

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

All Farms	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		
	States	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			
	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			
	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 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			
	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