

Part 3

FARM OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS

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PART 3. FARM OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background

Statistics presented in this part of chapter 3 relate to the operators of farms reported in the 1969 Census of Agriculture. Data are shown for classifications based upon the following characteristics: Place of residence (whether on or off the farm operated), number of years on present farm, age, race, and days worked off farm. The operator-characteristics items included in the 1969 Census of Agriculture are shown in the facsimile below.

Chapter 7 of this volume includes data on income received from agricultural services, recreational services, and payments received for participation in Government farm programs. The 1970 Census of Population provides information concerning the rural farm population, persons who reported their principal occupation to be farmer or farm manager, farm laborer or farm foreman, amounts of farm self-employment income, etc. Census of population data are not strictly comparable to census of agriculture data but do provide a great deal of information about characteristics of the rural farm population.

Source of Data

Data shown are from the 1969 Census of Agriculture with comparative data from earlier censuses and from the 1970 Census of Population and Housing. The data for 1969 are for all farms with sales of \$2,500 and over, for all institutional (abnormal) farms regardless of value of sales, and a sample of approximately 50 percent of the farms with sales of less than \$2,500. For age, race, and work off farms, a response was required for all reports. These items were imputed based on similar records if not reported. The number of farms reporting will equal the total number of farms for these three items. For "residence" and "year began operation," records were accepted without imputation when there wasn't any entry for these items. The number of farms tabulated as reporting these items

will be less than the total number of farms. Tenure is based upon the acreage figures entered in the land ownership section of the report forms and applies to all farms.

Some data for 1964 and earlier censuses are estimates based upon tabulations for a sample of approximately 20 percent of all farm operators. Tables using such estimates are identified by an appropriate headnote. See 1964, volume II, Introduction, for statistical tables giving the reliability of such estimates.

Presentation of Data

Most of the statistics presented represent a summary of data previously published in volume I, Area Reports, for the individual States. However, for the most part, the data are presented in different formats and combinations than in volume I. Data for 1969 concerning years on present farm have not been published previously.

Data are presented as totals for the United States, for each of four regions (Northeast, North Central, South, and West), and for each of the 50 States. Some tables contain data for the nine geographic divisions. The tables are for all farms or for class 1-5 farms (farms with sales of \$2,500 and over).

For age, race, and work off farm, the number of farms reporting equals the total number of farms. For residence, the number of farms reporting is 289,833 less than the total number of farms. For year began operation, the number not reporting was 584,888. Data for those farms not reporting residence or year began, are included in some tables, however.

The age groups for which data are tabulated are under 25 years, 25 to 34 years, 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, and 65 years and over. The race groups are white, Negro or black, American Indian, and other. The categories for off-farm work are none, 1 to 49 days, 50 to 99 days, 100 to 199 days and 200 days or more. Average days worked off farms is not available.

Facsimile of Farm Operator Characteristics Section, Reporting Forms

1. Does the operator—the person in charge of the farm or ranch operations—live on this place?	910	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Year operator began to operate any part of this place	911	Year	
3. Operator's age	912	Years old	
4. Race — Mark (X) the appropriate box: <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Negro or black <input type="checkbox"/> Indian (Amer.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
5. Number of days operator worked off this place in 1969 — Include work at a nonfarm job, business or profession, or on someone else's farm. Do not include exchange work. Mark (X) the appropriate box.			
	914	<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-49 days <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99 days <input type="checkbox"/> 100-199 days <input type="checkbox"/> 200 days or more

Other Published Data

Most data for 1969 covering the characteristics of farm operators are available for States and counties in volume I, Area Reports, for the individual States. Data on farm operators by size of farms are included in chapter 2 of this volume, by tenure in part 1 of this chapter, by economic class of farm in chapter 7, and by type of farm in chapter 8. Table 1 summarizes the kind and source of other published data from the 1969 Census of Agriculture.

For additional information on the 1964 Census of Agriculture and earlier census data on characteristics of farm operators and members of farm-operator households, see the volumes for the respective years.

Definitions and Explanations

Farm operator—The number of farm operators is considered to be the same as the number of farms. Many persons are counted as farm operators in the census of agriculture who do not consider farming their principal occupation. The 1969 Census of Agriculture tabulated 2.7 million farms and farm operators. However, only 1.4 million persons reported their principal occupation to be "farmer or farm manager" in the 1970 Census of Population, with 948,000 additional persons reporting their principal occupation to be "farm laborer or farm foreman". A "farm operator" may spend a few hours a week on a "farm"

producing only a few hundred dollars worth of farm products while partly or fully employed elsewhere, or be working full time as operator of a "farm" producing hundreds of thousand of dollars worth of farm products a year.

Residence—Farm operators were classified by residence on the basis of their reporting whether or not they lived on the farm operated. Data as to residence of the farm operators have been collected for the last seven censuses of agriculture, beginning with 1940. Except for 1964, when the instructions were to include operators who lived on the farm "any time" during the year, the inquiries have been similar and no time limitations were used. The instructions used for 1964 did not have a significant effect on the comparability of the data with other censuses.

Years on Present Farm (Year Began Operation of Present Farm)—The data for years on present farm reflect the continuity of operators on particular farms. The year began operation refers to the first year during which the farm operator was in charge of any part of his place. It does not refer to years of farm experience. The "farm" as it existed in 1969 in many cases was very different from when the operator first started to operate it. Data obtained from this inquiry are as follows: (a) Operators by number of years on present farm and (b) operators by year began operation of present farm. When the data are presented in terms of the replies to the inquiry on the report forms, the term "year began" is used.



