

a look at
Minnesota
Agriculture



COUNTY DATA

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1954 - 1959

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 TRENDS IN
 FARMS.....
 MACHINERY...
 EXPENSES....

2
 TRENDS IN
 FARM LABOR
 AND
 POPULATION....

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 TRENDS IN
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A LOOK AT MINNESOTA AGRICULTURE (COUNTY DATA) — 1954 AND 1959

Foreword

The 1950's reveal more changes in Minnesota agriculture than in any previous decade. The rate of change during the last 5 years is especially revealing when viewed in terms of trends in the capital and labor resources available on farms, the use made of these resources and the resultant farm incomes.

The main purpose of this report is to serve as a convenient source of information regarding major trends in Minnesota agriculture as well as providing a basis for comparing trends occurring in your county with those of the state, and areas within the state. It is divided into three sections: (1) Trends in Farm Numbers, Sizes, Values and Farm Tenancy, Machinery Numbers, and Major Farm Expenses; (2) Trends in Farm Labor and Population; and (3) Trends in Crop Acreages, Livestock Numbers, and Farm Incomes.

The sources of statistical data used in this report are mainly the 1959 Federal Farm Census of Agriculture and the State-Federal Crop and Livestock Reports.

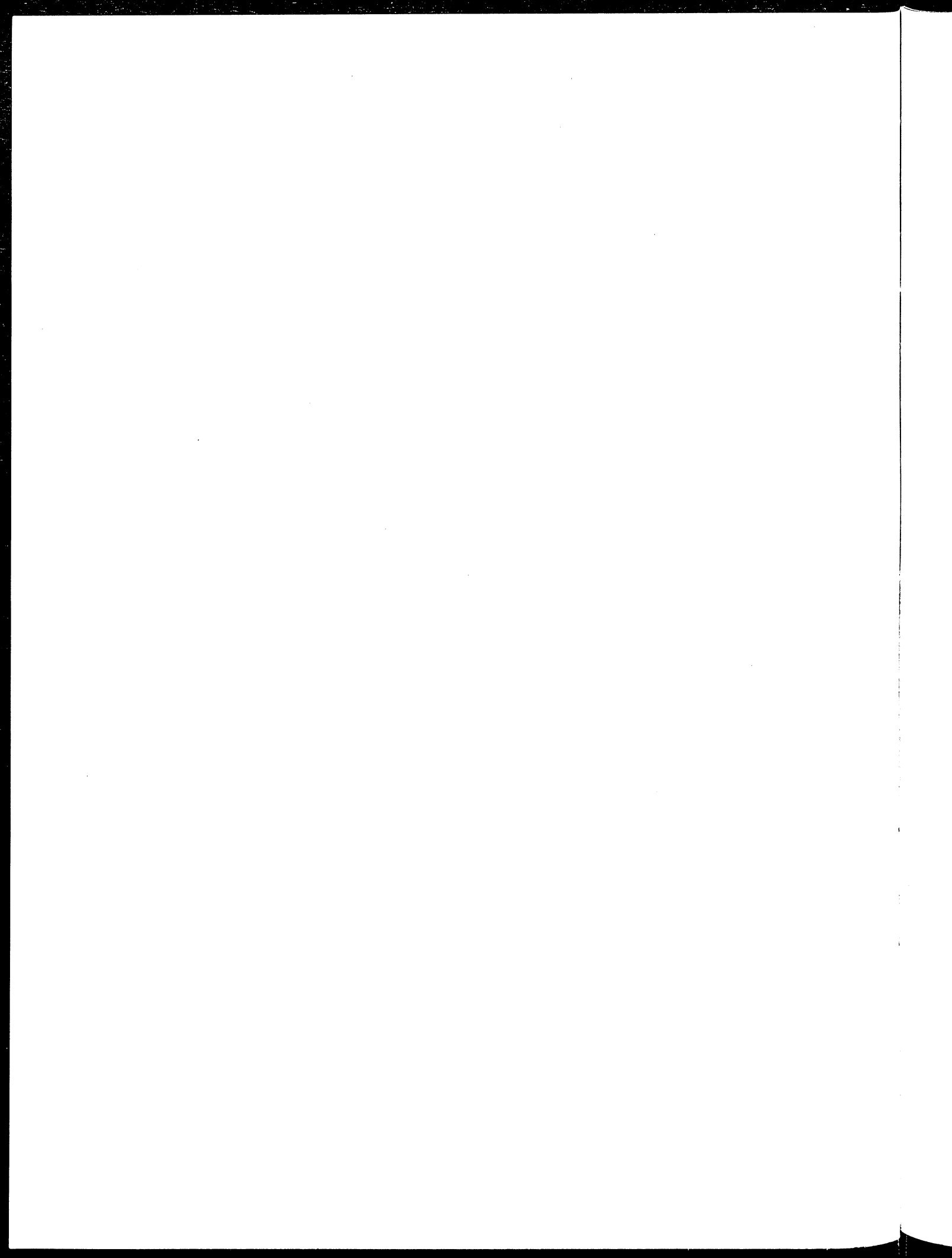


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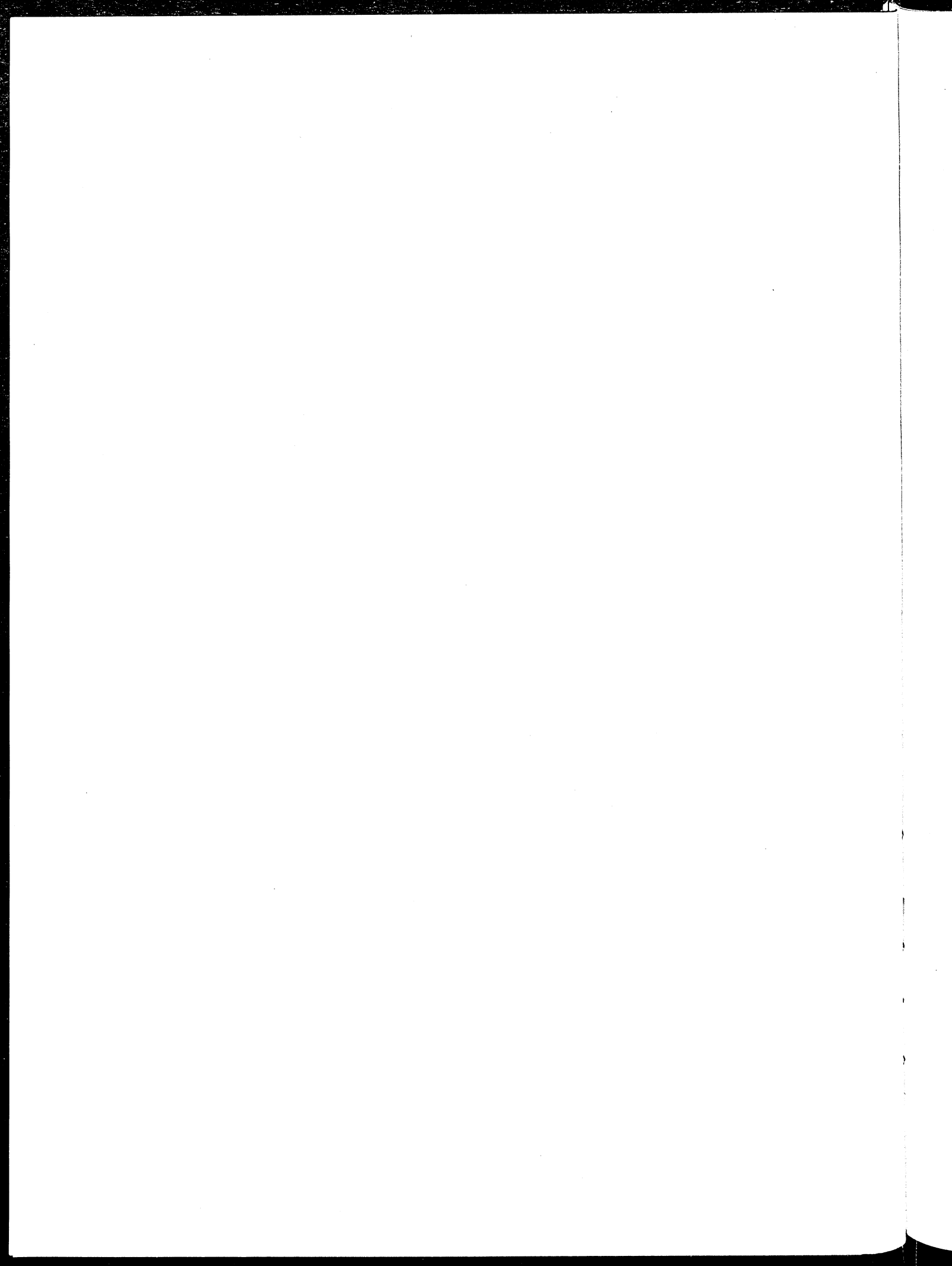
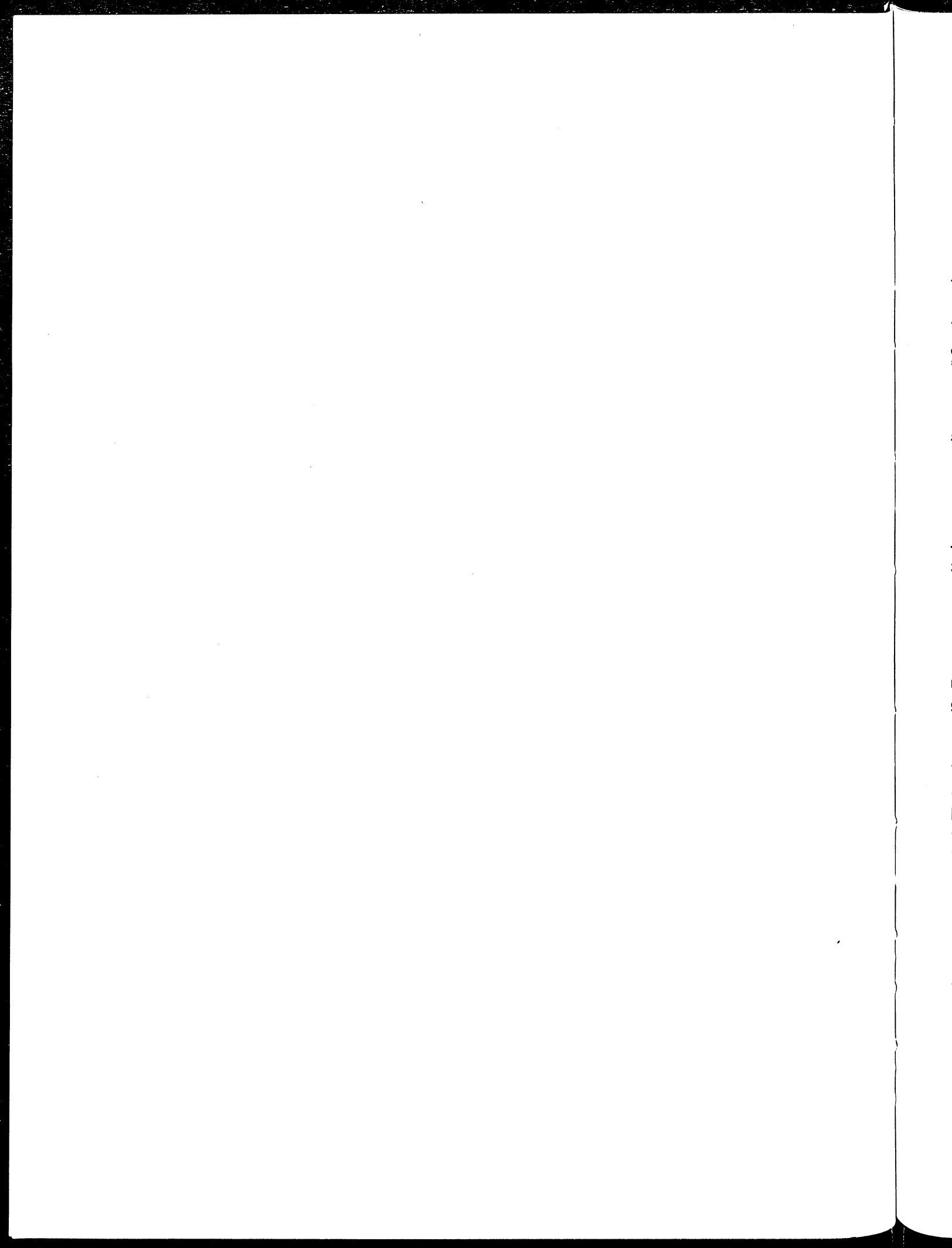


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SECTION I

Trends in Farm Numbers, Sizes, Value and Tenancy, Machinery Numbers, and Major Farm Expenses

The capital required to own and operate a modern farm business has increased sharply since the end of World War II. Sizeable increases occurred during the 5-year period 1954 to 1959 also.

Trends in Farm Capital and Cash Farm Expenses — Dairy-Hog Farms in Southeastern Minnesota and Hog-Beef Farms in the Corn Belt, 1954 and 1959.*

	Dairy-hog farms southeastern Minnesota		Percent change from 1954	Hog-beef farms corn belt		Percent change from 1954
	1954	1959		1954	1959	
Total farm capital, Jan. 1	33,350	48,840	+ 46	34,300	47,880	+ 40
Land and buildings	19,590	31,660	+ 62	21,600	31,230	+ 44
Machinery and equipment	6,060	6,970	+ 15	4,030	5,590	+ 39
Livestock	5,020	7,170	+ 43	5,490	7,770	+ 42
Crops	2,680	3,040	+ 13	3,180	3,290	+ 3
Total cash expenses	4,591	5,714	+ 24	3,680	5,516	+ 50

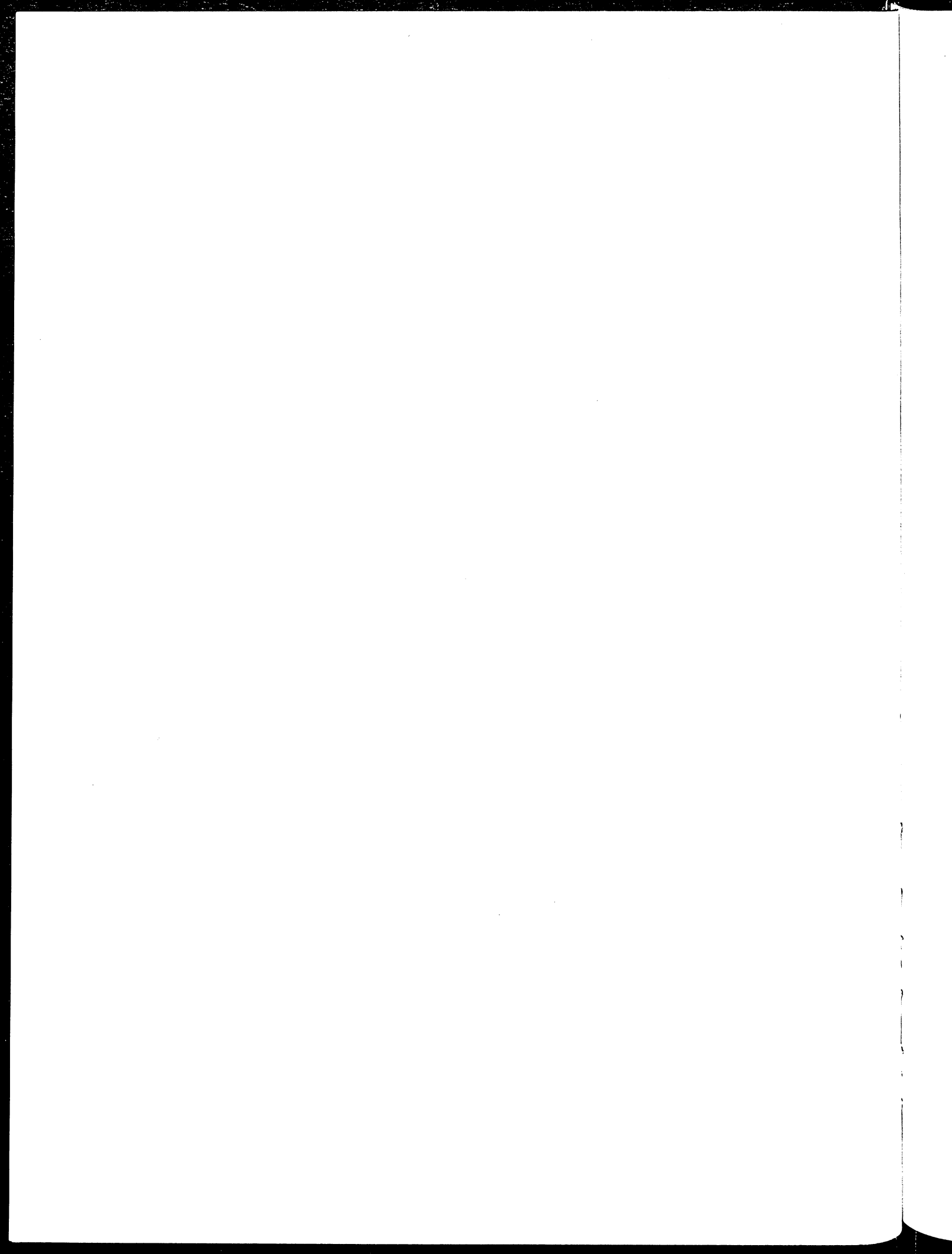
* Farm costs and returns, commercial family-operated farms by type and location, Agriculture Information Bulletins 176 and 230, USDA, June 1958 and June 1961.

In Section I highlights are shown of the trends which have occurred in Minnesota between 1954 and 1959 with regard to land in farms, farm numbers, size, values, tenancy, machinery numbers and major farm operating expenditures. Though sketchy, trends in these items are suggestive of the capitalization pattern developing in the various areas and counties of the state.

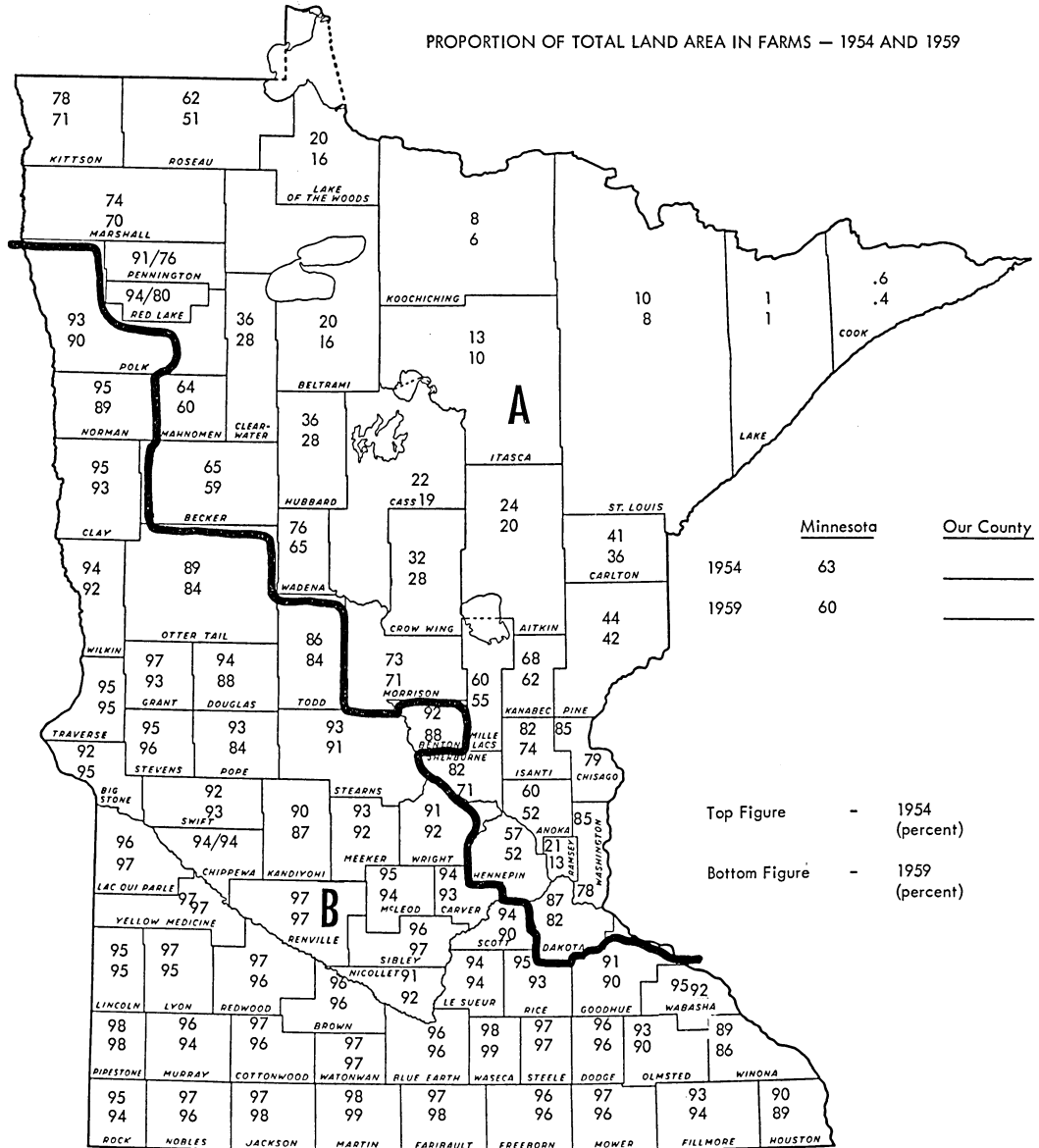
In summary, the total number of farms reporting in Minnesota decreased by 19,563 from 1954 to 1959. Though a more selective definition of a farm used in 1959 accounted for a decrease of 2,424 farms (or 13 percent of the total decrease) the combining of farm units for enlargement purposes, the Soil Bank program and farm abandonment were the major causes of the decline. Because of a 16-acre increase in size of farm (195.4 to 211.4) and a \$48 per-acre increase in land values, the average value of land and buildings per farm increased from \$21,057 in 1954 to \$33,373 in 1959. The proportion of full owners operating commercial farms dropped 5 percent during this period while the proportion of tenant-operated farms remained the same. This indicates that more farm owners are now renting land in addition to what they now own.

