Chapter 4

POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS

(45)

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	47
Definition of farm population and population in farm-operator households	47
Problems in defining farm population	47
Definition of farm population	48
Definition of population in farm-operator households	48
Age, sex, and color composition of the population in farm-operator households	48
Age	48
Sex	55
Color of population	58
Other population characteristics	58
Marital status of farm operators	58
Years of school completed by farm operators	59
Labor-force status and occupation	59
Fertility	60
Degree of dependence on agriculture	61
Limitations of the data	63
Children under 14 years of age	63
Distribution of the population under 14 years of age, by sex	63
Age not reported	63
Fertility ratios	64

CHARTS

Diagram—	Page
1.—Selected population groups by age and sex, for the United States: 1950	49
2.—Population in farm-operator households by age and sex, by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	52
3.—Population in farm-operator households—Fertility ratios, by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	62

TABLES

Table—	Page
1.—Population in farm-operator households, by economic class of farm, for the United States and regions: 1950	47
2.—Population in farm-operator households, by age and sex and by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	50
3.—Median age of the population in farm-operator households, by sex and by economic class of farm, for the United States and regions: 1950	51
4.—Farm operators and other members of farm-operator households, by age and by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	54
5.—Dependency ratios for farm-operator households, by economic class of farm, for the United States and regions: 1950	55
6.—Population in farm-operator households, by age and sex, for the United States and regions: 1950	55
7.—Number of males per 100 females, for the population 14 years of age and over in farm-operator households, by age and by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	56
8.—Population in farm-operator households, by color and by economic class of farm, for the United States and the South: 1950	56
9.—Population in farm-operator households, by age and color and by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	57
10.—Population in farm-operator households, by age and color, for the United States and the South: 1950	58
11.—Median age of the population in farm-operator households, by color and by economic class of farm, for the United States and the South: 1950	58
12.—Marital status of farm operators, by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	59
13.—Years of school completed by farm operators, by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	59
14.—Median years of school completed by farm operators, by economic class of farm, for the United States and regions: 1950	60
15.—Persons in farm-operator families by labor-force status, by economic class of farm, for the United States and regions: 1950	60
16.—Occupation of farm operators, by economic class of farm, for the United States: 1950	61
17.—Occupation of farm operators, for the United States and regions: 1950	61
18.—Fertility ratios for farm-operator households, by economic class of farm, unstandardized, standardized for age of woman, and standardized for age and marital status of woman, for the United States and regions: 1950	63
19.—Fertility ratios for farm-operator households, by age and marital status of woman, for the United States and regions: 1950	63
20.—Farms and population in farm-operator households, by degree of dependence on agriculture, for the United States: 1950	64

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POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS

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INTRODUCTION

The number and characteristics of persons in farm-operator households have both simple and complex relations with the number of farms and their characteristics. The apparent simplicity of some of the relationships can be illustrated in a cursory examination of the geographic distribution of farms and the population in farm-operator households. The relative distributions in 1950 were as follows:

Region	*Farms*	*Population in farm-operator households*
United States	100	100
North	42	40
South	49	52
West	9	8

Obviously, the number of persons in the farm-operator household population is determined rather largely by the number of farms. The difference between the two percentages for a given region are directly attributable to variations in the average size of household among the regions and indirectly to the numerous factors affecting the average size of household. (In the United States, residence of the operator and other members of his household in a geographic area other than that in which his farm is located is a very minor factor in the differences between the relative geographic distributions of farms and of farm-operator household population. Less than 39,000 of the more than 5 million farms covered by the 1950 Census of Agriculture were not located in the enumeration district in which the farm operator resided. As agriculture and population schedules were matched only when the operator's residence and farm were in the same enumeration district, technically these data do not reflect this minor source of variation. In view of the small numbers involved, this factor can be ignored as a source of variation among regions.)

The complexity of the relations between the number and characteristics of the farm-operator household population and the number and characteristics of the farms can be illustrated in an examination of variations in the size of households by economic class of farm. The larger the size of the farm-operator household, the greater the potential manpower available for operating the farm and the greater the possibilities of economic achievement. But this is true, of course, only within the limits set by age, education, sex, health, and other characteristics of the people in the household and the quality of the soil, equipment and capital available, size, and other characteristics of the farm. On the other hand, having more persons economically dependent on a farm than the farm can support may lead to depletion of the physcal resources and underutilization of the human resources of the farm. The relative economic success of the farming operations also affects the size of the household. If the net profit from the farming operations is small, members of relatively large families may have additional motivation to seek employment off the family farm; this frequently involves migration from the family residence and a consequent reduction in the size of the household. Conversely, children of successful farmers are more likely to be well-educated and, therefore, to seek employment in other fields and other areas.

These relationships are shown by the data for this report. In the North and West (combined), the average size of household decreased consistently from 4.2 persons per household for economic classes I and II to 2.9 for class VI. In the South, where families are generally larger, the average size of household *increased* from 3.9 for classes I and II to 4.7 for class IV and then decreased to 4.1 for class VI. The average size of the households on part-time farms (including abnormal) and of residential farms was larger in both the North and West and in the South than those of class VI farms. Substantial proportions of the operators of part-time and residential farms worked off the farm 200 days or more. In fact, the income from other sources exceeded the value of the farm products sold for approximately 87 percent of the families of part-time farm operators and for approximately 65 percent of the families of residential farm operators but for none of the families of class VI farm operators. (The definition of class VI farms excludes from this group families whose other income exceeds farm sales.) Thus, the class VI families are economically less able to retain members of their households than the part-time or residential families.

The variation in the size of households is reflected in the relative distributions of farms and of farm-operator household population by economic class of farm (table 1). The proportion of farms in classes I through IV was 58 percent, 22 percent, and 52 percent in the North, South, and West, respectively, in 1950. The corresponding proportions of the farm-operator household population in these classes was 61 percent, 23 percent, and 55 percent.

TABLE 1.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Economic class of farm	United States	North	South	West
	POPULATION			
All farms	21,875,464	8,724,032	11,419,190	1,732,242
Commercial farms	15,406,849	6,931,214	7,228,317	1,247,318
Classes I and II	2,000,292	1,283,036	347,867	369,389
Class III	3,085,110	2,094,103	682,585	308,422
Class IV	3,792,538	1,908,299	1,610,073	274,166
Class V	3,775,809	1,176,912	2,386,632	212,265
Class VI	2,753,100	468,864	2,201,160	83,076
Other farms	6,468,615	1,792,818	4,190,873	484,924
Part-time and abnormal	2,552,990	860,636	1,490,229	202,125
Residential	3,915,625	932,182	2,700,644	282,799
	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
All farms	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Commercial farms	70.4	79.4	63.3	72.0
Classes I and II	9.1	14.7	3.0	21.3
Class III	14.1	24.0	6.0	17.8
Class IV	17.3	21.9	14.1	15.8
Class V	17.3	13.5	20.9	12.3
Class VI	12.6	5.4	19.3	4.8
Other farms	29.6	20.6	36.7	28.0
Part-time and abnormal	11.7	9.9	13.1	11.7
Residential	17.9	10.7	23.7	16.3

In the North and West more than half of the farm-operator household population was in households of operators of classes I through IV farms—farms for which the total value of products sold was equal to or exceeded $2,500. In the South, which contained approximately half of the total farm-operator household population, less than a fourth of the farm-operator household population was associated with farms of classes I through IV. Of the roughly 13 million persons in the United States in households of operators of farms classified as classes V, VI, part-time, residential, and abnormal, 68 percent were in the South.

DEFINITION OF FARM POPULATION AND POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS

Problems in defining farm population.—In the United States, the term "farm population" is popularly associated with the idea of farm-operator families which live on the farms they operate and which depend entirely or largely on farming for their livelihood. This concept has arisen from our historic way of living and farming. Even today approximately 95 percent of the farm operators live on the farm they operate and roughly 66 percent receive more gross income from the farm than from other sources. Superficially it would seem that a completely satisfactory classification of population into farm and nonfarm could be constructed on the basis of farm residence. However, in many other parts of the world and even in some parts of the United States the typical farm-family settlement pattern is a village or cluster of homes not on, but surrounded by, farmland. For

example, in 1950, roughly 19 percent of the farm operators in Utah did not live on farms.

There are other difficulties in the practical application of the above concept to the problem of classifying population as farm or nonfarm. An increasing proportion of farm operators are doing work other than on their own farm. If the farm operator does not do any work other than on his own farm, other members of his family may have off-farm work. In addition to problems relating to the residence and degree of dependence on agriculture of farm-operator families, there are problems in classifying other groups. These include such groups as farm laborers or farm-laborer families residing on farms, farm-laborer families not residing on farms, and families or single individuals renting farm houses but not renting any of the farmland in the property. If the classification is based on farm residence, a practical and valid way of identifying farms must be established. Because of these and other problems, censuses conducted by other countries have tended to include tabulations of the population dependent on agriculture based on the occupation or industry classification of persons in the labor force; persons not in the labor force being allocated to the occupation or industry group of the head of their household or of the person on whom they are economically dependent. (Problems in classifying the population dependent on agriculture are discussed in greater detail in a report prepared by the United Nations entitled *Population Census Methods*, Lake Success, New York, 1949, pp. 145-158. Some specific aspects of the problem in the United States are described in the joint Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Agricultural Economics report entitled *Farm Population*, Series Census-BAE, No. 16, March 1953.)

Definition of farm population.—In the 1950 United States Census of Population and Housing, the residence classification of population into farm and nonfarm was made largely on the basis of responses to the question "Is this house on a farm (or ranch)?" However, enumerators were instructed to classify as nonfarm all persons in institutions, summer camps, tourist cabins, and similar places on farms and all persons paying cash rent for a farm house and yard but not renting any of the farmland. Both the farm and nonfarm populations have been further classified according to urban and rural residence. (Relatively little data are available on the characteristics of the urban-farm or total farm population, the three-way classification of urban, rural nonfarm, and rural farm having been used most frequently.)

Definition of population in farm-operator households.—The definition of the population in farm-operator households is fairly obvious from examination of the basic definitions of a farm, a farm operator, and a household given in the Introduction to this report.

However, the following facts need to be remembered in evaluating and analyzing the data in this report:

1. The population data in this report relate only to the farm-operator households for places counted as farms in the 1950 Census of Agriculture.
2. Data on farm-operator households for approximately 39,000 or 0.8 percent of all farm operators were not tabulated as the farm operators lived in enumeration districts other than the enumeration district in which the farm was located.
3. Some households located on farms and containing persons counted as farm population in the 1950 Census of Population do not contain a farm operator, and are, therefore, not included in the data given in this report. Such households include households of farm laborers and farm landlords not operating farms but living on farms, as well as households on places considered as farms but without sufficient agricultural operations and agricultural production to qualify as farms according to the definition used for the 1950 Census of Agriculture.
4. The population data in this report include persons in a considerable number of households containing a farm operator who were not counted as part of the farm population in the 1950 Census of Population because the household was not considered as being on a farm.

The following data indicate the relative composition of the farm population for the 1950 Census of Population and the population in farm-operator households as estimated from tabulations made for this report:

Item	*Farm population, 1950 Census of Population*	*Farm-operator household population*
Total population	[1]23,332,000	21,875,000
Persons included in farm population and in farm-operator household population	20,851,000	20,851,000
Persons included in farm-operator household population but not as farm population in Census of Population	xxxxxxxxxx	1,024,000
Persons included in farm population but excluded from farm-operator household population because place did not qualify as farm[2]	1,756,000	xxxxxxxxx
Other persons not included in farm-operator households, but included in farm population[3]	725,000	xxxxxxxxx

[1]Total farm population as shown by the 1950 Census of Population.
[2]Estimates based upon tabulation of data for a sample of 1,408 households taken from 5,260 or 5 percent of the enumeration districts having farms in 1950. This figure is subject to considerable sampling variability.
[3]Estimates obtained by subtracting totals for groups listed from the total farm population.

The above data indicate that the population of farm-operator households included in this report and included in the farm population as shown for the 1950 Census of Population represented 20,851,000 persons or 89 percent of the 23,332,000 farm population. On the other hand, the population of farm-operator households includes 1,024,000 persons not included in the 1950 farm population. Also, the 1950 farm population included 2,481,000 other persons not included in the population of farm-operator households. This total comprises 1,756,000 persons in households on places considered as farms in the 1950 Census of Population, but not qualifying as farms for the Census of Agriculture and 725,000 persons in other households not containing a farm operator. These households consist largely of households of farm landlords and farm laborers.

The relationship of the population of farm-operator households to total farm population should be considered in using data in this report to supplement data on farm population.

AGE, SEX, AND COLOR COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS

Age.—As approximately 21 million of the 23 million persons in the total farm population of the United States in April 1950 were also part of the 22 million persons in farm-operator households, the similarity of the age-sex distribution of the farm-operator household population to that of the rural-farm population shown in diagram 1, is not surprising. (Differences between these two groups are attributable to exclusion of persons in urban farm-operator households from the rural-farm population as well as to the points previously discussed.) The population pyramids for both of these groups have much broader bases, representing larger proportions of persons under 20 years of age, than the urban population. The slimness of these columns from ages 20 to 24 years through 40 to 44 years and more rectangular shape from 20 to 24 years through age 59 also contrasts with the breadth in the young adult ages and more tapering shape of the urban pyramid.

