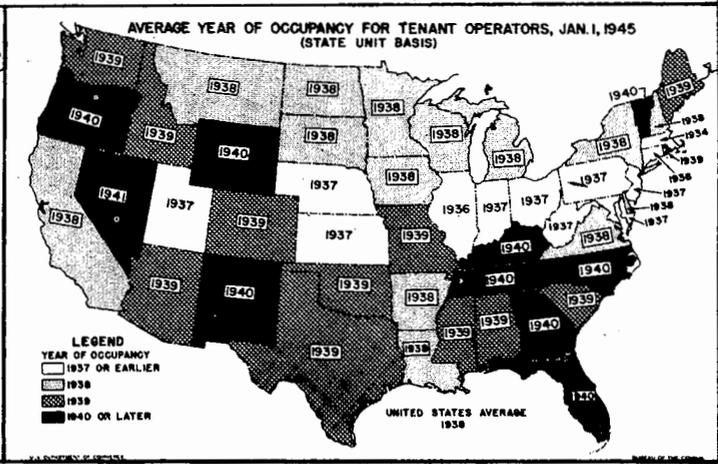
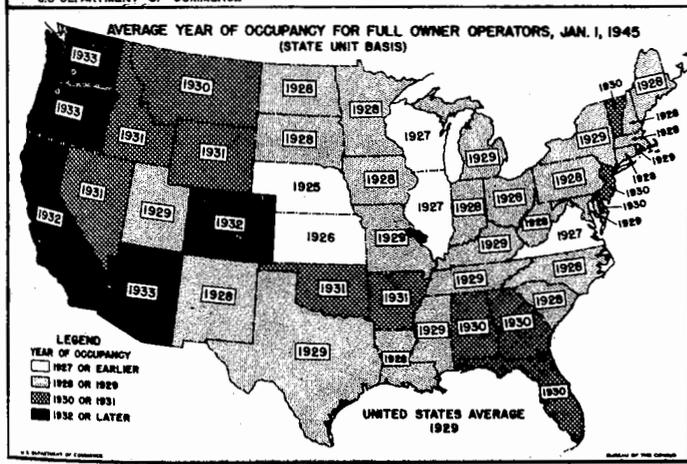
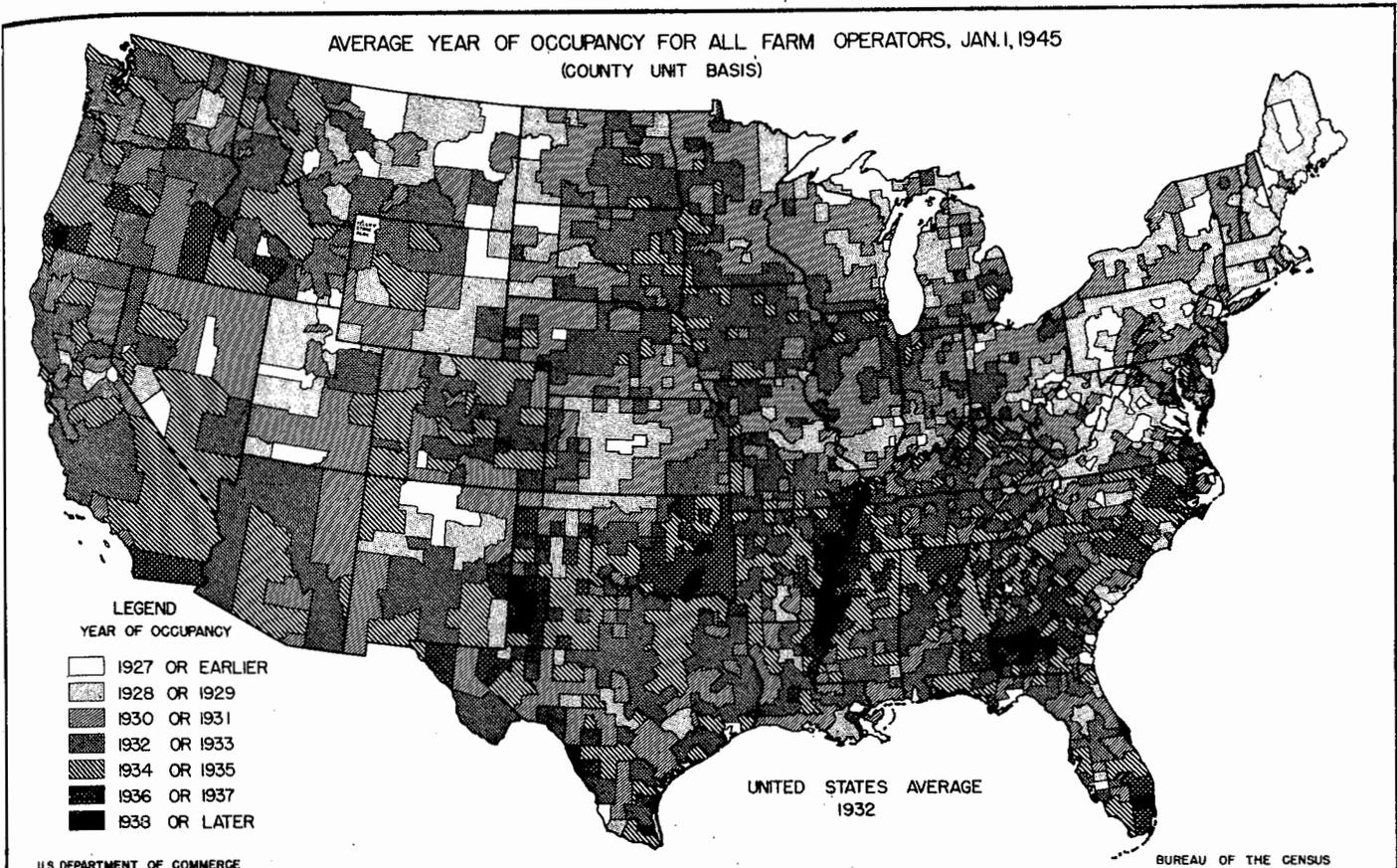