Minnesota farmers further mechanized their operations during this 5-year period. The average number of tractors increased 24 percent; in 1959 there were 2.1 tractors per farm. Large numbers of bulk milk tanks were reported on farms in some of the prime milk market areas.

As shown in the table above, cash expenses in the modern farm business have also increased sharply. Census data show that the largest proportion of total specified farm expenditures was for the purchase of livestock and poultry feed.



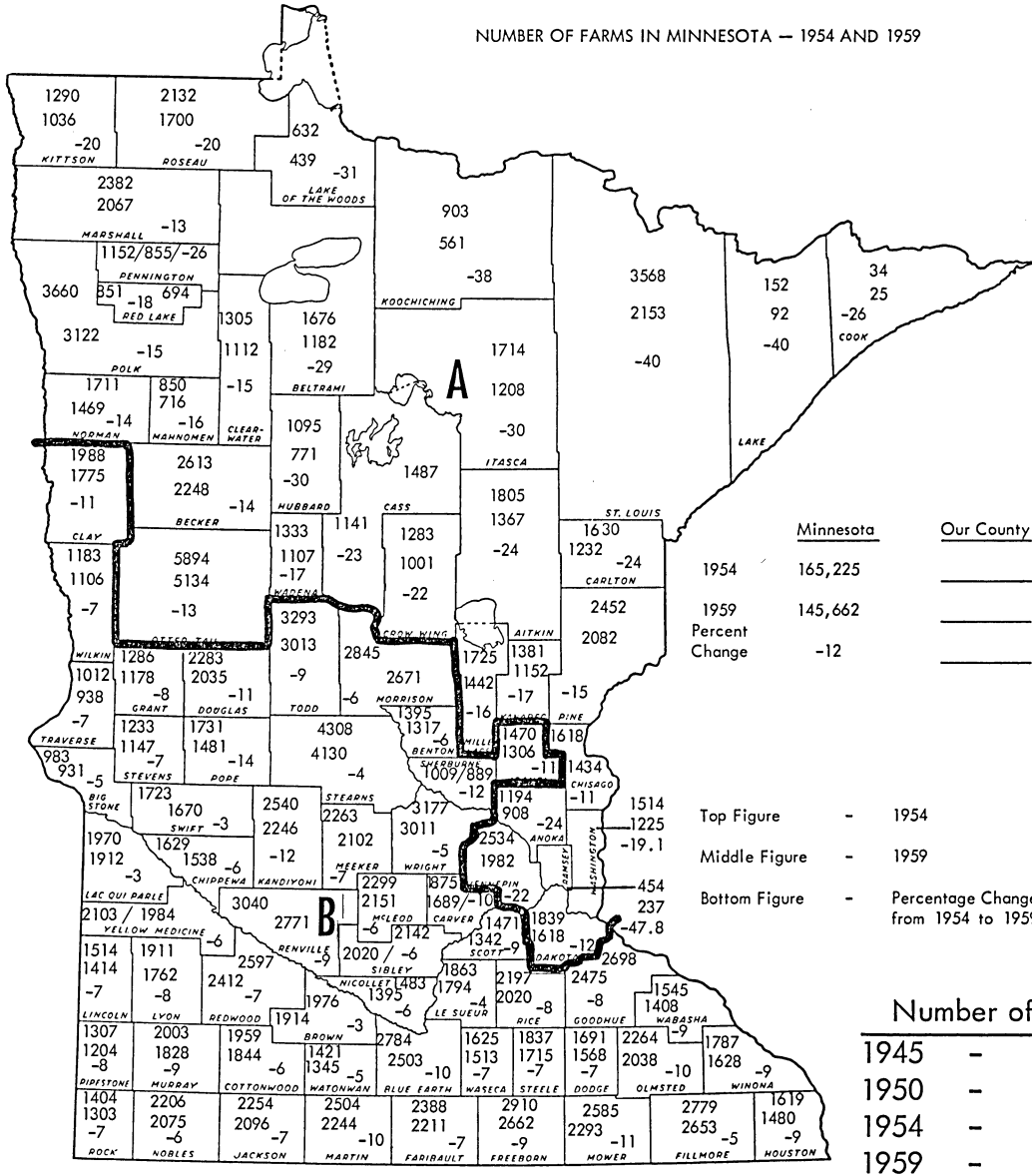
PROPORTION OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN FARMS — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- . The total land area reported for Minnesota amounts to slightly more than 51 million acres. Of this total, 32.3 million acres were in farms in 1954 compared with 30.8 million acres in 1959. Land placed in the Soil Bank and land used in urban expansion accounts for most of the decrease in land in farms during this period.
- . Area "A" includes counties which had 82 percent or less of its land area in farms in 1959; area "B", counties which had more than 82 percent of its land area in farms.
- . The most pronounced decreases in the percent of total land area in farms include the counties of Pennington, Red Lake, Roseau and Wadena. Since much of the decrease in farm land reported for these counties is due to the Soil Bank program, the situation may represent only a temporary reduction in farm land in these areas.

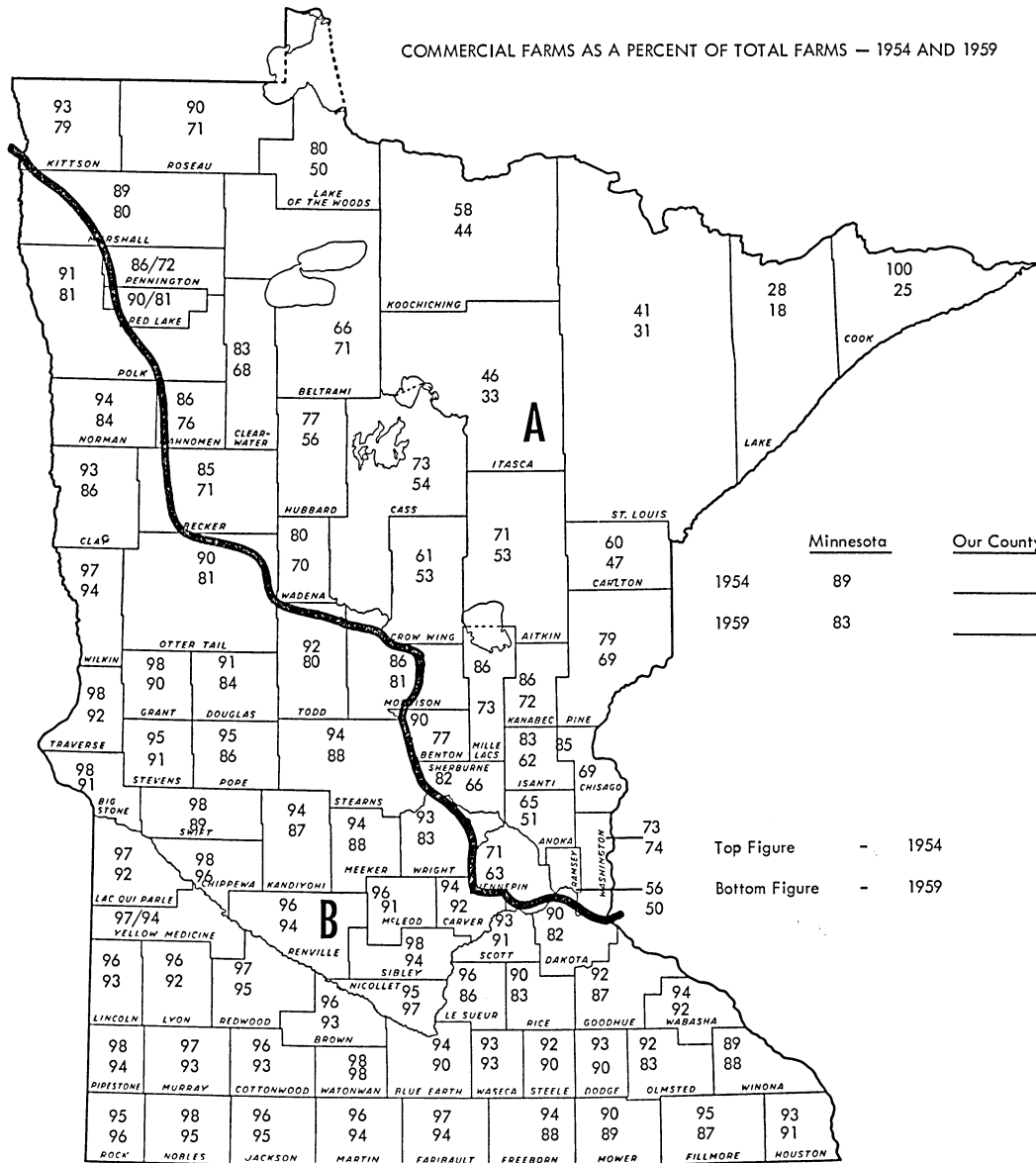
NUMBER OF FARMS IN MINNESOTA — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The number of farms reported by years since 1945 show a steady decline. This decline has become more pronounced since 1954.
- The definition of a farm used in the 1954 census included farms of 3 or more acres if the value of products produced amounted to \$150 or more, and farms of less than 3 acres if the value of farm products sold was \$150 or more. For 1959, the definition included farms of 10 or more acres if the value of farm products sold were \$150 or more, and farms of less than 10 acres if the value of the farm products sold was \$250 or more. This change in definition resulted in a drop of 2,424 farms.
- Farm enlargement, the Soil Bank program, and farm abandonment appear to be the major causes of the decline in number of farms.
- Counties in area "A" (except Chisago) have a percentage change at or above the state average; in area "B" (except Pope and Kandiyohi), below the state average.

COMMERCIAL FARMS AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL FARMS — 1954 AND 1959



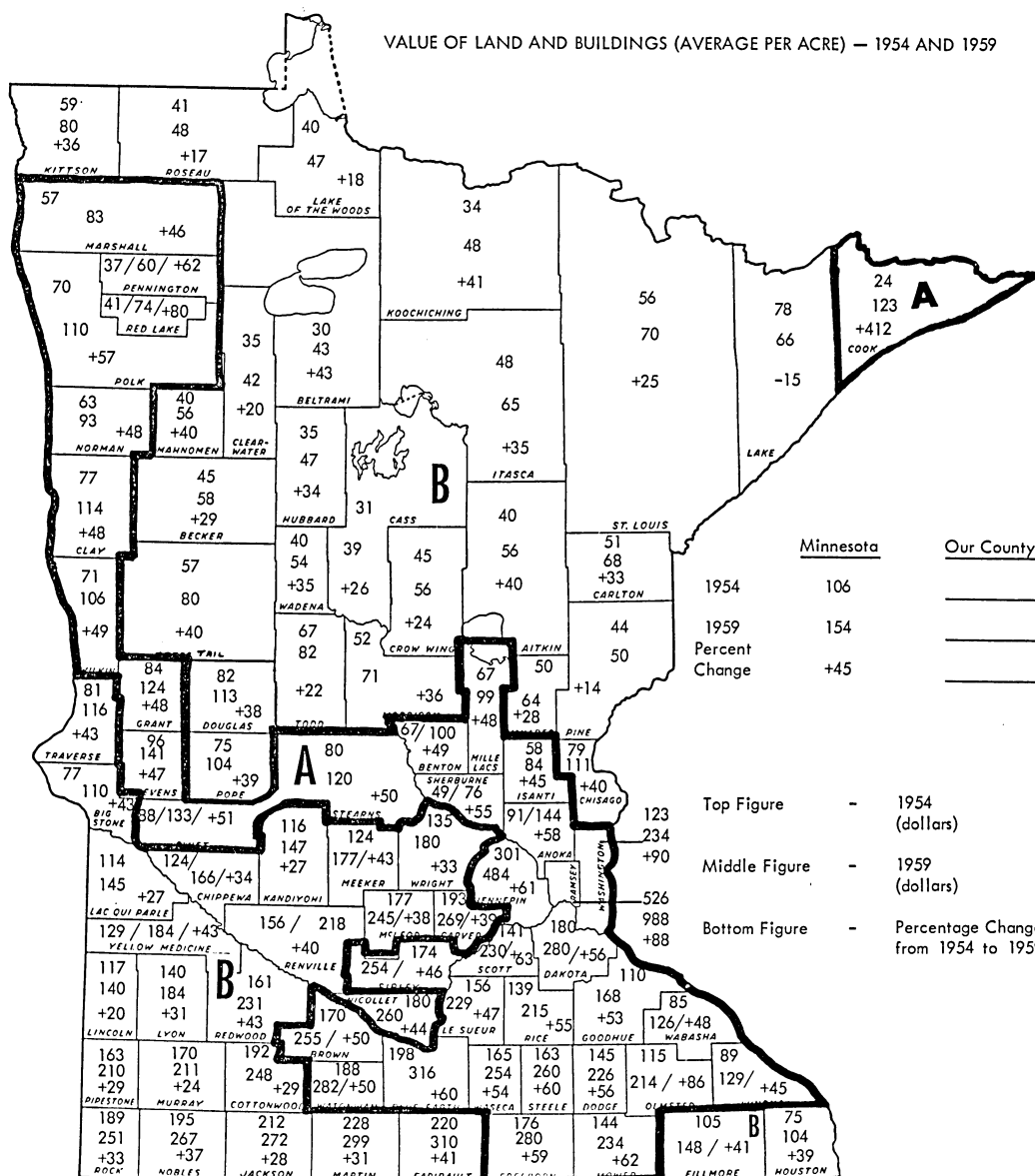
Highlights:

. The number of commercial farms in Minnesota decreased from 146,527 in 1954 to 120,316 in 1959. The relative proportion of total farms classified as commercial also declined from 88.6 percent in 1954 to 82.6 percent in 1959.

. Commercial farms are defined in the U.S. Census of Agriculture as follows: Farms with a value of sales amounting to \$2,500 or more were classified as commercial. Farms with a value of sales of \$50 to \$2,499 were classified as commercial if the farm operator was under 65 years of age and (1) if he did not work off the farm 100 or more days during the year; and (2) if the income received by the operator and members of his family from nonfarm sources was less than the value of all products sold.

. Counties in area "A" show a marked reduction in the percentage of farms qualifying as commercial. Reductions of commercial farms in the state range from a drop of 75 percent in Cook County to little if any decline in a few counties along the lower border of area "B". Eighty percent or more of the farms in area "B" counties qualify as commercial.

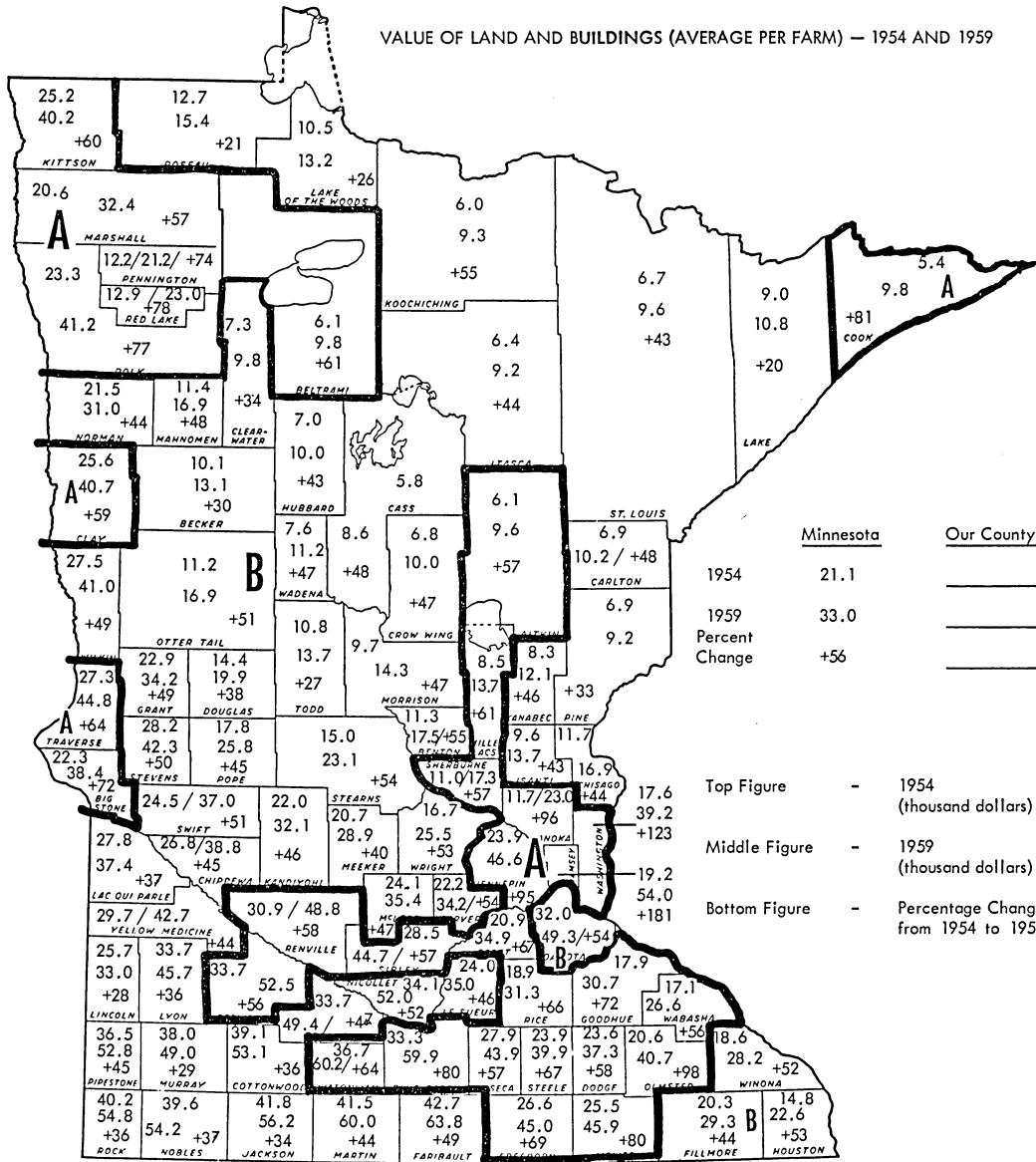
VALUE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS (AVERAGE PER ACRE) — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

