The increase during recent years in the proportion of farm operators working off the farm was largely the result of the increased proportion of operators of commercial farms working off the farm. There has been a significant increase since 1959 in the percentage of operators of farms with gross sales of $2,500 to $9,999 working off the farm 100 days or more.

Since 1959, the most significant change was in the increased proportion of farm operators working 200 days or more off the farm. In 1964, 56 percent of the operators working off the farm worked 200 days or more, compared to 53 percent in 1959. In all three regions the proportion of farm operators working off the farm, and the proportion working 100 days or more, was greater for 1964 than for 1959. In the West, almost half of the operators worked off the farm, and of the farm operators working off their farms, 3 out of 4 operators worked 100 days or more. In the last decade the South had the greatest increase in the proportion of operators working 100 days or more off farm. Of the operators reporting work off farm in the South, 72.8 percent worked 100 days or more in 1964, compared to 69.3 percent in 1959 and 63.4 percent in 1954.