

# ALASKA

## CONTENTS

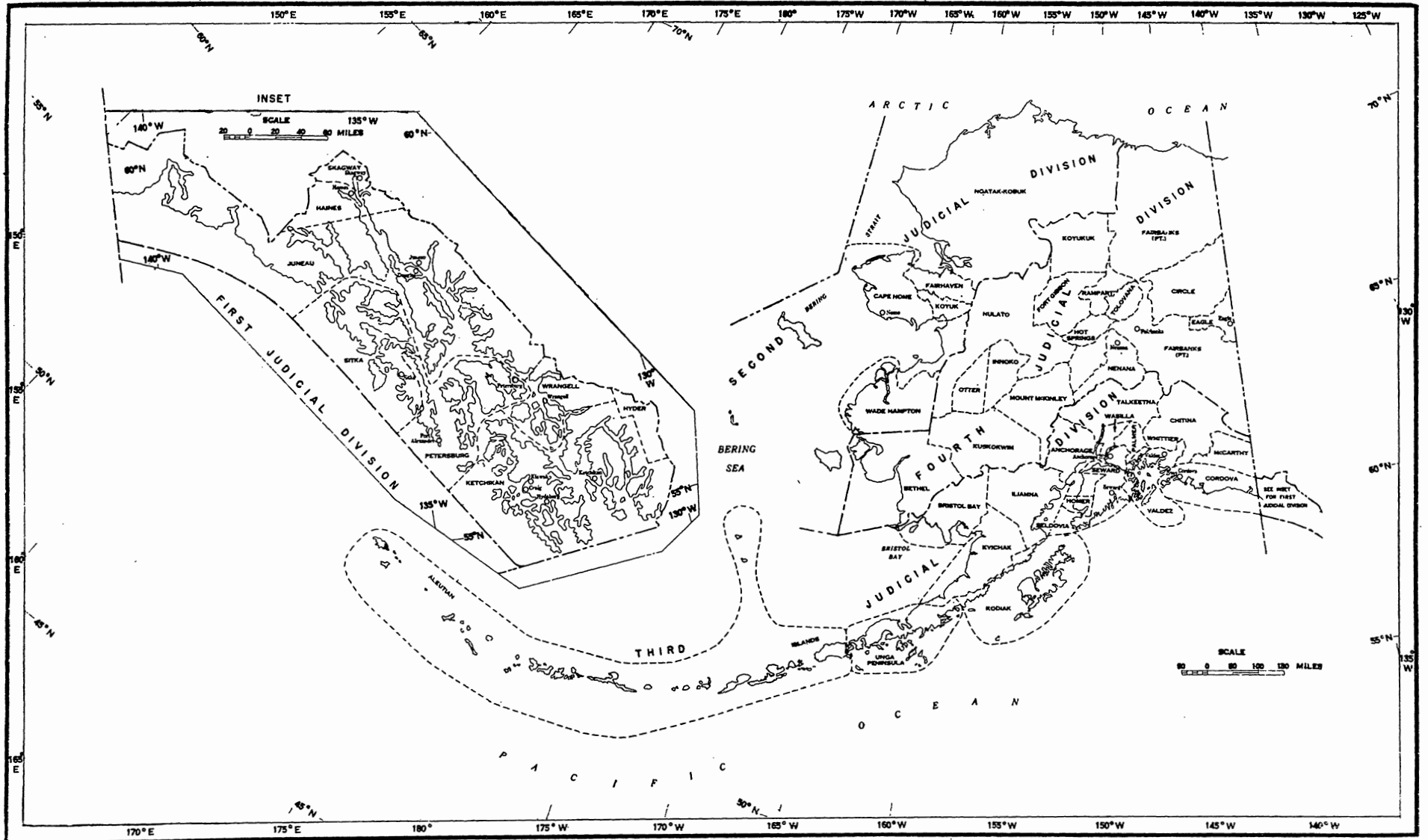
	Page
Introduction.....	7
Censuses of agriculture.....	7
Presentation of statistics.....	7
Livestock and livestock products.....	7
Cropland and crops harvested.....	10
Value of agricultural production.....	12
Comparability of data.....	12

### TABLES

1.—Number of specified classes of livestock on farms: 1900 to 1955.....	8
2.—Selected data for livestock and livestock products, by judicial divisions: 1954 and 1950.....	8
3.—Livestock and livestock products: number of livestock on hand; and production and sales of livestock and livestock products: 1954 and 1953.....	9
4.—Acreage of cropland and of specified crops harvested: 1900 to 1954.....	10
5.—Selected data for cropland and crops, by judicial divisions: 1954 and Census of 1950.....	11
6.—Land distribution and acres, production, and value of crops sold: 1954 and 1953..	11
7.—Value of agricultural production for home use and for sale, by geographic areas: 1954 and 1953.....	11

# ALASKA

## Judicial Divisions and Recording Districts



**Introduction.**—The most recent agricultural statistics for Alaska were furnished by the Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station and the Alaska Department of Agriculture, a cooperative effort by the two Territorial Agencies. In reply to the Bureau's letter for available statistics for Alaska, an official of the Agricultural Experiment Station replied to the effect that a series of publications on annual agricultural production for key items had been initiated in 1953.

