,869	-22,191	87,265	117,790	144,727

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

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.

Figures on the number of farm operators by age groups for farms with a value of farm products of less than \$2,500 are avail-

able for only 1959 and 1950. The changes in the number of farm operators in each age group were as follows:

Age group	Farms with a value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500 <sup>1</sup>			All farms		
	Number		Decrease (number)	Number		Decrease (number)
	1959	1950		1959	1950	
Total.....	1,636,920	3,291,355	-1,654,435	3,701,364	5,379,250	-1,677,886
Under 25 years.....	25,557	108,212	-82,655	61,472	163,726	-102,254
25 to 34 years.....	137,845	435,379	-297,534	402,615	791,323	-388,708
35 to 44 years.....	296,215	661,626	-365,411	804,354	1,186,918	-382,564
45 to 54 years.....	392,665	669,099	-276,434	978,332	1,157,085	-178,753
55 to 64 years.....	365,016	628,839	-263,823	801,216	1,000,350	-199,134
65 or more years.....	403,808	565,968	-162,160	616,434	744,594	-128,160
Not reporting age..	15,814	222,232	-206,418	36,941	335,254	-298,313

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

A large proportion of the operators of the farms with a value of farm products sold of less than \$2,500, that disappeared from 1950 to 1959, did not work off their farms.

Item	Farms with a value of all farm products sold of less than \$2,500 <sup>1</sup>					All farms				
	Number			Decrease (number)		Number			Decrease (number)	
	1959	1954	1950	1954-1959	1950-1959	1959	1954	1950	1954-1959	1950-1959
Total.....	1,636,920	2,681,179	3,291,355	-1,044,259	-1,654,435	3,701,364	4,783,021	5,379,250	-1,081,657	-1,677,886
Farm operators not working off the farm or not reporting as to work off farm.....	685,595	1,192,322	1,726,086	-508,727	-1,040,491	2,041,431	2,629,284	3,289,416	-587,853	-1,247,985
Farm operators working off farm, total.....	951,325	1,488,857	1,565,269	-537,532	-613,944	1,659,933	2,153,737	2,089,834	-493,804	-429,901
1 to 99 days.....	196,744	402,306	491,049	-205,562	-294,305	555,867	820,012	835,224	-264,145	-279,357
100 or more days.....	754,581	1,086,551	1,074,220	-331,970	-319,639	1,104,066	1,333,725	1,254,610	-229,659	-150,544
Farm operators reporting income from sources other than the farm operated exceeding value of farm products produced, total.....	1,023,266	1,250,367	1,416,900	-227,101	-393,634	1,324,652	1,424,233	1,566,154	-99,581	-241,502

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

**Changes for Farms With a Value of Farm Products Sold of \$2,500 and Over.**—There have been significant shifts in the distribution in the number of farms and in the value of farm products sold since 1950.

Item and value of farm products sold	Number (1,000)			Percent distribution		
	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950
Number of farms.....	3,701	4,783	5,379	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$2,500 or more, total.....	2,084	2,102	2,088	55.8	43.9	38.8
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	617	812	882	16.7	17.0	16.4
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	653	707	721	17.6	14.8	13.4
\$10,000 or more.....	794	583	484	21.5	12.2	9.0
Dollars (1,000)						
Value of farm products sold:						
\$2,500 or more, total.....	28,850,075	22,544,712	19,562,688	94.7	90.9	87.8
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	2,271,434	3,008,511	3,198,161	7.5	12.1	14.4
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	4,717,859	5,084,640	5,060,529	15.5	20.5	22.7
\$10,000 or more.....	21,860,783	14,451,561	11,303,998	71.7	58.2	50.7
Average per farm (dollars)						
Average value of farm products sold:						
\$2,500 or more, total.....	13,975	10,726	9,370	xxx	xxx	xxx
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	3,682	3,705	3,625	xxx	xxx	xxx
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	7,223	7,193	7,017	xxx	xxx	xxx
\$10,000 or more.....	27,516	24,790	23,337	xxx	xxx	xxx

From 1950 to 1959, 1 out of each 3 farms with sales of farm products of \$2,500 to \$4,999 and 1 out of 10 farms with sales of farm products of \$5,000 to \$9,999 disappeared or was shifted to the group of farms with sales of \$10,000 or more. On the other hand, the number of farms with sales of \$10,000 and over increased 64 percent. The percentage of the value of all farm products sold by farms with sales of \$2,500 to \$4,999 declined from 14 percent in 1949 to 8 percent in 1959. While the percentages of the value of all farm products sold by farms with sales of \$5,000 to \$9,999 declined from 23 percent in 1949 to 16 percent in 1959, the proportion of the value of all farm products sold by farms with a value of farm products of \$10,000 and over increased from 51 percent in 1949 to 72 percent in 1959.

Changes in prices received by farmers have influenced the change in the number of farms in the various economic classes from 1950 to 1959. In order to provide some measure for the approximate effect of changes in prices, it is necessary to examine data by type of farm for commercial farms as the changes in prices have varied for several of the important farm products.

For each type of farm, the sale of the product or group of products that determined the type of farm accounted for a large part of the total value of farm products in 1959.

Type of farm	Percent of the value of all farm products sold derived from sale of farm products or group of products determining type of farm for farms with a total value of farm products sold of—			
	\$2,500 or more	\$2,500-\$4,999	\$5,000-\$9,999	\$10,000 or more
Cash-grain farms.....	76.7	76.8	75.0	77.1
Cotton farms.....	74.4	81.6	75.8	73.4
Field-crop farms other than cash-grain and cotton.....	76.3	78.2	76.6	75.6
Vegetable farms.....	81.7	77.7	79.2	82.0
Fruit-and-nut farms.....	93.3	91.6	92.6	93.5
Poultry farms.....	91.0	84.2	86.4	91.7
Dairy farms.....	84.5	82.8	82.4	85.4
Livestock farms other than poultry and dairy farms.....	83.4	79.6	76.8	84.9

**TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FARMS WITH VALUE OF PRODUCTS SOLD OF \$2,500 OR MORE, BY TYPE OF FARM, FOR THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES: 1959, 1954, AND 1950**

Type of farm	Farms with a value of farm products sold of—			
	\$2,500 or more	\$2,500 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 or more
All farms with sales of \$2,500 or more.....	number 1959.....	2,064,444	616,819	653,150
.....	1954.....	2,101,842	811,965	706,929
.....	1950.....	2,087,895	882,302	721,211
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-37,398	-195,146	-53,779
.....	1950-54.....	+13,947	-70,337	-14,282
.....	1950-59.....	-23,451	-265,483	-68,061
Cash-grain farms.....	number 1959.....	365,697	92,160	124,559
.....	1954.....	421,861	128,990	160,298
.....	1950.....	325,424	109,815	127,744
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-56,164	-36,830	-36,739
.....	1950-54.....	+96,437	+19,175	+32,554
.....	1950-59.....	+40,273	-17,655	-3,185
Cotton farms.....	number 1959.....	158,647	67,068	37,961
.....	1954.....	203,749	116,054	46,997
.....	1950.....	174,837	91,377	44,972
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-45,102	-48,986	-9,036
.....	1950-54.....	+28,912	+24,677	+2,025
.....	1950-59.....	-16,190	-24,319	-7,011
Other field-crop farms.....	number 1959.....	164,998	79,647	53,997
.....	1954.....	182,991	114,234	47,730
.....	1950.....	169,551	114,317	37,316
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-17,993	-34,587	-6,267
.....	1950-54.....	+13,440	-83	+10,414
.....	1950-59.....	-4,553	-34,670	+16,681
Vegetable farms.....	number 1959.....	17,221	4,430	4,090
.....	1954.....	19,710	6,379	5,100
.....	1950.....	23,923	9,248	6,743
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-2,489	-1,949	-1,010
.....	1950-54.....	-4,213	-2,869	-1,643
.....	1950-59.....	-6,702	-4,818	-2,653
Fruit-and-nut farms.....	number 1959.....	55,470	12,927	14,367
.....	1954.....	59,248	16,846	16,414
.....	1950.....	50,691	18,929	15,491
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-3,778	-3,919	-2,057
.....	1950-54.....	+8,557	-2,083	+923
.....	1950-59.....	+4,779	-6,002	-1,134
Poultry farms.....	number 1959.....	94,154	17,640	22,264
.....	1954.....	97,851	27,546	28,495
.....	1950.....	93,636	34,030	28,427
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-3,697	-9,906	-6,241
.....	1950-54.....	+4,215	-6,484	+168
.....	1950-59.....	+518	-16,390	-6,173
Dairy farms.....	number 1959.....	397,811	97,315	145,963
.....	1954.....	397,996	153,707	156,550
.....	1950.....	405,129	179,935	153,980
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-185	-56,392	-10,587
.....	1950-54.....	-7,133	-26,228	+2,570
.....	1950-59.....	-7,318	-82,620	-8,017
Livestock farms other than poultry and dairy.....	number 1959.....	594,280	175,665	176,246
.....	1954.....	456,543	142,972	152,436
.....	1950.....	525,425	176,580	189,087
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	+137,737	+32,693	+23,810
.....	1950-54.....	-68,882	-33,608	-36,651
.....	1950-59.....	+68,855	-915	-12,841
General farms.....	number 1959.....	185,521	61,134	65,819
.....	1954.....	238,999	98,126	87,327
.....	1950.....	293,382	138,940	110,854
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	-53,478	-36,992	-21,508
.....	1950-54.....	-54,383	-40,814	-23,527
.....	1950-59.....	-107,861	-77,806	-45,035
Miscellaneous farms.....	number 1959.....	30,645	8,843	7,904
.....	1954.....	22,894	7,111	5,582
.....	1950.....	25,897	9,131	6,597
Change in number of farms.....	1954-59.....	+7,751	+1,732	+2,322
.....	1950-54.....	-3,003	-2,020	-1,015
.....	1950-59.....	+4,748	-288	+1,307

