

**Map 2: 1993 Metropolitan Status for Counties in the Northeast**

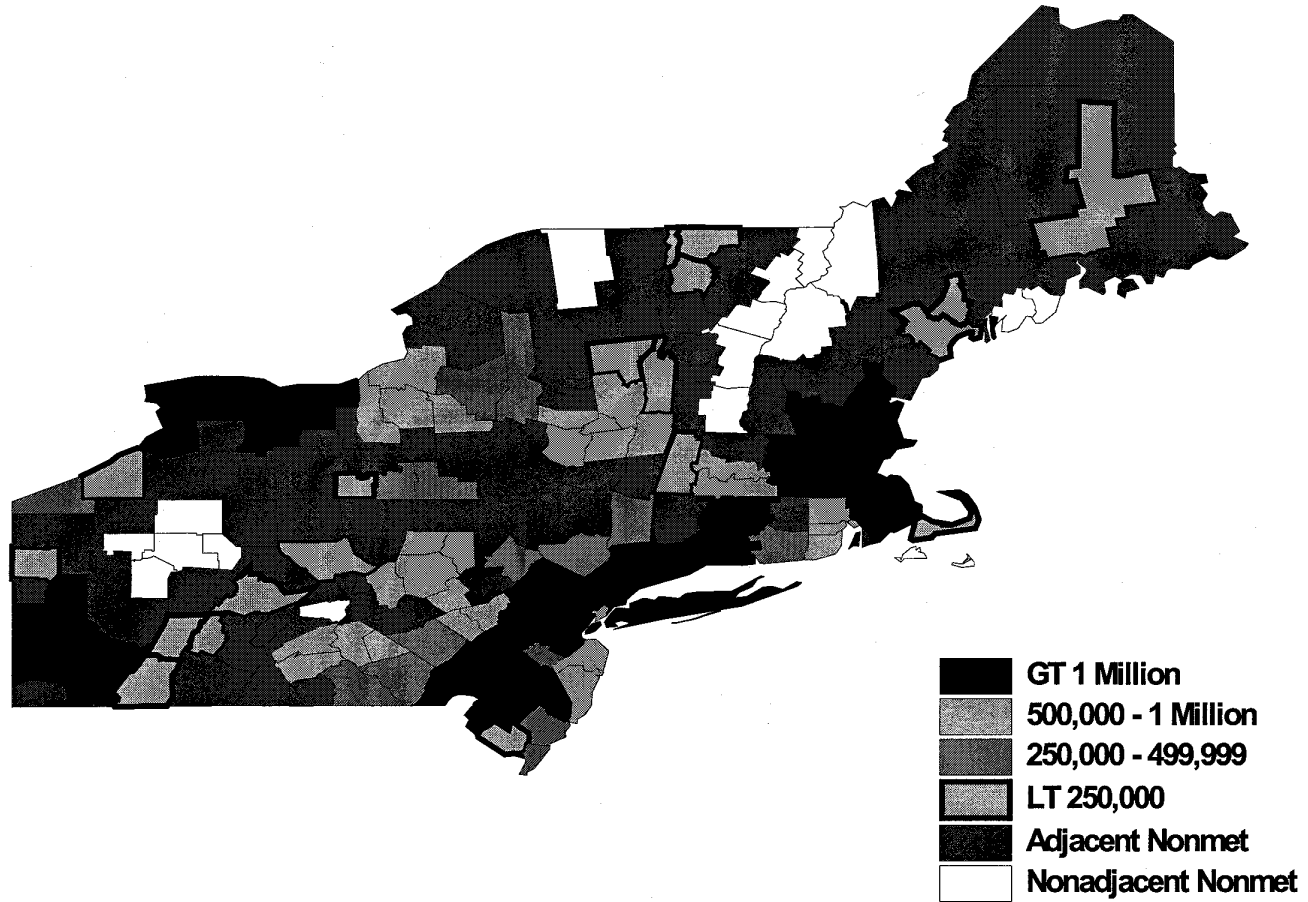
