



Apples were the second most important tree fruit, nut, grape, and coffee crop in 1959 and comprised 16 percent of the total value of these crops. During the last 30 years there has been a decrease of 92 percent in the number of farms growing apples. The number of apple trees in 1959 was about one-fourth the number in 1930. However, apple production has not declined greatly. The average apple production for the last three censuses was only 10.6 percent less than the average apple production for 1924, 1929, and 1934.

The production of apples is highly localized. More than half of the crop was produced in 25 counties. About 68 percent of the crop was produced in six States—Washington, New York, Michigan, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and California. Apple production is concentrated on a relatively few specialized farms. In 1959, 4,523 farms each with 1,000 or more bearing apple trees accounted for 68 percent of the total production. From 1954 to 1959, there was a decline both in number and relative importance of farms with less than 1,000 bearing apple trees.

APPLES—FARMS REPORTING, NUMBER OF TREES, AND QUANTITY HARVESTED FOR FARMS CLASSIFIED BY NUMBER OF BEARING TREES FOR THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES: 1959 AND 1954

Number of bearing trees	Farms reporting		Trees not of bearing age				Number of trees of bearing age		Quantity harvested				
			Farms reporting		Number of trees				Farms reporting		Bushels		
	1959	1954	1959	1954	1959	1954	1959	1954	1959	1954	1959	1954	
Total, all farms.....	184,552	272,917	75,836	99,038	8,716,391	6,514,470	20,264,678	24,214,876	96,818	165,141	120,609,919	102,600,603	
Farms reporting—													
No bearing trees.....	27,806	34,431	27,806	34,431	1,530,163	1,307,034	668,942	1,052,348	47,305	77,922	639,940	1,160,788	
Under 20 bearing trees.....	83,337	119,824	27,113	39,257	325,812	417,680	1,654,047	2,858,951	28,978	61,803	2,493,821	3,627,852	
20 to 99 bearing trees.....	49,728	87,757	9,341	13,936	389,078	434,484	864,478	1,278,005	5,088	7,532	3,222,369	3,117,322	
100 to 199 bearing trees.....	6,803	10,260	2,124	2,424	319,367	294,132	712,531	2,428,486	3,173,010	7,070	8,706	13,362,790	12,585,414
200 to 499 bearing trees.....	8,104	10,685	3,823	3,841	1,034,229	712,531	2,428,486	3,173,010	7,070	8,706	13,362,790	12,585,414	
500 to 999 bearing trees.....	4,251	5,071	2,544	2,383	1,139,636	746,102	2,893,668	3,376,573	3,980	4,534	18,933,070	16,176,700	
1,000 or more bearing trees.....	4,523	4,889	3,085	2,766	3,969,136	2,602,507	11,755,657	12,475,989	4,397	4,644	81,957,929	65,933,527	

The third most important tree fruit, nut, grape, and coffee crop was grapes. This crop accounted for 12.7 percent of the total value of all such crops harvested in 1959. The number of farms producing grapes has decreased significantly. A third fewer farms produced grapes in 1959 than in 1954. However, the number of grapevines has declined less than 10 percent since

1940. The quantity harvested in 1959 exceeded that reported for any prior census. The increased yield per bearing vine has resulted in increased production, even though the number of bearing vines has been declining since 1930. The average yield per bearing vine for the 1959 and 1954 censuses was double that shown for the 1929 and 1934 censuses.