

CHAPTER III Continued

the Japanese, Chinese, and Filipino operators.

Operators whose occupation was farming accounted for 90 percent of the value of agricultural products sold and for 81 percent of the land in farms. The operators whose occupation was other than farming accounted for 72 percent of all farm operators who reported days of work off the farm. Although operators with occupations other than farming made up 37 percent of all farm operators, they operated only 19 percent of the land in farms and only slightly more than 10 percent of the harvested cropland (table 14).

Off-farm work—In 1974, 80.8 percent of the operators of individual or family and partnership farms responded to the item on days worked off farm. Of those, 54.9 percent reported that they had worked off their farm during 1974. For farms with sales of \$2,500 and over, 46.3 percent of those reporting worked off their farms.

Comparison of 1974 work off-farm data with data for previous census years is uncertain partly because in previous years the work off farm item included operators from all farms regardless of type of organization. In 1969, when no distinction was made between farm operators reporting none and those not responding, 54.3 percent of all operators reported that they worked off their farms. If the same criteria are applied to the 1974 individual and partnership farms, only 44.4 percent of the operators reported working one or more days off their farms. It is not possible to determine how much of this difference could be accounted for by differences in response rates.

Almost two-thirds of those operators who reported working off their farms worked 200 days or more. For farms with sales of less than \$2,500, three-fourths of the operators working off the farm worked 200 days or more. It is obvious that for the 1.2 million farms with sales of less than \$10,000 some source of income other than the sale of agricultural products is essential. For those farms, 917,000 reported off-farm income and 80 percent indicated that off-farm income

Table 12. Farm Characteristics for All Farms and Farms Operated by Selected Racial and Ethnic Groups: 1974

	All farms	Farms operated by selected racial and ethnic groups					
		Total	Black	American Indian	Spanish origin	Japanese, Chinese, Filipino	Other
Farm operators.....number..	2,314,013	66,992	45,594	4,322	7,621	6,275	3,180
Land in farms.....acres..	1,017,030,357	12,855,692	4,341,284	2,154,933	3,911,032	781,319	1,667,124
Average size of farm.....acres..	440	192	95	499	513	125	524
Value of land and buildings.....\$1,000..	342,098,790	5,237,390	2,061,598	453,323	918,880	1,118,305	685,284
Average value per farm....dollars..	147,838	78,179	45,216	104,887	120,572	178,216	215,498
Cropland harvested.....acres..	303,001,943	2,786,142	1,262,069	314,555	445,214	402,027	362,277
Average cropland harvested.....acres..	131	42	28	73	58	64	114
Value of farm products sold.....\$1,000..	81,531,026	1,147,525	326,434	61,590	154,698	454,881	149,923
Average value of farm products sold.....dollars..	35,234	17,129	7,160	14,250	20,299	72,491	47,146
Farms by value of sales of—							
Under \$2,500.....	649,991	33,006	25,863	1,706	3,515	1,019	903
Under \$1,000.....	286,401	16,885	13,539	811	1,644	458	433
\$1,000 to \$2,499.....	363,590	16,121	12,324	895	1,871	561	470
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	257,397	9,364	6,822	617	1,038	553	334
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	296,532	8,690	6,046	683	906	666	389
\$10,000 to \$19,999.....	310,217	6,073	3,522	566	777	825	383
\$20,000 to \$39,999.....	322,046	4,297	1,971	400	602	902	422
\$40,000 and over.....	477,830	5,562	1,370	350	783	2,310	749
Tenure							
Full owners.....	1,423,953	43,429	30,487	2,720	4,648	3,656	1,918
Part owners.....	628,224	14,050	9,403	1,019	1,734	1,187	707
Tenants.....	261,836	9,513	5,704	583	1,239	1,432	555

was greater than the value of agricultural products sold. The percentage of operators working off the farm decreased as the value of agricultural products increased, but even on farms with sales of \$100,000 and over more than 15 percent of the operators reported some off-farm employment (table 15).

Table 13. Principal Occupation of Farm Operator, Percent Distribution: 1974

	Total	Farming	Other occupation
United States.....	100.0	62.6	37.4
Northeast.....	100.0	62.7	37.3
North Central.....	100.0	71.3	28.7
South.....	100.0	53.4	46.6
West.....	100.0	61.4	38.6

Table 14. Farm Characteristics by Occupation of Farm Operator, Percent Distribution: 1974

	Total	Farming	Other occupation
Farm operators.....number..	100.0	62.6	37.4
Land in farms.....acres..	100.0	81.0	19.0
Value of land and buildings.....\$1,000..	100.0	79.2	20.8
Cropland harvested.....acres..	100.0	89.4	10.6
Value of farm products sold.....\$1,000..	100.0	89.2	10.8
Days worked off farm by operator.....number..	100.0	28.1	71.9
Selected race or ethnic group:			
White.....	100.0	62.6	37.4
Black.....	100.0	61.7	38.3
American Indian.....	100.0	54.8	45.2
Spanish origin.....	100.0	50.9	49.1
Japanese, Chinese, Filipino.....	100.0	81.3	18.7
Other.....	100.0	57.0	43.0
Age of farm operator:			
Under 25 years.....	100.0	65.6	34.4
25 to 34 years.....	100.0	52.9	47.1
35 to 44 years.....	100.0	51.3	48.7
45 to 54 years.....	100.0	58.8	41.2
55 to 64 years.....	100.0	67.7	32.3
65 years and over.....	100.0	76.7	23.3
Tenure of farm operator:			
Full owner.....	100.0	54.8	45.2
Part owner.....	100.0	76.9	23.1
Tenant.....	100.0	71.0	29.0

Table 15. Value of Agricultural Products Sold by Percent of Farm Operators With Off-Farm Work: 1974

	Percent of all operators working off farm	Percent of operators by days worked off farm					
		Total	Under 50	50 to 99	100 to 149	150 to 199	200 and over
Total.....	44.4	100.0	13.2	6.2	6.1	9.4	65.1
Under \$2,500.....	67.3	100.0	7.6	4.5	4.4	8.6	74.9
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	54.6	100.0	7.8	4.9	5.6	9.6	72.1
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	49.2	100.0	9.7	5.7	6.3	10.4	67.9
\$10,000 to \$19,999.....	38.4	100.0	15.7	8.0	8.1	11.0	57.2
\$20,000 to \$39,999.....	28.0	100.0	27.0	10.3	9.3	10.3	43.1
\$40,000 to \$99,999.....	20.7	100.0	38.8	11.3	8.5	8.1	33.3
\$100,000 and over.....	15.7	100.0	40.0	10.2	8.2	7.1	34.5