

**Table 5. Land in Farms, Value, and Ownership, by Tenure of Farm Operator: 1974**

| All Farms                                 | All farms     | Full owners | Part owners | Tenants     |
|---|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Farms.....number..                        | 2,314,013     | 1,423,953   | 628,224     | 261,836     |
| .....percent..                            | 100.0         | 61.5        | 27.1        | 11.3        |
| Land in farms.....acres..                 | 1,017,030,357 | 359,375,934 | 535,300,914 | 122,353,509 |
| .....per farm, acres..                    | 440           | 252         | 852         | 467         |
| Value of land and buildings.....\$1,000.. | 342,098,790   | 129,203,312 | 165,561,815 | 47,333,661  |
| .....per farm, dollars..                  | 147,838       | 90,736      | 263,539     | 180,776     |
| .....per acre, dollars..                  | 336           | 360         | 309         | 387         |
| Owned land.....farms..                    | 2,062,144     | 1,423,953   | 628,224     | 9,967       |
| .....acres..                              | 686,648,063   | 392,800,335 | 290,875,317 | 2,972,411   |
| Rented land.....farms..                   | 893,212       | 3,152       | 628,224     | 261,836     |
| .....acres..                              | 383,405,168   | 749,701     | 258,429,133 | 124,226,334 |
| Land rented to others.....farms..         | 290,600       | 226,710     | 48,980      | 14,910      |
| .....acres..                              | 53,022,874    | 34,174,102  | 14,003,536  | 4,845,236   |
| Owned land.....farms..                    | 278,989       | 225,462     | 43,560      | 9,967       |
| .....acres..                              | 48,743,996    | 33,424,401  | 12,347,184  | 2,972,411   |
| Subrented land.....farms..                | 18,916        | 3,152       | 8,466       | 7,298       |
| .....acres..                              | 4,278,878     | 749,701     | 1,656,352   | 1,872,825   |

**Table 6. Percent Distribution by Tenure of Farm Operator: 1974**

| All Farms                | United States |            | North Central South West |       |       |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------------------|-------|-------|
|                          | North-east    | South-east | Central                  | South | West  |
| Farms.....number..       | 100.0         | 100.0      | 100.0                    | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Land, acres.....         | 100.0         | 100.0      | 100.0                    | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full owners.....number.. | 61.5          | 65.4       | 55.9                     | 67.0  | 62.1  |
| Land, acres.....         | 35.3          | 50.0       | 32.5                     | 42.4  | 30.8  |
| Part owners.....number.. | 27.1          | 28.3       | 30.8                     | 23.0  | 27.1  |
| Land, acres.....         | 52.6          | 44.6       | 54.5                     | 44.5  | 58.8  |
| Tenants.....number..     | 11.3          | 6.3        | 13.3                     | 10.0  | 10.8  |
| Land, acres.....         | 12.0          | 5.5        | 13.0                     | 13.1  | 10.4  |

**Table 7. Percent Distribution by Size of Farm: 1974**

| All Farms                 | All farms | Full owners | Part owners | Tenants |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Total.....                | 100.0     | 100.0       | 100.0       | 100.0   |
| 1 to 9 acres.....         | 5.5       | 7.5         | .8          | 6.3     |
| 10 to 49 acres.....       | 16.4      | 21.7        | 6.1         | 12.5    |
| 50 to 69 acres.....       | 6.5       | 8.2         | 3.2         | 4.8     |
| 70 to 99 acres.....       | 10.1      | 13.0        | 4.9         | 7.4     |
| 100 to 139 acres.....     | 9.9       | 11.7        | 6.6         | 8.2     |
| 140 to 179 acres.....     | 9.2       | 10.1        | 6.7         | 10.5    |
| 180 to 219 acres.....     | 5.9       | 5.6         | 6.3         | 6.2     |
| 220 to 259 acres.....     | 5.1       | 4.4         | 6.1         | 6.2     |
| 260 to 499 acres.....     | 15.7      | 10.6        | 25.1        | 20.5    |
| 500 to 999 acres.....     | 9.0       | 4.4         | 18.5        | 10.9    |
| 1,000 to 1,999 acres..... | 4.0       | 1.7         | 9.3         | 4.0     |
| 2,000 acres and over..... | 2.7       | 1.1         | 6.4         | 2.5     |