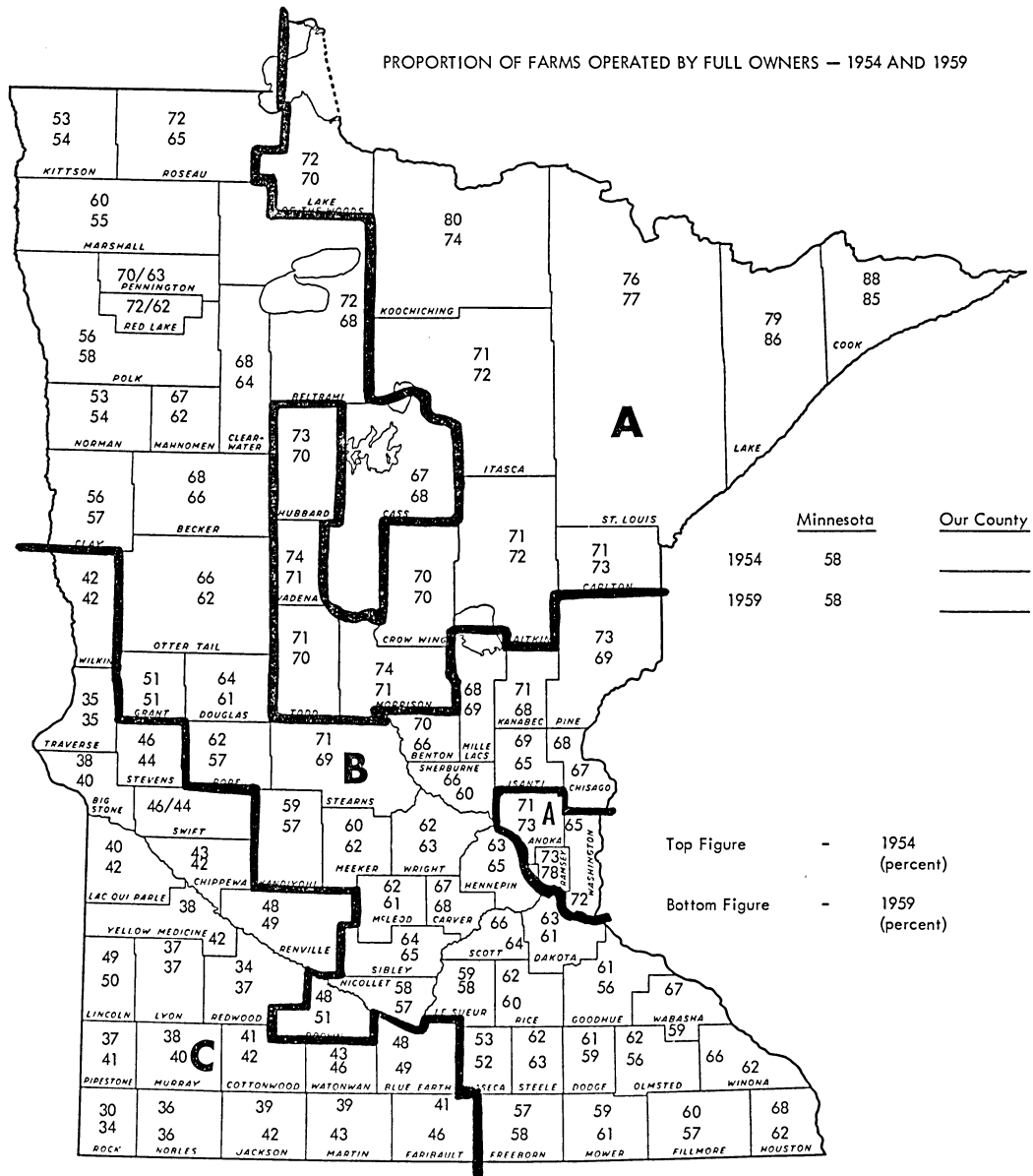
- The average value of land and buildings per acre rose 45 percent for the state during the period 1954 to 1959.
- Counties in area "A" reported increases at or above 45 percent. This area includes Freeborn and Mower Counties along the Iowa-Minnesota border, then extends north and west to include most of the Red River Valley area.
- Counties in the three "B" areas reported changes less than the state average. These areas include two counties in the extreme southeastern corner of the state, a large portion of southwestern Minnesota, and nearly all northeastern counties.

VALUE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS (AVERAGE PER FARM) — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The average value of land and buildings per farm rose from \$21,100 in 1954 to \$33,000 in 1959, a 56 percent increase. This, of course, reflects the 8 percent rise in acreage per farm and the 45 percent increase in per acre value of land and buildings.
- Counties in the areas identified as "A" include those in which the average value of land and buildings per farm increased 56 percent or more. The significant groupings of these counties are in the southeastern and Red River Valley areas.
- Counties in area "B" also reported increases, but at rates below the state average.

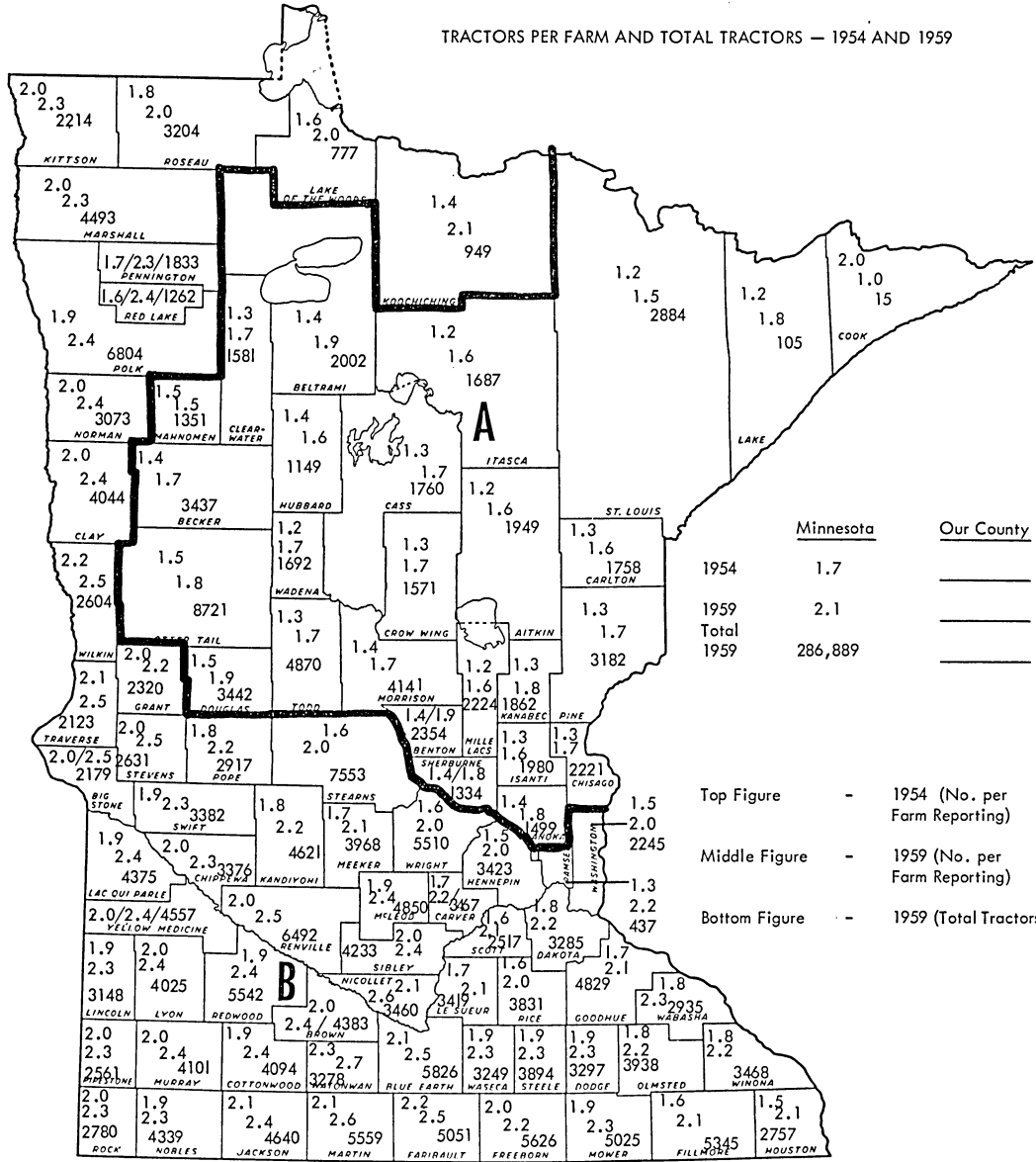


Highlights:

. The proportion of farms operated by full owners remained the same from 1954 to 1959 for the state.

. In area "A", 70 percent or more of the farms are operated by full owners; in area "B", from 51 to 69 percent; and in area "C", 50 percent or less. The highest percentage of farms operated by full owners are in the extreme northeastern part of the state (Lake and Cook); the lowest in the extreme southwestern corner (Rock).

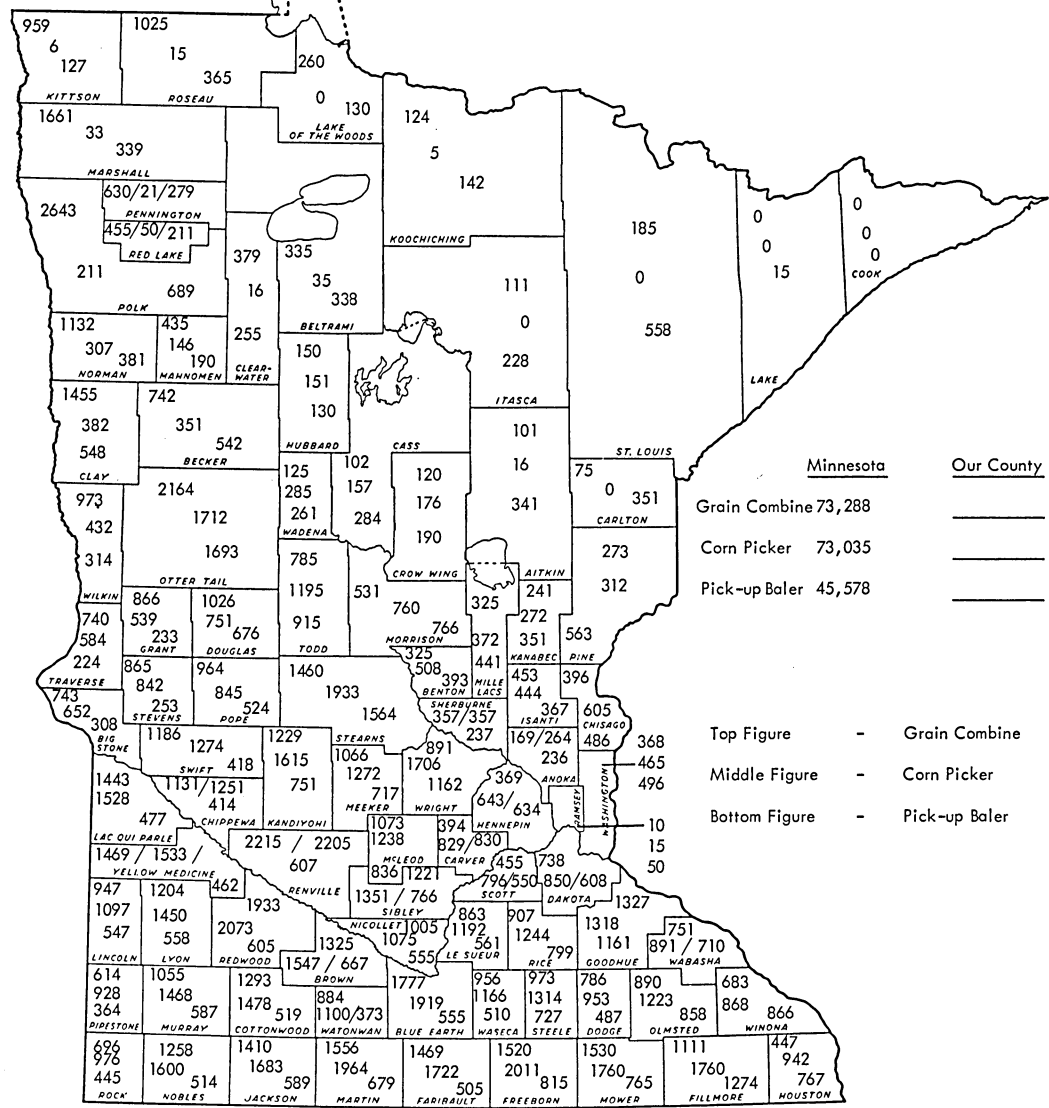
TRACTORS PER FARM AND TOTAL TRACTORS — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The average number of tractors per farm in Minnesota increased nearly 24 percent from 1954 to 1959.
- In 1959 all of the counties in area "B" reported an average of two or more tractors per farm. Counties in area "A" reported an average of less than two per farm.
- Only Mahnomen County reported the same average number of tractors per farm in 1959 as in 1954. Only Cook County reported a decrease.

NUMBER OF GRAIN COMBINES, CORN PICKERS, AND PICK-UP BALERS — 1959



Highlights:

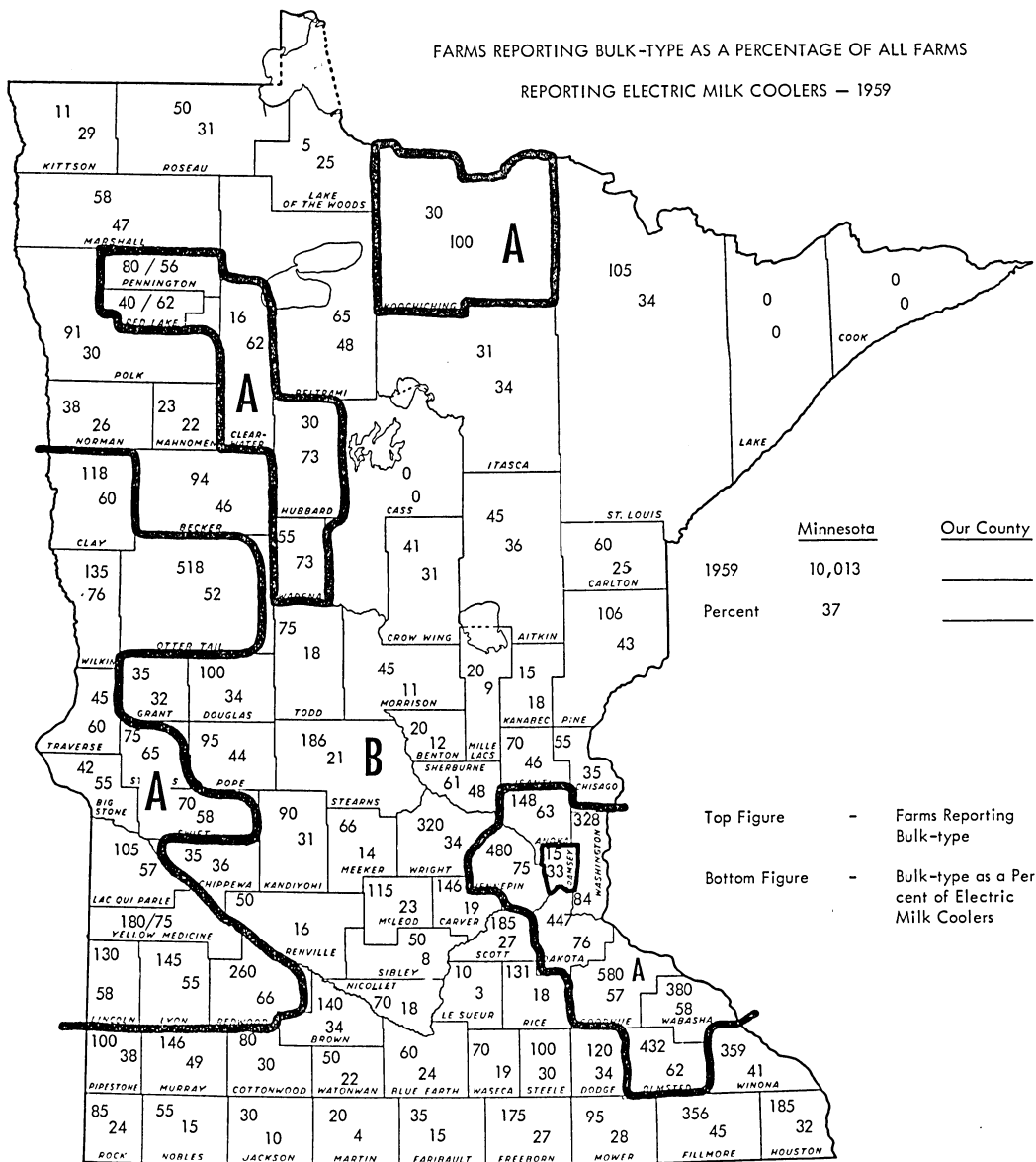
Census data on the number of grain combines, corn pickers, and pick-up balers for 1950, 1954 and 1959 on Minnesota farms show substantial increases in each item for the 10-year period (see table).

Item	Year		
	1950	1954	1959
Grain combine	31,281	61,326	73,288
Corn picker	45,811	62,085	73,035
Pick-up baler	7,706	45,811	45,578

The most pronounced increase during the recent decade in grain combines, corn pickers and pick-up balers occurred from 1950 to 1954. From 1950 to 1959 grain combines increased 134 percent, corn pickers 59 percent, and pick-up balers 492 percent.

