



Figure 11.

Geographic distribution of tenure groups.—Tenants have not been so numerous in the Northeast and the West as in the South and in the North Central Region. More than one-half of all tenants are located in the South.

Tenant farms are most prevalent in cotton-and-tobacco growing areas. These predominantly southern-grown crops require a large amount of hand labor as measured in hours per acre. Such farms are usually small in total area. Tenant farms are also numerous in areas where the productivity of land is relatively high. Northern Illinois, northwestern Iowa, and the eastern part of the Great Plains are examples of such areas.

Part-owner farms, while showing a fairly uniform distribution, are more prevalent in the wheat- and corn-producing areas. Farm

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Color of farm operators.—The Census classifies farm operators as “white” or “nonwhite.” Nonwhite includes Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and all other nonwhite races. In 1954, there were 483,650 nonwhite farm operators in the United States. Of these, 465,216, or 96.2 percent, were in the South where the nonwhite farm operators are predominantly Negro. In the West, most of the nonwhite farm operators are Indians. In the South, nonwhite operators are concentrated in the Coastal Plains and in the Mississippi Delta. There was a loss of 97,269 in the number of nonwhite operators between 1950 and 1954 for the country as a whole and 93,874 for the South. The percentage of farm tenancy among nonwhite operators dropped from 64.0 in 1950 to 59.6 in 1954 for the United States and from 65.4 to 61.0 percent for the South during the same period.