Table 1. Other Published Data for Operator Characteristics: 1969

Where found	Geographical area for which available	Period	Classification	Subject covered
<u>Volume I</u>				
<u>State tables:</u>				
<u>All Farms</u>				
3.....	State.....	1969 to 1959....	Total farms.....	All farm operators and Negro farm operators by age, residency, and off farm work
9.....	State.....	1969.....	Selected economic class groups.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
<u>Class 1-5 Farms</u>				
12.....	State.....	1969 to 1959....	Total class 1 to 5 farms.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
24.....	State.....	1969.....	Total class 1-5 farms.....	Farm operators by age, residency, off farm work, and farm characteristics by tenure of operator
25.....	State.....	1969.....	Farms by age of operator.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
26.....	State.....	1969.....	Farms by size.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
27.....	State.....	1969.....	Farms by economic class.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
28.....	State.....	1969.....	Farms by type.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
29.....	State.....	1969.....	Farms by type and economic class.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
30.....	State.....	1969.....	Large-scale farms by type.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
<u>County tables:</u>				
<u>All Farms</u>				
3.....	County and State.....	1969 to 1964....	Total farms.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
<u>Class 1-5 Farms</u>				
12.....	County and State.....	1969 to 1964....	Total class 1-5 farms.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure, and off farm work
<u>Volume II</u>				
<u>Class 1-5 Farms</u>				
Chapter 2.....	United States.....		Farms by size.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure
Chapter 7.....	United States.....		Farms by economic class.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure
Chapter 8.....	United States.....		Farms by type.....	Farm operators by age, residency, color, tenure

Information for years on farm has been obtained for each census of agriculture beginning with 1910. In the censuses of 1964, 1959, 1954, 1950, 1930, and 1925, the inquiry called for the month as well as the year of occupancy. The month of occupancy was not tabulated in 1964, however. For 1945, 1940, and 1935 only the year of occupancy was asked. The report forms for 1920 and 1910 asked for the number of years and months the operator had operated the farm occupied at the time of the census. For each census, the data for years on farm have been summarized by groups of "years on present-farm." The number of years or months comprising these groups of "years on present farm" have not always been the same, largely due to changes in the date of census enumeration. Major groups of "years on present farm" used for compiling the data are Less than 5 years, 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, and 15 years or more. The group "less than 5 years" has been subdivided for some censuses. The difference between censuses in elapsed time from the beginning of the calendar year to the date the census reports were completed affects the data for the years-on-present-farm group "under 5 years" more than for groups of 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, and 15 years or more.

For the 1969 census, about two-thirds of the report forms were completed in January or February of 1970. For the 1964 census, over 90 percent of the report forms were completed in November and December of 1964. This may have resulted in a somewhat greater difference in reporting between the two years than there would have been had the time of reporting been the same.

About 585 thousand operators, 21.4 percent, did not report the year began operation in the 1969 census versus only 5.4 percent in 1964. This may also have some effect on comparability of data.

Age of farm operator—Data on age of farm operators have been obtained in each of the decennial censuses beginning with 1910 and, also, in the censuses of agriculture for 1945, 1954, 1959, 1964, and 1969. The censuses of population for 1890 and 1900 included a classification of heads of families occupying farm homes, by age groups. No data on age of operators were obtained in the censuses of 1925 and 1935.

For both 1969 and 1964, the operator's age was imputed if it was not reported. Tabulated data for 1969 and 1964, therefore, show an age for each farm operator. The number of operators for which age was not reported are shown for prior censuses.

Farm operators were classified into one of six age groups: Under 25, 25 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64, and 65 years or more. Average age of operators was tabulated in 1945 and 1954 through 1969; data for Alaska and Hawaii were not included in 1945 or in 1954.

Race of farm operator—Farm operators were classified as white, Negro or black, Indian (American), and other. For Hawaii only, Hawaiian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, and Korean were included as separate categories on the report form but are combined into the "other" group in published tables.

Table 2. Hawaii, Race by County and by Class of Farm: 1969

	Total	White	Hawaiian	Japanese	Chinese	Filipino	Korean	Other
Total.....	3,896	783	309	2,425	91	209	6	73
Hawaii.....	2,241	391	177	1,461	20	148	2	42
Maul.....	512	167	64	243	9	18	-	11
Honolulu.....	768	109	43	524	52	25	2	13
Kauai.....	375	116	25	197	10	18	2	7
Class 1.....	306	89	8	193	8	6	1	1
Class 2.....	289	28	5	240	8	4	-	4
Class 3.....	438	36	9	346	20	17	3	7
Class 4.....	493	60	28	361	9	24	-	11
Class 5.....	758	87	44	506	22	81	1	17
Class 6.....	356	105	45	176	5	19	1	5
Part time.....	918	292	137	417	14	37	-	21
Part retirement.....	327	82	33	183	5	21	-	3
Abnormal.....	11	4	-	3	-	-	-	4

The number of farm operators by race, by county, and by economic class of farms for Hawaii are presented in table 2.

The number of farms and land in farms by economic class of farm for farms operated by white operators, by Negro operators, by Indian operators, and by "other" operators are included in this part of the chapter for States, regions, and the United States. Additional data by race are included in parts 1 and 2 of this chapter.

Off-farm work—Information on work off the farm by farm operators has been obtained for each agriculture census beginning with 1930. Farm operators reporting off-farm work vary from those who supplement their farm incomes with odd or spare-time jobs to those operators who have regular nonfarm jobs and use the farm to supplement their regular income or as a residence. The operators with odd or spare-time jobs usually consider their nonfarm employment to be of secondary importance; they may work part time on someone else's farm, or work at seasonal nonfarm jobs.

Many persons who may be employed in cities or have other regular nonfarm jobs live in rural areas and conduct sufficient agricultural operations for their places to meet the definition of a farm. Some are using the farm income to supplement their regular nonfarm income. Some of the farm operators working off their farms may be using their nonfarm income as a source of capital for expanding their farming operations.