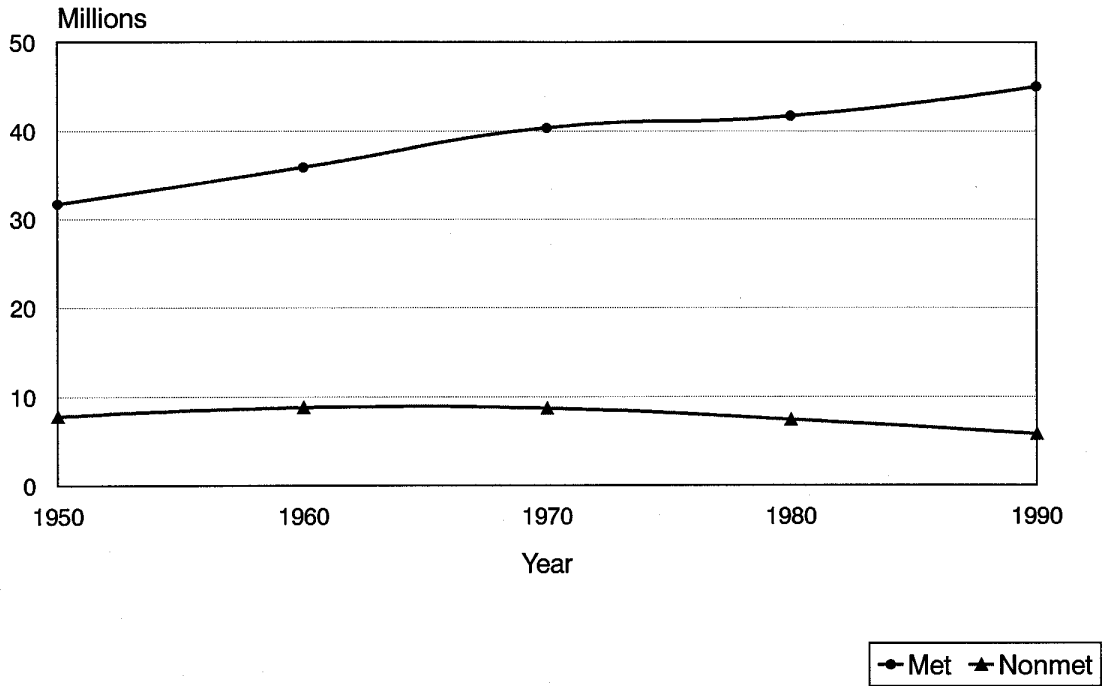
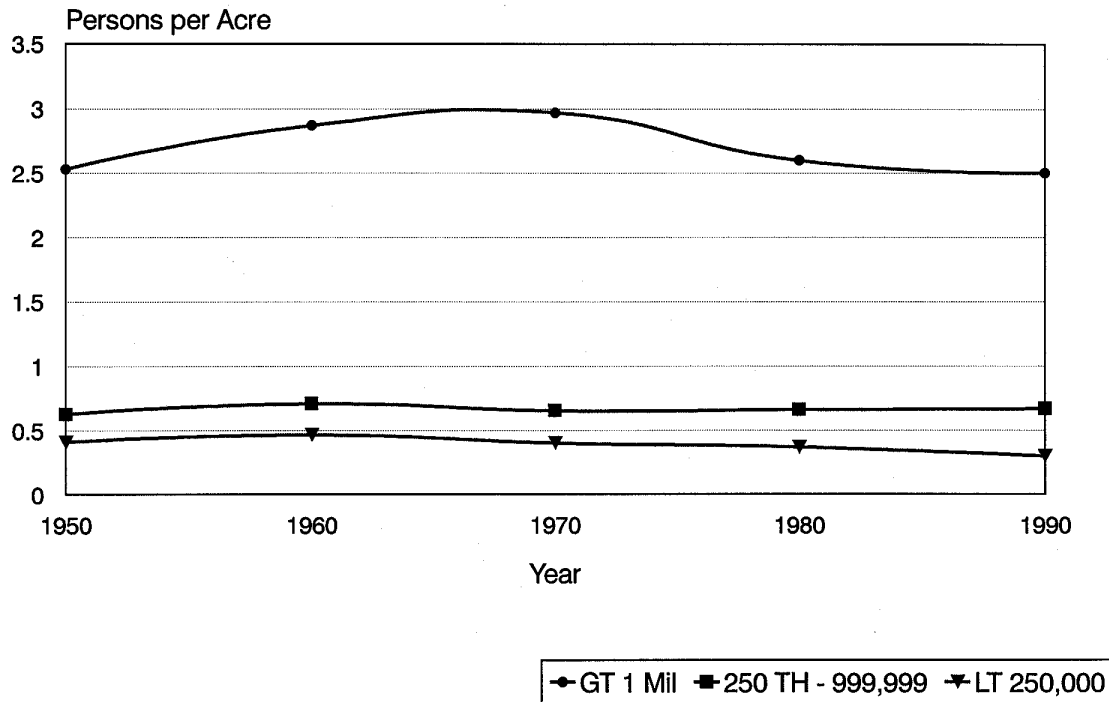


