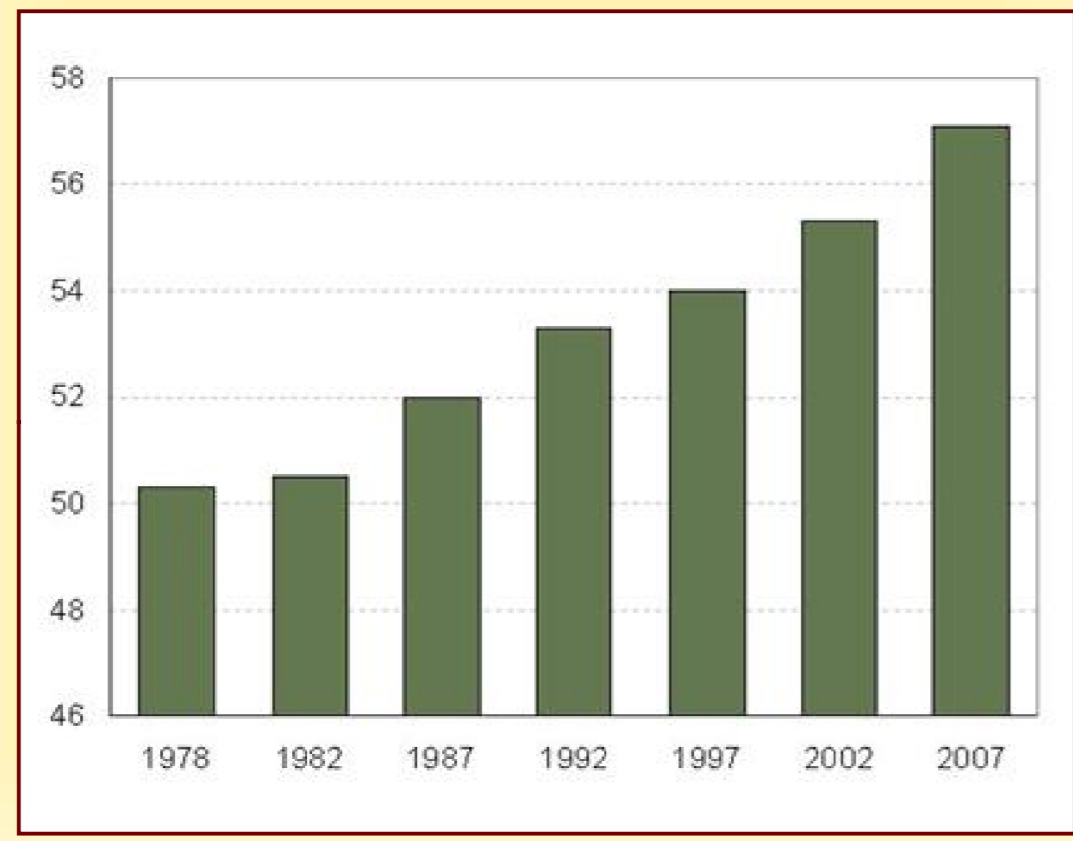


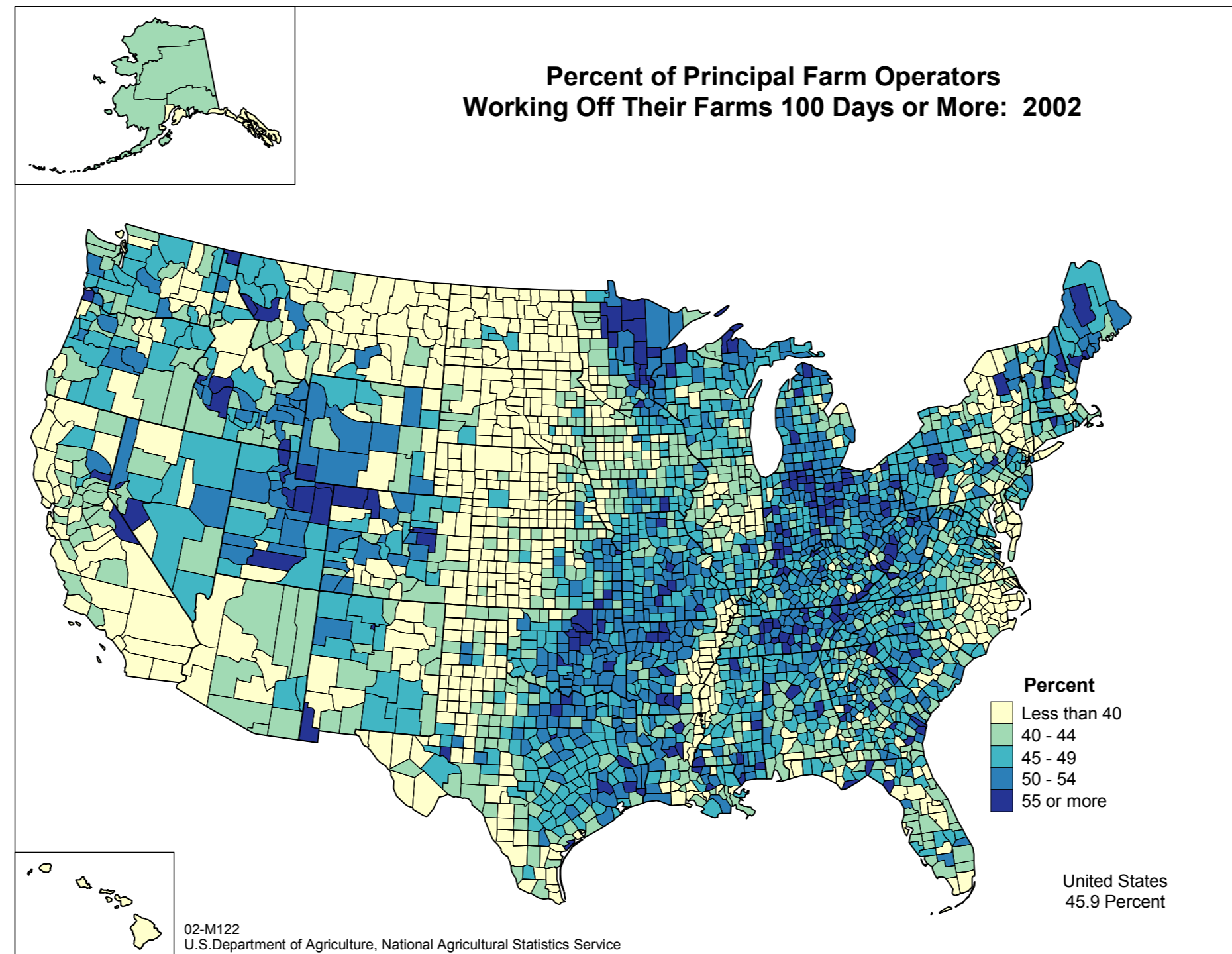
Operator Characteristics

The average age of farmers continues to rise with the majority of farm operators between 45 and 64, and they increasingly rely on off-farm employment which increased from 45.9 percent in 2002 to 48.7 percent in 2007. The percentage of farms operated by family or individual was 86.5 percent in 2007, down from 89.7 percent in 2002.