Even though the number of young persons in the farm-operator household population is relatively large, it does not seem excessive in terms of long-run replacement needs assuming that each of the present operators will eventually be replaced by another. In April 1950, there were roughly 107 males under 35 years of age (excluding operators) for every 100 operators. (This figure is an understatement insofar as it does not allow for females of any age or older males who are not operators or for persons not in farm-operator households who may become operators.) Some of these young males will prefer nonfarm employment; some will, of course, die prior to the death or retirement of the present operators. If the number of farms continues to decline—there was a decrease of about one-fifth between 1935 and 1950—the number of operator-

Diagram I.-SELECTED POPULATION GROUPS BY AGE AND SEX FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

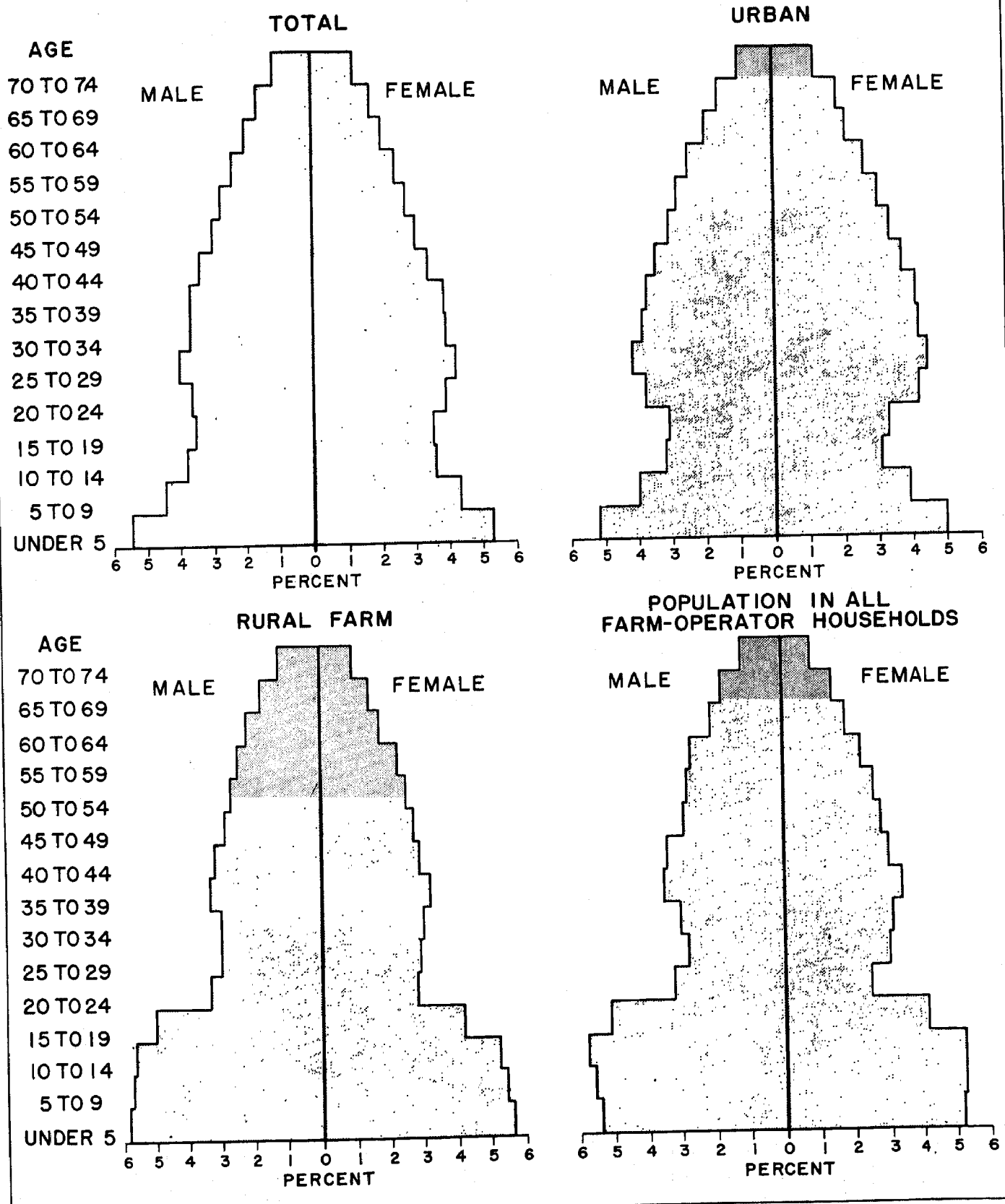


Table 2.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND SEX AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Age	Total, all farms	Commercial farms						Other farms		
		Total	Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
POPULATION										
Total, all ages	21,875,464	15,406,849	2,000,292	3,085,110	3,792,538	3,775,809	2,753,100	6,468,615	2,552,990	3,915,625
Under 5 years	2,324,569	1,658,263	206,224	332,210	388,838	422,511	308,480	666,306	256,011	410,295
5 to 9 years	2,392,744	1,642,864	205,694	338,231	416,745	412,461	269,733	749,880	287,567	462,313
10 to 14 years	2,412,128	1,687,504	209,217	330,214	455,112	420,834	272,127	724,624	279,816	444,808
15 to 19 years	2,043,979	1,442,911	170,384	273,914	359,539	369,712	269,362	601,068	241,591	359,477
20 to 24 years	1,262,270	900,339	138,216	168,351	215,855	218,280	159,637	361,931	152,026	209,905
25 to 29 years	1,265,435	918,367	133,900	198,911	230,524	220,128	134,904	347,068	148,214	198,854
30 to 34 years	1,344,474	943,925	148,591	214,409	240,618	212,937	127,370	400,549	167,452	233,097
35 to 39 years	1,494,049	1,052,671	165,738	251,333	256,958	240,427	138,215	441,378	191,978	249,400
40 to 44 years	1,389,503	989,972	147,201	218,542	243,499	229,010	151,720	399,531	170,263	229,268
45 to 49 years	1,237,196	863,847	125,287	190,234	205,796	202,375	140,155	373,349	151,350	221,999
50 to 54 years	1,185,038	849,932	108,910	182,441	206,927	197,742	153,912	335,106	133,218	201,888
55 to 59 years	1,065,654	760,732	88,364	134,842	186,842	194,912	155,772	304,922	113,652	191,270
60 to 64 years	850,002	625,449	58,397	101,346	154,814	156,315	154,577	224,553	89,165	135,388
65 to 69 years	693,143	493,527	39,429	60,873	105,360	136,053	151,812	199,616	59,463	140,153
70 to 74 years	440,774	277,510	25,518	42,419	61,571	65,150	82,852	163,264	53,260	110,004
75 years and over	474,506	299,036	29,222	46,840	63,540	76,962	82,472	175,470	57,964	117,506
Males, all ages	11,462,311	8,150,931	1,089,967	1,655,378	2,009,613	1,978,177	1,417,796	3,311,380	1,319,701	1,991,679
Under 5 years	1,186,597	846,969	105,711	170,293	198,737	215,333	156,895	339,628	130,566	209,062
5 to 9 years	1,228,250	843,750	106,045	174,287	214,127	211,341	137,950	384,500	147,551	236,949
10 to 14 years	1,255,603	879,496	107,577	178,087	238,735	219,930	135,167	376,107	145,362	230,745
15 to 19 years	1,124,198	801,744	99,860	159,711	199,358	204,959	137,856	322,454	130,564	191,890
20 to 24 years	704,212	514,516	82,716	97,515	126,014	123,010	85,261	189,696	80,767	108,929
25 to 29 years	612,907	455,901	77,163	101,243	109,808	102,958	64,729	157,006	69,115	87,891
30 to 34 years	660,039	471,261	71,647	111,079	120,638	103,675	64,222	188,778	78,620	110,158
35 to 39 years	752,758	526,298	84,981	127,042	129,687	118,513	66,075	226,460	101,677	124,783
40 to 44 years	736,440	538,814	85,131	124,803	130,060	117,248	81,572	197,626	82,091	115,535
45 to 49 years	635,270	444,172	69,463	98,602	106,788	102,640	66,679	191,098	80,071	111,027
50 to 54 years	619,942	456,057	62,723	98,437	111,972	108,005	74,920	163,885	67,001	96,884
55 to 59 years	580,877	417,760	51,527	76,821	101,143	110,893	77,376	163,117	62,834	100,283
60 to 64 years	465,413	344,271	32,931	59,321	84,303	83,487	84,229	121,142	43,655	77,487
65 to 69 years	394,058	290,036	23,497	32,146	69,013	75,338	90,042	104,022	37,148	66,874
70 to 74 years	257,657	167,097	13,430	24,757	37,855	41,294	49,761	90,560	30,551	60,009
75 years and over	248,090	152,789	15,565	21,234	31,375	39,553	45,062	95,301	32,128	63,173
Females, all ages	10,413,153	7,255,918	910,325	1,429,732	1,782,925	1,797,632	1,335,304	3,157,235	1,233,289	1,923,946
Under 5 years	1,137,972	811,294	100,513	161,917	190,101	207,178	151,585	326,678	125,445	201,233
5 to 9 years	1,164,494	799,114	99,649	163,944	202,618	201,120	131,783	365,380	140,016	225,364
10 to 14 years	1,156,525	808,008	101,640	152,127	216,377	200,904	136,960	348,517	134,454	214,063
15 to 19 years	919,781	641,167	70,524	114,203	160,181	164,753	131,506	278,614	111,027	167,587
20 to 24 years	558,058	385,823	55,500	70,836	89,841	95,270	74,376	172,235	71,259	100,976
25 to 29 years	652,528	462,466	56,737	97,668	120,716	117,170	70,175	190,062	79,099	110,963
30 to 34 years	684,435	472,664	76,944	103,330	119,980	109,262	63,148	211,771	88,832	122,939
35 to 39 years	741,291	526,373	80,757	124,291	127,271	121,914	72,140	214,918	90,301	124,617
40 to 44 years	653,063	451,158	62,070	93,739	113,439	111,762	70,148	201,905	88,172	113,733
45 to 49 years	601,926	419,675	55,824	91,632	99,008	99,735	73,476	182,251	71,279	110,972
50 to 54 years	565,096	393,875	46,187	84,004	94,955	89,737	78,992	171,221	66,217	105,004
55 to 59 years	484,777	342,972	36,837	58,021	85,699	84,019	78,396	141,805	50,818	90,987
60 to 64 years	384,589	281,178	25,466	42,025	70,511	72,828	70,348	103,411	45,510	57,901
65 to 69 years	299,085	203,491	15,932	28,727	36,347	60,715	61,770	95,594	22,315	73,279
70 to 74 years	183,117	110,413	12,088	17,662	23,716	23,856	33,091	72,704	22,709	49,995
75 years and over	226,416	146,247	13,657	25,606	32,165	37,409	37,410	80,169	25,836	54,333
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION										
Total, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	10.6	10.8	10.3	10.8	10.2	11.2	11.2	10.3	10.0	10.5
5 to 9 years	10.9	10.7	10.3	11.0	11.0	10.9	9.8	11.6	11.3	11.8
10 to 14 years	11.0	11.0	10.5	10.7	12.0	11.2	9.9	11.2	11.0	11.4
15 to 19 years	9.3	9.4	8.5	8.9	9.5	9.8	9.8	9.3	9.5	9.2
20 to 24 years	5.8	5.8	6.9	5.4	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.9	5.4
25 to 29 years	5.8	6.0	6.7	6.4	6.1	5.8	4.9	5.3	5.8	5.1
30 to 34 years	6.1	6.1	7.4	6.9	6.3	5.6	4.6	6.2	6.6	5.9
35 to 39 years	6.8	6.8	8.3	8.1	6.8	6.4	5.0	6.8	7.5	6.4
40 to 44 years	6.4	6.4	7.3	7.1	6.4	6.1	5.5	6.2	6.7	5.8
45 to 49 years	5.7	5.6	6.3	6.2	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.8	5.9	5.7
50 to 54 years	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.9	5.5	5.2	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.1
55 to 59 years	4.9	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.9	5.2	5.7	4.7	4.4	4.9
60 to 64 years	3.9	4.1	2.9	3.3	4.1	4.1	5.6	3.5	3.5	3.4
65 to 69 years	3.2	3.2	2.0	2.0	2.8	3.6	5.5	3.1	2.3	3.6
70 to 74 years	2.0	1.8	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7	3.0	2.5	2.1	2.8
75 years and over	2.2	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.7	2.0	3.0	2.7	2.3	3.0
Males, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	10.4	10.4	9.7	10.3	9.9	10.9	11.1	10.3	9.9	10.5
5 to 9 years	10.7	10.4	9.7	10.5	10.6	10.7	9.7	11.6	11.2	11.9
10 to 14 years	11.0	10.8	9.9	10.8	11.9	11.1	9.5	11.4	11.0	11.6
15 to 19 years	9.8	9.8	9.2	9.7	9.9	10.4	9.7	9.7	9.9	9.6
20 to 24 years	6.1	6.3	7.6	5.9	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.7	6.1	5.5
25 to 29 years	5.3	5.6	7.1	6.1	5.5	5.2	4.6	4.7	5.2	4.4
30 to 34 years	5.8	5.8	6.6	6.7	6.0	5.2	4.5	5.7	6.0	5.5
35 to 39 years	6.6	6.5	7.8	7.7	6.4	6.0	4.7	6.8	7.7	6.3
40 to 44 years	6.4	6.6	7.8	7.5	6.5	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.2	5.8
45 to 49 years	5.5	5.4	6.4	6.0	5.3	5.2	4.7	5.8	6.1	5.6
50 to 54 years	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.1	4.9
55 to 59 years	5.1	5.1	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.6	5.5	4.9	4.8	5.0
60 to 64 years	4.1	4.2	3.0	3.6	4.2	4.2	5.9	3.7	3.3	3.9
65 to 69 years	3.4	3.6	2.2	1.9	3.4	3.8	6.3	3.1	2.8	3.3
70 to 74 years	2.2	2.0	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.1	3.5	2.7	2.3	3.0
75 years and over	2.2	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.6	2.0	3.2	2.9	2.4	3.2
Females, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	10.9	11.2	11.0	11.3	10.7	11.5	11.3	10.4	10.2	10.5
5 to 9 years	11.2	11.0	10.9	11.5	11.4	11.2	9.9	11.6	11.4	11.7
10 to 14 years	11.1	11.1	11.2	10.6	12.1	11.2	10.3	11.0	10.9	11.1
15 to 19 years	8.8	8.9	7.8	8.0	9.0	9.2	9.8	8.8	9.0	8.7
20 to 24 years	5.4	5.3	6.1	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.2
25 to 29 years	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.8	6.8	6.5	5.3	6.0	6.4	5.8
30 to 34 years	6.6	6.5	8.5	7.2	6.7	6.1	4.7	6.7	7.2	6.4
35 to 39 years	7.1	7.3	8.9	8.7	7.1	6.8	5.4	6.8	7.3	6.5
40 to 44 years	6.3	6.2	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.2	5.2	6.4	7.1	5.9
45 to 49 years	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.4	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.8
50 to 54 years	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.9	5.3	5.0	5.9	5.4	5.4	5.5
55 to 59 years	4.6	4.7	4.0	4.1	4.8	4.7	5.9	4.5	4.1	4.7
60 to 64 years	3.7	3.9	2.8	2.9	4.0	4.0	5.3	3.3	3.7	3.0
65 to 69 years	2.9	2.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	3.4	4.6	3.0	1.8	3.8
70 to 74 years	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	2.5	2.3	1.8	2.6
75 years and over	2.2	2.0	1.5	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.5	2.1	2.8