Figure 16  
Total Population in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Areas,  
Northeast, 1950 - 1990



The Northeast Region, which includes the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont, was more metropolitan than the United States as a whole in 1950, and became even more so by 1990, with four of every five people in the region living in metropolitan areas. The Northeast has a higher proportion of its population living in metropolitan areas than any other region in the nation.

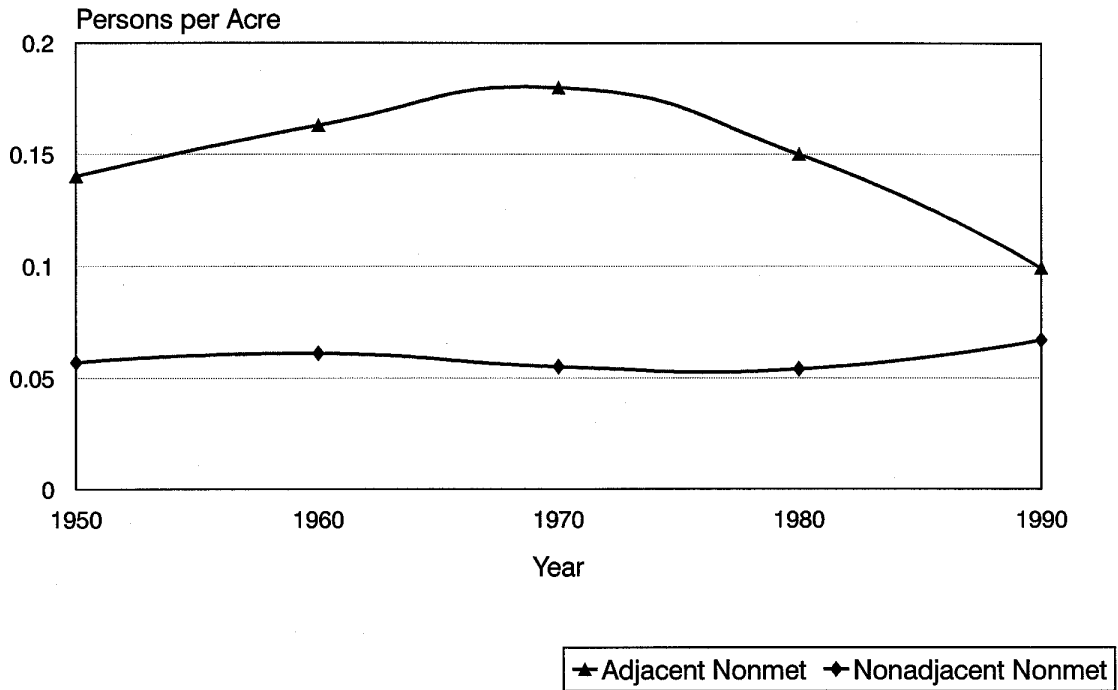
Figure 17  
 Population Density by Size of Metropolitan Area,  
 Northeast, 1950 - 1990



Population settlement in metropolitan areas of the Northeast became more diffuse since 1950, similar to the United States' pattern overall. It is important to note that this region is more densely settled than the nation as a whole with about twice as many persons per acre in 1950. Even with more population dispersion after 1960, the region's population density was about twice the nation's by 1990.

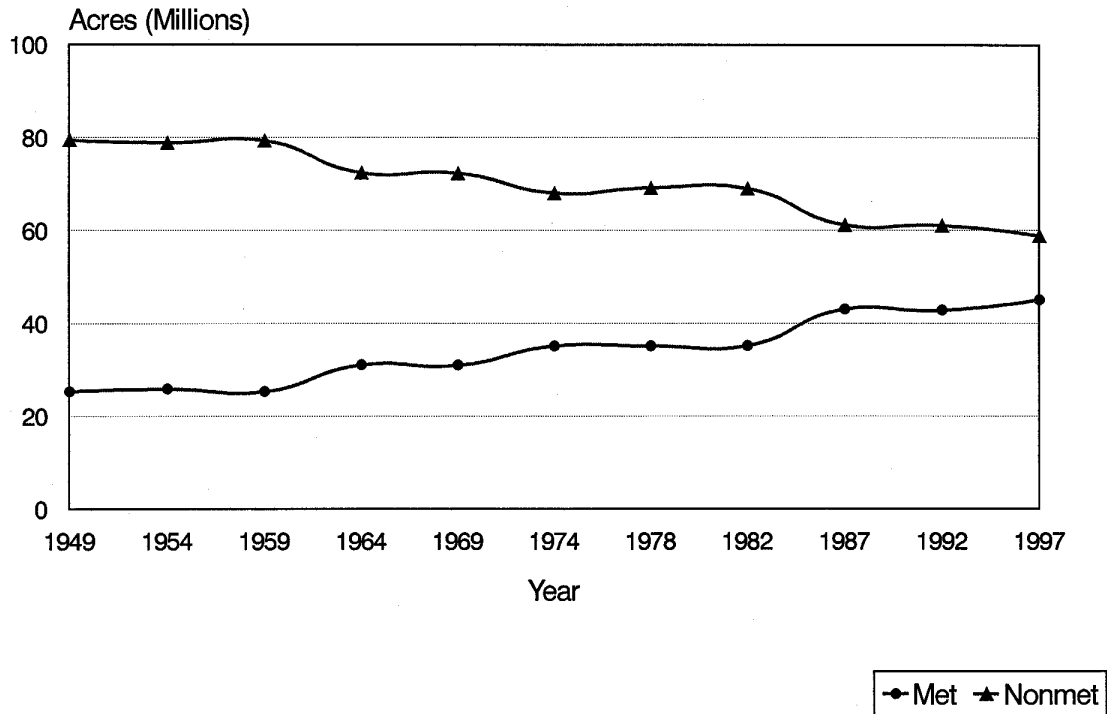
Population diffusion is less pronounced in this region than the nation as a whole, and this point is especially apparent when considering metropolitan areas with populations of more than one million. While population density in these areas has declined since 1970, they remained as densely settled in 1990 as they were in 1950. These areas remained much more densely settled than other parts of the region, reflecting a more traditional development pattern with population concentrated around central cities. Some smaller metropolitan areas experienced a slight increase in population density between 1980 and 1990.

