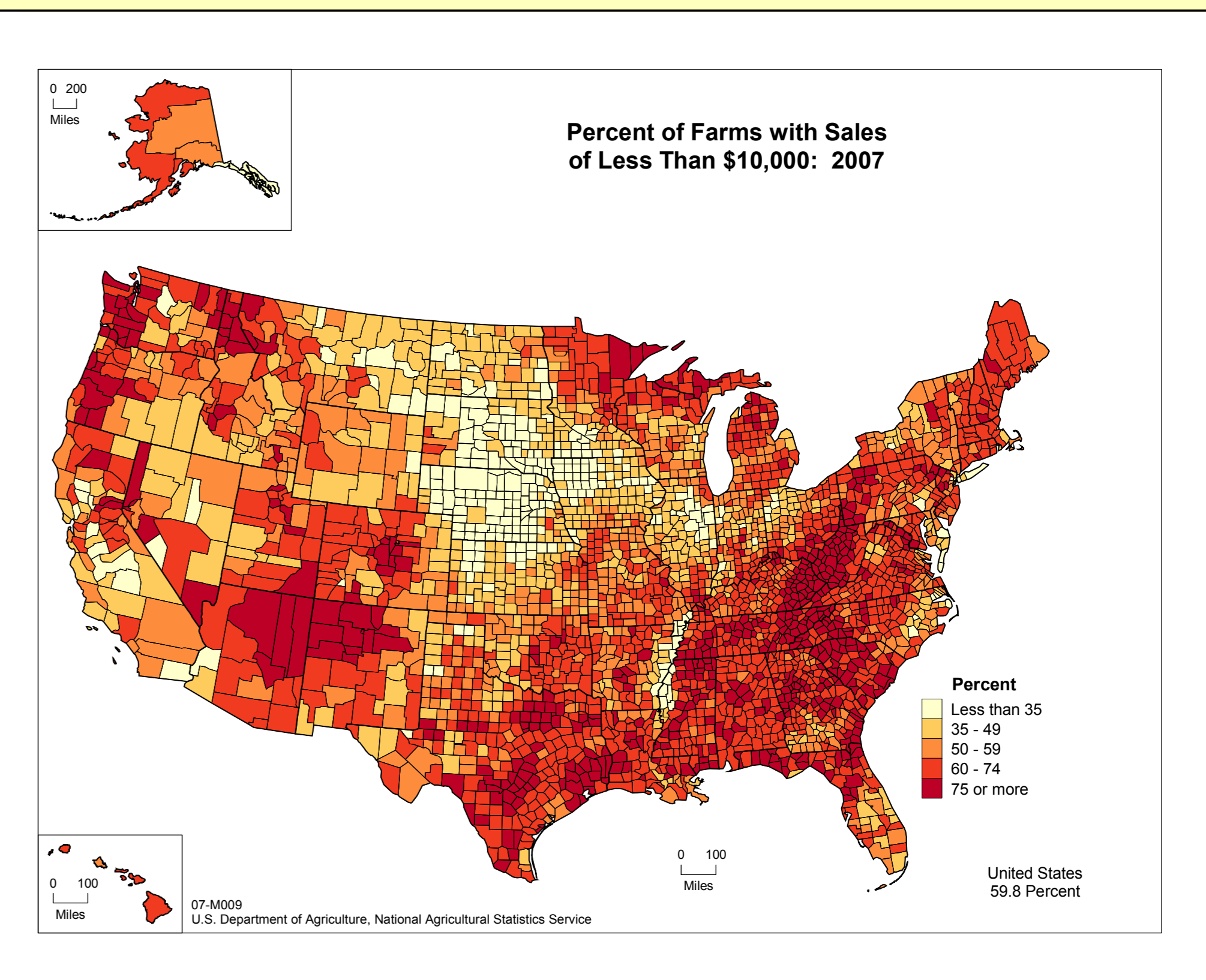
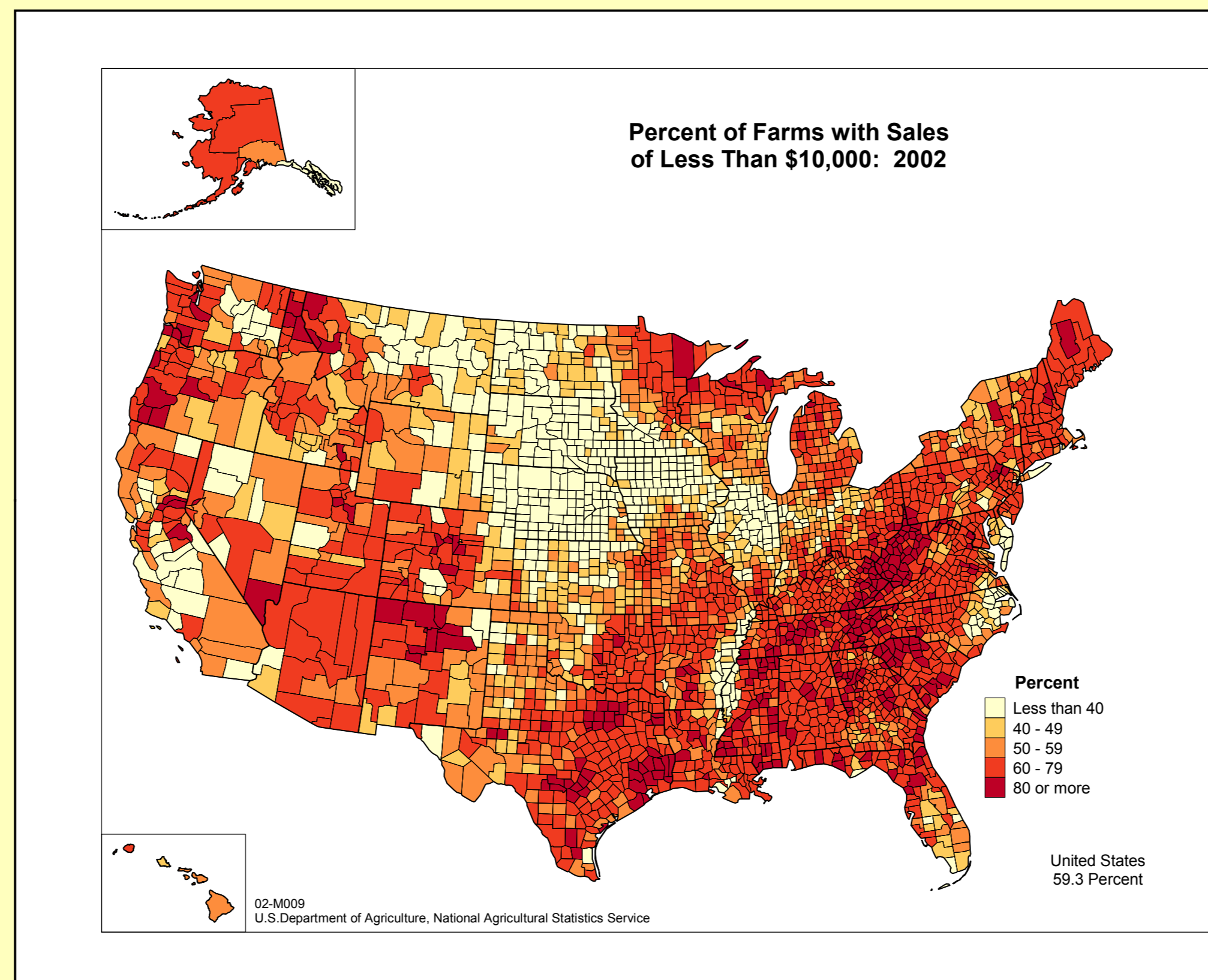
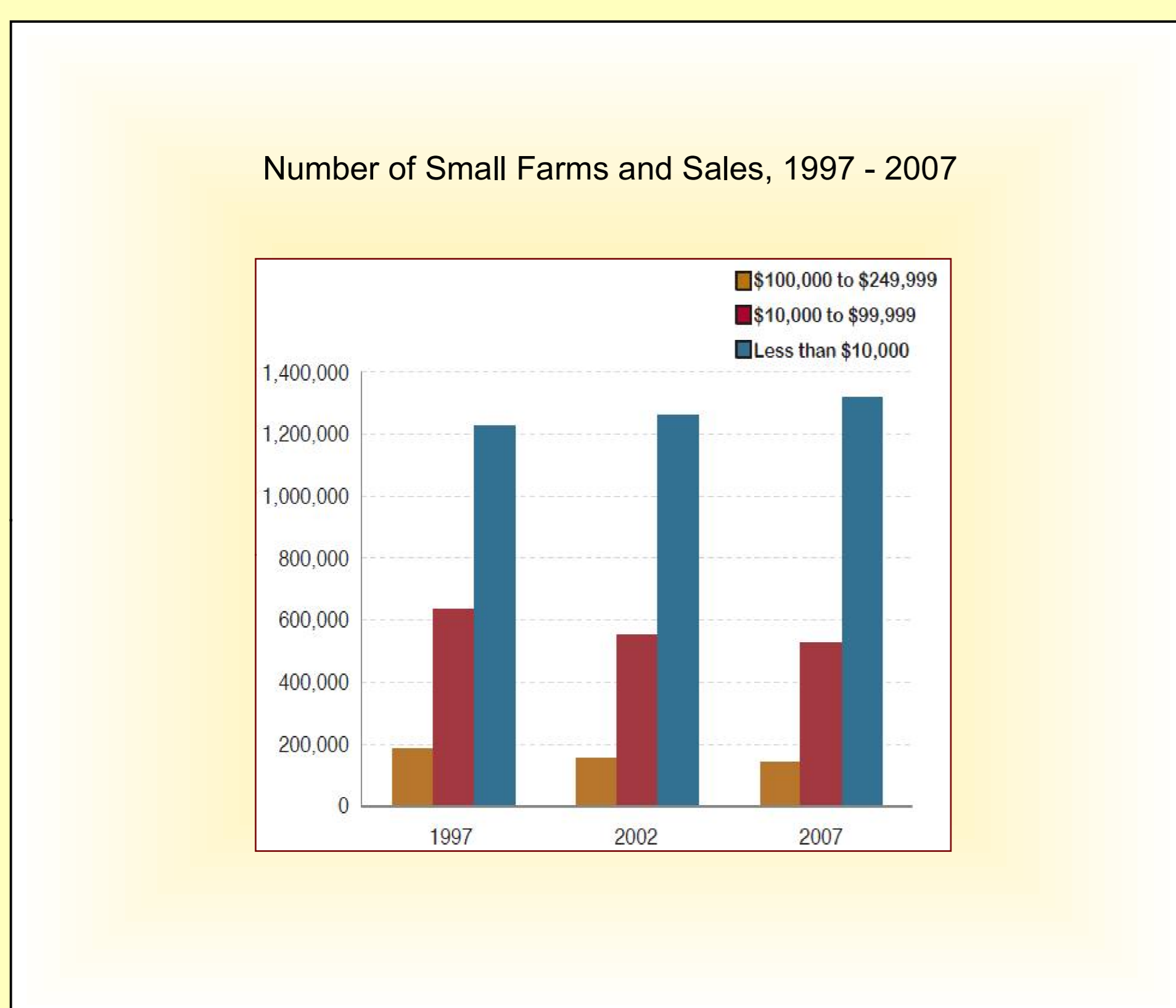
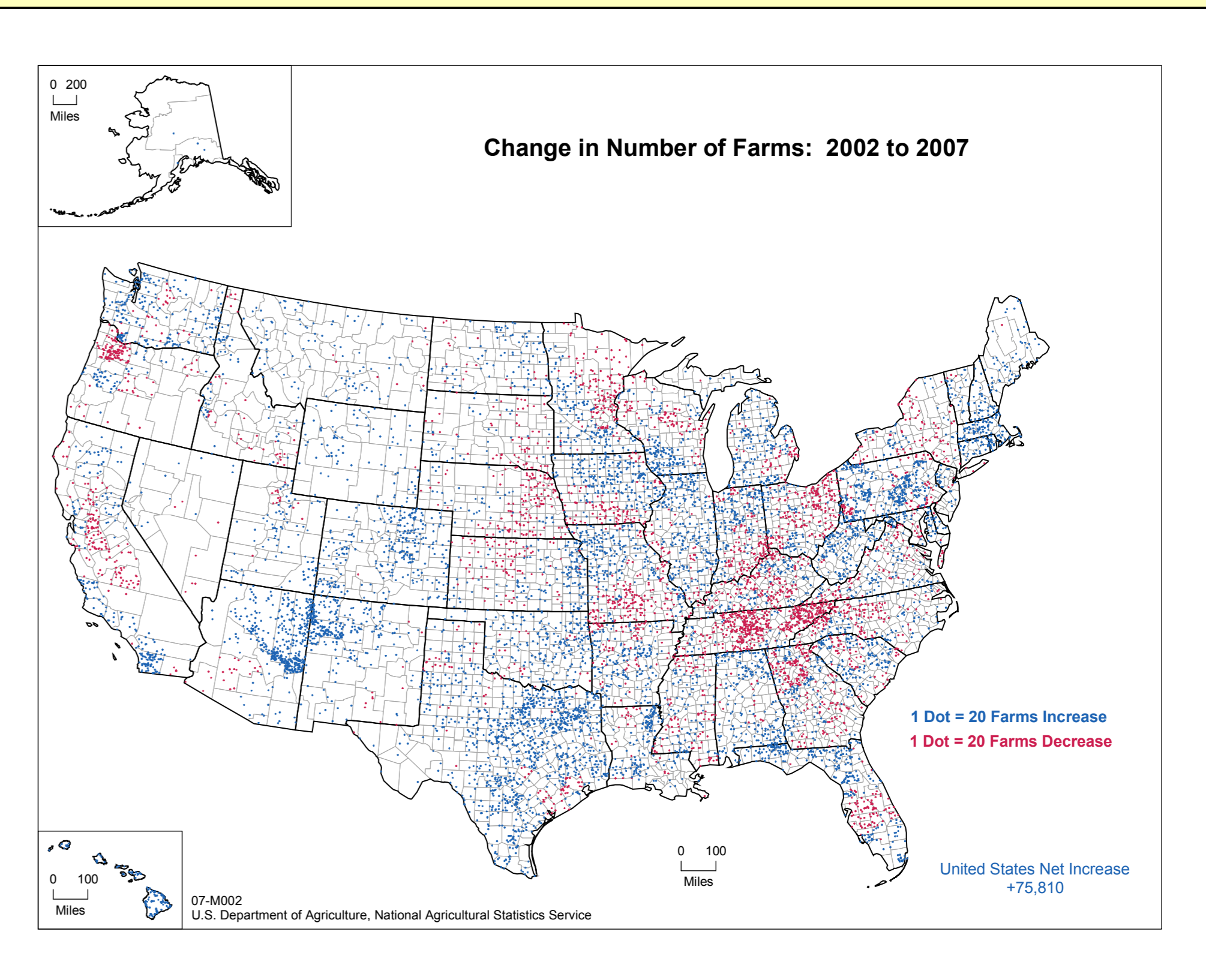