replacements needed will also decline. As approximately 168 males in the farm-operator household population will reach age 20 during the next decade for every 100 expected deaths or retirements among males 20 to 64 years of age, absorption of almost all of these males into the farm labor force is not expected. (The figure 168 is specifically the ratio, multuplied by 100, of expected survivors to 1960 of males 10 to 19 years of age in 1950 to the sum of (1) expected deaths during 1950-60 to males 20 to 54 years of age and of (2) males 55 to 64 years of age in 1950, assuming the 1950 level of mortality.) This figure is lower than the similar replacement rate for rural-farm males for 1940-50, the value of which was 179 (Conrad Taeuber, *Replacement Rates for Rural-Farm Males Aged 25-69 Years, by Counties, 1940-50*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1944).

The relatively large number of young people and of aged persons in the rural-farm population and in the farm-operator household population represent an added burden of dependency on the economically active members of these groups. Crude measures of this dependency load, the ratio of persons under 15 years and 70 years and over to persons 20 to 64 years of age, for 1950, are as follows:

Residence	*Ratio*
United States	54.7
Urban	46.6
Rural nonfarm	64.4
Rural farm	75.1
Farm-operator household population	72.5

Persons 15 to 19 years of age and 65 to 69 years of age are deliberately omitted from both the numerator and denominator of this ratio because significant numbers of these groups are in the labor force and because of urban-rural differentials in employment opportunities for persons in these age groups. Not only do the rural-farm and farm-operator household populations have greater dependency loads, but the income available for support of these dependents is less than that available to the urban and rural-nonfarm populations. (Figures on family income for the various residence groups do not indicate fully differences in family income per capita because of differences in family size and because they do not take into account the value of home-produced farm products consumed by rural families.) The median income in 1949 of families and unrelated individuals in these population groups was as follows:

Residence	*Median income (dollars)*
United States	2,619
Urban	2,970
Rural nonfarm	2,186
Rural farm	1,567
Farm-operator household population	1,867

(See chapter 3 for analysis of income variations and for discussion of the limitations of these data. The number of unrelated individuals in the farm-operator household population was relatively small.)

Variations in the age-sex composition of the population in farm-operator households by economic class of farm are shown in diagram 2. The most obvious contrast is the more pyramidal distribution of the population associated with classes I and II farms and class III farms and the gradual shift to the more rectangular distributions of groups under 20 years and 20 years of age and over in classes V, VI, and residential. In fact, the distribution of the population associated with classes I and II farms resembles that of the urban population except for the relatively greater numbers of persons 5 to 19 years of age on the high-income farms.

The increase in the proportion of aged persons from classes I and II to class VI is striking. While only 4.7 percent of the population associated with classes I and II was 65 years old or older, 11.5 percent of the population associated with class VI farms was in this age group. The corresponding percentages for the population on part-time and residential farms were 6.7 and 9.4, respectively. Detailed percentage distributions for each economic class are given in table 2.

The proportion of persons under 15 years of age tended to increase from classes I and II to V, rising from 31.1 percent to 33.3 percent. In the population associated with class VI farms, however, only 30.9 percent were under 15 years of age. Thus, despite the increase in the proportion of aged persons from classes I and II to class VI, the median age decreased from 27.6 years for classes I and II to 26.0 for class V (table 3). For the population on class VI farms, however, the median age was 28.6 years.

TABLE 3.—MEDIAN AGE OF THE POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY SEX AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Economic class of farm	United States			North and West			South		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All farms..	27.0	26.9	27.1	29.9	30.2	29.7	24.1	23.7	24.5
Commercial farms.....	27.0	27.1	27.0	30.0	30.2	29.8	23.3	23.2	23.4
Classes I and II.	27.6	27.8	27.4	27.6	27.6	27.5	27.9	28.6	26.7
Class III.....	27.5	27.4	27.7	27.9	28.1	27.7	25.0	23.8	27.1
Class IV.....	26.3	26.3	26.3	30.1	30.4	29.7	21.1	20.7	21.6
Class V.....	26.0	25.7	26.3	33.2	33.4	33.0	22.0	21.8	22.2
Class VI.....	28.6	29.3	28.0	46.2	47.5	44.5	25.0	25.4	24.7
Other farms...	26.9	26.4	27.3	29.6	30.2	29.2	25.5	24.6	26.3
Part-time and abnormal.....	27.0	26.8	27.2	29.7	30.2	29.2	25.5	25.1	25.8
Residential.....	26.8	26.0	27.4	29.6	30.1	29.2	25.4	24.3	26.6

The age structure of the population associated with each economic class of farm reflects to some extent the age distribution of farm operators. As shown in table 4, the age distributions of operators change from a peaked, clustered form for classes I and II to a more flattened, dispersed form for class VI. Classes V and VI contained both greater proportions of young operators and greater proportions of old operators. The age distributions of the operators of both class VI and operators of residential farms are more markedly skewed toward the older ages. The statement that the age structure of the population in each economic class reflects the age distribution of the operators may seem slightly strange at first glance. The median age of all persons in class V farm-operator households was 1.6 years lower than the median age of all persons in classes I and II farm-operator households; the median age of other members of class V households was only 1 year less than that of classes I and II; but the median age of class V operators was 3.9 years higher than the median age of classes I and II operators. Thus, there is a smaller decrease (or an actual increase) between classes I and II and class V for the two components than for the whole. Four factors contribute to this apparent anomaly: (1) A median simply divides a distribution into two groups of equal size without regard to the distribution of items within these two groups; (2) a larger proportion of class V operators than of classes I and II operators were under 25 years of age; (3) a larger proportion of non-operator members of class V households than of classes I and II households were in the younger age groups; and (4) non-operators are greater in number than operators in both groups.

Both the age of the operator and the age of the other members of the household affect the productivity of the farm and consequently its economic class. Older operators, particularly those 65 years of age and over, lack the physical strength of healthy young adults; they may be semiretired; and some or all of their children may have left the household. Thus, those operators 25 to 54 are likely to be more productive, to have more productive farms, and a greater value of farm products sold. In fact, roughly 11 percent of the operators 25 to 54 years of age had classes I and II farms as contrasted with 6 percent of the operators under 25 or 55 years of age and over.

Insofar as gross value of products sold is an indicator of the income available to the household, those farm-operator households least able to support a large number of dependents have the largest ratios of persons in the dependent ages to persons in the working ages. As shown in table 5, the number of persons in the

Diagram 2.-POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS BY AGE AND SEX, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

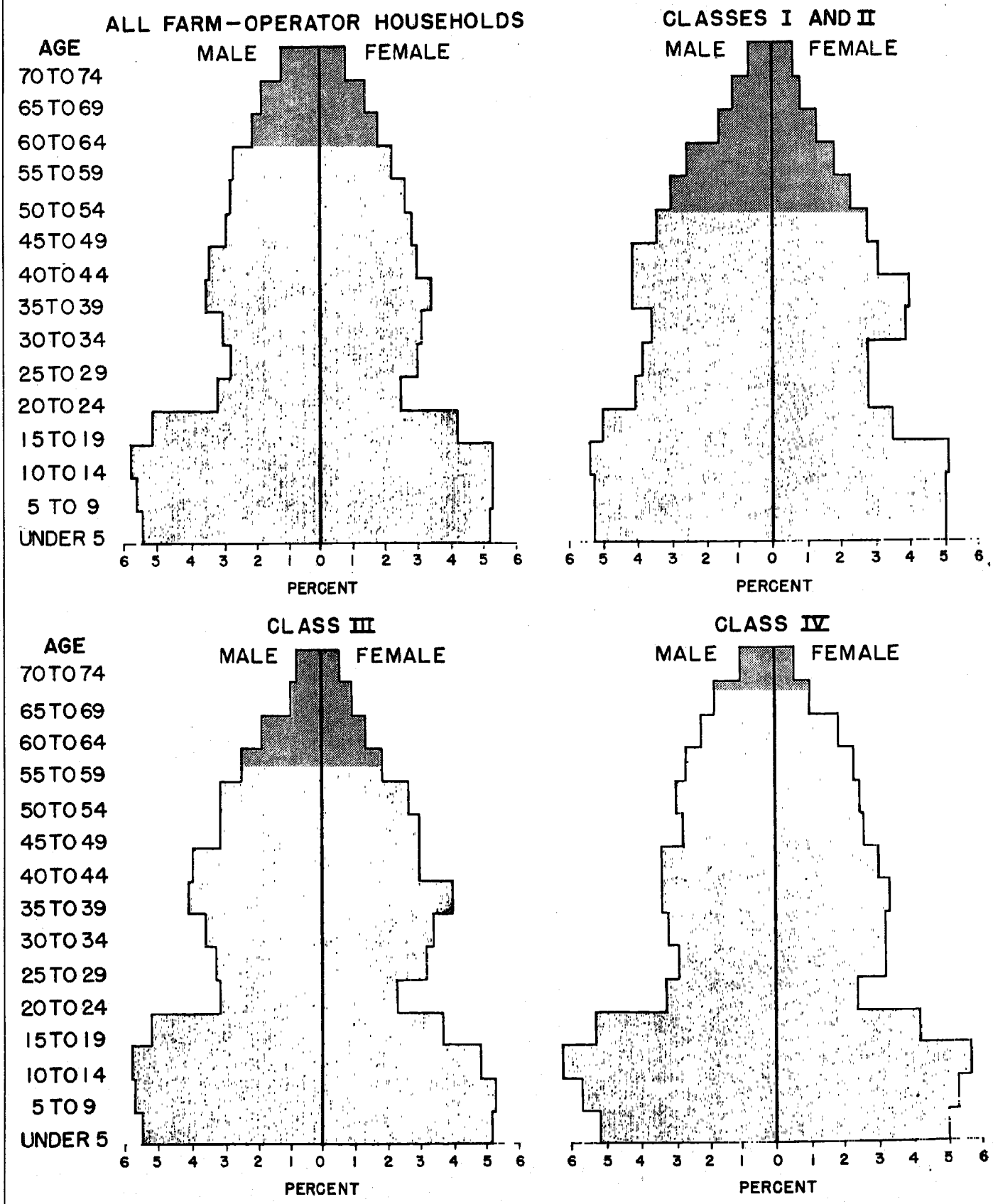


Diagram 2.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS BY AGE AND SEX, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