Figure 18  
Population Density in Nonmetropolitan Areas,  
Northeast, 1950 - 1990



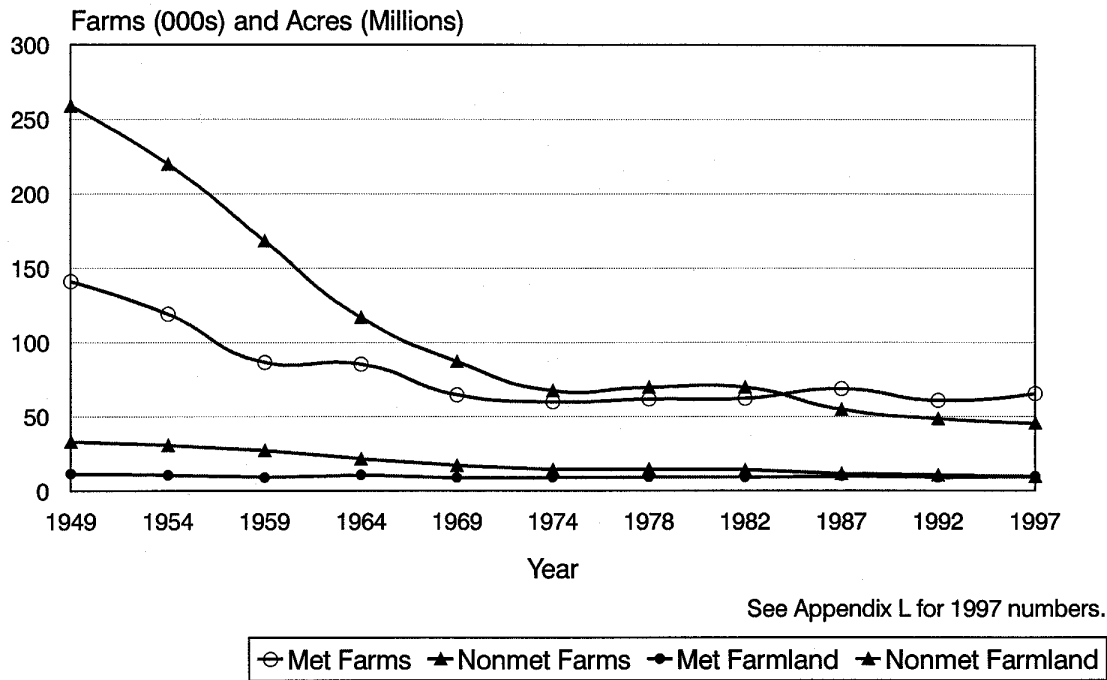
The population densities in nonmetropolitan areas of the Northeast are considerably lower than in the region's metropolitan areas. In the Northeast, nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to metropolitan areas experienced a decline in population density similar to what was found for the nation as a whole, but this deconcentration began about a decade later. Despite this deconcentration, population density in the nonmetropolitan Northeast remained about twice that of the nonmetropolitan U.S.

Figure 19  
Land Area in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Areas,  
Northeast, 1949 - 1997



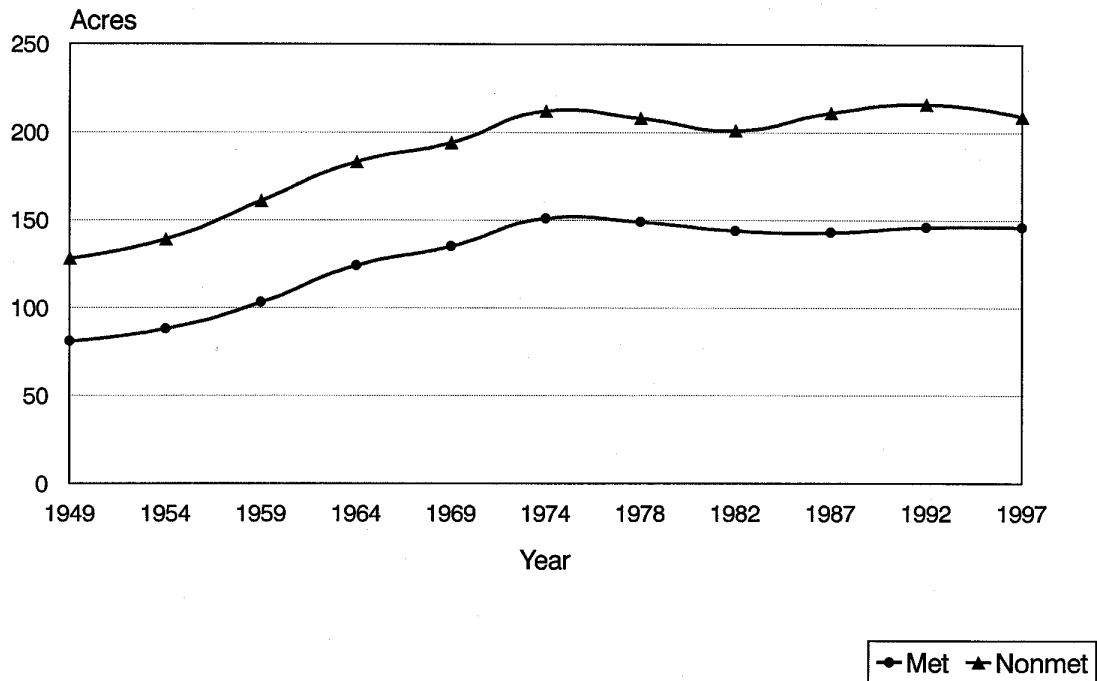
The Northeast's metropolitan areas have expanded steadily since 1950 to encompass greater expanses of land. In 1950 a little more than one-fourth of the region's land base was in metropolitan areas, but by 1997 it was almost forty percent. This spatial expansion has led to a variety of encounters with traditional land uses like agriculture.