For cash-grain farms, the sales of corn, sorghums, wheat, rice, rye, flaxseed, and soybeans have made up more than two-thirds of the total value of all farm products sold. The average prices for these crops for the three censuses have been as follows:

Crop	Price per bushel (dollars)		
	1959	1954	1949
Corn for grain.....	1.05	1.44	1.24
Sorghums for grain.....	0.86	1.26	0.98
Wheat.....	1.77	2.13	1.86
Rice.....	2.06	2.04	1.77
Rye.....	1.02	1.22	1.22
Flaxseed.....	3.04	3.04	3.60
Soybeans for beans.....	1.97	2.52	2.12

Average prices for cash-grain crops were less in 1959 than in 1954 and 1949.

The value of cotton, seed and lint, has accounted for three-fourths of the value of all farm products sold on cotton farms. The average price per bale for cotton for the three censuses has been—

Year	Dollars
1959	168.37
1954	194.62
1949	161.57

Tobacco, Irish potatoes, sugarcane for sugar, sugar beets, and peanuts have provided more than two-thirds of the total value of all farm products sold for field-crop farms other than cash-grain and cotton farms. The average prices for these crops for the years covered by the last three censuses were as follows:

Crop	Average price (dollars)		
	1959	1954	1949
Tobacco per pound	0.58	0.51	0.46
Irish potatoes per bushel	1.28	1.30	1.28
Sugarcane for sugar per ton	7.09	6.70	6.00
Sugar beets for sugar per ton	11.14	11.17	10.82
Peanuts per pound	0.10	0.12	0.10

Prices of fruits and vegetables were not significantly different in 1959, 1954, and 1949. The index of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for prices received by farmers for fruits and nuts was 212 for 1959, 209 for 1954, and 196 for 1949 (1910-14=100). The index of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for prices received by farmers for commercial vegetables was 235 for 1959, 216 for 1954, and 232 for 1949 (1910-14=100).

The sale of broilers, other chickens, and eggs accounted for approximately 75 percent of the sales of all farm products for poultry farms in 1959. The average prices for these poultry products for the three censuses were as follows:

Year	Eggs per dozen (dollars)	Broilers, each (dollars)	Other chickens, each (dollars)
1959	0.32	0.53	0.51
1954	0.35	0.70	0.80
1949	0.42	NA	NA

NA Not available.

For dairy farms, the sale of milk and cream has accounted for about three-fourths of the sales of all farm products. The average prices for these products for the three census years were:

Year	Milk per 100 pounds (dollars)	Cream per pound of butterfat (dollars)
1959	3.83	0.59
1954	3.54	0.57
1949	3.67	0.61

The changes in the number of farms indicate a substantial increase in farm production on individual farms. In addition, the reduction in the number of farms and the incorporation of the land in farms from the disappearing farms into the remaining farms, has increased the average size of the remaining farms in terms of acreage. The increase in output and size has been accomplished in some cases without an increase in equipment, hired farm workers, etc. Some of the increases in number of farms with sales of \$10,000 or more, particularly the number of dairy and livestock farms, have resulted from increases in the average prices of some farm products (see chapter XII).