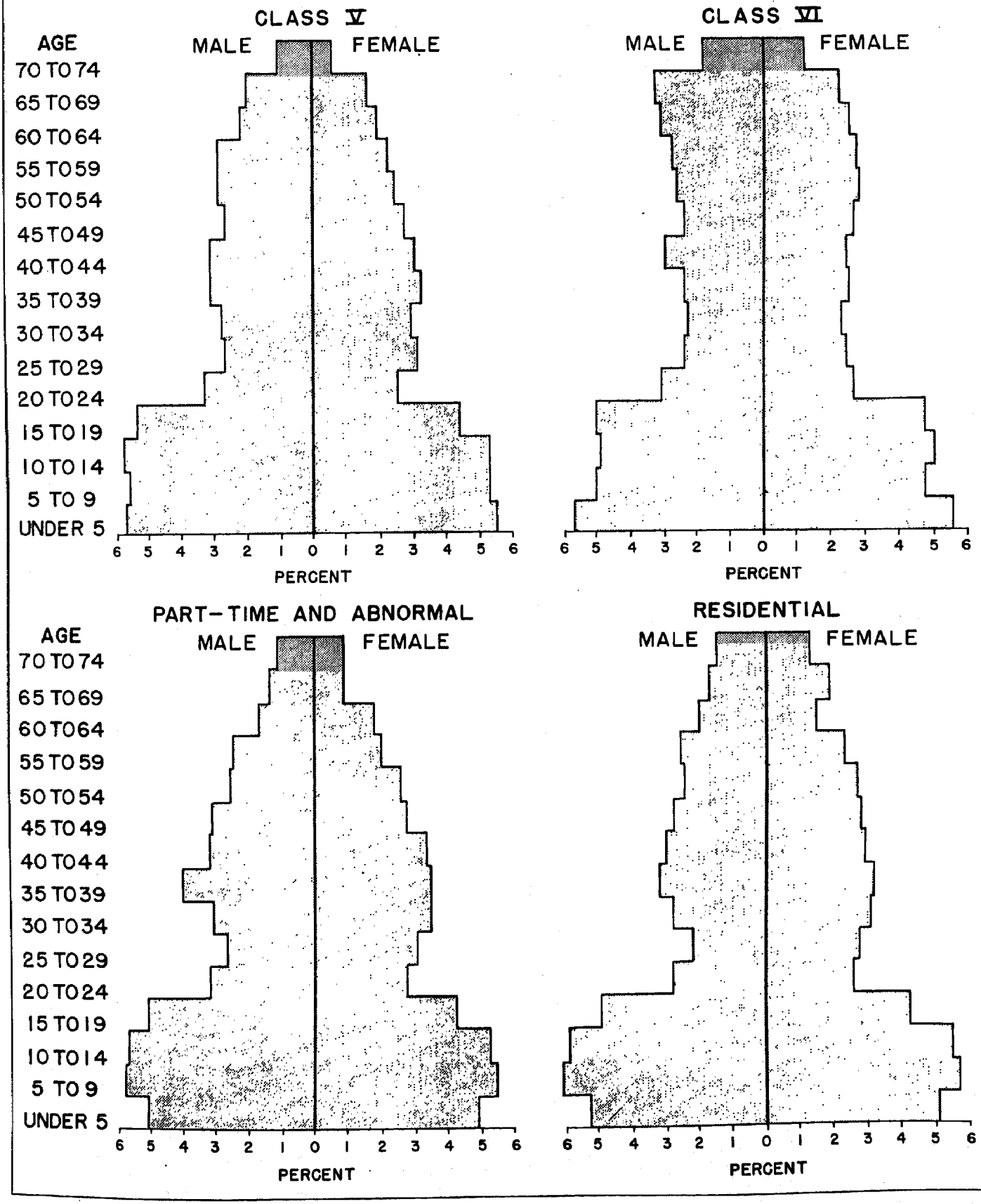


Table 4.–FARM OPERATORS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Age	Total, all farms	Commercial farms						Other farms		
		Total	Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
POPULATION										
Operators and Members of Household[1]										
Total, all ages	21,875,464	15,406,849	2,000,292	3,085,110	3,792,538	3,775,809	2,753,100	6,468,615	2,552,990	3,915,625
Under 25 years	10,435,690	7,331,881	929,735	1,442,920	1,836,089	1,843,798	1,279,339	3,103,809	1,217,011	1,886,798
25 to 34 years	2,609,909	1,862,292	282,491	413,320	471,142	433,065	262,274	747,617	315,666	431,951
35 to 44 years	2,883,552	2,042,643	312,939	469,875	500,457	469,437	289,935	840,909	362,241	478,668
45 to 54 years	2,422,234	1,713,779	234,197	372,675	412,723	400,117	294,067	708,455	284,568	423,887
55 to 64 years	1,915,656	1,386,181	146,761	236,188	341,656	351,227	310,349	529,475	202,817	326,658
65 years and over	1,608,423	1,070,073	94,169	150,132	230,471	278,165	317,136	538,350	170,687	367,663
Median age[2]	27.0	27.0	27.6	27.5	26.3	26.0	28.6	26.9	27.0	26.8
Operators[1]										
Total, all ages	5,341,190	3,769,059	481,386	748,932	903,411	912,664	722,666	1,572,131	618,915	953,216
Under 25 years	180,262	136,607	12,212	16,757	26,624	47,127	33,887	43,655	22,231	21,424
25 to 34 years	869,487	640,546	101,612	146,095	159,229	144,785	88,825	228,941	100,380	128,561
35 to 44 years	1,310,576	936,059	145,507	215,222	234,846	214,650	125,834	374,517	165,673	208,844
45 to 54 years	1,189,101	841,064	119,845	189,369	198,725	200,308	132,817	348,037	147,819	200,218
55 to 64 years	1,005,280	704,777	71,179	125,973	169,741	174,225	163,659	300,503	105,861	194,642
65 years and over	786,484	510,006	31,031	55,516	114,246	131,569	177,644	276,478	76,951	199,527
Median age	47.6	47.1	43.7	44.8	46.6	47.6	53.6	49.0	46.4	50.9
Other Members										
Total, all ages	16,534,274	11,637,790	1,518,906	2,336,178	2,889,127	2,863,145	2,030,434	4,896,484	1,934,075	2,962,409
Under 14 years	6,661,833	4,659,337	586,151	937,983	1,171,669	1,171,589	791,945	2,002,496	772,345	1,230,151
14 to 24 years	3,593,595	2,535,937	331,372	488,180	637,796	625,082	453,507	1,057,658	422,435	635,223
25 to 34 years	1,740,422	1,221,746	180,879	267,225	311,913	288,280	173,449	518,676	215,286	303,390
35 to 44 years	1,572,976	1,106,584	167,432	254,653	265,611	254,787	164,101	466,392	196,568	269,824
45 to 54 years	1,233,133	872,715	114,352	183,306	213,998	199,809	161,250	360,418	136,749	223,669
55 to 64 years	910,376	681,404	75,582	110,215	171,915	177,002	146,690	228,972	96,956	132,016
65 years and over	821,939	560,067	63,138	94,616	116,225	146,596	139,492	261,872	93,736	168,136
Median age	18.5	18.6	19.2	18.7	18.3	18.2	18.9	18.2	18.6	18.0
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION										
Operators and Members of Household[1]										
Total, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 25 years	47.7	47.6	46.5	46.8	48.4	48.8	46.5	48.0	47.7	48.2
25 to 34 years	11.9	12.1	14.1	13.4	12.4	11.5	9.5	11.6	12.4	11.0
35 to 44 years	13.2	13.3	15.7	15.2	13.2	12.4	10.5	13.0	14.2	12.2
45 to 54 years	11.1	11.1	11.7	12.1	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.9	11.1	10.8
55 to 64 years	8.8	9.0	7.3	7.6	9.0	9.3	11.3	8.2	7.9	8.4
65 years and over	7.3	6.9	4.7	4.9	6.1	7.4	11.5	8.3	6.7	9.4
Operators[1]										
Total, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 25 years	3.4	3.6	2.5	2.2	3.0	5.2	4.7	2.8	3.6	2.3
25 to 34 years	16.3	17.0	21.1	19.5	17.6	15.9	12.3	14.6	16.2	13.5
35 to 44 years	24.5	24.9	30.2	28.8	26.0	23.5	17.4	23.8	26.8	21.9
45 to 54 years	22.3	22.3	24.9	25.3	22.0	21.9	18.4	22.1	23.9	21.0
55 to 64 years	18.8	18.7	14.8	16.8	18.8	19.1	22.6	19.1	17.1	20.4
65 years and over	14.7	13.5	6.5	7.4	12.6	14.4	24.6	17.6	12.4	20.9
Other Members										
Total, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years	40.3	40.0	38.6	40.2	40.6	40.9	39.0	40.9	39.9	41.5
14 to 24 years	21.7	21.8	21.8	20.9	22.1	21.8	22.3	21.6	21.8	21.4
25 to 34 years	10.5	10.5	11.9	11.4	10.8	10.1	8.6	10.6	11.1	10.2
35 to 44 years	9.5	9.5	11.0	10.9	9.2	8.9	8.1	9.5	10.2	9.1
45 to 54 years	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.8	7.4	7.0	7.9	7.4	7.1	7.6
55 to 64 years	5.5	5.9	5.0	4.7	5.9	6.2	7.2	4.7	5.0	4.5
65 years and over	5.0	4.8	4.2	4.1	4.0	5.1	6.9	5.3	4.9	5.7

[1]Includes only farm operators for which population data are available.
[2]Computed from detailed age distribution.

dependent ages per 100 persons in the working ages, increases from classes I and II to class VI. Although the increase in the number of persons under 15 years of age per 100 persons 20 to 64 years of age is sizable, the increase in the number 70 years and over per 100 persons 20 to 64 years of age is even more marked. The latter ratio rises from 4.9 for classes I and II to 12.6 for class VI.

Because of higher fertility, higher mortality, and greater net losses through migration after childhood, the farm-operator household population in the South is younger than that in the North and West. From the data tabulated for this report, the median age was estimated to be 24.1 years in the South and 29.9 years in the North and West in April 1950. For each of the economic classes except I and II, the median ages were also lower in the South. These differences between the median ages in the South and in the North and West increase from 2.9 years for class III to 21.2 years for class VI. Southern farm operators were also somewhat younger than those in the North and West, although the regional differences are by no means as marked for these groups as for all household members. The regional differences in median age of farm operators were greatest for classes V and VI (see table 3 of chapter 5).

Higher fertility, higher mortality, and greater net losses through migration in the South also account for the higher dependency ratios found in this region. The greater number of persons in the dependent ages (under 15 and 70 years and over) per 100 persons in the working ages (20 to 64 years) in the South

Table 5.—DEPENDENCY RATIOS FOR FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Economic class of farm	Persons under 15 years and persons 70 years and over per 100 persons 20 to 64 years			Persons under 15 years per 100 persons 20 to 64 years			Persons 70 years and over per 100 persons 20 to 64 years		
	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South
All farms	72.5	65.2	80.0	64.3	56.9	71.8	8.3	8.3	8.2
Commercial farms	70.4	63.6	78.9	63.1	55.4	72.8	7.3	8.2	6.2
Classes I and II	60.6	61.7	55.6	55.7	56.4	52.4	4.9	5.3	3.2
Class III	65.6	64.7	69.2	60.3	59.1	64.6	5.4	5.6	4.7
Class IV	71.4	63.9	82.9	64.9	56.5	77.8	6.4	7.4	5.0
Class V	74.7	63.0	82.2	67.1	51.4	77.2	7.6	11.6	5.0
Class VI	77.2	65.5	80.2	64.6	40.8	70.9	12.6	24.8	9.3
Other farms	77.8	70.8	81.8	67.1	62.1	70.1	10.6	8.7	11.7
Part-time and abnormal	70.9	67.0	73.9	62.5	59.1	65.1	8.4	7.9	8.8
Residential	82.6	74.3	86.6	70.4	64.9	73.1	12.2	9.5	13.5

Table 6.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Age	United States			North			South			West		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
POPULATION												
Total, all ages	21,875,464	11,462,311	10,413,153	8,724,032	4,665,187	4,058,845	11,419,190	5,868,382	5,550,808	1,732,242	928,742	803,500
Under 5 years	2,324,569	1,186,597	1,137,972	864,010	444,057	419,953	1,290,359	655,411	634,948	170,200	87,129	83,071
5 to 9 years	2,392,744	1,228,250	1,164,494	906,393	468,186	438,207	1,292,308	659,862	632,446	194,043	100,202	93,841
10 to 14 years	2,412,128	1,255,603	1,156,525	860,965	453,744	407,221	1,365,948	704,297	661,651	185,215	97,562	87,653
15 to 19 years	2,043,979	1,124,198	919,781	710,620	399,128	311,492	1,196,942	642,655	554,287	136,417	82,415	54,002
20 to 24 years	1,262,270	704,212	558,058	482,868	287,273	195,595	693,125	369,280	323,845	86,277	47,659	38,618
25 to 29 years	1,265,435	612,907	652,528	530,157	263,895	266,262	625,415	295,527	329,888	109,863	53,485	56,378
30 to 34 years	1,344,474	660,039	684,435	568,204	283,433	284,771	672,075	322,743	349,332	104,195	53,863	50,332
35 to 39 years	1,494,049	752,758	741,291	639,120	330,460	308,660	737,914	365,911	372,003	117,015	56,387	60,628
40 to 44 years	1,389,503	736,440	653,063	568,996	317,525	251,471	690,266	351,054	339,212	130,241	67,861	62,380
45 to 49 years	1,237,196	635,270	601,926	520,671	272,497	248,174	603,393	301,950	301,443	113,132	60,823	52,309
50 to 54 years	1,185,038	619,942	565,096	499,250	269,037	230,213	584,491	298,693	285,798	101,297	52,212	49,085
55 to 59 years	1,065,654	580,877	484,777	476,702	262,737	213,965	498,987	267,162	231,825	89,965	50,978	38,987
60 to 64 years	850,002	465,413	384,589	383,850	204,082	179,768	392,994	213,333	179,661	73,158	47,998	25,160
65 to 69 years	693,143	394,058	299,085	309,097	176,239	132,858	324,402	183,202	141,200	59,644	34,617	25,027
70 to 74 years	440,774	257,657	183,117	185,711	116,509	69,202	223,722	122,458	101,264	31,341	18,690	12,651
75 years and over	474,506	248,090	226,416	217,418	116,385	101,033	226,849	114,844	112,005	30,239	16,861	13,378
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION												
Total, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	10.6	10.4	10.9	9.9	9.5	10.3	11.3	11.2	11.4	9.8	9.4	10.3
5 to 9 years	10.9	10.7	11.2	10.4	10.0	10.8	11.3	11.2	11.4	11.2	10.8	11.7
10 to 14 years	11.0	11.0	11.1	9.9	9.7	10.0	12.0	12.0	11.9	10.7	10.5	10.9
15 to 19 years	9.3	9.8	8.8	8.2	8.5	7.7	10.5	11.0	10.0	7.9	8.9	6.7
20 to 24 years	5.8	6.1	5.4	5.5	6.2	4.8	6.1	6.3	5.8	5.0	5.1	4.8
25 to 29 years	5.8	5.3	6.3	6.1	5.7	6.6	5.5	5.0	6.0	6.3	5.8	7.0
30 to 34 years	6.1	5.8	6.6	6.5	6.1	7.0	5.9	5.5	6.3	6.0	5.8	6.3
35 to 39 years	6.8	6.6	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.6	6.5	6.2	6.7	6.8	6.1	7.5
40 to 44 years	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.8	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.1	7.5	7.3	7.8
45 to 49 years	5.7	5.5	5.8	6.0	5.8	6.1	5.3	5.1	5.4	6.5	6.5	6.5
50 to 54 years	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.9	5.6	6.1
55 to 59 years	4.9	5.1	4.6	5.5	5.6	5.3	4.4	4.6	4.2	5.2	5.5	4.9
60 to 64 years	3.9	4.1	3.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	3.4	3.6	3.2	4.2	5.2	3.1
65 to 69 years	3.2	3.4	2.9	3.5	3.8	3.3	2.8	3.1	2.6	3.4	3.7	3.1
70 to 74 years	2.0	2.2	1.7	2.1	2.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.6
75 years and over	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7

relative to the North and West is due entirely to the relatively greater proportions of persons under 15 years per 100 persons in the working ages. In every economic class except part-time and residential, the number of persons 70 and over per 100 persons in the working ages was lower in the South than in the North and West. With respect to dependency ratios as well as median age, differences between the South and the North and West were least for classes I and II. As these classes are the more cosmopolitan part of the farm-operator household population, the similarity of the South to the North and West is not unexpected. (Data for classes I and II for the South in this report must be used with caution as they are based on a relatively small number of farms.)