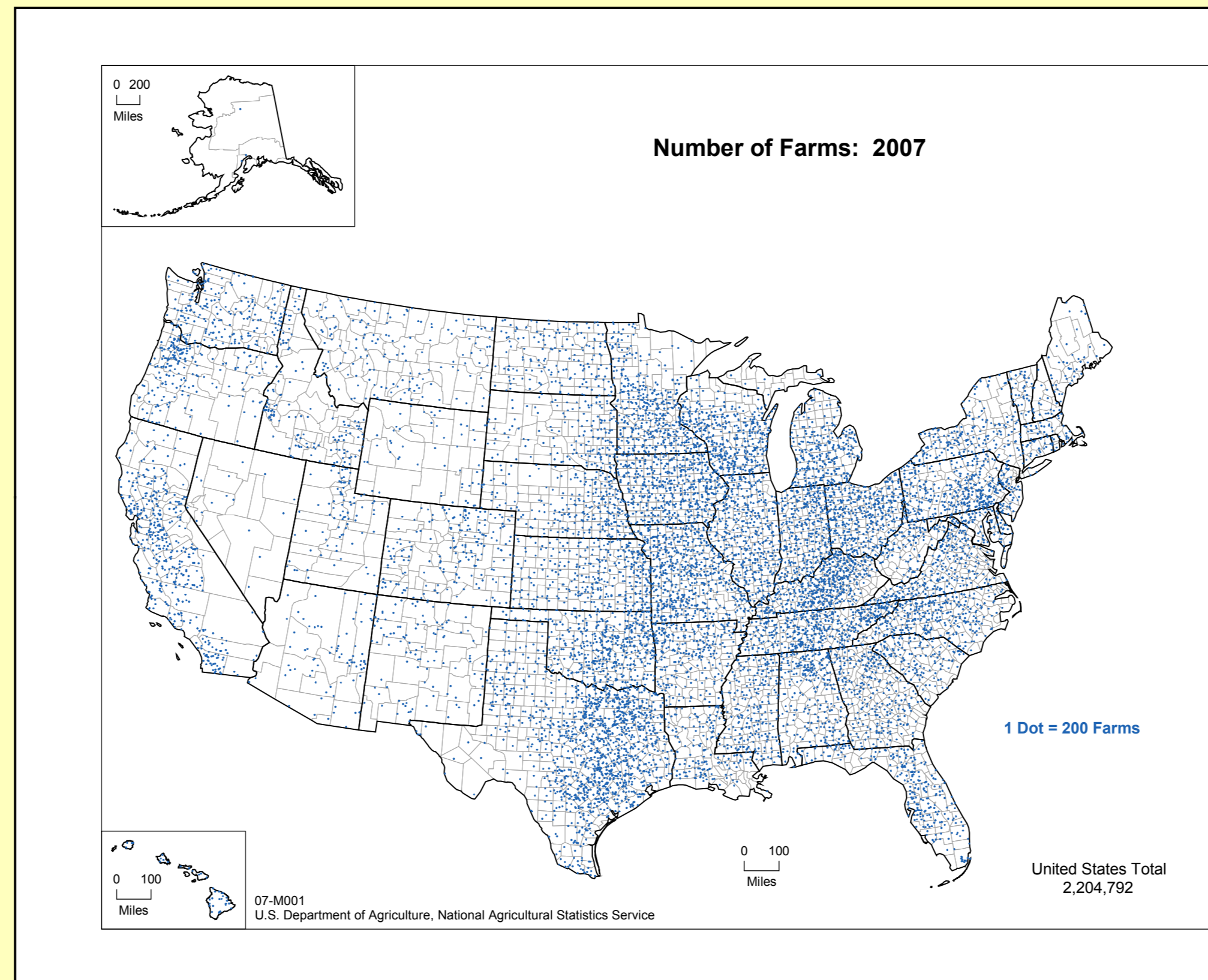
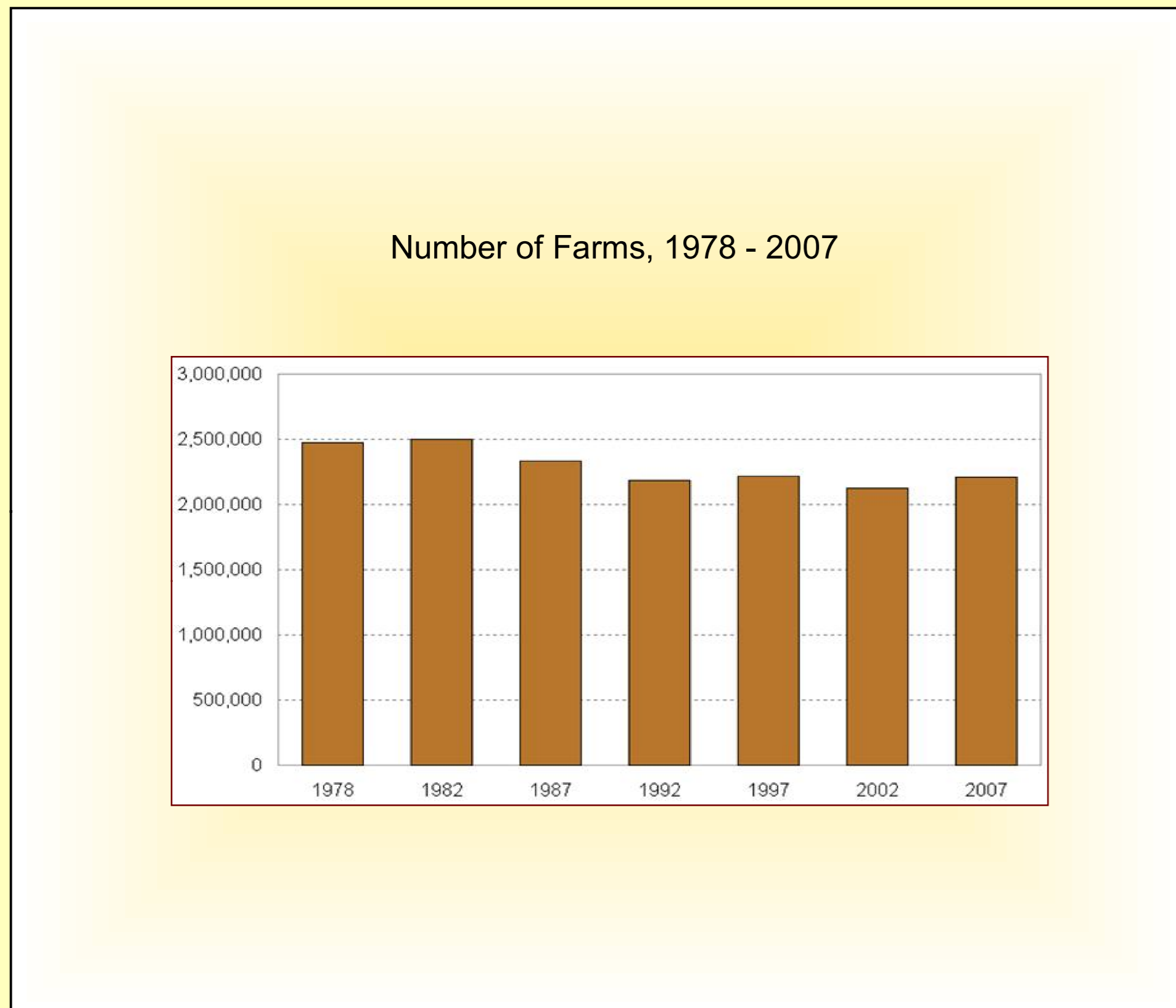


### Farms

The number of farms nationwide has been on a declining trend since World War II. However, the 2007 Census of Agriculture counted a 4 percent increase from 2002. The latest figure indicates a leveling of this trend, with a net increase of 75,810 farms. Small farms increased 1 percent from 2002 to 2007. The percent of farms with sales less than \$10,000 increased in 2007 to 59.8 percent, up from 59.3 percent in 2002.



### Economics

U.S. farmers sold \$297 billion in agricultural products while incurring \$241 billion in production expenses. Income from sales increased 48 percent between 2002 and 2007, while production expenses increased 39 percent. One of the steepest cost increases was in gasoline and fuel, up 93 percent.