Figure 20  
 Number of Farms and Acres of Farmland in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Areas,  
 Northeast, 1949-1997



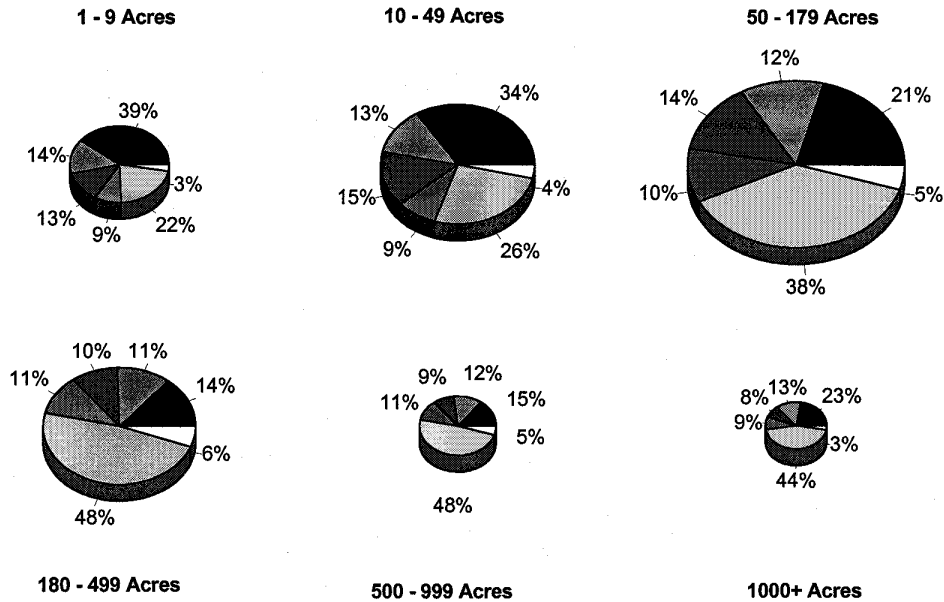
By the late 1980s, more of the Northeast's farms were located in metropolitan than nonmetropolitan areas. More than one-half of the region's farms were found in metropolitan areas by 1997. Although facing industrial changes and declining farm numbers similar to agriculture everywhere, the spatial expansion of the region's metropolitan areas allowed them to capture a larger share of the farms.

Figure 21  
Average Farm Size in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Areas,  
Northeast, 1949 - 1997

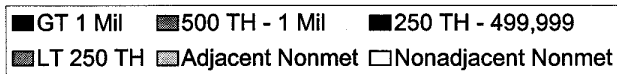


Similar to the pattern observed for the U.S., average farm size was greater for nonmetropolitan farms than for metropolitan farms throughout the 1949 - 1997 period. In the Northeast, however, the difference is not as large as for the nation as a whole. Unlike the U.S., metropolitan and nonmetropolitan patterns of change in farm size were very similar in the Northeast. Average farm size has been relatively constant in the Northeast since 1978.

**Figure 22**  
**Farms in Acreage Classes by Metropolitan Status, Northeast, 1997**



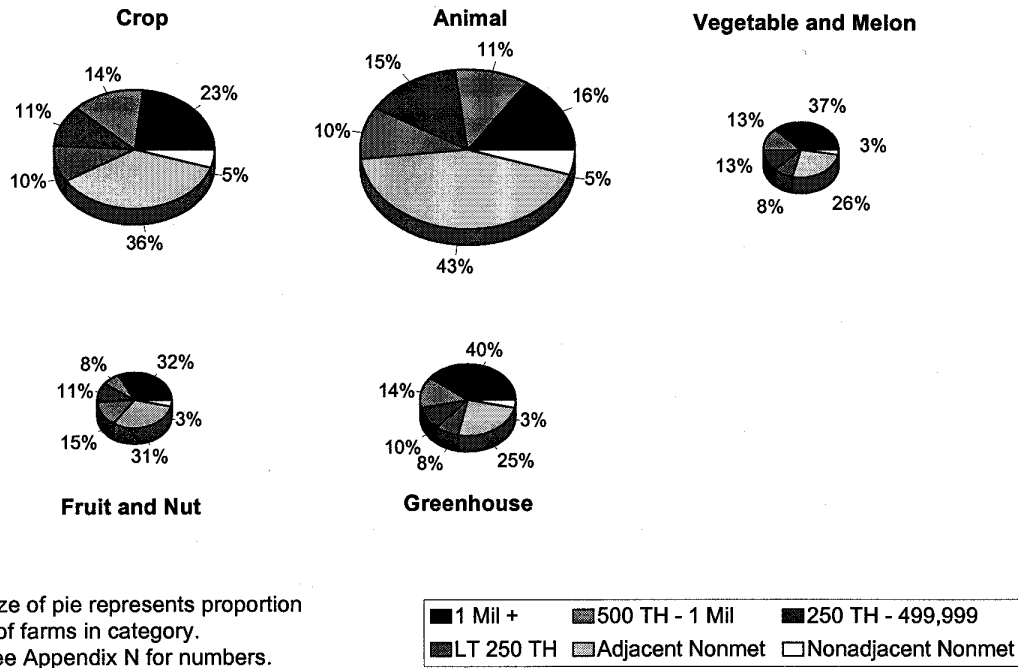
Size of pie represents the proportion of farms in category.  
 See Appendix M for 1997 numbers.