For 1969 and 1964, data are tabulated only for those operators reporting one or more days of work off the farm. For 1959, farm operators reporting "none" for days of work off farm and those not reporting off-farm work were not tabulated separately. For 1935, 1940, 1950, and 1954, data are given separately for farm operators reporting "none" for days of work off-farm in volume II, General Report, 1954 Census of Agriculture. The proportion of the farm operators for whom the inquiry regarding off-farm work was not reported varied from 1.4 percent in 1954, to 7.8 percent in 1939. For more detailed information on off-farm work by farm operators and members of the farm operator's family, for prior censuses, see volume II, General Report for the respective years.

Tenure—The tenure data presented here are limited and are related, for the most part, to year began operation.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FARM OPERATORS

Residence of Farm Operators

In 1969, 81.2 percent of the farm operators reporting residence reported that they lived on the farm operated. About 10.6 percent, or 290 thousand operators did not respond to the inquiry on place of residence versus only 2.9 percent in 1964. The proportion of those reporting residence that reported living on their farm varied from 86.3 percent in the North to 75.5 percent in the South. In 1964, 90.5 percent of the operators reporting residence lived on the farm. The percentage by region was 92.4 for the North, 89.2 for the South, and 87.0 for the West in 1964.

The higher nonresponse rate in 1969 probably has very little effect on comparability of residence data with that from previous censuses. It is likely, however, that an agriculture census taken by mail would result in a higher proportion of report forms being completed by farm owners and their representatives (accountants, bookkeepers, lawyers, etc.) than if the census had been taken by enumerators, as was done prior to 1969.

By value of sales, farms with sales of \$20,000 to \$39,000 had the highest proportion of resident operators, 90.4 percent in 1969. For part-time farmers (those grossing less than \$2,500 from the sales of farm products, less than 65 years old, and working off the farm 100 days or more), only 71.8 percent reported that they lived on the farm they operated.

A number of counties with substantial numbers of farms and amounts of agricultural production had 20 percent or more nonresident operators in 1969. Such counties, with at least 300 nonresident operators are presented in table 5.

Farm characteristics for farms with nonresident operators by economic class of farm were obtained in the 1969 census. The number of all farms versus farms operated by nonresident operators by class of farm, type of farm, years on present farm, and age of operator is shown in table 6.

Nonresident operators tended to be somewhat younger than resident operators. About 61 percent of the nonresident operators reporting the year they began operations of their place had been on their present farm less than 10 years versus only 30 percent for farm operators as a whole. Over 20 percent of the cash-grain, cotton, other field crop, fruit and nut, and miscellaneous type farms had nonresident operators.

Table 3. All Farm Operators by Residence: 1940 to 1969

	Farm operators			Percent of operators reporting as to residence		Percent of all operators not reporting residence
	Residing on farm operated	Not residing on farm operated	Not reporting residence	Residing on farm	Not residing on farm	
United States:						
1969.....	1,982,738	457,679	289,833	81.2	18.8	10.6
1964.....	2,773,815	290,971	93,071	90.5	9.5	2.9
1959.....	3,236,247	266,988	207,268	92.4	7.6	5.6
1954 ¹	4,392,205	289,876	100,335	93.8	6.2	2.1
1950.....	4,987,134	269,546	131,757	94.9	5.1	2.4
1945 ¹	5,459,841	336,893	62,435	94.2	5.8	1.1
1940 ¹	5,506,322	313,598	276,879	94.6	5.4	4.5
North:						
1969.....	1,028,612	163,422	111,716	86.3	13.7	8.6
1964.....	1,333,993	109,070	36,518	92.4	7.6	2.5
1959.....	1,529,703	104,498	81,240	93.6	6.4	4.7
1954 ¹	1,907,865	105,068	30,159	94.8	5.2	1.5
1950.....	2,111,847	106,481	47,738	95.2	4.8	2.2
1945.....	2,330,614	132,527	20,437	94.6	5.4	0.8
1940.....	2,351,054	120,664	108,241	95.1	4.9	4.2
South:						
1969.....	762,340	246,871	152,188	75.5	24.5	13.1
1964.....	1,181,713	143,313	47,706	89.2	10.8	3.5
1959.....	1,412,867	125,363	107,719	91.9	8.1	6.5
1954 ¹	2,107,121	145,290	64,196	93.5	6.5	2.8
1950.....	2,456,595	121,327	74,501	95.3	4.7	2.8
1945.....	2,683,655	159,442	38,038	94.4	5.6	1.3
1940.....	2,708,859	149,848	148,463	94.8	5.2	4.9
West:						
1969.....	191,786	47,386	25,929	80.2	19.8	9.8
1964.....	258,109	38,588	8,847	87.0	13.0	2.9
1959.....	293,677	37,127	18,309	88.8	11.2	5.2
1954 ¹	377,219	39,518	5,980	90.5	9.5	1.4
1950.....	418,692	41,738	7,518	90.9	9.1	1.6
1945 ¹	445,572	44,924	3,960	90.8	9.2	0.8
1940 ¹	446,409	43,086	20,175	91.2	8.8	4.0

¹Does not include Alaska and Hawaii.

Table 4. Class 1-5 Farm Operators by Residence: 1959 to 1969

	Farm operators			Percent of operators reporting as to residence		Percent of all operators not reporting residence
	Residing on farm operated	Not residing on farm operated	Not reporting residence	Residing on farm	Not residing on farm	
United States:						
1969.....	1,344,557	246,509	142,617	84.5	15.5	8.2
1964.....	1,603,548	168,292	45,600	90.5	9.5	2.5
1959.....	1,829,504	151,591	85,968	92.3	7.7	4.2
North:						
1969.....	800,702	96,297	67,653	89.3	10.7	7.0
1964.....	952,662	72,840	22,095	92.9	7.1	2.1
1959.....	1,077,479	65,300	40,131	94.3	5.7	3.4
South:						
1969.....	405,230	117,965	59,984	77.5	22.5	10.3
1964.....	496,034	69,997	18,393	87.6	12.4	3.1
1959.....	568,394	61,994	36,612	90.2	9.8	5.5
West:						
1969.....	138,625	32,247	14,980	81.1	18.9	8.1
1964.....	154,852	25,455	5,112	85.9	14.1	2.8
1959.....	183,637	24,297	9,225	88.3	11.7	4.2

The distribution of operators by years began operation is provided in tables 7 and 8 for the United States and the four regions.