Sex.—Diagram 1 shows that in April 1950 the rural-farm population and the population in farm-operator households contained somewhat larger proportions of males than females. More precise measures of the sex composition of these populations can be made in terms of the number of males per 100 females. The data for April 1950 are as follows:

Residence	Number of males per 100 females: All ages	Number of males per 100 females: 14 years of age and over
United States	98.6	97.0
Urban	94.6	92.2
Rural nonfarm	103.6	103.2
Rural farm	110.1	112.2
Farm-operator household population	(1)	112.1

[1] Not available. See section of this chapter on "Limitations of Data."

These particular values of the number of males per 100 females—the sex ratio—have been brought about by a number of factors.

In the United States the sex ratio of births has had a fairly constant value of about 106. Births, therefore, tend to cause the sex ratio of the total population to approach 106. The higher the birth rate, the greater the effect of births on the sex ratio of the total population. The sex ratio for the population of the United States would, of course, be the same for all age groups if it were not affected by differential mortality and international migration. During the past decade, withdrawal of men from continental United States to the armed forces overseas has also been an important factor. The rather large differences in the sex ratios of the various residence groups within the United States in 1950 represent primarily the effects of internal migration.

Variations in the sex ratio by age within the farm-operator household population resembled those of rural-farm population, as shown below.

Age	*Rural farm*	*Farm-operator household population*
14 years and over	112.2	112.1
14 to 24 years	116.7	122.4
25 to 34 years	99.8	95.2
35 to 44 years	105.3	106.8
45 to 54 years	110.0	107.6
55 to 64 years	121.8	120.4
65 years and over	128.5	127.0

As there were 116.7 males for every 100 females in the rural-farm population 15 to 24 years of age in 1940—those who would be 25 to 34 years old in 1950—the low sex ratio of the 25-to-34 year old group reflects largely the influences of World War II.

Although the age distribution of population associated with classes I and II farms was similar to the urban population, the sex composition was not. In fact, the sex ratio was, with one exception, higher for classes I and II in every age group shown in table 7 than for any other economic class. Males on high-income farms have less economic motivation toward migration than those on low-income farms. Conversely, a farm with few adult males to share the farm work may be less productive and, therefore, in a lower economic class than it would otherwise be. The decrease in the sex ratio from classes I and II to class VI is shown in table 7. Even more pertinent than the decrease in the sex ratio is the decrease in the average number of working-age males. As shown below, classes I and II farms averaged somewhat more than one working-age male in the household while class VI farms averaged less than one.

Economic class	*Males 20 to 64 years old per farm*
All farms	1.08
Commercial farms	1.11
Classes I and II	1.28
Class III	1.19
Class IV	1.13
Class V	1.06
Class VI	0.92
Other farms	1.02
Part-time and abnormal	1.08
Residential	0.98

Table 7.—NUMBER OF MALES PER 100 FEMALES, FOR THE POPULATION 14 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data see page 3]

Age	Total, all farms	Total	Commercial farms					Other farms		
			Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
14 years and over	112.1	115.3	125.7	120.2	115.9	112.3	106.7	104.6	107.6	102.7
14 to 24 years	122.4	126.4	138.6	142.2	129.1	125.2	103.5	113.2	115.4	111.8
25 to 34 years	95.2	99.1	111.3	105.6	95.7	91.3	96.7	86.1	88.0	84.7
35 to 44 years	106.8	109.0	119.1	115.5	107.9	100.9	103.8	101.7	103.0	100.8
45 to 54 years	107.6	110.7	129.6	112.2	112.8	111.2	92.9	100.4	107.0	96.3
55 years and over	123.3	126.5	131.7	124.6	130.3	125.7	123.3	116.3	123.4	112.7

Table 8.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY COLOR AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOUTH: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Economic class of farm	United States			South		
	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite
POPULATION						
All farms	21,875,464	18,887,170	2,988,294	11,419,190	8,523,708	2,895,482
Commercial farms	15,406,849	13,303,783	2,103,066	7,228,317	5,191,821	2,036,496
Classes I and II	2,000,292	1,978,431	21,861	347,867	331,622	16,245
Class III	3,085,110	3,006,887	78,223	682,585	609,015	73,570
Class IV	3,792,538	3,443,607	348,931	1,610,073	1,284,850	325,223
Class V	3,775,809	3,018,070	757,739	2,386,632	1,643,688	742,944
Class VI	2,753,100	1,856,788	896,312	2,201,160	1,322,646	878,514
Other farms	6,468,615	5,583,387	885,228	4,190,873	3,331,887	858,986
Part-time and abnormal	2,552,990	2,282,740	270,250	1,490,229	1,228,354	261,875
Residential	3,915,625	3,300,647	614,978	2,700,644	2,103,533	597,111
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION						
All farms	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Commercial farms	70.4	70.4	70.4	63.3	60.9	70.3
Classes I and II	9.1	10.5	0.7	3.0	3.9	0.6
Class III	14.1	15.9	2.6	6.0	7.1	2.5
Class IV	17.3	18.2	11.7	14.1	15.1	11.2
Class V	17.3	16.0	25.4	20.9	19.3	25.7
Class VI	12.6	9.8	30.0	19.3	15.5	30.3
Other farms	29.6	29.6	29.6	36.7	39.1	29.7
Part-time and abnormal	11.7	12.1	9.0	13.0	14.4	9.1
Residential	17.9	17.5	20.6	23.7	24.7	20.6

Table 9.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND COLOR AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Color and age	Total, all farms	Commercial farms						Other farms		
		Total	Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
POPULATION										
White, all ages	18,887,170	13,303,783	1,978,431	3,006,887	3,443,607	3,018,070	1,856,788	5,583,387	2,282,740	3,300,647
Under 5 years	1,894,921	1,346,449	205,707	325,968	341,519	303,629	169,626	548,472	221,293	327,179
5 to 9 years	1,998,736	1,355,709	202,538	330,359	369,404	299,889	153,519	643,027	256,974	386,053
10 to 14 years	2,007,911	1,399,809	206,061	317,091	399,370	308,788	168,499	608,102	247,438	360,664
15 to 19 years	1,696,021	1,195,171	168,280	258,669	306,946	286,072	175,204	500,850	206,055	294,795
20 to 24 years	1,057,442	756,770	134,253	160,819	191,661	177,236	92,801	300,672	126,029	174,643
25 to 29 years	1,086,836	791,367	132,568	195,750	206,194	173,134	83,721	295,469	132,920	162,549
30 to 34 years	1,203,137	847,343	147,943	213,356	226,431	175,412	84,201	355,794	154,269	201,525
35 to 39 years	1,325,450	935,155	164,005	247,656	240,123	189,904	93,467	390,295	175,630	214,665
40 to 44 years	1,240,935	882,974	147,201	211,539	222,985	192,174	109,075	357,961	159,199	198,762
45 to 49 years	1,103,566	771,429	124,233	186,030	194,224	168,007	98,935	332,137	136,968	195,169
50 to 54 years	1,073,662	771,889	107,856	179,807	196,416	168,644	119,166	301,773	121,461	180,312
55 to 59 years	970,100	693,085	87,319	131,526	177,768	175,966	120,506	277,015	106,797	170,218
60 to 64 years	776,157	570,555	57,869	100,292	147,452	142,633	122,309	205,602	85,474	120,128
65 to 69 years	620,358	452,853	38,384	59,819	102,213	126,049	126,388	167,505	51,555	115,950
70 to 74 years	401,137	255,247	24,992	41,892	58,413	59,888	70,062	145,890	49,041	96,849
75 years and over	430,801	277,978	29,222	46,314	62,488	70,645	69,309	152,823	51,637	101,186
Nonwhite, all ages	2,988,294	2,103,066	21,861	78,223	348,931	757,739	896,312	885,228	270,250	614,978
Under 5 years	429,648	311,814	(1)	(1)	47,319	118,882	138,854	117,834	34,718	83,116
5 to 9 years	394,008	287,155	(1)	(1)	47,341	112,572	116,214	106,853	30,593	76,260
10 to 14 years	404,217	287,695	(1)	(1)	55,742	112,046	103,628	116,522	32,378	84,144
15 to 19 years	347,958	247,740	(1)	(1)	52,593	83,640	94,158	100,218	35,536	64,682
20 to 24 years	204,828	143,569	(1)	(1)	24,194	41,044	66,836	61,259	25,997	35,262
25 to 29 years	178,599	127,000	(1)	(1)	24,330	46,994	51,183	51,599	15,294	36,305
30 to 34 years	141,337	96,582	(1)	(1)	14,187	37,525	43,169	44,755	13,183	31,572
35 to 39 years	168,599	117,516	(1)	(1)	16,835	50,523	44,748	51,083	16,348	34,735
40 to 44 years	148,568	106,998	(1)	(1)	20,514	36,836	42,645	41,570	11,064	30,506
45 to 49 years	133,630	92,418	(1)	(1)	11,572	34,368	41,220	41,212	14,382	26,830
50 to 54 years	111,376	78,043	(1)	(1)	10,511	29,098	34,746	33,333	11,757	21,576
55 to 59 years	95,554	67,647	(1)	(1)	9,074	18,946	35,266	27,907	6,855	21,052
60 to 64 years	73,845	54,894	(1)	(1)	7,362	13,682	32,268	18,951	3,691	15,260
65 to 69 years	72,785	40,674	(1)	(1)	3,147	10,004	25,424	32,111	7,908	24,203
70 to 74 years	39,637	22,263	(1)	(1)	3,158	5,262	12,790	17,374	4,219	13,155
75 years and over	43,705	21,058	(1)	(1)	1,052	6,317	13,163	22,647	6,327	16,320
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION										
White, all ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	10.0	10.1	10.4	10.8	9.9	10.1	9.1	9.8	9.7	9.9
5 to 9 years	10.6	10.2	10.2	11.0	10.7	9.9	8.3	11.5	11.3	11.7
10 to 14 years	10.6	10.5	10.4	10.5	11.6	10.2	9.1	10.9	10.8	10.9
15 to 19 years	9.0	9.0	8.5	8.6	8.9	9.5	9.4	9.0	9.0	8.9
20 to 24 years	5.6	5.7	6.8	5.3	5.7	5.9	5.0	5.4	5.5	5.3
25 to 29 years	5.8	5.9	6.7	6.5	6.0	5.7	4.5	5.3	5.8	4.9
30 to 34 years	6.4	6.4	7.5	7.1	6.6	5.8	4.5	6.4	6.8	6.1
35 to 39 years	7.0	7.0	8.3	8.2	7.0	6.3	5.0	7.0	7.7	6.5
40 to 44 years	6.6	6.6	7.4	7.0	6.5	6.4	5.9	6.4	7.0	6.0
45 to 49 years	5.8	5.8	6.3	6.2	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.9	6.0	5.9
50 to 54 years	5.7	5.8	5.5	6.0	5.7	5.6	6.4	5.4	5.3	5.5
55 to 59 years	5.1	5.2	4.4	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.5	5.0	4.7	5.2
60 to 64 years	4.1	4.3	2.9	3.3	4.3	4.7	6.6	3.7	3.7	3.6
65 to 69 years	3.3	3.4	1.9	2.0	3.0	4.2	6.8	3.0	2.3	3.5
70 to 74 years	2.1	1.9	1.3	1.4	1.7	2.0	3.8	2.6	2.1	2.9
75 years and over	2.3	2.1	1.5	1.5	1.8	2.3	3.7	2.7	2.3	3.1
Nonwhite, all ages	100.0	100.0	(1)	(1)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	14.4	14.8	(1)	(1)	13.6	15.7	15.5	13.3	12.8	13.5
5 to 9 years	13.2	13.7	(1)	(1)	13.6	14.9	13.0	12.1	11.3	12.4
10 to 14 years	13.5	13.7	(1)	(1)	16.0	14.8	11.6	13.2	12.0	13.7
15 to 19 years	11.6	11.8	(1)	(1)	15.1	11.0	10.5	11.3	13.1	10.5
20 to 24 years	6.9	6.8	(1)	(1)	6.9	5.4	7.5	6.9	9.6	5.7
25 to 29 years	6.0	6.0	(1)	(1)	7.0	6.2	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.9
30 to 34 years	4.7	4.6	(1)	(1)	4.1	5.0	4.8	5.1	4.9	5.1
35 to 39 years	5.6	5.6	(1)	(1)	4.8	6.7	5.0	5.8	6.0	5.6
40 to 44 years	5.0	5.1	(1)	(1)	5.9	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.1	5.0
45 to 49 years	4.5	4.4	(1)	(1)	3.3	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.3	4.4
50 to 54 years	3.7	3.7	(1)	(1)	3.0	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.4	3.5
55 to 59 years	3.2	3.2	(1)	(1)	2.6	2.5	3.9	3.2	2.5	3.4
60 to 64 years	2.5	2.6	(1)	(1)	2.1	1.8	3.6	2.1	1.4	2.5
65 to 69 years	2.4	1.9	(1)	(1)	0.9	1.3	2.8	3.6	2.9	3.9
70 to 74 years	1.3	1.1	(1)	(1)	0.9	0.7	1.4	2.0	1.6	2.1
75 years and over	1.5	1.0	(1)	(1)	0.3	0.8	1.5	2.6	2.3	2.7