In contrast to the U.S. as a whole, farms of any size in the Northeast are more likely to be found in metropolitan areas. Small farms are especially likely to be located in metropolitan areas. More than three-fourths of all farms of less than fifty acres are located in metropolitan areas. The largest proportion of farms of any size in the Northeast are in the largest metropolitan areas (population greater than one million) and in nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to metropolitan areas. Also in contrast to the U.S., the proportion of farms located in nonadjacent nonmetropolitan areas is not more than six percent for any farm size class.

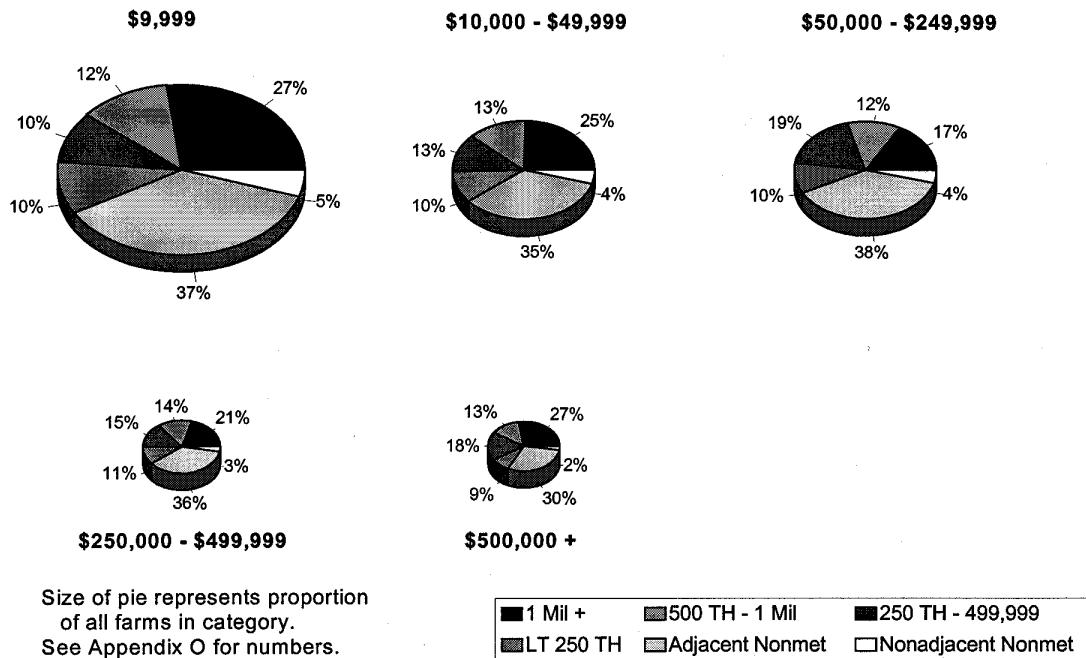


Figure 23  
 Farms in Standard Industrial Classification by Metropolitan Status,  
 Northeast, 1997



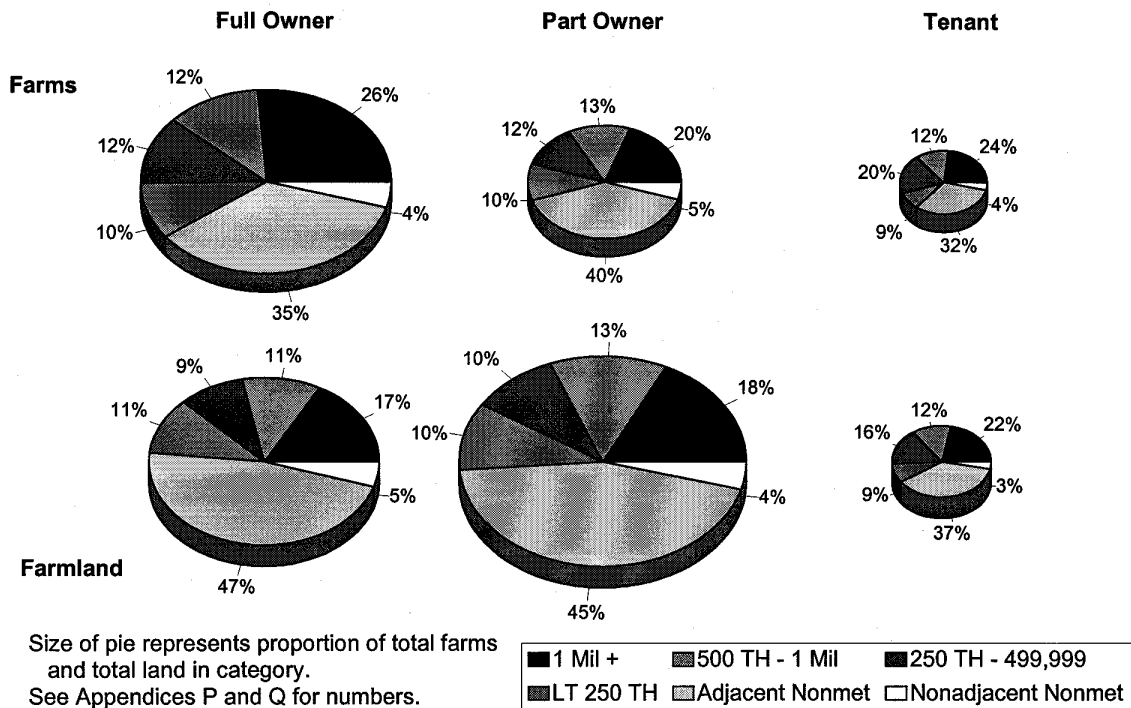
A very small porportion of any type of farm in the Northeast can be found in nonmetropolitan areas not adjacent to metropolitan areas, a striking contrast to the U.S. as a whole. In the Northeast, the majority of farms of any type are located in metropolitan areas. The largest proportion of fruit and nut, greenhouse, and vegetable and melon farms are located in the largest metropolitan areas with populations of more than one million. The Northeast's crop and animal farms retain a proportionately larger presence in nonmetropolitan areas, but this presence is less than in the U.S. as a whole. For example, seventy percent of animal farms in the U.S. were located in nonmetropolitan areas, while in the Northeast less than half were found in these areas.