Farm operators in the Northeast and North Central regions tended to report a longer period on their present farms. Also, operators of class 1-5 farms had generally operated their places somewhat longer than had operators of other farms.

The distribution by tenure by years on farm indicates that part owners had operated their farms for the longest period of time and tenants the shortest. For all farms, the percentage of full owners operating their place for 10 years or more declined from 69.2 percent in 1964 to 64.8 percent in 1969, possibly due to operators who were full owners in 1964 increasing the size of their operations by renting additional acreage in 1969. (See tables 9 and 10.)

Table 5. All Farm Operators by Residence for Selected Counties: 1969¹

	Farm operators				Farm operators				Farm operators		
	Total number of farms	Residing on farm operated	Not residing on farm operated		Total number of farms	Residing on farm operated	Not residing on farm operated		Total number of farms	Residing on farm operated	Not residing on farm operated
Alabama:				North Carolina—Continued:				Texas—Continued:			
Madison.....	1,728	1,124	373	Stokes.....	2,303	1,657	388	Eastland.....	1,324	712	462
Arizona:				Wake.....	2,225	1,511	499	Ellis.....	2,046	1,207	631
Maricopa.....	1,888	1,108	577	Wayne.....	2,317	1,516	496	Erath.....	1,667	1,028	462
Yuma.....	658	237	366	Wilson.....	1,633	1,091	387	Falls.....	1,480	815	495
Arkansas:				North Dakota:				Fannin.....	1,970	1,032	705
Clay.....	1,469	1,009	305	Williams.....	1,153	751	311	Fayette.....	2,708	1,698	754
Craighead.....	1,809	1,208	395	Ohio:				Fisher.....	946	506	343
Mississippi.....	1,194	785	317	Adams.....	1,970	1,287	432	Fort Bend.....	1,742	992	514
California:				Allen.....	1,611	1,146	329	Freesport.....	1,199	517	503
Butte.....	1,844	1,282	382	Wood.....	2,181	1,558	464	Gillespie.....	1,271	780	357
Imperial.....	896	431	362	Oklahoma:				Gonzales.....	1,776	890	642
Kern.....	1,712	905	648	Alfalfa.....	1,188	611	425	Grayson.....	2,075	1,150	691
Los Angeles.....	2,804	1,650	739	Beaver.....	1,193	715	333	Grimes.....	1,286	628	504
Madera.....	1,455	988	321	Beckham.....	1,243	700	382	Gusadalupe.....	1,708	983	554
Monterey.....	1,344	811	393	Blaine.....	1,246	705	384	Hale.....	1,310	794	405
Orange.....	1,174	587	419	Caddo.....	2,103	1,354	502	Hamilton.....	1,179	737	323
Riverside.....	2,816	1,497	971	Canadian.....	1,393	871	360	Harris.....	2,156	1,108	675
San Bernardino.....	2,395	1,359	705	Custer.....	1,294	697	439	Haskell.....	1,022	505	409
San Diego.....	4,081	2,552	1,074	Garfield.....	1,860	1,120	525	Henderson.....	1,539	829	488
San Joaquin.....	4,453	3,120	909	Grant.....	1,449	987	300	Hidalgo.....	4,124	1,667	1,966
San Luis Obispo.....	1,432	956	329	Grady.....	1,846	1,250	404	Hill.....	1,900	1,041	648
Santa Barbara.....	1,094	654	324	Logan.....	1,393	807	411	Hockley.....	1,039	631	301
Santa Clara.....	2,320	1,420	596	Jackson.....	1,030	466	450	Hopkins.....	1,888	1,080	519
Sutter.....	1,411	962	322	Kay.....	1,529	964	397	Houston.....	1,444	689	547
Tulare.....	5,725	3,569	1,589	Kingfisher.....	1,374	828	386	Hunt.....	2,221	1,092	872
Ventura.....	1,679	913	594	Kiowa.....	1,225	609	431	Jackson.....	925	486	333
Florida:				Major.....	1,179	690	358	Jim Wells.....	766	359	319
Hardee.....	1,094	492	400	McNairy.....	1,229	741	319	Johnson.....	1,729	1,142	422
Hillsborough.....	2,769	1,648	712	Oklahoma.....	1,162	659	322	Jones.....	1,225	610	492
Lake.....	1,634	484	800	Stephens.....	1,364	845	348	Karnes.....	1,272	712	439
Marion.....	1,328	809	300	Texas:				Kaufman.....	1,468	790	534
Orange.....	1,224	458	527	Tillman.....	1,128	575	424	Lamar.....	1,694	947	550
Palm Beach.....	601	181	333	Washita.....	1,047	483	428	Lamb.....	1,279	758	399
Pasco.....	1,133	576	378	Woods.....	1,135	563	452	Lavaca.....	2,607	1,650	692
Polk.....	2,628	942	1,158	South Carolina:				Lee.....	1,395	779	448
Hawaii:				Orangeburg.....	2,300	1,523	521	Leon.....	1,208	510	529
Hawaii.....	2,241	1,166	631	Tennessee:				Limestone.....	1,434	576	670
Kentucky:				Dyer.....	1,287	731	371	Lubbock.....	1,595	1,015	459
Casey.....	1,868	1,235	379	Fayette.....	1,442	871	328	McLennan.....	2,172	1,385	592
Christian.....	1,868	1,265	401	Gibson.....	2,750	1,866	561	Matagorda.....	902	462	357
Daviess.....	1,971	1,287	409	Hardeman.....	1,161	660	330	Medina.....	1,496	887	459
Green.....	1,607	1,075	324	McNairy.....	1,478	939	342	Nilan.....	1,800	1,063	523
Hart.....	2,022	1,351	411	Madison.....	1,696	1,093	395	Montague.....	1,161	605	393
Lincoln.....	2,034	1,319	422	Shelby.....	1,383	783	374	Nacogdoches.....	1,386	842	347
Madison.....	1,929	1,220	417	Texas:				Navarro.....	1,796	700	869
Ohio.....	1,539	957	335	Anderson.....	1,290	666	433	Nueces.....	993	532	351
Louisiana:				Atascosa.....	1,302	663	508	Parker.....	1,631	1,083	357
Evangeline.....	1,519	979	326	Austin.....	1,909	1,071	562	Red River.....	1,337	742	431
Lafayette.....	1,452	947	324	Bastrop.....	1,442	732	548	Robertson.....	1,081	493	440
Vermilion.....	1,738	1,166	387	Bell.....	2,090	1,248	596	Runnels.....	1,161	713	342
Mississippi:				Bexar.....	1,111	1,296	561	Rusk.....	1,601	813	522
Hinds.....	1,639	995	420	Bosque.....	1,175	718	352	Smith.....	1,698	885	593
Madison.....	1,399	879	330	Brazoria.....	1,299	698	419	Starr.....	777	363	345
Marshall.....	1,312	814	309	Brazos.....	898	453	327	Tarrant.....	1,579	885	465
Panola.....	1,471	948	342	Brown.....	1,310	670	500	Taylor.....	1,130	607	409
Missouri:				Burleson.....	1,293	725	428	Travis.....	1,207	662	385
Carroll.....	1,509	1,023	335	Caldwell.....	936	415	418	Van Zandt.....	2,281	1,251	763
Chariton.....	1,707	1,172	363	Callahan.....	863	471	320	Victoria.....	1,115	598	359
Dunklin.....	1,447	970	314	Cameron.....	1,750	1,037	540	Washington.....	2,036	1,255	541
North Carolina:				Cherokee.....	1,622	871	501	Wharton.....	2,005	1,081	697
Bladen.....	1,848	1,244	380	Coleman.....	1,073	630	366	Williamson.....	2,537	1,628	669
Caswell.....	1,263	843	314	Collin.....	2,001	1,136	649	Wilson.....	1,581	863	549
Franklin.....	1,977	1,331	422	Colorado.....	1,410	759	483	Wise.....	1,528	995	384
Harnett.....	2,031	1,374	448	Comanche.....	1,561	974	428	Wood.....	1,368	813	370
Nash.....	2,135	1,405	502	Cooke.....	1,467	886	412	Young.....	873	406	368
Northampton.....	1,121	660	363	Coryell.....	1,345	830	352	Utah:			
Pitt.....	2,174	1,449	497	Dallas.....	1,384	645	522	Sanpete.....	790	301	392
Robeson.....	3,227	2,176	683	Denton.....	1,772	1,047	529	Utah.....	1,733	1,154	434
Rockingham.....	2,177	1,412	495	De Witt.....	1,693	1,002	483				
Sampson.....	3,323	2,272	689	Duval.....	825	278	453				

