
I. GENERAL

Area

The Commercial Division of the Canadian Consulate General in Minneapolis is responsible for assisting Canadian exporters and other Canadian businessmen in the following territory:

	Area	Population
Minnesota	217,735 km ² (84,068 sq. mi.)	4,077,148
South Dakota	199,551 km ² (77,047 sq. mi.)	690,178
North Dakota	183,021 km ² (70,665 sq. mi.)	652,695
Montana	251,799 km ² (97,220 sq. mi.)	786,690
Iowa	145,790 km ² (56,290 sq. mi.)	2,913,387
Nebraska	200,017 km ² (77,227 sq. mi.)	1,570,006
Total	1,197,913 km ² (462,517 sq. mi.)	10,690,104

Topography

Except for the forested and mineral bearing hills in the northern parts of Minnesota, the general topography of the area can be described as a combination of rolling pasture lands in the east and flat prairies and grasslands in the west. In the central portion lie some of the richest grain growing and livestock raising areas of the United States. In the southwest are thousands of square kilometres of dry desertlike terrain known as the Black Hills or Badlands. As well as shoreline in the east on Lake Superior and thousands of other lakes scattered throughout the eastern portion, the territory is traversed by two of the great rivers of America, the Mississippi and the Missouri.

Climate

The climate of the area is generally similar to that of the Prairie Provinces, with temperatures sometimes more than 37°C (100°F) in the summer and under -31°C (-25°F) in winter. In the central portion the average temperature in July is 20°C (72°F) and in January -10°C (12°F), with annual average precipitation exceeding 61 cm (24 in.).