**Figure 24**  
**Farms by Total Sales and Metropolitan Status, Northeast, 1997**



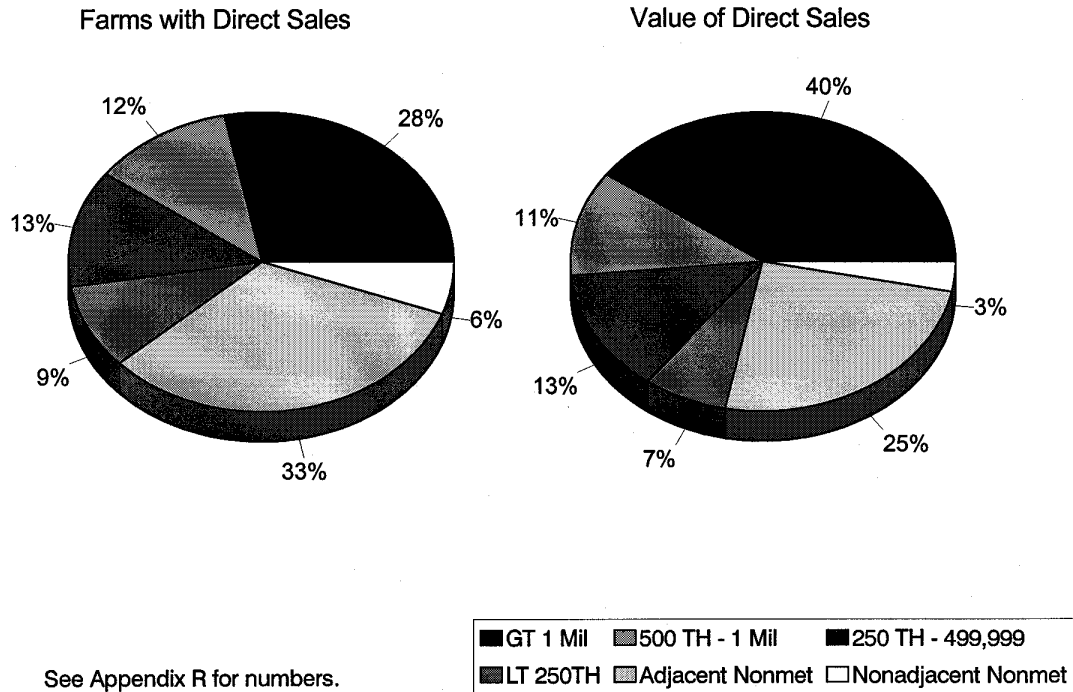
The distribution of farms classified by their sales levels across the Northeast's landscape is a striking contrast to the U.S. as a whole. The majority of farms regardless of sales classification are found in metropolitan areas. The distinctive feature of the Northeast is the very small proportion of farms in the most remote nonmetropolitan areas. As nationwide, however, farms with a wide range of total sales are found across the landscape, regardless of the type of metropolitan area.

Figure 25  
 Farms and Farmland by Tenure and Metropolitan Status, Northeast, 1997



