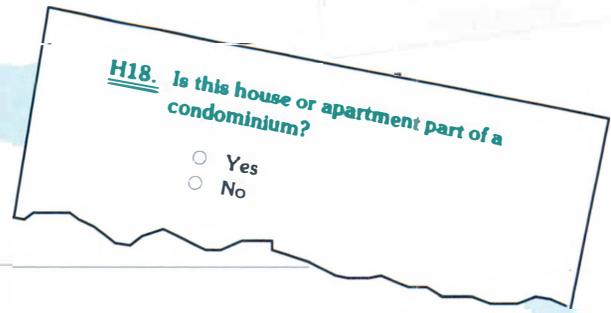


# We asked... You told us

## Condominium Status and Farm Residence



The Census Bureau conducts a census of population and housing every 10 years. This bulletin is one of a series that shows the questions asked in the 1990 census and the answers that you, the American people, gave. Each bulletin focuses on a question or group of questions appearing on the 1990 census questionnaires.

### Condominium Status

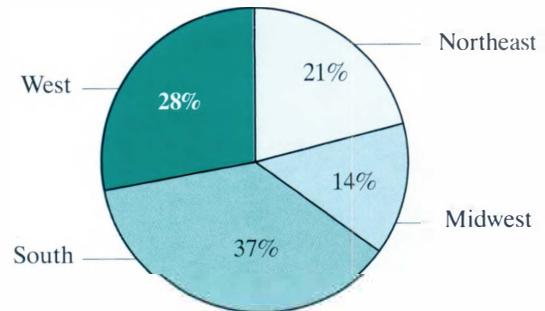
In question H18 on the 1990 census forms, we asked people to tell us whether the house or apartment they lived in was a condominium.<sup>1</sup>

From what you told us, we learned that:

- In 1990, there were about 5 million condominium units in the United States. Condominiums represented roughly 5 percent of the Nation's 102 million housing units, about double the 1980 figure of 2 percent.
- Among regions, the South had the largest proportion of the country's condominiums (37 percent), followed by the West (28 percent) (see chart).
- Hawaii led the States with the highest percentage of housing units that were condominiums—21 percent. Florida ranked second, with 15 percent. In the majority of States (31), however, 3 percent or fewer housing units were condominiums.
- In 19 metropolitan areas,<sup>2</sup> condominiums accounted for 10 percent or more of the housing units—at least double the national average (see table). Eleven of these areas were located in Florida. More than a third of the housing units were condominiums in the Florida metro areas of Naples and West Palm Beach.
- Over half (52 percent) of the condominiums in 1990 were occupied by their owner, 31 percent were being rented, and 17 percent were vacant.

### South Had Largest Share of Nation's Condominiums

Percent of Total Condominiums: 1990



### Metropolitan Areas With 10 Percent or More Condominiums: 1990

Area	Percent of housing units
Naples, FL	37
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach, FL	35
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	26
Honolulu, HI	24
Sarasota, FL	22
Fort Myers-Cape Coral, FL	19
Fort Pierce, FL	18
Bradenton, FL	16
Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL	12
San Diego, CA	12
Waterbury, CT	12
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	11
Fort Walton Beach, FL	11
Washington, DC-MD-VA	11
Panama City, FL	10
Denver-Boulder, CO	10
Atlantic City, NJ	10
Anchorage, AK	10
New Haven-Meriden, CT	10

#### Who Uses This Information? Just a few examples:

##### Condominium Status:

- State and local governments to determine the need for schools, highways, and police and fire protection
- Building contractors, materials suppliers, and household goods manufacturers to develop marketing strategies

##### Farm Residence:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture to assess housing conditions and needs on farms
- State governments to allocate funds to land grant colleges, for cooperative extension activities, and for grants to agricultural experiment stations

<sup>1</sup> A **condominium** is a type of ownership in which a person owns an apartment or house in a development and has joint ownership of common areas and facilities, such as the land, roof, elevators, swimming pool, etc. Condominiums may be single-family houses as well as units in apartment buildings.

<sup>2</sup> Generally, a **metropolitan area** consists of a sizable central city (or cities) and the surrounding suburbs, with a total population of at least 100,000. Metropolitan areas are defined in terms of counties (cities and towns in New England).

**Census Trivia:** According to the 1990 census, which three States had the most condominiums? (Answer on reverse.)

Note: Data on condominium status and farm residence are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability.