¹Includes counties with 300 nonresident farm operators and over in 1969, provided these represented 20 percent or more of all farm operators in the county.

Table 6. All Nonresident Farm Operators by Class, Type, Years on Present Farm, Age of Operator: 1969

	Class of farm			Type of farm ¹			Years on present farm			Age of operator					
	Total (1,000)	Nonresident		Total (1,000)	Nonresident		Total (1,000)	Nonresident		Total (1,000)	Nonresident				
		Number (1,000)	Percent of total		Number (1,000)	Percent of total		Number (1,000)	Percent of total		Number (1,000)	Percent of total			
Total.....	2,730	458	16.8	Total.....	2,730	458	16.8	Total.....	1,729	375	21.7	Total.....	2,730	458	16.8
Class 1.....	222	28	12.6	Cash-grain.....	505	114	22.6	Less than 2.....	101	73	72.3	Under 25.....	53	19	35.8
Class 2.....	331	30	9.1	Tobacco.....	184	35	19.0	3 to 5.....	166	81	48.8	25 to 34.....	274	63	23.0
Class 3.....	395	45	11.4	Cotton.....	74	18	24.3	6 to 9.....	249	76	30.5	35 to 44.....	553	96	17.4
Class 4.....	390	64	16.4	Other field crop.....	39	8	20.5	10 to 14.....	223	41	18.4	45 to 54.....	724	119	16.4
Class 5.....	395	79	20.0	Vegetable.....	30	6	20.0	15 to 19.....	233	33	14.2	55 to 64.....	704	100	14.2
Class 6.....	193	40	20.7	Fruit and Nut.....	72	19	26.4	20 to 24.....	281	28	10.0	65 and over.....	453	61	13.5
Part-time.....	575	140	24.4	Livestock.....	1,421	181	12.7	25 to 29.....	180	16	8.9	Average age.....	51.2	48.4	-
Part-retirement.....	227	30	13.2	General.....	219	36	16.4	30 and over.....	296	26	8.8				
Abnormal.....	2	1	50.0	Miscellaneous.....	186	41	22.0								

¹Type classification for farms with less than \$2,500 of sales based on acreage and production factors for crop-type farms; poultry, dairy, livestock and livestock ranch types not classified separately.