The procedure for obtaining the statistics for 1954 and 1953 in Alaska encompassed a mailed questionnaire to all persons known to be engaged in any agriculture. About 25 percent of the reports are obtained in this manner. For those who did not reply, a personal visit was made to all commercial farmers and to as many others as time and personnel permitted. It is estimated that 98 percent of the commercial production and 90 percent of all production in Alaska is recorded by these two procedures. The final published figures were weighted by the judgment of produce inspectors and economists based on the nature of the replies received and the specialized knowledge these men had of marketings and supplies.

Two reports were furnished to the Census Bureau by these Territorial Agencies. Each was entitled, Agricultural Production—Alaska. One was designated as the 1953 report and the other as the 1954 report. The 1953 report covered the amount and value of agricultural production for the calendar year 1953 but contained a few livestock inventory items as of January 1, 1954. The 1954 report, in less detail, related to the year subsequent to the 1953 report. For publication, in this Census report it was decided to use the same time reference as was used in the publications received from Alaska. Since the 1953 Alaska report gives information in more detail than the 1954 report, data are given herein from both.

For 1953 the data for the Matanuska Valley, the Anchorage Area, and the Tanana Valley were based on personal interviews. These three geographic areas contributed nearly 80 percent of the total income from farm sales. Data for other areas were estimates based on returned mail questionnaires and other information. The number of contacts in each area upon which the data for 1953 were based is as follows:

Area	Number of contacts <sup>1</sup>
Alaska totals.....	353 reporting farms or farmers.
Tanana Valley.....	48 reporting farms.
Matanuska Valley.....	225 reporting farmers.
Anchorage Area.....	<sup>2</sup> 23 reporting farmers.
Kenai Peninsula.....	<sup>3</sup> 35 reporting farmers.
Kodiak and Aleutian Islands.....	5 reporting farmers.
Southeastern Alaska.....	<sup>4</sup> 17 reporting farmers.

<sup>1</sup> As given in Alaska published information.

<sup>2</sup> Additional information obtained from informed sources.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates based on available records for an additional 23 rural families.

<sup>4</sup> Estimates based on available information for the remaining farm operations.

For the following year, 1954, the data for Matanuska Valley and the Anchorage area were obtained by mail questionnaires and personal interviews. Data for all other areas were estimates based on returned mail questionnaires, personal interviews, and other information gathered during 1954.

**Censuses of Agriculture.**—The data given for years prior to 1953 are from the periodic Censuses of Agriculture taken by the Bureau of the Census. The first United States Census of Agriculture of Alaska was taken in 1900 as part of the Twelfth Decennial Census. Since that date a Census of Agriculture has been taken in conjunction with the Census of Population in decennial enumeration.

These Census enumerations furnished some information which is not obtainable from the available statistics for 1954 and 1953. A part of this information for these earlier Censuses, such as the number of farms and the acreage of land in farms, is given below.

Item	1950 (Apr. 1)	1939 (Oct. 1)	1929 (Oct. 1)	1920 (Jan. 1)	1910 (Jan. 1)	1900 (June 1)
Farms.....number..	525	625	500	364	222	12
Land in farms acres..	421, 799	1, 775, 762	525, 942	90, 652	42, 544	159

**Presentation of statistics.**—Only limited comparisons are possible between the data for 1954 and 1953 on the one hand and the data for 1950 and earlier Censuses on the other. In the 1950 and earlier Censuses, statistics conformed to judicial division boundaries. Data for 1954 and 1953 were published by geographic areas. Only a few of the comparative data are presented herein, for all years. This historical series is given only for the Territory. A more extended comparison is made for 1954 and 1950, by judicial divisions. A full presentation is made of all available data for 1954 and 1953, by geographic areas.

For this report, in order to make subdivision comparisons, it was necessary to assemble the 1954 data for geographic areas by judicial divisions.

Southeastern Alaska, for which data are presented for 1954 and 1953, includes Judicial Division 1 and a part of Judicial Division 3. The part of Judicial Division 3 included is Valdez and the area to the South. Therefore, in considering Southeastern Alaska statistics as representative of Judicial Division 1, an overstatement is made to the extent that the Valdez area is included. Likewise, the 1954 and 1953 statistics, which are presented to represent Judicial Division 3, are understated to the extent that the Valdez area is excluded. Thus, if there were any items produced in appreciable amounts in the Valdez area, data for these two Divisions are affected accordingly.