FARMS REPORTING BULK-TYPE AS A PERCENTAGE OF ALL FARMS

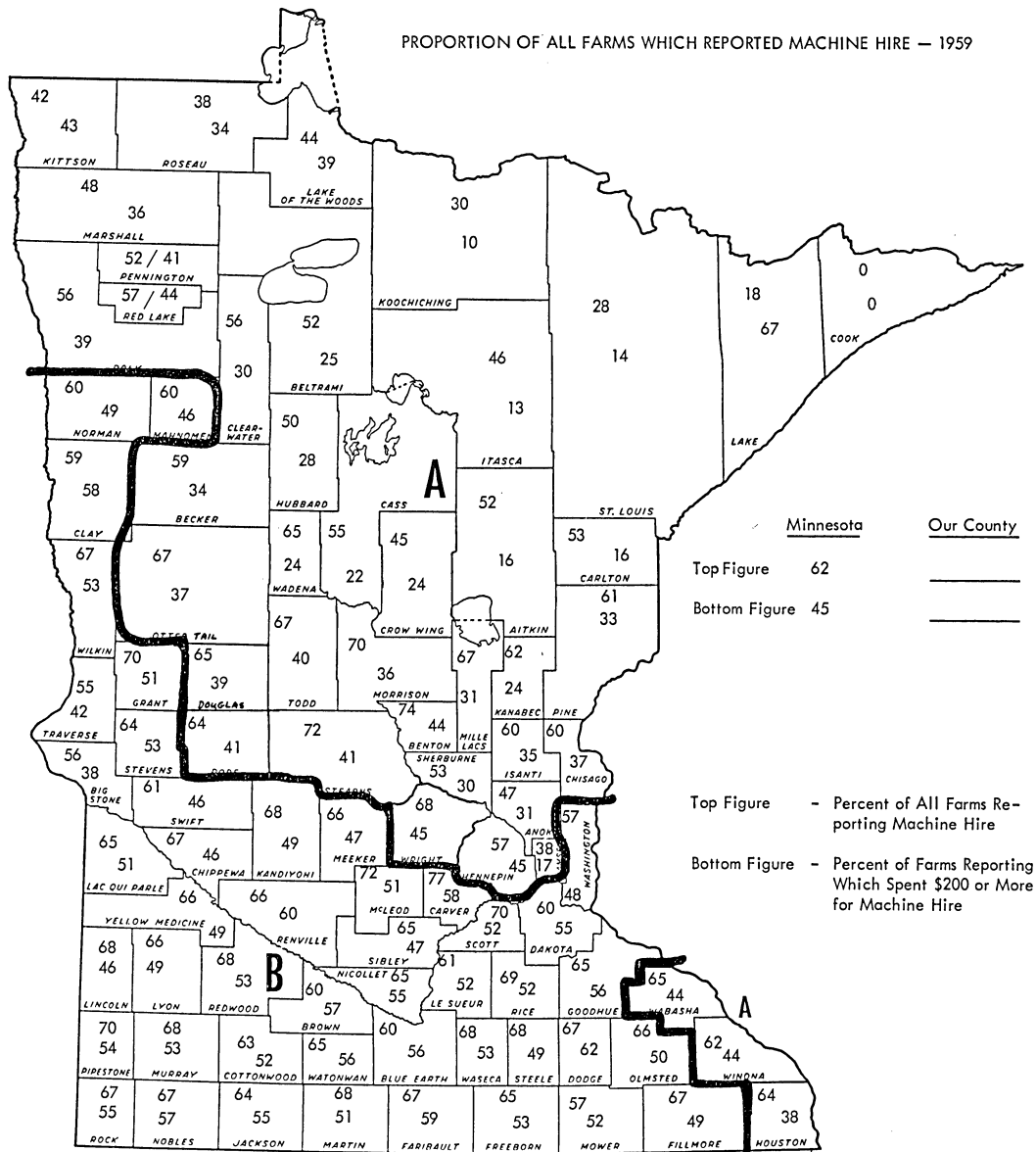
REPORTING ELECTRIC MILK COOLERS — 1959



Highlights:

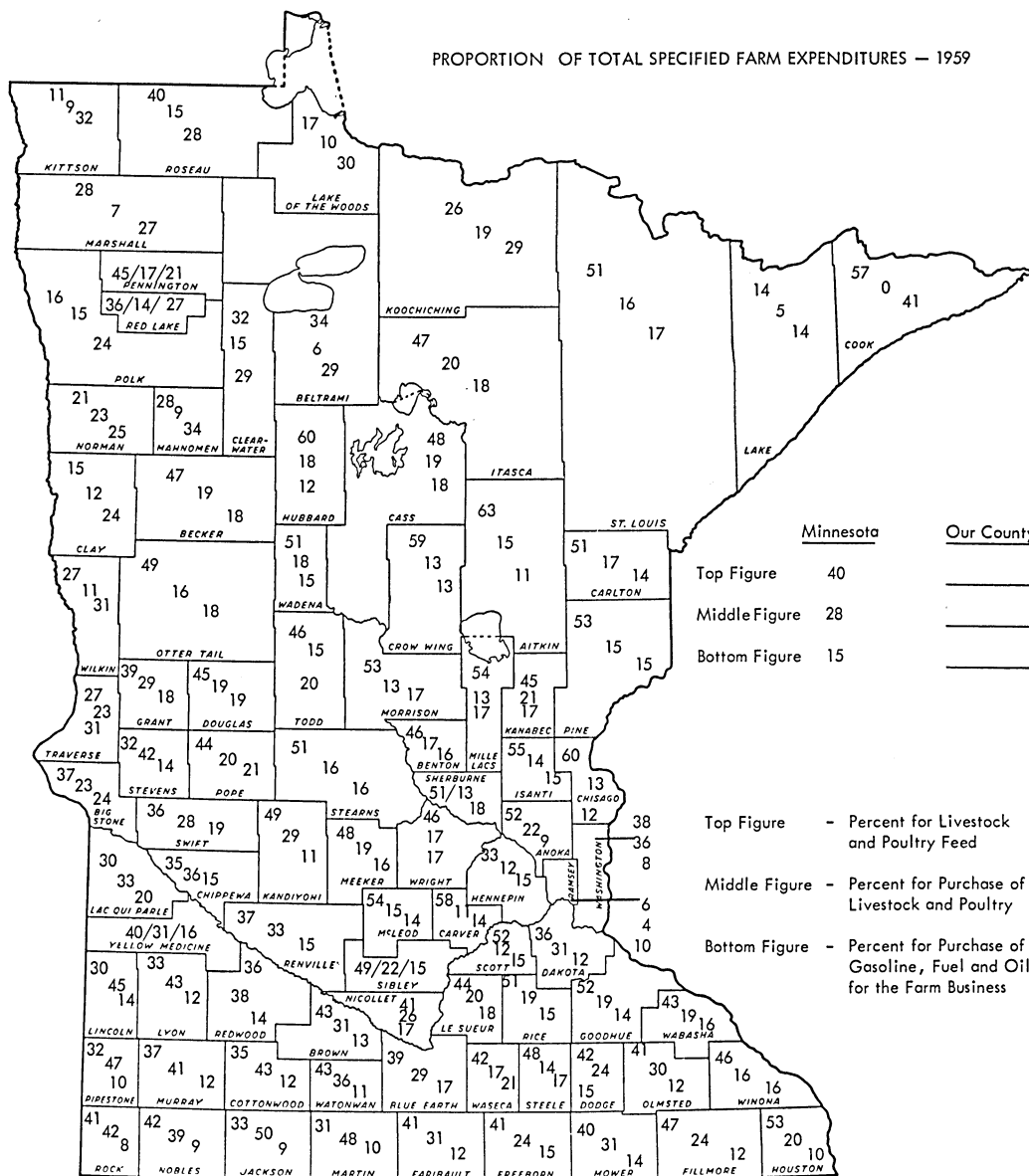
- More than a third of the farms reporting electric milk coolers in Minnesota in 1959 had bulk-type tanks.
- In the counties located in areas identified as "A" more than 50 percent of the farms reporting milk coolers had bulk-type tanks. These areas are also sources of a large proportion of the fluid milk bottled and sold in the state. In area "B" (including Ramsey) less than 50 percent of the farms had bulk-type tanks.

PROPORTION OF ALL FARMS WHICH REPORTED MACHINE HIRE — 1959



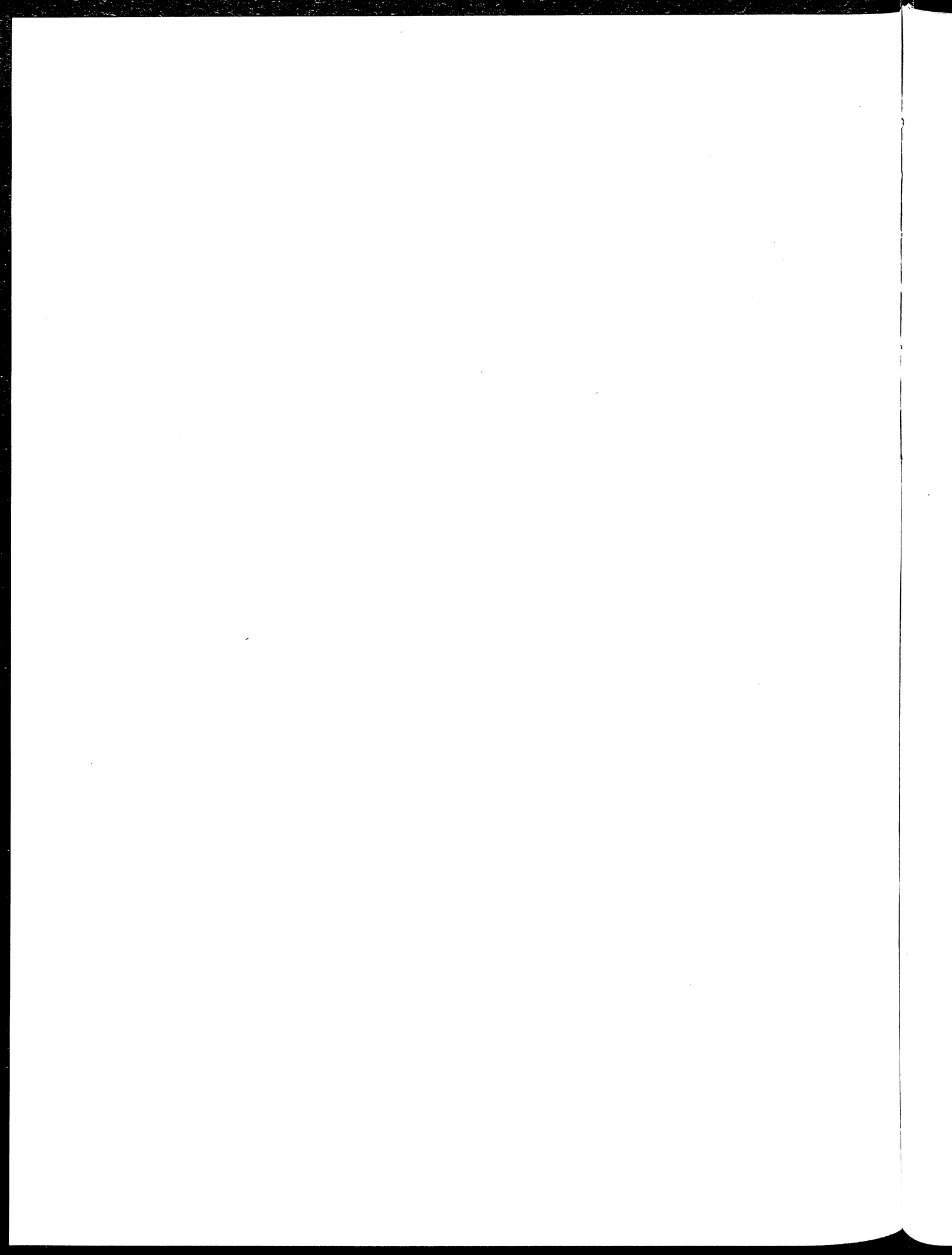
Highlights:

- Of the 90,285 farms in Minnesota who reported machine hire, 45 percent spent more than \$200 on this item.
- In area "A" the percentage of farmers who spent \$200 or more for machine hire was at or below the state average (with the exception of Lake County). Special characteristics of this area are large proportions of non-commercial or part-time farms. In recent years, a large percentage of the total farm land was placed in the Soil Bank and Conservation Reserve.
- Counties in area "B" (with the exception of Traverse and Big Stone) reported a percentage above the state average.



Highlights:

- The 1959 Census of Agriculture defined certain specified farm expenditures in the 1959 Federal Farm Census. These, and the proportion of the total represented by them for Minnesota are: (1) purchased feed for livestock (including poultry), 40 percent; (2) purchase of livestock, 28 percent; (3) machine hire, 4 percent; (4) labor hired, 8 percent; (5) gasoline, fuel and oil for the farm business, 15 percent; and (6) seeds, bulbs, and trees, 5 percent.
- The proportion of the total specified expenditures represented by purchased feed was highest in the central and southeastern Minnesota counties and lowest in most of the Red River Valley counties.
- The proportion of livestock purchased was highest in the southwestern counties and lower than the state average in the remainder of the state.
- The proportion for gasoline, fuel and oil for the farm business was higher than the state average in the northwestern Minnesota counties and lowest in the extreme southwestern counties.



SECTION II

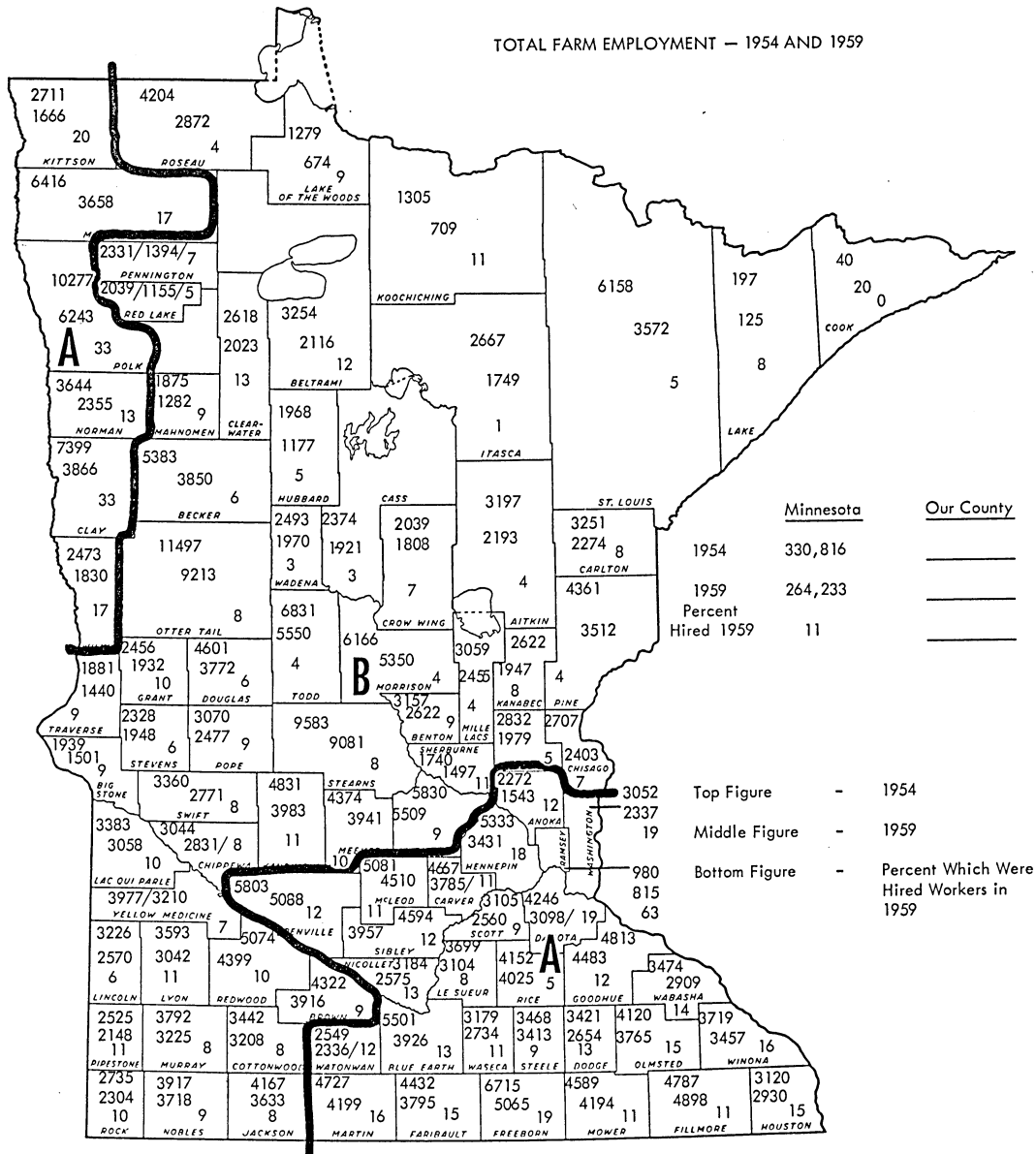
Trends in Farm Labor and Population

Contrasted with the rapid rise in the amount of capital used (Section I), employment in farming has experienced a sharp decline during the past two decades. In this section, we shall review the trends in farm employment in Minnesota since 1954, as well as the resultant trends in farm population and total population.

In summary, total farm employment in Minnesota declined 20 percent from 1954 to 1959. And almost 35 percent of the remaining farm operators reported doing some off-the-farm work; over half of this number reported that the off-the-farm income of the operator, or other members of the family, exceeded their cash farm income.

As a result there were 52,000 fewer persons living on Minnesota farms in 1959 than in 1954, a decline of 8 percent. This is in contrast to the population trend for the state as a whole which has shown an increase of 15 percent since 1950. By 1960, 62 percent of the state's population was reported as urban; that is, residing in places of 2,500 persons or more.

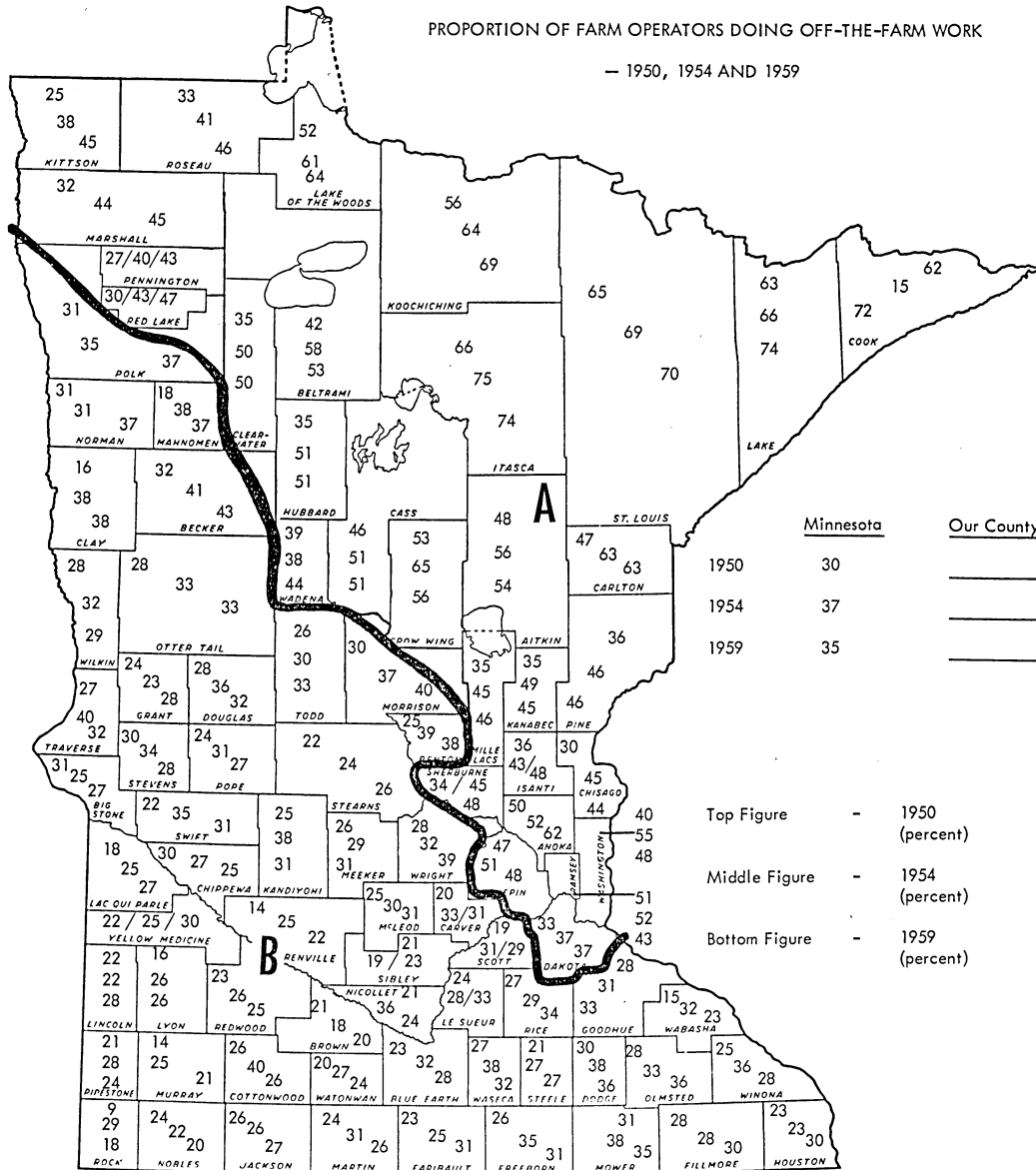
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- Total farm employment decreased 20 percent during the 1954 to 1959 period. This decrease was accompanied by a 19 percent decrease in family workers and a 43 percent decrease in hired workers. This trend is similar to the one reported for the United States.
- Only 11 percent of the total farm labor force during 1959 was classified as hired labor. The proportion in 1954 was about 15 percent.
- The share of the total farm labor force in area "A" classified as hired workers tended to be above the state average; and in area "B", below the state average. Counties in the Red River Valley area tended to hire considerable amounts of labor.

— 1950, 1954 AND 1959



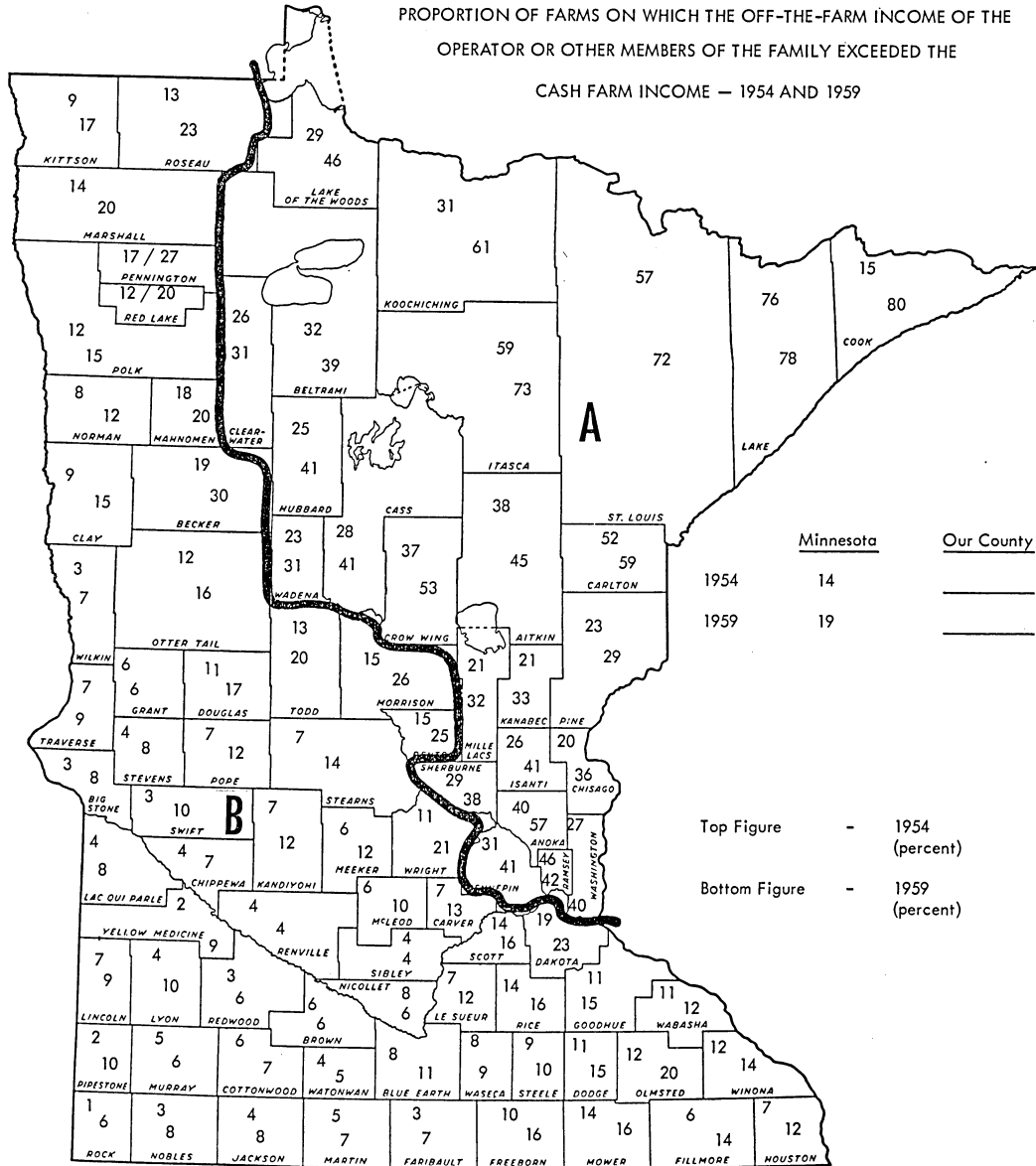
Highlights:

. The proportion of farm operators in Minnesota doing off-the-farm work to supplement their income increased from 29.5 percent to 36.7 percent between 1950 and 1954. It then dropped back to 34.9 percent by 1959.

. While the proportion of farm operators doing off-the-farm work in Minnesota dropped slightly from 1954 to 1959 the change reported by the individual counties varied. There were substantial increases in several northeastern counties. In southern Minnesota many decreases of 4 to 11 percent were observed. In area "B" the proportion ranged from a low of 18 percent in Rock County to a high of 39 percent in Wright County. Convenient access to non-farm employment opportunities appears to be a big factor.

. The counties in area "A" all had about 40 percent or more of their farm operators doing off-the-farm work in 1959. The proportion reached 74 percent in Itasca and Lake Counties.

PROPORTION OF FARMS ON WHICH THE OFF-THE-FARM INCOME OF THE OPERATOR OR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY EXCEEDED THE CASH FARM INCOME — 1954 AND 1959



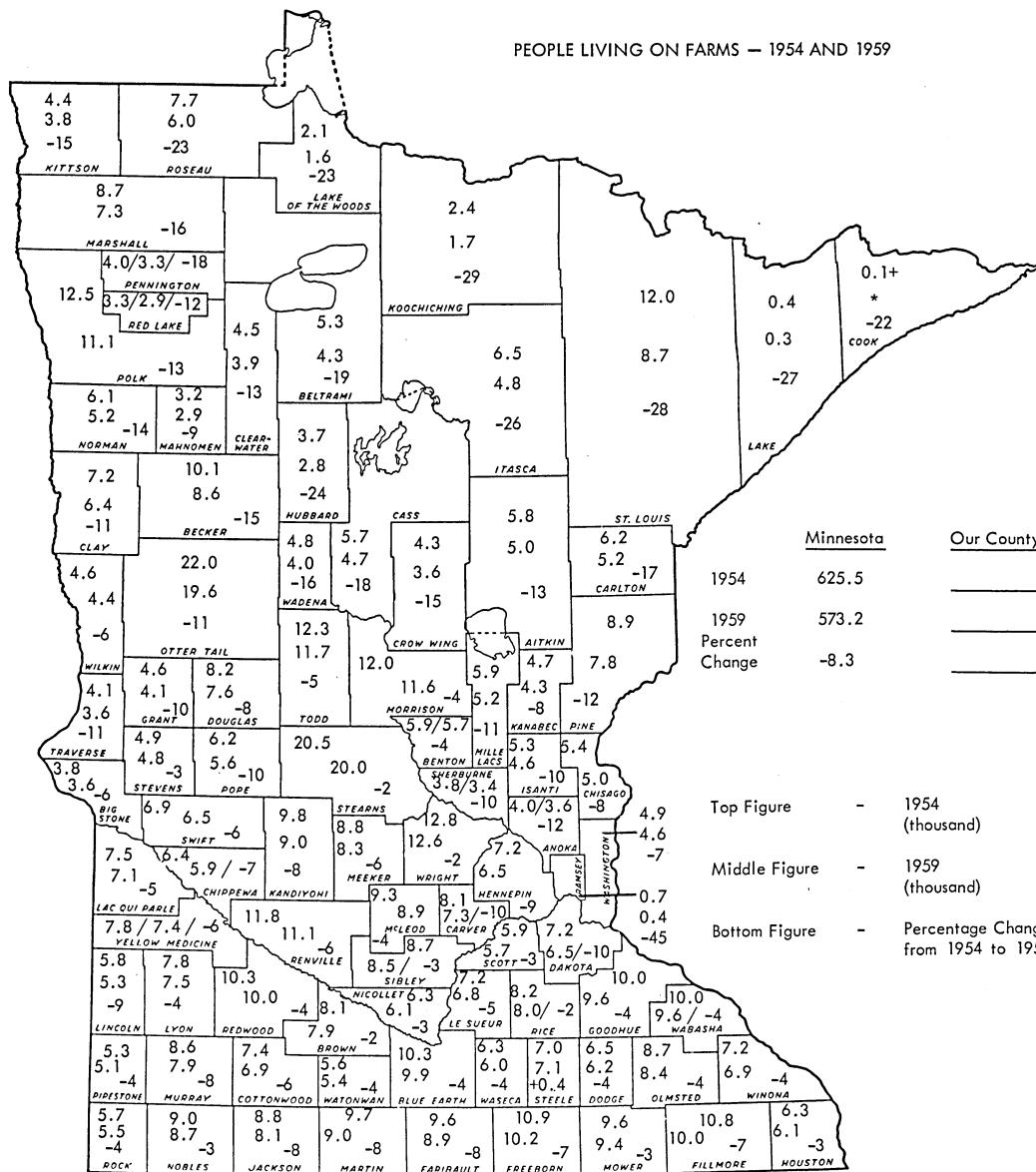
Highlights:

. The proportion of Minnesota farms on which the off-the-farm income of the operator or other members of the family exceeded the cash farm income increased from 13.8 percent in 1954 to 18.7 percent in 1959. Thus, over half of those operators working off the farm fell into this category.

. Area "A" includes 24 counties. From 29 to 80percent of the farm families in each of the counties in this group had off-the-farm sources of income in 1959 that exceeded their cash farm income.

. Farm families in the counties located in area "B" were much less dependent upon off-the-farm income than those in area "A". The rate of increase since 1954, however, was substantial in a number of these counties. Grant, Brown, Nicollet, Renville and Sibley were the only exceptions to the trend towards more farm families having a larger share of the income coming from off-the-farm sources than from cash farm sales.

PEOPLE LIVING ON FARMS — 1954 AND 1959



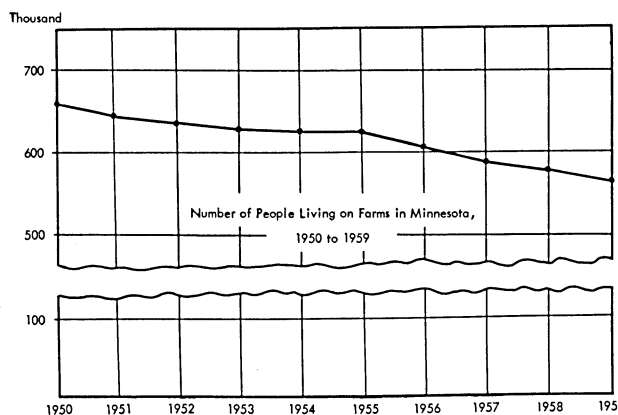
	Minnesota	Our County
1954	625.5	_____
1959	573.2	_____
Percent Change	-8.3	_____
Top Figure	-	1954 (thousand)
Middle Figure	-	1959 (thousand)
Bottom Figure	-	Percentage Change from 1954 to 1959

* Fewer than 100 people living on farms.

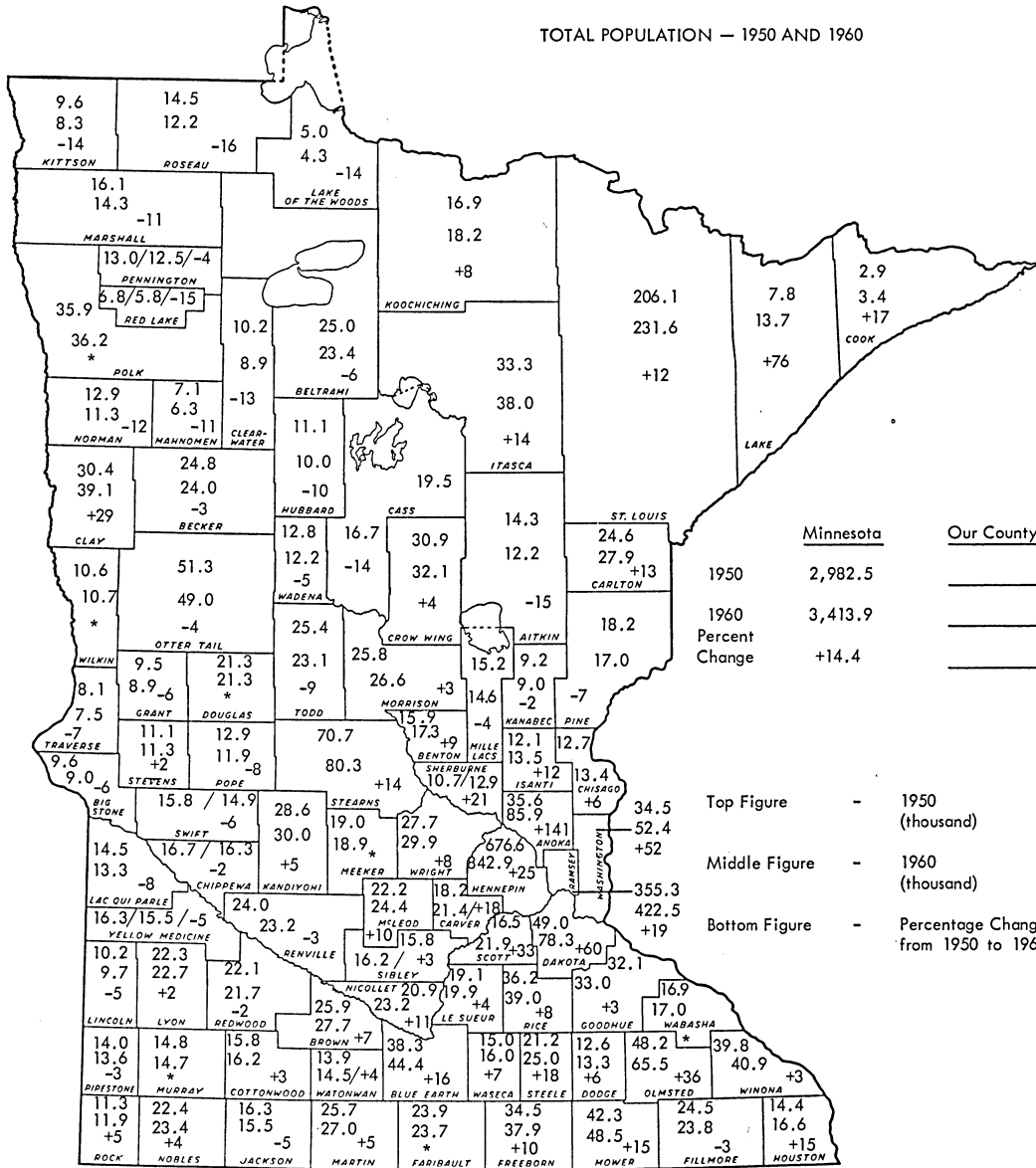
Highlights:

There was a decrease of 8.3 percent (52,300 persons) living on farms in Minnesota from 1954 to 1959. Steele County was the only county that reported an increase during this period. The northeastern and the Valley areas registered the greatest decline.

The figure shows the trend by years from 1950 to 1959 in the number of people living on farms in Minnesota.



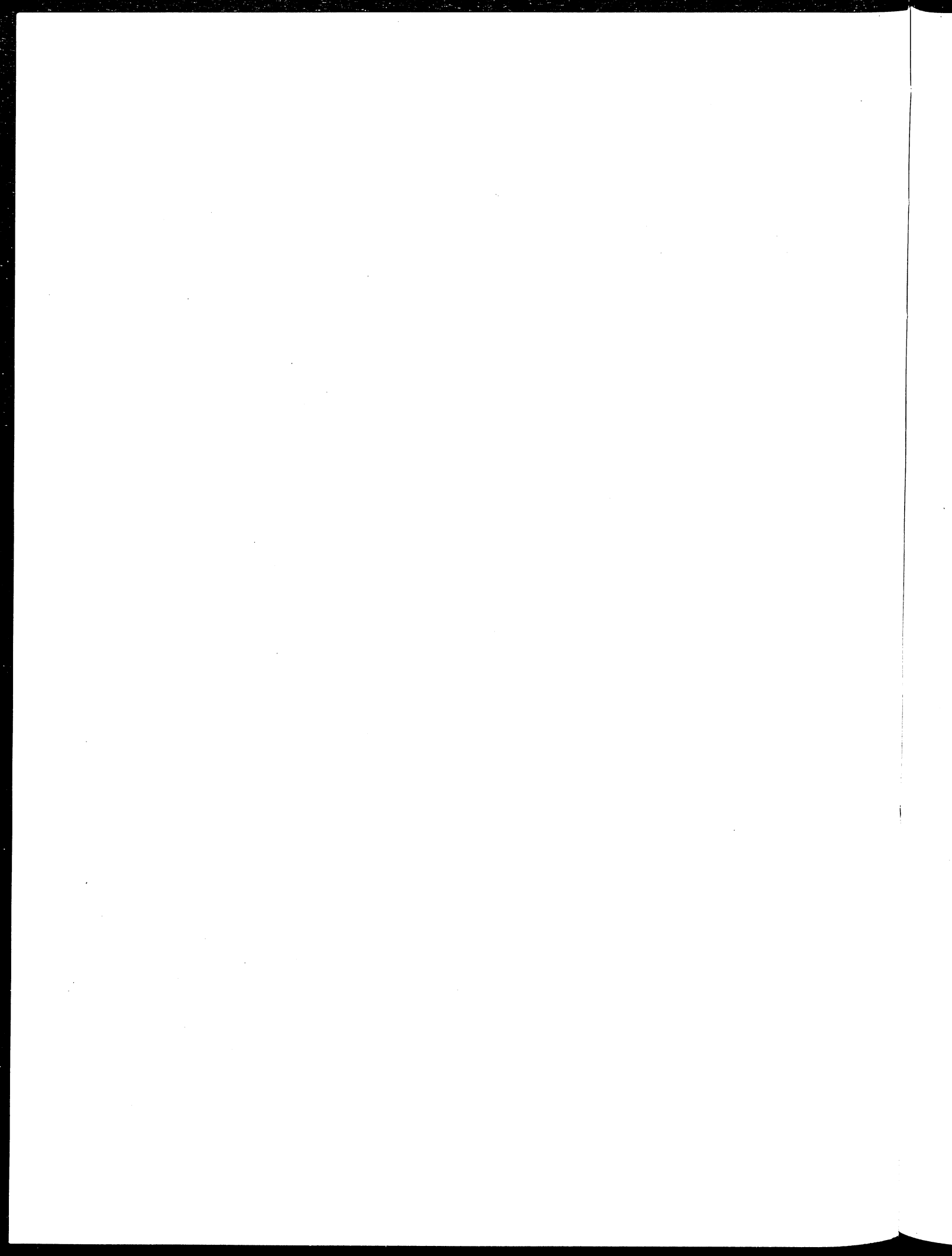
TOTAL POPULATION — 1950 AND 1960



* Less than 1 percent

Highlights:

- Minnesota's population increased 14.4 percent from 1950 to 1960 and reached an all-time high of 3,413,864. During this period the total population of the United States increased 18.4 percent to a total exceeding 179 million.
- Counties reporting large increases in population generally have at least one urban community or are located adjacent to one.
- Counties in the north central and northwestern parts of Minnesota reported the largest percentage decreases in population. Much of the out-of-the-county migration in those areas was attributed to a decrease in the number of farms, coupled with very limited local nonfarm employment opportunities.



SECTION III

Trends in Crop Acreages, Livestock Numbers and Farm Incomes

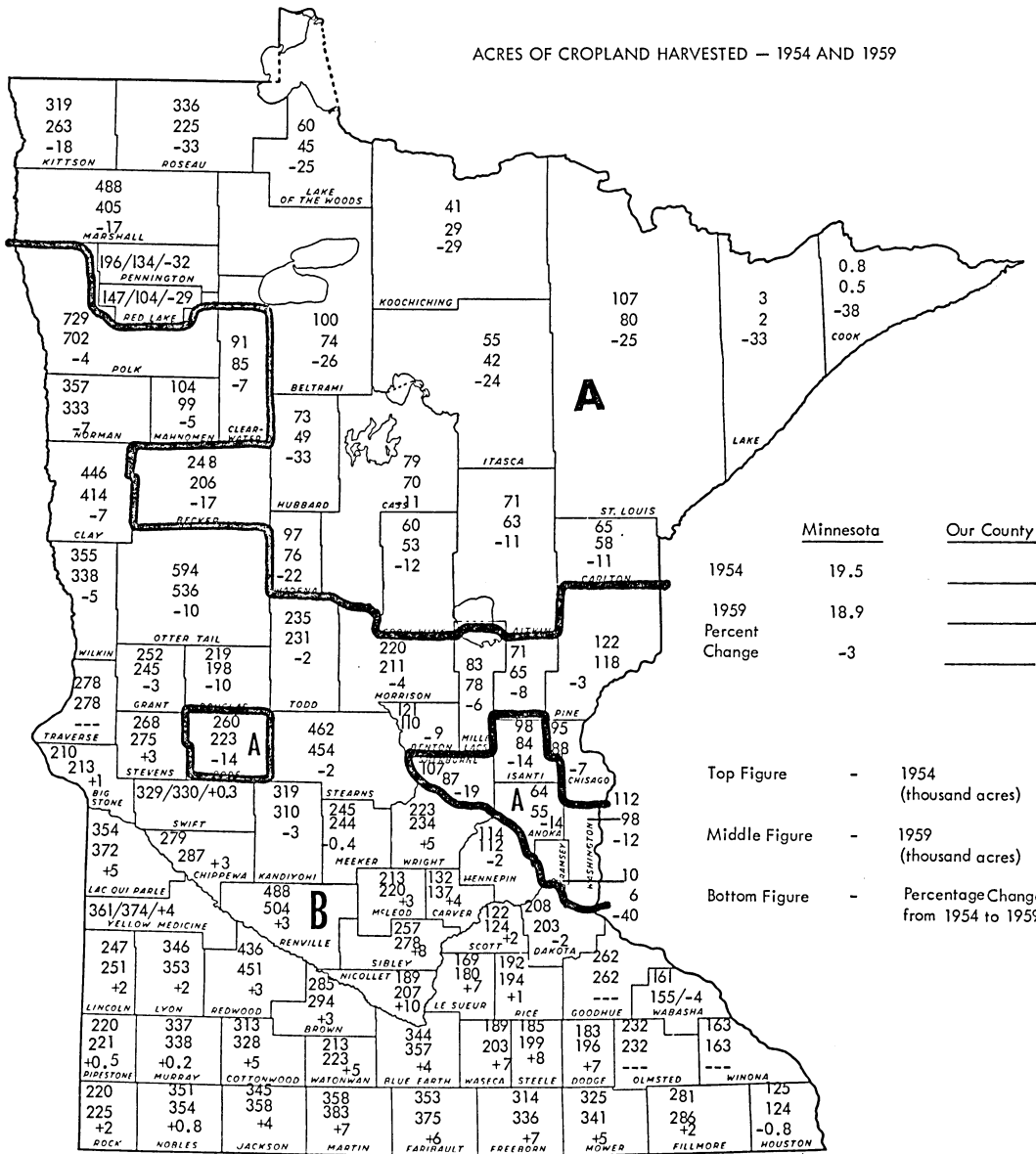
The capital and labor resources studied in Sections I and II of this report are allocated by farm operators to the production of varying acreages of crops and numbers of livestock for the purpose of securing an adequate income. This section will be devoted to a very general review of trends in crop and livestock production in this state and the resultant total income and its distribution.

A survey of the major trends in crop production shows that while total cropland harvested in Minnesota declined 3 percent between 1954 and 1959, acres of cropland per farm increased 12.1 percent. Commercial fertilizer was used on 59 percent more acres in 1959 than in 1954. Corn acreage increased 28 percent and soybean acreage increased 15 percent over the period. Oat acreage decreased 28 percent and hay acreage decreased 11 percent.

As for livestock, almost 6 million hogs were marketed from Minnesota farms in 1959, compared with 4.4 million in the low hog cycle year of 1954. The number of beef and dairy cattle (excluding calves) marketed from Minnesota farms increased approximately 30 percent over the period, from 0.9 million to 1.1 million head. Numbers of sheep and lambs sold increased 25 percent. The number of milk cows decreased 9.5 percent over the period, while the number of farms reporting dairy cattle decreased 26 percent. The number of beef cows decreased 2 percent from 1954 to 1959. The number of chickens 4 months old and over continued to decline but at a slower rate (19 percent) than the number of farms reporting hens (28 percent). The number of turkeys raised annually in Minnesota increased 77 percent during this period.

Total cash farm receipts increased 23 percent over the period, while receipts per farm increased from \$5,952 in 1954 to \$8,320 in 1959 — a 38 percent gain. This marked improvement in incomes per farm can also be noted in the fact that about 31 percent of the full time farmers received incomes above \$10,000 in 1959 compared to 18 percent in 1954. Only 31 percent had incomes below \$5,000 in 1959 compared to 50 percent in 1954. The most important source of county cash farm receipts varied considerably by areas of the state.

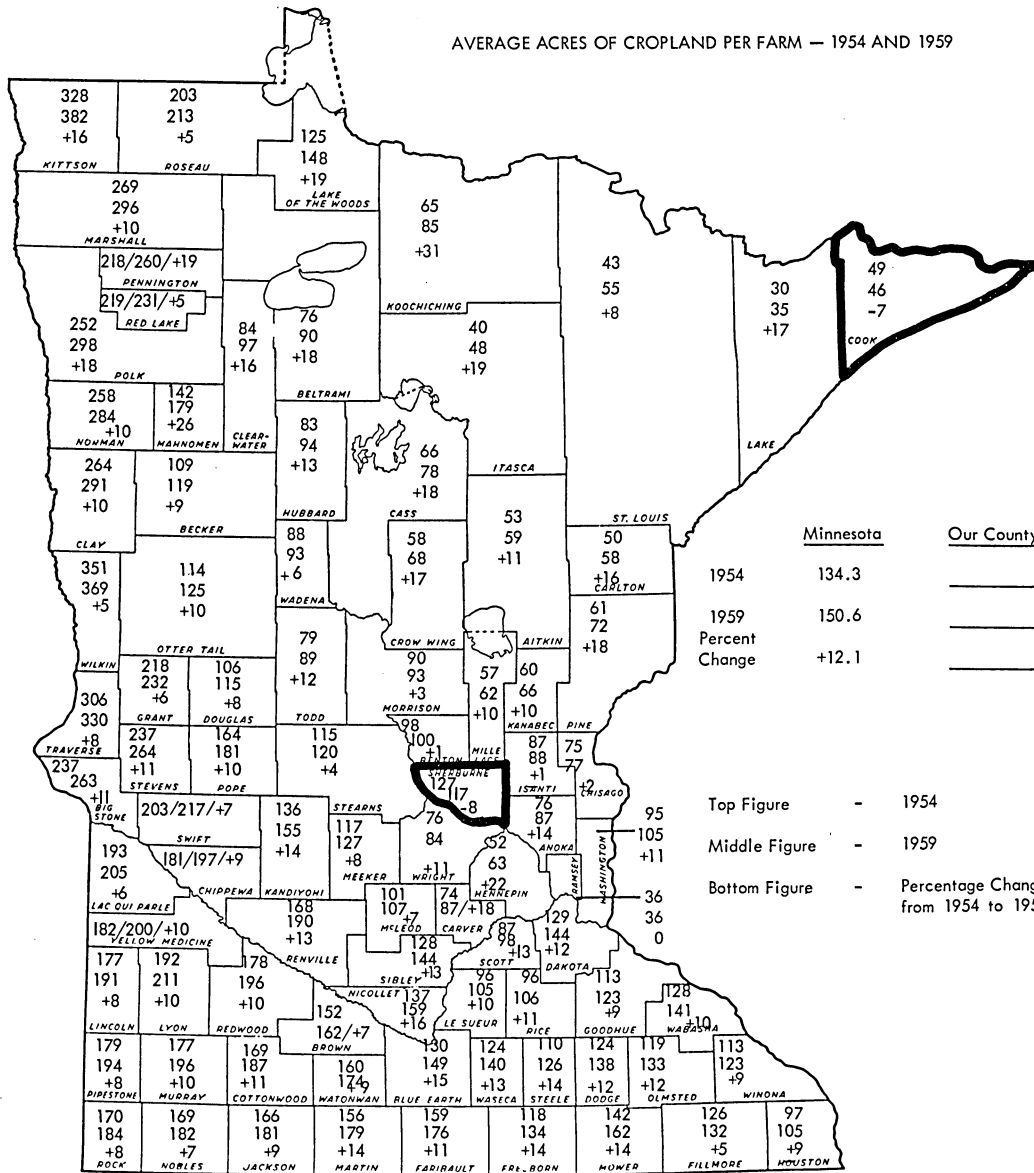
ACRES OF CROPLAND HARVESTED — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- Three percent fewer acres of cropland were harvested in Minnesota in 1959 than in 1954.
- Areas identified as "A" include counties that reported more than a 10 percent decrease in the acreage of cropland harvested in 1959 compared with the acreage harvested in 1954.
- Most of the counties in area "B" reported increases in cropland harvested from 1954 to 1959. Those not reporting an increase either reported no change or a change equal to or less than the state average decrease of 3 percent.

AVERAGE ACRES OF CROPLAND PER FARM — 1954 AND 1959

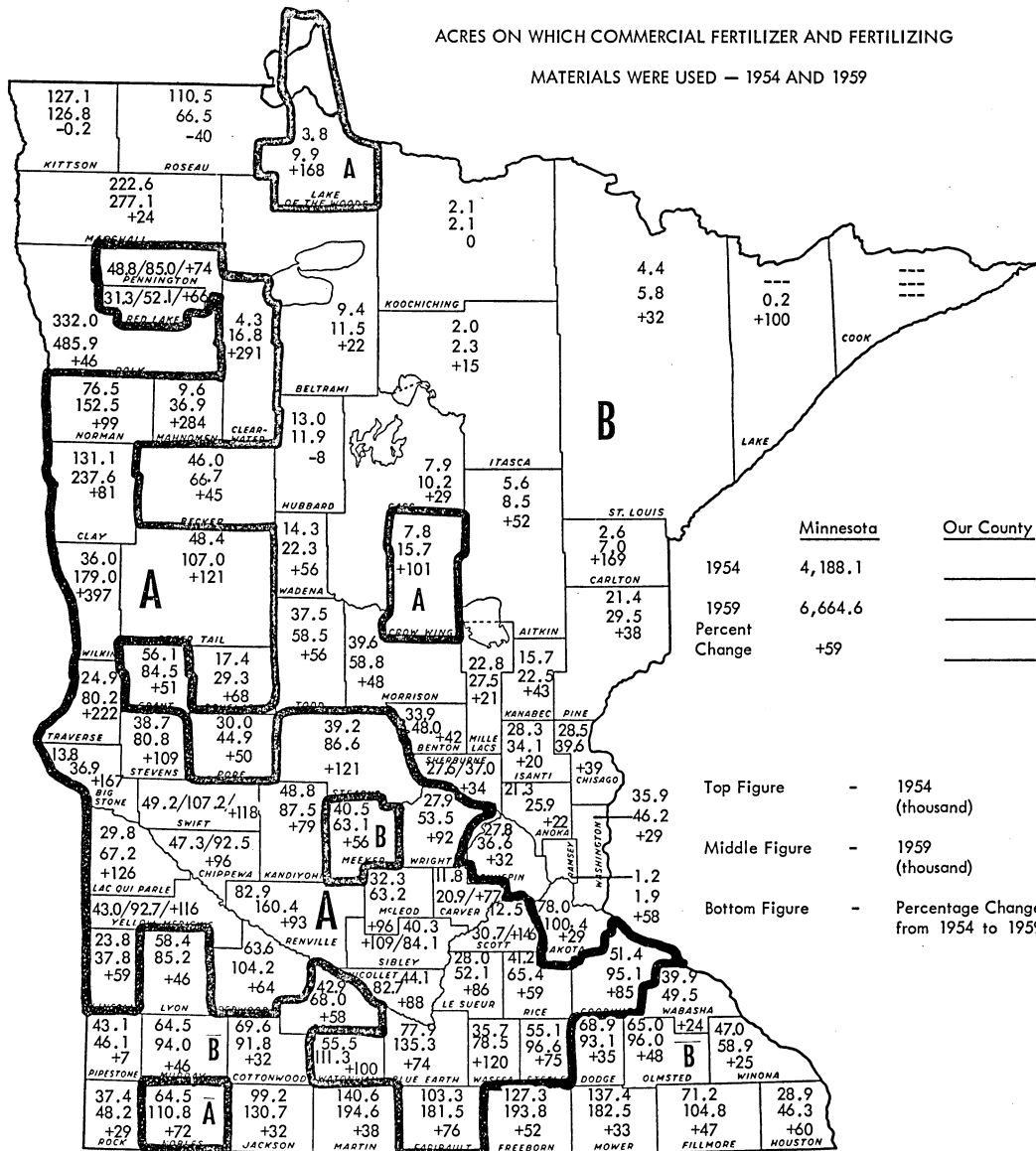


Highlights:

. The trend toward fewer farms from 1954 to 1959 has resulted in a 12.1 percent increase in the number of acres of cropland per farm. This has occurred during a period when the total quantity of cropland in the state reveals a small decrease.

. Increases in the average acres of cropland per farm were reported in all Minnesota counties in 1959, except Cook and Sherburne. The size of the increases were quite uniform over the state.

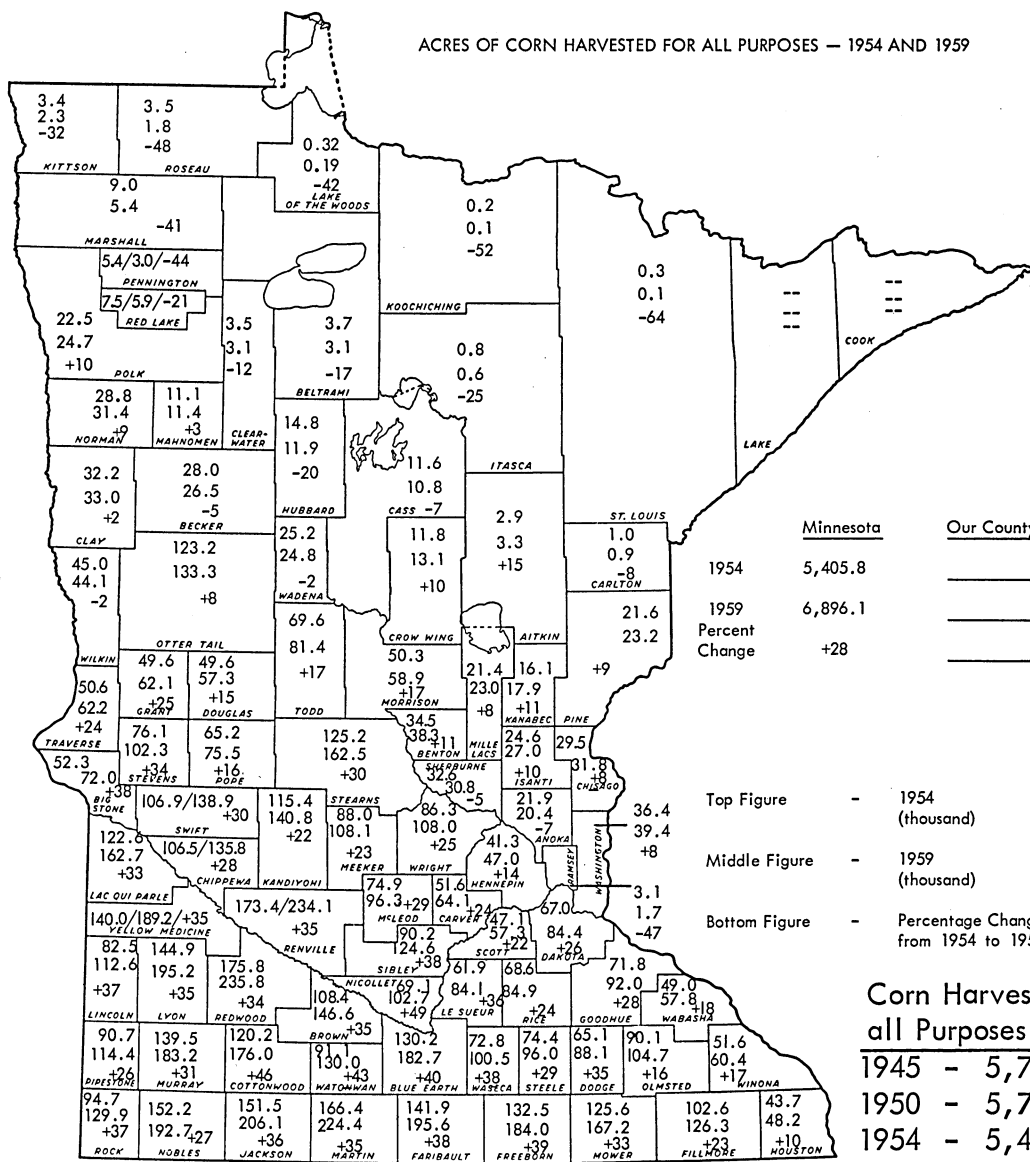
ACRES ON WHICH COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER AND FERTILIZING MATERIALS WERE USED — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The number of acres on which commercial fertilizers and fertilizing materials were used in 1959 increased 59 percent from 1954. Only five counties reported a decrease or no change for that period.
- The counties reporting increases in commercial fertilizers and fertilizing materials that exceeded the percentage increase for the state are included in areas identified as "A".
- The counties reporting increases over 1954 that were less than the average for the state (or actual decreases) are found largely in the arrowhead district and the other three corners of the state. Each such area is identified as "B". (The exceptions are Lake, Houston and Carlton.)

ACRES OF CORN HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES — 1954 AND 1959

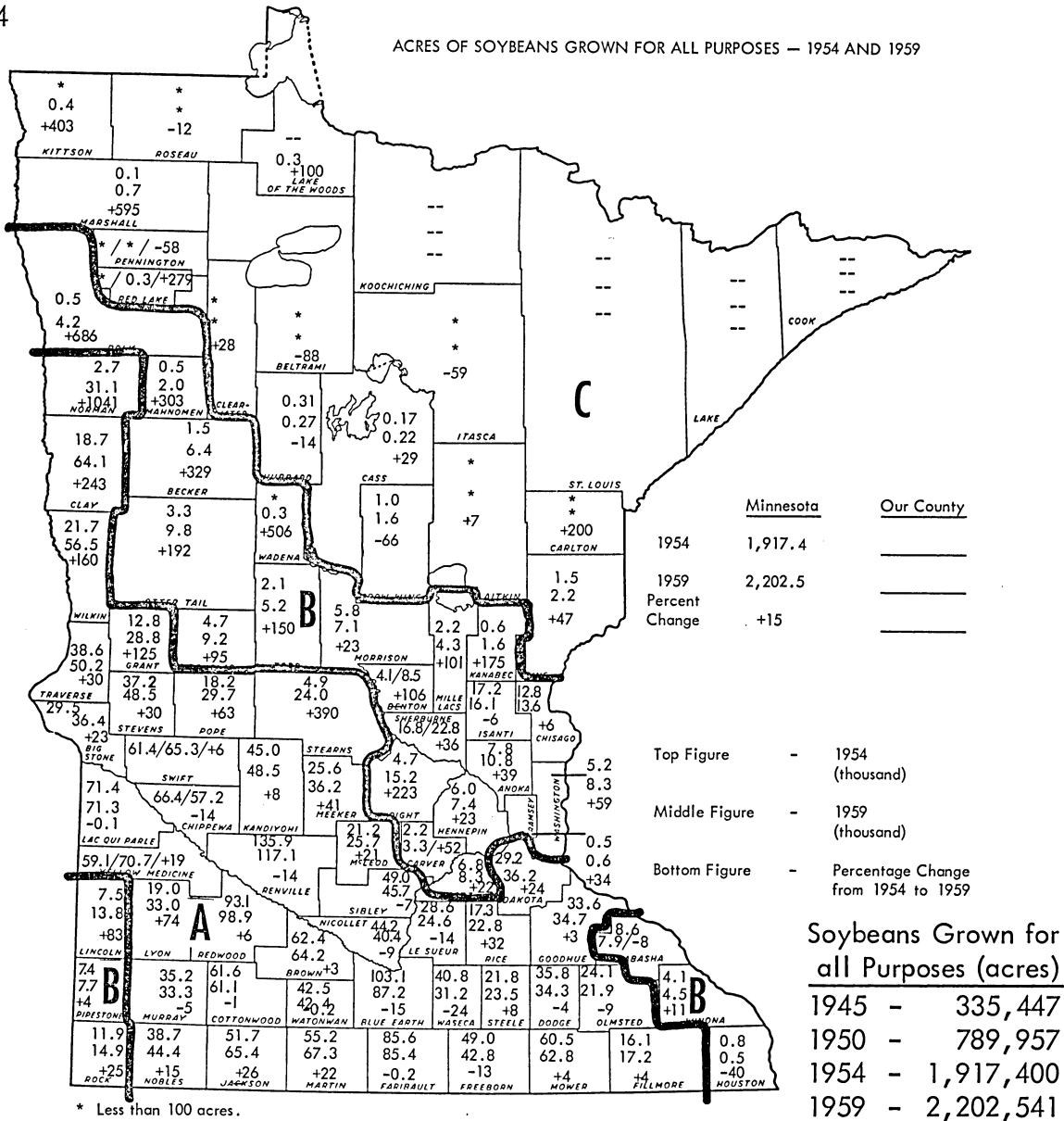


Highlights:

. The acreage of corn harvested in Minnesota in 1959 for all purposes was 28 per cent larger than in 1954, ranging from a reduction of 64 percent in St. Louis County to an increase of 49 percent in Nicollet County.