**Table 8. Percent of Sales Group by Tenure of Farm Operator: 1974**

| All Farms                   | All farms | Full owners | Part owners | Tenants |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Farms.....                  | 100.0     | 61.5        | 27.1        | 11.3    |
| \$500,000 and over.....     | 100.0     | 37.3        | 48.5        | 14.3    |
| \$100,000 to \$499,999..... | 100.0     | 28.7        | 57.9        | 13.4    |
| \$40,000 to \$99,999.....   | 100.0     | 33.3        | 50.8        | 15.9    |
| \$20,000 to \$39,999.....   | 100.0     | 45.4        | 38.7        | 15.9    |
| \$10,000 to \$19,999.....   | 100.0     | 58.8        | 27.3        | 13.9    |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999.....     | 100.0     | 69.1        | 19.8        | 11.1    |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999.....     | 100.0     | 76.0        | 15.2        | 8.8     |
| Under \$2,500.....          | 100.0     | 83.3        | 10.5        | 6.2     |
| Abnormal.....               | 100.0     | 67.9        | 22.6        | 9.5     |

**Table 9. Percent Distribution by Age of Farm Operator: 1974**

| All Farms              | All operators | Full owners | Part owners | Tenants |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Total.....             | 100.0         | 100.0       | 100.0       | 100.0   |
| Under 25 years.....    | 2.3           | 1.3         | 1.5         | 9.9     |
| 25 to 34 years.....    | 10.5          | 7.9         | 11.7        | 22.0    |
| 35 to 44 years.....    | 17.6          | 15.5        | 21.7        | 18.7    |
| 45 to 54 years.....    | 25.3          | 24.0        | 30.0        | 21.1    |
| 55 to 65 years.....    | 25.8          | 27.6        | 25.1        | 17.8    |
| 65 years and over..... | 18.5          | 23.7        | 10.0        | 10.6    |

**Table 10. Percent Distribution by Years on Present Farm: 1974**

| All Farms              | All farms | Full owners | Part owners | Tenants |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Total.....             | 100.0     | 100.0       | 100.0       | 100.0   |
| Less than 5 years..... | 22.3      | 22.3        | 15.4        | 39.8    |
| 2 years or less.....   | 9.0       | 8.9         | 5.5         | 18.8    |
| 5 to 9 years.....      | 14.5      | 14.6        | 13.3        | 16.6    |
| 10 years and over..... | 63.2      | 63.1        | 71.2        | 43.6    |

**Size of farm**—In average size, part-owner farms were over 3 times as large as full-owner farms and 2 times as large as tenant farms. More than half of the full-owner farms were of less than 100 acres as compared with about one-seventh of the part-owner farms and almost one-third of the tenant farms. Over 34 percent of the part-owner farms were 500 acres and over, compared with 7 percent of the full-owner farms, and 17 percent of the tenant farms. The percent distribution by size of farm for the three tenure groups is shown in table 7.

**Value of sales group**—Data by value of sales group show the importance of leased

lands for the farms in the larger sales groups. Over two-thirds of the farms with sales of \$40,000 and over have some leased land. On the other extreme, full-owner farms account for over four-fifths of the farms with sales of under \$2,500. The percent distribution of the tenure groups is shown for each class in table 8.

**Age of farm operator**—The age of the farm operator is related to the tenure classifications. A little over half of the full owners are 55 years old and over as compared with two-sevenths of the tenant operators. The average age of full owners was 54.1 years, part owners 49.3 years, and tenants 44.4 years. Full-owner operators 65 years old and over made up about 91 percent of the farms with sales of under \$2,500 (table 9).

**Years on present farm**—The stability of farm operators on their farms is related closely to their ownership status. Over 63 percent of the full-owner operators and 71 percent of the part-owner operators have been on their present farm 10 years or more, in comparison with less than 44 percent of the tenant operators. Only 15 percent of the part-owner operators have been on their farms less than 5 years, compared with over 22 percent of the full-owner operators and 40 percent of the tenant operators (table 10).

**Other characteristics**—For most economic characteristics, part-owner farms account for much more, proportionately, than is indicated by the number of farms. Part-owner farms were only 27 percent of the farms in 1974 but accounted for 47 percent of the value of all agricultural products sold and almost 55 percent of the value of crops sold. Tenant farms, which represented only 11 percent of the farms, accounted for 18 percent of the value of crops sold. A percentage distribution by tenure for a number of the key economic characteristics is shown in table 11.

**Changes in Tenure**

**Number of farms**—The 1974 census was the eighth consecutive census to show a