Table 7. Year Operator Began Operating Present Farm, Percent Distribution for All Farms: 1969

	Total	1968	1965	1960	1955	1950	1945	1940	Before 1940
		and 1969	to 1967	to 1964	to 1959	to 1954	to 1949	to 1944	
United States.....	100.0	8.3	11.7	15.4	12.5	12.6	14.7	9.4	15.4
Northeast.....	100.0	6.6	10.4	14.2	12.9	13.4	14.5	10.4	17.5
North Central.....	100.0	7.2	10.7	14.7	13.1	13.1	15.8	10.3	15.3
South.....	100.0	9.4	12.7	16.1	11.8	12.2	13.7	8.5	15.7
West.....	100.0	9.7	13.5	16.8	12.9	12.0	13.7	8.1	13.2

Table 8. Year Operator Began Operating Present Farm, Percent Distribution for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Total	1968	1965	1960	1955	1950	1945	1940	Before 1940
		and 1969	to 1967	to 1964	to 1959	to 1954	to 1949	to 1944	
United States.....	100.0	6.2	10.0	14.7	13.2	12.5	16.4	10.3	15.7
Northeast.....	100.0	5.3	9.0	13.7	13.5	14.1	15.5	11.5	17.4
North Central.....	100.0	5.4	9.2	14.1	13.5	13.8	17.2	11.1	15.7
South.....	100.0	7.1	11.0	15.6	12.5	13.3	15.6	9.3	15.7
West.....	100.0	7.4	11.5	15.8	13.2	12.7	15.4	9.2	14.7

Table 9. Years on Present Farm, Percent Distribution for All Farms: 1969

	Total	Less than 5 years		
		Total	2 years or less	5 to 9 years
Total.....	100.0	20.0	8.3	15.4
Full owners.....	100.0	20.3	8.5	14.9
Part owners.....	100.0	12.1	4.2	13.9
Tenants.....	100.0	34.5	15.6	20.7

Table 10. Years on Present Farm, Percent Distribution for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Total	Less than 5 years		
		Total	2 years or less	5 to 9 years
Total.....	100.0	16.2	6.2	14.7
Full owners.....	100.0	15.8	6.1	13.6
Part owners.....	100.0	10.0	3.2	13.2
Tenants.....	100.0	30.9	12.9	21.4

The proportion of farm operators reporting that they had lived on their present place 10 years or more increased by 10.0 percent between 1950 and 1954, and by another 11.5 percent between 1954 and 1959. However, there has been little change since 1959. The data for years on present farm vary considerably by region, as shown in the table 11.

Table 11. All Farm Operators by Years on Present Farm, Percent Distribution: 1969

	All farms operators reporting	Years on present farm		
		Less than 5 years	5 to 9 years	10 years and over
United States:				
1969.....	100.0	20.0	15.4	64.6
1964.....	100.0	20.5	15.7	63.8
1959.....	100.0	17.7	17.5	64.8
1954 ¹	100.0	21.6	25.1	53.3
1950.....	100.0	36.7	20.0	43.3
North:				
1969.....	100.0	17.8	14.6	67.6
1964.....	100.0	18.4	15.9	65.8
1959.....	100.0	16.2	17.2	66.6
1954.....	100.0	18.7	25.0	56.3
1950.....	100.0	31.8	21.0	47.2
South:				
1969.....	100.0	22.0	16.1	61.9
1964.....	100.0	22.0	15.2	62.8
1959.....	100.0	18.7	17.3	64.0
1954.....	100.0	24.0	24.9	51.1
1950.....	100.0	41.0	18.7	40.3
West:				
1969.....	100.0	23.2	16.8	60.0
1964.....	100.0	24.0	17.4	58.7
1959.....	100.0	20.1	19.3	60.5
1954 ¹	100.0	22.8	26.9	50.3
1950.....	100.0	36.2	22.2	41.6

¹Alaska and Hawaii not included.

Several major tables related to year began operation, as reported in the 1969 census, are included in this part of chapter 3. These include year began by tenure and residence; year began, value of sales and residence by type of organization; year began, value of sales, and residence by class of farm; and year began, value of sales, and residence by age of operator. This is the first census for which these data have been tabulated in this manner.

Age of Farm Operator

From 1945 to 1964, the changes in age of operator were slight but there was a tendency toward older operators. This tendency

Table 12. Farm Characteristics by Age of Farm Operator, Percent Distribution for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Total	Age of farm operator				
		Under 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
Number of farm operators.....	100.0	12.3	20.2	28.2	26.4	13.0
Land in farms.....	100.0	10.3	21.4	30.4	24.8	13.1
Value of land and buildings.....	100.0	11.7	22.4	30.8	24.2	10.8
Cropland harvested.....	100.0	13.1	23.8	31.0	23.7	8.5
Value of farm products sold.....	100.0	12.1	24.4	31.8	23.1	8.6
Days worked off farm by operator.....	100.0	16.3	25.1	30.9	22.2	5.5
Number of chickens 3 months old and over....	100.0	10.7	25.5	33.1	24.2	6.5
Number of cattle and calves on hand.....	100.0	11.1	23.2	30.5	24.0	11.1
Number of hogs and pigs on hand.....	100.0	17.9	26.2	29.9	20.3	5.8
Acres of corn harvested for all purposes....	100.0	15.5	25.4	30.7	21.7	6.7
Acres of sorghum harvested for grain.....	100.0	14.5	24.3	29.9	23.5	7.8
Acres of wheat harvested.....	100.0	11.0	22.2	31.2	25.7	9.8
Acres of cotton harvested.....	100.0	12.0	22.6	30.5	26.4	8.6

appears to have halted between 1964 and 1969. The average age of operators in 1945 was 48.7 years, increasing to 51.3 years in 1964, then dropping to 51.2 years in 1969. The percentage of all farm operators 65 years old and older was 14.8 percent in 1950. It increased to 17.4 percent in 1964 then dropped back to 16.6 percent in 1969.

As shown in table 12 for class 1-5 farms, farm operators under 35 years of age and over 65 years of age accounted for a smaller portion of several key items of agriculture production than did operators of 35 to 44, 45 to 54, or 55 to 64 years of age.