. The southwestern Minnesota counties accounted for a major share of the corn acreage increase from 1954 to 1959.

ACRES OF SOYBEANS GROWN FOR ALL PURPOSES — 1954 AND 1959



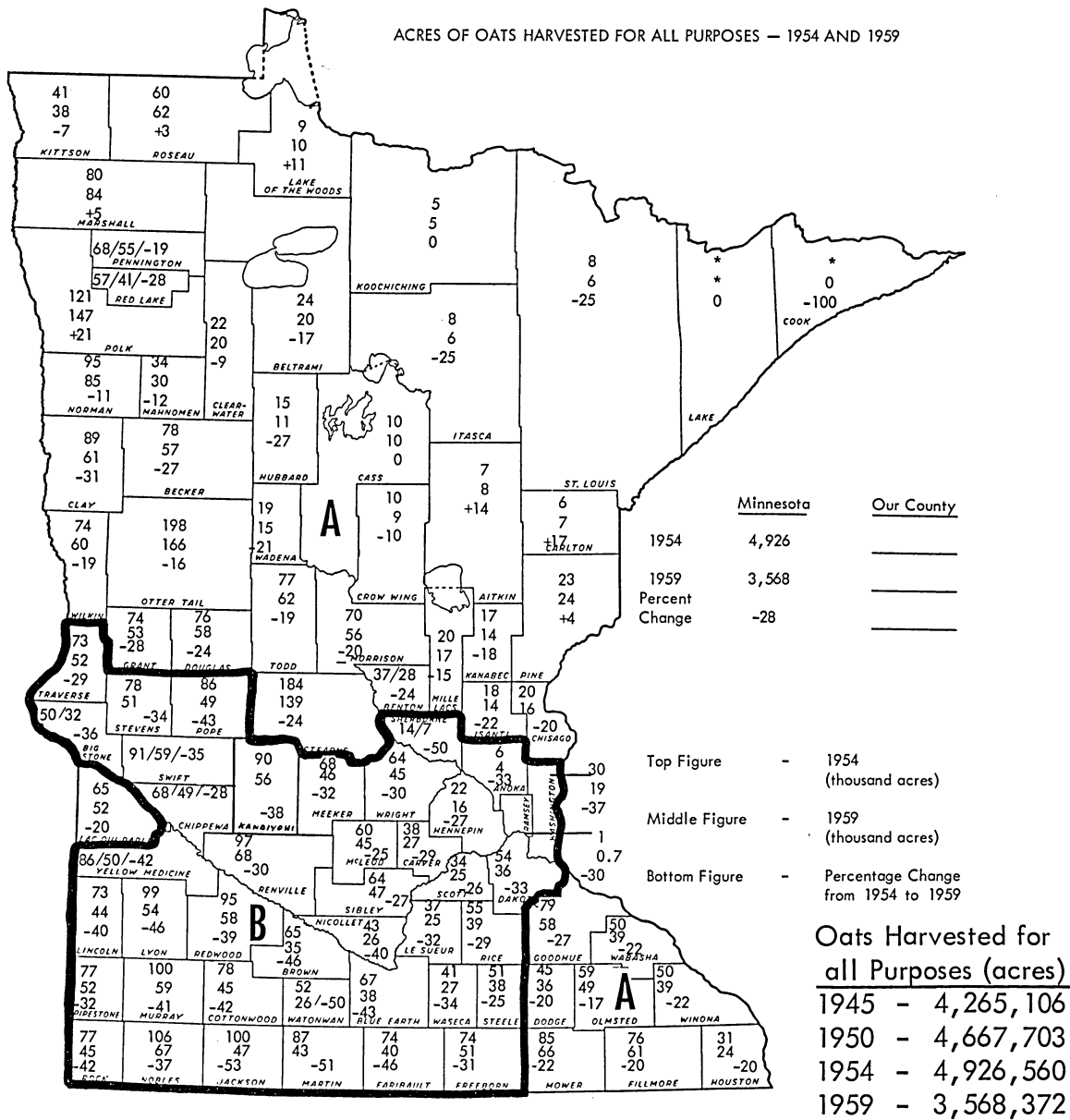
* Less than 100 acres.

Highlights:

. The soybean acreage in Minnesota has increased continuously since 1945 (see figure). Area "A" is the main soybean production area with acreages per county varying from around 20 thousand acres to over 100 thousand acres. Acreages have tended to increase markedly in the west-northwestern portion of this area.

. The production of soybeans is becoming more important in area "C" but the acreage is still small. Acreages of this crop have now reached 15 thousand acres in a few counties in area "B".

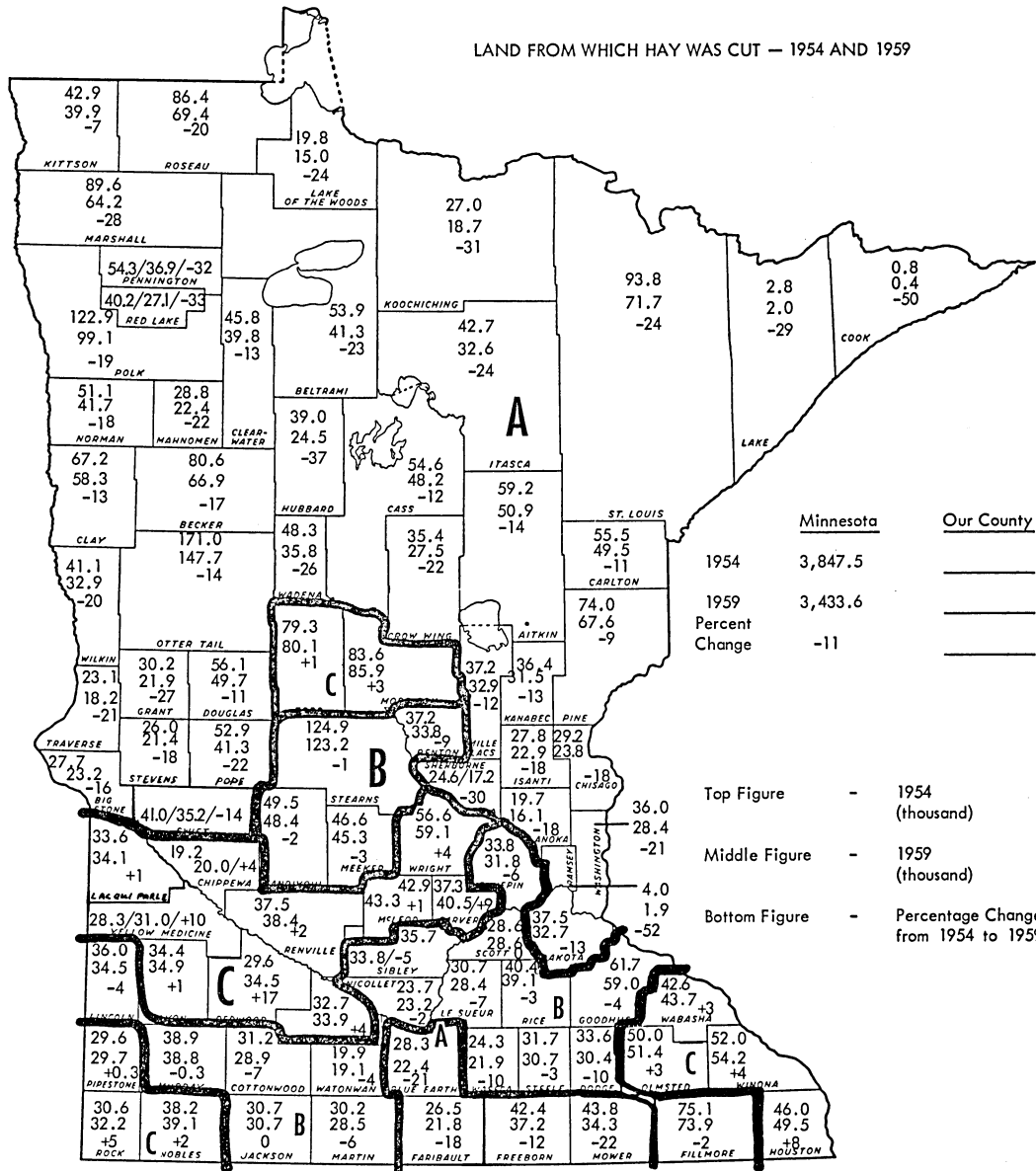
ACRES OF OATS HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The 28 percent decrease in acres of oats harvested for all purposes in Minnesota in 1959 compared with 1954 is in contrast to the trend for the previous 5-year period when the oat acreage fluctuated little from year to year.
- Decreases in oat acreages were least pronounced in the two areas identified as "A" which includes eight southeastern counties and the northern half of the state (except Clay, Red Lake and Cook).
- Decreases in oat acreages were most pronounced among counties in area "B" (except Hennepin, Scott, McLeod and Sibley where decreases were less than the state average).

LAND FROM WHICH HAY WAS CUT — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

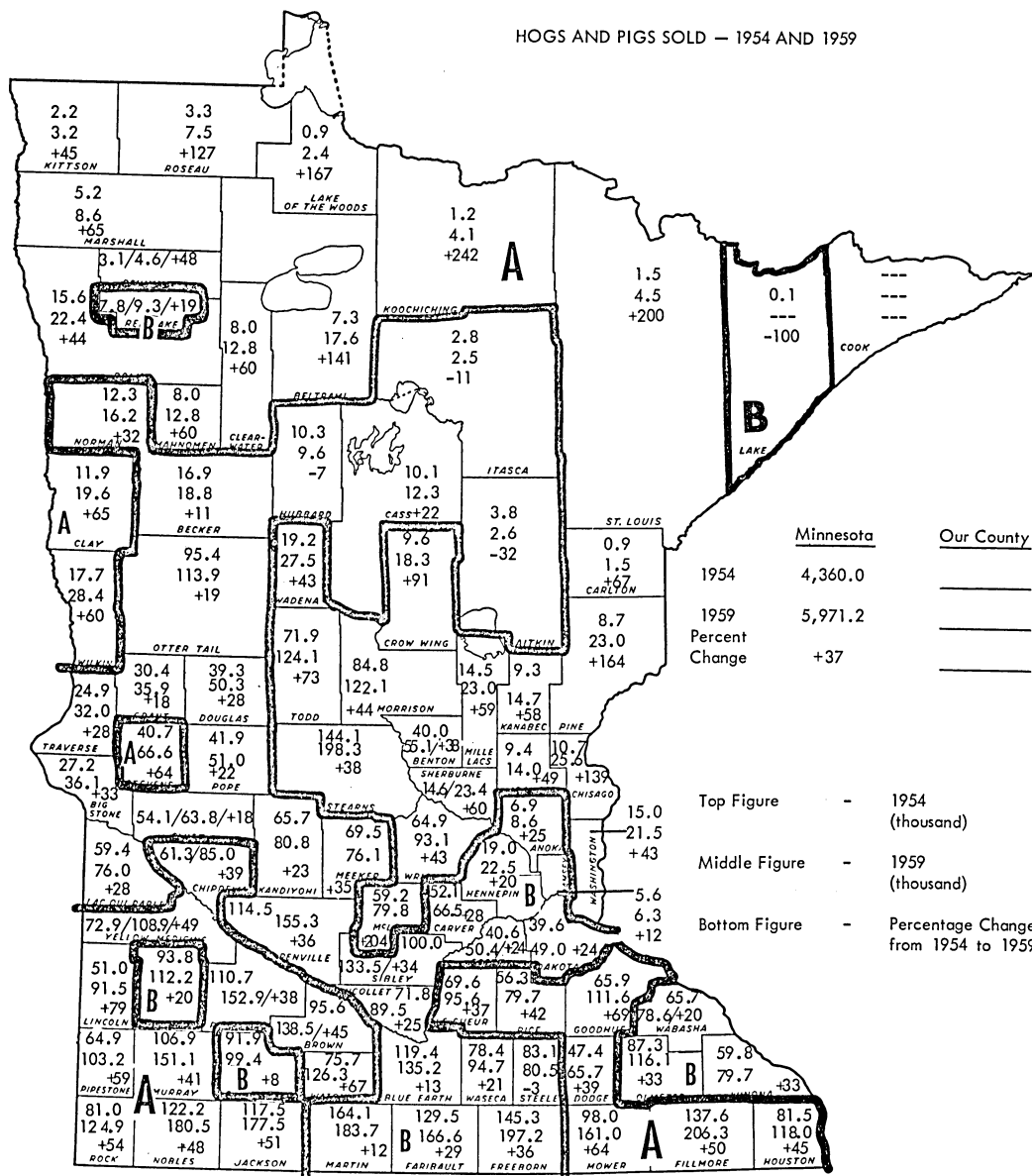
Land from which hay was cut in Minnesota in 1959 was 11 percent lower than in 1954. The percentage change from 1954 to 1959 among the state's 87 counties varied from an increase of 17 percent in Redwood County to decreases ranging from 31 to 50 percent in several northern counties.

Areas including counties that reported decreases in land from which hay was cut equal to or greater than the 11 percent average for the state are identified as "A". These include four counties in southern Minnesota and most of the northern two-thirds of the state. (The exceptions are Pine and Kittson.)

Areas including counties that reported decreases that are lower than the 11 percent reported for the state, from 1954 to 1959 are identified as "B".

Area "C" includes the counties which indicated increases during this period.

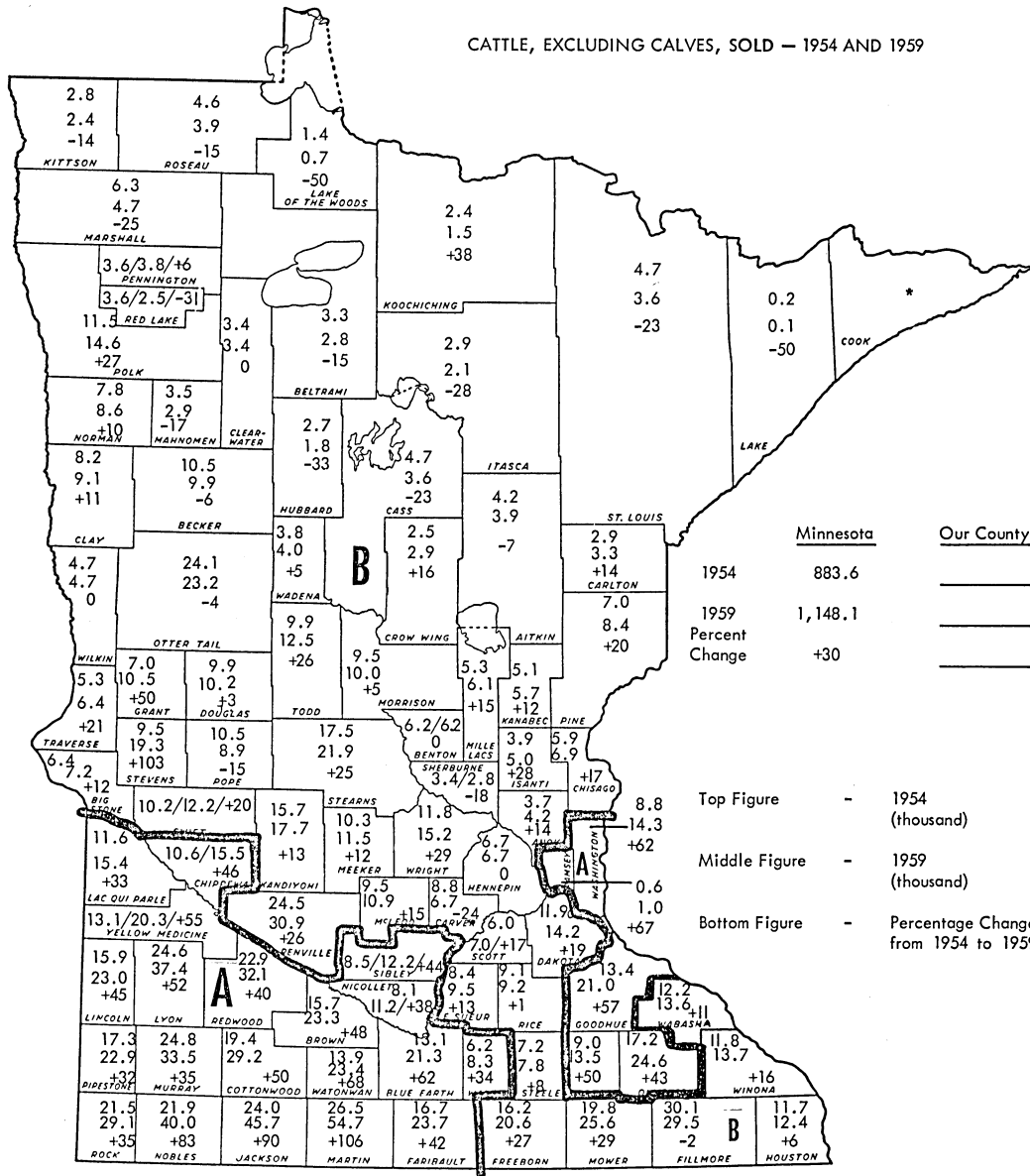
HOGS AND PIGS SOLD — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The number of hogs and pigs sold in Minnesota in 1959 increased 37 percent from 1954. Only five counties reported fewer sold in 1959 than in 1954. Most of these are located in the northern part of the state.
- The counties reporting increases in hogs and pigs sold with a larger than the average percentage increase for the state are identified in areas "A". Most of these counties are located in the southeastern and southwestern corners of the state, south central, and a single county in the west central part of the state.
- The counties reporting increases below the state average or decreases are in the areas identified as "B".

