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Publications

U.S. Farm Population, 1980, by Vera Banks and Judith Z. Kalbacher. ERS, USDA, ESS-12, June 1981.

The U.S. farm population numbered 6.1 million during 1980, about 2.7 percent of the total population. Over the last 2 years, there was a significant decline of 450,000 residents. Characteristics of the 1980 farm population include:

- Compared to the nonfarm population, farm people are more likely to be White than Black or Hispanic origin;
- Farm residents tend to be older than their nonfarm counterparts;
- There are more male than female farm residents.

Impact of Household Size and Income on Food Spending Patterns, by David Smallwood and James Blaylock. ERS, USDA, TB-1650, May 1981.

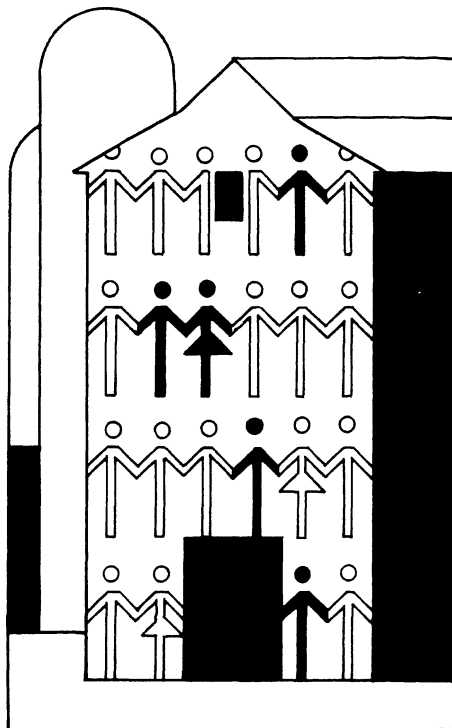
Statistical relationships are detailed for 24 major food groups and 77 subgroups. They allow researchers and policymakers to anticipate what can happen to family expenditures for these foods when income and family size change. The findings confirm that spending for food away from home increases significantly as income rises, while spending for food prepared at home increases more modestly. The reverse is also true for increases in household size.

Aggregate Food Demand and the Supply of Agricultural Products, by McFall Lamm, Jr. ERS, USDA, TB-1656, July 1981.

Food demand may be somewhat more price inelastic than previously estimated. The simple four equation model developed here provides a formal empirical framework linking food demand to supply. Medium-range forecasts indicate that food prices may continue to rise slightly faster than average prices for all items over the next 5 years. The model represents a middle-of-the-road approach to forecasting possibly more cost-effective than a multicommodity approach.

World Indices of Agricultural and Food Production, by Boyd Chugg. ERS, USDA, SB-699, July 1981.

Indices of total and per capita agricultural food production for 1950-80 are presented for 108 countries and the world. Selected



production data are given in 1,000 metric tons by country. World agricultural production grew at a compound annual rate of 2.5 percent since 1950, while the rate on a per capita basis was only 0.7 percent.

Coal Development In Rural America: The Resources at Risk, by Wallace McMartin, Virgil Whetzel, and Paul R. Meyers. ERS, USDA, RDRR-29, August 1981.

Coal development, especially strip mining, competes with agriculture for both land and water; however, it should not require enough land to seriously threaten U.S. agricultural production. Although it is costly, reclamation of strip-mined land can alleviate the potential long-term damage to natural resources.

Canadian and U.S. Farm Sector Comparisons, by Pat Weisgerber and Nina Swann. ERS, USDA, ESS-15, August 1981.

Many Canadian and U.S. farming trends ran nearly parallel through the midseventies, with increasing farm consolidation, more shared ownership of farms, and dramatic increases in the value of farm capital in both countries. While Canadian farmers produce primarily for the market within their own Province, U.S. farmers produce for markets extending well beyond their own State. This report looks at these and other similarities and differences between the Canadian and U.S. farm sectors.

Agricultural Financial Review. ERS, USDA, AFR-41, July 1981.

Eight articles provide information on agricultural financial needs of the farming sector in the eighties and how these needs will be met. Authors present their assessments of probable future events affecting financing of U.S. agriculture.

Food Problems and Prospects in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Decade of the 1980's. ERS, USDA, FAER-166, August 1981.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in the world where per capita food production declined over the past two decades. In most Sub-Saharan countries, per capita calorie intake is below minimal nutritional standards. Demand for food imports is increasing at a time when grain prices are rising and many African governments face acute balance of payments and foreign exchange problems.

This study examines the long-term trends in food production, consumption, and trade in Sub-Saharan Africa, the structure of both demand and production, and policies designed to improve productivity in this region.

Changes in the International Grain Trade in the 1980's, by Robert Bain. ERS, USDA, FAER-167, July 1981.

The main grain-exporting countries may cooperate more closely in the eighties than in the past. In addition, there may be incentives to vary the policies of the marketing boards in Australia and Canada and increased internal pressure for the United States to sever the link between world grain prices and its domestic food prices. Those are some possible consequences if forecasts of higher, less stable grain prices in the eighties are realized and if the structure of world trade continues to move toward more bilateral agreements.

Publications noted in this section may be obtained by writing the sources listed. For publications without addresses call (202) 447-7255 or write Publications Unit, Room 0054, Economics and Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. All publications are free of charge unless otherwise noted.