The geographic areas which were combined to compare with each judicial division are as follows:

Geographic area	Judicial division
Southeastern Alaska.....	1
Tanana Valley.....	<sup>1</sup> 2, 4
Matanuska Valley.....	3
Anchorage Area.....	
Kenai Peninsula.....	
Kodiak and Aleutian Islands.....	

<sup>1</sup> For the 1950 Census, the data for these two divisions were combined.

**Livestock and livestock products.**—The classification of livestock by age and sex for the recent years has been made on a different basis than for former years. The major part of the

change has been to differentiate between dairy and beef animals. Because of the varying classes, a comparison of inventory numbers only has been made for all years for which data are available. These data are shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1.—NUMBER OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF LIVESTOCK ON FARMS: 1900 TO 1955

Year and date of enumeration	Horses and mules	Cattle and calves	Hogs and pigs	Sheep and lambs	Chickens
1955 (Jan. 1).....	Number (NA)	Number	Number	Number	Number
1954 (Jan. 1).....	<sup>1</sup> 106	5,757	1,062	9,110	43,026
1950 (Apr. 1).....	207	5,180	589	9,183	31,350
1939 (Oct. 1).....	496	2,235	1,201	6,046	20,278
1929 (Oct. 1).....	319	3,749	959	17,076	18,374
1920 (Jan. 1).....	395	1,869	310	6,858	10,979
1910 (Jan. 1).....	218	640	273	132	4,563
1900 (June 1).....	5	811	165	184	5,436
		18	10	-----	<sup>2</sup> 176

NA—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Horses.

<sup>2</sup> Chickens and guinea fowls.

The judicial division comparisons of data for livestock and livestock products are restricted to 2 years. These are shown in Table 2. The numbers of livestock on hand were taken from the 1954 Alaska report (inventories as of Jan. 1, 1955) and from the 1950 Census report (inventories as of Apr. 1, 1950). Since the subclasses of cattle are not comparable for the two periods of observation, no attempt has been made to show data for cows, heifers, calves, etc., by judicial divisions. The quantities of products and income data were obtained from the same sources but cover the calendar years 1954 and 1949, respectively.

Table 3 presents all livestock data contained in the 1954 and 1953 reports submitted by Alaska official sources. The available figures are given by geographic areas, not by judicial divisions.

According to these reports milk was the most important source of farm income. In 1954, milk accounted for 47 percent of the total farm income. Of the total milk production, 67 percent came from the Matanuska Valley, 16 percent from the Southeastern area, 7 percent from the Tanana Valley, and 10 percent from all other areas. All areas except Southeastern Alaska showed substantial increases from 1953 to 1954.

TABLE 2.—SELECTED DATA FOR LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS, BY JUDICIAL DIVISIONS: 1954 AND 1950

Item	Alaska, total	Judicial division			
		1	2 and 4	3	
<b>CATTLE AND DAIRY PRODUCTS</b>					
Cattle and calves on hand.....	number Jan. 1, 1955..	5,757	478	282	4,997
	number Apr. 1, 1950..	2,236	443	178	1,615
Dairy products sold.....	dollars 1954..	1,257,906	200,000	93,500	964,406
	dollars 1949..	663,725	182,771	121,076	359,878
Milk sold.....	pounds 1954..	11,429,802	2,000,000	850,000	8,579,802
	pounds 1949..	6,561,032	1,919,769	791,630	3,839,633
<b>HOGS</b>					
Hogs and pigs on hand.....	number Jan. 1, 1955..	1,062	-----	125	937
	number Apr. 1, 1950..	1,201	-----	347	854
<b>SHEEP AND WOOL</b>					
Sheep and lambs on hand.....	number Jan. 1, 1955..	9,110	-----	20	9,090
	number Apr. 1, 1950..	6,046	-----	20	6,026
Wool shorn.....	pounds 1954..	60,115	-----	-----	60,115
	pounds 1950..	57,019	-----	225	56,791
	value—dollars 1954..	30,056	-----	-----	30,056
	value—dollars 1950..	28,241	-----	90	28,151
<b>POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS</b>					
Chickens on hand <sup>2</sup> .....	number Jan. 1, 1955..	43,020	9,500	1,120	32,400
	number Apr. 1, 1950..	20,278	3,378	2,168	14,732
Poultry and/or poultry products sold.....	dollars 1954..	411,840	112,000	13,275	286,565
	dollars 1950..	237,541	74,174	18,907	144,400
Chicken eggs sold.....	dozens 1954..	357,340	100,000	9,000	248,340
	dozens 1950..	180,222	32,780	19,600	127,752
	dollars 1954..	348,450	100,000	9,900	238,550
	dollars 1950..	160,297	28,583	16,779	114,935
<b>FUR ANIMALS</b>					
Value of fur animals and pelts sold.....	dollars 1954..	61,000	61,000	-----	-----
	dollars 1950..	39,705	38,584	-----	1,121

<sup>1</sup> Part of Judicial Division 3 included with Judicial Division 1. See text.