CATTLE, EXCLUDING CALVES, SOLD — 1954 AND 1959

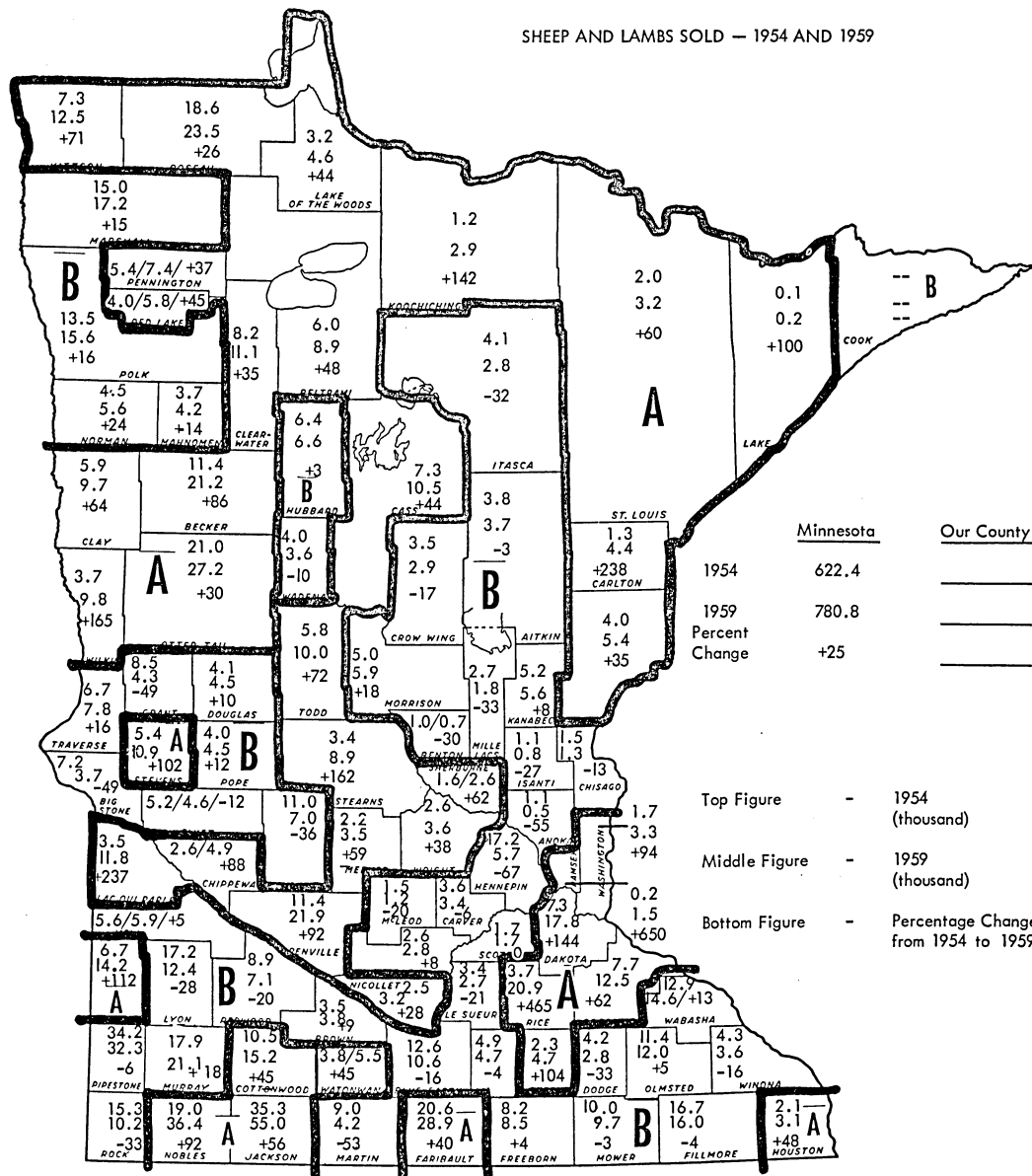


* Less than 10 head in 1959

Highlights:

- The number of cattle, excluding calves sold in 1959 was 30 percent higher than in 1954. Several counties, mostly in the northern part of the state reported selling fewer cattle in 1959 than in 1954.
- The counties reporting increases above the state average in the number of cattle sold (excluding calves) are in areas identified as "A". All of these are in southern Minnesota and are concentrated largely in the southwestern part of the state, where increases approached or exceeded 100 percent in a few instances.
- The counties reporting increases less than the state average (or actual decreases compared with 1954) are in areas identified as "B". These make up most of the upper three-fourths of the state and a few scattered but connected counties in the southeastern part of the state. (The exceptions are Grant and Stevens Counties.)

SHEEP AND LAMBS SOLD — 1954 AND 1959

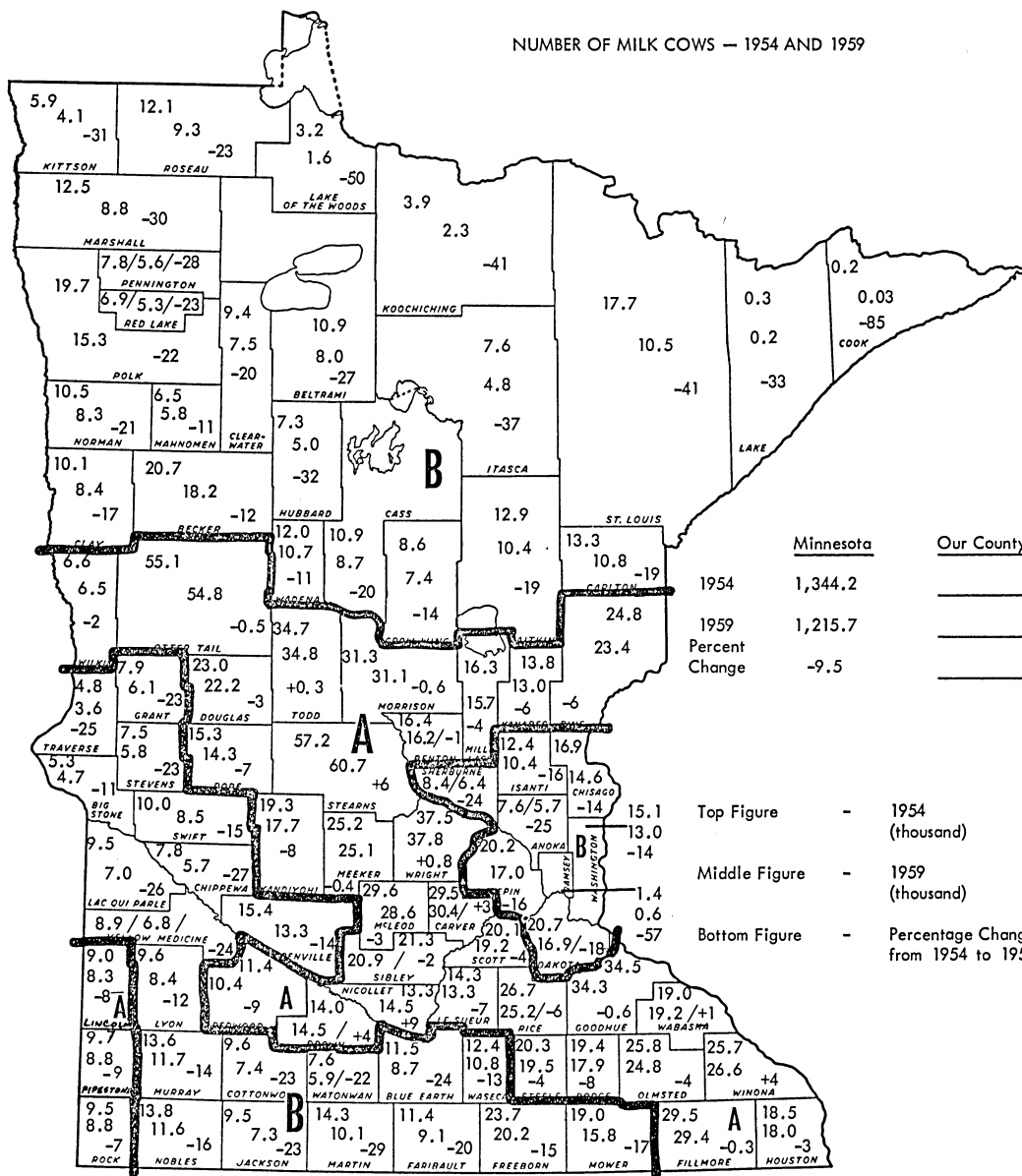


Highlights:

. The number of sheep and lambs sold in 1959 increased 25 percent from 1954. This increase did not result from a uniform increase throughout the state since over a fourth of the counties reported fewer sheep and lamb sales in 1959 than in 1954.

. Counties reporting increases over 1954 that are equal to or larger than the average for the state are in the areas or the single counties identified as "A". Counties reporting increases (actual decreases compared to 1954 in some instances) less than average for the state are in groups of counties identified as "B".

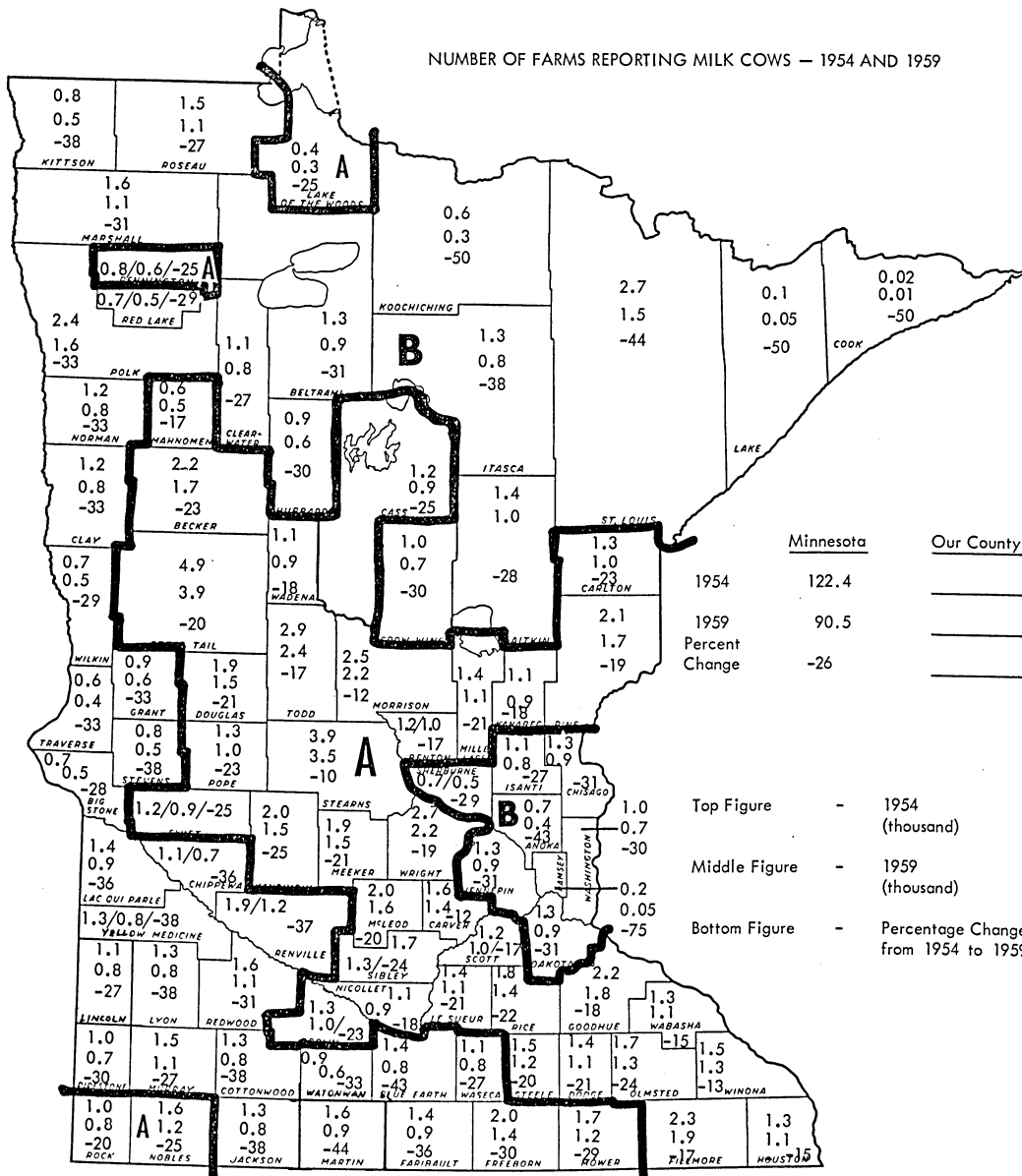
NUMBER OF MILK COWS — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The counties in area "A" either reported an increase in the number of milk cows or a decrease less than the state average of -9.5 percent.
- The counties in this area (A) tend to reflect the "dairy belt" of Minnesota. These areas generally are near metropolitan areas which would be the primary outlet for grade A producers. This market which maintains a high degree of stability is reflected in the small changes in total number of milk cows reported by these counties.
- Area "B" includes those counties with decreases greater than the state average.

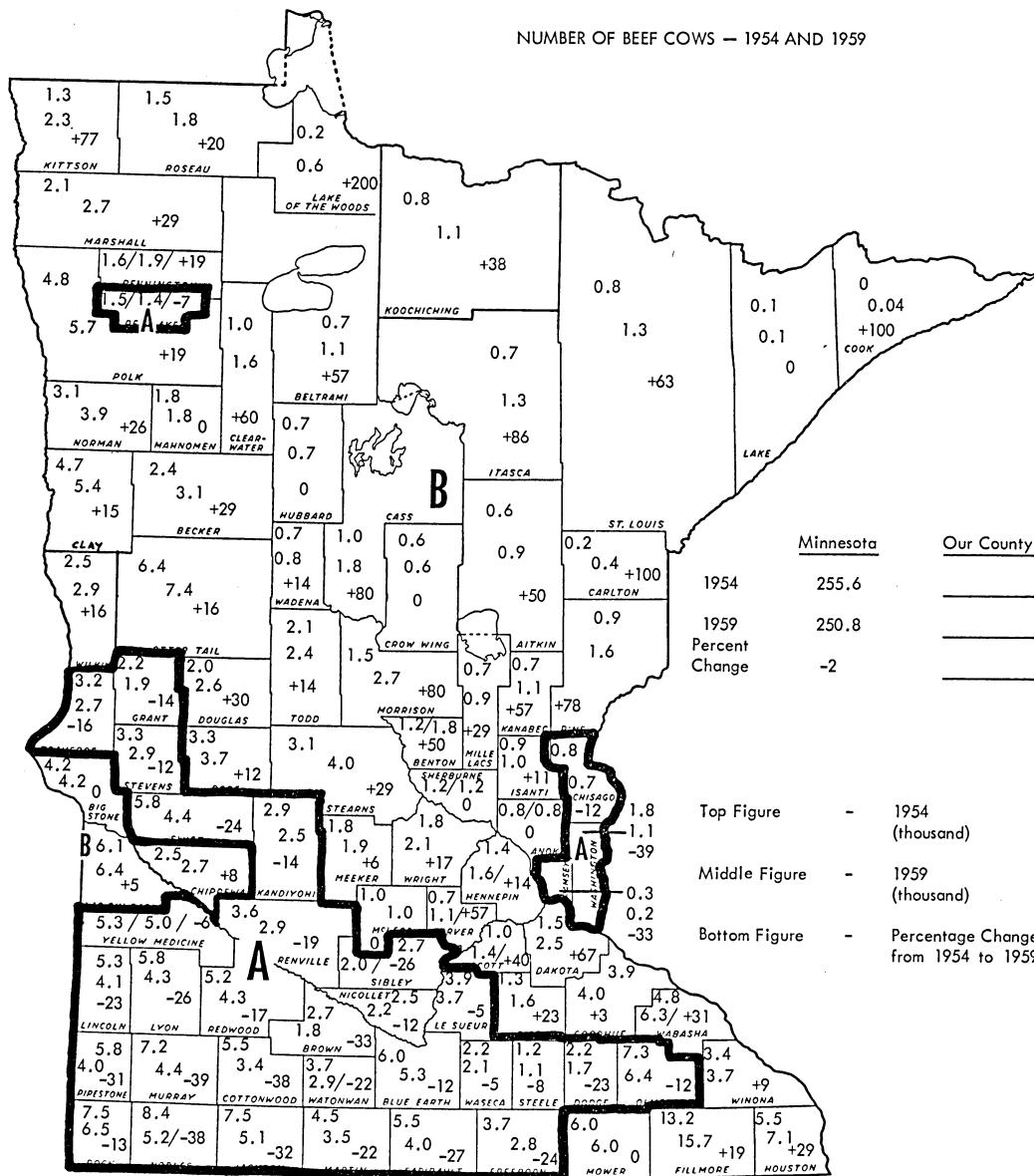
NUMBER OF FARMS REPORTING MILK COWS — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The counties in the "A" areas reported a decrease in the number of farms reporting milk cows which was less than the state average of 26 percent.
- These areas correspond quite closely to the areas "A" in the map reporting the number of milk cows on page 30.
- Areas "B" are those counties which reported decreases more than the state average.

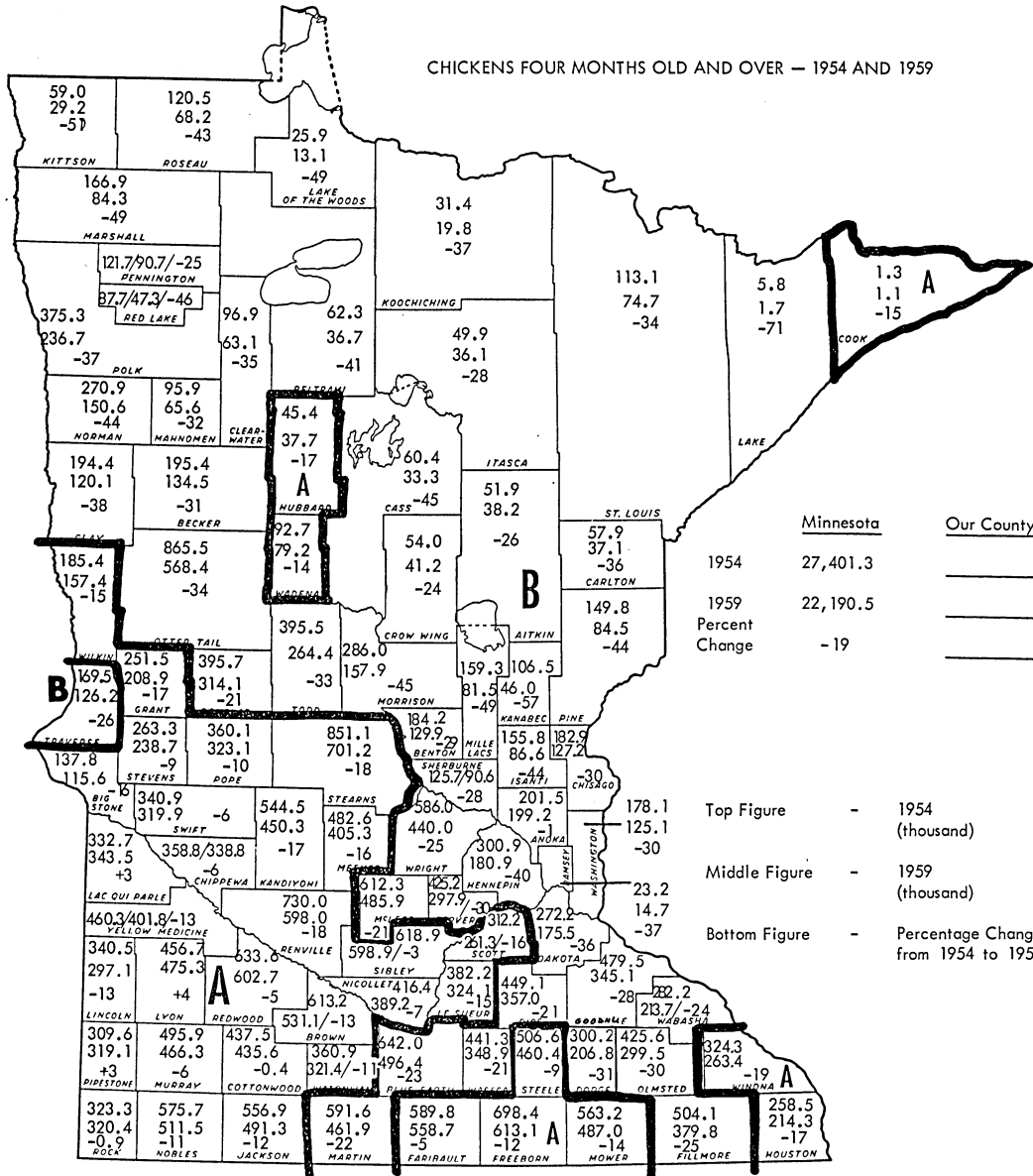
NUMBER OF BEEF COWS — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The number of beef cows reported in 1959 was down 2 percent from 1954. This decrease, however, was by no means uniform throughout the state.
- Counties reporting decreases in the number of beef cows in 1959 in excess of the 2 percent average for the state are included in areas identified as "A". Most of these counties are located in a large triangular-shaped area (excluding Big Stone, Chipewewa, and Lac Qui Parle) in southwestern Minnesota .
- Counties reporting increases in the number of beef cows in 1959 compared to 1954 are included in the two areas identified as "B".

CHICKENS FOUR MONTHS OLD AND OVER — 1954 AND 1959



Highlights:

- The number of chickens 4 months old and over on Minnesota farms declined 19 percent during the period 1954 to 1959.
- A number of counties (those in areas "A") reported decreases less than the state average, no change or increases in the number of chickens from 1954 to 1959. The remaining counties reported decreases exceeding the state average.