Item	Farms with a value of farm products sold of—											
	\$2,500 or more			\$2,500 to \$4,999			\$5,000 to \$9,999			\$10,000 or more		
	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950
Quantity of resources used:												
Land in farms.....acres (1,000)...	937,161	885,036	849,795	118,473	163,216	168,696	188,403	220,520	215,075	630,286	501,300	466,023
Cropland harvested.....acres (1,000)...	286,374	282,670	275,415	36,623	59,161	66,281	71,858	88,134	91,769	177,893	135,375	117,365
Cattle and calves.....number (1,000)...	82,996	76,493	60,467	10,526	15,144	13,540	18,027	21,627	17,972	54,443	39,723	28,955
Milk cows.....number (1,000)...	14,771	15,549	15,164	2,191	4,072	4,697	4,329	5,611	5,706	8,251	5,865	4,761
Chickens 4 months old and over.....number (1,000)...	316,521	279,665	223,585	42,029	68,320	67,958	72,658	91,840	80,097	201,835	119,505	75,530
Fertilizer used.....tons (1,000)...	17,189	14,901	NA	2,257	3,080	NA	3,488	3,711	NA	11,444	8,110	NA
Regular hired workers.....persons...	656,950	649,727	895,505	27,185	43,379	96,109	62,361	94,340	174,929	567,404	512,008	624,467
Tractors (other than garden).....number (1,000)...	3,738	3,213	2,507	714	839	725	1,070	1,059	880	1,954	1,315	901
Percent distribution of resources used:												
Land in farms.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	12.6	18.4	19.9	20.1	24.9	25.3	67.3	56.6	54.8
Cropland harvested.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	12.8	20.9	24.1	25.1	31.2	33.3	62.1	47.9	42.6
Cattle and calves.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	12.7	19.8	22.4	21.7	28.3	29.7	65.6	51.9	47.9
Milk cows.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	14.8	26.2	31.0	29.3	36.1	37.6	55.9	37.7	31.4
Chickens 4 months old and over.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	13.3	24.4	30.4	23.0	32.8	35.8	63.8	42.7	33.8
Fertilizer.....	100.0	100.0	NA	13.1	20.7	NA	20.3	24.9	NA	66.6	54.4	NA
Regular hired workers.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.1	6.7	10.7	9.5	14.5	19.5	86.4	78.8	69.7
Tractors (other than garden).....	100.0	100.0	100.0	19.1	26.1	28.9	28.6	33.0	35.1	52.3	40.9	35.9
Proportion of farms:												
Using fertilizer.....	72.0	69.7	NA	69.0	68.2	NA	71.0	69.1	NA	75.2	72.4	NA
Having 1 or more regular hired workers.....	5.2	5.0	6.9	0.7	0.8	1.7	1.4	2.0	4.0	11.8	14.5	20.5
Having 2 or more tractors (other than garden).....	56.3	45.5	NA	30.1	23.1	NA	55.5	48.7	NA	77.3	72.9	NA

NA Not available.

The change in the number of farms in the various economic classes for the last decade varied for each of the three groups of farms classified by value of farm products sold.

Item	Number of farms			Percent distribution			Change in number of farms		
	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1954-1959	1950-1959	1950-1954
All farms with a value of farm products sold of \$2,500 or more.....	2,064,444	2,101,842	2,087,895	100.0	100.0	100.0	-37,398	-23,451	+13,947
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	616,819	811,965	882,302	29.9	38.6	42.3	-195,146	-265,483	-70,337
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	653,150	706,929	721,211	31.6	33.6	34.5	-53,779	-68,061	-14,282
\$10,000 or more.....	794,475	582,948	484,382	38.5	27.7	23.2	+211,527	+310,093	+98,566

The change in the number of farms in the three value-of-sales groups has been related to change in the size and distribution of farms by size.