<sup>2</sup> No age limit mentioned for 1955; 1950 data are for chickens 4 months old and over.

Poultry products were third in importance as a source of farm income. They contributed about 15 percent of the total in 1954 and 13 percent in 1953. Both milk and potatoes ranked above poultry products as sources of farm income. According to the 1954 Alaska report, "The disastrously low statewide egg prices

were responsible for lower egg prices in Alaska. Production of local eggs increased 25 percent, however, over 1953. The most severe price competition occurred during the latter part of the year and carried into 1955. Broiler and fryer production was down considerably in 1954."

TABLE 3.—LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK ON HAND; AND PRODUCTION AND SALES OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: 1954 AND 1953

Item	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
<b>HORSES</b>							
Horses on hand.....number Jan. 1, 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....Jan. 1, 1954.....	106	5	46	10	11	25	9
<b>CATTLE AND CALVES</b>							
Cattle and calves on hand, total.....number Jan. 1, 1955.....	5,757	282	1,860	140	323	2,674	478
.....1954.....	5,160	184	1,772	98	267	2,329	510
Animals other than beef animals, total.....number 1955.....	2,682	222	1,665	105	168	74	448
.....1954.....	2,479	171	1,578	75	154	49	452
Milk cows.....number 1955.....	1,828	138	1,000	55	100	45	290
.....1954.....	1,430	107	881	17	100	20	305
Heifers, 1 year and over.....number 1955.....	645	20	340	30	30	15	110
.....1954.....	529	29	347	39	31	13	70
Heifer calves.....number 1955.....	442	50	295	20	35	12	30
.....1954.....	451	30	312	18	18	13	60
Dairy bulls.....number 1955.....	67	14	30	-----	3	2	18
.....1954.....	69	5	38	1	6	3	17
Beef animals, total.....number 1955.....	3,075	60	195	35	155	2,600	30
.....1954.....	2,681	13	194	23	113	2,280	55
Beef cows.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	57	5	41	(NA)	12
Heifers, over 1 year.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	14	5	32	(NA)	21
Heifer calves.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	14	3	11	(NA)	11
Beef type bulls.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	7	1	9	(NA)	4
Other beef animals.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	(NA)	13	102	9	20	(NA)	10
<b>DAIRY PRODUCTS</b>							
Milk produced, other than goat milk, total.....pounds 1954.....	12,156,408	880,000	8,171,481	274,743	588,184	209,000	2,033,000
.....1953.....	10,141,682	642,700	6,514,304	151,498	520,000	137,500	2,109,500
Farm use.....pounds 1954.....	728,606	30,000	655,506	25,100	49,000	34,000	33,000
.....1953.....	620,200	17,700	469,000	12,000	86,000	2,500	33,000
Sold.....pounds 1954.....	11,428,802	850,000	7,615,975	249,643	539,184	175,000	2,000,000
.....1953.....	9,521,992	625,000	6,045,304	139,498	440,000	135,000	2,130,500
.....dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1953.....	1,016,248	68,750	649,871	14,968	62,800	16,200	213,650
Goat milk, total.....pounds 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1953.....	14,400	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	14,400	(NA)	(NA)
Farm use.....pounds 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1953.....	12,000	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	12,000	(NA)	(NA)
Sold.....pounds 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1953.....	2,400	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	2,400	(NA)	(NA)
.....dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1953.....	288	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	288	(NA)	(NA)
Other dairy products sold.....dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1953.....	341	(NA)	235	(NA)	106	(NA)	(NA)
Total dairy products sold.....dollars 1954.....	1,257,906	93,500	837,644	26,856	64,777	35,000	200,000
.....1953.....	1,016,877	68,750	650,106	14,968	53,194	16,200	213,659
<b>HOGS AND PIGS</b>							
Hogs and pigs on hand.....number Jan. 1, 1955.....	1,062	125	90	820	7	20	-----
.....Jan. 1, 1954.....	689	127	87	375	-----	-----	-----
<b>SHEEP AND WOOL</b>							
Sheep on hand.....number Jan. 1, 1955.....	9,110	20	10	-----	80	9,000	-----
.....Jan. 1, 1954.....	9,183	21	241	1	90	8,830	-----
Wool shorn.....pounds 1954.....	60,116	-----	115	-----	-----	60,000	-----
.....1953.....	77,000	-----	2,000	-----	-----	75,000	-----
.....dollars 1954.....	30,056	-----	56	-----	-----	30,000	-----
.....1953.....	38,500	-----	1,000	-----	-----	37,500	-----
<b>POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS</b>							
Poultry on hand, total.....number Jan. 1, 1955.....	43,020	1,120	16,800	8,800	5,800	1,000	9,500
.....Jan. 1, 1954.....	31,559	1,138	13,027	3,410	6,080	1,000	6,004
Hens.....number 1955.....	32,200	1,000	13,900	3,800	5,000	1,000	7,500
.....1954.....	25,954	1,000	13,604	1,550	4,500	1,000	4,000
Chickens.....number 1955.....	10,820	120	2,900	5,000	800	-----	2,000
.....1954.....	5,696	120	216	1,800	1,560	-----	2,000
Other poultry.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	209	18	107	60	20	-----	4
Poultry meat produced, total.....pounds 1954.....	111,540	6,500	36,240	43,000	6,400	2,400	17,000
.....1953.....	112,611	6,755	30,636	45,165	15,300	2,400	12,355
Farm use.....pounds 1954.....	21,430	2,000	11,530	3,000	2,700	1,200	1,000
.....1953.....	19,085	1,900	12,490	640	2,500	1,200	355
Sold.....pounds 1954.....	90,110	4,500	24,710	40,000	3,700	1,200	16,000
.....1953.....	93,526	4,855	18,146	44,525	12,800	1,200	12,000
.....value of sales—dollars 1954.....	63,390	3,375	12,825	32,000	2,590	600	12,000
.....1953.....	71,431	3,641	13,610	35,620	8,960	600	9,000
Eggs produced, total.....dozens 1954.....	388,867	10,000	169,000	32,467	63,900	12,500	101,000
.....1953.....	303,661	13,076	149,718	20,912	56,455	12,500	51,000
Farm use.....dozens 1954.....	31,527	1,000	20,660	2,467	3,900	2,500	1,000
.....1953.....	27,043	1,076	20,300	712	1,455	2,500	1,000
Sold.....dozens 1954.....	357,340	9,000	148,340	30,000	60,000	10,000	100,000
.....1953.....	276,618	12,000	129,418	20,200	55,000	10,000	60,000
.....value of sales—dollars 1954.....	348,450	9,900	135,550	33,000	60,000	10,000	100,000
.....1953.....	279,605	14,160	128,125	22,220	55,000	10,000	50,000
Poultry and poultry products sold.....dollars 1954.....	411,840	13,275	148,375	65,000	62,590	10,600	112,000
.....1953.....	350,936	17,801	141,735	57,840	63,960	10,600	59,000
<b>GOATS</b>							
Milk goats on hand.....number 1955.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
.....1954.....	159	65	17	27	30	-----	20
<b>OTHER LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS</b>							
Beef produced, total.....pounds Jan. 1, 1954.....	206,914	6,500	104,044	5,100	21,270	50,000	20,000
.....1953.....	224,617	5,041	103,806	3,500	23,000	66,500	22,770
Farm use.....pounds 1954.....	68,534	3,000	41,534	3,100	5,900	5,000	10,000
.....1953.....	52,779	2,625	39,884	1,400	6,000	1,500	2,370
Sold.....pounds 1954.....	138,380	3,500	62,510	2,000	15,370	45,000	10,000
.....1953.....	171,838	2,416	63,922	2,100	18,000	65,000	20,400
.....value of sales—dollars 1954.....	57,121	1,400	24,036	1,000	7,685	18,000	5,000
.....1953.....	73,146	966	25,570	1,060	9,360	26,000	10,200