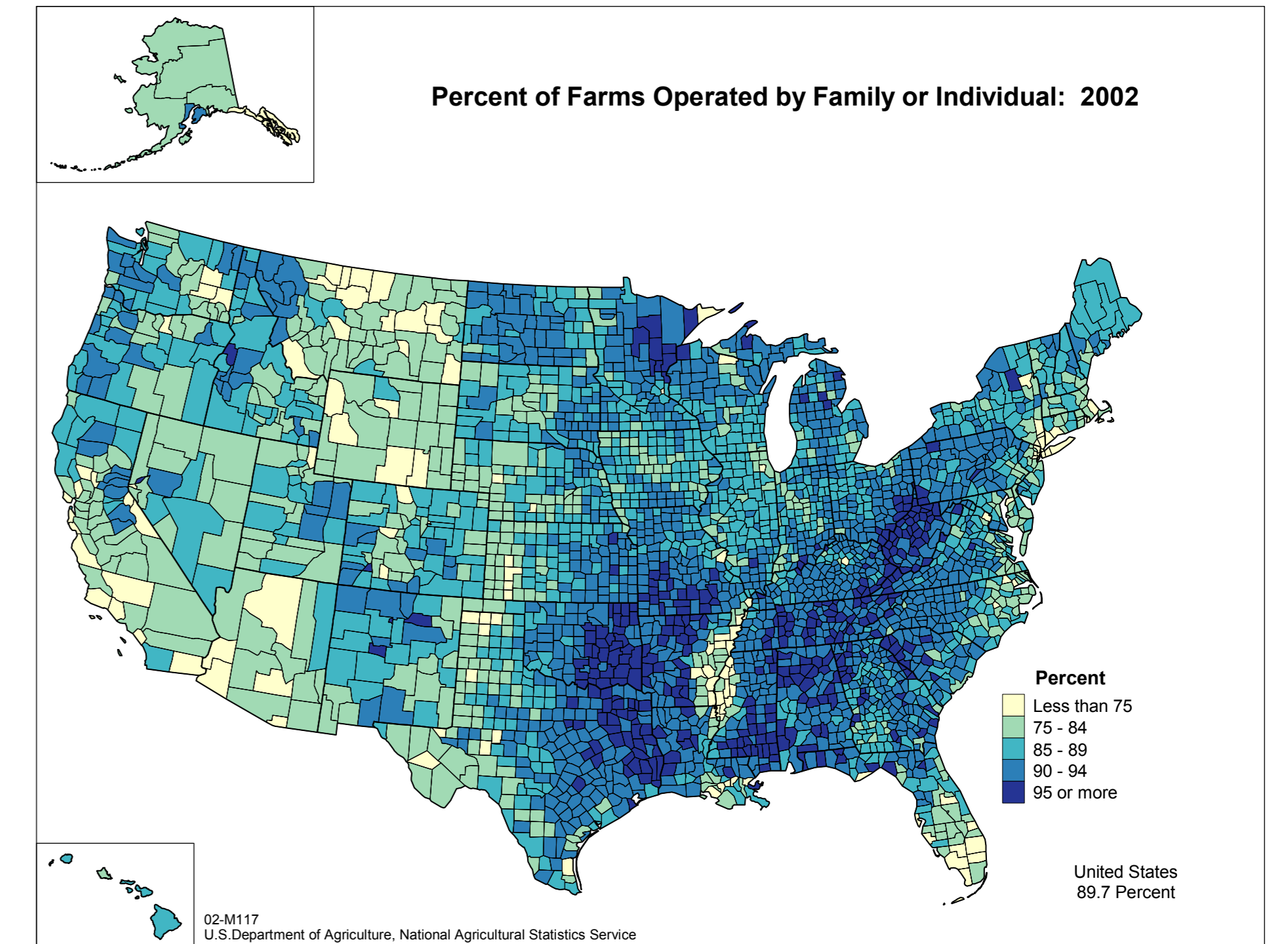
Average Age of Principal Operator



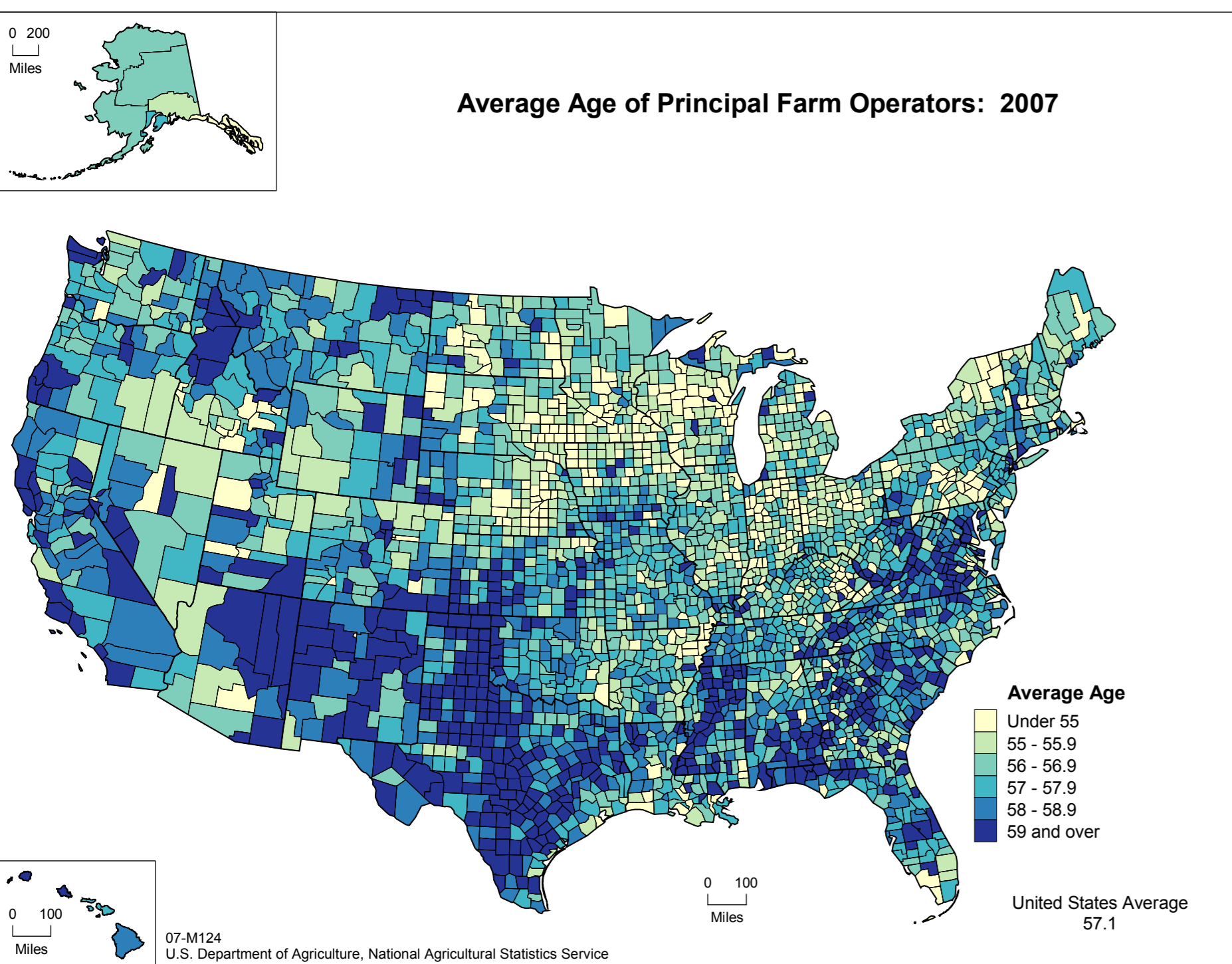
Percent of Principal Farm Operators Working Off Their Farms 100 Days or More: 2002



