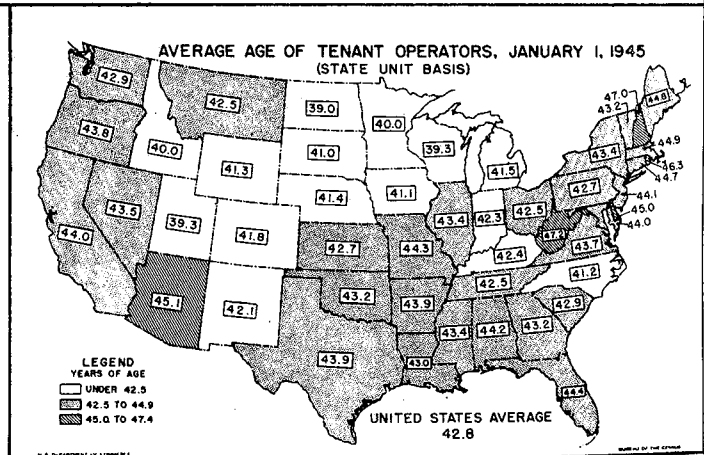
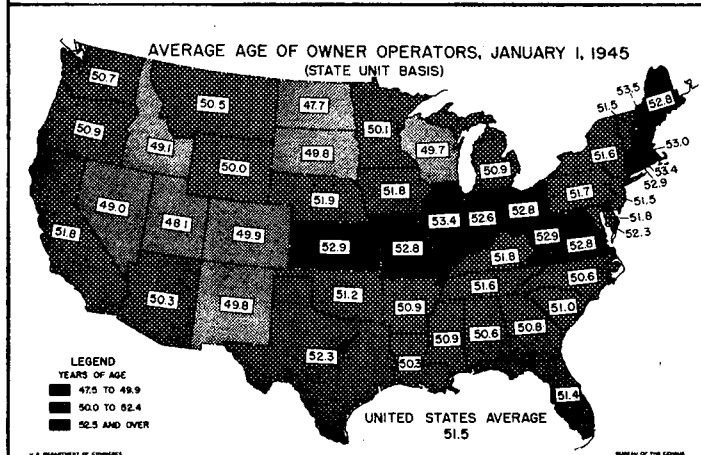
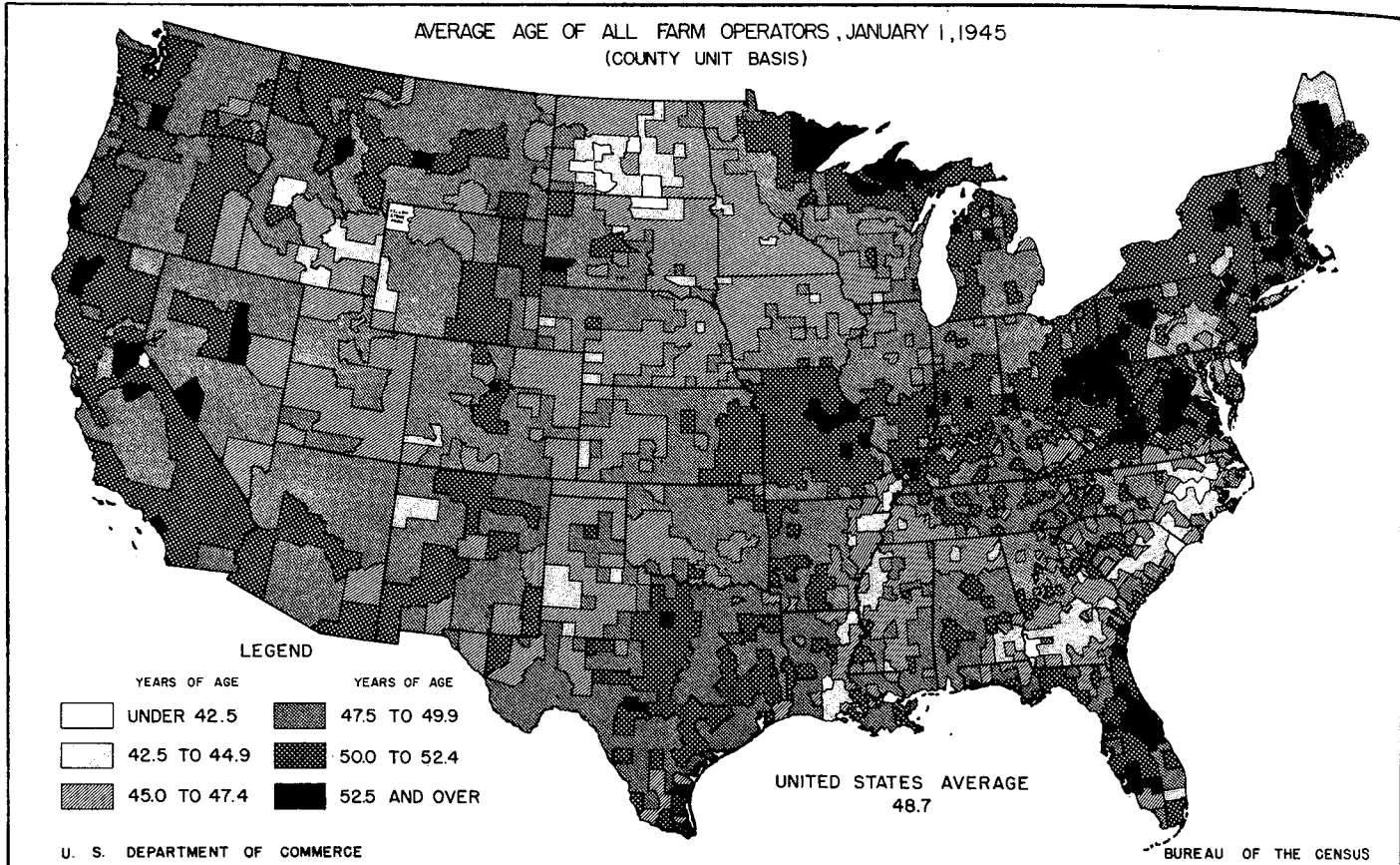