Item and size of farm		Farms with a value of farm products sold of—			
		\$2,500 or more	\$2,500-\$4,999	\$5,000-\$9,999	\$10,000 or more
Number of farms, total	1959..	2,064,444	616,819	653,150	794,475
	1954..	2,101,871	812,108	706,852	582,911
	1950..	2,087,895	882,302	721,211	484,382
Under 10 acres	1959..	46,390	18,347	10,925	17,118
	1954..	45,791	19,735	11,843	14,213
	1950..	42,200	18,296	11,630	12,274
10 to 49 acres	1959..	192,793	106,244	51,000	35,549
	1954..	233,266	151,175	53,039	29,052
	1950..	198,471	134,684	41,468	22,319
50 to 69 acres	1959..	83,704	44,825	23,896	14,983
	1954..	92,168	56,052	24,269	11,847
	1950..	92,685	61,310	22,208	9,167
70 to 99 acres	1959..	177,735	90,765	57,778	29,192
	1954..	194,472	111,778	59,430	23,264
	1950..	206,299	129,047	59,169	18,083
100 to 139 acres	1959..	230,606	94,343	88,078	48,185
	1954..	247,356	118,577	93,213	35,566
	1950..	268,318	141,378	98,456	28,484
140 to 179 acres	1959..	272,368	82,070	108,272	82,026
	1954..	297,260	110,339	122,247	64,674
	1950..	317,525	131,923	135,630	49,972
180 to 219 acres	1959..	176,366	41,729	66,220	68,417
	1954..	180,324	56,874	72,455	50,995
	1950..	181,173	64,940	76,695	39,538
220 to 259 acres	1959..	159,051	30,878	54,478	73,695
	1954..	157,155	41,542	60,089	55,524
	1950..	156,212	48,824	63,750	43,638
260 to 499 acres	1959..	411,600	70,621	120,329	220,650
	1954..	378,869	93,323	131,042	154,504
	1950..	364,489	102,400	134,217	127,872
500 to 999 acres	1959..	183,492	26,732	48,112	108,648
	1954..	158,574	35,805	49,087	73,682
	1950..	151,238	35,432	50,599	65,207
1,000 or more acres	1959..	130,339	10,265	24,062	96,012
	1954..	116,636	16,908	30,138	69,590
	1950..	109,285	14,068	27,389	67,828
Average size of farm	acres 1959..	454.0	192.1	288.5	793.3
	1954..	421.1	201.0	312.0	630.9
	1950..	407.0	191.2	298.2	962.1
Percent distribution of farms in each value-of-products group, by size:					
Number of farms, total	1959..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	1954..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	1950..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 10 acres	1959..	2.2	3.0	1.7	2.2
	1954..	2.2	2.4	1.7	2.4
	1950..	2.0	2.1	1.6	2.5
10 to 49 acres	1959..	9.3	17.2	7.8	4.5
	1954..	11.1	18.6	7.5	5.0
	1950..	9.5	15.3	5.7	4.6
50 to 69 acres	1959..	4.1	7.3	3.7	1.9
	1954..	4.4	6.9	3.4	2.0
	1950..	4.4	6.9	3.1	1.9
70 to 99 acres	1959..	8.6	14.7	8.8	3.7
	1954..	9.3	13.8	8.4	4.0
	1950..	9.9	14.6	8.2	3.7
100 to 139 acres	1959..	11.2	15.3	13.5	6.1
	1954..	11.8	14.6	13.2	6.1
	1950..	12.9	16.0	13.7	5.9
140 to 179 acres	1959..	13.2	13.3	16.6	10.3
	1954..	14.1	13.6	17.3	11.1
	1950..	15.2	15.0	18.8	10.3
180 to 219 acres	1959..	8.5	6.8	10.1	8.6
	1954..	8.6	7.0	10.3	8.7
	1950..	8.7	7.4	10.6	8.2
220 to 259 acres	1959..	7.7	5.0	8.3	9.3
	1954..	7.4	5.1	8.5	9.5
	1950..	7.5	5.5	8.8	9.0
260 to 499 acres	1959..	19.9	11.4	18.4	27.8
	1954..	18.0	11.5	18.5	26.5
	1950..	17.5	11.6	18.6	26.4
500 to 999 acres	1959..	8.9	4.3	7.4	13.7
	1954..	7.5	4.4	6.9	12.6
	1950..	7.2	4.0	7.0	13.5
1,000 or more acres	1959..	6.3	1.7	3.7	12.1
	1954..	5.5	2.1	4.3	11.9
	1950..	5.2	1.6	3.8	14.0

Item and size of farm		Farms with a value of farm products sold of—			
		\$2,500 or more	\$2,500-\$4,999	\$5,000-\$9,999	\$10,000 or more
Change in the number of farms, total	1954 to 1959..	-37,427	-195,289	-53,702	+211,564
	1950 to 1959..	-23,451	-265,483	-68,061	+310,093
Under 10 acres	1954 to 1959..	+599	-1,388	-918	+2,905
	1950 to 1959..	+4,190	+51	-705	+4,844
10 to 49 acres	1954 to 1959..	-40,473	-44,931	-2,039	+6,497
	1950 to 1959..	-5,678	-28,440	+9,532	+13,230
50 to 69 acres	1954 to 1959..	-8,464	-11,227	-373	+3,136
	1950 to 1959..	-8,981	-16,485	+1,688	+5,816
70 to 99 acres	1954 to 1959..	-16,737	-21,013	-1,652	+5,928
	1950 to 1959..	-28,564	-38,282	-1,391	+11,109
100 to 139 acres	1954 to 1959..	-16,750	-24,234	-5,135	+12,619
	1950 to 1959..	-37,712	-47,035	-10,378	+19,701
140 to 179 acres	1954 to 1959..	-24,892	-28,269	-13,975	+17,352
	1950 to 1959..	-45,157	-49,853	-27,358	+32,054
180 to 219 acres	1954 to 1959..	-3,958	-15,145	-6,235	+17,422
	1950 to 1959..	-4,807	-23,211	-10,475	+28,879
220 to 259 acres	1954 to 1959..	+1,896	-10,664	-5,611	+18,171
	1950 to 1959..	+2,839	-17,946	-9,272	+30,057
260 to 499 acres	1954 to 1959..	+32,731	-22,702	-10,713	+66,146
	1950 to 1959..	+47,111	-31,779	-13,888	+92,778
500 to 999 acres	1954 to 1959..	+24,918	-9,073	-9,073	+34,968
	1950 to 1959..	+32,254	-8,700	-2,487	+43,441
1,000 or more acres	1954 to 1959..	+13,703	-6,643	-6,076	+26,422
	1950 to 1959..	+21,054	-3,803	-3,327	+28,184