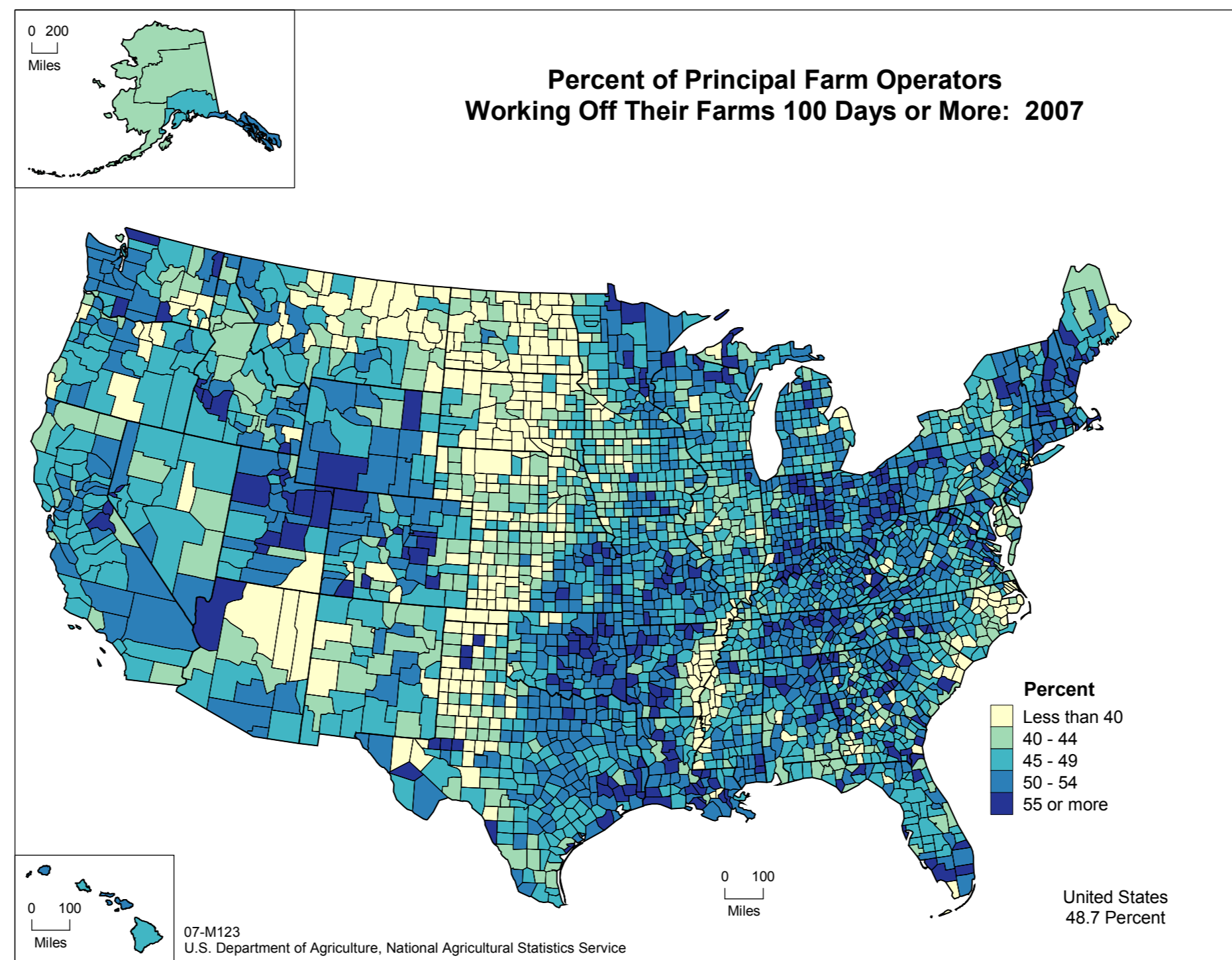
Percent of Farms Operated by Family or Individual: 2002



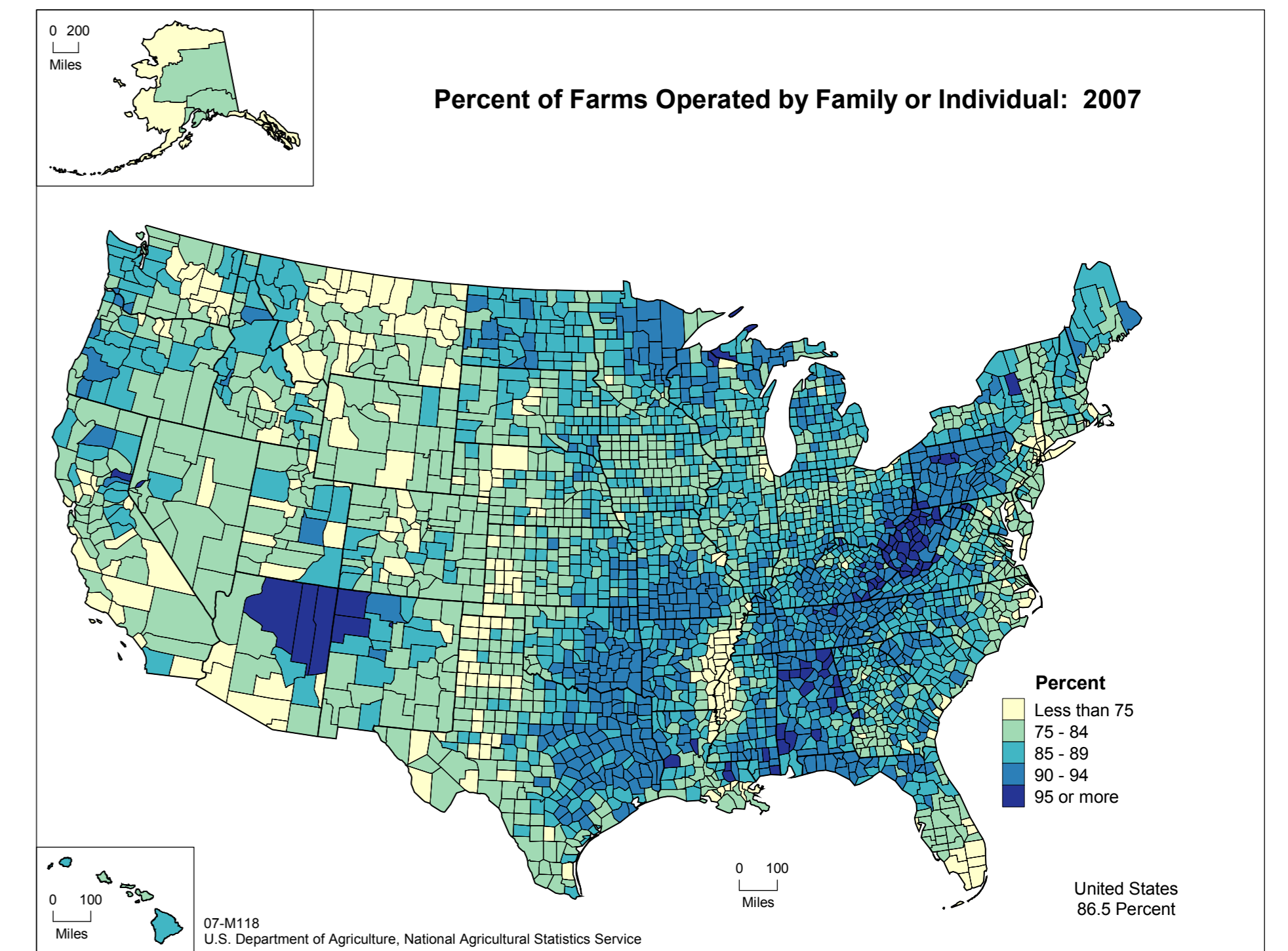
Average Age of Principal Farm Operators: 2007



Percent of Principal Farm Operators Working Off Their Farms 100 Days or More: 2007



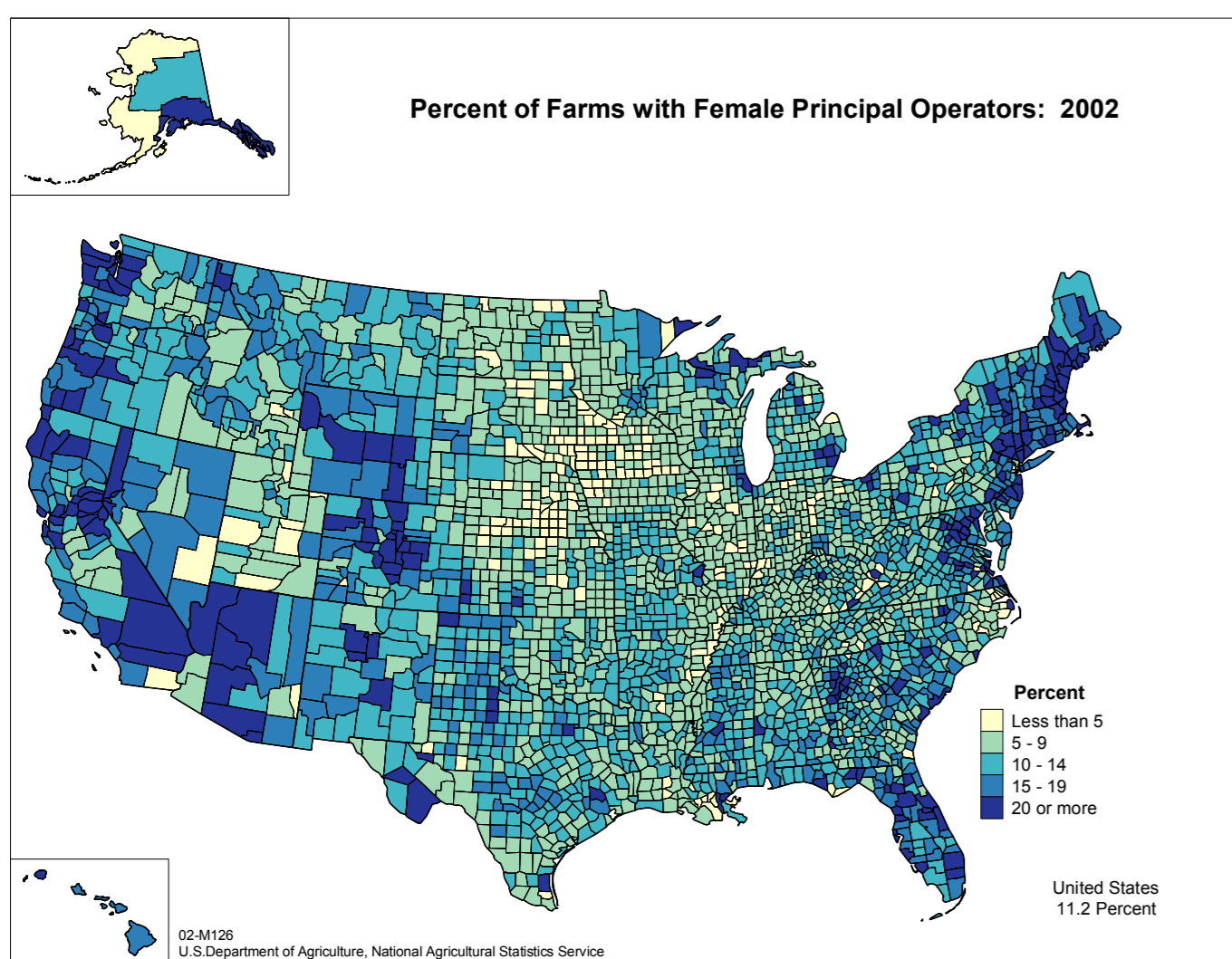
Percent of Farms Operated by Family or Individual: 2007



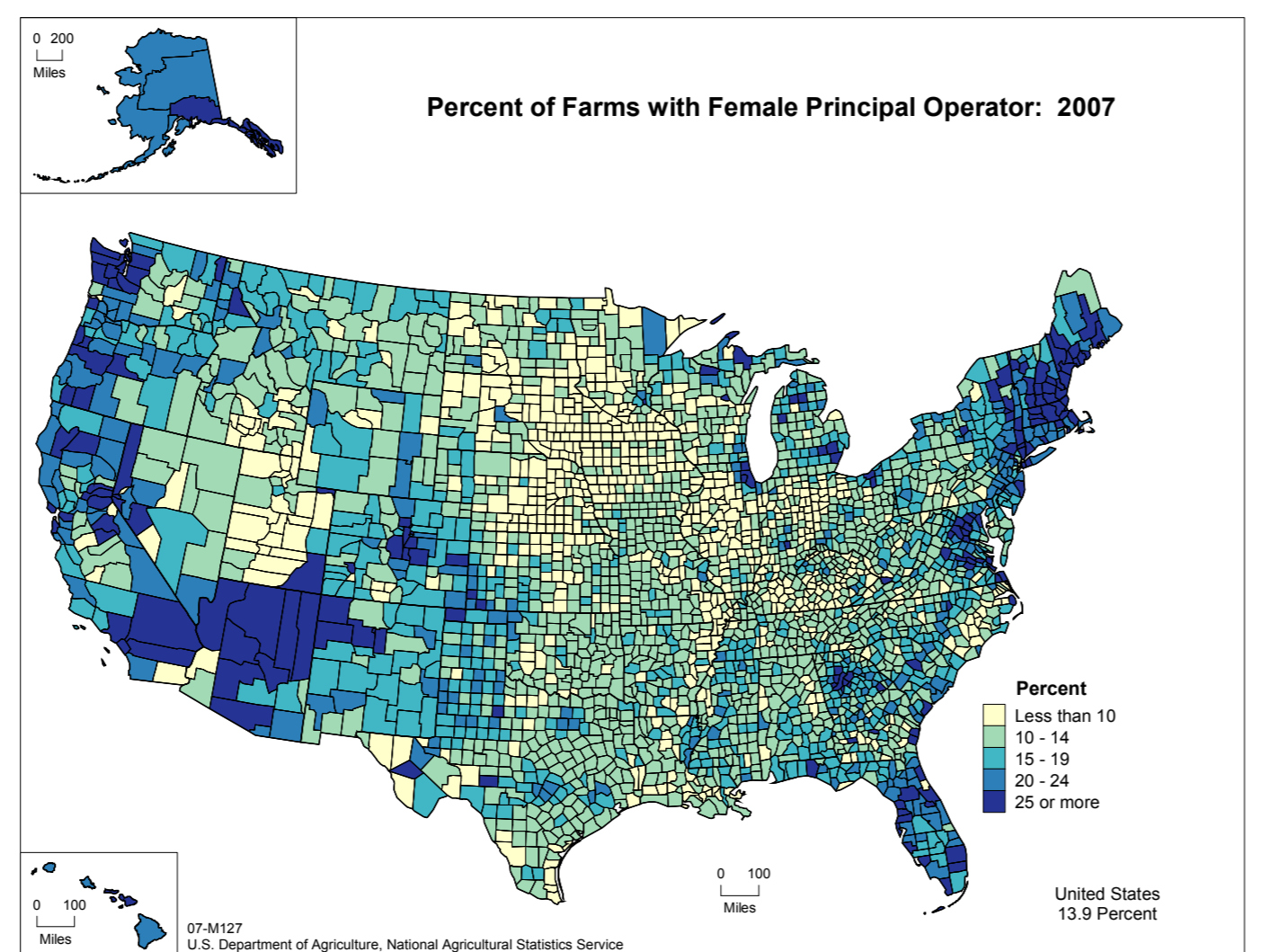
Minority Operators

In the past 5 years, U.S. farm operators have become more demographically diverse. The percentage of farms with female principle operator increased from 11.2 percent in 2002 to 13.9 percent in 2007. The number of farms with American Indian or Alaska Native operators, black or African American operators, Hispanic operators, and Asian operators increased from 2002 to 2007 as well.

