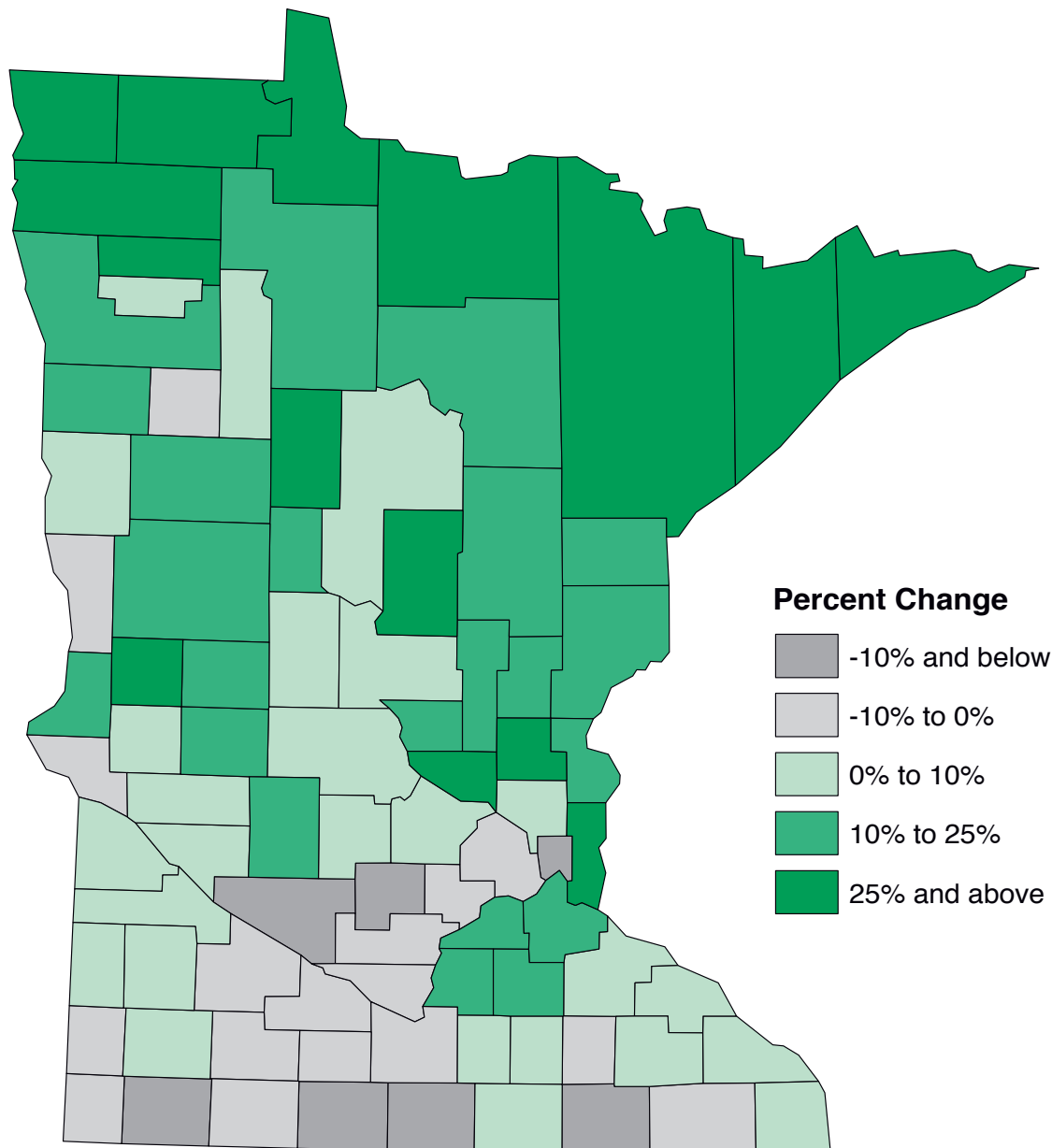


Change in Number of Farms, 1992-2002

Between 1992 and 2002, the number of farms in Minnesota actually increased by 7.7 percent, from 75,079 to 80,839. This increase was not uniform across the state, however. The largest increases are found in the northern part of the state, possibly due to the rise in the popularity in hobby farms. In the southern counties, the number of farms continues to decrease, due mostly to retirement, deaths and urbanization. A look at the map showing change in average farm size shows these trends.



Data source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service,
2002 Census of Agriculture

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