

	Arvin	Dinuba
I. Environmental factors—Continued		
3. Other resources:		
(a) Minerals.....	Oil leases, general.....	None.
(b) Recreation.....	Little or none.....	Little or none.
II. Cultural and demographic factors:		
1. Population of community.....	6,000.....	7,400.
2. Cultural origins:		
(a) Native American.....	88 percent.....	81 percent.
(b) Native Californian.....	4 percent.....	19 percent.
(c) Dust Bowl migrants.....	63 percent.....	22 percent.
(d) Median length of residence.....	Less than 5 years.....	15 to 20 years.
3. Educational attainment (average for family heads).....	7.6 years.....	8.4 years.
4. Economic status:		
(a) Median income bracket.....	\$1,751 to \$2,250.....	\$1,751 to \$2,250.
(b) Wage labor as proportion of family heads.....	81 percent.....	49 percent.
III. Historic factors:		
1. Age of community (as of 1944).....	31 years.....	56 years.
2. Decade of major growth.....	1930-40.....	1910-20.
IV. Agricultural production factors:		
1. Value of production (1940).....	\$2,438,000.....	\$2,540,000.
2. Type of farming:		
(a) Proportion irrigated land in orchard and vineyard.....	36 percent.....	65 percent.
(b) Proportion in row crops.....	41 percent.....	11 percent.
(c) Proportion in cotton.....	29 percent.....	7 percent.
(d) Proportion of farms in fruit.....	35 percent.....	79 percent.
(e) Proportion of farms in field crops.....	40 percent.....	17 percent.
V. Farm organization factors:		
1. Tenure:		
(a) Tenancy.....	42 percent.....	14 percent.
(b) Absentee ownership.....	36 percent.....	16 percent.
2. Labor requirements:		
(a) Man-hours of labor required.....	2.9 million.....	3.5 million.
(b) Requirement for hired labor.....	2.3 million.....	1.4 million.
(c) Minimum labor requirement as percent of maximum.....	25 percent.....	20 percent.
(d) Maximum outside seasonal workers required.....	1,175.....	1,595.
3. Size of farm operations:		
(a) Number of farms over 160 acres.....	44 percent.....	6 percent.
(b) Acreage in farms over 160 acres.....	91 percent.....	25 percent.
(c) Average farm size.....	497 acres.....	57 acres.
(d) Average value of production.....	\$18,000.....	\$3,400.

Under these five headings are included 14 separate items, some with great differences, such as farm size and age of community; some with large differences, such as tenancy and major crops; some with practically no difference, such as intensive land use and value of production; and a few where the advantage would appear to lie with Arvin, such as available good land, other resources, and seasonality of employment. We shall discuss them seriatim.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Factors in the environment are more impressive for their similarities than their divergences. The relationship of the community to neighboring towns and cities and to their markets, the availability of minerals, and the potential productivity of the land are all closely similar but somewhat favorable to Arvin. The only factor of the environment which is markedly divergent is the water resources. The question of environment, therefore, devolves upon the influence of this factor upon community life. This in turn must be separated into the influence of water resources on the size of farms on one hand and directly upon community organization on the other.

The discussion on relative cost of water showed that in Arvin the investment per farm was extremely high and because of depth of pumping, reasonably large acreages could be handled by single wells.