Color of population.—Roughly one-seventh of the total population in farm-operator households in April 1950 were nonwhite. As shown below, nonwhites formed larger proportions of the rural-farm and farm-operator household populations than of the urban or rural-nonfarm populations:

Residence	*Percent nonwhite*
United States	10.5
Urban	10.1
Rural nonfarm	8.7
Rural farm	14.5
Farm-operator household population	13.7

Although the proportion of nonwhites in the total population has been relatively constant during the last 30 years, there have been significant changes in the proportions which they form of the three major residence groups and in their distribution by residence. The residence distribution of nonwhites from the Population Censuses of 1930, 1940, and 1950 was as follows:

	1950			
Residence	*New urban definition*	*Old urban definition*	*1940*	*1930*
United States	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban	61.6	58.8	47.9	43.2
Rural nonfarm	17.2	20.1	16.7	17.3
Rural farm	21.2	21.2	35.3	39.5

Thus, the relatively high fertility of the nonwhite rural-farm and farm-operator household population has been more than offset by losses through net migration from the farm population and by mortality. (Eleanor H. Bernert has estimated that between 1930 and 1940, net migration rates for nonwhite rural-farm males and females were -17.1 and -22.4 percent, respectively. Corresponding rates for white rural-farm males and females were -9.0 and -14.0 percent, respectively. See *Volume and Composition of Net Migration from the Rural-Farm Population, 1930-40, for the United States, Major Geographic Divisions, and States*, United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, 1944.)

As a result of higher fertility, mortality, and net loss through migration among the nonwhite farm-operator household population, the median age was much lower than that of the corresponding white population or that of the urban nonwhite population. In April 1950, the median ages of the various white and nonwhite residence groups were as follows:

Residence	*White*	*Nonwhite*
United States	30.8	26.1
Urban	32.0	28.7
Rural nonfarm	28.4	23.5
Rural farm	27.9	18.5
Farm-operator household population	28.6	18.8

Detailed age distributions of the white and nonwhite farm-operator household populations are shown in tables 9 and 10.

A study of the relative mobility of the populations associated with the different economic classes of farms and different income classes would aid considerably in the analysis of the relative age distributions of the white and nonwhite farm-operator household population. As the median ages of the total white population and of the total nonwhite population of the United States differ by less than 5 years, the greater disparity in the median ages of the white and nonwhite farm-operator household populations may be largely associated with disparities in income. More than half of the nonwhite farm-operator household population was in classes V and VI as contrasted with about one-fourth of the white farm-operator household population (table 8). Probably within any one of the economic classes, larger proportions of nonwhites than of whites have lower incomes.

OTHER POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Marital status of farm operators.—In April 1950, almost 90 percent of the farm operators were married (table 12) as contrasted with only 64 percent of rural-farm males 14 years of age and over. (Data on marital status by age groups from the 1950 Population Census are not available.) The higher proportion married among farm operators reflects primarily their older age distribution and better economic position. Inclusion of some nonfarm persons, of some urban persons (both farm and nonfarm), and of some women in the operator group is probably of minor importance. The older age distribution is probably the most important factor, for if rural-farm males had had the same age distribution as farm operators, roughly 80 percent rather than 64 percent would have been married. In the distribution by economic class of farm, the high proportion of widowed and divorced among the operators of classes V and VI, part-time, and residential farms is of interest. This high proportion is attributable largely to the older age distribution of these groups of operators.

TABLE 10.—POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND COLOR, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOUTH: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Age	United States		South	
	White	Nonwhite	White	Nonwhite
	POPULATION			
All ages	18,887,170	2,988,294	8,523,708	2,895,482
Under 5 years	1,894,921	429,648	872,250	418,109
5 to 9 years	1,998,736	394,008	911,390	380,918
10 to 14 years	2,007,911	404,217	971,664	394,284
15 to 19 years	1,696,021	347,958	856,310	340,632
20 to 24 years	1,057,442	204,828	497,358	195,767
25 to 29 years	1,086,836	178,599	456,358	169,057
30 to 34 years	1,203,137	141,337	535,063	137,012
35 to 39 years	1,325,450	168,599	573,533	164,381
40 to 44 years	1,240,935	148,568	544,837	145,429
45 to 49 years	1,103,566	133,630	474,486	128,907
50 to 54 years	1,073,662	111,376	475,218	109,273
55 to 59 years	970,100	95,554	408,295	90,692
60 to 64 years	776,157	73,845	321,779	71,215
65 to 69 years	620,358	72,785	254,239	70,163
70 to 74 years	401,137	39,637	185,141	38,581
75 years and over	430,801	43,705	185,787	41,062
	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
All ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years	10.0	14.4	10.2	14.4
5 to 9 years	10.6	13.2	10.7	13.2
10 to 14 years	10.6	13.5	11.4	13.6
15 to 19 years	9.0	11.6	10.0	11.8
20 to 24 years	5.6	6.9	5.8	6.8
25 to 29 years	5.8	6.0	5.4	5.8
30 to 34 years	6.4	4.7	6.3	4.7
35 to 39 years	7.0	5.6	6.7	5.7
40 to 44 years	6.6	5.0	6.4	5.0
45 to 49 years	5.8	4.5	5.6	4.5
50 to 54 years	5.7	3.7	5.6	3.8
55 to 59 years	5.1	3.2	4.8	3.1
60 to 64 years	4.1	2.5	3.8	2.5
65 to 69 years	3.3	2.4	3.0	2.4
70 to 74 years	2.1	1.3	2.2	1.3
75 years and over	2.3	1.5	2.2	1.4

TABLE 11.—MEDIAN AGE OF THE POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY COLOR AND BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOUTH: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Economic class of farm	United States		South	
	White	Nonwhite	White	Nonwhite
All farms	28.6	18.8	26.7	18.7
Commercial farms	28.8	18.3	26.3	18.2
Classes I and II	27.7	(1)	28.7	(1)
Class III	27.8	(1)	26.8	(1)
Class IV	27.7	17.3	23.3	17.0
Class V	28.9	17.1	25.4	17.1
Class VI	35.0	19.8	30.4	19.7
Other farms	28.2	20.1	27.2	20.0
Part-time and abnormal	28.1	20.4	27.0	20.3
Residential	28.3	19.9	27.4	19.9

[1]Median not shown because of small numbers in sample.

TABLE 12.—MARITAL STATUS OF FARM OPERATORS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Economic class of farm	Total[1]	Single	Married	Widowed or divorced
	FARM OPERATORS			
All farms	5,341,190	279,156	4,688,067	373,967
Commercial farms	3,769,059	218,679	3,333,140	217,240
Classes I and II	481,008	31,525	432,213	17,270
Class III	748,932	41,905	677,441	29,586
Class IV	903,789	40,871	815,606	47,312
Class V	912,664	59,110	801,503	52,051
Class VI	722,666	45,268	606,377	71,021
Other farms	1,572,131	60,477	1,354,927	156,727
Part-time and abnormal	618,915	23,142	553,227	42,546
Residential	953,216	37,335	801,700	114,181
	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
All farms	100.0	5.2	87.8	7.0
Commercial farms	100.0	5.8	88.4	5.8
Classes I and II	100.0	6.5	89.9	3.6
Class III	100.0	5.6	90.5	3.9
Class IV	100.0	4.5	90.3	5.2
Class V	100.0	6.5	87.8	5.7
Class VI	100.0	6.3	83.9	9.8
Other farms	100.0	3.8	86.2	10.0
Part-time and abnormal	100.0	3.7	89.4	6.9
Residential	100.0	3.9	84.1	12.0

[1]Data are not available on marital status of 39,000 farm operators. These are primarily operators who do not reside in the enumeration district in which their farm is located.

Years of school completed by farm operators.—The education of the farm operator is undoubtedly associated with the quality of the farm and equipment which he inherits or is initially able to buy, and with the efficiency with which the farm is operated. One or more years of college had been completed by 14 percent of the operators of classes I and II farms as contrasted with 1 percent of the operators of class VI farms (table 13). The median years of school completed, shown in table 14, dropped from 10.2 years for classes I and II to 6.9 years for class VI. More than three-fourths of the latter group had not completed any years of school above the elementary grades. In view of the age distribution of operators—roughly one-half of whom are more than 47.6 years of age—relatively few of them can be expected to complete any additional years of education.

The median years of school completed by farm operators was the same as that for rural-farm males for April 1950.

Labor-force status and occupation.—Approximately 54 percent of the population 14 years of age and over in farm-operator families were in the labor force in April 1950. Corresponding percentages for the urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm populations were 55, 49, and 51, respectively. About 1 percent of the difference between the percentage for farm-operator families and that for the rural-farm population is probably due to the inclusion of unpaid family workers who worked less than 15 hours as members of the labor force in the farm-operator family data; also the effect of limiting these data to families is difficult to estimate. Some of the difference between the proportion for farm-operator families and for rural-farm population may be real, however, as there are more opportunities for part-time employment of women and older children and for employment of aged and handicapped persons on a farm than in nonfarm work. Probably because of the increase in the proportions of women and of aged males in the populations from classes I and II to class VI, the proportion in the labor force decreased from classes I and II to class VI. (See table 15.)

About 4 out of every 5 persons classified as farm operators in the 1950 Census of Agriculture were reported as farmers or farm managers in the 1950 Population Census. (This proportion and the following percentages relate to operators for whom an occupation was reported.) The proportion of operators who were

Table 13.—YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY FARM OPERATORS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Years of school completed	Total, all farms	Commercial farms						Other farms		
		Total	Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
FARM OPERATORS										
Total[1]	5,341,190	3,769,059	481,386	748,932	903,411	912,664	722,666	1,572,131	618,915	953,216
Total reported	5,281,934	3,731,357	477,126	743,530	899,042	897,415	714,244	1,550,577	612,074	938,503
None	142,232	95,423	1,832	6,313	17,840	27,364	42,074	46,809	15,266	31,543
Elementary:										
1 to 4 years	786,512	518,549	19,053	41,005	92,800	170,729	194,962	267,963	82,829	185,134
5 and 6 years	727,295	474,784	26,956	60,873	114,425	144,678	127,852	252,511	92,077	160,434
7 years	571,313	391,776	35,385	65,131	93,824	102,736	94,700	179,537	69,070	110,467
8 years	1,422,340	1,068,257	122,908	272,396	300,428	229,564	142,961	354,083	144,903	209,180
High School:										
1 to 3 years	756,120	525,319	77,968	118,599	139,411	112,804	76,537	230,801	105,424	125,377
4 years	580,341	448,928	125,591	128,885	98,862	71,268	24,322	131,413	61,416	69,997
College:										
1 to 3 years	190,361	140,500	45,013	37,520	26,981	24,664	6,322	49,861	23,262	26,599
4 years or more	105,420	67,821	22,420	12,808	14,471	13,608	4,514	37,599	17,827	19,772
Not reported	59,256	37,702	4,260	5,402	4,369	15,249	8,422	21,554	6,841	14,713
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION										
Total reported	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	2.7	2.6	0.4	0.8	2.0	3.0	5.9	3.0	2.5	3.4
Elementary:										
1 to 4 years	14.9	13.9	4.0	5.5	10.3	19.0	27.3	17.3	13.5	19.7
5 and 6 years	13.8	12.7	5.6	8.2	12.7	16.1	17.9	16.3	15.0	17.1
7 years	10.8	10.5	7.4	8.8	10.5	11.5	13.3	11.6	11.3	11.8
8 years	26.9	28.6	25.8	36.6	33.4	25.6	20.0	22.8	23.7	22.3
High School:										
1 to 3 years	14.3	14.1	16.4	16.0	15.5	12.6	10.7	14.9	17.2	13.4
4 years	11.0	12.0	26.3	17.3	11.0	7.9	3.4	8.5	10.1	7.4
College:										
1 to 3 years	3.6	3.8	9.4	5.1	3.0	2.8	0.9	3.2	3.8	2.8
4 years or more	2.0	1.8	4.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	0.6	2.4	2.9	2.1

[1]Data are not available on years of school completed for 39,000 farm operators. These are primarily operators who do not reside in the enumeration district in which their farm is located.

TABLE 14.—MEDIAN YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY FARM OPERATORS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of the data, see page 3]

Economic class of farm	United States	North and West	South
All farms	8.3	8.7	7.2
Commercial farms	8.4	8.7	7.1
Classes I and II	10.2	10.2	10.5
Class III	8.7	8.8	8.5
Class IV	8.4	8.6	7.6
Class V	8.0	8.6	6.8
Class VI	6.9	8.3	6.1
Other farms	8.1	8.7	7.2
Part-time and abnormal	8.3	8.8	7.5
Residential	7.8	8.7	7.0

reported as farmers and farm managers decreased from 94 percent for operators of classes I to III farms to 86 percent for operators of class V farms (table 16). The higher proportion of class VI than of class V operators reported as farmers and farm managers is due to the definition of class VI and part-time farms; both have a gross value of farm sales of $250 to $1,199 but the operators of part-time farms either (1) worked off their farms 100 days or more in 1949 or (2) had nonfarm family incomes which exceeded the values of farm products sold. When class VI and part-time operators are combined, the proportion reported as farmers and farm managers is 71 percent. Thus, the proportions form a more uniform series from classes I and II through residential than is at first apparent.

There are a number of reasons why persons classified as farm operators in the Census of Agriculture were not reported as farmers or farm managers in the Census of Population. As noted on page 6, in the Population Census the occupation classification relates to the job held during the census week, (the calendar week preceding the enumerator's visit) or to the last job held. If an employed person had two or more jobs, the occupation reported is the one in which the greatest number of hours was worked during the census week. In the Census of Agriculture a farm operator is a person who operates a farm, either performing the labor himself or directly supervising it. The classification is not affected by the amount or types of work done during the census week. (These definitions were designed to meet specific needs. Differences between the two types of data attributable to differences in definition should not be interpreted as casting doubt on the validity or reliability of either.) As approximately 38 percent of the operators had done some off-farm work during the past year, the fact that the farm operator had another job at which more time was spent during the census week probably accounts for most of the operators who were reported in other occupations.

Fertility.—In April 1950, there were 556 children under 5 years old for each 1,000 women 15 to 49 years old in the households of operators of class VI farms. In the households of classes I and II farm operators, there were 450 children under 5 for each 1,000 women 15 to 49 years old. As shown in diagram 3 and in table 18, these ratios (unstandardized) do not increase in an orderly way from classes I and II to class VI. Some of the departure from a fairly smooth progression is caused by variations in the age and marital status of the women associated with different economic classes of farms. (The standardized ratios show what the ratios of each economic class would have been if (1) the age distribution of women for that economic class had been the same as for women in all farm-operator households and if (2) the age and marital status distribution within age groups had been the same as for women in all farm-operator households.) When the effects of these variations are excluded, the resulting ratios standardized for age and marital status increase consistently from classes I and II to class VI.

The failure of part-time and residential farms to fit into this pattern is of particular interest. Even when part-time and class VI data are combined, the ratios do not have an orderly pattern of increase and decrease from classes I and II through residential. (The ratios for the combined group are 489 and 494 unstandardized and standardized for age and marital status, respectively.) Fertility ratios are rather sensitive indicators of heterogeneity between groups. These data are evidence that, even though class VI and part-time farms have the same gross values of farm sales and, with residential, are part of a continuous scale by value of farm sales, part-time and residential are actually special groups which must be treated separately in the economic class of farm scale. (The data on percentage of operators reported as farmers or farm managers are, by their nature, a special case which should not be interpreted as contradicting this conclusion.)

Although the tremendous rise in the number of births and in the birth rate during the 1940's was most marked in the urban

Table 15.—PERSONS IN FARM-OPERATOR FAMILIES BY LABOR-FORCE STATUS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Labor-force status	Total, all farms	Commercial farms						Other farms		
		Total	Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
UNITED STATES										
Total persons:										
All ages	21,573,540	15,180,403	1,944,628	3,046,019	3,745,993	3,727,250	2,716,513	6,393,137	2,516,460	3,876,677
14 years and over	14,911,707	10,521,066	1,358,477	2,108,036	2,574,324	2,555,661	1,924,568	4,390,641	1,744,115	2,646,526
Persons in labor force	8,104,014	5,900,602	792,672	1,227,749	1,444,425	1,433,382	1,002,374	2,203,412	939,189	1,264,223
Percent in labor force:										
All ages	37.6	38.9	40.8	40.3	38.6	38.5	36.9	34.5	37.3	32.6
14 years and over	54.3	56.1	58.4	58.2	56.1	56.1	52.1	50.2	53.8	47.8
NORTH AND WEST										
Total persons:										
All ages	10,268,835	8,030,277	1,601,002	2,365,693	2,150,122	1,368,651	544,809	2,238,558	1,041,485	1,197,073
14 years and over	7,290,696	5,740,033	1,114,084	1,633,320	1,529,025	1,019,792	443,812	1,550,663	729,207	821,456
Persons in labor force	4,177,133	3,347,732	658,281	978,138	886,888	590,786	233,639	829,401	405,759	423,642
Percent in labor force:										
All ages	40.7	41.7	41.1	41.3	41.2	43.2	42.9	37.1	39.0	35.4
14 years and over	57.3	58.3	59.1	59.9	58.0	57.9	52.6	53.5	55.6	51.6
SOUTH										
Total persons:										
All ages	11,304,705	7,150,126	343,626	680,326	1,595,871	2,358,599	2,171,704	4,154,579	1,474,975	2,679,604
14 years and over	7,621,011	4,781,033	244,393	474,716	1,045,299	1,535,869	1,480,756	2,839,978	1,014,908	1,825,070
Persons in labor force	3,926,881	2,552,870	134,391	249,611	557,537	842,596	768,735	1,374,011	533,430	840,581
Percent in labor force:										
All ages	34.7	35.7	39.1	36.7	34.9	35.7	35.4	33.1	36.2	31.4
14 years and over	51.5	53.4	55.0	52.6	53.3	54.9	51.9	48.4	52.6	46.1

Table 16.—OCCUPATION OF FARM OPERATORS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Occupation	Total, all farms	Commercial farms						Other farms		
		Total	Classes I and II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI	Total	Part-time and abnormal	Residential
FARM OPERATORS										
Total farm operators[1]	5,341,190	3,769,059	481,386	748,932	903,411	912,664	722,666	1,572,131	618,915	953,216
Total reported	4,904,499	3,572,105	467,276	720,098	872,965	864,091	647,675	1,332,394	563,484	768,910
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	58,906	28,289	1,854	4,867	9,457	9,484	2,627	30,617	15,240	15,377
Farmers and farm managers	3,822,366	3,250,738	437,924	678,976	801,051	741,953	590,834	571,628	272,827	298,801
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	122,186	45,996	9,834	5,045	7,317	19,588	4,212	76,190	31,311	44,879
Clerical and kindred workers	42,867	12,217	667	1,056	4,201	4,722	1,571	30,650	16,298	14,352
Sales workers	41,324	11,194	2,099	2,108	2,261	4,726	.....	30,130	12,626	17,504
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	237,234	53,247	1,195	4,737	10,487	29,458	7,370	183,987	75,174	108,813
Operatives and kindred workers	292,276	51,351	3,692	5,912	11,728	21,061	8,958	240,925	78,902	162,023
Private household workers and service workers	45,218	10,533	.....	2,099	2,636	3,164	2,634	34,685	10,520	24,165
Farm laborers and foremen	123,146	80,062	9,354	12,669	18,586	17,349	22,104	43,084	15,240	27,844
Laborers, except farm and mine	118,976	28,478	657	2,629	5,241	12,586	7,365	90,498	35,346	55,152
Occupation not reported	436,691	196,954	14,110	28,834	30,446	48,573	74,991	239,737	55,431	184,306
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION										
Total reported	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.4	2.3	2.7	2.0
Farmers and farm managers	77.9	91.0	93.7	94.3	91.8	85.9	91.2	42.9	48.4	38.9
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	2.5	1.3	2.1	0.7	0.8	2.3	0.7	5.7	5.6	5.8
Clerical and kindred workers	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.2	2.3	2.9	1.9
Sales workers	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	.....	2.3	2.2	2.3
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	4.8	1.5	0.3	0.7	1.2	3.4	1.1	13.8	13.3	14.2
Operatives and kindred workers	6.0	1.4	0.8	0.8	1.3	2.4	1.4	18.1	14.0	21.1
Private household workers and service workers	0.9	0.3	.....	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	2.6	1.9	3.1
Farm laborers and foremen	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.1	2.0	3.4	3.2	2.7	3.6
Laborers, except farm and mine	2.4	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.6	1.5	1.1	6.8	6.3	7.2

[1]Data are not available on occupation of 39,000 farm operators. These are primarily operators who do not reside in the enumeration district in which their farm is located.

TABLE 17.—OCCUPATION OF FARM OPERATORS, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Occupation	United States	North and West	South
	FARM OPERATORS		
Total farm operators[1]	5,341,190	2,706,561	2,634,629
Total reported	4,904,499	2,542,310	2,362,189
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	58,906	35,081	23,825
Farmers and farm managers	3,822,366	2,009,514	1,812,852
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	122,186	54,266	67,920
Clerical and kindred workers	42,867	23,250	19,617
Sales workers	41,324	19,448	21,876
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	237,234	130,456	106,778
Operatives and kindred workers	292,276	139,736	152,540
Private household workers and service workers	45,218	24,178	21,040
Farm laborers and foremen	123,146	46,843	76,303
Laborers, except farm and mine	118,976	59,538	59,438
Occupation not reported	436,691	164,251	272,440
	PERCENT		
Total reported	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	1.2	1.4	1.0
Farmers and farm managers	77.9	79.1	76.8
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	2.5	2.1	2.9
Clerical and kindred workers	0.9	0.9	0.8
Sales workers	0.9	0.8	0.9
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	4.8	5.1	4.5
Operatives and kindred workers	6.0	5.5	6.5
Private household workers and service workers	0.9	1.0	0.9
Farm laborers and foremen	2.5	1.8	3.2
Laborers, except farm and mine	2.4	2.3	2.5

[1]Data are not available on occupation of 39,000 farm operators. These are primarily operators who do not reside in the enumeration district in which their farm is located.

population and has tended to reduce urban-rural differentials in fertility, the number of children under 5 per 1,000 women 15 to 49 was still greater for the rural-farm population than for either the rural-nonfarm or urban populations in 1950. (These ratios were 372, 507, and 521 for the urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm populations, respectively. It should be noted that these figures are not comparable with those shown in tables 18 and 19 because the latter are based on children in the family and women in the household.) Also, a survey taken in April 1949 indicated that fertility (as measured by standardized rates) was higher in the families of farmers and farm managers than for any other major occupation group except farm laborers and foremen. (See U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, *Marital Fertility: April 1949*, Series P-20, No. 27, February 1950.)

DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE ON AGRICULTURE

Some of the problems in defining farm population and the use by other countries of the concept of economic dependence on agriculture were mentioned earlier in this chapter. Because a good operational definition of farm population is of primary importance, one of the objectives of this project has been to obtain some data relative to the use of the concept of dependence on agriculture.

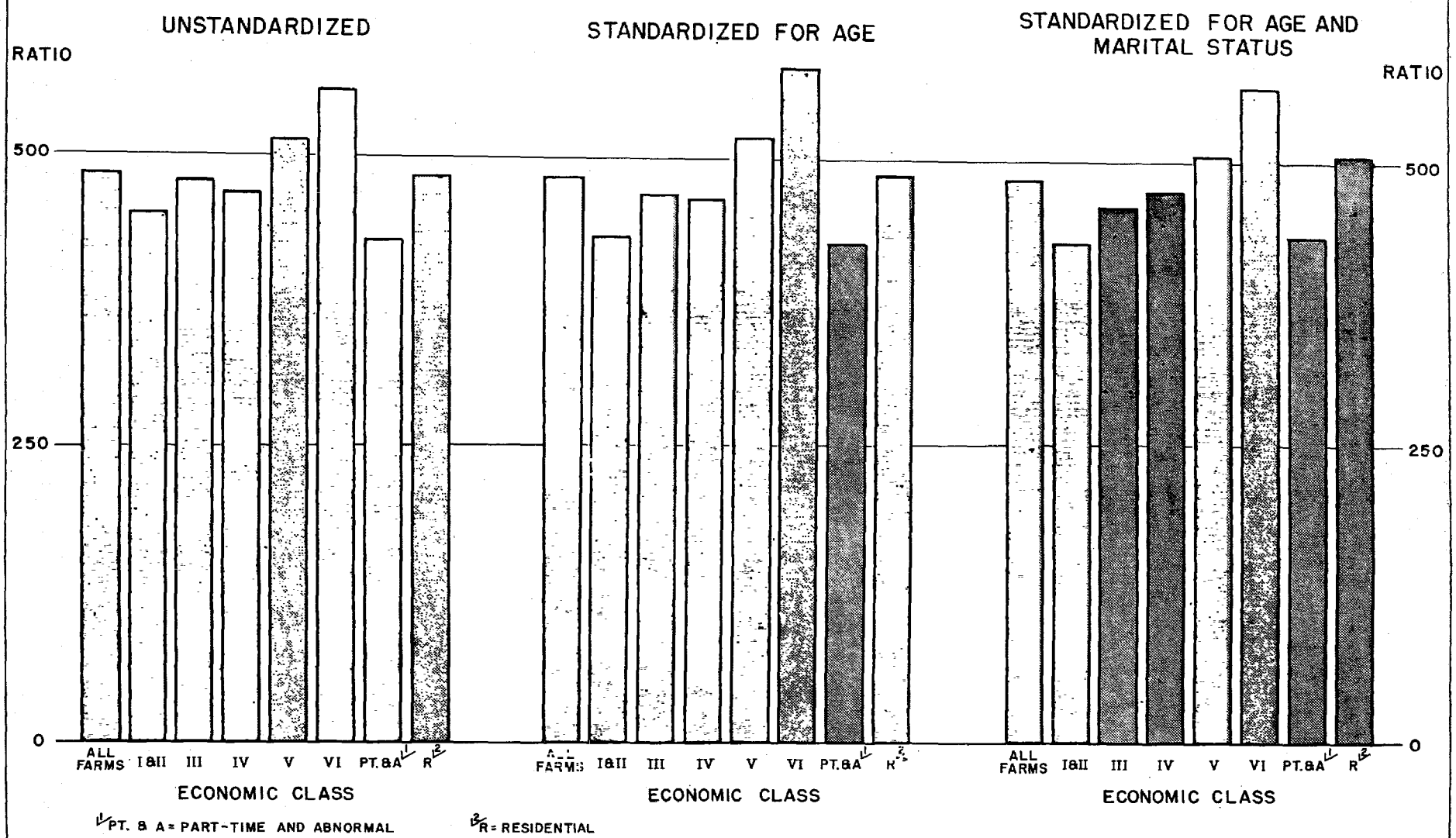
Several tabulations relative to dependence on agriculture have been made. From these tabulations, an attempt will be made (1) to explore and analyze alternative definitions of farm population and (2) to measure gradations in degree of dependence on agriculture. The following four questions from the Census of Agriculture questionnaire were used as the basis of these tabulations:

1. "How many days did you work last year off your farm? Include work at a nonfarm job, business, profession, or on someone else's farm . . ."
2. "Did any other member of your family living with you have a nonfarm job, business, profession, or work on someone else's farm last year?"
3. "Did you have any income last year from any of the following sources—sale of products from land rented out, cash rent, boarders, old age assistance, pensions, veterans' allowances, unemployment compensation, interest, and help from members of your family?"
4. "Was the income which you and your family received from work off the farm and from other sources . . . greater than the total value of all agricultural products sold from your place last year?"