The age distribution of farm operators of each of the three value groups has also changed.

Item and age group		Farms with a value of farm products sold of—			
		\$2,500 or more	\$2,500-\$4,999	\$5,000-\$9,999	\$10,000 or more
Number of farm operators:					
Total	1959..	2,064,444	616,819	653,150	794,475
	1954..	2,101,871	812,108	706,852	582,911
	1950..	2,087,895	882,302	721,211	484,382
Under 25 years	1959..	35,915	11,762	11,946	12,207
	1954..	41,818	17,897	14,844	9,077
	1950..	55,514	27,261	18,588	9,665
25 to 34 years	1959..	264,770	60,258	81,192	123,320
	1954..	334,044	111,839	115,677	106,528
	1950..	355,944	142,257	129,531	84,156
35 to 44 years	1959..	508,139	122,956	155,747	229,436
	1954..	553,673	197,864	189,853	165,956
	1950..	525,292	208,305	187,164	129,823
45 to 54 years	1959..	585,667	169,462	191,395	224,810
	1954..	536,156	206,584	181,317	148,255
	1950..	487,986	198,470	170,904	118,612
55 to 64 years	1959..	436,200	150,147	145,032	141,021
	1954..	391,497	164,197	129,495	97,805
	1950..	371,511	166,767	124,511	80,233
65 or more years	1959..	212,626	95,715	61,887	55,024
	1954..	209,053	100,014	65,106	43,933
	1950..	178,626	89,693	55,341	33,592
Farm operators not reporting age	1959..	21,127	6,519	5,951	8,657
	1954..	35,630	13,713	10,560	11,357
	1950..	113,022	49,549	35,172	28,301
Average age, years	1959..	48.3	50.9	48.4	46.3
	1954..	NA	NA	NA	NA
	1950..	46.2	46.9	45.7	45.7
Percent distribution of farm operators by age:					
All farm operators	1959..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	1954..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	1950..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 25 years	1959..	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.5
	1954..	2.0	2.2	2.1	1.6
	1950..	2.7	3.1	2.6	2.0
25 to 34 years	1959..	12.8	9.8	12.4	15.5
	1954..	15.9	13.8	16.4	18.3
	1950..	17.0	16.1	18.0	17.4
35 to 44 years	1959..	24.6	19.9	23.8	28.9
	1954..	26.3	24.4	26.9	28.5
	1950..	25.1	23.6	26.0	26.8
45 to 54 years	1959..	28.4	27.5	29.3	28.3
	1954..	25.5	25.4	25.7	25.4
	1950..	23.4	22.5	23.7	24.5
55 to 64 years	1959..	21.1	24.3	22.2	17.8
	1954..	18.6	20.2	18.3	16.8
	1950..	17.8	18.9	17.3	16.6
65 or more years	1959..	10.3	15.5	9.5	6.9
	1954..	9.9	12.3	9.2	7.5
	1950..	8.6	10.2	7.7	6.9
Farm operators not reporting age	1959..	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.1
	1954..	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.9
	1950..	5.4	5.6	4.9	5.8

NA Not available.

# ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM

1209

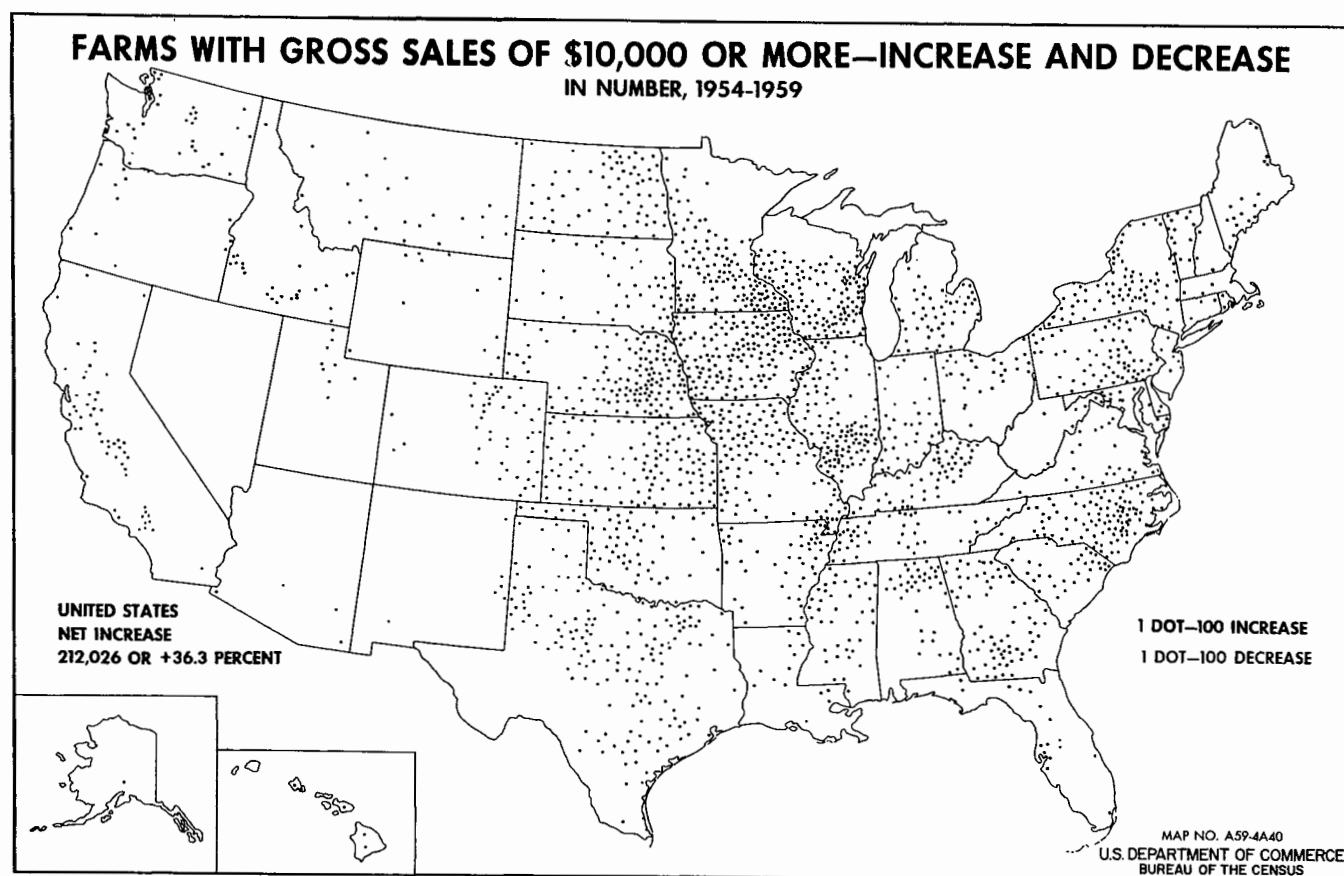
Both the number and the proportion of the farms operated by part owners and managers with a value of farm products sold of \$10,000 or more have been increasing.

Item and tenure of operator	Farms with a value of farm products sold of—											
	\$2,500 or more			\$2,500 to \$4,999			\$5,000 to \$9,999			\$10,000 or more		
	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950
Number of farms, total.....	2,064,444	2,101,842	2,087,895	616,819	811,965	882,302	653,150	706,929	721,211	794,475	582,948	484,382
Full owners.....	896,703	893,986	936,392	334,109	381,879	441,616	280,973	286,721	313,727	271,621	205,386	181,149
Part owners.....	651,128	577,269	525,546	140,387	177,593	174,428	199,964	199,043	188,401	310,777	200,633	162,719
Managers.....	16,278	15,803	18,603	1,608	2,018	1,475	2,487	3,385	4,881	12,183	10,400	12,247
All tenants.....	500,335	614,784	607,352	140,715	240,475	264,883	159,726	207,780	214,202	199,894	166,529	128,267
Cash.....	55,731	57,274	72,123	14,571	20,105	28,200	17,209	20,030	26,045	23,951	17,139	17,878
Share-cash.....	122,501	143,599	158,606	18,708	33,678	49,216	41,970	58,866	68,448	61,823	51,055	40,942
Crop-share.....	144,451	186,604	169,419	45,479	81,827	83,965	47,642	60,956	54,514	51,330	43,821	30,940
Livestock-share.....	81,164	101,316	97,647	9,886	19,140	26,801	23,880	38,019	40,979	47,298	44,157	29,767
Croppers.....	60,970	94,626	73,646	39,307	71,556	58,629	18,025	19,914	12,520	3,638	3,156	2,397
Other and unspecified.....	35,518	31,365	36,111	12,664	14,169	18,072	11,000	9,995	11,696	11,854	7,201	6,343

Both the number and proportion of the farm operators working off their farms and depending upon sources of income other than the farm operated have been increasing.