Considering size of farm, value of land and buildings, cropland harvested and value of sales, the 35 to 44, and 45 to 54 years of age groups are the most important. (See table 13.)

Table 13. Selected Items by Age of Farm Operator for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Total	Age of farm operator				
		Under 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
Average size of farm.....acres..	529.7	446.3	563.0	571.5	497.2	531.5
Average value of land and buildings.....dollars..	103,526	99,019	115,170	113,123	95,123	85,969
Average cropland harvested acres.....	150.6	160.8	177.6	165.5	135.2	98.2
Average value of farm products sold.....dollars..	25,680	25,311	31,023	28,984	22,536	16,961

Table 14. Farm Operators by Age, by Tenure, Percent Distribution for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Total	Tenure of farm operator		
		Full owners	Part owners	Tenants
Total.....	100.0	50.8	33.5	15.6
Under 35 years.....	100.0	33.3	29.9	36.8
35 to 44 years.....	100.0	41.5	39.5	19.0
45 to 54 years.....	100.0	48.1	38.5	13.4
55 to 64 years.....	100.0	58.0	32.0	10.0
65 years and over.....	100.0	73.1	20.0	6.9

By tenure of operator, full owners tend to be the oldest and tenants the youngest. The average age of operators was 53.0 years for full owners, 48.4 years for part owners, and 40.3 years for tenants. (See table 14.)

Race of Farm Operator

Only 104 thousand farm operators reported race other than white in 1969 versus 200 thousand in 1964. Of these operators in 1969, 87 thousand were black, 5 thousand were Indian, and 11 thousand were "other." Table 15 provides the number of farms and land in farms by race of operator for each class, tenure, and type of organization group included in the 1969 census. The data by class and tenure are for all farms; by type of organization, for class 1-5 farms.

Most of the black and Indian operators were on farms which were in the lower value-of-sales categories. Sixty-two thousand of the 87 thousand operators operated farms with less than \$2,500 in sales; 74 thousand operated farms with less than \$5,000. The distribution for Indian operators was about the same, with nearly one-half reporting sales of less than \$2,500 from their farms.

In 1969, 449 of the farm operators of races other than white were in the Northeast, 3,004 in the North Central, 90,141 in the South, and 10,253 in the West. Of the 13,706 not in the South 1969, 4,483 were in California and 3,113 were in Hawaii, leaving only 6,110 in all the other States. The number in the South dropped from 185,578 in 1964 to only 90,141 in 1969. Changes in the other regions over the 5-year period were relatively minor.

Off-Farm Work by Farm Operators

The proportion of farm operators working off their farms has increased significantly, rising from 38.9 percent in 1950 to 54.3

Table 15. Farms, Land in Farms by Race, Class, Tenure, Type of Organization: 1969

Classes:	Total		White		Black		Indian		Other	
	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres
Total, all farms.....	2,730,250	1,063,346,489	2,626,403	1,011,091,799	87,393	7,099,061	5,050	42,495,984	11,404	2,659,645
Class 1.....	221,690	357,117,017	218,909	354,961,178	586	391,243	113	312,699	2,082	1,451,897
Class 1a.....	51,995	171,832,316	51,004	170,581,314	118	120,123	19	69,933	854	1,060,946
Class 1b.....	169,695	185,284,701	167,905	184,379,864	468	271,120	94	242,766	1,228	390,951
Class 2.....	330,992	207,286,034	327,877	206,156,044	1,264	491,929	270	287,214	1,581	350,847
Class 3.....	395,472	171,208,668	390,040	169,714,828	3,447	740,704	486	423,707	1,499	329,429
Class 4.....	390,425	106,832,494	380,343	105,318,157	7,812	996,678	778	323,651	1,492	194,008
Class 5.....	395,104	75,868,400	379,984	74,319,486	12,540	1,157,275	869	230,444	1,711	161,195
Class 6.....	192,564	18,513,738	172,126	17,458,867	19,109	948,668	602	45,529	727	60,674
Part time.....	574,546	49,297,527	548,194	47,827,480	23,461	1,246,894	1,212	146,087	1,679	77,066
Part retirement.....	227,346	21,969,094	207,035	20,771,934	19,152	1,111,761	547	63,155	612	22,214
Abnormal.....	2,111	55,253,517	1,895	14,563,825	22	13,909	173	40,663,498	21	12,285
Tenure:										
Total, all farms.....	2,730,250	1,063,346,489	2,626,403	1,011,031,799	87,393	7,099,061	5,050	42,495,984	11,404	2,659,645
Full owners.....	1,705,720	375,091,955	1,642,253	332,148,555	51,083	1,012,253	3,188	38,058,718	6,196	872,428
Part owners.....	671,607	550,649,491	652,512	543,403,781	15,762	2,130,722	1,036	4,037,375	2,297	1,077,613
Tenants.....	352,923	137,605,040	331,638	135,539,459	17,548	956,086	826	3,399,801	2,911	709,601
Type of Organization:										
Total, class 1-5 farms.....	1,733,683	918,312,613	1,697,153	910,469,693	25,649	3,777,829	2,516	1,577,715	8,365	2,487,376
Individual.....	1,480,555	665,692,881	1,449,081	659,812,865	22,621	3,184,103	2,142	1,313,330	6,718	1,352,583
Partnership.....	221,535	163,387,960	217,626	162,190,979	2,450	418,278	271	145,870	1,188	301,833
Corporation, total.....	21,513	80,831,188	20,717	80,184,436	380	113,171	25	23,107	391	510,174
10 shareholders or fewer.....	19,718	66,471,436	19,007	66,045,697	311	105,361	22	22,239	343	298,139
More than 10 shareholders.....	1,797	14,359,752	1,710	14,138,739	35	7,810	3	868	18	212,335
Other.....	10,070	8,400,581	9,726	8,251,413	198	32,277	78	94,408	68	22,486

