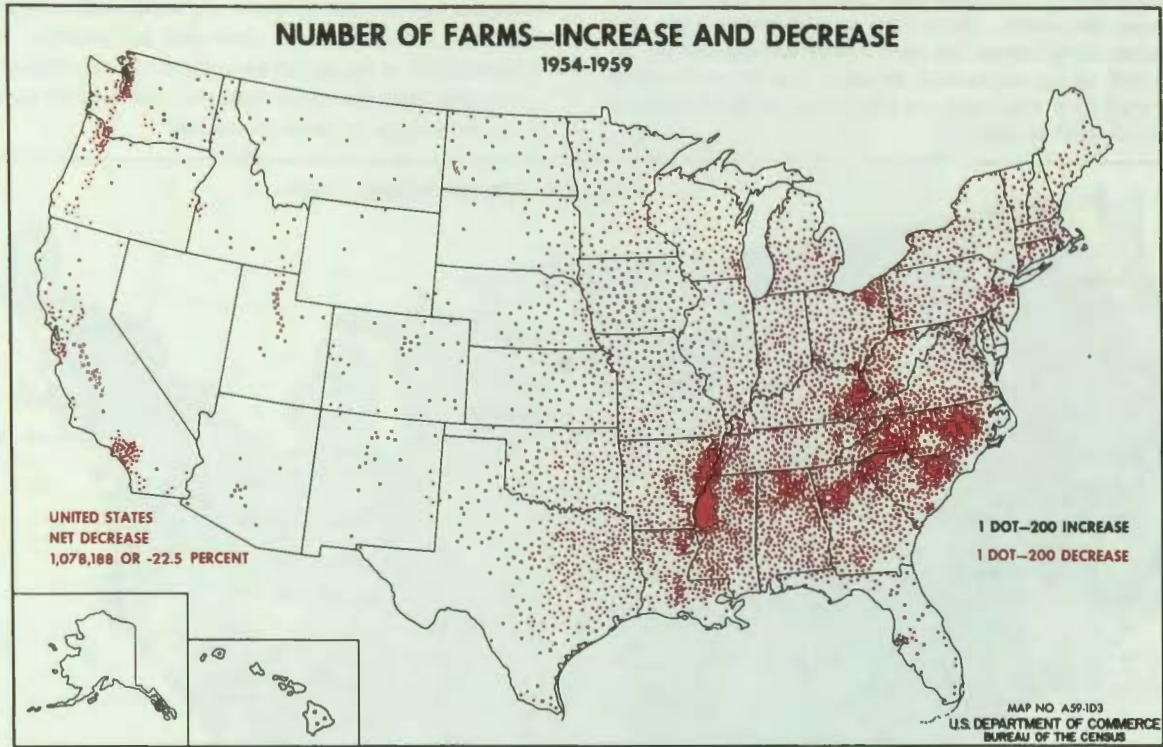


GENERAL REPORT

were nearly one-third fewer farms in 1959 than in 1954. Throughout much of the South and the Northeast, the decline in marginal farms and part-time farms accounted for a large part of the decrease in all farms.

Much of the increase and decrease in number of farms can be attributed to changes in the number of farms with sales of farm products of less than \$2,500.



Effect of Definitions and Procedures on Number of Farms.—Changes in the total number of farms from census to census have been affected by changes in definitions and procedures. The change in definition accounted for 232,000 of the 1,078,000 de-

crease in number of farms from 1954 to 1959. (For a more detailed discussion on the effect of the change in the definition of a farm for 1959 on the number of farms, see page XXXII of the Introduction.) For 1950, the definition of a farm was changed