Item	Farms with a value of farm products sold of—											
	\$2,500 or more			\$2,500 to \$4,999			\$5,000 to \$9,999			\$10,000 or more		
	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950
Total farm operators.....number.....	2,064,444	2,101,842	2,087,895	616,819	811,965	882,302	653,150	706,929	721,211	794,475	582,948	484,382
Farm operators not working off their farms or not reporting as to work off their farms.....number.....	1,355,836	1,436,962	1,563,330	349,398	516,944	632,836	423,675	486,396	548,062	582,763	433,622	382,432
Farm operators working off their farms:	708,608	664,880	524,565	267,421	295,021	249,466	229,475	220,533	173,149	211,712	149,326	101,950
1 to 99 days.....	359,123	417,706	344,175	102,611	163,771	152,308	123,498	148,270	122,407	133,014	150,665	69,465
100 or more days.....	349,485	247,174	180,390	164,810	131,250	97,158	105,977	72,263	50,742	78,698	43,661	32,485
Percent of all farm operators working off their farms.....	34.3	31.6	25.1	43.4	36.3	28.3	35.1	31.2	24.0	26.6	25.6	21.0
1 to 99 days.....	17.4	19.9	16.5	16.6	20.2	17.3	18.9	21.0	17.0	16.7	18.1	14.3
100 or more days.....	16.9	11.8	8.6	26.7	16.2	11.0	16.2	10.2	7.0	9.9	7.5	6.7
Farm operators reporting income from sources other than farm operated.....number.....	666,914	NA	NA	215,945	NA	NA	197,843	NA	NA	253,126	NA	NA
Percent of total operators.....	32.3	NA	NA	35.0	NA	NA	30.3	NA	NA	31.9	NA	NA
Farm operators reporting income from sources other than the farm operated greater than the value of farm products sold.....number.....	301,386	173,866	149,247	167,970	102,295	90,249	82,152	45,578	38,377	51,264	25,993	20,628
Percent of total operators.....	14.6	8.3	7.1	27.2	12.6	10.2	12.6	6.4	5.3	6.5	4.5	4.3

NA Not available.



There has been little increase in the average amount of various resources used by farms having a total value of farm products sold of \$10,000 or more.

Resource used	Average per farm for farms with a value of farm products sold of—											
	\$2,500 or more			\$2,500 to \$4,999			\$5,000 to \$9,999			\$10,000 or more		
	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950	1959	1954	1950
Land in farms.....acres..	454.0	421.1	407.0	192.1	201.0	191.2	288.5	311.9	298.2	793.3	859.9	962.1
Cropland harvested.....acres..	138.7	134.5	131.9	59.4	72.9	75.1	110.0	124.7	127.2	223.9	232.2	242.3
Value of land and buildings.....dollars..	53,638	35,790	26,779	21,310	15,926	13,174	34,672	28,034	23,165	94,069	72,862	56,943
Cattle and calves.....number..	40.2	36.4	29.0	17.1	18.7	15.3	27.6	30.6	24.9	68.5	68.1	59.8
Chickens 4 months old and over.....number..	153.3	133.1	107.1	68.1	84.1	77.0	111.2	129.9	111.1	254.0	205.0	155.9
Tractors (other than garden).....number..	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.6	1.5	1.2	2.5	2.3	1.9
Motortrucks.....number..	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.4	1.3	1.1
Regular hired workers.....persons..	0.3	0.3	0.4	(1)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.9	1.3
Expenditures for—												
Hired labor.....dollars..	1,190	1,006	1,052	177	214	254	343	422	560	2,673	2,820	3,236
Machine hire.....dollars..	350	248	235	145	133	130	209	198	209	626	471	465
Feed for livestock and poultry.....dollars..	2,136	1,618	1,213	517	539	460	1,076	1,130	939	4,266	3,714	2,992
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....dollars..	677	560	462	283	280	237	499	483	426	1,128	1,042	926

<sup>1</sup> Less than 0.05.

NUMBER OF FARMS WITH OVER \$10,000 TOTAL VALUE  
PRODUCTS SOLD BY GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS: 1950 TO 1959

[Data for Alaska and Hawaii not included for 1954]