Table 16. Farm Operators Working Off Their Farms: 1950 to 1969

	Number					Percent of all operators				
	Total	1 to 99 days	100 days or more			Total	1 to 99	100 days or more		
			Total	100 to 199	200 or more			Total	100 to 199	200 or more
All farms:										
1969.....	1,482,292	391,790	1,090,502	219,687	870,815	54.2	14.3	39.9	8.0	31.9
1964.....	1,462,183	448,983	1,013,200	189,027	824,173	47.2	14.2	33.0	6.9	26.1
1959.....	1,663,841	556,235	1,107,606	229,787	877,819	44.9	15.0	29.9	6.2	23.7
1954 ¹	2,153,737	820,012	1,333,725	306,377	1,027,348	45.0	17.1	27.9	6.4	21.5
1950.....	2,092,922	² 835,672	1,257,250	³ 313,353	943,897	38.9	² 15.6	23.3	³ 5.8	17.5
Class 1-5 farms:										
1969.....	750,470	277,138	473,332	112,228	361,104	43.3	16.0	27.3	6.5	20.8
1964.....	659,756	313,357	346,399	95,295	251,104	36.3	17.2	19.1	5.2	13.8
1959.....	709,773	359,262	350,511	104,639	245,872	34.4	17.4	17.0	5.1	11.9
1954.....	664,880	417,706	247,174	(NA)	(NA)	31.6	19.9	11.8	(NA)	(NA)
1950.....	524,565	344,175	180,390	(NA)	(NA)	25.1	16.5	8.6	(NA)	(NA)

¹Data not available for Alaska and Hawaii. ²92 farms in Alaska reporting 1 to 99 days included with 1 to 49 days. ³239 farms in Alaska reporting 100 days or more included.

percent in 1969. For class 1-5 farms 43.3 percent worked off their farms to some extent in 1969 and slightly over three-fourths of those with sales of less than \$2,500 a year worked off their farms. (See table 16.)

A majority of those working off the farm worked 200 days or more. For most of those 871 thousand farm operators farming may well be the secondary, rather than the primary, source of income.

Nearly 1.8 million of the 2.7 million farm operators reported a value of sales of less than \$10,000 in 1969. For most of those operators, it would appear that some source of income other than from the sale of farm products is essential. But even operators with substantial farming operations reported some work off their farms. Over one-fourth of those with \$40,000 or more sales from their farms worked off their farms to some extent. (See table 17.)

Table 17. Off-Farm Work by Class of Farm, Percent Distribution for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Percent of all operators working off farm	Percent of operators by number of days worked off farm				
		Total reporting work	Under 50 days	50 to 99 days	100 to 199 days	200 days and over
Total.....	43.3	100.0	26.4	10.5	15.0	48.1
Class 1.....	26.6	100.0	47.6	11.6	11.6	29.1
Class 2.....	33.0	100.0	46.7	13.2	13.2	27.0
Class 3.....	40.5	100.0	33.5	13.2	16.3	37.0
Class 4.....	50.3	100.0	19.3	10.1	16.4	54.1
Class 5.....	57.1	100.0	12.1	7.4	14.5	66.0

Table 18. Off-Farm Work by Age of Operator, Percent Distribution for Class 1-5 Farms: 1969

	Percent of all operators working off farm	Percent of operators by number of days worked off farm				
		Total reporting work	Under 50 days	50 to 99 days	100 to 199 days	200 days and over
Total.....	43.3	100.0	26.4	10.5	15.0	48.1
Under 35 years.....	57.4	100.0	25.3	11.0	15.1	48.7
35 to 44 years.....	53.8	100.0	23.5	9.4	14.1	53.0
45 to 54 years.....	47.5	100.0	25.3	10.1	14.8	49.8
55 to 64 years.....	36.4	100.0	29.5	11.6	16.1	42.7
65 years and over.....	18.3	100.0	36.6	12.3	14.6	36.5

Data by age of operator for class 1-5 farms show that operators under 35 years of age were the most likely to work off the farm. The proportion working off the farm decreases as age increased as shown in table 18.

Farm-Related Income

Farm-related income data collected in 1969 covered three items: (1) Customwork and other agricultural services, (2) recreational services, and (3) Government payments for participation in Federal programs. Table 19 summarizes the farm-related income reported in 1969, and provides comparison of farm-related income to total value of farm products sold.

Over one-half of the class 1-5 farms and about one-third of the other farms reported some farm-related income in 1969. Of the total of \$2,879 million reported for the three items, \$2,368 million was for Government payments. For about 80 percent of those with farm-related income, the farm-related income was less than one-half the value of farm products sold.

The only item for which comparable data are available from the 1964 census is recreation income. In 1964, 27,904 farms reported \$41 million of recreational income versus 30,431 farms and \$50 million in 1969.

Table 19. Farm-Related Income: 1969

	All farms	Class 1-5 farms	Other farms
Total.....	2,730,250	1,733,683	996,567
Farms with any farm-related income.....	1,259,213	937,936	321,277
Dollars.....(1,000).. ¹	3,093,402	2,878,557	214,844
Farms with customwork and other agricultural services.....	306,760	260,174	46,586
Dollars.....(1,000).. ¹	509,613	471,389	38,224
Farms with recreational service.....	30,431	20,964	9,467
Dollars.....(1,000).. ¹	49,623	39,415	10,208
Farms with Government payments.....	1,130,541	842,605	287,936
Dollars.....(1,000).. ¹	2,534,166	367,753	166,413
Farms with total farm-related income—			
0.01 to 0.50 times value of sales....	1,016,576	857,572	159,004
0.50 to 0.99 times value of sales....	121,495	57,602	63,893
1.00 to 1.99 times value of sales....	54,744	16,005	38,739
2.00 to 2.99 times value of sales....	15,186	2,914	12,272
3.00 or more times value of sales....	51,212	3,843	47,369