AGE OF FARM OPERATORS, BY TENURE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1945



The relative age of farm operators as between geographic areas is affected by such factors as the percentage of owners, percentage of nonwhite operators, extent of rural migration, and policy of fathers in turning farms over to sons. The largest area with a high average age of farm operators includes the Northeast, extending southward into Virginia and westward across West Virginia, southern Ohio, southern Indiana and Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas. Other areas with a high average age of farm operators are in Florida, the West Coast States, Texas, and the West. Areas with particularly young farm operators include the Coastal Plain of the South Atlantic States, the Mississippi Delta, and the Great Plains.

The age of owner operators by States is similar to that of all operators, particularly in the areas with high percentages of owner operators. In New England, where there is a high percentage of ownership, the age of owners is 52.5 years or more, except for Vermont. The average age of owner operators in Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas is also 52.5 years or more. Only in Wisconsin and the

Dakotas, outside the West, did owners average less than 50 years of age. In the West, operating owners in Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico averaged less than 50 years.

The average age of owners in no State was less than 47.5 years, while in no State was the average age of tenants above that figure. The variation in age of owners among the States was different from the variation for tenants. The age of tenants in the New England States was also relatively high, but in a tier of States from Virginia westward through Kansas, where the age of owners was high, only West Virginia had high tenant ages and Indiana was in the lowest tenant-age group. Generally, ages of tenants averaged highest in the East, South, and far West, and lowest in the North Central and Rocky Mountain States. The average age of tenants was 45 years or more in New Hampshire, Rhode Island, West Virginia, and Arizona. Both owners and tenants were in the lowest age group in Wisconsin, the Dakotas, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Idaho, while both were in the highest age group in New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and West Virginia.