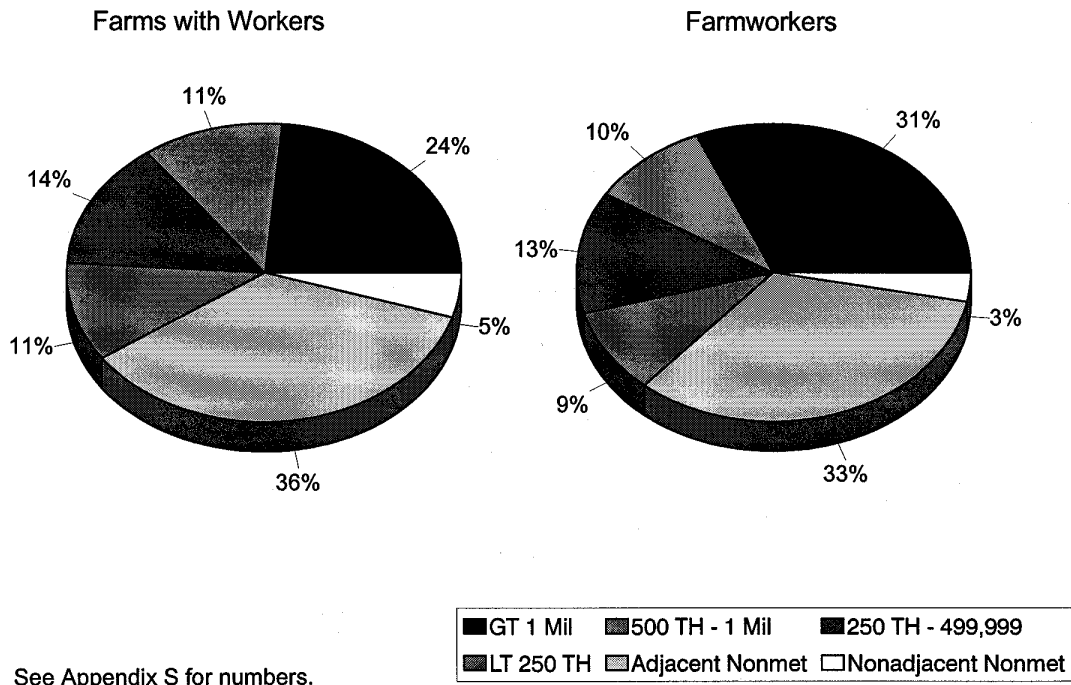
The majority of farms operated by full and part owners are found in metropolitan areas of the Northeast. Within metropolitan areas, farms of any tenure classes are most likely to be found where the population is greater than one million. About fifty to sixty percent of all farmland regardless of tenure class is found in metropolitan areas, although the highest proportion located in these areas is operated by tenants.

Figure 26  
 Farms with Direct Sales and Direct Sales by Metropolitan Status,  
 Northeast, 1997



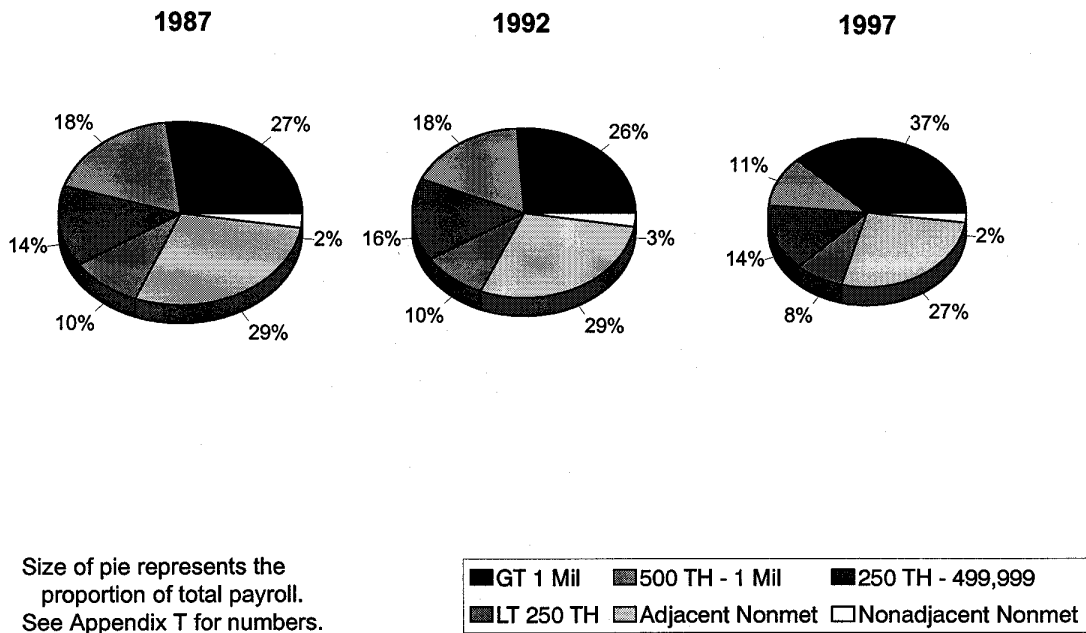
As was true for the U.S. as a whole, metropolitan farms in the Northeast account for a disproportionate share of all direct sales. More than sixty percent of the farms are located in metropolitan areas, but they account for more than eighty percent of direct sales. Direct sales (about \$162 million in 1997) accounted for less than two percent of all the region's farm sales, similar to the percent for the nation as a whole. Perhaps most striking is that forty percent of direct sales are accounted for by farms in the largest metropolitan areas of the Region. Direct sales as a percent of total sales was also highest (three percent) in the largest metropolitan areas.

Figure 27  
 Farms with Workers and Farmworkers by Metropolitan Status,  
 Northeast, 1997



Given the concentration of labor intensive farms in the Northeast's metropolitan areas (see Figure 23), it is not surprising that sixty percent of all farms in the Northeast employing workers are found in metropolitan areas. Likewise, farms in these areas employ more than sixty percent of the region's farmworkers.

**Figure 28**  
**Payroll by Metropolitan Status, Northeast, 1987, 1992, 1997**



As for the U.S. overall, the trend in the Northeast has been for payroll to decline since 1987. The most striking difference between the national trends and those for the Northeast is the proportion of payroll captured by the largest metropolitan areas -- a proportion more than twice what is found in national trends. While the payroll pie has been getting smaller, there has also been a slight shift away from nonmetropolitan areas, and away from the second largest metropolitan areas, and into the biggest metropolitan areas (those with populations greater than one million). Considering the data for just 1997, the distribution of payroll is similar to the distribution of farmworkers across metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas.