NUMBER OF FARMS, FARM ACREAGE, AND SPECIFIED FARM VALUES

INTRODUCTION

Scope of report.—This report presents the number of farms, farm acreage, and specified farm values, by minor civil divisions, as returned at the Fifteenth Decennial Census of the United States. In taking the farm census of 1930, the Bureau of the Census employed the same methods of enumeration that it has used in former censuses; the figures are, therefore, the results obtained from the tabulation of the information given by farm operators to census enumerators in a personal canvass of the individual farms and ranges of the United States.

In the presentation of these statistics the States are arranged in alphabetical order, except that in the United States Summary the State totals are grouped by geographic divisions to facilitate their study by broad geographic areas, as in Volume I of the reports on population.

Census date.—The data contained in this report relate to April 1, 1930, the date of the Fifteenth Census of the United States, and to the crop year 1929.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Farm.—A "farm," for census purposes, is all the land which is directly farmed by one person, either by his own labor alone or with the assistance of members of his household or hired employees. The land operated by a partnership is likewise considered a farm. A "farm" may consist of a single tract of land or of a number of separate tracts, and these several tracts may be held under different tenures, as when one tract is owned by the farmer and another tract is rented by him. When a landowner has one or more tenants, renters, or managers, the land operated by each is considered a farm. Thus on a plantation the land operated by each cropper or tenant was reported as a separate farm, and the land operated by the owner or manager by means of wage hands likewise was reported as a separate farm.

The enumerators were instructed not to report as a farm any tract of land of less than 3 acres, unless its agricultural products in 1929 were valued at $250 or more.

Land in farms.—The acreage designated as "All land in farms" includes considerable areas of land not actually under cultivation and some not even used for pasture, since each farmer was asked to report as a unit all the land under his control, or rather all the land which he thought of as a part of his farm. Isolated tracts of timberland and other areas not connected with the farm were not included.

The following classes of farm land, based on the uses made of the land in 1929, are shown separately. This classification of farm land was first presented in the reports of the census of 1925.

Crop land.—The total crop land consists of three classes of land, as follows:

1. Crop land harvested in 1929, comprising all land from which cultivated crops were harvested, all land from which hay was cut (including wild hay cut within the limits of the farm), and all land in small fruits, orchards, vineyards, gardens, nurseries, and greenhouses. A given acreage was counted but once, even though two or more crops were harvested from it.

2. Crop failure, comprising land from which no crop was harvested in 1929 because of crop failure or destruction from any cause, including drought, flood, insects, or disease.

3. Idle or fallow land, comprising crop land which was lying idle or which was in cultivated summer fallow in 1929.

Pasture land.—The total pasture land consists of three classes of land, as follows:

1. Plowable pasture, comprising land used only for pasture in 1929 which could have been plowed and used for crops without clearing, draining, or irrigating.

2. Woodland pasture, comprising woodland used for pasture at any time during 1929. (Woodland pasture includes all farm woodlots or timber tracts, natural or planted, and cut-over land with young growth; but excludes chaparral and woody shrubs.)

3. Other pasture, comprising all land used for pasture in 1929 which was not included under plowable pasture or woodland pasture.

Woodland not used for pasture.—Under this heading is reported all woodland included in the farm acreage but not pastured in 1929.

All other land in farms.—Under this heading are included all rough, swampy, or waste lands not in forest, pasture, or crops; and also the land occupied by buildings, barnyards, feed lots, roads, ditches, etc.

Value of farm.—The farmer was asked to report the total value of his farm (land and buildings), including all the land which he operated, both owned and hired, whether operated for himself or managed for others. He was asked to give the current market value—that is, the amount for which the farm would sell under normal conditions, not at forced sale. The tabulated results of this inquiry are shown as value of "Land and buildings" and represent the total value of farm real estate.

The farmer was also asked to report the value of all farm buildings on his farm and of his dwelling house alone. These values were necessarily estimated, and
The figures obtained are probably somewhat less satisfactory than the figures for the total real-estate value. The question calling for the value of the farmer’s dwelling house appeared on the census farm schedule for the first time in 1930.