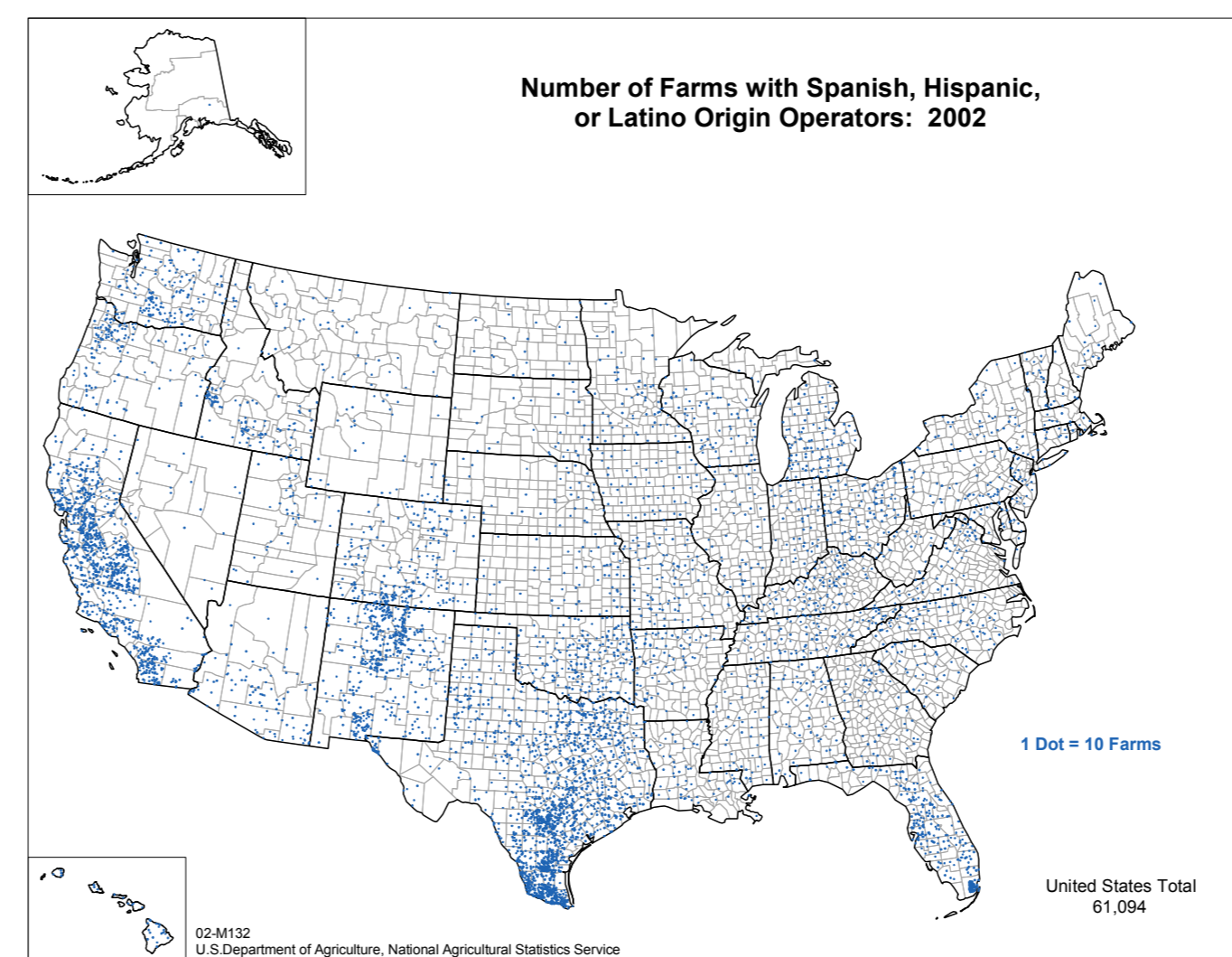
Percent of Farms with Female Principal Operators: 2002



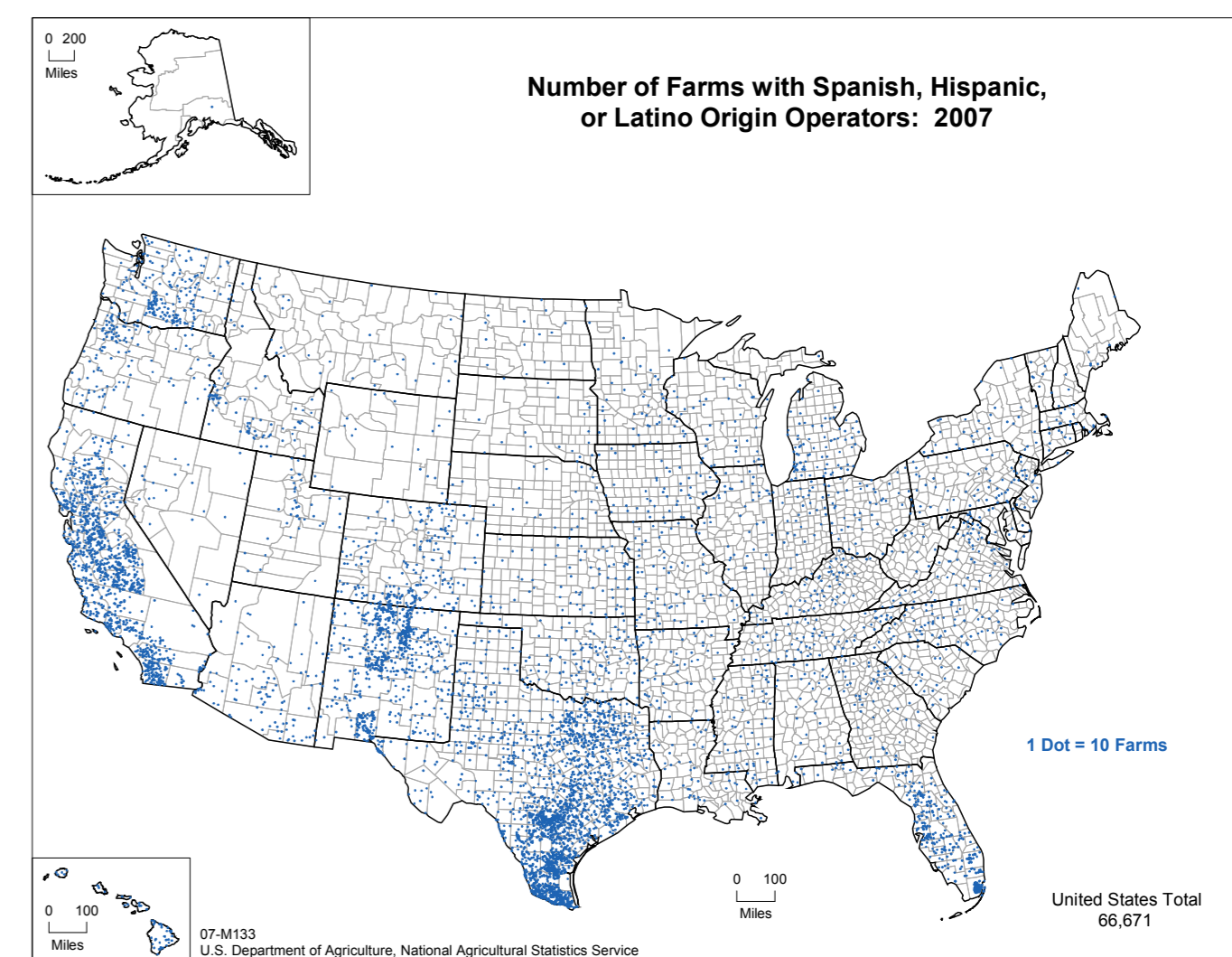
Percent of Farms with Female Principal Operator: 2007



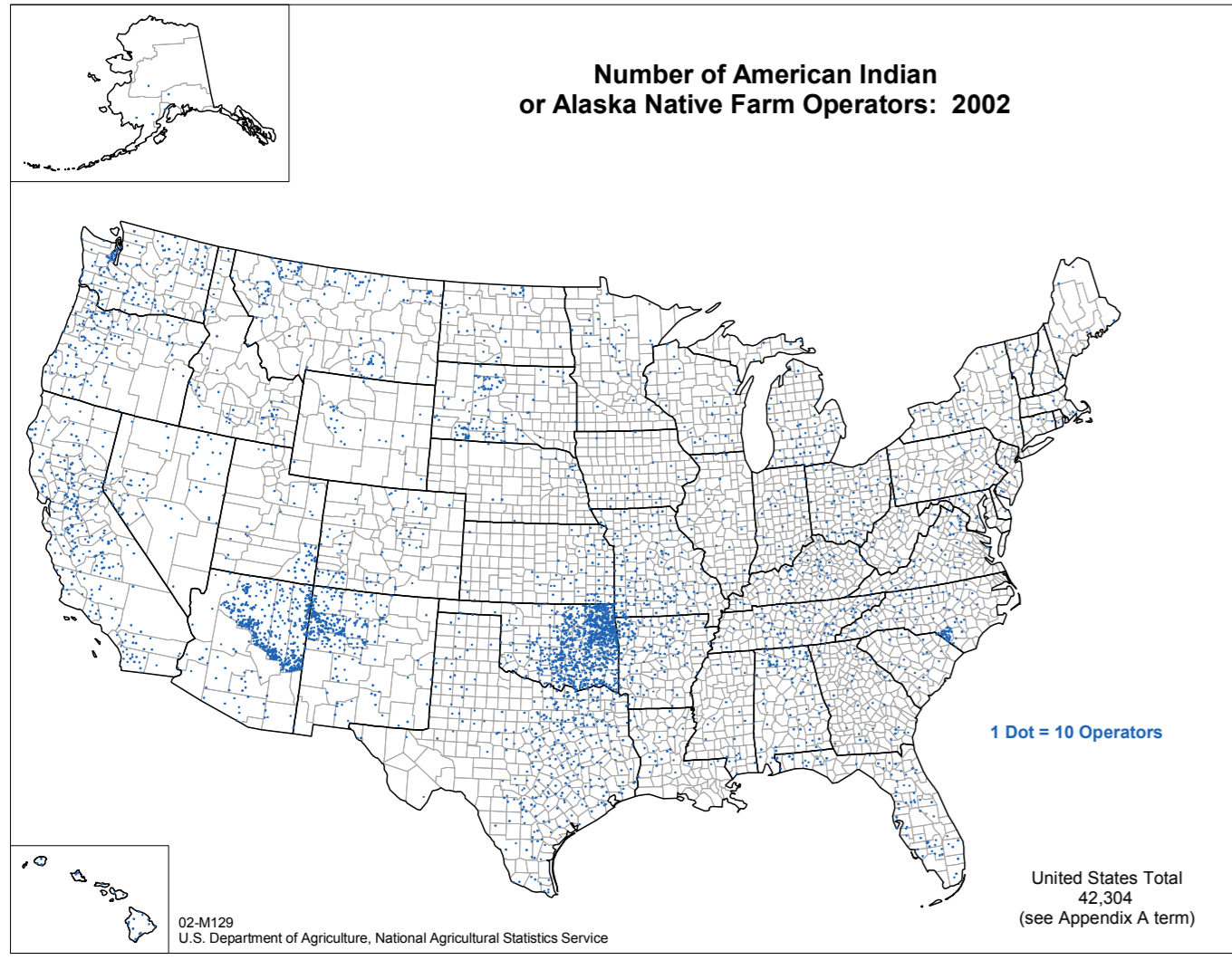
Number of Farms with Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin Operators: 2002