YEAR OF OCCUPANCY, BY TENURE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1945



World War II had a material effect on the composition of agricultural producers. Although many operators of farms left the land, many others must have remained in the capacity of active producers for a longer time than would have been the case under more normal conditions. This is indicated by the fact that in 1945, even though about 42.4 percent of the farm operators had been on their farms less than 5 years in comparison with only 38.3 percent 5 years earlier, the period of occupancy averaged slightly longer for all farm operators in 1945 than in 1940.

The counties with the shortest periods of occupancy were most prevalent in the South, particularly in the areas that have a high proportion of share croppers and cotton production. These areas include the Mississippi Delta, southwestern Georgia, southeastern Oklahoma, and a small area of western Texas. The counties with the longest period of occupancy include the Northeast and the Appalachian Mountains, and parts of the western Great Plains and Rocky Mountain States. The variation in the average length of tenure in a given area depended largely upon the percentage of tenancy.

Four of the five States where full owners had the longest tenure were in the Midwest, the exception being Virginia. Nebraska, with an average of about 20 years, had the longest tenure for full-owner operators. Relatively long periods of tenure for full-owner operators were generally prevalent in the Northeast, the North Central States, and in many of the Southern States. The 5 States with an average of 13 or fewer years included the Pacific Coast States, Arizona, and Colorado.

The average years on farm for tenants was about 7 in 1945. Tenants generally remained longer in the Northeast and North Central States and for shorter periods in the South. There was considerable variation in the length of tenure among States in the West. The longest average term of tenure for tenants was 11 years in Massachusetts and the shortest was 4 years in Nevada. Of the 12 States having an average length of tenure for tenants of at least 8 years, all but 3 were in the Northeast and North Central Regions; these 3 were the border States of Maryland, West Virginia, and Utah. Of the 10 States with an average length of tenure of less than 5 years, 5 were in the South and 4 in the West.