The value of farm implements and machinery is the combined value of automobiles; trucks; tractors; tools; wagons; harnesses; dairy equipment; cotton gins; threshing machines; combines; apparatus for making cider, grape juice, and sirup, and for drying fruits; and all other farm machinery. The value of commercial mills and factories located on the farm was not included.

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS

The term “Minor civil division” is used as a generic term to designate the political units into which a county is divided for local administrative or judicial purposes. These divisions are given various designations in different States and even in a single county.

The major subdivision of a State is usually the county; though in Louisiana such areas are designated “Parishes,” in California one major subdivision is designated the “City and County of San Francisco,” in Colorado one major subdivision is designated the “City and County of Denver,” while the cities of Virginia and certain cities in other States have both city and county functions.

Designations, by States.—The following paragraphs give, for each State, the designations applied to the primary divisions of the county—townships, precincts, election districts, magisterial districts, towns in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, etc., and independent municipalities; also the secondary divisions, which are incorporated cities, boroughs, towns, and villages.

Alabama.—In the State of Alabama the primary divisions of the county are election precincts and one city—Mobile. These precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Arizona.—In the State of Arizona the primary divisions of the county are election precincts, justice precincts, or school districts. These precincts or districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Arkansas.—In the State of Arkansas the primary divisions of the county are election districts. These districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

California.—In the State of California the primary divisions of the county are judicial townships. These judicial townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns. San Francisco is incorporated as the “City and County of San Francisco.”

Colorado.—In the State of Colorado the primary divisions of the county are election precincts. There are also five cities which are independent of election precincts and constitute primary divisions. The election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns. Denver is incorporated as the “City and County of Denver.”

Connecticut.—In the State of Connecticut the primary divisions of the county are townships. These townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities or boroughs.

Delaware.—In the State of Delaware the minor civil divisions of the county are representative districts. These districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities and towns.

The District of Columbia.—The city of Washington is coextensive with the District of Columbia. There are no primary divisions such as are found in the counties of the States.

Florida.—In the State of Florida the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts. These election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Georgia.—In the State of Georgia the primary divisions of the counties are militia districts, and one city—Atlanta. The militia districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, boroughs, towns, or villages.

Idaho.—In the State of Idaho the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts. These election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Illinois.—In the State of Illinois the primary divisions of the counties are townships, election precincts, and one city—Chicago. The townships and election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Indiana.—In the State of Indiana the primary divisions of the counties are townships. These townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Iowa.—In the State of Iowa the primary divisions of the county are townships, and one city—Sioux City. The townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Kansas.—In the State of Kansas the primary divisions of the county are townships and independent cities. The townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Kentucky.—In the State of Kentucky the primary divisions of the counties are magisterial districts. The magisterial districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Louisiana.—In the State of Louisiana the parishes are divided into police jury wards, which constitute the primary divisions. The police jury wards include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages. The city of New Orleans is coextensive with Orleans Parish.

Maine.—In the more thickly settled parts of the State of Maine the minor civil divisions are towns and cities; in other parts of the State there are sparsely settled areas known as plantations, townships, grants, gore, surpluses, tracts, and one part.

Maryland.—In the State of Maryland the primary divisions of the counties are the election districts. These election districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages. Baltimore city is independent of Baltimore County.

Massachusetts.—In the State of Massachusetts the primary divisions of the counties are towns and cities. There are no secondary divisions.

Michigan.—In the State of Michigan the primary divisions of the counties are townships and independent cities; in other parts of the State they are townships and cities. These townships include the secondary divisions, which are villages.

Minnesota.—In the State of Minnesota the primary divisions of the counties are township and independent cities, villages, and one county. The minor civil divisions in this volume for Minnesota, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

Mississippi.—In the State of Mississippi the primary divisions of the county are township and independent cities. These townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Missouri.—In the State of Missouri the primary divisions of the county are townships and independent cities. These townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages. St. Louis city is independent of St. Louis County.