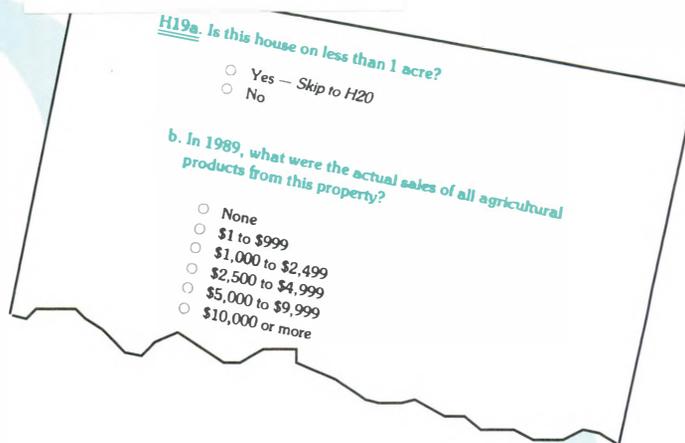
**Farm Residence**

In question **H19a** on the 1990 census forms, we asked people if their house was on less than 1 acre of land. For those who answered "No," we asked for the sales of their agricultural products in 1989 (**H19b**).

The responses to this question were used to qualify housing units as farm residences.<sup>3</sup> The farm population consists of persons in households living in farm residences.

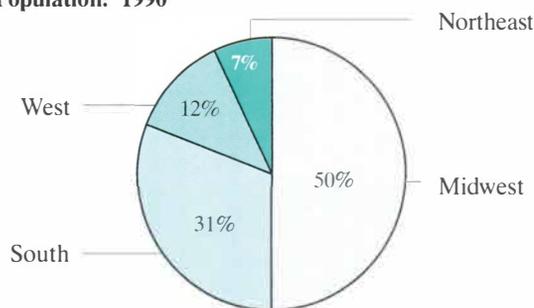
**You told us that:**

- About 3.9 million Americans lived on farms in 1990, representing only 1.6 percent of the U.S. population.
- Not surprisingly, the Midwest had the largest percentage of the Nation's farm population (see pie chart). About half the farm population lived in the Midwest, and about 81 percent lived in the Midwest and South.
- Although more farm residents lived in the Midwest than any other region, they accounted for only a small percentage (3 percent) of the Midwest's total population. The farm population made up 1 percent or fewer of the population of each of the other three regions.
- The States with the largest number of persons living on farms were Iowa (256,562), Minnesota (207,956), and Illinois (207,016).
- At 11 percent, South Dakota had the highest proportion of any State living on farms. North Dakota and Iowa each had 9 percent of their total population living on farms.



**Half the Nation's Farm Population Lived in the Midwest**

Percent of Total Population: 1990

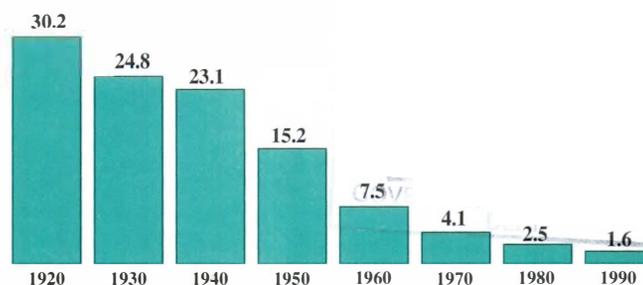


**The Dwindling U.S. Farm Population**

- Over the last 50 years, the U.S. farm population has shown a steady decrease. The 1950-60 decade registered the largest rate of decline, with a 42-percent drop of nearly 10 million people.
- In fact, in the past 70 years, there has been only one decade—the 1930s—where the farm population did not decrease but remained about the same.
- Likewise, the proportion of Americans living on farms has fallen dramatically during this time, from 30 percent in 1920 and 15 percent in 1950, to 1.6 percent in 1990 (see bar chart).

**Farm Share of Total Population Has Plummeted**

Percent of Total Population: 1920 to 1990



<sup>3</sup> An occupied single-family house or mobile home was classified as a farm residence in 1990 if the housing unit was located on 1 acre or more, and at least \$1,000 worth of agricultural products were sold from the property in 1989. Farm residence was tabulated only for housing units in rural areas (that is, not in urbanized areas or places of 2,500 or more).

*Trivia Answer:* The three States leading in condominiums in 1990 were Florida (944,590 condominiums), California (856,165), and New York (343,825).



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BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

**Want to Know More?**

Consult the series of 1990 census reports, CH-2, *Detailed Housing Characteristics*; and CH-2-1B, *Detailed Housing Characteristics—Metropolitan Areas*, at a large public or university library. Also for sale by Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO). Call:

- Customer Services at the Census Bureau, 301-457-4100, for ordering information about the GPO reports listed above, or to order copies of CQC bulletins or other Census Bureau products
- Douglas Lee, 301-457-3953, for more information about this bulletin
- Karen Mills or Kim Giesbrecht, 301-457-3953, for general information on CQC bulletins
- Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, 301-763-8553, for more information on condominium status or farm residence