Supplementary information was used to determine the classification for most of the cases where information was not given in response to the last two questions. The number of farm operators classified on the basis of this supplementary information totaled 419,000 or 7.9 percent of all farm operators.

Table 20 shows a detailed distribution of farms and of the farm-operator household population by the operator's response to the above questions. Almost two-fifths of the population in farm-operator households were completely dependent on their farm income—neither the operator nor any of his family worked off the family farm and the operator did not have any income from outside sources. (No account has been taken of the work or income of the roughly 300,000 persons 14 years of age and over in farm-operator households but not in farm-operator families.) This

Diagram 3. — POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS FERTILITY RATIOS* BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950



*(RATIOS REPRESENT NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OLD PER 1,000 WOMEN 15 TO 49 YEARS OLD, UNSTANDARDIZED, STANDARDIZED FOR AGE OF WOMAN, AND STANDARDIZED FOR AGE AND MARITAL STATUS OF WOMAN)

Table 18.—FERTILITY RATIOS FOR FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, UNSTANDARDIZED, STANDARDIZED FOR AGE OF WOMAN, AND STANDARDIZED FOR AGE AND MARITAL STATUS OF WOMAN, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Rates represent number of children under 5 years old in farm-operator families per 1,000 women 15 to 49 years old in farm-operator households. Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Economic class of farm	United States			North and West			South		
	Unstandardized	Standardized for age	Standardized for age and marital status	Unstandardized	Standardized for age	Standardized for age and marital status	Unstandardized for age	Standardized for age	Standardized for age and marital status
All farms	483	483	483	461	451	459	502	510	504
Commercial farms	494	493	487	476	460	463	512	525	509
Classes I and II	450	432	428	469	453	448	376	339	338
Class III	478	468	461	502	472	470	393	472	443
Class IV	468	464	475	467	456	462	470	473	488
Class V	515	517	505	468	449	458	539	551	527
Class VI	556	580	563	424	455	481	581	604	578
Other farms	459	461	474	412	415	440	484	485	492
Part-time and abnormal	427	425	434	369	374	396	468	459	460
Residential	482	488	505	454	454	483	494	501	513

TABLE 19.—FERTILITY RATIOS FOR FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY AGE AND MARITAL STATUS OF WOMAN, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1950

[Rates represent number of children under 5 years old in farm-operator families per 1,000 women 15 to 49 years old in farm-operator households. Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3]

Region and age of woman	Total women			Women ever married		Number of single women[3]
	Number of women[1]	Children under 5 years old		Number of women	Children under 5 per 1,000 women	
		Number[2]	Per 1,000 women			
UNITED STATES						
Total, 15 to 49 years	4,811,082	2,324,569	483	3,649,552	637	1,161,530
15 to 19 years	919,781	71,034	77	119,757	593	800,024
20 to 24 years	558,058	462,169	828	392,736	1,177	165,322
25 to 29 years	652,528	658,084	1,009	592,572	1,111	59,956
30 to 34 years	684,435	505,585	739	641,150	789	43,285
35 to 39 years	741,291	382,474	516	707,996	540	33,295
40 to 44 years	653,063	181,564	278	621,864	292	31,199
45 to 49 years	601,926	63,659	106	573,477	111	28,449
NORTH						
Total, 15 to 49 years	1,866,425	864,010	463	1,437,509	601	428,916
15 to 19 years	311,492	16,335	52	29,302	557	282,190
20 to 24 years	195,595	139,841	715	135,291	1,034	60,304
25 to 29 years	266,262	267,616	1,005	238,243	1,123	28,019
30 to 34 years	284,771	207,148	727	265,568	780	19,203
35 to 39 years	308,660	151,308	490	291,035	520	17,625
40 to 44 years	251,471	57,803	230	239,561	241	11,910
45 to 49 years	248,174	23,959	97	238,509	100	9,665
SOUTH						
Total, 15 to 49 years	2,570,010	1,290,359	502	1,911,430	675	658,580
15 to 19 years	554,287	52,191	94	86,419	604	467,868
20 to 24 years	323,845	290,420	897	230,205	1,262	93,640
25 to 29 years	329,888	342,440	1,038	303,507	1,128	26,381
30 to 34 years	349,332	259,626	743	328,201	791	21,131
35 to 39 years	372,003	199,401	536	358,028	557	13,975
40 to 44 years	339,212	108,394	320	321,241	337	17,971
45 to 49 years	301,443	37,887	126	283,829	133	17,614
WEST						
Total, 15 to 49 years	374,647	170,200	454	300,613	566	74,034
15 to 19 years	54,002	2,508	46	4,036	621	49,966
20 to 24 years	38,618	31,908	826	27,240	1,171	11,378
25 to 29 years	56,378	48,028	852	50,822	945	5,556
30 to 34 years	50,332	38,811	771	47,381	819	2,951
35 to 39 years	60,628	31,765	524	58,933	539	1,695
40 to 44 years	62,380	15,367	246	61,062	252	1,318
45 to 49 years	52,309	1,813	35	51,139	35	1,170

[1]Includes proportionate share of women of unknown age.
[2]Adjusted to include all children under 5 in farm-operator families. See text.
[3]Includes all women of unknown age allocated to these age groups.

group is the solid core of those economically dependent on agriculture. In addition, about 28 percent of the farm-operator household population were primarily dependent on their farm income, the value of farm sales being greater than family income from other sources. Of the remainder, for which the value of farm sales was less than family income from other sources, 37 percent were in households where the farm operator worked off the farm less than 100 days. In these cases, the farm income may have been less than income from the outside source because of crop failure or some other unusual reason.

LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

The nature of the sample, definitions, and limitations of a general nature are discussed in the Introduction to this report. This section relates only to certain limitations of the data used in this chapter.

Children under 14 years of age.—Data on the number of children under 14 years of age in farm-operator *households* were not tabulated. Therefore, in the farm-operator household population tables, data on the number of children under 14 years of age in farm-operator *families* have been used. Inclusion of persons under 14 years in farm-operator households but not in farm-operator families would have increased the total farm-operator household population by approximately 57,000. Thus, the total farm-operator household population has been understated by about 0.3 percent and the population under 14 by about 0.9 percent. Inclusion of these children would have lowered the median ages and decreased the percentages of persons 14 years old and over.

Distribution of the population under 14 years of age, by sex.—As data on persons under 14 years of age, by sex, were not tabulated, the distributions by sex of persons in this age group, shown in several of the tables, are estimates based on the percentage of males and the percentage of females in the rural-farm population, by age and by regions, for April 1950. Median ages by sex for the farm-operator household population are, of course, based on these estimates.

Age not reported.—When the age of a person was not reported in the Population Census, it was estimated on the basis of other available information. In most cases, these estimated ages were entered on the schedules. In some instances, however, the estimated age was not entered on the schedule but was punched directly on the tabulation cards. The latter group was tabulated as "age unknown" for this report. As this represented only a residual group of an already small number of cases of age unknown, it has been distributed proportionately among persons 20 years of age and over.

In the Census of Agriculture, age was not estimated for those operators of unknown age. In order to estimate the age distribution of members of the household other than operators, shown in table 4, operators of unknown age have been distributed proportionately among the various age groups of operators with age reported. In preparing this table, two other assumptions had to be made. One was that all operators were 14 years of age or older. The second assumption concerned the 39,000 farm operators for whom population information was not available. These operators and other members of their households are not represented in the data on the farm-operator household population; therefore, these farm operators had to be taken out of the age distribution of operators prior to subtraction to obtain the age distribution of non-operator household members. The number of such operators was small.

Therefore, the total number of farm operators shown in table 4 is 5,341,190 rather than 5,380,127—the total number of farms and farm operators shown elsewhere in this report. (The

Table 20.—FARMS AND POPULATION IN FARM-OPERATOR HOUSEHOLDS, BY DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE ON AGRICULTURE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

[Data are based upon a sample. For a description of the sample and a statement of reliability of data, see page 3. For limitations of the data, see text, page 63]

Degree of dependence on agriculture	Farm-operator households, total[1]	Population			Percent distribution			
		All ages	Under 14 years	14 years and over	Farm-operator households, total	Population		
						All ages	Under 14 years	14 years and over
Farm-operator households, total	5,341,190	21,875,464	6,661,833	15,213,631	100	100	100	100
Farm-operator households by source of income:								
Without other income	2,030,712	8,090,777	2,479,186	5,611,591	38	37	37	37
With other income less than value of farm products sold	1,444,194	6,134,257	1,856,811	4,277,446	27	28	28	28
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	1,615,063	6,742,585	2,058,346	4,684,239	30	31	31	31
All other households	251,221	907,845	267,490	640,355	5	4	4	4
Farm-operator households by amount of off-farm work:								
No off-farm work by operator or family members, total	2,617,677	10,089,236	3,813,859	7,075,377	49	46	45	47
Without other income	2,030,712	8,090,777	2,479,186	5,611,591	38	37	37	37
With other income less than value of farm products sold	335,602	1,180,375	305,293	875,082	6	5	5	6
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	251,363	818,084	229,380	588,704	5	4	3	4
No off-farm work by operator but some by family members	418,353	1,972,206	431,730	1,540,476	8	9	6	10
With other income less than value of farm products sold	250,479	1,172,819	251,654	921,165	5	5	4	6
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	167,874	799,387	180,076	619,311	3	4	3	4
Some off-farm work by operator	2,053,939	8,906,177	2,948,754	5,957,423	38	41	44	39
1 to 99 days	854,389	3,708,154	1,210,409	2,497,745	16	17	18	16
With other income less than value of farm products sold	648,811	2,855,432	991,683	1,863,749	12	13	15	12
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	205,578	852,722	218,726	633,996	4	4	3	4
1 to 49 days	576,819	2,486,841	810,349	1,676,492	11	11	12	11
With other income less than value of farm products sold	482,191	2,095,178	716,786	1,378,392	9	10	11	9
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	94,628	391,663	93,563	298,100	2	2	1	2
50 to 99 days	277,570	1,221,313	400,060	821,253	5	6	6	5
With other income less than value of farm products sold	166,620	760,254	274,897	485,357	3	3	4	3
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	110,950	461,059	125,163	335,896	2	2	2	2
100 days or more	1,199,550	5,198,023	1,738,345	3,459,678	22	24	26	23
With other income less than value of farm products sold	209,302	925,631	308,181	617,450	4	4	5	4
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	990,248	4,272,392	1,430,164	2,842,228	19	20	21	19
100 to 199 days	301,353	1,332,503	467,071	865,432	6	6	7	6
With other income less than value of farm products sold	94,571	413,325	139,516	273,809	2	2	2	2
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	206,782	919,178	327,555	591,623	4	4	5	4
200 days or more	898,197	3,865,520	1,271,274	2,594,246	17	18	19	17
With other income less than value of farm products sold	114,731	512,306	168,665	343,641	2	2	3	2
With other income greater than value of farm products sold	783,466	3,353,214	1,102,609	2,250,605	15	15	17	15
All other households	251,221	907,845	267,490	640,355	5	4	4	4

[1] Includes only farm-operator households for which population data are available.

latter figure differs slightly from the final count of farms and farm operators in the 1950 Census of Agriculture because of rounding of the expansion factors used in processing the sample data.) The figure 5,341,190 (and comparable figures for its components) has been used in other tables where data on operators from the Population Census are shown or where comparisons are made between farms and population or operators and population.

Fertility ratios.—As noted on the tables, the fertility ratios are also based on data for children in farm-operator families and for women in farm-operator households. The figures on total women include proportionate shares of the women tabulated as of unknown age. Because necessary data on women by age and marital status were not available, all women of unknown age allotted to ages 15 to 49 years were assumed to be single.

The age-specific rates are based largely on tabulations of children by age of mother in households containing only one woman ever married—assuming that this woman was the mother of all of the children in that family. The distribution of children by age of mother in households containing two or more women ever married was estimated indirectly from age-specific rates for women ever married in households containing only one woman of this marital status. About 386,000 children under 5 years of age, or 17 percent of all children of this age, were in households containing two or more women ever married.