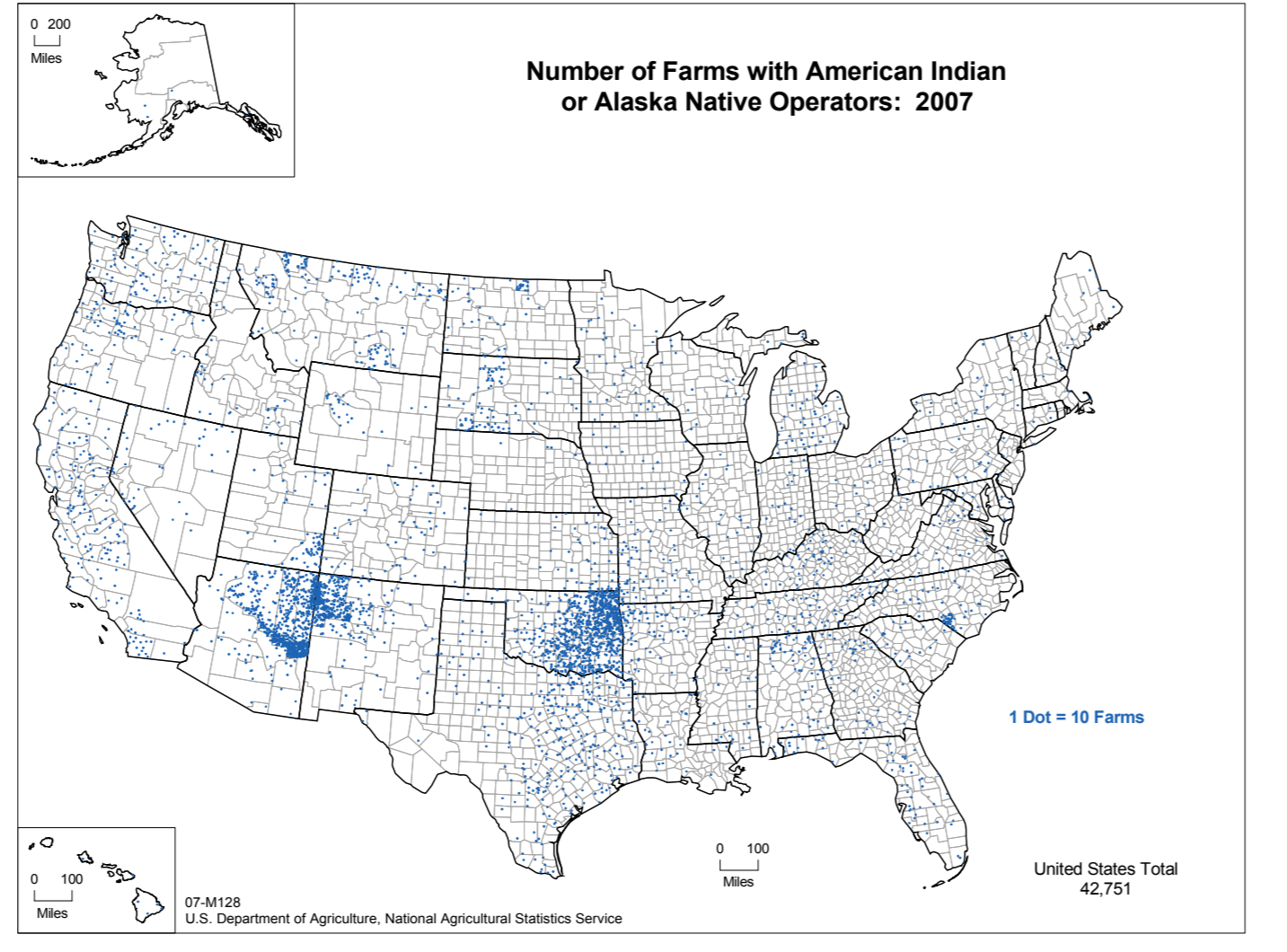
Number of Farms with Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin Operators: 2007



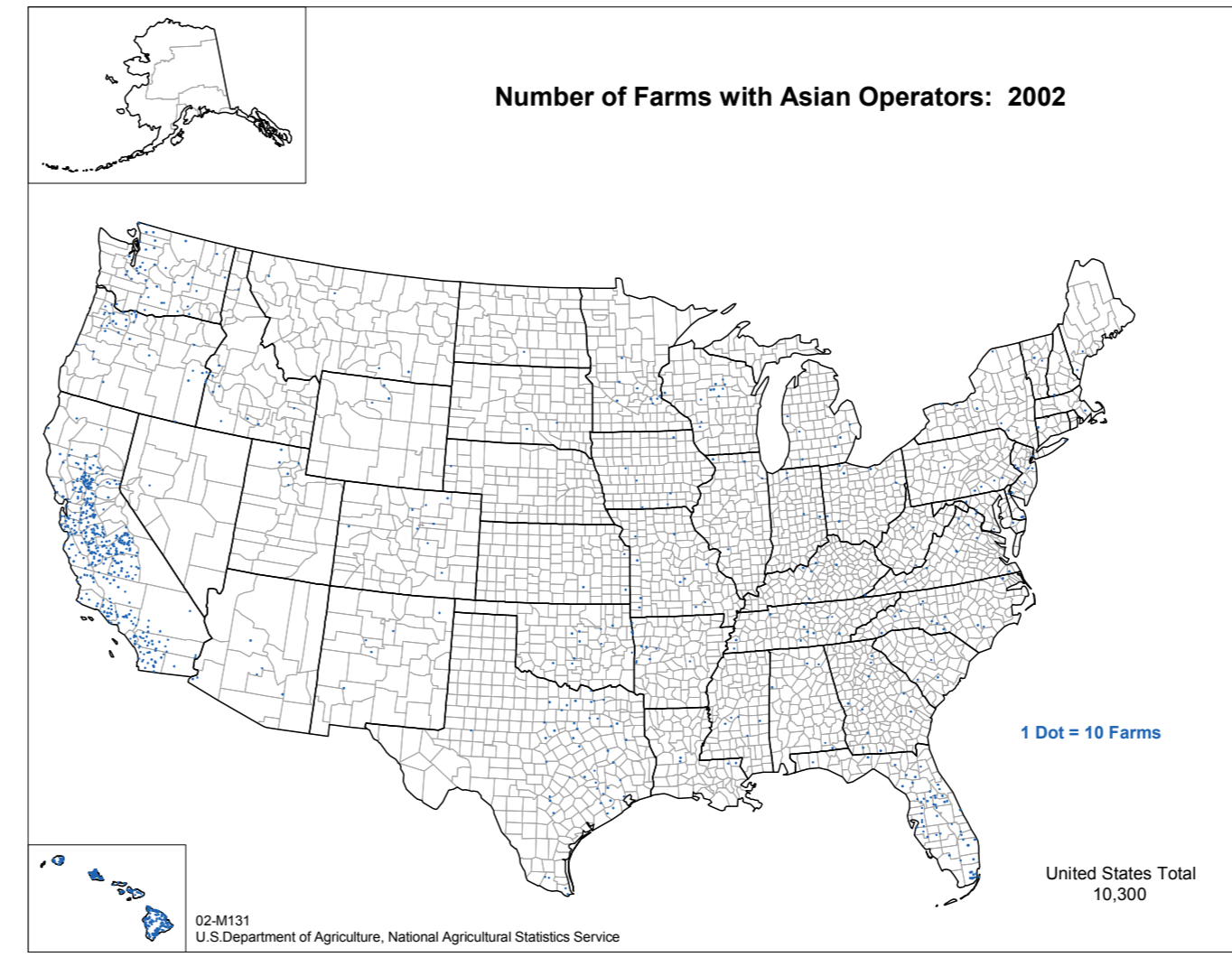
Number of American Indian or Alaska Native Farm Operators: 2002