Montana.—In the State of Montana the primary divisions of the counties are civil townships, school districts, or election precincts. The townships and election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Nebraska.—In the State of Nebraska the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts and in others, townships; in many cases the election districts. A few of the cities and all but one of the villages constitute the secondary divisions of the counties.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for Nebraska, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.
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Nevada.—In the State of Nevada the primary divisions of the counties are of two kinds, 6 counties being divided into townships, 11 into election precincts, and 1 into both townships and precincts. The election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

New Hampshire.—In the State of New Hampshire the more thickly settled counties are divided into towns and cities; in other parts of the State there are sparsely settled areas known as grants, locations, purchases, and townships.

New Jersey.—In the State of New Jersey the primary divisions of the counties are townships, cities, towns, boroughs, and one village.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for New Jersey, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

New Mexico.—In the State of New Mexico the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts. The election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

New York.—In the State of New York the primary divisions of the counties are towns and independent cities. The towns include secondary divisions, all of which are villages, except one, which is a city.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for New York, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

New York City covers five counties: New York, Kings, Queens, Bronx, and Richmond, each of which is coextensive with one of the boroughs of that city.

North Carolina.—In the State of North Carolina the primary divisions of the counties are townships. These townships include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

North Dakota.—In the State of North Dakota the primary divisions of the counties are civil and surveyed towns, independent cities, cities, villages, and one town. There are no secondary divisions.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for North Dakota in some instances include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within, but not subordinate to them.

Ohio.—In the State of Ohio the primary divisions of the counties are townships, independent cities, and villages. Townships include the secondary divisions which are cities or villages.

Oklahoma.—In the State of Oklahoma the primary divisions of the counties are townships, independent cities, and towns. There are no secondary divisions.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for Oklahoma, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

Oregon.—In the State of Oregon the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts. These election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Pennsylvania.—In the State of Pennsylvania the primary divisions of the counties are townships, cities, boroughs, and one town. There are no secondary divisions. Philadelphia, which is shown independently, is coextensive with Philadelphia County.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for Pennsylvania, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

Rhode Island.—In the State of Rhode Island the primary divisions of the counties are towns and cities. There are no secondary divisions.

South Carolina.—In the State of South Carolina the primary divisions of 58 of the 46 counties are known as townships, and in the remaining 3 counties (Darlington, Marlboro, and Richland) as school districts. The city of Charleston in itself constitutes a primary division. The townships and school districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

South Dakota.—In the State of South Dakota the primary divisions of the counties are the townships (civil and surveyed), and independent cities and towns. There are no secondary divisions.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for South Dakota, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

Tennessee.—In the State of Tennessee the primary divisions of the counties are civil districts. These civil districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Texas.—In the State of Texas the primary divisions of the counties are justices' precincts and commissioners' precincts. The justices' precincts or commissioners' precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages. One county (Loving) is unorganized and has no primary divisions.

Utah.—In the State of Utah the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts. These precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

Vermont.—In the State of Vermont the primary divisions of the counties are towns and cities, except in the more sparsely settled areas where there are several unorganized townships, grants, and groves. The towns include secondary divisions, all of which are villages.

Virginia.—In the State of Virginia the primary divisions of the counties are magistrate districts. These magistrate districts include the secondary divisions which are towns.

There are 24 independent cities in Virginia which have a status similar to that of counties.

Washington.—In the State of Washington the primary divisions of the counties are election precincts, townships, and in two counties (Spokane and Whatcom), independent cities and towns. In these two counties the townships, in some instances, include other independent divisions (incorporated cities or towns) entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them. In the remaining counties the election precincts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.

West Virginia.—In the State of West Virginia the primary divisions of the counties are magistrate districts. These districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities, towns, or villages.

Wisconsin.—In the State of Wisconsin the primary divisions of the counties are the towns, cities, and villages. There are no secondary divisions.

The minor civil divisions named in this volume for Wisconsin, in some instances, include other independent divisions entirely or partly located within but not subordinate to them.

Wyoming.—In the State of Wyoming the primary divisions of the counties are election districts. The election districts include the secondary divisions, which are cities or towns.