See footnotes at end of table.

SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 3.—LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK ON HAND; AND PRODUCTION AND SALES OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: 1954 AND 1953—CONTINUED

Item	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
<b>OTHER LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS—Continued</b>							
Pork produced, total.....pounds 1954..	110,335	5,750	8,000	94,600	1,985	-----	-----
1953..	87,111	5,450	17,611	62,500	1,550	-----	-----
Farm use.....pounds 1954..	14,435	2,750	7,500	2,600	1,585	-----	-----
1953..	16,945	2,750	11,945	900	350	-----	-----
Sold.....pounds 1954..	95,900	3,000	500	92,000	400	-----	-----
1953..	71,166	2,700	5,666	61,600	1,200	-----	-----
dollars 1954..	28,940	1,800	300	26,600	240	-----	-----
1953..	26,966	1,620	3,116	21,560	660	-----	-----
Lamb produced, total.....pounds 1954..	4,250	-----	-----	-----	-----	4,250	-----
1953..	6,780	-----	3,270	-----	-----	3,510	-----
Farm use.....pounds 1954..	2,500	-----	-----	-----	-----	2,500	-----
1953..	1,360	-----	160	-----	-----	1,200	-----
Sold.....pounds 1954..	1,750	-----	-----	-----	-----	1,750	-----
1953..	5,420	-----	3,110	-----	-----	2,310	-----
dollars 1954..	1,050	-----	-----	-----	-----	1,050	-----
1953..	3,820	-----	2,020	-----	-----	1,800	-----
Value of fur animals and pelts sold.....dollars 1954..	61,000	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	61,000
1953..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

NA—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Does not include pack and riding horses in outlying districts.

**Cropland and crops harvested.**—An exact comparison of the acreage either capable of being used for crops or actually used for crops, through the various years, cannot be made. However, the acreage harvested for some individual crops can be directly compared. Table 4 sets forth some of the data for the Territory to indicate comparisons for the several years.

Only a very limited amount of data is available for crops harvested in 1954. Hence, the figures presented in Table 5 for 1954 and 1950, by judicial divisions, are restricted to potatoes and vegetables harvested for sale. The acreage of cropland is also presented in Table 5; however, much of this acreage was not actually used for crops. The 13,215 acres shown for 1954 were distributed in the 1954 Alaska report as follows:

Potatoes..... 1,160 acres  
 Vegetables for sale..... 305 acres  
 Other crops and idle cropland..... 11,750 acres

The 1953 Alaska report gives a more detailed composition of the cropland, which totaled 12,334 acres for that year. The detail is as follows:

Potatoes..... 1,505 acres  
 Vegetables for sale..... 242 acres  
 Home garden..... 35 acres  
 Grains..... 1,027 acres  
 Hays..... 5,334 acres  
 Seeded pasture..... 1,913 acres  
 Idle, fallow, or green manure..... 2,278 acres

TABLE 4.—ACREAGE OF CROPLAND AND OF SPECIFIED CROPS HARVESTED: 1900 TO 1954

Item	1954	1953	1949	1939	1929	1919	1909	1899
Cropland, total.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	414	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres <sup>1</sup> .....	13,215	12,334	12,385	11,332	8,825	5,736	2,660	159
Cropland harvested, total.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	414	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres.....	(NA)	(NA)	6,450	7,305	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Acres of crops harvested, total.....acres.....	(NA)	8,143	<sup>2</sup> 6,213	<sup>2</sup> 7,062	3,875	4,473	(NA)	104
Wheat.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	31	104	20	47	1	(NA)
acres.....	(NA)	35	204	527	54	148	(NA)	(NA)
Oats.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	34	87	18	30	2	(NA)
acres.....	(NA)	510	333	527	153	69	(NA)	(NA)
Barley.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	7	112	16	29	5	(NA)
acres.....	(NA)	292	55	654	39	41	(NA)	(NA)
Mixed grains.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	11	9	-----	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres.....	(NA)	180	163	88	-----	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Any hay or forage crop.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	204	202	277	118	6
acres <sup>3</sup> .....	(NA)	5,334	4,207	4,626	3,010	3,531	(NA)	78
Potatoes.....farms reporting..	(NA)	(NA)	285	370	257	198	181	11
acres.....	1,160	1,505	1,030	388	271	431	(NA)	8

NA—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> For 1939 does not include cropland pasture. For years prior to 1939, acreage reported as "improved land."

<sup>2</sup> Excluding home garden.

<sup>3</sup> For 1953 includes tame grass hay, grass silage, oat-pea hay, and oat-pea silage only.

TABLE 5.—SELECTED DATA FOR CROPLAND AND CROPS, BY JUDICIAL DIVISIONS: 1954<sup>1</sup> AND CENSUS OF 1950

Item	Alaska, total	Judicial divisions		
		1	2 and 4	3
Total cropland.....acres 1954..	13, 215	425	2, 500	10, 200
acres 1949..	12, 385	885	2, 251	9, 249
Potatoes harvested...acres 1954..	1, 180	15	475	670
acres 1949..	1, 030	7	199	827
tons 1954..	6, 431	75	1, 684	4, 672
tons 1949..	5, 552	24	775	4, 753
Vegetables harvested for sale...acres 1954..	305	10	60	235
acres 1949..	178	5	49	124
dollars 1954..	2 188, 832	10, 000	36, 980	151, 852
dollars 1949..	99, 179	4, 205	27, 044	67, 930
All other cropland <sup>2</sup> ...acres 1954..	11, 750	400	1, 965	9, 385
acres 1949..	11, 177	873	2, 000	8, 298

<sup>1</sup> Part of Judicial Division 3 included with Judicial Division 1. See text.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes income from crops except potatoes, divided as follows: Cabbage, \$38,578; lettuce, \$87,470; carrots, \$33,122; and other produce, \$69,682.  
<sup>3</sup> For both years these figures represent the difference between total cropland and the total for potatoes and vegetables.

According to the 1954 Alaska report there were 13,215 acres of cropland in the Territory, which was 881 acres in excess of the 1953 total of 12,334 acres. Much of this increase can be attributed to 1,038 acres cleared in 1953. In 1954, an additional 1,035 acres were cleared.

Feed crops, mostly forage, and potatoes and vegetables comprised nearly all the crops grown in the Territory. Potato sales were the second important source of farm income, furnishing about one-third of the total farm income in 1953. Reduced plantings in 1954 and slightly lower yields resulted in a production 30 percent less than in 1953. Actual sales were off not more than 10 percent. Decreased disease loss and improved storage were the principal factors in maintaining sales when production declined. In 1954, 52 percent came from the Matanuska Valley, 33 percent from the Tanana Valley, 11 percent from the Anchorage area, and 4 percent from all other areas.

Lettuce, carrots, and cabbage were, by far, the most important vegetables grown. Vegetable acreage was approximately the same for the two years but the production for 1954 brought 13 percent less due to lower prices.

TABLE 6.—LAND DISTRIBUTION AND ACRES, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE OF CROPS SOLD: 1954 AND 1953

Item	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
Total cropland.....acres 1954..	13, 215	2, 500	8, 815	750	725	(1)	425
1953..	12, 334	2, 260	8, 425	623	616	(1)	410
Idle, fallow, or green manure.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	2, 278	625	1, 200	153	200	(1)	100
Seeded pasture.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 913	140	1, 600	38	75	(1)	60
Land cleared <sup>1</sup> .....acres 1954..	1, 035	350	445	90	150	(1)	26
1953..	1, 038	244	650	28	90	(1)	26
Crops harvested.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	8, 143	1, 495	5, 625	432	341	(1)	250
Grain.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 027	205	805	7	7	(1)	10
Wheat.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	35	5	30	—	—	(1)	—
Oats.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	510	75	425	—	2	(1)	8
Barley.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	292	90	195	—	5	(1)	2
Buckwheat.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	10	10	—	—	—	(1)	—
Mixed grain.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	180	25	155	—	—	(1)	—
Any hay or forage crops.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	5, 334	635	3, 915	284	295	(1)	205
Tame grass hay.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 490	80	950	155	175	(1)	130
Grass silage.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	118	65	38	—	10	(1)	5
Oat-pea hay.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 770	280	1, 400	30	30	(1)	30
Oat-pea silage.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 956	275	1, 500	61	80	(1)	40
Potatoes harvested for sale.....acres 1954..	1, 160	475	560	85	25	—	15
1953..	1, 505	590	760	116	24	—	15
tons 1954..	6, 431	1, 684	3, 785	757	130	—	75
1953..	9, 135	2, 213	5, 700	1, 022	125	—	75
dollars 1954..	618, 025	205, 420	321, 725	67, 780	15, 600	—	7, 500
1953..	928, 020	294, 820	513, 000	97, 700	15, 000	—	7, 500
Vegetables, other than potatoes, for sale.....acres 1954..	305	60	185	30	20	(1)	10
1953..	242	65	130	32	5	(1)	10
dollars 1954..	198, 832	36, 980	124, 703	19, 544	5, 015	2, 500	10, 000
1953..	227, 929	52, 427	138, 237	22, 250	5, 015	2, 500	7, 500
Cabbage.....tons 1954..	282	87	130	65	—	—	—
1953..	268	96	130	42	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	38, 578	12, 180	18, 298	8, 100	—	—	—
1953..	43, 000	16, 320	20, 800	5, 880	—	—	—
Lettuce.....tons 1954..	225	27	190	8	—	—	—
1953..	214	34	156	24	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	57, 470	9, 800	46, 515	1, 355	—	—	—
1953..	63, 760	11, 560	46, 800	5, 400	—	—	—
Carrots.....tons 1954..	211	20	180	11	—	—	—
1953..	276	29	228	19	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	33, 122	4, 600	26, 900	1, 622	—	—	—
1953..	60, 420	6, 625	41, 040	2, 755	—	—	—
Turnips and rutabagas.....tons 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	45	20.5	6.5	18	—	—	—
Greens.....pounds 1953..	6, 428	1, 700	4, 728	—	—	—	—
bunches 1953..	1, 000	—	1, 000	—	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	8, 125	3, 858	1, 297	2, 970	—	—	—
Beets.....tons 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	12.9	3.3	9.6	—	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	2, 397	792	1, 605	—	—	—	—
Celery.....tons 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	52.6	8.6	44	—	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	13, 120	3, 440	9, 680	—	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

## SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 6.—LAND DISTRIBUTION AND ACRES, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE OF CROPS SOLD: 1954 AND 1953—CONTINUED

Item	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
Total cropland—Continued							
Crops harvested—Continued							
Vegetables, other than potatoes, for sale—Continued							
Radishes.....							
tons 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	6.2	2.5	3.7				
bunches 1954.....	42,930	2,930		40,000			
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	5,889	1,193	1,496	3,200			
Onions.....							
pounds 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	7,036		7,036				
bunches 1954.....	57,375		57,375				
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	8,159		8,159				
Parsnips.....							
tons 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	2.5	2.5					
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	750	750					
Greenhouse vegetables.....							
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	4,500	1,200	1,800	1,500			
Mixed vegetables.....							
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	12,515	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	5,015	(NA)	7,500
Other vegetables.....							
tons 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	(NA)	13.3	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
dollars 1954.....	69,662	10,600	33,080	8,467	5,015	2,500	10,000
1953.....	15,294	6,689	5,560	545	(NA)	2,500	(NA)
Home garden.....							
acres 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	35	(NA)	15	(NA)	10	( <sup>1</sup> )	10

NA—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> No report.<sup>2</sup> Land cleared was not included as such in total cropland for the year in which it was cleared. It may have been utilized as idle land, cropland, etc.

Value of agricultural production.—Table 7 gives figures on the value of agricultural production of Alaska. Data are shown, for both 1954 and 1953, by geographic areas and for farm use and commercial production. The commercial production is further subdivided into income from vegetables and from livestock sales. There is no clear indication, in the available statistics, that any crops other than vegetables were sold. For example, in the statistics for 1954, "Other produce" was listed under vegetables, which could refer to miscellaneous vegetables or possibly to non-vegetable crops.

The value of agricultural production for all of Alaska in 1954 differed only slightly from that in 1953 with the Southeastern Alaska area showing the greatest variation, an increase of over 40 percent. The value of products used on the farm in 1954 was estimated at 8 percent of the commercial production for that year. Matanuska Valley, with 54.7 percent of agricultural production for farm use in 1954 and 64.9 percent in 1953, was the most important producing area. This area also led in commercial production (production for sale) with 54.7 percent of the Territorial total in 1954 and 55.3 percent in 1953.

TABLE 7.—VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION FOR HOME USE AND FOR SALE, BY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS: 1954 AND 1953

Item	Year	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
Value of agricultural production, total.....	1954	\$2,877,952	\$380,565	\$1,573,483	\$223,462	\$168,380	\$104,922	\$427,140
	1953	2,819,836	449,382	1,574,471	222,465	169,304	100,000	304,214
Farm use.....	1954	213,182	28,190	116,554	16,553	12,473	7,772	31,640
	1953	153,652	12,998	99,697	7,097	22,115	5,400	6,355
Commercial, total.....	1954	2,664,770	352,375	1,456,929	206,909	155,907	97,150	395,500
	1953	2,666,184	436,384	1,474,784	215,368	147,189	94,600	297,859
Vegetables sold.....	1954	816,857	242,400	446,518	87,324	20,615	2,500	17,500
	1953	1,165,949	347,247	651,237	119,950	20,015	2,500	15,000
Livestock and livestock products sold.....	1954	1,847,913	109,975	1,010,411	119,585	135,292	94,650	378,000
	1953	1,510,235	89,137	823,547	95,418	127,174	92,100	282,859

Comparability of data.—Comparability is affected by factors, such as the time of enumeration, the wording of the questions, and the definition of a farm. For 1954 and 1953, no mention was made as to the date of the mailing of questionnaires, the date of the interviews, or to the minimum for area or production to be reported. In reference to the minimum area or amount of production for enumeration, the following statement, applying to 1954, was contained in the reply to the Bureau's request for available information: "Our procedure encompasses a mailed questionnaire to all persons known to be engaged in any agriculture." Since the production data for 1954 are presented with the matching inventories as of January 1, 1955, and since these data were furnished to the Bureau shortly after July 1, 1955, it seems safe to assume that the data were gathered shortly after January 1.

For the 1950 Census of Agriculture a farm was any place with either 3 or more acres and \$150 or more of agricultural products or less than 3 acres, provided the value of sales of agricultural products amounted to \$150 or more. Places that did not meet

these minimum requirements were considered farms only if they had sufficient potential to meet these minima.

The Census enumerators were not required to determine which places were farms. They were instructed to enumerate all places that the operator called farms, all places of 3 or more acres, and certain specialized operations, such as greenhouses. The determination as to which operations constituted farms was made during the office processing in Washington.

For 1950, the Census of Agriculture was taken as of April 1 of that year. Most of the farms were enumerated in April and May. Inventory items relate to April 1; data on acreage, production, and sales to the crop year 1949.

The classification of livestock by age and sex for 1954 (January 1, 1955) varies somewhat from that used in 1950. The differing classifications are indicated in the tables presenting livestock data. The method of reporting crops also varied. This is indicated more fully in the several crop tables.