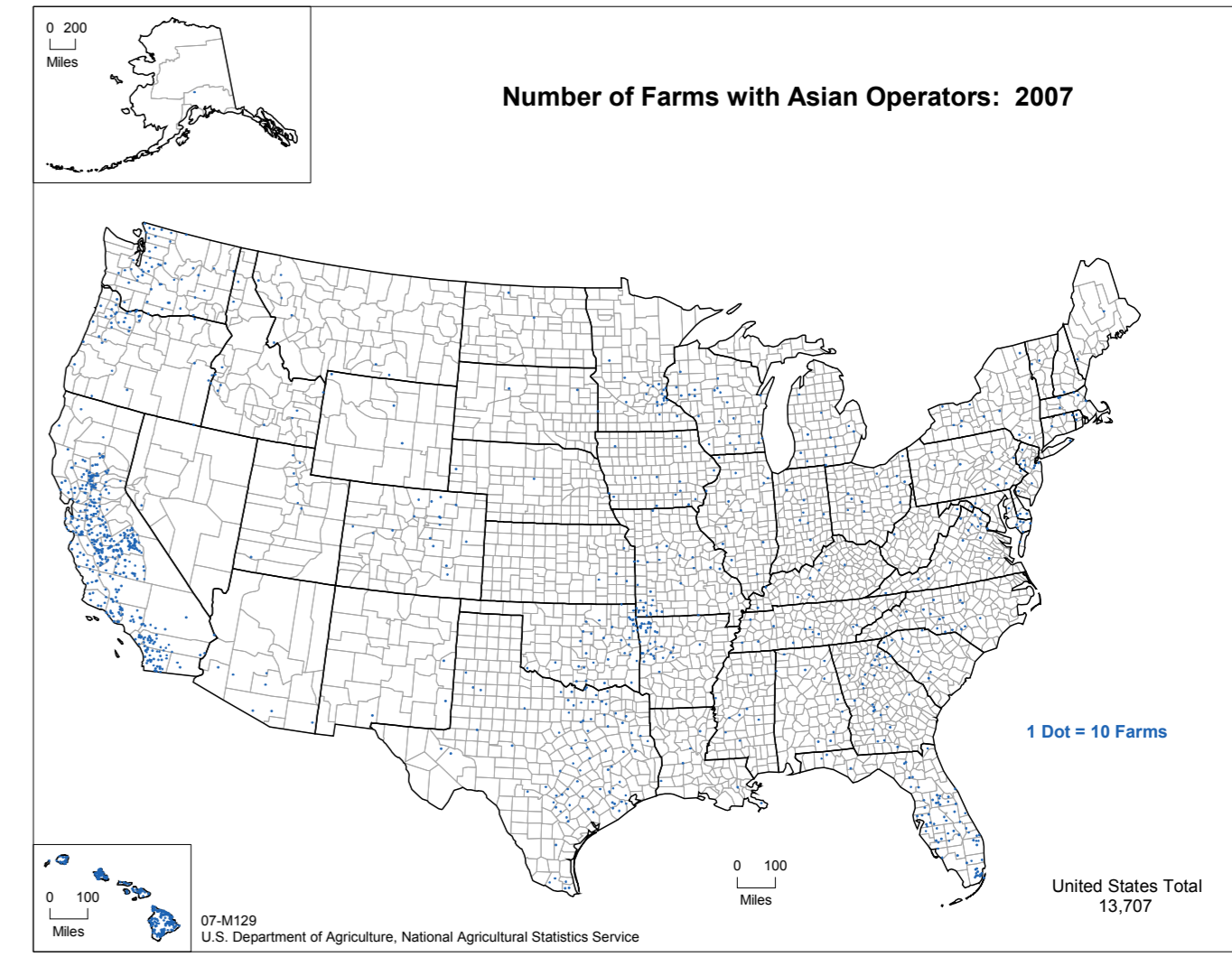
Number of Farms with American Indian or Alaska Native Operators: 2007



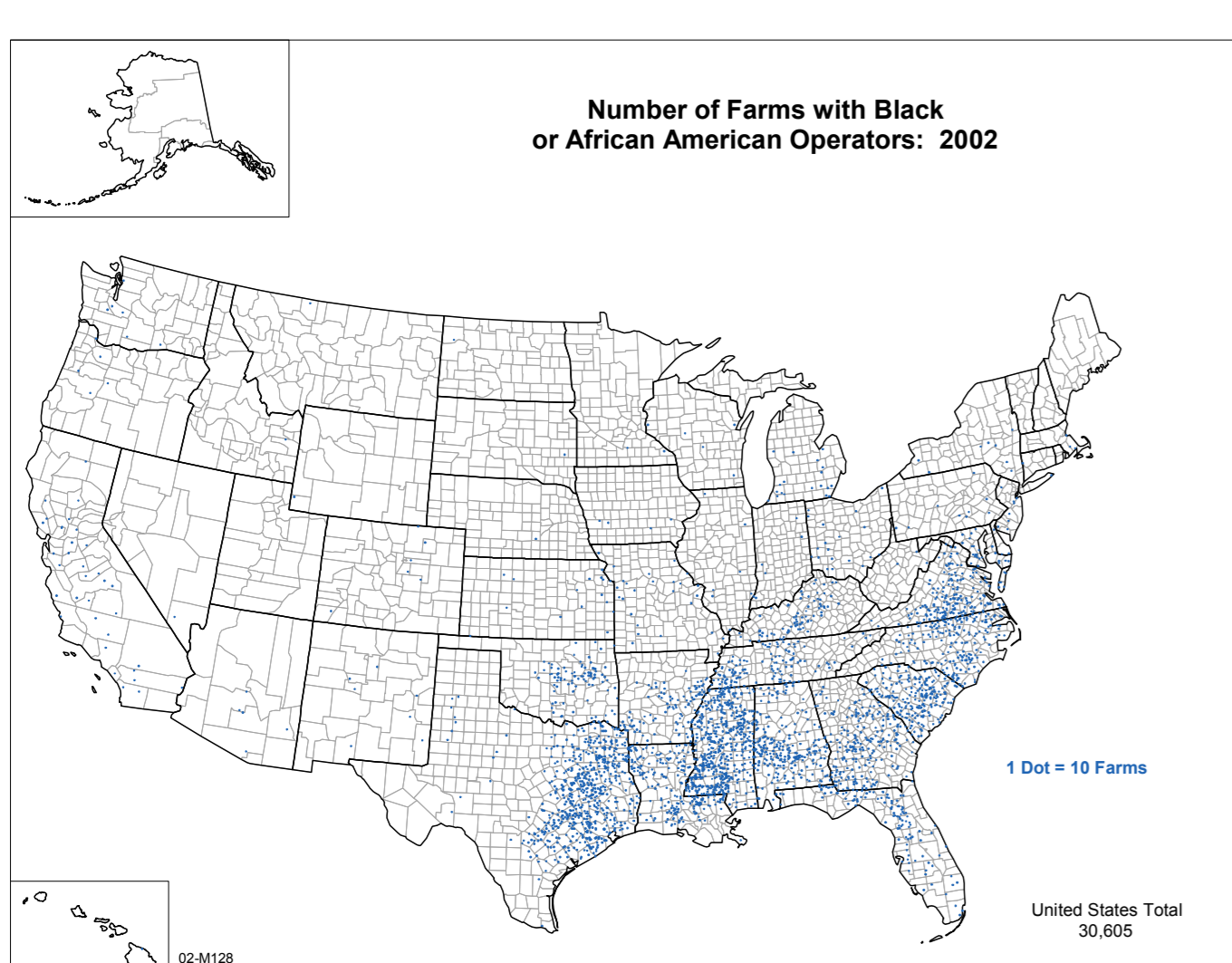
Number of Farms with Asian Operators: 2002



