

FARMS OPERATED BY CLASS OF TENANT, 1954

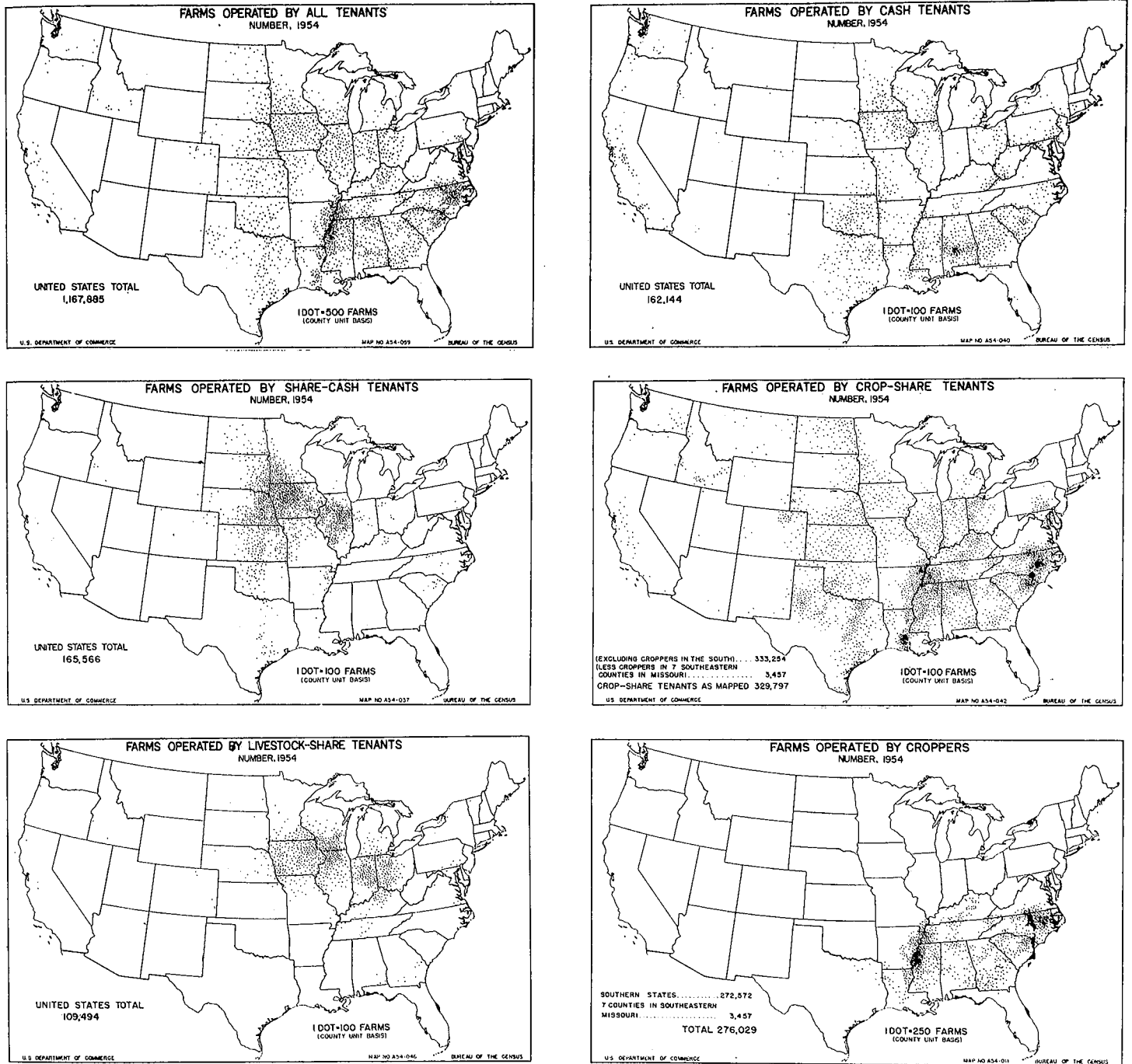


Figure 17.

The number of tenant farms.—With some exceptions, the principal areas of concentration of tenants, as might be expected, follow the areas of concentration of all farms; for example, the Great Lakes Region, the Piedmont, and New England. In terms of change, however, it may be noted that, whereas the proportion of all farms operated by tenants in the United States as a whole dropped from 26.8 percent in 1950 to 24.4 percent in 1954, the South showed a greater decline, from 34.1 percent to 30.1 percent.

Particular types of rental arrangements are associated with certain areas. These variations can be accounted for, partially at least, by differences in type of farming, climate, technology, population type and concentration, and economic conditions.

Crop-share rentals are found in their various forms in many parts of the country. A very high proportion of the leasing of farms growing tobacco is on a share basis. Crop-share rentals are also found with relatively high frequency in the Mississippi

Delta area and in the rice-producing portions of Louisiana and Texas. Both ends of the Great Plains—North Dakota and Texas—employ the crop-share lease to a relatively large extent.

Livestock-share leases are almost exclusively in the Corn Belt and adjacent States such as Kentucky and Nebraska.

Cash leases are used most frequently for part-time or residential farms, for grazing land, and for crops with relatively stable yield patterns or in areas where production contains less risk and uncertainty. Consequently, they are used principally in the South, the Corn Belt, eastern Plains, New England States, and the States along the Pacific Coast.

Croppers, of course, are reported only in the South. This particular class of tenant is associated with the cotton and tobacco culture both of which traditionally required intensive cultivation. In the 1950-54 period, the number of croppers declined about 21 percent.