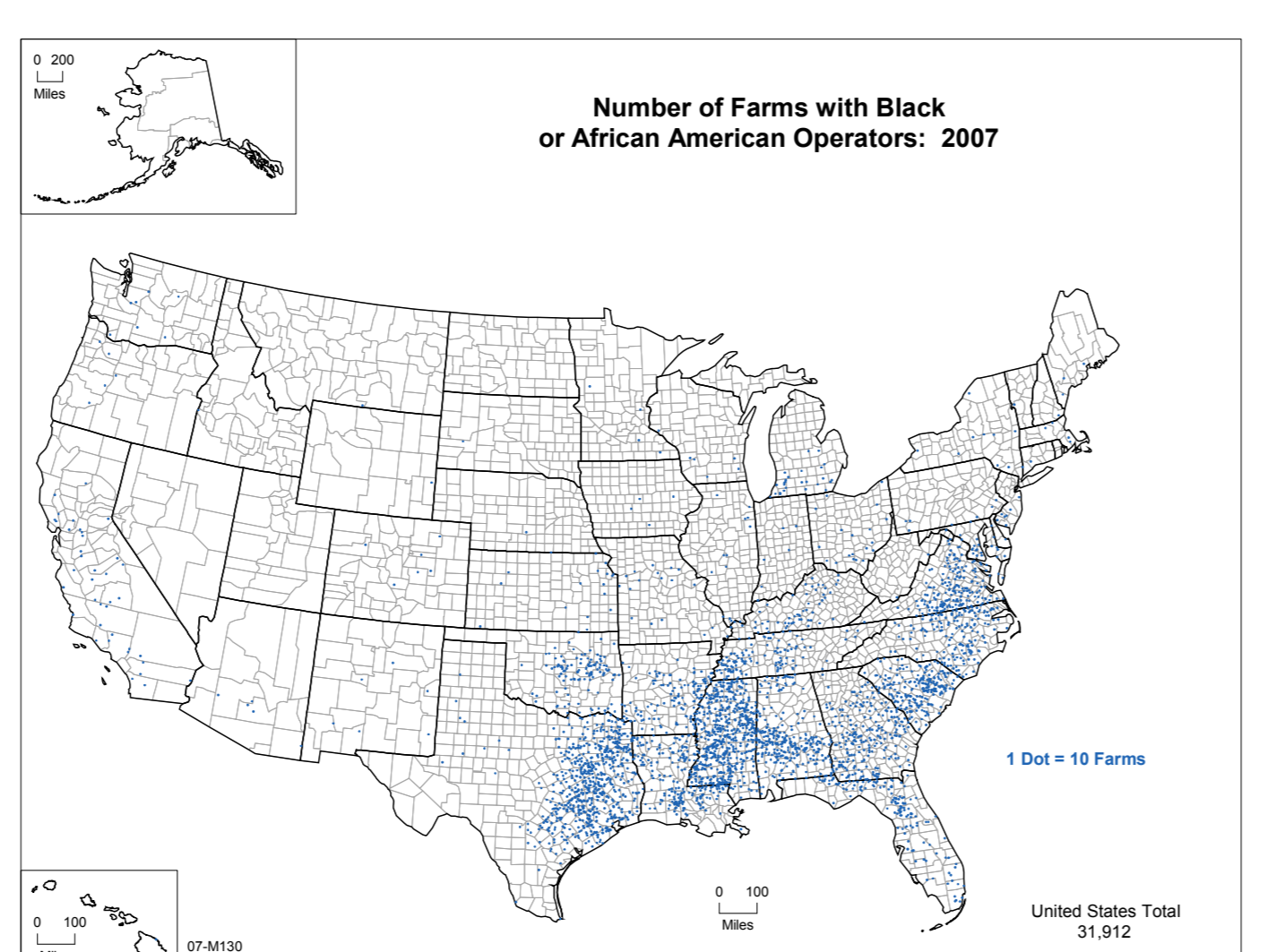
Number of Farms with Asian Operators: 2007



Number of Farms with Black or African American Operators: 2002

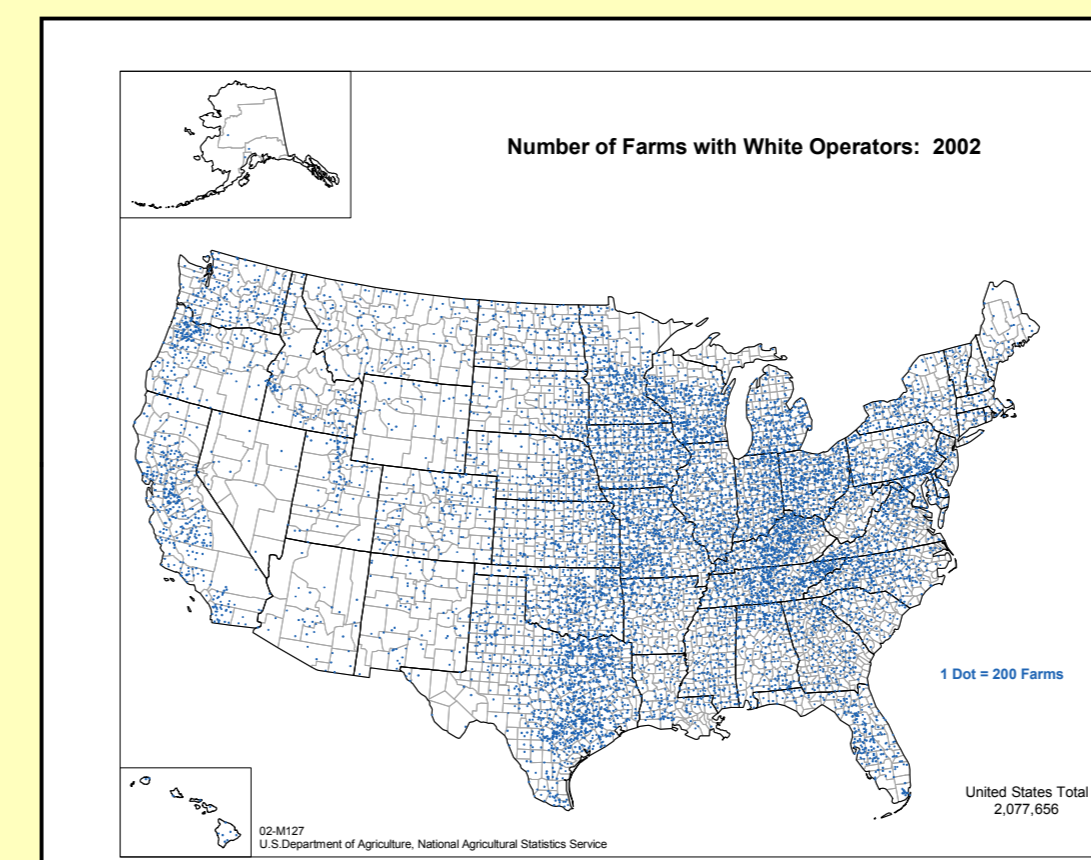


Number of Farms with Black or African American Operators: 2007



White Operators

Number of Farms with White Operators: 2002



Number of Farms with White Operators: 2007

